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WEEKEND ePAPER

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Matatu operators threaten strike, hike fares by 50%



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P.9 Representatives of matatu owners, tour vehicle operators and boda boda associations address the media on Friday. PHOTO | COURTESY



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Ruto celebrates Thika High 70 Years, announces major expansion of learning facilities

BY MKT REPORTER

@themtkenyatimes

Some of the moments as captured in pictures

President William Ruto on Friday praised Thika High School for its seven decades of academic and sporting excellence, describing it as a key institution in shaping leaders who continue to contribute to national development. Speaking during the school's 70th anniversary celebrations, the President said Thika High has consistently produced top-performing students and influential alumni serving in government, business, academia and other sectors.

He noted that the institution's legacy reflects its commitment to nurturing not only academic excellence but also discipline, character and leadership.

"To ensure Thika High continues to nurture that calibre of professionals and leaders, we are expanding the tuition capacity," Ruto said.

He announced plans to construct 35 new classrooms, a 1,000-bed dormitory and a multipurpose hall with a capacity of 2,000 students, aimed at addressing rising enrolment and improving learning conditions.

Education stakeholders present at the event welcomed the move, noting that infrastructure expansion remains critical in supporting Kenya's Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) rollout and easing congestion in national schools. The Head of State also encouraged students to take advantage of the school's strong academic and co-curricular foundation to prepare for future leadership roles, adding that education remains central to Kenya's transformation agenda.

The anniversary brought together alumni, education officials and local leaders, who reflected on the school's historic contribution to shaping the country's human capital over the past 70 years.

The president was accompanied by among others Speaker of the National Assembly and leaders from Kiambu county led by Majority Leader and Kikuyu MP Kimani Ichungw'a



Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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NEWS IN BRIEF



Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen on Friday led a multi-agency engagement with the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission to review preparedness for the 2027 General Election. The consultations examined lessons from the 2025/26 by-elections, existing electoral gaps and strategies to improve coordination among agencies involved in the electoral process. The National Crime Research Centre said it continues supporting electoral security through research on election-related crimes and threats, hotspot mapping and risk profiling to boost preparedness ahead of the polls. Those present included Principal Secretary Raymond Omollo, Principal Secretary Belio Kipsang, Inspector General Douglas Kanja and NCRC Director Dr. Muthea Ruteere.



Murang'a County will host its inaugural Great Murang'a Community Run on May 31, 2026, aimed at promoting sports talent and combating drug and alcohol abuse among youth. Speaking during the launch, Elijah Mwangi said the event will help organisations such as Athletics Kenya identify and nurture young talent from schools. He noted that community activities can help address alcoholism and substance abuse in the region. Murang'a East Deputy County Commissioner Charles Murithi urged athletes to champion sobriety and inspire young people. Organiser Bernice Macharia said the race seeks to promote healthy living and positive social change. The event will feature categories for elite athletes, youth, corporate teams, families, children and senior citizens.



The Postal Corporation of Kenya is set to close 125 of its 625 post offices and lay off about 460 employees as part of a major restructuring plan aimed at returning the state corporation to profitability. Nearly half of the targeted branches have already been shut, with the remaining offices expected to close by the end of next month. The restructuring will reduce the workforce from 1,990 employees to 1,530. In Nairobi, branches that have already been closed or targeted for closure include Village Market, Enterprise Road, and Jamia Post Office in the CBD. Customers with postal boxes in affected branches will be transferred to nearby post offices.



Former Kenya National Highway Authority (KeNHA) chairman and Nyeri gubernatorial aspirant Eng. Wangai Ndirangu (right) on Friday attended the Annual Renewal of Vows ceremony at Kamoko AIPCA Church in Othaya, where congregants gathered for prayers, reflection and recommitment to family and community values. The event was presided over by Bishop Kariuki Muriithi (left) alongside church leaders. The ceremony brought together church members, elders, mothers and community leaders. Speaking at the event, Wangai said strong leadership should be anchored on integrity, faith and service to the community. He thanked the church leadership and congregation for welcoming him to the occasion, describing such gatherings as important in strengthening unity and values within society.



Kiambu Governor Kimani Wamatangi has challenged MPs from the county to account for their development record instead of criticising his administration and the countywide health sector. Wamatangi said the MPs should explain how they have utilised more than KSh15 billion in cumulative National Government Constituencies Development Fund allocations over the past four years. He accused some legislators of engaging in propaganda and political attacks to gain relevance ahead of the 2027 elections. The governor defended his administration's performance, particularly in healthcare and infrastructure, saying county projects are visible to residents. He urged leaders to focus on service delivery and development issues affecting wananchi rather than engaging in political confrontations targeting county leadership.



Former Chief Justice and Presidential aspirant David Maraga has criticised the latest fuel price increase announced by the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority, warning that the higher pump prices will worsen inflation and raise the cost of goods and services. Speaking during a prayer breakfast meeting for magistrates and advocates organised by the Law Society of Kenya South West Branch in Kisii, Maraga said Kenya's fuel prices remain higher than those in neighbouring countries despite global supply disruptions linked to the Middle East crisis. He also urged judicial officers and advocates to uphold integrity and accountability. South West Branch chairperson Winnie Mireri said the annual gathering helps legal practitioners seek spiritual guidance in their work.

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Environment The organization warned that Kenya risks normalizing gradual destruction of forests

Environmentalists oppose Forest Law changes as Senate passes controversial amendment bill

BY MKT REPORTER

@themtkenyatimes

A fresh battle over the protection of Kenya's public forests has erupted after the Senate passed the Forest Conservation and Management (Amendment) Bill, 2025, introducing controversial provisions that allow easements and wayleaves for roads, public installations and utilities within public and private forests. The move has triggered sharp criticism from environmental groups led by The Green Belt Movement, which has accused lawmakers of weakening constitutional safeguards protecting forests and opening the door to environmental destruction disguised as development.

In a statement issued on Thursday, hours after the Senate approved the amendment to Section 56(2) of the Forest Conservation and Management Act, 2016, the organization expressed concern over what it termed as the hurried passage of the Bill despite widespread public opposition. The lobby group argued that the

amendment grants the Kenya Forest Service authority to issue easements and wayleaves within forest land for infrastructure projects, creating what environmentalists describe as a dangerous legal loophole likely to encourage encroachment and commercial exploitation of protected ecosystems.

According to the Green Belt Movement, the legislative process was accelerated unusually fast, with the Second Reading, Third Reading and voting conducted within a short period, allegedly limiting meaningful public participation on an issue with major environmental implications.

The organization warned that Kenya risks normalizing gradual destruction of forests through administrative approvals tied to roads, utility corridors and public installations.

"We have already witnessed repeated attempts to excise and interfere with protected forests including Karura Forest, the Aberdares and Ngong Road Forest. The fears being raised by Kenyans are therefore legitimate, informed and grounded in recent experience," the statement



said.

Environmentalists cited recent disputes over the proposed excision of parts of Karura Forest for road expansion, ongoing opposition to a proposed road cutting through the Aberdare Forest ecosystem, and concerns over commercial developments within Ngong Road Forest as examples of increasing pressure on public forests.

The Green Belt Movement argued that forests are critical water towers and climate buffers that support biodiversity, agriculture, rainfall patterns and livelihoods for millions of Kenyans.

The amendment now awaits assent by William Ruto, with environmental activists urging him to reject the Bill and return it to Parliament for reconsideration.

"We now call upon President William Ruto not to assent to this Bill in its current form," the movement stated, arguing that the Head of State has a constitutional and moral obligation to protect public forests for future generations.

The controversy comes at a time when Kenya is grappling with the effects of climate change, including prolonged droughts, floods, rising temperatures and growing water in-

security.

Environmental stakeholders fear that weakening forest protections could accelerate degradation of key ecosystems and undermine national climate resilience efforts.

Supporters of the amendment, however, argue that the changes are intended to facilitate strategic public infrastructure projects and utilities necessary for economic growth and public service delivery.

Proponents maintain that the law still requires environmental safeguards and approvals before projects can proceed within protected areas.

Nevertheless, critics insist that the wording of the amendment is too broad and vulnerable to abuse, especially in a country where disputes over land allocation and forest encroachment have persisted for decades.

The Green Belt Movement has now called on civil society organizations, youth groups, faith leaders, environmental defenders and ordinary Kenyans to continue opposing the amendment and press for stronger forest protections.

"This moment is bigger than one amendment. It is about the future of Kenya's environmental heritage and whether future generations will inherit living forests or destroyed ecosystems," the organization said.

Administration Regional Commissioners Joshua Muriungi Nkanatha, John Odhiambo Otieno and Dr. Abdi Mohammed Hassan retained their positions

CS Murkomen reshuffles Regional and County Commissioners in new administrative changes

BY MKT Correspondent

@themtkenyatimes

Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen announced a major reshuffle affecting Regional Commissioners and County Commissioners in changes aimed at enhancing efficiency, coordination and service delivery across the country.

In a statement issued on Friday, the CS said the transfers, deployments and promotions were informed by the officers' experience, qualifications and performance in addressing security and administrative challenges.

Among the Regional Commissioners affected by the transfers are Rhoda Nyaboke Onyancha, who moves from Coast Region to Nairobi, Paul Rotich who has been transferred

from Eastern Region to Coast, Samson Macharia Irungu who moves from Western to the Office of the President headquarters, and Flora Nkatha Mwororah who shifts from Nyanza to the Office of the President headquarters.

The ministry also promoted three officers to Regional Commissioner positions. Jacob O. Muganda, formerly Meru County Commissioner, has been deployed to Eastern Region, Onesmus Musyoki Kyatha from Kakamega County moves to Nyanza Region, while Allan Machari has been deployed to Western Region from the Office of the President headquarters.

Regional Commissioners Joshua Muriungi Nkanatha, John Odhiambo Otieno and Dr. Abdi Mohammed Hassan retained their positions in Central, North Eastern and Rift Val-

ley regions respectively.

The changes also affected several County Commissioners across the country.

Joseph Kibet Boen was transferred from Kiambu to Kilifi, while Stephen Kutwa Sangolo moved from Baringo to Lamu. Jeremiah Mwai Gicheru was moved from Kericho to Tana River, John Kiprotich Cheruiyot from Samburu to Meru, and Mwachunga Mohamed Chaunga from Kisii to Machakos.

Other transfers include Shufaa Omar Mwijuma from Nyamira to Kirinyaga, Alason Hussein from Kirinyaga to Trans Nzoia, Wesley Koech Mabwai from Lamu to Baringo, and James Taari Rwaria from the North Eastern Regional Commissioner's office to Kakamega County. Benson David Leparmorijo was moved from Kisumu to Nyami-



CS Kipchumba Murkomen

ra, James Gatutha Kamau from Marsabit to Kisii, while Gideon Nyandiricha Oyagi, David Kipkosgei Kiprop, Josephine Auma Ouko, David Simiyu Wanyonyi and Joseph Mwangi Wamuti were transferred to the Office of the President headquarters.

The ministry also announced fresh deployments of senior deputy county commissioners to various counties. Jackson Ngelai Olechuta was deployed to Garissa, Ronald O.

Enyakasi to Wajir, Stanley Ndungu Kamande to Marsabit, George Odhiambo Omolo to Isiolo, Isaac Keter Cheruiyot to Samburu, George O. Matundura to Kiambu and Ali Omari to Kericho.

Murkomen said the changes take effect immediately and are intended to strengthen coordination of National Government functions and improve service delivery at regional and county levels.

NEWS PAPER

IN BUSINESS

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CRA appoints CPA Roble Said Nuno as new CEO



Ms Mary Wanyonyi Chebukati

BY WMW

@themkenyatimes

The Commission on Revenue Allocation (CRA) has appointed Roble Said Nuno as its new Commission Secretary and Chief Executive Officer following a competitive recruitment process.

In a statement issued, CRA Chairperson Mary Wanyonyi Chebukati said the appointment was conducted in accordance with applicable recruitment laws and procedures.

The recruitment exercise included psychometric assessments and oral interviews held at the Kenya School of Government in Lower Kabete on May 14, 2026, attracting several highly qualified candidates.

The Commission said Roble brings extensive experience in public financial management and leadership, qualities expected to strengthen the institution in executing its constitutional mandate on

revenue sharing and fiscal management.

CRA further noted that the recruitment process adhered to principles of transparency, meritocracy, and integrity.

“The Commission extends its appreciation to all candidates who participated in the process and reaffirms its commitment to transparency, meritocracy, and integrity in all its recruitment exercises,” the statement read.

The appointment comes at a time when the Commission continues to play a critical role in advising on the equitable sharing of revenue between the national and county governments, as well as among county governments.

CRA is one of the key constitutional commissions established under the Constitution of Kenya to promote fair resource allocation and strengthen fiscal decentralization across the country.



CPA Roble Said Nuno

Ombudsman pushes for stronger accountability and access to information in counties

BY MKT REPORTER

@themkenyatimes

The Commission on Administrative Justice (CAJ), also known as the Office of the Ombudsman, has intensified efforts to strengthen accountability, grievance redress systems, and access to information frameworks in counties under the World Bank-funded Financing Locally-Led Climate Action (FLLoCA) Programme.

The Commission, on Thursday conducted engagements in Kirinyaga and Kakamega counties aimed at enhancing citizen-centered service delivery, transparency, and effective climate governance.

In Kirinyaga County, the Commission, led by Commissioner in charge of Complaints and Investigations Charles Njagua Kanyi (Jaguar), held discussions with Deputy Governor David Githanda, County Assembly Speaker Muteti Murimi, and Deputy County Commissioner Frederick Ayieko.

The talks focused on strengthening Grievance Redress Mechanisms (GRM) and implementing the Access to Information Act, 2016, within county governance systems and FLLoCA projects.

The Commission said it would provide technical support to Kirinyaga County in developing a GRM policy and Access to Information law to improve institutional accountability and public participation.

Jaguar emphasized the importance of timely and accessible information in building public trust and enabling citizens to effectively participate in local development initiatives.

The leaders also discussed the need for stronger collaboration between county assemblies and national oversight institutions in promoting ethical leadership, transparency, and responsive public administration.

Meanwhile, in Kakamega County, CAJ Chairperson Charles Dulo led engagements with county officials, including the Deputy County Commissioner, County Secretary,



CAJ Commissioner Charles Njagua Kanyi (5th left) with other stakeholders after a series of meetings in Kirinyaga. | Photo: Courtesy.

Deputy Speakers, Members of the County Assembly, and the Climate Change Unit overseeing FLLoCA implementation.

The meetings reviewed the effectiveness of grievance handling and access to information systems in projects being implemented across various wards.

The Commission and county leaders explored partnerships aimed at improving service delivery and strengthening accountability within devolved governance structures.

Mr. Dulo underscored the need for professionalism and responsiveness among public officers, warning that failure to discharge public duties could result in liability for

both institutions and individual officers.

He also assured county leaders of the Commission's willingness to engage relevant government agencies to address challenges affecting county operations, including delays in exchequer disbursements that have negatively impacted service delivery.

The engagements form part of broader efforts by the Ombudsman to strengthen governance, citizen participation, and accountability in the management of climate financing and public resources at the county level.



CAJ chairman Charles Dulo with other stakeholders after the Kakamega meeting.

Transport Kenya's public transport sector is on the brink as operators warn of paralysis unless the government acts on runaway fuel costs

Matatu operators threaten nationwide strike over fuel prices, hike fares by 50%

BY MKT REPORTER

@themtkenyatimes

Public transport operators have announced a nationwide strike beginning Monday and an immediate 50 per cent fare increase, following the government's latest fuel price adjustments that pushed diesel to Ksh.242.92 per litre in Nairobi.

The ultimatum, delivered Friday by representatives of matatu owners, tour vehicle operators, and boda boda associations, threatens to bring Kenya's transport network to a standstill at a time when millions of commuters are already struggling with a punishing cost of living.

Matatu Owners Association President Albert Karakacha left little room for ambiguity. "On Monday, there will be strictly no movement of any vehicles. All the roads will be blocked until the government lis-



Boda boda operators

tens to our cry — because we have been promised, but everything we are promised has not come to fulfillment," he said.

The fare hike takes effect immedi-

ately. Karakacha issued a pointed warning to transport network companies — ride-hailing platforms included — not to stand in the way. "We are going to increase our prices

by 50 per cent. I caution you not to block any driver. If you don't want to go the hard way, make sure you cooperate."

The trigger was Thursday's rul-

ing by the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA), which raised Super Petrol prices by Ksh.16.65 and Diesel by Ksh.46.29 per litre in its monthly review — adjustments operators say make viable business impossible.

But the anger runs deeper than the latest figures. Karakacha accused EPRA of having been captured by vested interests, turning a regulatory body meant to protect consumers into an instrument of extraction. "EPRA was set with the hope that it would regulate these industries to the benefit of society. Now it has become the biggest place for cartels to tax Kenyans to death," he said.

The government has yet to respond formally to the strike threat. EPRA attributed the price increases to rising global oil costs and shifting international market dynamics — a defence that has done little to placate operators or the commuters now facing steeper fares on already stretched household budgets.

For millions of Kenyans who depend on matatus to get to work, school, and hospital, Monday's roads may tell the story more plainly than any statement from Nairobi.

Graft Legal experts have previously noted that plea bargains in Kenya's anti-corruption cases are intended to speed up justice delivery

Concerns raised over plea-bargain withdrawal of KSh73.4 million Obado graft case

BY WMW

@themtkenyatimes

The decision by the Milimani Anti-Corruption Court to allow the withdrawal of a KSh73.4 million corruption case against former Migori Governor Okoth Obado and his children has triggered sharp public criticism from anti-corruption activists, who question the growing use of plea bargains in high-level graft cases.

The case, which involved allegations of misappropriation of public funds, was withdrawn following a plea agreement between the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) and the accused persons, effectively ending criminal proceedings after restitution arrangements were reached.

However, the National Integrity Alliance (NIA), a citizen-centered integrity and anti-corruption caucus

in a statement, said it was deeply concerned and disappointed by the ruling, warning that it risks setting a dangerous precedent where suspects accused of stealing public funds can negotiate their way out of full criminal accountability.

While acknowledging that Kenyan law allows for plea bargaining and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, the group argued that such arrangements in grand corruption cases undermine public trust and weaken deterrence against economic crimes.

"Corruption is not a victimless crime," the group said, adding that stolen public funds deprive citizens of essential services such as healthcare, education, water, and infrastructure development.

The lobby group further questioned whether returning stolen assets after prolonged use should be sufficient to terminate prosecution, warning that this could normalize corruption as a "low-risk, high-reward enterprise."

The statement also raised concerns about inequality before the law, arguing that ordinary citizens rarely benefit from similar negotiated outcomes in serious criminal cases.

It urged Parliament and the National Council on the Administration of Justice (NCAJ) to review the legal framework governing plea bargains in corruption and economic crimes, particularly those involving senior public officials.

The group also called on the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission and the ODPP to ensure that public interest remains central in such agreements, and that asset recovery does not replace criminal accountability.

Legal experts have previously noted that plea bargains in Kenya's anti-corruption cases are intended to speed up justice delivery, reduce lengthy trials, and enhance recovery of stolen assets.

However, critics argue that the approach may weaken deterrence if not



Zachary Okoth Obado

applied transparently and consistently.

The controversy comes amid renewed national debate on how best to handle high-profile corruption cases, with stakeholders divided between prioritising asset recovery and ensuring full prosecution of offenders.

The National Integrity Alliance maintained that restitution alone is insufficient, insisting that justice must include both recovery of public funds and appropriate punishment.

It urged the government to strengthen oversight mechanisms and ensure that anti-corruption enforcement does not appear to favour negotiated settlements over full criminal trials.

The developments are likely to intensify scrutiny of how Kenya handles economic crimes involving senior political figures, as pressure mounts for reforms that balance efficiency in justice delivery with accountability and public confidence in the legal system.

Fuel The Deputy President spoke on Friday when he inspected ongoing development projects in South Imenti Constituency in Meru County.

Kindiki: We will implement every necessary measure to reduce fuel prices

BY DPCS

@themtkenyatimes

The government is exploring every necessary measure to bring down the cost of fuel following the spike caused by the war in Iran that has disrupted global fuel supply, Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has assured.

Prof. Kindiki said the government has already reduced Value Added Tax (VAT) on fuel from 16 percent to 8 per-

cent and released KSh5 billion to subsidize the prices, promising further action to cushion Kenyans from costly oil products.

“The cost of fuel, its insurance and shipping has shot up significantly because of the war in Iran. We are implementing every necessary action to stabilize fuel prices. The VAT has come down from 16 to 8 percent. We are looking at other options to cushion Kenyans from higher

cost of fuel. We do not want Kenyans to suffer,” DP said.

The Deputy President spoke on Friday when he inspected ongoing development projects in South Imenti Constituency in Meru County.

Prof. Kindiki checked the progress of Nkubu-Rubiri-Kamurita Road which is nearing completion and inspected the Rubiri Last Mile Electricity Connection Project.

“The prices have increased



Deputy President Kithure Kindiki addressing a public meeting at Rubiri shopping centre on Friday.

| Photo: DPCS.

sharply in every country in the world because of the war in the Persian Gulf but we are keen to ensure Kenyans do not suffer because of the disruption,” DP reiterated.

The Second in Command said it is not the government’s intention to see Kenyans suffering urging them to be patient as the measures are implemented.

“We are calling on Kenyans to be patient as we work on these measures because we don’t want them to suffer from high fares and increased cost of living because of this situation,” he urged.

Later, he addressed residents at Rubiri shopping centre where he assured them of completion of all ongoing projects and commencement of others geared at improving the lives of the people.

The County is a big beneficiary of the government’s road construction programme

after it was allocated over 39 billion shillings to complete stalled road projects and starting of new ones. The projects are spread across all the constituencies in the County.

Additionally, KSh3.7 billion has been set aside for 17 kilometres of link roads within Meru town which aim to uplift the town’s status as it seeks to become a city. The upgrading of roads in Nkubu town is also underway.

The government has also released KSh1.3 billion under the Last Mile Electricity Connection to connect at least 16, 000 homes to power in the County.

“We are fully focused on improving the lives of the people in Meru. We will ensure all these projects are completed on time,” Prof. Kindiki stated.

Other key projects going on in the devolved unit include the upgrading of Meru Referral Hospital to Level 6 making

it a premier facility offering the best medical services to the people.

Several affordable housing, institutional, hostel projects and over 20 modern markets are at advanced stages of completion.

The DP challenged political opponents to get ready for a tough contest centred on what they have done for the people while in office.

“When we come here next year for your support, we will showcase what we have done in the last five years, not just mere talk. Our opponents must be ready to reveal what they did when they were in power,” he said.

The DP was joined by Governor Mutuma M’Ethingia, Senator Kathuri Murungi, South Imenti MP Shadrack Mwiti, Central Imenti MP Moses Kirima, host of MCAs among other leaders and residents.




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Politics Munene claimed that Waiguru is politically opposed to Prof Kindiki and accused her of positioning herself for a future political role at the expense of the Kindiki.

Governor Waiguru is Prof Kindiki's enemy and should keep off Tharaka Nithi, claims MP, DP's office



President William Ruto with his deputy, Prof Kithure Kindiki (right) and Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki during a recent event to launch Chuka town market. | Photo: Courtesy.

BY MKT Correspondent
@themkenyatimes

Tension has emerged in Tharaka Nithi County after Deputy President Prof Kithure Kindiki's political allies and officials from his office described Kirinyaga Governor Anne Waiguru as a political adversary of the Deputy President and urged her to keep off county events.

Speaking at Kajuku Market in Chuka/Igambang'ombe Constituency during a public engagement, area Member of Parliament Patrick Munene and Mbaka Muriuki, a communication officer in the Office of the Deputy President, faulted Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki for inviting Governor Waiguru to a recent fundraiser in the county attended by President William Ruto and Deputy President Prof Kindiki.

Munene claimed that Waiguru is politically opposed to Prof Kindiki and accused her of positioning herself for a future political role at the expense of the Kindiki.

"Last week Governor Njuki brought Waiguru to Chuka while knowing very well that

she is out to dethrone Prof Kindiki. I was shocked to see our own people applaud her. I felt like stoning you because that is being foolish," said Munene in remarks that have since sparked debate.

He further alleged that Waiguru had recently made public political apologies regarding the impeachment of former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, suggesting this was part of her broader political ambitions.

Mr Muriuki accused Governor Njuki of undermining Prof Kindiki's political standing in the region and 'fighting' him.

"Njuki has never believed that Prof Kindiki, whom he once competed against, rose to become Deputy President of Kenya. I am only restraining myself from insulting him, but the right time will come," said Muriuki.

Igambang'ombe MCA Njeru Ingara also urged residents to be cautious about welcoming leaders he said could pose a political threat to Prof Kindiki, arguing that such figures should be treated as political adversaries.

"Governor Njuki does not

believe that Prof Kindiki rose to the DP position," said Ingara.

However, the remarks were swiftly countered by Mariani Ward MCA Anita Mbae, who dismissed the allegations and defended Njuki's relationship with Waiguru, describing it as cordial and long-standing.

"When we buried the Governor's mother-in-law, Governor Waiguru was present. When we buried the father-in-law late last year, she was there, and even during the burial of the Governor's mother in 2019, she attended. I would like to know whether this is Muriuki's personal opinion or an official position from the ODP," Mbae wrote on Facebook.

Sabastian Mwangangi, a close ally of DP Kindiki and a United Democratic Alliance (UDA) official, also dismissed the claims, urging leaders to avoid dragging national leadership into local political disputes.

"Waiguru poses almost near zero threat. Invoking her name is not necessary at the moment. Let leaders focus on MP, Senator and Governor races locally without nation-

alising county politics," he said in a Facebook post.

During the fundraiser for the construction of PCEA JNMC Church in Rubate, Magumoni Ward, Njuki praised DP Kindiki and expressed confidence in President Ruto's re-election prospects, pledging strong regional support.

"As a county and region, we are proud of what you are doing and we will ensure the opposition does not get votes here come next year," said Njuki.

The remarks by leaders allied to the Deputy President have since triggered mixed reactions among residents, with some warning that the escalating political rhetoric could deepen divisions in the county.

Julius Mutembei, a Chuka resident, said Njuki has consistently supported Prof Kindiki and urged leaders to avoid divisive politics.

"Prof Kindiki needs all lead-

ers from his home county. A divided home base weakens his political standing," he said.

Jennifer Kendi from Chogoria called on the Deputy President to take charge of his political camp and prevent internal divisions.

"DP Prof Kindiki should demonstrate leadership and ensure that his office staff do not contribute to divisions in the county," she said.

By the time of going to press, Governor Muthomi Njuki had not responded to the accusations.



Governor Anne Waiguru

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Fuel Nyoro said he had formally written to Parliament seeking amendments to the VAT Act and the Road Maintenance Levy Fund (RMLF) regulations

Ndindi Nyoro proposes tax cuts, subsidies to lower fuel prices

BY WMW
@themkenyatimes

Kiharu Member of Parliament Ndindi Nyoro has proposed a raft of legislative measures aimed at reducing fuel prices, warning that the current pump prices will trigger severe inflationary pressure and long-term economic pain.

Speaking at his office at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre on Friday,

the MP termed the latest fuel prices announced by the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority “unacceptable”.

The current EPRA prices place super petrol at KSh214.25 per litre and diesel at KSh242.92 per litre.

Nyoro said he had formally written to Parliament seeking amendments to the VAT Act and the Road Maintenance Levy Fund (RMLF) regulations to cushion consumers from rising costs.

Under his proposals, the MP wants importers’ and distributors’ margins reduced by KSh4 per litre, an additional KSh5 billion diesel subsidy provided through the Fuel Stabilization Fund, and the KSh7 fuel levy introduced in 2024 scrapped.

He also proposed making petroleum products VAT exempt by deleting Section 5(2A) of the VAT Act, effectively reducing VAT on fuel from eight per cent to zero.



Ndindi Nyoro addressing journalists in his office at KICC on Friday.

According to Nyoro, the combined measures would lower the retail price of super petrol to KSh187.38 per litre and diesel to KSh189.16.

“The drastic rise in fuel prices will grossly hurt the economy now, in the medium and long term,” Nyoro said, adding that inflation was likely to rise sharply if no intervention is made.

He criticised the government for what he termed “playing with fuel prices for political gains” through post-announcement adjustments that fail to significantly reduce the burden on consumers.

Under his proposals, the MP wants importers’ and distributors’ margins reduced by KSh4 per litre, an additional KSh5 billion diesel subsidy provided through the Fuel Stabilization Fund, and the KSh7 fuel levy introduced in 2024 scrapped.

Nyoro argued that once transport and commodity prices rise, they tend to remain high even when fuel prices decline.

“When fares go up, they become sticky, and therefore Kenyans are left paying high prices,” he said.

In a letter addressed to the Clerk of the National Assembly, Samuel Njoroge, the MP said the proposed amendments were necessary to mitigate inflationary and “sticky economic effects” caused by high fuel prices.

The proposed changes include revoking part of the Road Maintenance Levy Fund (Imposition of Levy) Order, 2024, to reduce the levy from KSh25 to KSh18 per litre.

Nyoro maintained that the interventions were short-term measures meant to stabilise the economy while broader long-term solutions are explored.

“There has to be a trade-off between losing some revenue in the short term and inflicting long-run downward and sticky effects on the economy in general,” he said.

The MP’s proposals now await consideration in Parliament amid growing public concern over the rising cost of living.

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Education “I remember walking through the old gate of this school on January 21, 1972 and being assigned admission number 3485,” Kagwe said.

CS Kagwe returns to Kagumo, urges students to embrace discipline and innovation



CS Mutahi Kagwe signing Kagumo High School's visitors book as Principal Silas Mwirigi (standing) and KALRO chairman Dr Thuo Mathenge looks on. | Photo: Courtesy.

BY WMW

[@themtkenyatimes](#)

Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture and Livestock Development Mutahi Kagwe on Friday returned to his former school, Kagumo High School, where he challenged students and teachers to embrace discipline, creativity and innovation in a rapidly changing world shaped by technology and artificial intelligence.

Speaking during the school's Education Day, Kagwe reflected on his six-year stay at the institution from 1972, describing the occasion as nostalgic and instrumental in shaping his leadership journey.

“I remember walking through the old gate of this school on January 21, 1972 and being assigned admission number 3485,” he said.

Kagwe credited the school for nurturing his academic, creative and leadership abilities, recalling that his class became the first to attain a distinction in History before 1976 and also excelled in Geography.

He praised former teachers, including Mrs. Mwangi, who later founded Mt. Kenya Academy, and his English teacher John McLeod, who nurtured his passion for theatre and communication through the Drama Club.

The CS said his participation in drama later influenced his leadership and governance career.

While studying Commerce at the University of Nairobi, he joined and later chaired the Free Traveling Theatre, travelling across the country staging plays with fellow students.

“Theatre exposed me to culture, teamwork and the power of communication in leadership and development,” he said.

Kagwe also recounted how his interest in agriculture grew during his school days after forming an Agriculture Club with fellow students. The club eventually produced vegetables and eggs that helped feed the school community.

He said food and nutrition security remain critical national priorities and urged young people to embrace agriculture using modern technology and innovation.

The former senator also recalled undergoing a three-month police cadet training programme in collaboration with Kiganjo Police Training College, saying the experience instilled discipline, leadership and respect for law and order.

“Respect and observance of law and order is a prerequisite for a society to prosper,” he said.

Kagwe encouraged students to pursue academic excellence alongside sports, arts and other talents, noting that the modern world rewards well-rounded individuals.



CS Mutahi Kagwe awarding a present to one of last year's KCSE best performers.

He said sports had become a billion-dollar industry and announced a donation of sports equipment to the school.

Addressing teachers, Kagwe said the era of Artificial Intelligence and the Internet of Things demands continuous learning and adaptation.

“You must invest more time in learning from online sources and keeping abreast of developments in your subject area,” he said, adding that the government would continue supporting teachers with necessary resources.

He also commended the school's administration, Board of Governors, PTA, alumni association and surrounding community for steering the institution for 94 years.

Kagwe thanked parents for entrusting schools with their children, assuring them that educators remain committed to shaping responsible and successful citizens.

The CS was hosted by the school's stakeholders led by Chief Principal Dr Silas Mwirigi.



CS Mutahi Kagwe interacting with Kagumo High School students on Friday.

Surviving

(Dedicated to anyone who is a mental health survivor)



Cautiously you are seeking, to be understood,
Well aware of the fact, that they would if they could.

So you go about the day, working on "Normal",
Walking a tightrope, well aware that you're mortal.

Fear of falling into a deeper depression,
Forcing an additional, counseling session.
Getting help to address, those traumatic issues,
Taking small steps forward, as progress continues.

Fortunately, you have learned to deal with triggers,
Allowing you to address your struggles, quicker.
Mental health care, like all health care, is essential,
Getting the help you need, can be consequential.

Working towards a life that's, inspired and thriving,
Full of possibilities, not just surviving.

Keith Onyango
Rongo university

There is more to a road trip, than just arriving,
So in life, there must be more than just surviving.
Living with trauma, is an ongoing battle,
Like being up a creek, without any paddle.

Concealing anxiety, trying to survive,
Praying to get through the day, remaining alive.
Daily it's a challenge, to adhere to a plan,
You hold on by a thread, and do the best you can.

The longing to be "Normal", is an obsession,
Of course what's "Normal", always comes into question.
You question yourself, and question how you're perceived,
You don't enjoy good days. You are simply relieved.

This is what a toxic relationship looks like this isn't love



Oh fragile soul, you ache, you plead,
Still starved of what you truly need.

You chose love, pure and deep and wide,
So why does hurt now walk beside?
The cup you filled has run to none,
A "two" reduced, erased to one.

It's fear that lingers in the air,
Of speaking truth, of being fair.
Each word you weigh, each thought you hide,
Till silence feels the safer side.

You call tea tea—simple and true,
But must rename it to please his view.
You bend, you break to fit his will,
And he names this love—yet it kills.

This is the trap you cannot see:
Not love, but quiet captivity
Neither ended, nor set free.

Nandini AnandKumar
Vice-Principal
Universal Academy Senior Secondary School
Karaikal

Under one roof, yet worlds apart,
A house that shelters, not a heart.
Words once warm now sting and split,
Each sentence twisted, none to fit.

You give in tides, you pour, you try,
While empty shores just take it dry.
Gifts may come in polished guise,
But never what the spirit cries.

You wait, you hope that things will mend,
That broken roads will somehow bend.
Yet gentle moments stand accused,
And innocence is misused.

A prison built in love's own name,
Where every breath ignites a flame.

When life is easy thank God, When life is tough trust in God



He empowers pure souls with humanism
The Lord blesses pure hearts with bowers of wishes

If all the wishes are cherished
Kneel before His presence with Thanksgiving
He'll protect us nd shelter us inside His feathers
Trust the lord always,

Thank Him ever

To live peacefully,hopefully,
Nd joyfully making your life easy
Masking your sorrows,pricking like arrows,
Never be rough nd make everything tough,
Beleive in the Lord,
curses transform to a spongy sword!!!!

V.R.VIJAYALAKSHMI, GRADUATE TEACHER, CW
GROUP, KANCHIPURAM DISTRICT, TAMILNADU,
INDIA.

If you are joyful....Thank God
If you are cheerful...praise the Lord
If you are in struggle....trust the Lord
God balances all situations
Crying loudly removes all your stress,
Lamenting long, chases out your frustrations..
He is the controller,He is the consoler,
Of our heart nd soul
Hearty prayers touch the Lord's feet
He forgives our sins,

Planting trees



months ago, I planted a papaya sapling. Now it has grown taller than me. I feel very happy when I see the papaya tree. It gives me mental peace and happiness.

I have started planting more trees for my happiness and also to protect nature. If you love nature, you will find happiness everywhere.

By

V. Vidhyasree
VIII Std
PUMS Chinna Obulapuram
Gummidipoondi
Tiruvallur Dt
Tamil Nadu, India

Planting trees is one of my favourite hobbies. I plant many small plants near my house along with my father. He gives me information about different plants and trees. He also teaches me how to take care of them.

Nowadays, planting trees is very important to save the world from pollution and global warming. Planting trees is a very peaceful activity. Five

It's ok dear



It's ok dear-
To give birth to twins
Raising them being their fins.
It's ok dear-
As the praises you earned
For their attitudes you've yearned.

It's ok dear-
Now, to go as per their wish
In clothing & dish.

It's ok dear-
To agree their maturity,
As to accept their affinity.

It's ok dear-
For God has abide you
Always moisturizing as dew.

It's ok dear-
To mitigate problems oneself,
Being near & dear to yourself.

G.Sarala.

To leave your birth house,
And enter your in law's house.
It's ok dear-
To mingle unknown relation
And gathering without any hesitation.
It's ok dear-
To give birth to girl baby
As you wish it to be.
It's ok dear-
To bind it within your heart
As joyous moment been start.

Feelings are the language of the soul



Makes them feel relaxed.

When we are in distress,
Not finding words to express,
Gently caress them with sympathy;
Kindly look at them with empathy.

Feelings are the language of the soul,
Let your heart and mind console.
Sharing and caring for others,
Wordless conversations are considered wise.

JAEL BEULAH.R
B.T.ASST,
GHSS,
KILPALUR,
TIRUVANNAMALAI.
TAMILNADU.

Staying close to our loved ones,
During times of hardships.
With warm touch and hug,

NGEC This year's global theme, "Families, Inequalities and Child Well-being," highlights the widening social and economic disparities affecting households

NGEC raises concern over growing inequalities affecting Kenyan families and children

BY WMW
@themkenyatimes



The National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) has called for increased investment in family-centred policies and social protection programmes to address growing inequalities affecting families and the well-being of children across the country.

In a statement issued on Friday during the commemoration of the International Day of Families 2026, NGEC Chairperson Rehema Jaldesa said many Kenyan families continue to face economic and social pressures that threaten stability, dignity, and child welfare.

Child Well-being," highlights the widening social and economic disparities affecting households and the impact on children's safety, development, and access to opportunities.

The Commission noted that although the Constitution recognizes the family as the fundamental unit of society and guarantees equality, dignity, and social justice, millions of Kenyans still struggle to meet basic needs. According to the statement, Kenya's

poverty rate currently stands at 39.8 percent, with nearly 20 million people unable to adequately provide for themselves and their families. About 31.7 percent of households also face food poverty.

NGEC acknowledged government efforts aimed at strengthening family welfare through social protection programmes, universal health coverage, education expansion, housing initiatives, and other support systems targeting vulnerable groups. The

Commission said these interventions have contributed to improved life expectancy and quality of life over time.

However, the Commission warned that rising living costs, unemployment, poverty, corruption, and limited access to social services continue to expose many households to hardship and uncertainty. Climate-related disasters such as drought, floods, and displacement have also disrupted livelihoods and access to healthcare, education, and income opportunities.

The Commission further expressed concern over increasing mental health challenges affecting young people, caregivers, and families struggling with economic distress.

NGEC noted that inequalities continue to disproportionately affect women, children, persons with disabilities, older



Ms Rehema Jaldesa

persons, minorities, and marginalized communities. Women and girls, the Commission said, continue to shoulder most unpaid care and domestic responsibilities with little support or recognition.

The Commission also raised concern over growing risks within the digital space, warning that while technology has expanded access to information and economic opportunities, children and young people remain vulnerable to online exploitation, cyberbullying, and harmful digital content.

NGEC called for stronger collaboration among families, schools, communities,

and institutions to improve child protection and promote responsible use of technology.

The Commission urged the government and stakeholders to strengthen investments in healthcare, education, mental health support, child protection, and economic empowerment programmes targeting vulnerable households.

"As the country commemorates the International Day of Families 2026, let us reaffirm our shared responsibility to strengthen families, protect children, and build a more inclusive and equitable society," Jaldesa said.

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Business Vivo Energy Kenya Managing Director, Peter Murungi, said the firm had recently moved to enhance its service delivery capacity

Value addition: Vivo Energy Kenya launches its Shell model motorists' destination station



Value add: Shell Dennis Pritt Service Station, Retailer, Nyokabi Mwangi (left) joins Vivo Energy Group CEO, Stan Mittelman and Vivo Energy Kenya Managing Director, Peter Murungi, Vivo Energy Executive Vice President East and Southern Africa, Hans Paulsen and Vivo Energy Kenya Retail Manager Patrick Masinde (right) in fuelling a customer's car at the official launch of the model service station.

BY MKT REPORTER
@themkenyatimes

Vivo Energy Kenya, the company that distributes and markets Shell products and services in the country, has unveiled a model motorist's destination service station as part of its ongoing retail network development strategy to enhance consumer value.

The launch of Shell Dennis Pritt service station, along Dennis Pritt Road in Nairobi's Kilimani estate, is a showcase of the firm's future service stations, which will be optimised to serve as retail hubs or motorist-destination convenience centres that customers use regularly to meet their needs.

Speaking at the launch event at the fully fledged service

station, visiting Vivo Energy Group CEO Mr. Stan Mittelman said the company, through its local subsidiary, continues to invest heavily in developing modern sites that provide its customers with access to high-quality products, services, and greater convenience. "By providing quality services tailored to the needs of customers on-site, the multi-purpose forecourt is increasingly becoming a retail hub or a 'one-stop-shop', which customers use regularly to meet their everyday needs," he said.

Flanked by Vivo Energy Kenya Managing Director Mr. Peter Murungi, the visiting Group CEO said that, as part of the firm's retail development strategy, the new Shell Dennis Pritt service station's offerings include high-quality

fuels, lubricants and LPG (brand Afrigas), as well as an ArtCaffe Market convenience retail shop and a quick service restaurant. The new service station also features a modern lubricant bay for oil change, a car wash, a pharmacy, among other amenities.

"In Kenya, we are actively delivering our Africa-wide retail development strategy, which is geared at securing our market leadership and enhancing our customer experience," Mittelman said. He added, "We continue to expand our retail network to meet growing demand across the continent. Additionally, we look to improve the customer experience at our sites, building on the successful launch of loyalty programmes in key markets, undertaking new fuel launches and provid-

ing the best and safest experience for our customers."

Vivo Energy Kenya Managing Director, Peter Murungi, said the firm had recently moved to enhance its service delivery capacity, with increased demand for quality fuel products complemented by premium non-fuel services and products.

"Thanks to the support of

loyal customers, Shell service stations continue to register growing demand for our flagship products, including Shell FuelSave Unleaded, Shell FuelSave Diesel and Shell V-Power Unleaded," Murungi said. He added, "At all our more than 340 Shell service stations in Kenya, we aim to make sure that our customers' experience goes beyond just

fuelling. That's why at many Shell stations customers can fuel up, shop, dine, buy or refill their Afrigas cylinder, as well as access a range of car services like car wash or service at the service bay.

Vivo Energy Kenya was established in November 2012 following the acquisition of Shell's downstream business in Kenya from Kenya Shell Ltd. The firm is currently ranked as the leading national oil marketing company (OMC) with a 20.0% market share according to the sector regulator. It serves all market segments from retail to commercial customers with a full range of automotive fuels, lubricants, aviation fuels, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), and black fuels.

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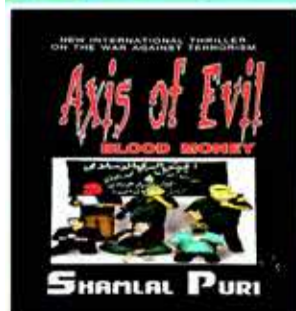
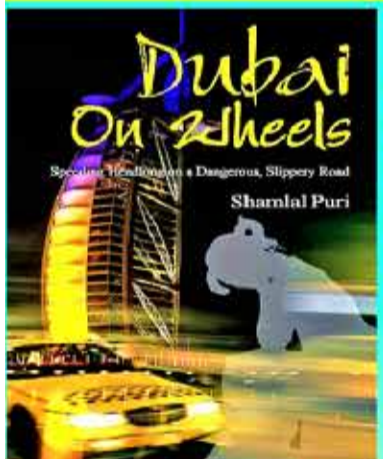
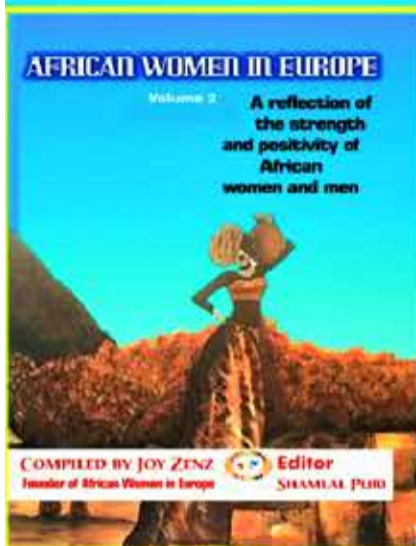
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Security Modern insecurity thrives where citizens feel abandoned by the state. Terrorism, radicalization, organized crime, hopelessness, unemployment

The new frontline: How Kenya's military is shaping security, technology, diplomacy and national development



BY Fredrick Chelimo
@themkenyatimes



KDF

Military has for long been viewed exclusively through the narrow lenses of war. Soldiers belonged at the borders, in barracks, or on battlefields. Their work was associated with conflict, territorial defense, and national emergencies. Across much of the world, that perception is rapidly changing as modern nations are redefining the role of their armed forces, recognizing that the true strength of a military institution lies not only in its ability to fight wars, but also in its capacity to stabilize societies, inspire confidence, support development, drive innovation, and strengthen national resilience.

Kenya is becoming steadily part of this global narrative. Over the last several years, Kenya Defence Forces role has been expanding formally through constitutional and legal provisions and in infrastructure support, disaster response, medical outreach, environmental conservation, water projects, engineering works, humanitarian intervention and space science. This has greatly defined the relationship between the military and its citizens. In regions especially regarded as insecure and neglected areas, soldiers are becoming symbols of protection, hope, relief, and state presence

In places such as Lamu, Garissa, Turkana, Wajir, Isiolo and parts of Rift Valley, communities that once associated military deployment solely with combat operations now encounter military doctors offering treatment in remote villages, engineering units rehabilitating roads, personnel drilling boreholes in drought-stricken areas, and officers participating in tree planting initiatives aimed at restoring degraded ecosystems. These engagements may appear simple in the surface, yet their impact runs much deeper than the immediate projects themselves.

Modern insecurity thrives where citizens feel abandoned by the state. Terrorism, radicalization, organized crime, hopelessness, unemployment, historical exclusion, and weak government presence. Military operations alone cannot permanently solve such challenges. Even the most

sophisticated campaigns eventually confront a difficult reality; sustainable peace is not built only through force, but through trust. This is why civil military cooperation, commonly known as CIMIC, is becoming one of the most strategic governance tools of modern era.

At its core, CIMIC, reflects a simple but powerful idea – that national security and national development are inseparable. A road constructed in marginalized region can improve security as much as military patrol. A borehole drilled in a drought-prone community can prevent future conflicts over scarce resources. A medical camp in underserved village can strengthen public trust more effectively than aggressive enforcement operations. In today's world, security is no longer defined merely by the absence of war, but increasingly defined by the presence of opportunity, dignity, inclusion and institutional confidence.

This transformation is not unique to Kenya as around the world over successful nations have embraced broader military roles as part of strategic state building. The United States Armed Forces have historically integrated reconstruction, infrastructure support, Disaster management, and technological innovation into national development frameworks. The Rwanda Defence Forces has become internationally recognized for community outreach, environmental conservation, engineering support, and public health interventions. The Indian Armed Forces continue supporting infrastructure, medical outreach, and stabilization programs in remote and sensitive regions, while Indonesian National Armed Forces remain deeply involved in territorial development and disaster preparedness initiatives.

The foregoing examples, illustrate an increasing accepted global reality; modern military institutions are no longer isolated war machines. They are strategic national assets

capable of supporting economic growth, technological advancement, humanitarian response, and institutional stability. Perhaps the least discussed dimension of this evolution is the growing military role as a gateway of technology and innovation.

Historically, many technologies shaping modern civilization originated from military research and operational demands before eventually transforming civilian life. The internet emerged from defense-linked research systems. GPS navigation was originally developed for military use before revolutionizing transport, agriculture, logistics, banking, and aviation. Drone technology, satellite communications, cyber technologies, advanced trauma medicine, aviation engineering, emergency responses infrastructure and latest artificial intelligence all have strong military roots

The logic behind this situation is based on the fact that military institutions are often forced to solve highly complex operational challenges under extreme conditions. This pressure naturally drives, innovation, investment in research, and technological adaptation. Over time, the resulting systems and expertise spill into civilian economies, creating entirely new industries and opportunities

For Kenya, this presence an enormous strategic possibility. Kenyan military possesses advanced operational capabilities in engineering, communication, aviation, logistics, surveillance, intelligence coordination, and emergency responses systems. With proper policy alignment and civilian partnerships, these capacities could significantly advance Kenya's ambitions in technology, industrialization, infrastructure modernization, cybersecurity, space science and digital transformation.

Future military-civilian partnerships could support growth of drone and surveillance technology, cybersecurity infrastructure, Geographic

Information Systems (GIS), smart border management, climate resilience systems, emergency response and monitoring technology, strategic communications, maritime surveillance, and renewable energy among others. The benefits of such technological transfer extend far beyond military institutions themselves. Universities gain research partnerships. The young professionals acquire technical skills. Private industries access innovation ecosystems. Local manufacturing company will improve capacity. Emergency response systems become more accurate and efficient. Counties in marginalized regions gain access to advanced communications technologies that might otherwise remain inaccessible.

In many countries, military innovation has quietly become foundation for economic transformation. Nations such as United States, Israel, South Korea, China, Singapore, and India have successfully leveraged defense-linked research and technical training to strengthen civilian industries, manufacturing sectors, digital economies and national competitiveness. Kenya has the opportunity to pursue its own uniquely African version of this model.

Importantly, the military's expanding developmental role should not be misunderstood as an attempt to replace civilian governance or political leadership. Such fears occasionally emerge in political spaces where development projects are closely tied to influence, procurement systems and economic interests. Yet the relationship between civilian leadership and military-supported development should not be viewed through the lens of competition.

In reality, a stable nation benefits political leadership itself as without security business collapse, without confidence, governance weakens, and without infrastructure in fragile regions, economic opportunities diminish. Without disaster preparedness, years of development can be destroyed in days. Military supported stabilization, therefore creates conditions under which civilian governance, private investment and political leadership can succeed more effectively.

The solution therefore is not to resist military participation in national development, but to strengthen collaboration framework to ensure transparency, accountability, and shared journey towards a vibrant economic prosperity. Properly structured civil military cooperation can create partnerships involving coun-

ty governments, private contractors, technical experts, local communities, humanitarian agencies, and national institutions working together toward common goals.

Looking ahead, Kenya's future security and development challenges will almost certainly require deeper civil-military cooperation and integration. Climate change, cyber threats, urbanization pressure, technological disruptions, terrorism, organized crimes, and regional instability are creating a world where no single institution can operate effectively in isolation. Modern security will increasingly depend on cooperation between militaries, civilian agencies, research institutions, industries, and communities.

The Kenyan military of the future may therefore become not only a force for defense, but also a force for innovation, disaster resilience, industrial support, technological modernization, environmental protection and disaster diplomacy. Indeed, military diplomacy itself is becoming one of the most influential tools of modern statecraft. When Kenyan soldiers participate in peacekeeping missions or operations, support humanitarian interventions, respond to disasters or provide medical outreach in underserved areas or communities, they project much more than military capability.

They project institutional competence, discipline, compassion, and national stability. Such actions strengthen Kenya's regional and international standing while reinforcing confidence among citizens, investors, development partners and a general feeling of national pride. The conversation about civil-military cooperation is not only about soldiers constructing roads, drilling water, medical support or disaster support. It is about redefining the meaning of national strength in the modern era. It is about recognizing that the most successful nations are those whose institutions work together to protect not only borders, but also its people dignity, opportunities, livelihoods, and future aspirations.

Kenya now stands at the strategic moment in its national evolution. If properly harnessed, civil-military cooperation could become one of the country's most powerful engines for national cohesion, technological advancements, economic and disaster resilience and long-term stability.

The countries that will shape the future are not necessarily those with biggest armies, but those whose military institutions are trusted by citizens, integrated into national development, adaptive to modern challenges, and aligned to the broader aspirations of the society. Kenya has every opportunity to become one of those nations.

By Mr. Fredrick Kipchumba Chelimo PWD
Email: fkipchelimo@yahoo.com

Zimbabwe In a recent speech, Moyo said, “The people of Zimbabwe must be vigilant and protect their democratic rights.”

Zimbabwe’s tensions mount: Moyo, Mnangagwa trade blows over constitutional changes

BY Norman Mwale

@themkenyatimes

In a dramatic turn of events, Zimbabwe’s political landscape is heating up as former Higher Education Minister Jonathan Moyo re-surfaces with a vengeance, targeting President Emmerson Mnangagwa’s bid for an extended term.

Moyo, a prominent figure from the G40 faction of the Mugabe regime, has been in self-imposed exile in Kenya for several years, but has now launched a scorching attack on Mnangagwa’s government, accusing them of plotting to entrench their power. Moyo, who has had a tumultuous relationship with Mnangagwa since the 2017 coup that ousted Robert Mugabe, has been accused of plotting to extend Mnangagwa’s term beyond 2028.

According to reports, Moyo has been embroiled in a bitter dispute with Mnangagwa’s advisor, Edwin Isaac Manikai, over allegations of defamation. The case has drawn attention for its political undertones, particularly as Moyo has been linked to debates over proposed constitutional amendments to extend Mnangagwa’s term. Moyo has denied any wrongdoing, dismissing the allegations as baseless. He has also argued that the constitution allows Parliament to amend the length of a presidential term without triggering a referendum.

In a recent speech, Moyo said, “The people of Zimbabwe must be vigilant and protect their democratic rights.” He added, “Any attempt to extend the pres-



President Emmerson Mnangagwa

ident’s term without a referendum is a betrayal of the people’s trust.”

Vice-President Constantino Chiwenga has accused Moyo of engaging in treasonous activities, claiming his “Breaking Barriers Initiative” seeks to change Zimbabwe’s governance system and postpone the 2028 elections.

The government has dismissed Moyo’s claims, with Information Minister Monica Mutsvangwa stating, “Moyo’s statements are baseless and aimed at destabilising the government.”

Regarding the Cabinet 3 referendum, Moyo has expressed concerns, saying, “The regime is trying to sneak through changes that will entrench their power.” He also mentioned, “The people must demand transparency and accountability from their government.”

Mbizo Hon. MP Corban Madzivanyika has thwarted the Cab 3 referendum, arguing that the proposed changes are unconstitutional

and aim to prolong Mnangagwa’s incumbency. Government spokesperson Nick Mangwana has dismissed the war veterans’ court challenge, stating, “The people who have made this court application are only six individuals out of the thousands of war veterans in this country”.

CCC interim leader Jameson Timba argues that only a referendum can decide on the constitutional changes, stating, “Zanu PF’s 2030 resolution of today is silent on how it will be done. If it means changing the Constitution, only a referendum can decide”.

Nelson Chamisa, former CCC leader, has challenged Mnangagwa to subject the proposed changes to a referendum, saying, “A true and proper constitutionalist must not be afraid of proper elections or at all costs seek to avoid the people”.

Six war veterans have mounted a court challenge against the proposed constitutional amendments, arguing that they are unconsti-

tutional and aim to prolong Mnangagwa’s incumbency. Government spokesperson Nick Mangwana has dismissed the war veterans’ court challenge, stating, “The people who have made this court application are only six individuals out of the thousands of war veterans in this country”.

President Emmerson Mnangagwa’s spokesperson, George Charamba, has warned opposition politicians against mobilising street protests over proposed constitutional amendments, saying any attempts to foment instability will be dealt with decisively.

Justice Minister Ziyambi Ziyambi has stated that the Zimbabwean constitution is not sacred and will be amended to accommodate Mnangagwa’s attempts to extend his term until 2030, saying “The 10 commandments were written on stone by God, they are the only laws that cannot be changed, everything else can”.

Madzivanyika lashes out at government over failures

BY Norman Mwale

@themkenyatimes

In the hallowed halls of Zimbabwe’s Parliament, last Wednesday, a lone voice thundered against the gathering storm of government failures, unleashing a blistering tirade that left no leaf unturned. Opposition MP, Corban Madzivanyika, scorched the chamber with scathing attacks on the government’s shortcomings, igniting a firestorm of debate on accountability and governance, writes Norman Mwale.

Addressing the issue of Ordinary Level examination results, Madzivanyika lambasted the government for its abysmal performance, citing a shocking 0% pass rate in 10 schools. “Does the Government accept the blame for failure to ensure that teachers are provided on time or does Government take the blame for this horrendous performance?” he demanded.

Madzivanyika also took umbrage with the Minister of Transport and Infrastructural Development’s response regarding road resurfacing, pointing out glaring disparities in the allocation of resources across provinces. “It appears that other provinces are receiving more attention than others in terms of road resurfacing,” he noted, querying the government’s policy on equitable distribution.

The MP further grilled the Minister over the paltry USD150

monthly stipend paid to war veterans, labelling it “way below the poverty line”. He pressed the government to explain its initiative to ensure decent treatment for these heroes.

Madzivanyika’s ire was also directed at the government’s decision to centralise vehicle licensing under ZINARA, which he claimed had accelerated road deterioration. He challenged the Minister to improve efficiency and safeguard against abuse of funds.

On education, Madzivanyika questioned the morality of engaging debt collectors and attaching property from parents struggling to pay school fees, emphasising the government’s responsibility to protect citizens’ rights.

In a pointed rebuke, Madzivanyika suggested that the government’s priorities were misplaced, and its policies were exacerbating the suffering of Zimbabweans. His unyielding critique underscored the opposition’s resolve to hold the government accountable for its actions.

The Hansard will likely record Madzivanyika’s unflinching remarks, which resonated with many Zimbabweans struggling to make ends meet. As the nation watches, the opposition MP’s words will undoubtedly fuel the ongoing debate on governance and accountability.



Opposition MP, Corban Madzivanyika

China-US The United Nations welcomes any positive movement in China-U.S. relations

World Insights: Experts say new vision for China-U.S. ties conducive to the world

BY Xinhua News Agency
@themtkenyatimes

In a meeting closely watched by the world, Chinese President Xi Jinping and U.S. President Donald Trump on Thursday agreed on a new vision of building a constructive bilateral relationship of strategic stability.

The new vision will provide strategic guidance for China-U.S. relations over the next three years and beyond, Xi said when holding talks with Trump, who just concluded a three-day state visit to China. Xi defined the nature of “constructive strategic stability” as a positive stability with cooperation as the mainstay, a sound stability with moderate competition, a constant stability with manageable differences, and an enduring stability with promises of peace. The international community has spoken positively of the progress, saying the new vision is not only important for the development of China-U.S. relations, but also valuable for promoting peace, stability and prosperity of the entire world.

The United Nations welcomes any positive movement in China-U.S. relations, Farhan Haq, deputy spokesman for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, said on Thursday. “A strong relationship between the two countries would have a positive net effect for the world,” the spokesman added. Mainstream media outlets and analysts in the United States paid close attention to the visit, focusing on the important progress made in bilateral ties as well as world affairs.

Robert Lawrence Kuhn, chairman of the Kuhn Foundation, elaborated on



Chinese President Xi Jinping holds a welcome ceremony for U.S. President Donald Trump, who is on a state visit to China, outside the Great Hall of the People prior to their talks in Beijing, capital of China on Thursday.

the “significance of the new, mutually agreed, defining phrase, ‘constructive strategic stability.’” “Taken together, ‘constructive strategic stability’ provides overall policy guidelines from the two presidents to officials on both sides in all sectors of U.S.-China relations,” Kuhn said.

Kenneth Quinn, president emeritus of the World Food Prize Foundation, said the “constructive strategic stability” initiative has the potential to change the trajectory of U.S.-China relations, with positive implications for the global community for decades to come. “It is the type of dramatic change that can only come from the actions of the two most significant leaders on the planet and is critically important in turning the world from conflict to cooperation and peace,” Quinn said. The talks between the two pres-

idents not only charted a course for bilateral relations but also boosted optimism about the world’s future, said William Jones, an international relations expert and former White House correspondent for Executive Intelligence Review.

In Bulgaria, mainstream newspaper 24 Chasa said people expect the meeting between Chinese and U.S. leaders to continue steering the ship of China-U.S. relations through storms, ensuring smooth progress and bringing valuable stability and security to a turbulent world. Nenad Stekic, senior research fellow at Serbia’s Institute of International Politics and Economics, said Xi’s remarks present a highly pragmatic and forward-looking vision for China-U.S. relations. The concept of “constructive strategic stability” emphasizes that the two largest

economies and most influential countries can coexist through cooperation, mutual respect and responsible management of differences, the scholar said.

Balew Demissie, senior consultant at the Policy Studies Institute of Ethiopia, said the world expects China and the United States to manage competition responsibly and cooperate on global issues such as peace, economic stability, climate change, global health, digital governance and multilateral cooperation. Dennis Munene Mwaniki, executive director of the China-Africa Center at the Africa Policy Institute in Kenya, said the meeting between the two presidents is extremely important amid the ongoing geopolitical tensions around the world.

Cooperation between China and the United States will not only benefit the two

countries in fields such as health cooperation, but also allow the global community to benefit from greater access to global public goods, Mwaniki said, adding that such strategic cooperation will create more opportunities worldwide. Virdika Rizky Utama, executive director of Jakarta-based think-tank PARA Syndicate, said that by articulating “constructive strategic stability,” Beijing is offering a framework through which both countries can manage their competition. This is not just about bilateral ties, but about reassuring the international community that the world’s two largest economies are committed to stability, he said.

Armed group in eastern DR Congo declares unilateral ceasefire ahead of proposed talks

The Convention for the Popular Revolution, or CRP, an armed group active in the northeastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), said it would observe a unilateral ceasefire ahead of what it described as preliminary talks with the Congolese government under Ugandan facilitation.

In a statement released Thursday and signed by its leader, Thomas Lubanga Dyilo, the CRP said the ceasefire would take effect at midnight on Thursday to “give an optimal chance of success” to the pre-dialogue between the group and the government in Kinshasa. The group also urged the opposing side to refrain from “any provocation” that could lead to further escalation in Ituri Province, saying the province did not need more violence. There was no immediate public response from the Congolese government. The CRP has been reported active in Ituri Province, where Congolese government forces have recently conducted operations against the group in Djugu territory. Local and UN-backed media have also reported displacement and insecurity linked to clashes involving the CRP in the province.

Lubanga, a former militia leader, was convicted by the International Criminal Court in 2012 for war crimes related to the recruitment and use of child soldiers. In March 2020, Lubanga was released after having served 14 years of imprisonment.

BY Xinhua News Agency
@themtkenyatimes



Soldiers of the Democratic Republic of the Congo military are seen in Sange, a town in eastern DRC, on Tuesday.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fuel prices rise again as Kenyans brace for higher cost of living

Kenyans will dig deeper into their pockets after the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA) raised petrol and diesel prices in its May-June review, citing rising global oil prices and international market pressures.

The increases will ripple across the economy. Transport costs, food prices, and essential services are all expected to climb — a familiar chain reaction that hits low-income households hardest.

Public transport operators are already signalling fare hikes. “We may be forced to increase transport fares because fuel is now more costly,” said one Nairobi matatu operator, voicing a concern shared widely across the industry.

Economists warn the knock-on effects could be significant. When fuel prices rise, busi-



nesses pass costs down the chain — and it is ordinary consumers who absorb the blow through higher prices for goods and services, feeding broader inflationary pressure.

Online, frustration was swift and vocal. Many Kenyans took to social media to vent over the eroding purchasing power of the shilling amid an already punishing cost-of-living crisis.

Government officials defended the adjustment, attributing it to

unavoidable shifts in global oil markets that have raised Kenya’s fuel importation costs. The new prices took effect immediately and remain in force until EPRA’s next monthly review.

The explanation may be technically sound — but for Kenyans stretching every shilling, the timing feels anything but.

By Lucy Nekesa, Laikipia University

A Silent Debt of Gratitude

Author: Mansurova Charos
Occupation: Student of Korean Philology at Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies

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The ink on my paper felt heavy as I practiced the Korean character for ‘Grandfather’ — Haraboji. As a Korean Philology student in Tashkent, my world is often a bridge between two cultures, but that day, the bridge became a living story.

An elderly woman, with the distinct features of the Koryo-saram, sat beside me in the library. She watched my pen move with a gaze that felt like it came from a different century. ‘My grandfather never learned to write that word in his mother tongue,’ she whispered in Russian, her voice trembling slightly.

She told me about 1937. Her family was brought to the vast steppes of Uzbekistan with



nothing but their names. They didn’t speak Uzbek; the locals didn’t speak Korean. But language wasn’t necessary when a local Uzbek farmer handed her grandfather a warm loaf of ‘Non’ (bread) through a cold train window. That bread wasn’t just food; it was a promise of life.

Now, decades later, I sit here studying her ancestors’ language. As I look at her, I realize that my education is more than just a career choice. It is

a silent dialogue. By learning Korean, I am honoring the story of thousands who found a second home in my motherland. We are no longer strangers divided by grammar; we are two souls connected by a shared history of kindness.

When I speak Korean today, I don’t just pronounce words. I echo the gratitude that began with a piece of bread eighty years ago.



BOOKS & LITERATURE with Jannat Arooj

An M.phill Scholar from the University of Chenab, Gujrat

Book Review:

Book Review:

Author:

Book:

Reviewer: Jannat Arooj

The Kite Runner book written by Khaled Hosseini is very effective and disturbing. In it we can see ideas like forgiveness, regret, dishonesty and friendship. The setting of the book includes Afghanistan and it shows the effect of war on lives of people there, relationships and country also. Hence, it is easy to understand the story but the meaning in this story is complex. There are two prominent

characters in novel Amir and Hassan. Hassan belongs to poor family and is a son of servant and Amir belongs to a wealthy family. Though they both belong to different classes, they’re very close friends and have grown up together. Hassan is shown as a brave, honest and loyal friend who’s always ready to help Amir. No matter what the situation is he always stands by Amir’s side. In contrast, Amir is a sensi-

tive person and he frequently feels jealous. He always asks for love and care to his father.

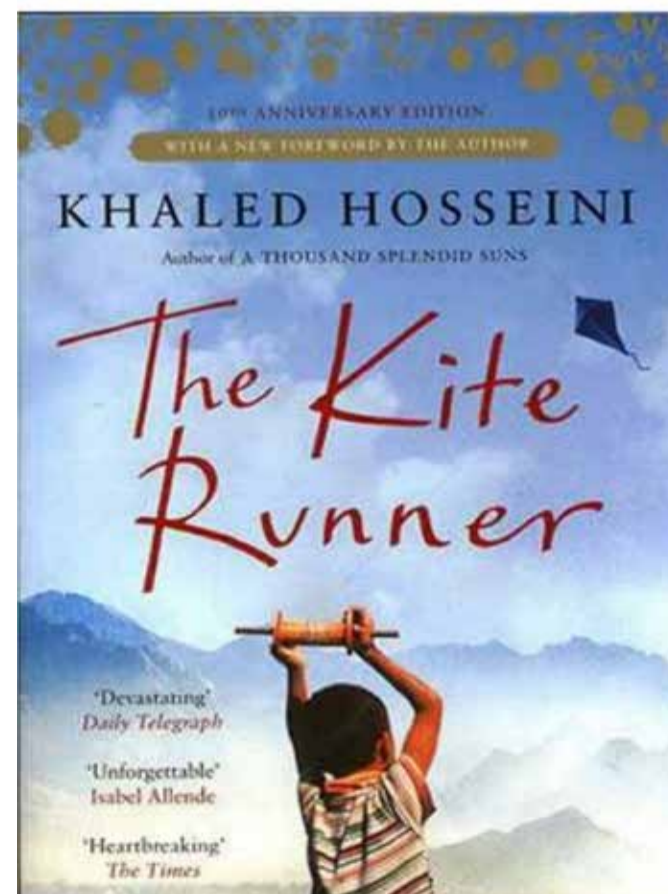
The emotional moment is when Hassan is assaulted by Assef, and Amir does nothing to help him, staying silent out of fear. After this, he feels himself guilty of not helping him and it stays with him for a longer time. Their bond gets changed permanently after this incident.

After a while, a war begins in Afghanistan. For a safer and more peaceful life, Amir moves to America with his father. Amir gets educated and grows and becomes a writer in America. Even if he is successful in life he is unable to move on from his past mistakes. He always feels guilty and pain. But a few years later he gets a chance to make up those past mistakes. He finds out a boy named Sohran is Hassan’s son. Sohrab is go-

ing through difficult circumstances. So to save Sohrab, he needs to return to Afghanistan. Amir knows that this trip is very risky but he is will to face these kind of risks. Amir wants an apology by saving Sohrab.

So this shows how Amir grows from a cowardly person to a brave and responsible one. Some social issues like poverty, inequality among races, injustice and the impact war are also discussed in this book. It has also showed the struggles of those people moving to abroad during war to start a new life. This story is easy to understand and is also engaging because of Hosseini’s writing style which is simple, emotional and clear.

In conclusion, I would like to state that The Kite Runner is an important book because it has showed us that



friendship is an important relation but can sometimes be damaged by mistakes. It also shows that a person may regret for a longer period of time but there is always a place for an apology. So, this

books explains that change is always possible or improve yourself and apologise. This book is highly recommended for those reviewers who enjoy emotional and meaningful stories.

SPORTS
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BREAKING NEWS

Sports >> *Athletics Kenya will stage its national trials for the 2026 World Under-20 Championships from May 21 to 23 at Nyayo National Stadium in Nairobi.

Athletics Kenya sets stage for World U-20 Trials at Nyayo

By Agencies

Athletics Kenya will stage its national trials for the 2026 World Under-20 Championships from May 21 to 23 at Nyayo National Stadium in Nairobi, setting the scene for what promises to be a highly competitive selection exercise as the country seeks to field its strongest possible junior squad on the global stage.

The World Under-20 Championships are scheduled for August 2–9, 2026, in Eugene, Oregon, USA — a venue that has earned a reputation as one of the premier athletics destinations in the world, having previously hosted the 2022 World Athletics Championships. Eugene’s Hayward Field is widely regarded as a cathedral of the sport, and competing there will represent a monumental opportunity for Kenya’s brightest young track and field talents.

The three-day showdown in Nairobi will be strictly by invitation, with more than 200 junior athletes expected to be invited from across the country. The invitational format is designed to ensure a high standard of competition, with only athletes who have demonstrated genuine promise at the junior level making the cut. Athletics Kenya is expected to draw from regional trials and performance records to determine who receives an invitation to the Nairobi showdown.

Among the most significant requirements for participation is the mandatory verification of age. Age verification has been made a major and compulsory requirement for all competing athletes. Every participant must present original and authentic documentation to prove their age before being cleared to compete. This is not merely a procedural formality — it is a firm gate-keeping measure that Athletics Kenya is taking extremely seriously.



Betty Chelangat (259) competing during the national trials for World Under-20 Championships at the Nyayo Stadium/ photo/ courtesy

Athletics Kenya Youth Development Chairman Barnaba Korir underscored the importance of the measure, stating that athletes must present proper documentation to verify their ages, as the federation intensifies efforts to stamp out age cheating — an offence that could attract heavy sanctions from World Athletics. Age fraud has been a persistent and damaging issue in African athletics, undermining the integrity of junior competitions and tarnishing the reputations of athletes and nations alike. Athletics Kenya’s firm stance signals a commitment to clean, credible competition that upholds the values of the sport.

World Athletics has increasingly tightened its regulations around age verification in junior events, and any federation found to have fielded over-age athletes risks disqualification, bans, and reputational damage. By making documentation checks a corner-

stone of the trials process, Athletics Kenya is positioning itself as a responsible and accountable member of the global athletics community.

Beyond the integrity issues, the timing of the trials carries important logistical significance. The decision to bring the trials forward was strategically aimed at allowing ample time for athletes and officials to secure American visas early, while also giving the selected squad sufficient time to fine-tune preparations ahead of the global junior extravaganza in Oregon.

Securing US visas has historically been a time-consuming process that has caught Kenyan sports teams off guard, sometimes resulting in athletes missing competitions or travelling in a rush without adequate preparation. By holding the trials in late May — more than two months before the championships begin — Athletics Kenya is giving it-

self and its athletes a meaningful head start on the administrative and logistical pipeline.

The selected athletes will also benefit from having more time to undergo structured training camps, altitude work, and tactical preparation tailored to the demands of competing at one of the world’s most high-profile junior athletics events.

Kenya has a storied tradition of success at the World Under-20 Championships, particularly in middle and long distance events, and the federation will be hoping this year’s crop of juniors can uphold — and extend — that proud legacy when they take to the track in Eugene.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Africa's athletic stars are shining bright in Accra, Ghana! The 24th African Senior Athletics Championships is electrifying the University of Ghana Stadium

Africa's Athletic Powerhouses Clash in Accra



Tobi Amusan

By: **Norman Mwale**
[The PenPusher]

Africa's athletic stars are shining bright in Accra, Ghana! The 24th African Senior Athletics Championships is electrifying the University of Ghana Stadium, with top performers from across the continent showcasing their skills. Tobi Amusan's stunning start has set the tone - but that's just the beginning...

The championships are underway in Accra, Ghana, with the University of Ghana Stadium abuzz with excitement as top athletes from across the continent converge to showcase their skills. Tobi Amusan, the Nigerian hurdler, made a stunning start to the championships, clinching gold in the women's 100m hurdles with a dominant performance on Day 1. Meanwhile, Cameroon's Hervege Tonjock Kole Etame took the top spot in

the women's 100m with a time of 11.4853 seconds, while Emmanuel Alowedo Esemé from Cameroon also shone in the men's 100m, clocking 10.2577 seconds on Day 2.

In the men's 100m, Emmanuel Alowedo Esemé (CMR) took gold with a time of 10.2577 seconds, followed by Victor Ntweng (BOT) with silver (10.35 seconds approx.) and Wenich Van Rooyen (RSA) with bronze (10.38 seconds approx.). Kemorena Tisang (BOT) claimed gold in the men's 400m hurdles with a time of 48.66 seconds. Ngeno Kipngetch from Kenya won the 1500m event, showcasing his exceptional endurance skills.

"I feel so excited being here to compete. For me it is just go out there and execute and have fun," said Rosemary Chukwuma, a Nigerian athlete, after her impressive performance. "Africa

is coming to Accra," declared Hon. Adams, Ghana's Minister for Sports and Recreation, emphasizing the country's readiness to host a world-class championship.

Day 2 of the championships saw some notable upsets, including Favour Ashe's disqualification for a false start in the men's 100m. Rosemary Chukwuma, on the other hand, dominated the women's 100m heats, establishing herself as a contender. Ghana's sports officials are optimistic about the country's performance, with President of Ghana Athletics, Fuseini Bawa, expressing excitement about hosting Africa's finest athletes.

Stakeholders are praising the event organisation, with Bawa Fuseini, President of the Ghana Athletics Association, expressing excitement about hosting Africa's finest athletes. "For us at the Ghana Olympic Committee,

it's exciting that Ghana Athletics is hosting the African Championships. It offers us in Ghana an opportunity to host the best athletes from Africa," said Richard Akpokavie, Ghana Olympic Committee President. "Ghana will not just host the African Championships; we hope to impress the world as well, in terms of performance," added Charles Osei Asibey, Vice-President of Ghana Athletics.

The event has seen its share of challenges, with organisers working to address technical issues and ensure a smooth experience for athletes and spectators alike. As the championships continue, Ghana's sports scene is electric, with the country showcasing its passion for athletics and ability to host major international competitions.

SPORTS NEWS



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SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



Rach Harvey: Championing Kindness as a Force for Global Change



By: Ayesha Talib

@themkenyatimes

Rach Harvey is an Australian author and advocate for kindness, known for her powerful contribution to the international bestseller *The Women Changing the World*. Her chapter focuses on the transformative power of small acts of kindness and the art of building soulful, purpose-led businesses that create meaningful, lasting impact — not just for the bottom line, but for the communities and lives they touch.

For Harvey, kindness is not a soft, peripheral concept. It is the very architecture of a life and business well-lived. In a world that often equates success with scale, speed, and profit, her message cuts against the grain — arguing that the most enduring transformations begin not with grand gestures, but with intentional, human moments that accumulate into something far greater than the sum of their parts.

The Women Changing the World was published in December 2021 by Brave and Fearless, a publishing house dedicated to amplifying bold, courageous voices. The book features the stories of women driving change globally, from grassroots community initiatives to international platforms with sweeping reach. Harvey's story sits comfortably within this tapestry, highlighting how kindness — when deliberately embedded in business culture and daily life — can become a genuine catalyst for community transformation. It is a reminder that leadership does not require a title, and that impact does not require a megaphone.

The book's reach extended significantly in March 2022, when copies were gifted to Academy Award nominees as part of the prestigious awards season gifting tradition. Among the recipients were Nicole Kidman, Kristen Stewart, Penélope Cruz, and Dame Judi Dench — four of the most celebrated actresses in contemporary cinema. That the book found its way into the hands of such globally recognised figures was more than a marketing moment; it was a confirmation that its message of purposeful, values-driven living resonates far beyond any single industry or geography.

Harvey writes with a clear commitment to accessibility and action.



Rach Harvey



Worth Noting:

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- Harvey writes with a clear commitment to accessibility and action. One of the most consistent and compelling threads running through her work is the democratisation of impact — the idea that you do not need wealth, status, connections, or a large platform to make a meaningful difference in the world.

One of the most consistent and compelling threads running through her work is the democratisation of impact — the idea that you do not need wealth, status, connections, or a large platform to make a meaningful difference in the world. Kindness alone, she argues, can shift outcomes. A single conversation, a moment of genuine empathy, a business decision made with people at its centre — these things matter. They compound. They change trajectories in ways that are rarely visible in the moment but become undeniable over time.

Her message resonates deeply with entrepreneurs and changemakers who are increasingly seeking to align profit with purpose — individ-

uals who are unwilling to accept that commercial success and genuine social impact must exist in opposition to one another. Harvey offers both a philosophy and a practical framework, rooted in the belief that how we conduct ourselves in business is inseparable from the kind of world we are collectively building.

She was featured alongside contributors curated by Peace Mitchell and Katy Garner of The Women's Business School, an organisation dedicated to redefining what leadership looks like in the modern era. Being positioned within this collective of visionary women is fitting — Harvey shares their conviction that the future of business is relational, empathetic, and rooted in shared hu-

manity rather than competition and extraction.

For Harvey, kindness is not just a value to be admired from a distance. It is a strategy — one that is quietly radical in its implications and quietly powerful in its execution.

Through her writing, advocacy, and the example she sets in her own work, Rach Harvey continues to encourage individuals and businesses alike to lead with empathy. She proves, compellingly and consistently, that small, deliberate acts of kindness create ripple effects that travel far beyond what we can see — and that this, ultimately, is how the world changes.