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WEEKEND ePAPER

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Ruto highlights development push across Laikipia

BY MKT REPORTER

@themtkenyatimes

Some of the moments as captured in pictures

President William Ruto toured Laikipia County to inspect and launch key development 9 projects aimed at improving livelihoods and boosting economic growth.

He has expressed satisfaction with the steady progress of the 955-unit Starehe Affordable Housing Project in Nyahururu Town, which is expected to provide decent housing for residents. During engagements with residents, he updated them on national and county-level programmes, emphasizing inclusive transformation across Kenya.

The President highlighted ongoing road construction, including Sipili-Ol Moran road and the planned Nanyuki-Doldol road, which will open up trade and connect farmers to markets.

He noted that billions have been allocated for roads, schools, markets, housing, and education reforms, including increased funding, teacher recruitment, and infrastructure expansion across the country.

He also laid the foundation stone for the Doldol Huduma Centre and handed over a school bus to support education in Laikipia North.

Ruto reiterated that the government remains committed to ensuring no region is left behind in development and service delivery.

He called for continued national dialogue on education costs, bursaries, and the strengthening of the Competency-Based Education system.

The visit underscored his administration's broader agenda of transforming infrastructure, expanding access to education, strengthening public services, and promoting equitable growth across all counties to uplift citizens and drive sustainable national development for long-term inclusive prosperity goals Kenya.



Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



The Mt Kenya Times is a Kenyan Newspaper that provides a unified view of Kenyan news, entrepreneurship, events, opinions, analysis, and a historical background to current affairs in a way that is both creative and innovative. It is published by Exponential International Limited, a Private Limited Liability company incorporated in Kenya to provide Communications and Media services.

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Livestock production is central to the climate agenda because it contributes over 90 percent of agricultural greenhouse gas emissions and about 20 percent of Kenya's total emissions, mainly through methane from enteric fermentation and poor manure management. Nakuru County Chief Officer Dr. Michael Cheruiyot said the Kenya Livestock Methane Reduction Strategy Project, led by Solidaridad, seeks to develop mitigation strategies through research, stakeholder engagement and climate-smart livestock practices. The initiative focuses on reducing methane emissions while improving productivity in smallholder dairy systems. Interventions such as better feed, improved breeds, mixed farming and enhanced water management can reduce emissions and increase milk and meat production by 30 percent. Kenya aims to cut methane emissions by 32 percent in line with global climate commitments.



Young people have been urged to combine academic qualifications with practical technical skills to improve their chances in the competitive job market. Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Principal Secretary Esther Muoria said employers are increasingly seeking candidates with hands-on expertise and mastery of specific skills. She spoke during the first Nyakach Career Fair and Expo held at Nyakach Technical Vocational College, where students, parents and guardians gathered to explore career opportunities. Dr. Muoria, accompanied by Joshua Aduma, also toured exhibition booths showcasing various technical and vocational training programmes aimed at enhancing employability among graduates.

The government reportedly diverted Sh7.3 billion from the Fuel Levy Fund to compensate French firms after the cancellation of the Nairobi-Nakuru-Mau Summit highway project, according to the Auditor General. The road contract was later awarded to Chinese companies. Meanwhile, the government plans to expand the 243-kilometre Mau Summit-Malaba highway into a four-lane toll road under a Public-Private Partnership arrangement at a cost of Sh200 billion. Once completed, motorists travelling from Nairobi to western Kenya towns such as Eldoret, Bungoma and Busia may be required to pay toll fees throughout the journey.



Taita Taveta County has intensified climate finance literacy efforts through training for county staff, Ward Climate Change Planning Committees and community representatives. Conducted in partnership with GIZ Kenya and Cities Forum, the initiative aims to equip local actors with skills to access, manage and implement climate financing opportunities. About 40 participants attended the training in Voi, focusing on climate finance mechanisms, project development and locally led adaptation. County Executive Committee Member Grantone Mwandawiro said counties face growing climate responsibilities despite financial constraints. Kenya has advanced grassroots climate financing through programmes such as FLLoCA, which has benefited millions through climate resilience projects. Experts, however, warn that low climate finance literacy limits access to funding, especially among rural communities vulnerable to climate-related disasters and food insecurity.



Families and traders in Murang'a are struggling with rising food prices following a sharp increase in the cost of tomatoes and onions. A spot check at Mukuyu Market showed tomato prices have more than doubled, rising from about Sh40 to between Sh100 and Sh120 per kilogram, while onions now retail at between Sh150 and Sh180 per kilogram. Traders say the price surge has reduced sales as many households cut back on purchases due to the high cost of living. Vendors attribute the shortages to heavy rains in major farming areas that affected production and supply, as well as increased transport costs that have further pushed up prices.



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Nurses' week Partnerships help healthcare professionals access global career opportunities

Murang'a nurses mark nurses' week through community service

BY Bernard Munyao

@themtkenyatimes

Nurses in Murang'a County marked this year's Nurses Week in a series of events held at Maranjau Prisons, aimed at improving community welfare, promoting education for girls, and supporting environmental conservation.

Speaking on Thursday during the celebrations, Murang'a County Nursing Officer Salome Kimani said the week-long event provided an opportunity for nurses to reflect on their role in society beyond hospital settings and renew their commitment to serving communities.

She noted that nurses play a critical role not only in providing healthcare services but also in addressing social challenges that affect the wellbeing of communities.

Kimani said one of the key messages during the celebrations was the importance of educating and empowering the girl-child, noting that investing in girls' education contributes greatly to the development of healthier and stronger communities.

The county nursing officer observed that educated girls are more likely to make informed health decisions, support their families, and contribute positively to economic and social development.

"The empowerment of the girl child remains an important pillar in building resilient communities. When girls are educated and supported, so-



Murang'a nurses with prison officers

ciety benefits in many ways," said Kimani.

The nursing officer also encouraged nurses in the area to take advantage of international opportunities available through partnerships with various organizations.

She said such partnerships help healthcare professionals access global career opportunities, professional training, and exposure that can improve service delivery locally and internationally.

Kimani noted that the healthcare profession continues to evolve and nurses must continuously seek knowledge and new experiences in order to enhance their skills and remain competitive globally.

During the event held at Maranjau Prison, the nurses interacted with inmates and participated in tree-planting activities as part of efforts to promote environmental conservation.

The tree planting exercise, she explained, was meant to

support environmental conservation efforts and contribute to Murang'a County's vision of increasing forest cover and promoting a greener environment.

Kimani said environmental conservation is closely linked to public health, noting that clean and healthy environments help reduce diseases and improve the quality of life for communities.

She praised the nurses for demonstrating compassion and commitment through their outreach activities, saying the profession requires not only medical expertise but also humanity and social responsibility.

The celebrations also highlighted the growing role of nurses in community-based healthcare programs, mental health support, preventive healthcare, and public health awareness campaigns.

Prison staff who witnessed the activities commended the nurses for extending their

services beyond healthcare facilities and engaging directly with communities.

Kimani reiterated that nurses remain at the heart of healthcare delivery and called on stakeholders to continue supporting the profession through better working environments, training opportunities, and investments in the health sector.

She said the Nurses Week celebrations reflected the dedication of Murang'a nurses in promoting quality healthcare services while also championing education, social responsibility, and environmental sustainability.

"As nurses, our duty goes beyond treating patients in hospitals. We are also part of the community, and we have a responsibility to contribute towards building a healthier and better society," she said.

Safaricom ordered to pay KSh 1.4B over M-Pesa intellectual property theft



BY MKT REPORTER

@themtkenyatimes

Kenya's High Court has ordered Safaricom PLC to pay a businessman KSh 1.4 billion in compensation after finding that the telecommunications giant unlawfully used his MTIN Mobile Wallet USSD application — the technology underpinning the country's dominant mobile money platform, M-Pesa.

The court ruled that the award covered damages arising from Safaricom's negligence and its continued unauthorised use of the product. Going further, the judge directed Safaricom to pay ongoing royalties of 0.5 per cent of M-Pesa's annual revenue with effect from March 31, 2025, for as long as the service — or any comparable platform — remains operational. The ruling stopped short of issuing a permanent injunction against Safaricom, with the court determining that structured royalty payments represented a more proportionate remedy.

The judgment carried a pointed rebuke for corporate Kenya. The court warned that innovation does not originate exclusively from boardrooms, and that when a company receives and rejects an external proposal, any internally developed product that follows must be demonstrably independent — not derivative. Safaricom was additionally criticised for failing to produce critical documents during proceedings, conduct the court said fell well below the standards expected of a market leader of its standing. A formal declaration was issued confirming that Safaricom had violated the petitioner's rights under the Copyright Act and affirming that the businessman is the rightful owner of the MTIN Mobile Wallet USSD code.

For a company that built an empire on the promise of financial inclusion, the court's message was blunt: innovation must be honoured, not quietly absorbed.

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PwDs According to the Commission, accessibility is not optional but a constitutional requirement tied to equality, human dignity, transparency and fair administrative action

Ombudsman orders public offices to improve access for persons with disabilities

BY MKT REPORTER

@themtkenyatimes

The Commission on Administrative Justice (CAJ), commonly known as the Office of the Ombudsman, has directed public institutions across the country to urgently implement accessible communication measures for persons with disabilities in line with constitutional and legal obligations.

In an advisory issued by Commission Chairperson Charles Dulo, the Ombudsman said many public offices continue to exclude persons with disabilities from accessing information and participating effectively in governance processes due to lack of accessible communication services.

The advisory focuses on the implementation of Article 7(3)(b) of the Constitution, which obligates the State to promote the development and use of Kenyan Sign Language, Braille and other communication formats accessible to persons with disabilities.

According to the Commission, accessibility is not optional but a constitutional requirement tied to equality, human dignity, transparency and fair administrative action.

The Ombudsman cited several constitutional provisions, including Articles 10, 27, 35, 47 and 54, which guarantee inclusiveness, access to information, non-discrimination and fair administrative action for all citizens, including persons with disabilities.

The advisory also references the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2003, and the Access to Information Act, 2016, which require public institutions to ensure communication and information are available in accessible formats through

assistive technologies and support services.

The Commission further noted that Kenya is a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD), making accessibility obligations binding under Kenyan law through Article 2(6) of the Constitution.

Despite the existing legal framework, the Commission observed that many national and county government offices still lack practical and sustainable accessibility measures.

The Ombudsman said complaints and investigations conducted by the Commission revealed that persons with disabilities continue to face barriers when seeking public services, accessing information, participating in public forums, lodging complaints or engaging in civic and political processes.

The Commission particularly raised concern over the absence of Kenyan Sign Language interpreters and other accessibility support during public functions, state events, stakeholder engagements, media briefings and public participation forums.

According to the advisory, such omissions deny persons with hearing, visual and communication-related disabilities the opportunity to access information in real time and participate equally in public discourse and governance.

The Commission termed the continued exclusion as maladministration and a violation of constitutional principles of inclusiveness, accountability and public participation.

To address the gaps, the Ombudsman directed all public offices, constitutional commissions, county governments and State agencies to immediately mainstream

accessible communication across all public-facing services.

The Commission advised institutions to provide Kenyan Sign Language interpretation, Braille, large print materials, audio formats, captioning, assistive technologies and accessible digital platforms in service delivery.

Public institutions were also instructed to ensure public notices, reports, policies, application procedures and official communications are made available in formats accessible to persons with disabilities.

Further, the advisory called for establishment of disability-responsive complaint and feedback mechanisms to allow affected persons to seek redress without discrimination or barriers.

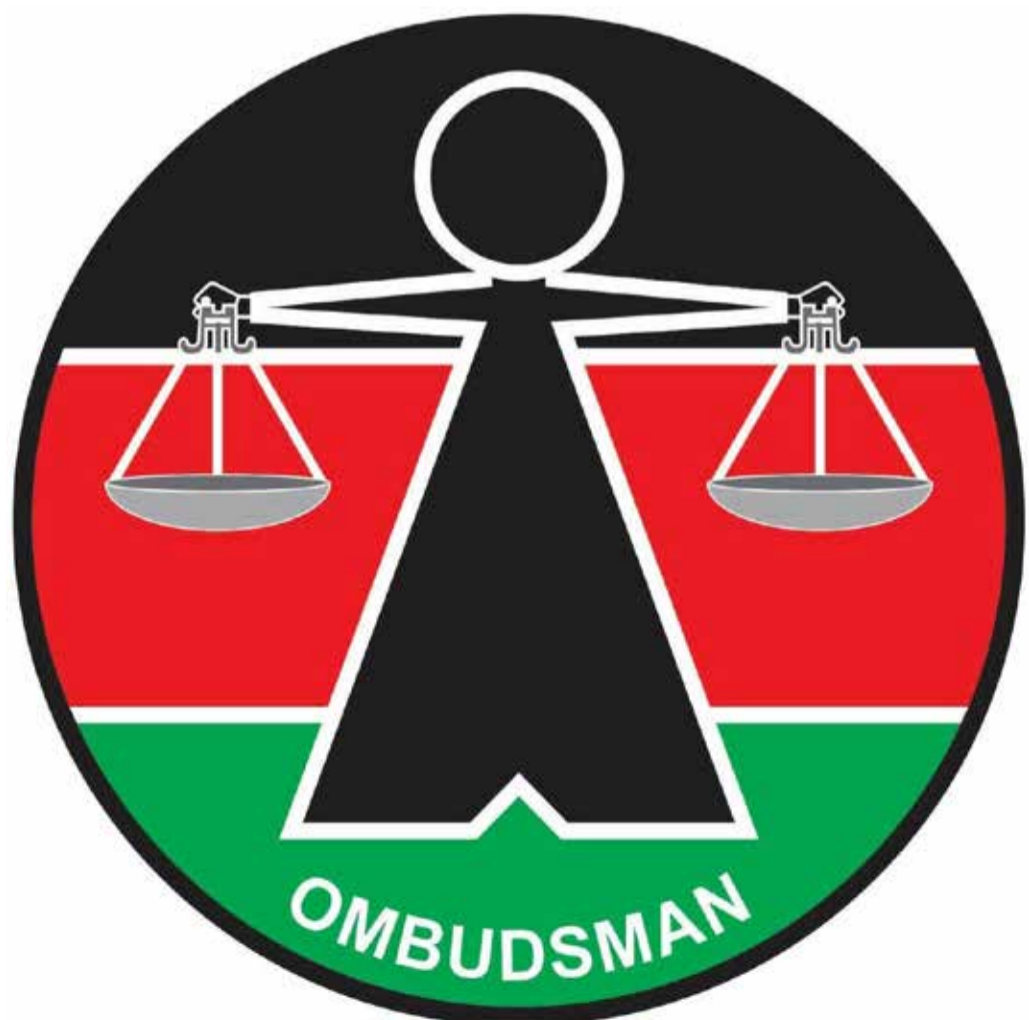
The Ombudsman also urged institutions to allocate adequate budgets, train staff on disability inclusion and integrate accessibility indicators into monitoring and performance systems.

The Commission emphasized that all public functions, civic education programmes, court-user committee meetings, public rallies and participation forums must include sign language interpretation and other accessibility measures.

Dulo said accessible communication is central to administrative justice, inclusive governance and democratic participation, adding that the Commission will continue monitoring compliance and take appropriate action against institutions that fail to uphold the rights of persons with disabilities.



Charles Dulo



Ombudsman

KRA Finance Bill 2026 proposals alarm experts who warn of unchecked authority and taxpayer rights violations

KRA seeks sweeping powers to assess taxes using personal data without consent

BY MKT REPORTER

@themtkenyatimes

The Kenya Revenue Authority is seeking broad new powers to assess individual tax liabilities using personal data drawn from multiple third-party sources, under proposals contained in the Draft Finance Bill 2026 that tax experts warn could expose millions of Kenyans to significant legal and financial risk.

The National Treasury has proposed amendments to the Tax Procedures Act that would empower the KRA Commissioner to determine the tax obligations of any person suspected of participating in a tax avoidance scheme — using secondary data rather than the current voluntary self-assessment model that has governed Kenya's tax system for years. It is a fundamental shift in how the taxman operates, and the implications are considerable.

Under the proposed framework, KRA would be authorised to draw on a sweeping range of data sources to build tax assessments: withholding tax declarations, employer filings, electronic Tax Invoice Management System records, whistleblower reports, third-party information, KRA audit findings, and any data obtained through other written laws. In practice, this means that withholding tax deductions already visible on a supplier's iTax profile, for instance, could be used as standalone evidence in computing that taxpayer's liability — even without their direct input or verification.

The proposals represent KRA's most aggressive push yet toward a data-driven, authority-led assessment system. Proponents argue that such tools are necessary to close a widening tax gap and tackle sophisticated avoidance schemes that self-reporting alone cannot capture. Kenya's tax-to-GDP ratio has remained stubbornly below regional and international benchmarks, and the Treasury has made no secret of its ambition to broaden the tax base ahead of mounting fiscal pressures.

But the manner in which KRA intends to get there is drawing sharp criticism from the country's leading tax professionals, who say the proposals as drafted would hand the Commissioner powers that are disproportionate, poorly defined, and dangerously unsupervised.



Illustration of risk of infringement of personal data

Rachel Njuguna, Associate Director at EY Kenya, one of the country's most respected tax advisory firms, did not mince her words. "The biggest risk will be infringement of personal data and using data that does not reflect the taxpayer's tax position," she said. "When you look at the proposed tax amendment, in addition to a taxpayer's self-assessment return, the Commissioner will be empowered to make an assessment on a taxpayer's affairs based on data received from so many sources — information obtained under any other written law in Kenya. So when we use such a provision, it means that we are giving the Commissioner a lot of unchecked powers and we risk putting taxpayers in a precarious position."

That precariousness has a very practical dimension. Tax experts warn that data aggregated from multiple external sources will frequently contain errors, duplications, or figures that bear little resemblance to a taxpayer's actual financial position. The gap between what a system generates and what a taxpayer knows to be true about their own affairs could, in many cases, be substantial — and the burden of resolving that gap would fall squarely on the taxpayer.

"Once a pre-populated return ap-

pears in the system and you do not agree with it, a taxpayer has to expend effort on their own or request the services of an accountant, and that is time-consuming," Ms. Njuguna added. "It also creates aggressiveness from the revenue authority side, because a tax officer will tell you: this is what I see on the system."

For small business owners, sole traders, and informal sector operators — groups that already face disproportionate compliance burdens — that dynamic could prove crippling. Many lack the financial or administrative capacity to mount credible challenges against system-generated assessments, even where those assessments are demonstrably wrong. Accountants and tax consultants would stand to benefit from the resulting surge in demand for professional dispute resolution services, but the cost would ultimately be borne by the taxpayers least equipped to absorb it.

A further provision in the amendments has attracted its own layer of concern. The proposal to empower the Commissioner to issue agency notices — effectively enforcement orders — during ongoing tax disputes would allow KRA to demand payment of contested amounts before those disputes are resolved.

Tax practitioners say this is particularly troubling because it would place businesses in the position of having to pay liabilities they are actively challenging, disrupting cash flow and operations at precisely the moment when legal proceedings demand their full attention.

The convergence of pre-populated returns, unchecked data powers, and mid-dispute enforcement notices amounts, in the view of many experts, to a system tilted decisively against the taxpayer and toward the authority. Kenya's Constitution and the Tax Procedures Act both contain protections for taxpayer rights, including the right to fair administrative action and access to timely dispute resolution. Legal analysts will be watching closely to determine whether the proposed amendments, if enacted as drafted, would survive constitutional challenge.

Kenya is not alone in exploring data-driven tax enforcement. Tax authorities in the United Kingdom, South Africa, and across the European Union have moved toward pre-populated returns and third-party data matching in recent years. But those systems have been built alongside robust oversight mechanisms, independent appeals processes, and statutory protections for data accu-

racy — guardrails that are notably absent from the Kenyan proposals as currently written.

The Draft Finance Bill 2026 is expected to undergo public participation and parliamentary scrutiny in the weeks ahead, and pressure is already building from the private sector, civil society, and the legal profession for significant revisions to the KRA provisions. Whether the Treasury will yield to those concerns — or press ahead with a bill that critics say prioritises revenue collection over constitutional rights — remains to be seen.

What is already clear is that the stakes are high. KRA has a legitimate mandate to pursue tax compliance, and Kenya's fiscal position leaves little room for sentimentality about avoidance. But a taxman with unchecked access to personal data, the power to override self-assessment, and the authority to enforce disputed liabilities mid-appeal is not merely a more efficient revenue collector. It is a fundamentally different kind of institution — and Kenyans deserve a full and frank national debate before that transformation is quietly written into law.

Conservation Communities hold a wealth of indigenous knowledge that is not found in any book or archive. If journalists do not record and preserve it

Community, Media unite to champion Ocean conservation

BY Ramadhan Nassib
@themtkenyatimes

Journalists, conservationists, fishers, and blue economy stakeholders gathered at Vipingo Ridge in Kilifi County for the Second Annual Environmental Media Dialogue, calling for more accurate and community-centered reporting on ocean conservation in Kenya's coastal region.

The forum, organized by Media for Nature in partnership with Blue Radio, brought together stakeholders from across the maritime sector to address gaps in environmental journalism and highlight grassroots conservation ef-

forts that largely go unreported.

Speaking at the event, Mazera Thomas Ndurya, co-founder of Media for Nature, said the dialogue was anchored on a clear theme, reporting ocean issues through the eyes of the community.

"Communities hold a wealth of indigenous knowledge that is not found in any book or archive. If journalists do not record and preserve it, the generations that come will not know what was happening. That responsibility lies with us," Ndurya said.

She cited a recent engagement with elders on the subject of dugongs, whose existence many Kenyans,

particularly children, dismiss as fiction, underscoring the urgent need for journalists to bridge the gap between traditional ecological knowledge and public awareness.

Maureen Mudi, Coast Regional Coordinator of the Media Council of Kenya, echoed the call, noting that environmental stories are too often sidelined in newsrooms due to a lack of specialized knowledge among reporters.

"We regularly train journalists and partner with sector stakeholders to ensure that when they report on the environment, their stories are accurate. A media house that partners with conservation actors is doing something



Stakeholders during an enlightenment session.

important for this country," Mudi said.

The dialogue also highlighted the Blue Peace Programme, a partnership between TechnoServe and the MasterCard Foundation targeting economic transformation along the coast.

Immaculate Muthoni, the programme's Communications Advisor, said the initiative has so far trained 13,683 young women and men across the five coastal counties of Kilifi, Mombasa, Lamu, Tana River, and Kwale.

"70 per cent of our partic-

ipants are women; we are building enterprises in fisheries, aquaculture, mariculture, beekeeping, and coconut farming. This will reduce pressure on ocean resources rather than exploit them," Muthoni said.

Mariam Chitsaka Jabali, Chairperson of the Kuruwitu Conservation and Welfare, appealed to the government and development partners to formally recognize Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) doing frontline marine conservation work.

"We are the ones protecting the shoreline, building coral

reefs, and restoring life to the sea, yet the government bypasses us and goes directly to the Beach Management Units (BMUs). Our work must be recognised," she said.

Charles Nyale, President of the West Indian Ocean LLMA Alliance and Kilifi BMU Chairperson, called for structured collaboration between BMUs and CBOs, warning that jurisdictional confusion undermines conservation efforts.

Rashid Matano Bemaronda, who founded the Kuruwitu Conservation and Welfare Association in 2006, said the community's journey from receiving seed funding from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to global recognition through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Equator Initiative proved that ordinary people could achieve extraordinary outcomes.

"We are here to conserve and bring back the promise of the sea," he said.

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Agriculture It is altruistic that African smallholder farmers have over the decades faced challenges that have stymied their productivity, access to markets

Unlocking the potential of Africa's agricultural value chains for economic growth



BY Sen. Mutahi Kagwe
@themkenyatimes

When the Africa Forward Summit (AFS) 2026 convenes in Nairobi Kenya, on Monday and Tuesday next week, the spotlight may be on the heads of state and government present, the investment deals consummated, protocols signed, and new continental initiatives started.

But the key highlight for me is the discernible shift in the relationship between Africa and the rest of the world, from sterile debate in capitals in the global north, to tangible action on the continent, on the centrality of African agricultural producers, who feed us and play a critical role in key global value chains, and the impact of the unfair power dynamics in trade between the continent and the global north.

It is altruistic that African smallholder farmers have over the decades faced challenges that have stymied their productivity, access to markets and returns on investment.

It is time to bring them to the negotiating table and execution in Nairobi, through better terms of trade, local value addition, access to financing instruments attuned to the intricacies of the value chains that they are in, targeted deployment of technology & AI-powered advisory services, and access to markets.

As Kenya scores a historic first, as an anglophone country hosting this inaugural summit as France resets its relationship with Africa, and tacitly pivots away from the traditional aid and military agreements, to mutually beneficial partnerships on an equal footing with Africa, it is imperative that we comprehensively, and once-for-all address the structural and sys-



Africa's agricultural value chains for economic growth

temic barriers to agricultural trade that have held us back for years.

Cognizant of this, value addition of agricultural products on the continent, like Kenya is now doing for coffee, tea, avocados, macadamia nuts, leather, hides and skins, coupled with zero, no tariff and no non-tariff barriers (NTBs) in Europe is a real partnership.

On the other hand, a unilateral tariff escalation on value-added products is mischievous, self-defeating, exploitative and perpetuates the power asymmetry that

has consigned Africa to mere production and export of raw, high-value crops for a pittance. This arrangement is no longer tenable.

Therefore, as stakeholders gather under the theme of 'inspire and connect', I am convinced that this is the perfect opportunity to creatively collaborate, co-create and co-invest in Africa as equal partners.

The discourse must change from mere talk on development assistance to pragmatism and practical action and real commitment and invest-

ments; manufacturing partnerships, joint ventures that preserve value in African economies while providing equitable access to European markets; research and development; innovative financing instruments; less bureaucracy and compliance requirements; and new, better, greener jobs.

It is about shared responsibilities and common value.

The Africa-France Impact Coalition, CAADP and the Kampala Declaration on Food Systems (2025) offer relevant foundations. The Africa Continental Free Trade Area

(AfCFTA) too, as a common market of over 1.2 billion people is a lucrative entry-point at scale, for those who dare to dream and get it right.

The success of the AFS will be determined by whether we genuinely incorporate African ownership, leadership, nuances, local equity, technological transfer, and innovative financing into the core. For example, Kenya's experience in the dairy and horticultural sectors demonstrates that when value-addition occurs near producers, incomes, well-being and political lever-

age align; trade, economic and foreign policy converge, making diversification in agriculture more than a strategic imperative.

Therefore, more than just aspirational rhetoric, the Nairobi Declaration must specify milestones, ownership, investment ratios, technology transfer benchmarks, funding schedules, and continental monitoring procedures post Summit. In economic diplomacy, clarity is key.

In this new dispensation Africa's link with Europe is evolving into one of continental enterprise rather than a linguistic or colonial inheritance.

This summit has to recognize the broader context - that the true subject of negotiation is fairness, who participates, how, when, who profits, and who makes decisions. I envision a relationship that recognizes Africa's demographic strength, resource abundance, and policy maturity. The goal is reciprocity, not animosity. Africa now speaks as a builder of mutual prosperity.

The writer is the cabinet secretary for Agriculture and livestock development in Kenya



Counties Governor Njuki said the CT Scan equipment and other radiology machines will be installed and operational by December this year.

Governor Njuki expands healthcare with new CT scan, dialysis and dispensary projects

BY Alex Njeru
@themkenyatimes

Residents of Tharaka constituency are set to benefit from improved diagnostic and renal healthcare services following the groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of a modern CT Scan building at Marimanti Level Four Hospital by Governor Muthomi Njuki.

The facility, which will also house X-ray and ultrasound services, is expected to transform healthcare delivery in the vast Tharaka region by bringing critical diagnostic services closer to the people. Speaking during the event in Marimanti Hospital, Governor Njuki said the CT Scan equipment and other radiology machines will be installed and operational by December this year.

He noted that the county government was committed

to ensuring residents access quality and affordable healthcare without travelling long distances to referral hospitals outside the county.

The Governor, who was accompanied by County Executive Member for Health Dr Gichuyia Nthuraku and Marimanti Ward MCA Kennedy Kamunyu, further announced that the hospital will receive a dialysis unit and a modern incinerator by December, among other special-



Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki laying foundation stone for CT scan building at Marimanti Level Four Hospital in Tharaka Constituency. | Photo: Alex Njeru

ized facilities and equipment aimed at improving service delivery.

Njuki said the investment is part of the county government's broader healthcare transformation agenda that has seen massive expansion of health infrastructure since he assumed office in 2017.

"Our goal is to ensure wana-nchi receive specialized treatment closer to their homes. We are investing heavily in modern equipment, new facilities and healthcare personnel to strengthen service delivery across the county," said the Governor.

MCA Kamunyu lauded Njuki for initiating the project, saying residents of Tharaka have for years struggled to access CT Scan services due to long distances and high transport costs.

"Once operational, this facility will greatly ease the burden on our people because they will conveniently access

these critical diagnostic services here in Marimanti," said Kamunyu.

According to county health records, Tharaka Nithi has increased the number of health facilities from 93 in 2017 to 120 in 2026, reflecting deliberate investments in community healthcare and Universal Health Coverage programmes.

The county has particularly expanded Level II facilities from 74 to 102 during the same period, bringing healthcare services closer to residents in remote and previously underserved areas.

The recent upgrading of Chuka Hospital to a Level V facility has also strengthened the county's referral system and enhanced access to specialized treatment.

Between 2017 and 2026, the county operationalized 25 new health facilities across Tharaka North, Tharaka South, Maara, Muthambi,

Chuka and Igambang'ombe sub-counties in a move aimed at reducing healthcare access gaps.

The Governor also continued his countywide healthcare expansion tour by officially opening Kathingithu Dispensary in the company of Mwimbi MCA Jonnes Kinegeni.

He later commissioned Kithanya Dispensary alongside nominated MCA Zachary Njagi and County Assembly Speaker John Mbabu.

The two newly operationalized dispensaries are expected to serve over 4,500 residents collectively, further boosting access to primary healthcare services in rural communities.

Health officials say the county's continued investment in infrastructure, medical equipment and decentralization of services is positioning Tharaka Nithi among the leading counties in strengthening grassroots healthcare systems.



Tharaka Nithi Governor Muthomi Njuki dancing with a women group during laying foundation stone for CT scan building at Marimanti Level Four Hospital in Tharaka Constituency. | Photo: Alex Njeru



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Health The Ministry emphasized that the risk to the general public in Kenya remains low but noted that precautionary measures have already been put

Kenya assures public of safety amid Hantavirus outbreak on cruise ship

BY MKT Correspondent

@themkenyatimes

The Ministry of Health has assured Kenyans that there are currently no reported cases of hantavirus infection in the country despite an outbreak linked to the cruise ship MV Hondius traveling in the Atlantic Ocean.

In a public health advisory issued by Director General for Health Patrick Amoth, the Ministry said the situation is being closely monitored in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and international health partners.

According to WHO data as of Thursday, eight confirmed cases of hantavirus infection, including three deaths, have been reported among passengers and crew aboard the vessel.

The Ministry emphasized that the

risk to the general public in Kenya remains low but noted that precautionary measures have already been put in place to prevent any possible spread of the disease.

"Hantavirus is mainly spread through contact with infected rodents such as rats and mice, especially through breathing contaminated dust, touching contaminated surfaces or handling rodents and their waste," the advisory stated.

Health officials explained that in rare instances, a specific type known as the Andes strain can spread from person to person through close contact.

The Ministry said symptoms may appear between one and eight weeks after exposure and can include fever, headache, muscle aches, fatigue, nausea and vomiting. Severe cases may lead to breathing difficulties and develop into Hantavirus Pulmo-

nary Syndrome (HPS), which can be life-threatening.

To enhance preparedness, the Ministry has intensified surveillance at airports and seaports while alerting health facilities across the country to remain vigilant for symptoms among travelers.

The government also said rapid response and testing systems have been activated to ensure timely detection and management of suspected cases.

Kenyans have been advised to maintain high standards of hygiene by keeping their surroundings clean and free from rodents, storing food safely and disposing of waste properly.

The Ministry further urged members of the public to wash their hands regularly and avoid direct contact with rodents and their droppings.

Travelers returning from affected



Dr Patrick Amoth

areas have been advised to monitor their health for up to eight weeks and seek immediate medical attention if they develop symptoms such as fever or breathing difficulties.

The Ministry cautioned the public against spreading unverified information and encouraged reliance on official updates from the Ministry of

Health and the World Health Organization.

Dr. Amoth reaffirmed the government's commitment to safeguarding public health, saying authorities will continue monitoring the outbreak and provide updates where necessary.

The Mt. Kenya Times

THE



Walls have ears so zip your lips



With the help of social media
Open words will become many gossips and ideas.

The secret things to be discussed secretly in day
time with our presence only.

We should be cautious in open places
While we want to talk about others .

It may be transmitted wrongly and
will make big confusions.

It's better to zip lips in public
Unnecessary talking and gossip
Should be avoided in public.

Opened words could be spread
by putting extra legs, hands and nose.

Brings a lot of impacts on them
And avoid transmitting wrongly.

This Keeps us happy and well.

Rajesh Kanna B N

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

Trust me



Sometimes God does not say all the details,
He just says, "Trust me."

Sometimes God says nothing
while I suffer from heart pain,
while I suffer from confusion,

while I suffer from a broken soul.
I said,
"I need answers for my pain."

But no voice came.

I did not know which path to choose.
I did not know how to accept the situation.

I cried, and I tried,
but I became tired.

Then, deep in my heart,
a soft voice came and said,
"Trust me."

I understood—
it was God.

Slowly, my pain became my fuel,
and then everything changed.

V. S. NITHIYASRI
VIII

JOHN DEWEY MATRIC HIGHER SECONDARY
SCHOOL, PANRUTI, TAMILNADU.

The Key to the World



In every word and every line,
A brand new world begins to shine.
With English as my steady light,
The distant stars don't seem so bright.

I'll cross the oceans, wide and blue,
And see the sights that once I knew
Only through a paper page,
Now stepping out upon the stage.
From London streets to New York's height,
Underneath the neon light,
I'll speak with friends from far and wide,
With nothing left for me to hide.
The borders fade, the gates swing free,
The world is waiting just for me.
With every phrase I learn to say,
I'm one step closer on my way.

Author : Davurova Durdona

The Earth is a beautiful planet,
A shining home for you and me.
Third from the bright and glowing
sun,

The only world with life to see

Filled with air and flowing water,
Mountains tall and forests green,
Rivers, lakes, and mighty oceans
The most wonderful sight ever
seen.

With deserts wide and atmosphere,
Earth protects all living things.

Seventy-one percent is water,
And twenty-nine percent land it brings.

It spins to make our days and nights,
And circles the sun each year;
Let us protect our precious Earth,
And keep our planet safe and clear.

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Tamil Nadu

Dear son



My son, don't place your heart in her hands
If she's someone you barely understand.
Smile back, but only once you've learned,
That trust is something that's truly earned.

Don't be a man who chases hips,
That won't help you on life's long trips.
Look for a woman with brains and grace,

She'll help you grow, keep you in the race.
Makeup might shine, and she may glow,
But inner beauty's what you need to know.

Build yourself up to be a man of trust,
Because fleeting pleasure crumbles to dust.

Sex won't make you a man, my son,
And it's a sin before marriage is done.
I pray you find a Proverbs 31 wife,
With wisdom and virtue to light up your life.

Not every girl who's in the church pews
Is someone who truly follows the Good News.
But when you find one who fears the Lord,
Hold her tight, and thank God for the reward.

Son, your hands aren't made to cause pain,
They're meant to shield her from life's strain.

Be gentle, tell her you love her so,
Women need that, let your affection show.

Don't be a fool chasing after more,
Real men stay faithful to the core.
Never play games with her heart,
Treat her right from the very start.

When you upset her, learn to say sorry,
Don't stir fights that are unnecessary.
If she's your queen, then you're her king,

Make her feel special in everything.
Before you stand to say "I do,"
Ask yourself if your love is true.
Does your heart beat just for her?
Can you live without her, are you sure?

Because once you say those sacred vows,
There's no turning back, only here and now.
Marriage is tough, love requires fight,
But true love endures, even in night.
Keep your heart soft, forgive and forget,

Let no room grow for anger or regret.
Be her strength, don't let her feel weak,
Make her feel loved every time you speak.

My son, be wise, protect your heart,
Some will tear love and trust apart.
But may the sun shine in your life,
With the right woman by your side as wife

Keith Onyango
Journalism and communication
Rongo university

My little girl's first celebration



Spring has arrived, blooming with flowers,
We walk with joy through the golden hours.
Living in happiness, laughter untold,
My little girl is now one year old.

Her words are as sweet as sugar and honey,
Her face is so bright, her spirit so sunny.
With eyes like beads, a sight to behold,
My little girl is now one year old.

The darling of home, our pride and our prize,
Like the crescent moon in the midnight skies.
Today our seats are in the place of honor,
My little girl is now one year old.

Prayers are flowing from our lips today,

Praises to Allah in every single way.
Giving my life a meaning so bold,
My little girl is now one year old.

Pit-a-pat, she takes her steps with grace,
Tears of pure joy run down my face.
A brand new life is about to unfold,
My little girl is now one year old.

May God keep her healthy, safe, and strong,
May Allah protect her all life long.
My constant companion, a heart of gold,
My little girl is now one year old.

Her father comes home with gifts in his hand,
With you, I'm the wealthiest in the land.
Our home is filled with light to hold,
My little girl is now one year old.

We raise our hands in a prayer so true,
Thanking God for the gift of you.
Stepping into a world to be explored,
My little girl is now one year old.

About the Author
Nigora Yo'ldasheva Sodiqjon qizi Born on May
29, 1999, in the Yangiqo'rg'on district of the
Namangan region.

Tea The levy is anchored in Section 53 of the Tea Act, 2020, and follows extensive stakeholder consultations conducted between 2021 and 2025

Government defends new tea levy as key to reviving Kenya's tea industry

BY WMW
@themtkenyatimes

The government has defended the newly introduced tea levy, saying it will provide a sustainable funding mechanism to revitalize Kenya's tea sector and improve earnings for farmers through enhanced marketing, research, infrastructure development and stronger regulation.

In a statement, the Tea Board of Kenya said the Tea (Levy) Regulations, 2026, operationalized through Gazette Notice No. 82 on April 1, 2026, are aimed at strengthening the global competitiveness of Kenya tea.

According to the Board's Chief Executive Officer Willy K. Mutai, the levy is anchored in Section 53 of the Tea Act, 2020, and follows extensive stakeholder consultations

conducted between 2021 and 2025.

Under the new regulations, tea exports will attract a levy of 0.8 percent of the auction value or customs value for direct sales, payable at the point of export. Tea imports, meanwhile, will attract a 100 percent levy on the import value of each consignment of made tea.

The Board clarified that the levy will not be borne by tea farmers but by exporters and importers, adding that the cost will ultimately be absorbed within consumer markets.

"The Tea Levy is intended to create a sustainable funding model for tea industry programmes including market promotion, research and development, infrastructure development and strengthening of the regulatory framework," the statement said.

The levy translates to approximately Sh2.28 per kilogram

of made tea, an amount the Board said is comparatively lower than charges imposed in other tea-producing and consuming nations such as Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

According to the regulations, 50 percent of the collected funds will go towards income and price stabilization for tea growers, 20 percent towards research, 15 percent towards infrastructure development and another 15 percent towards regulation of the sector.

The Board said the levy is expected to address persistent challenges facing Kenya's tea industry, including low international prices, weak market access, declining tea quality, limited value addition, poor product diversification and inadequate global brand visibility.

Part of the funds will support efforts to penetrate emerging tea markets in China, West

Africa, Russia, North America and parts of Asia through intensified marketing campaigns and establishment of warehousing hubs in strategic markets such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, the United Arab Emirates and China.

The government also plans to use the funds to promote value addition and reduce over-reliance on bulk tea exports by increasing exports of packaged, branded and specialty teas.

The Board further noted that research institutions will receive support to develop new tea varieties and diversify tea products while regulatory agencies will be strengthened to tackle green leaf malpractices, counterfeiting of premium Kenyan tea brands and governance challenges within the value chain.

To encourage local value addition, the regulations ex-



Willy K. Mutai

empt value-added teas packed in containers below 10 kilograms, tea extracts and aromas, and tea processed in Export Processing Zones and Special Economic Zones for local consumption from the levy.

Following implementation of the levy on May 1, 2026, several tea exporters raised concerns over contracts signed before the levy took effect.

In response, the Tea Board of Kenya announced it would consider refunding levies paid on teas purchased between January 1 and April 30, 2026, including direct sales contracts entered into during the same period.

Exporters seeking refunds

have been asked to submit proof of auction purchases made before April 30, evidence of levy payment and documents showing prior contractual commitments with international buyers.

The Board said the move is intended to cushion traders from losses linked to contracts negotiated before commencement of the levy.

The government reiterated its commitment to revitalizing the tea sector under the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) and pledged continued engagement with stakeholders to address challenges affecting the industry and improve returns to farmers.



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Politics “We have already constructed 15 schools. Our goal is to ensure our children have access to quality education,” President Ruto noted.

Ruto pledges inclusive development, says era of marginalisation is over in Laikipia



President William Ruto in Laikipia on Friday.

BY PCS
@themkenyatimes

The era of discrimination and marginalisation is behind us, President William Ruto has said.

The President said the government is implementing inclusive development programmes, ensuring no community or region is left behind.

He said the government is implementing long-awaited projects in various parts of the country.

“Every part of the country is important. We must, therefore, plan for the development of every part,” he said.

Speaking during his development tour of Laikipia on Friday, President Ruto pointed out that the county will not be marginalised any longer.

“For far too long, Laikipia has been left behind. I, however, want to give you my commitment that Laikipia County will not be left behind again. We will walk together as we transform the country,” he said.

He was accompanied by Dep-

uty President Kithure Kindiki, Public Service Cabinet Secretary Geoffrey Ruku, Laikipia Governor Joshua Irungu, MPs and MCAs.

On the development of Laikipia County, the President said the government is investing KSh15 billion in the Affordable Housing Programme, including the construction of 13 modern markets.

Additionally, he said KSh4 billion has been allocated for the construction of the 60 Nanyuki-Doldol road, which will commence shortly as a contractor has already been identified.

The President explained that the government is building six roads in the county, totalling 217km.

He pointed out that funds have been allocated for the Kinamba-Matuiku and Rumuruti-Mutara-Nanyuki roads, saying the contractors have been identified and are on site or will begin construction shortly.

Further, he said the Kenya Defence Forces will open up security roads to enhance security, enabling citizens to fo-

cus on productive economic activities.

In education, the Ministry of Defence will build five extra schools in Laikipia North to enhance access to schooling in the formerly insecurity-prone area.

“We have already constructed 15 schools. Our goal is to ensure our children have access to quality education,” President Ruto noted.

He commended the residents of Laikipia for the big numbers who have registered with the Social Health Authority, saying the county has attained over 60 per cent registration.

He announced that the government has so far paid KSh1.8 billion to hospitals in the county that have been providing health services to residents.

He pledged to build some mega dams in the county, through the newly created National Infrastructure Fund projects, to support expansion of irrigation, and provision of water for domestic use and livestock.

In Doldol, he laid the foundation stone for the Doldol Huduma Centre in Laikipia

North Constituency, which will house an ICT hub and bring 168 government services closer to the people.

He also handed over a bus to Kurum Day Secondary School.

Later, he inspected the progress of the 955-unit Starehe Affordable Housing Project in Nyahururu Town, Laikipia West Constituency.

He also inspected the progress of the construction of Sipili-Ol Moran road in Laikipia North Constituency.

The President explained that the government has delivered visible and tangible development programmes, exposing the falsehood in the opposi-

tion’s narrative.

He said Kenyans can no longer be hoodwinked by empty rhetoric and falsehoods.

“They have now realised they were lying to Kenyans by claiming that no development has been implemented. Now that development programmes and projects are being implemented across the country, they are shifting goalposts and saying development is not enough,” he said.

The President faulted the opposition for opposing the Affordable Housing Programme, saying it is creating jobs and giving low-income earners a pathway to home ownership.

He asked the opposition to

propose an alternative agenda, saying divisive and tribal politics has no place in today’s politics.

On his part, the Deputy President said the government is committed to delivering on its promises, citing the construction of roads, affordable housing, markets, and stadia, among others.

He noted that Kenyans are interested in development-focused leaders, not those who dwell on retrogressive politics such as tribalism, hatred and name-calling.

Prof Kindiki said the government has taken decisive actions that have tamed insecurity in Laikipia County and its environs.

“Since President Ruto came into office, he has invested in the security of this region. Today there is peace,” he said.

Cabinet Secretary Ruku cautioned the opposition against using intimidation to advance their own political agenda, saying it was ill-advised.

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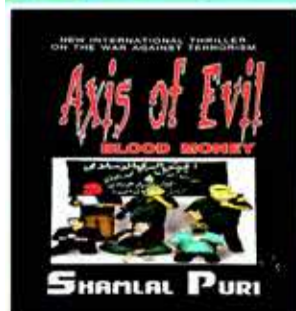
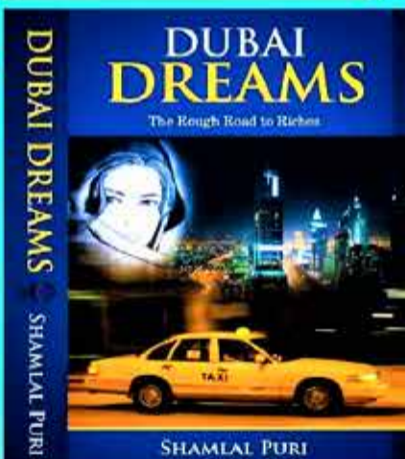
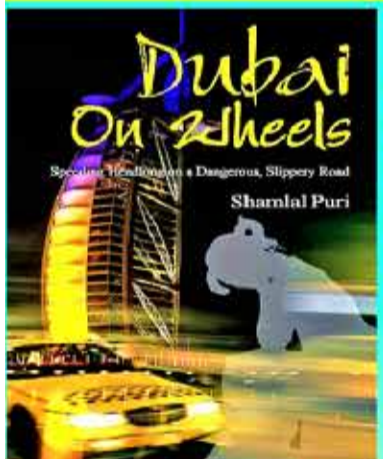
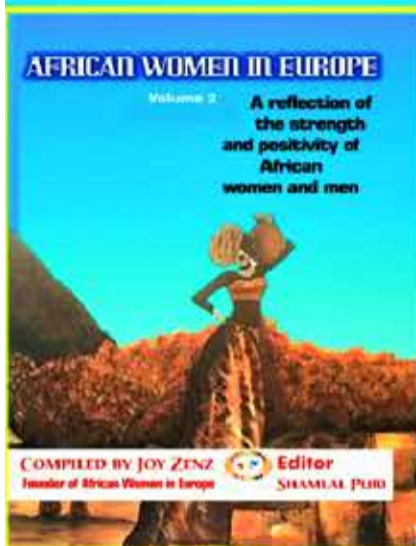
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Education That question is far more important than whether a curriculum is called 8-4-4, CBC, competency-based, digital, modern, or globalized.

Beyond classrooms and certificates; Why Africa must rethink the true purpose of education



BY Fredrick Chelimo

@themkenyatimes

Purposeful education is an intentional, learner-centered approach that connects academic content with real-world application, personal passion, and ethical development. It is characterized by real-world relevance allowing students to solve actual problems, holistic human development that develops intellectual, emotional, ethical and social growth, student passion focusing on student centered instruction, tailored to motivations, strengths, aspirations, and active agents of change, character and value cultivation and lifelong learning and adaptability. John Dewey (1859-1952) is widely attributed as the main architect behind the concept of purposeful education or inclusivity sometimes referred to as progressive or experiential education.

The leading beneficiaries of purposeful education or intentional, strategic investment in human capital aligned with economic, social and economic and technological goals of a nation is Finland, Germany, South Korea and Singapore among others. They have emphasized on strong early childhood foundation, improved teachers working conditions, salaries and training, reduced youth unemployment by blending academic learning with hands on vocational experience and equity and inclusivity, ensuring education for disabled children and marginalized groups which enhances societal overall stability. Lately China is a notable country which has tremendously revolutionized its development following the same path.

For many years, education in Africa has been treated almost like a ceremonial inheritance-something every generation receives, modifies slightly, and passes on without fundamentally questioning whether it still answers the realities of the

time. Governments announce reforms with impressive terminology, experts organize conferences around attractive concepts, and policymakers proudly point at systems adopted elsewhere as evidence of progress. Yet beneath the speeches and policy documents lies a question that many nations including Kenya, have often avoided confronting honestly: What exactly should education solve for our society?

That question is far more important than whether a curriculum is called 8-4-4, CBC, competency-based, digital, modern, or globalized. A nation can possess the most sophisticated curriculum framework on paper and still produce graduates who remain disconnected from societal realities, unemployed, frustrated or incapable of solving the very problems surrounding them. Education should never become a public relation exercise designed to impress development partners or imitate foreign models. It must first and foremost respond to the conditions, ambitions, struggles and the future direction of the society it serves.

The ongoing debate around Kenya's Competency Based curriculum have exposed not only implementation gaps, but also a deeper national dilemma regarding the philosophical foundation of education itself. The challenge is not merely about classrooms, assessments, pathways, or infrastructure. The deeper concern is whether the country sufficiently asked itself what kind of citizen it intends to produce before redesigning the system.

Every serious education system in history has been built around a deliberate societal purpose. Leading industrial nations designed education systems that fed industries with skilled labour. Military powers structured learning around discipline, science, and national cohesion. Technical economies invested heavily in innovation, engineering and research. Agricultural societies emphasized productivity, land management and food systems. Education was never random, it was intentional. Kenya and indeed much of Africa, must begin approaching education not as a borrowed administrative structure but as a national survival and transformation tool.



Education

Before discussing subjects, grading systems, or timelines, the country must first define its educational philosophy clearly and honestly. Philosophy may sound abstract, but it is the invisible engine behind any successful learning system. It answers the most important questions of all; what kind of human beings should our schools produce? Should the education system produce job seekers or job creators? Should it produce ethical leaders or merely academically successful individuals? Should it nurture innovation or memorizations? Should it strengthen national unity, civic responsibility, and social consciousness or should it focus narrowly on examination and certifications? Until these questions are answered clearly, reforms risk becoming cosmetic arrangements rather than meaningful transformation.

A practical sustainable educational system must begin studying the society itself. Education should emerge from a sober assessment of national challenges and future opportunities. In Kenya today, unemployment remains a major concern. Corruption continues weakening institutions. Food security threatens livelihoods. Technological disruption is changing industries faster than traditional learning structures can adapt. Climate change increasingly affects agriculture and resource management. Health challenges among the populace are rising. Social inequalities are widening. These are precisely the realities education should be preparing citizens to confront and solve. If agriculture remains central to

Kenya's economy, then agricultural sciences, agribusiness, irrigation technology, food processing and environmental sustainability should occupy prestigious positions within the education system instead of being treated as a fallback option for weak students. If digital economy represents the future, then coding, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, innovation, and digital entrepreneurship must become practical components of learning rather than theoretical buzzwords repeated in policy forums. If leadership failure and corruption continue frustrating development, then ethics, governance, accountability and civic responsibility must become deeply embedded within the learning process from a younger age.

This is where education systems fail. They focus heavily on content delivery while neglecting problem solving orientation. Learners memorize concepts but rarely understand how those concepts connect with the realities outside school gates. As a result, society produces graduates who can pass examination impressively yet struggle to translate knowledge into solutions. A meaningful education system must therefore bridge the dangerous gap between the classroom and society. Learning should not be detached from life. Students should encounter problems while still in school and participate actively in solving them.

Engineering learners should design community solutions. Agricultural students should engage directly with modern farming projects. Business students should operate supervised

enterprises. Environmental students should involve practical conservation activities. Technology learners should solve actual digital challenges affecting local communities. Through such approaches, education stops being theoretical accumulation and becomes practical national development.

Equally important is recognizing that human beings are naturally different in talents, abilities, and aspirations. One of the silent tragedies within many African Education systems is the tendency to rank human intelligence narrowly through examination performance. Societies have glorified a small number of professions while unintentionally humiliating technical skills, creative arts, sports, vocational expertise and practical craftsmanship. Yet modern economies are built not only by professors and lawyers, but also by technicians, innovators, electricians, artisans, software developers, mechanics, designers, farmers, and creators.

A balanced educational system must therefore create equal dignity across career pathways. Technical and vocational education should not appear as an academic punishment zone for those who failed conventional examinations. It should stand proudly as a respected pathway toward economic productivity and national growth. Countries that industrialized successfully understood this principle early enough. They invested heavily in practical competence alongside academic excellence.

However, even the most visionary curriculum cannot succeed if teachers themselves are overwhelmed, underappreciated, and unsupported. Teachers are souls of any education system. They are not only implementers of policy documents but human beings carrying the responsibility of shaping future generations. A satisfying education system must therefore also satisfy educators professionally, and socially. Many reforms fail because governments introduce ambitious expectations without creating humane working environment for teachers. Large classrooms, excessive administrative work, inadequate teaching materials, poor remuneration, and constant policy changes gradually exhaust even most passionate educators. An inspired teacher can transform a learner's future, but frustrated teacher struggles to inspire creativity, curiosity, or innovation.

Society must therefore restore dignity to teaching profession. Teachers

Blackmail On the short life of brands built on academic blackmail — and the regrets that outlive them

We can all win without eating each other



By: Mukama Phillip Kahigiriza
mukphix@gmail.com

There is a kind of branding that does not start with a logo. It starts with a leak — and it grows not from craft, but from someone else's collapse.

In boardrooms, on social media timelines, in political war rooms, and increasingly in university lecture halls, a quiet industry has formed around a brutal equation: your ruin can be my résumé. Weaponising reputation to build identity has become a recognisable strategy. It wears the costume of whistleblowing, of accountability, of “telling my truth.” Sometimes it genuinely is. Often, it is not. Often it is a hostile takeover of narrative — where one person's name becomes the raw material for another person's brand. And the cost is higher than either side calculates while the cameras are still rolling.

This is not an argument against exposing genuine harm. Societies need sunlight. They need journalists, activists, students and insiders willing to name abuse when institutions fail. That is not blackmail. Blackmail begins the moment the motive shifts — from stopping a wrong to owning the story of the wrong. When the private becomes leverage rather than evidence. When an allegation is timed to a product launch, a thesis defence, or a class presentation where only one person can top the group. When the apology tour requires the other party to remain on their knees for the brand to keep breathing. At that point, the goal is no longer justice. The goal is differentiation. The destroyed reputation becomes the before-photo in someone else's glow-up.

Nowhere does this cut deeper



than in academic spaces. The lecture room is supposed to be neutral ground — a place where ideas are tested, not where lives are traded. But the patterns are familiar. A student deliberately twists a peer's argument to appear sharper in front of the professor. A group member conceals data before a joint defence so they alone can field the supervisor's questions. A course mate leaks a colleague's failed draft to establish intellectual dominance. The consequences are bitter and they outlive the semester. Unlike the internet, you cannot log out of your department. You will encounter the person you betrayed in the library, at the viva, at the graduation dinner. They will look at you carrying the full weight of what you caused them, and that gaze lands like a verdict. There is no hiding in academia. The audience is small and the memory is long.

Behavioural economists have a term for markets built on extraction: cannibal economics. The brand creates no new value — it consumes existing value and repackages it. A founder accuses a rival of fraud the very week their startup is fundraising. A commentator resurrects a decade-old mistake the day their

book pre-orders open. A classmate edits a shared document to delete your citations hours before submission. A former friend surfaces screenshots on a podcast, and their follower count triples by noon. The audience is not buying a solution. They are buying a villain. And once you brand yourself as the person who brought someone down, the market demands another villain to keep you relevant. You are no longer a builder. You are a bounty hunter — and your identity now depends on someone else's infamy.

The psychological toll on the person targeted is documented and severe. Reputational attacks trigger the same neurological pathways as physical assault. Sleep fractures. Hypervigilance sets in. Social withdrawal and clinical depression follow. In academic environments specifically, that can mean dropped courses, abandoned research, and a lasting distrust of collaboration. Careers collapse before they begin. Families absorb the shrapnel.

But the cost to the person doing the blackmailing is less visible and far more corrosive, because it compounds. First comes the credibility tax. Audiences are not loyal to anger — they are addicted to it.

The moment you stop producing a new enemy, they begin to wonder whether you were the problem all along. Brands built on takedowns age in dog years. You must escalate or evaporate. Second comes the competence tax. Hours spent engineering someone else's downfall are hours not spent building a product, a craft, a thesis, or a team capable of surviving scrutiny. When your own work is finally examined — and it will be — you discover that outrage is not a moat. It is a spotlight. Third comes the intimacy tax. People with power learn your playbook. The investors, partners, supervisors and allies you need stop sharing real information with you, because they have seen what you do with real information. You become rich in followers and poor in trust. And trust is the only currency that genuinely compounds.

The marketplace is already learning to price this behaviour. In 2024 and 2025, multiple influencer-led brands collapsed after their origin stories were traced to leaked private messages and recordings stripped of context. Universities quietly rescinded offers after group-project sabotage was documented in version histories. Sponsors

withdrew — not because of the initial allegation, but because due diligence revealed a pattern: the brand's growth correlated consistently with other people's scandals. Litigation followed. Defamation suits, once rare in digital spaces, are now routine. Courts are increasingly willing to treat public profile as a commercial asset and its malicious acquisition as commercial harm. The settlements run to seven figures. The legal fees run higher. And the public apology, when it eventually arrives, is essentially worthless. The internet does not do restorative justice. It does content.

There is also a cultural cost we rarely name plainly. When blackmail becomes a brand strategy, it teaches an entire generation that identity is a zero-sum game — that you do not rise by being excellent, but by making someone else infamous. Young founders learn to keep files rather than mentors. Young activists learn to record rather than resolve. Students learn to hoard sources rather than share them. The room grows colder. Real whistleblowing becomes harder, because genuine whistleblowers get sorted into the same category as brand architects. The signal drowns in the noise. And the actual pred-

ators learn to move freely in the chaos, because the public is too exhausted to distinguish real harm from recreational destruction.

The alternative, for those who have been genuinely harmed and need to speak, is less dramatic but far more durable: process before platform, documentation before disclosure, remedy before revenue. The difference between justice and blackmail is not the truth of the claim — it is the structure of the goal. Justice asks, “What would make this right?” Blackmail asks, “What will make me big?” Audiences sense the difference. They may not articulate it immediately. But they churn. And they remember who taught them to feel uneasy after clicking.

For leaders and students alike, the defence is unglamorous. Build so cleanly that your enemies must lie to damage you. Document your work so thoroughly that the truth is both boring and accessible. Invest in relationships that predate your success, because those people can speak to your character when a screenshot suggests otherwise. Cite your group members. Share the data. Win the argument without destroying the person.

And if you are ever tempted to shortcut your way to relevance by using someone else's worst day as your launch event, calculate the full cost carefully. You may win the week. You may top the course. You will lose the decade — because the market, and the department, eventually learns what every enduring human relationship learns: people who feast on reputations eventually run out of other people's food.

Blackmail as branding is not a growth strategy. It is a loan shark. The interest is identity, and it collects without mercy. The most expensive thing you will ever build is a name that requires someone else to be nameless. Ask anyone who tried. They are still paying — with lawyers, with insomnia, and with the quiet knowledge that the empire they constructed rests on someone else's bone. Foundations like that do not hold. They haunt.

DR Congo The DRC is facing an “aggression war” aimed at destabilizing state institutions, looting natural resources and weakening national sovereignty

DR Congo president says 2028 elections may not take place if war continues in eastern regions

BY Xinhua News Agency

@themkenyatimes

President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) Felix Tshisekedi has said that the country may not hold its presidential elections set for 2028 if the war in the east continues, placing national security at the center of his government’s political agenda.

The DRC is facing an “aggression war” aimed at destabilizing state institutions, looting natural resources and weakening national sovereignty, Tshisekedi told a press conference Wednesday in Kinshasa, the capital. Restoring security, rebuilding the army and reasserting state authority in the east remain the government’s top priorities, he said. Tshisekedi



President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) Felix Tshisekedi speaks at a press conference in Kinshasa, the DRC capital, May 6, 2026.

first took office in 2019 and won re-election in late 2023. Under the DRC’s current constitution, his second term is due to end in 2028 and new presidential elections should be held in December 2028. The DRC

would not organize elections without the participation of North Kivu and South Kivu provinces, where large chunks of territory have been seized by the March 23 Movement (M23) rebel group, he said. “If we cannot end this war, unfortunately, we will not be able to organize elections in 2028,” Tshisekedi said, adding that any possible delay would not be because he refuses to hold the vote.

On the military front, Tshisekedi said, the army he inherited had been weakened by years of disorganization, lack of equipment and infiltration. His government has increased resources for the defense sector while continuing reforms to strengthen the armed forces, the president said. Tshisekedi said that talks remain necessary to end a conflict that has lasted for decades, adding that any settlement must ensure the end of support for armed groups and the restoration of full state authority.

The security condition in eastern DRC has deteriorated sharply since January 2025. The M23 rebel group has launched continued offensives in North Kivu and South Kivu provinces, seizing several key cities and causing heavy civilian casualties and mass displacement.

UN The UN chief said human rights must be front and center with regard to migration. Governments must step up efforts to end discriminatory practices

UN chief criticizes political scapegoating, dehumanization of migrants

BY Xinhua News Agency

@themkenyatimes

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Thursday warned of the world’s collective failure to manage migration.

“Migration is not the crisis. The crisis is the world’s collective failure to manage it together,” Guterres said at the first plenary meeting of the International Migration Review Forum 2026. He criticized the political scapegoating and dehumanization of migrants, noting that more than 15,000 people have died or disappeared along travel routes in two years. “Migration is an integral part of the human story -- an activity as

old as humanity itself. It has helped build societies, grow economies and spur innovation across the world,” he said. “Yet today, migration is being distorted by fear and misinformation. Migrants are scapegoated for political gain, dehumanized in public discourse, and denied their rights and dignity.” Over the past four years, at least 200,000 people were trafficked, most of them women and girls. Families and children continue to be detained. Countless workers remain exploited and excluded from labor protections, said Guterres.

The UN chief said human rights must be front and center with regard to migration. Governments must step up efforts to end discriminatory practices, to ensure due process, to

prioritize alternatives to detention, and to end migration detention of children and families. He said migration must be made safer, with early-warning systems, better data, and stronger cooperation to identify and assist migrants in distress, as well as search-and-rescue and disembarkation in line with international law. Human smuggling and trafficking must be cracked down on, said Guterres. “States must work together to dismantle these criminal networks -- by cutting off their financial flows, strengthening cross-border law enforcement cooperation, and holding perpetrators to account at every level,” he said.

Regular pathways must be made real and workable as regular path-



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

ways reduce irregular movements, curb exploitation, meet labor market needs, and keep families together, he said. “When pathways are predictable, fair, and accessible, everyone benefits.” Guterres also emphasized the importance of expanding opportunities in countries of origin. “Investing at scale in education, skills acquisition, and decent work, espe-

cially for young people, can jumpstart careers and reduce the pressure to embark on perilous journeys. Migration should be a genuine choice,” he said. The UN chief said that cooperation across borders, across government, across society is needed, as no country can manage migration alone.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Into the real world: students begin their industrial attachment journey

By **Limooh Brian**

Dozens of students formally began their industrial attachment programme this week, crossing the threshold from classroom theory into professional practice at an orientation session that set the tone for what lies ahead.

Director Silas Tarus, who coordinated the meeting, wasted no time on pleasantries. Discipline, time management and professional integrity, he told the assembled students, would define their success far more than academic grades ever could. “This is your opportunity to connect theory with practice,” he said. “The workplace will teach you lessons that cannot always be found in lecture halls.”

The session opened with a prayer led by Cynthia, who

asked for wisdom and protection for every student heading into a different workplace and industry — a quiet reminder that what begins now carries weight beyond a university requirement.

Coordinators walked students through workplace ethics, reporting structures and employer expectations. Some listened with visible confidence. Others sat in thoughtful silence, already reckoning with the road ahead. For most, this will be their first sustained encounter with the professional world — newsrooms, corporate offices and field postings across the country replacing lecture halls and timetables.

Industrial attachment is, at its core, a bridge — between what students have been taught and what the world actually demands of them. That gap, for



Student attachees department of communication, Uasin Gishu county

many, is where real growth happens.

As the meeting closed, contacts were exchanged, laughter filled the corridors, and students departed for their postings carrying something no syllabus can fully provide: the uncomfortable, necessary weight of expectation.

The journey has begun. What they do with it is entirely up to them.

Who truly owns Mt Kenya votes?

By **Oliver Ogutu**

As the 2027 general election draws closer, the battle for Mount Kenya’s political soul is intensifying — and for the first time in decades, no single politician can claim to own it.

The region has long been Kenya’s ultimate electoral prize. From Jomo Kenyatta to Mwai Kibaki to Uhuru Kenyatta, strong central figures commanded near-automatic loyalty from millions of voters, and whoever held the mountain held considerable power over the country’s political direction. That era is ending.

The cracks are now visible. Rigathi Gachagua, once President William Ruto’s most vocal defender, has grown increasingly isolated and openly critical of how the government has treated Mt Kenya leadership. His supporters insist the region was sidelined despite delivering the votes that



powered the Kenya Kwanza victory. His critics say he is simply angling to become the mountain’s next self-appointed kingpin. Both may be right. Meanwhile, ordinary residents are asking harder questions. Coffee farmers, boda boda riders, small traders and unemployed graduates are weighing decades of political loyalty against high taxes, rising fuel costs and shrinking opportunity — and finding the returns wanting. Political allegiance, they are discovering, does not pay rent.

Younger voters are accelerating this reckoning. Gen Z, fluent in social media and deeply

sceptical of ethnic political arithmetic, increasingly judges leaders on accountability rather than ancestry. They are not inheriting their parents’ loyalties. They are auditing them.

President Ruto continues commissioning projects across the region. Opposition figures are quietly mapping its discontent. Even Uhuru Kenyatta’s occasional pronouncements still move markets.

But the mountain is restless, divided and, for the first time, genuinely unpredictable. In 2027, Mt Kenya’s votes will not be delivered. They will have to be earned.

Education That question is far more important than whether a curriculum is called 8-4-4, CBC, competency-based, digital, modern, or globalized.

Beyond classrooms and certificates; Why Africa must rethink the true purpose of education

Contd from page 18

require continuous professional development, manageable workloads, modern infrastructure, psychological support, fair compensation, and opportunities for growth. Nations with successful education systems often treat teachers with extraordinary professional respect because they understand that educational quality rarely rises above the quality of educators themselves.

Students too deserve humane learning environment. Education should not become a source of fear, emotional exhaustion, and endless pressure. Across many societies, young people increasingly struggle under academic anxiety, unrealistic expectations, and constant competition. In trying to produce successful

students systems sometimes forget to nurture healthy human beings. A balanced educational system must cultivate curiosity, confidence, creativity, emotional intelligence, collaboration, and independent thinking alongside academic competence.

Infrastructure must match ambition. A country cannot meaningfully promote digital learning where electricity remains unreliable. It cannot champion scientific innovation without laboratories. It cannot preach practical learning while schools lack workShops, libraries, internet access, or learning materials. Education reform unsupported by investment eventually becomes frustration disguised as policy. Most importantly, education remain adaptable as society changes continuously. Technologies evolve rapidly and new industries emerge while others disappear. A successful education system

must therefore possess the humility and flexibility to evolve responsibly with time rather than remain rigidly trapped outdated assumptions.

Ultimately, the true measure of an education system is not found in colorful curriculum documents, examination statistics, or graduation ceremonies. Its real success is reflected in the society it produces. Does it reduce unemployment? Does it strengthen ethics and inequality? Does it equip citizens to think independently and solve problems confidently? Does it inspire innovation? Does it reduce poverty and inequality? Does it improve productivity? Does it help people live meaningful and dignified live?

Education must never become an isolated bureaucratic process disconnected from the people it serves. It should become the nation’s most reliable tool for building capable



Education

citizens, responsive institutions, resilient communities, and sustainable development. When designed thoughtfully, education does far more than prepare people for employment. It prepares societies for survival, progress and transformation.

And perhaps the greatest educational philosophy any nation can ever embrace is this; “A true education system is not the one that produces highest number of graduates. But the one that produces the highest num-

ber of responsible problem-solvers, ethical leaders, innovative thinkers, compassionate citizens, and courageous dreamers capable of improving the society that educated them”

Mr. Fredrick Kipchumba Chelimo PWD

Chairperson, Jiamini Disability network Community Based organization

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SPORTS
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BREAKING NEWS

Sports >> *Pep's plea as Arsenal lead by five points with just games to play

Man City must win every game to keep title hopes alive, says Guardiola

By Martin Weche

Pep Guardiola has urged Manchester City to win their remaining Premier League games and pile maximum pressure on Arsenal, who hold a five-point lead at the summit with three fixtures left to play.

The Spanish manager issued his call to arms on Friday ahead of Saturday's home clash against Brentford at the Etihad Stadium, a game City must win if they are to keep their title defence mathematically meaningful — at least for another 24 hours, before Arsenal travel to West Ham.

"Put pressure on Arsenal winning our games," Guardiola told reporters at his pre-match press conference. "That's all we have to do. All we can do."

The urgency in his words was unmistakable. City's grip on the title loosened dramatically on Monday when they were held to a pulsating 3-3 draw at Everton — a result that effectively handed Arsenal the initiative and, many would argue, the keys to the championship. City, who have four games remaining, came within minutes of a damaging defeat before Jeremy Doku rescued a point with a sensational strike in the dying seconds, one of the most breathtaking moments of this Premier League season.

The Belgian winger, signed from Rennes in the summer of 2023 for a reported £55 million, has grown into one of City's most reliable attacking threats this campaign. His brace at Everton's Hill Dickinson Stadium took his tally to four goals in five matches and a career-best seven for the season in a City shirt — figures that have delighted his manager. "I'm so glad," Guardiola said. "Not just the goals, the assists, also contributing defensively. Jeremy has been amazing this season."

City enter the Brentford fixture



Pep Guardiola

buoyed, however, by the prospect of returning bodies. Rodri, the Spanish midfielder whose absence earlier in the season disrupted City's rhythm considerably, is close to a comeback, while centre-backs Rúben Dias and Joško Gvardiol are also nearing full fitness — timely reinforcements as the campaign enters its most consequential stretch.

Brentford, in their own desperate chase for a European berth, will provide no easy afternoon. Thomas Frank's side have punched well above their weight for three consecutive seasons and arrive at the Etihad with something to prove. For City, however, the meeting of contexts could not be starker — one club playing for a title, the other for the continent.

Yet even as the men's team strain every sinew, the week brought cause for celebration of a different kind. City's women's side, managed by Andree Jeglertz, were crowned Women's Super League champions — their first top-flight title in a decade — ending Chelsea's remarkable run of six successive league triumphs. It was a historic achievement that resonated far beyond Manchester.

Guardiola was visibly moved when asked about it. "Today is a reality in the world of football — the impact of the women's team on society," he said. "I think it's the biggest step world football has made in the last decade. Before it started, I think you never could imagine the impact on the girls, the teenagers, that now say 'I want to play football'."

It was a rare, warm moment of reflection from a manager otherwise consumed by the relentless arithmetic of a title race that, statistically at least, still belongs to Arsenal. Mikel Arteta's side need only match City's results to be crowned champions for the first time since 2004.

For Guardiola, a seventh league title in nine seasons would be the most hard-fought of all. Saturday's result will tell us whether the story has one more chapter left.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *Federation cites national importance as Zone V qualifiers loom in Kampala

KVF postpones men's league to give Wafalme Stars Africa Cup qualifier time



Kenya Prisons Men's Team All Smiles after Defeating Rivals GSU in a League Match at Kasarani.

By **Martin Weche**

The Kenya Volleyball Federation has postponed the fourth and final round of the national men's league, originally scheduled for May 14–17 at the Kasarani Indoor Arena, to allow the national team adequate preparation time for the CAVB African Nations Championship Zone V Qualifiers set for June 1–5 in Kampala, Uganda.

The federation announced the decision on Friday, describing the Kampala assignment as a matter of national importance and one that could not be compromised by the competing demands of a domestic league round. KVF Organising Secretary John Oronje was unequivocal about the reasoning. "The Federation considers the Zone V qualifiers a matter of national importance and has therefore resolved to provide the national team, Wafalme Stars, with adequate preparation time ahead of the championship," he said.

Oronje added that the urgency was heightened by the activity

of rival nations. "KVF acknowledges that participating countries within the zone have already commenced intensive preparations, making it necessary for Kenya to equally accord the national team sufficient time for training, tactical organisation, and team integration," he said — a pointed acknowledgment that Kenya cannot afford to arrive in Uganda underprepared while regional competitors sharpen their game.

The Zone V qualifiers serve as the gateway to the continental championship proper, and for Wafalme Stars, the stakes are considerable. A strong showing in Kampala would cement Kenya's standing among East and Central Africa's volleyball powers and provide the springboard for a deeper run at the full African Nations Championship. The federation's willingness to disrupt its own league calendar signals how seriously that mission is being taken.

Back on the domestic front, the postponement freezes a standings picture that remains

compelling. Kenya Prisons lead the men's league on 36 points after three rounds, holding a four-point advantage over second-placed Kenya Ports Authority, though KPA have played two fewer matches and will fancy their chances of closing the gap — or even overtaking the prison side — when fixtures resume. Debutants Chema have made an impressive entrance into the top flight, sitting third on 30 points from 13 matches and announcing themselves as a team that belongs at this level.

The more uncomfortable story sits lower in the table. Defending champions General Service Unit are enduring a wretched title defence, languishing ninth on 15 points from 10 matches — four points adrift of Eldowas, who occupy the eighth and final playoff position. For GSU, the postponement offers unexpected breathing room; for their rivals, it prolongs the anxiety of a tight battle for the last two playoff berths. Kenya Defence Forces, Trailblazers, KAPU and Equity Bank are all still in contention,

and the resumption of the league promises to be anything but straightforward.

On the women's side, KCB continued their fine run of form on Friday with a commanding 3–0 victory over Kenyatta University at Nyayo Stadium, reinforcing their credentials as genuine title contenders this season. Defending champions Kenya Pipeline, meanwhile, stretched their unbeaten run to four matches with a hard-fought 3–1 win over Postbank, recovering from a slow opening set — lost 20–25 — to dominate the contest in sets of 25–18, 25–16 and 25–19. It was a response that carried the hallmarks of champions: absorbing early pressure, then turning on the style when it mattered.

With the men's league now on hold and Wafalme Stars turning their attention to Kampala, Kenya's volleyball community will be watching

SPORTS NEWS



PHOTOS
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BREAKING NEWS



SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



A voice of intercession and prophetic calling



By: Anila Bukhari
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

As Marceline continued to grow, her prophetic gift was further cultivated under the spiritual guidance of Apostle Prophet Jones. It was during this time that her sensitivity to the voice of God deepened, and her ability to intercede with clarity and authority became more evident. Recognizing the need for further spiritual development, she embraced a divine transition that required her to relocate. This move was not merely geographical but spiritual—positioning her to gain deeper training in deliverance, intercession, and prophetic ministry.

Her journey led her to become a member of World Overcomers Outreach Ministry under Apostle Alton R. Williams. Under his leadership, Marceline received further impartation and structure, equipping her with the tools necessary to expand her ministry. In 2011, she was officially licensed as a Minister of the Gospel by Apostle Alton R. Williams.

Prophetic Intercessor Marceline Williams is a devoted servant of God whose life reflects a powerful blend of spiritual calling, leadership, and unwavering commitment to prayer. Born into a legacy of faith, she is the daughter of Apostle Doris Grant Young and Byron Wiley, and the great-great-granddaughter of Bishop Abraham Grant of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. This rich spiritual heritage laid a strong foundation for her journey, shaping her identity as a woman set apart for divine purpose.

From an early stage, Marceline's life was surrounded by ministry, prayer, and the presence of God. However, her personal calling became evident on March 26, 2000, when she answered the call to ministry. This moment marked the beginning of a lifelong dedication to serving others through intercession, evangelism, and prophetic ministry. Her obedience to God's voice led to her ordination as an Evangelist in 2002 under the leadership of Apostle Doris Grant Young. That same year, she was entrusted with the role of Assistant Pastor, demonstrating her leadership capabilities and spiritual maturity at an early stage in her ministry.

As Marceline continued to grow, her prophetic gift was further cultivated under the spiritual guidance of Apostle Prophet Jones. It was during this time that her sensitivity to the voice of God deepened, and her ability to intercede with clarity and authority became more evident. Recognizing the need for further spiritual development, she embraced a divine transition that required her to relocate. This move was not merely geographical but spiritual—positioning her to gain deeper training in deliverance, intercession, and prophetic ministry.

Her journey led her to become a member of World Overcomers Outreach Ministry under Apostle Alton R. Williams. Under his leadership, Marceline received further impartation and structure, equipping her with the tools necessary to expand her ministry. In 2011, she was officially licensed as a Minister of the Gospel by Apostle Alton R. Williams. Alongside this, she earned certifications in several areas, in-

cluding Apostolic Harvest Leadership, Deliverance, Prayer, Prophetic Ministry, Teaching, and Evangelism. These qualifications not only affirmed her calling but also enhanced her ability to serve across multiple dimensions of ministry.

In 2012, Marceline launched Prayer Garden of Memphis, a ministry birthed through prayer and divine inspiration. This initiative was designed to bridge the gap among denominations and unite pastors and believers in collective prayer. Her vision was clear: to foster unity and demonstrate that agreement in prayer has the power to bring transformation to communities, cities, states, and the nation. Through this platform, she has mobilized countless individuals to stand in the gap and intercede for change, healing, and restoration.

Her commitment to intercession was further strengthened through specialized training. Marceline received intercessory prayer frontline training and prophetic instruction under Apostle Almenthia McCray at Church on the Rock. These experiences refined her spiritual discipline and reinforced her mandate to pray for leaders and nations. Her ministry is deeply rooted in the love of Christ, with a mission to break individuals free from bondage and guide them toward purpose, order, and reconciliation with God.

Marceline also serves as a dedicated member of the intercessory prayer team at The Pursuit of God Transformation Center, under the leadership of Pastors Sheila Floyd and Brennan Hill. In this role, she continues to stand as a spiritual watchman, lifting up prayers for transformation and revival. Her consistency and faithfulness in prayer have made her a pillar within the intercessory community.

In addition to her ministry work, Marceline is an accomplished author. She has written and contributed to several impactful books, including *Shattered by One's Touch*, *We Overcame*, *Grace and Surrender: A Queen's Story*, *The Drops of Poetry*, and *How We Overcame: Personal Stories of Victory*. Her writings reflect her personal journey, spiritual insights, and the testimonies of overcoming adversity through faith. She is also the author of *On the Wall: The*



Marceline Williams .

Intercessors Breakthrough, a study guide designed to train and equip intercessors for effective prayer.

Her influence extends beyond writing into media and public platforms. Marceline is the founder and host of Whole Woman TV, a platform dedicated to empowering and inspiring women through spiritual and practical guidance. Her presence has been featured on billboards, magazines, and radio programs, showcasing her as a multifaceted leader. She has also appeared internationally on platforms such as The Nikki Clarke Show in Canada, further expanding her reach and impact.

Marceline is also known for hosting significant prayer events, including the Annual Day of Prayer, Praise, and Healing. This event brings together pastors and leaders to intercede collectively, with 24 strategic prayers offered for various needs. In September 2019, she launched a 24-hour prayer initiative in Memphis, Tennessee, in partnership with Pastors Ricky and Sheila Floyd. This initiative stands as a testament to her unwavering belief in the power of continuous prayer.

Academically, Marceline is equally accomplished. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Management and a Master of Business Administration,

reflecting her ability to merge spiritual leadership with organizational excellence. Currently, she is a doctoral candidate pursuing a Doctor of Ministry at Newburgh Theological Seminary, further deepening her theological knowledge and leadership capacity.

Throughout her journey, Marceline Williams has remained steadfast in her calling. Her life is a testament to obedience, resilience, and faith. She embodies the role of a prophetic intercessor—standing in the gap, speaking truth, and ushering in God's will through prayer. Her work continues to inspire individuals across communities, reminding them of the transformative power of faith and unity.

In every aspect of her life, Marceline demonstrates that true ministry is not confined to the pulpit but extends into every sphere of influence. Whether through prayer, teaching, writing, or leadership, she continues to fulfill her divine mandate with grace and authority, leaving a lasting impact on all who encounter her ministry.