



Junet opens Pandora's box on Gachagua impeachment bribery
National Assembly Minority Leader Junet Mohamed admitted at an ODM-UDA rally in Malava, Kakamega County, that money changed hands in Parliament during the October 2024 impeachment **Page 8**



Ruto shakes up State Corporations as former MPs, professionals win top board jobs
President William Ruto has effected a major reshuffle in the leadership of State corporations, reappointing some board chairpersons, naming new non-executive chairpersons **Page 12**

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Daily ePAPER

Bribery What makes Mohamed's remarks so politically incendiary is their source

Gachagua: Corruption behind BATUK exit

Democracy for the Citizens Party (DCP) leader Rigathi Gachagua yesterday launched a fresh broadside against President William Ruto's administration, alleging that corruption at the highest levels of government was behind the reported relocation of British Army Training Unit Kenya (BATUK) activities from Nanyuki to Tanzania.

He at the same time accused the government of failing to tackle insecurity and attempting to divide the Mt Kenya region.

Speaking after attending Mass at St. Teresa Catholic Church in Imenti Central Constituency, Meru County, Gachagua claimed that President Ruto's administration attempted to solicit a KSh3 billion bribe to facilitate the renewal of the British Army's training agreement in Kenya.



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Fomer DP Rigathi Gachagua, background British Army

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Democratic Party of Kenya steps up grassroots drive with Laikipia office launch

BY Wilfred Muchire

@themtkenyetimes

Some of the moments as captured in pictures

The Democratic Party of Kenya (DP) has intensified its grassroots mobilisation ahead of the 2027 General Election with the official opening of its Laikipia County office in Nanyuki Town and a church service attended by the party's top leadership over the weekend. Party leader Justin Muturi led National Executive Committee members in commissioning the office at Sweetwaters Junction on Saturday, describing it as a key milestone in strengthening the party's presence and engagement with residents in Laikipia. The new office is expected to serve as a centre for coordination, mobilisation and party activities in the county.

The party said the large turnout at the launch reflected growing support for its vision and reaffirmed its commitment to listening to wananchi and advancing people-centred leadership.

DP leaders also praised local party officials for coordinating the successful launch. Among those present were Deputy Party Leaders Jane Mbuthia and C.N. Kihara, National Chairperson Peter Ndubai, Secretary General Jacob Haji, National Treasurer Abdullatif Wagama, National Organising Secretary James Macharia, National Vice-Chair Dr. Julia Chege, Young Democrats Chairperson Beatrice Njeri and National Women Congress Chair Beatrice Kibobori.

They also addressed a public meeting in the area where the leaders hit at the government for failing Kenyans, urging the citizens to be patient as next year's General Election will usher in a new leadership.

Yesterday, the party leadership joined congregants at ACK St. Andrew's Church in Nanyuki for worship, where they emphasized unity, hope and service to the nation.

They said the message reinforced their commitment to building a peaceful, united and prosperous Kenya while seeking God's guidance as the party continues its nationwide grassroots expansion.



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NEWS IN BRIEF



Uasin Gishu Women for Peace member Mary Njoki has underscored the importance of maintaining peace before, during and after the elections, saying a peaceful environment is essential for sustained development and economic growth. Speaking during an accountability and transparency forum held in Eldoret Njoki warned that election-related violence often destroys public infrastructure, disrupts livelihoods and delays development programmes, urging residents to uphold peaceful coexistence throughout the electoral period.



Chuka/Igambang'ombe MP Patrick Munene has called on political leaders to focus on development rather than divisive politics, saying Kenyans are more concerned about projects that improve their lives. Speaking at a fundraising event at St Peter's Cathedral Kinoru ACK Church, where he represented Deputy President Kithure Kindiki, Munene said citizens want better roads, clean water, electricity and improved public services instead of political rhetoric. He urged Kenyans to remain peaceful, united and patient as the government implements its development agenda, expressing confidence that President William Ruto will deliver on his promises. Munene also appealed to residents of the Mount Kenya region to continue supporting President Ruto and Deputy President Kindiki to enhance development in the region.



Bernard Muraguri Wangui, wearing a green dustcoat, leads a group of nature enthusiasts along one of the scenic trails in the Aberdare Forest, where he serves as both a community conservationist and a member of the Green Shine Aberdare Movement.

Muraguri said local communities have embraced the responsibility of protecting the forest, recognizing that conserving the ecosystem will not only safeguard biodiversity but also create opportunities for tourism-driven economic growth.

He noted that residents have become active partners in promoting eco-tourism by guiding visitors through the forest's nature trails while raising awareness on the importance of conservation.



Ronald Ngala Utalii College in Kilifi County will officially admit its first cohort of 1,000 students in September, marking the start of academic programmes after more than a decade of construction. Tourism Principal Secretary Prof. Julius Bitok said admissions are being finalized through the Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Service (KUCCPS), with classes expected to begin on September 1, 2026. He said the institution is 95 per cent complete and the remaining works will be finalized within a month. Describing the college as a state-of-the-art facility, Bitok said it would strengthen hospitality and tourism training and support Kenya's target of attracting five million international tourists annually by 2028. He also urged political leaders to avoid statements that could harm the country's tourism industry.



Machakos Woman Representative Joyce Kamene Kasimbi has launched a countywide programme to supply water storage tanks to all public primary schools to improve hygiene and learning conditions. The initiative began at AIC Kithimani Primary School in Yatta Sub-county, where the first 120 tanks were distributed. Under the first phase, at least three schools in each of Machakos' 40 wards will receive tanks before the programme is expanded to cover every public primary school. Kasimbi said the project will improve access to clean water, reduce water-borne diseases, enhance sanitation and enable schools to harvest rainwater. AIC Kithimani Primary head teacher Judith Ngere welcomed the initiative, saying it would ease persistent water shortages.



The Kirinyaga County Government has launched a verification exercise for plot ownership in the disputed South Ngariama Settlement Scheme in Mwea East Sub-County, covering about 17,000 acres. The exercise aims to identify legitimate landowners and beneficiaries allocated land between 2007 and 2009 or those who acquired plots through occupation or purchase. Lands CECM Rev. Samuel Kanjobe warned that forged ownership documents would be detected and offenders prosecuted for perjury after swearing affidavits. He said the county is also preparing physical development plans to address unplanned growth and improve waste management. Kanjobe added that 785 land disputes identified during adjudication are being handled by the national government's Land Adjudication Office in Kiritiri.

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Youth Mwijuma said the initiative had provided a platform to engage the public on pressing social concerns

Clergy, administrator rally youth to reject drugs and violence

BY MKT REPORTER

@themkenyaintimes

Kirinyaga County Commissioner Shufaa Mwijuma Omar has urged young people to shun alcoholism, drug abuse and suicide, while calling on churches and the wider community to play a greater role in addressing sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and other social challenges affecting the county.

Speaking in Kerugoya during the flagging off of a peace walk organized by the Evangelical Women Alliance (EWA), Mwijuma said the county administration was deeply concerned by the increasing number of young people turning to alcohol and drugs instead of seeking help when faced with personal or emotional challenges.

The peace walk, which brought together female clergy from different churches across Kirinyaga County, sought to promote peace, social cohesion and moral values while creating awareness on issues affecting families and communities.

Mwijuma said the initiative had provided a platform to engage the public on pressing social concerns, particularly the welfare of young people.

She appealed to the youth to seek guidance from parents, religious leaders and other trusted members of society whenever they experience emotional or psychological distress instead of resorting to substance abuse.

“As mothers, we care about our youth. If you have an is-



Kirinyaga County commissioner Shufaa Mwijuma flags off peace walk outside county offices as religious leaders and other stakeholders look on.

sue bothering you, come and share it with us instead of indulging in alcoholism and drug abuse,” she said.

The County Commissioner also expressed concern over the continued cases of sexual and gender-based violence in the county, saying communities must intensify public awareness campaigns while ensuring offenders are brought to justice.

She reminded residents that

The peace walk, which brought together female clergy from different churches across Kirinyaga County, sought to promote peace, social cohesion and moral values while creating awareness on issues affecting families and communities



rape and defilement are criminal offences under the Sexual Offences Act and are condemned by all religions.

Mwijuma challenged men to protect women and girls instead of preying on them, urging them to uphold family values and live responsibly.

She described the increasing cases of defilement involving very young children as disturbing, saying society must unite to safeguard children from abuse and exploitation.

On the rising cases of suicide, Mwijuma urged anyone struggling with emotional problems to speak to a trusted person before making irreversible decisions.

She said administrators, religious leaders, family members and friends were available to provide support and encourage those facing diffi-

cult circumstances.

The Evangelical Women Alliance said the peace walk formed part of its broader campaign to strengthen families, promote peaceful coexistence and encourage communities to uphold moral values while addressing social challenges affecting the county.

EWA Kirinyaga Chairperson Bishop Mary Wanderi said the alliance remained committed to transforming the county through prayer, community engagement and support for families.

She expressed confidence that the collective efforts of religious leaders, parents and residents would help build a more peaceful, morally upright and united Kirinyaga County.

KEBS wins regional trade award at East Africa construction ceremony



Eng. Zacharia Lukorito, director for standards development and trade, accepted the award on behalf of KEBS Managing Director Esther Ngari at the ceremony.

BY John Kariuki

@themkenyaintimes

The Kenya Bureau of Standards received the Outstanding Excellence in Regional Trade Standards and Product Certification Leadership Award at the East Africa Building and Construction Awards 2026 on Friday, adding regional recognition to what the agency describes as years of institutional reform.

Eng. Zacharia Lukorito, director for standards development and trade, accepted the award on behalf of KEBS Managing Director Esther Ngari at the ceremony.

KEBS said the recognition reflects its work in harmonising standards, facilitating cross-border trade, and strengthening consumer protection through quality assurance. The agency has in

recent years sought to align Kenyan product certification systems with regional and international frameworks, including those of the East African Community.

The EAC's broader trade integration agenda relies heavily on harmonised standards and mutual recognition of quality systems among member states — areas in which KEBS has positioned itself as an active participant.

Ngari, who has led the agency through a period of institutional restructuring, was not present at the ceremony. KEBS did not immediately provide a statement from her on the award.

The agency says it continues to work with manufacturers, exporters, and regulators to ensure Kenyan products meet quality benchmarks for both domestic and export markets.

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Bribery The admission, delivered with a casualness that was itself remarkable, has drawn immediate calls for a formal investigation by EACC

Junet opens Pandora's box on Gachagua impeachment bribery

National Assembly Minority Leader's admission that money circulated in Parliament during the 2024 ouster triggers demands for investigation and exposes the fault lines of Kenya's broad-based political arrangement

BY David Kimani

@themtkenyentimes

National Assembly Minority Leader Junet Mohamed admitted at an ODM-UDA rally in Malava, Kakamega County, that money changed hands in Parliament during the October 2024 impeachment of former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, naming Senate Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot as the person responsible for the alleged distributions.

The admission, delivered with a casualness that was itself remarkable, has drawn immediate calls for a formal investigation by the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission and reignited one of the most explosive controversies to have shadowed Kenya's political class since Gachagua's removal. Speaking to the crowd, Mohamed said there was "something moving around" in Parliament during the impeachment, and advised colleagues who received payments to invest them in their home constituencies rather than spend lavishly in Nairobi. In remarks that drew laughter but also sharp public backlash, he singled out Nairobi Senator Edwin Sifuna, mocking what he described as an underwhelming homestead in Bungoma as evidence that the senator had squandered his alleged share.

The comments were not made in a vacuum. They arrive nearly two years after 281 Members of Parliament voted to impeach Gachagua on charges including corruption, insubordination, undermining the government and promoting ethnically divisive politics, and months after the High Court upheld that impeachment in a judgement delivered on June 8, 2026, while simultaneously awarding Gachagua KSh50 million in damages after finding that senators violated his right to a fair hearing by refusing to grant an adjournment sought on medical grounds.

What makes Mohamed's remarks so politically incendiary is their source. He is not a marginalised backbencher nursing a grievance; he is the Minority Leader of the National Assembly and one of ODM's most



Former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua

senior figures in Parliament. He has previously boasted of ODM's role in the impeachment, claiming that Ruto's UDA would not have mustered sufficient numbers without ODM support, and that the party weighed the accusations against Gachagua and concluded he was unfit for office. That the same man now jokes about money circulating in the same chamber during the same vote strips the process of whatever institutional dignity remained attached to it.

Gachagua himself had made identical allegations long before Malava. Speaking on Citizen TV, he alleged that MPs were paid KSh500,000 each to support his removal, while senators received as much as KSh10 million apiece, and further claimed that President William Ruto maintained files on every lawmaker who accepted money, locking them into political loyalty ahead of the 2027 elections. Those allegations were widely reported but largely dismissed by his opponents as the grievances of a man who had lost power. Mohamed's remarks have made them significantly harder to dismiss.

Gachagua has also alleged that Ruto offered him KSh2 billion to resign voluntarily before the impeachment, with assurances of continued security and a salary, an offer he claimed he rejected. Taken together with Mohamed's Malava remarks, these allegations sketch a picture of an impeachment process conducted less as a constitutional accountability

exercise than as a transaction — a characterisation that the institutions involved have every reason to contest but are now finding increasingly difficult to rebut.

The legal backdrop matters enormously here. The three-judge bench comprising Justices Eric Ogola, Anthony Murima and Freda Mugambi delivered a landmark ruling that upheld Gachagua's removal while simultaneously finding serious procedural irregularities in how the Senate handled his case — marking the first ruling of its kind under Kenya's 2010 Constitution. Justice Ogolla stated that Gachagua's fair trial rights were infringed when the Senate declined to allow an adjournment during the impeachment proceedings despite his absence, and the court awarded KSh50 million in damages payable by the Senate. Gachagua has since confirmed he will appeal the judgement, disputing its findings on both law and fact.

Cheruiyot, who is now named by Mohamed as the alleged accounting officer for the payments, responded to the High Court's June ruling by insisting the Senate would appeal the fair trial finding, maintaining that senators had allowed Gachagua to present his case both orally and through written submissions. He has not publicly responded to the Malava allegations at the time of publication.

The political implications extend well beyond any individual liability. The ODM-UDA cooperation that

delivered Gachagua's impeachment was itself a defining moment in Kenya's broad-based government experiment, a power-sharing arrangement that folded the principal opposition into the ruling coalition. Petitioners challenging the impeachment argued in court that the 13th Parliament had been captured by the Executive, and that if Parliament could be used to remove a Deputy President, no constitutional office was safe. That argument, once confined to legal submissions, now reverberates more loudly in the public domain following Mohamed's admission.

The ethical and legal exposure is significant. If the EACC were to open a formal inquiry, investigators would face the question of whether Mohamed's statement — however flippant in delivery — constitutes

evidence or merely political theatre. Under Kenya's Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Act, bribery of a public officer is a criminal offence carrying custodial sentences. The fact that the alleged conduct occurred inside Parliament, during a constitutional process that itself carried the imprimatur of judicial review, complicates any prosecution pathway but does not eliminate it.

There is also the matter of parliamentary integrity. Section 9A of the Parliamentary Powers and Privileges Act protects what is said within the House, but public admissions made outside the chambers — as Mohamed's were — do not attract that immunity. What was said at a political rally in Malava is fair game for investigators, regulators and the courts.

As 2027 approaches, the political incentives to either expose or suppress the full truth of what happened in October 2024 will intensify. Gachagua, now leading the Democracy for the Citizens Party and maintaining a formidable presence in Mt Kenya politics, has every reason to keep the issue alive. The broad-based coalition, already showing strain over resource allocation and electoral zoning, has every reason to close ranks. Mohamed's remarks may have been meant to draw applause; instead, they have handed Kenya's anti-corruption institutions a question they will find it very difficult to leave unanswered.



National Assembly Minority Leader Junet Mohamed

Corruption He at the same time accused the government of failing to tackle insecurity and attempting to divide the Mt Kenya region

Gachagua: Corruption behind BATUK exit

The former DP who attended a Mass and later addressed public meetings in the area faulted Ruto administration on security

BY MKT Correspondents

@themtkenyatimes

Democracy for the Citizens Party (DCP) leader Rigathi Gachagua yesterday launched a fresh broadside against President William Ruto's administration, alleging that corruption at the highest levels of government was behind the reported relocation of British Army Training Unit Kenya (BATUK) activities from Nanyuki to Tanzania.

He at the same time accused the government of failing to tackle insecurity and attempting to divide the Mt Kenya region.

Speaking after attending Mass at St. Teresa Catholic Church in Imenti Central Constituency, Meru County, Gachagua claimed that President Ruto's administration attempted to solicit a KSh3 billion bribe to facilitate the renewal of the British Army's training agreement in Kenya.

According to the former Deputy President, the alleged demand prompted the British government to cancel the renewal of the agreement and shift part of BATUK's military training operations to neighbouring Tanzania. Gachagua further alleged that the corruption claims had strained relations between Kenya and the United Kingdom.

He warned that the reported withdrawal of BATUK operations would have serious economic consequences for Laikipia County, particularly Nanyuki town, whose economy has for decades benefited from military training exercises through employment, hospitality, transport and business opportunities.

Gachagua said hundreds of jobs and businesses were at risk if the military cooperation programme was significantly scaled down.

He also accused the National Assembly's Defence and Foreign Relations Committee, chaired by Belgut MP Nelson Koech, of being part of what he described as a corruption syndicate that allegedly influenced the collapse of the agreement.

The former Deputy President shifted his attention to the country's security situation, accusing Interior

Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen of politicising national security instead of confronting criminal gangs and organised violence.

He claimed Kenya was becoming increasingly unsafe for investors and foreign visitors, maintaining that his earlier travel advisory warning tourists about insecurity remained in force.

Gachagua further alleged that the government had failed to deal decisively with goonism, claiming criminal groups continued to operate with impunity. The government has previously rejected similar allegations, with Interior CS Murkomen maintaining that Kenya remains secure and citing reduced cases of terrorism, banditry and other major crimes.

On politics, Gachagua condemned Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale over remarks he said were disrespectful to the people of the Mt Kenya region, accusing him of engaging in divisive politics.

He vowed that leaders whom he accused of insulting the region would face political consequences in the 2027 General Election.

The DCP leader also accused Public Service Cabinet Secretary Geoffrey Ruku of being used by President Ruto to divide the Mt Kenya region, insisting that efforts to split the community would not succeed.

Reiterating his campaign for regional unity, Gachagua urged Mt Kenya residents to remain united ahead of the next General Election, saying only a united voting bloc would safeguard the region's political and economic interests.

After the church service, the former Deputy President toured several trading centres in Meru County, including Gathongo, Mikumbune, Kionyo and Igoji, where he addressed roadside rallies as part of his ongoing political mobilisation campaign ahead of the 2027 elections.

He was accompanied by dozens of former, current and aspiring leaders from different parts of the country.



Rigathi Gachagua with newly elected Ol-Kalou MP Sammy Kamau Ngotho in Meru yesterday.



Some of the leaders who accompanied Rigathi Gachagua in Meru yesterday.

Heritage “This DNA result is not just numbers. It is my name, my clan, my culture. I am Maasai, and I am proud to walk back into the embrace of my people,” Hines said at the ceremony.

Maasai man reclaims his roots as DNA result confirms 100per cent Kenyan heritage

BY John Kariuki
@themkenyaintimes

Willie Hines always suspected there was more to his story. On Friday, he found out just how much.

Hines, a man of Maasai descent, stood before members of the Roots and Reconnection Organisation and heard what a DNA test had already told him in black and white: he is 100 per cent Kenyan Maasai. For those gathered, it was less a scientific announcement than a homecoming.

“This DNA result is not just numbers. It is my name, my clan, my culture. I am Maasai, and I am proud to walk back into the embrace of my



Willie Hines (R)

people,” Hines said at the ceremony.

The organisation’s founder and director, Dr. Lisa Aubrey, said Hines’s story is far from unique. Thousands of people across the African diaspora have been severed from their roots by slavery, migration, displacement, and the passage of time. The DNA result, she said, is one way of beginning to find the way back.

“This is not just about Willie. This is about all of us who are searching to understand where we come from so we can know who we are,” Aubrey said.

The organisation argues that culture is not a relic of the past — it is a foundation for the future. Languages, rites of passage, community values, and oral histories, it says, are the threads that hold societies together. Beyond the personal, Roots and Reconnection points to tangible benefits: stronger mental well-being, greater community cohesion, and economic opportunity through heritage tourism, the

arts, and the passing of knowledge between generations.

The group is working to link diaspora members with communities in Kenya, document oral histories with elders, and build platforms for cultural education and exchange.

For Aubrey, the message is simple and urgent.

“Knowing where you come from is the first step to knowing who you are. When we reconnect to our roots, we heal, we empower, and we build stronger nations,” she said.

The organisation says it will continue working with cultural custodians and institutions to ensure more people like Hines can trace, claim, and live their heritage with pride. Its Global African Pilgrimage to Kenya is set to conclude on August 1, 2026.

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Corruption Among the most closely watched matters is a ruling on Wednesday in a suit seeking to recover unexplained wealth worth KSh180 million from David Isika Kinyae

EACC lines up high-profile corruption cases across courts

BY MKT REPORTER

@themkenyatiimes

A packed week awaits the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) in courts across the country, with several high-profile corruption, unexplained wealth, public land recovery and procurement cases involving prominent politicians, former public officials and private firms scheduled for hearing this week.

Among the most closely watched matters is a ruling on Wednesday in a suit seeking to recover unexplained wealth worth KSh180 million from David Isika Kinyae and others at the Milimani Anti-Corruption Court.

On the same day, the court will also deliver a ruling in a KSh58 million recovery suit against former Nairobi Governor Evans Kidero and 13 others over allegations that the funds were embezzled from the former City Council of Nairobi.

Also scheduled for hearing on Wednesday is a KSh800 million recovery case involving Estama Investments Limited and 13 others over alleged irregular payments arising from an overvalued tender for the supply of 100 portable medical clinics to the Ministry of Health.

Former Murang'a Governor Francis Mwangi Wa Iria and eight co-accused will appear before the Milimani Anti-Corruption Court on Thursday to face charges of conspiracy to commit corruption, unlawful acquisition of public property, conflict of interest and money laundering linked to an alleged illegal KSh351.1 million media contract awarded by the county government.

Bomet Governor Hillary Kipng'eno Barchok and two others are expected in court on Friday for mention of a case in which they face charges of conflict of interest, acquisition and use of proceeds of crime, and money laundering. The allegations relate to claims that the governor received KSh2.7 million from com-

panies that conducted business worth KSh152.3 million with the county government between the 2019/2020 and 2024/2026 financial years.

Also on Friday, the Milimani Anti-Corruption Court will deliver judgment in a case against former National AIDS Control Council joint secretary Catherine Mumma. The EACC is seeking recovery of KSh903,000 allegedly received irregularly as allowances.

At the Garissa Law Courts, Balambala MCA Abdi Ibrahim Daar and four others are scheduled for hearings tomorrow and Thursday over allegations of conspiracy to commit an economic crime, fraudulent acquisition of public property, forgery and uttering false documents linked to alleged irregular payments of KSh51 million by the Garissa County Government.

In Nakuru, the Environment and Land Court will on Thursday hear separate suits seeking recovery of two public land parcels each valued at KSh40 million from Dr. Meshack Aluvaala and Dr. Szumbah Mwanaongoro.

The commission argues that the land had been reserved for the Ministry of Education before being illegally acquired.

The Milimani Anti-Corruption Court will today hear a KSh27.8 million recovery suit against Bob Kephass Otieno and five others over alleged fraudulent imprest payments from the Homa Bay County Assembly between 2016 and 2017.

At the Nyahururu Anti-Corruption Court on Wednesday, Arnold Karani Njiru and five others will face charges related to the alleged embezzlement of KSh19.2 million from the Laikipia East National Government Constituencies Development Fund through a ghost project.

Former Kenya Wildlife Service senior officers William Waweru Maina and David Kaindi Mutwiiwa will appear before the Milimani Anti-Corruption Court on Thursday over alleged procurement

irregularities involving KSh11.5 million for wildlife service uniforms during the 2013/2014 financial year.

In Kakamega, former Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission constituency office clerk Amos Majisu Shidzugane will appear in court on Thursday over allegations that he used a forged KCSE certificate to secure employment, resulting in the unlawful acquisition of KSh11.5 million in public funds.

Other civil recovery matters scheduled during the week include suits involving Midlands Limited over public land in Nyandarua, Margaret Njoki Njuguna over land in Nairobi, and Gondi Achiro Noberts trading as Firmline Company and others over alleged embezzled Kenya School of Law funds.

The commission will also mention several major recovery suits, including the KSh6.1 billion National Youth Service voucher case involving Ben Gethi and 14 others on Wednesday, the KSh531.3 million recovery suit against former Machakos County official Urbanus Wambua and nine others tomorrow and Wednesday, and a KSh342.8 million unexplained wealth case against former Nairobi

City County official Michael Auka on Thursday.

Also listed for mention are recovery suits involving KSh330.5 million allegedly paid to Auditel Kenya, KSh301.9 million linked to former Deputy Commissioner General of Prisons Benjamin Obuya Njoga and 12 others, KSh283 million involving Sammy Kipng'etich Kirui and 13 others over land acquired for cemetery use, KSh253.3 million against Ahmediddle Adam Abdi and others, KSh51.5 million involving Abdi Ibrahim Daar and others, KSh45.1 million linked to former Principal Secretary Engineer Peter Mangiti and 17 others, KSh15.2 million against former Commission on Revenue Allocation employee Jecinter Adoyo Hezron, KSh12.1 million involving Johnson Jackson Githaka and John Faustin Kinyua, and KSh11.7 million against former Ruthimitu Girls High School principal Sarah Muthoni Muraa.

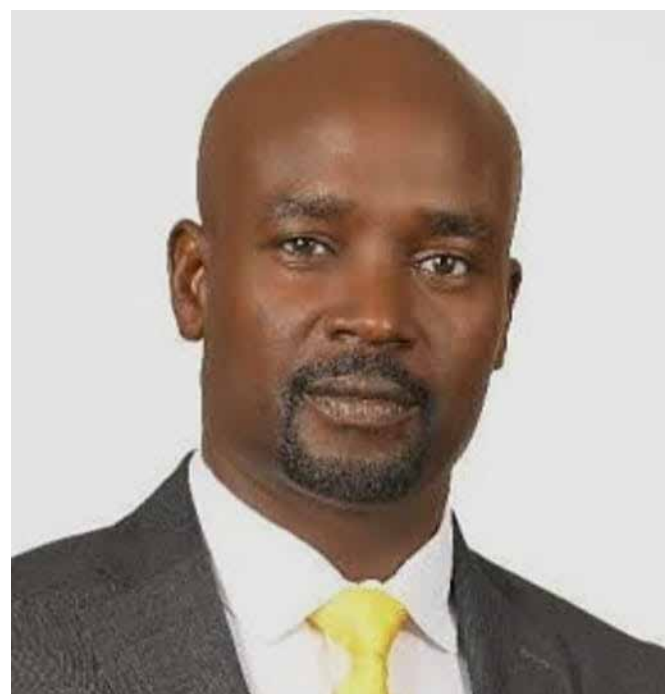
The cases, which will be heard in courts in Nairobi, Garissa, Nakuru, Nyahururu, Kakamega, Makadara and Nyandarua, form part of the EACC's ongoing efforts to recover public assets and prosecute corruption, economic crimes and abuse of public office.



Evans Kidero



Mwangi Wa Iria



Hillary Barchok



Ben Gethi

Appointments The appointments affect key institutions in the agriculture, energy, water, procurement, health, pensions and public benefit sectors

Ruto shakes up State Corporations as former MPs, professionals win top board jobs

BY Wilfred Muchire

@themtkenyaintimes

President William Ruto has effected a major reshuffle in the leadership of State corporations, reappointing some board chairpersons, naming new non-executive chairpersons and directors to strategic government agencies.

He at the same time revoked the appointment of Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organisation (KALRO) chairman Dr Thuo Mathenge in changes published in the Kenya Gazette last Friday.

The appointments affect key institutions in the agriculture, energy, water, procurement, health, pensions and public benefit sectors as the government moves to reconstitute boards whose terms had expired or fallen vacant.

Among the changes, President Ruto reappointed Eng. Gilbert Maluki as the non-executive chairperson of the National Irrigation Authority Board for another three-year term. Maluki, a professional engineer and former chair of the authority, has overseen the implementation of several irrigation expansion programmes aimed at enhancing food security and reducing reliance on rain-fed agriculture.

The President also appointed Moses Wekesa Mwambu Mabonga, a former Bumula Member of Parliament, as the non-executive chairperson of the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA), replacing Adan Haji Ali.

Mabonga has previously served in leadership roles in government boards, including the NGO Coordination Board, and is expected to steer the country's energy regulator at

a time of growing investments in electricity generation and petroleum infrastructure.

In the same sector, Energy Cabinet Secretary James Opiyo Wandayi appointed Faith Akiru Kuno to the EPRA Board, replacing Jennipher Nawoi Long'or, whose appointment was revoked.

One of the most notable changes was the revocation of the appointment of Dr Thuo Mathenge as chairperson of KALRO.

Reacting to the move, Dr Mathenge claimed his removal was politically motivated because of his support for Democracy for the Citizens Party (DCP) leader Rigathi Gachagua.

In a statement posted on social media, Mathenge said: "Ruto has removed me as KALRO chairman over my support for Rigathi Gachagua, but my position stands firm; true leadership is built on conviction, not intimidation." He maintained that his political stand would not change and reiterated his support for Gachagua ahead of the 2027 General Election.

No replacement was named immediately to chair the agricultural research institution.

Elsewhere, Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen appointed Adan Haji Ali, who until now chaired EPRA, as the new non-executive chairperson of the Public Benefit Organisations Regulatory Authority.

Water Cabinet Secretary Eric Mugaa retained Dr Daniel O. Achach as a board member of the Lake Victoria North Water Works Development Agency while appointing Dr Njage Makanga as the non-executive chairperson of the Central Rift Valley Water Works Development Agency.

National Treasury Cabinet

Secretary John Mbadi appointed former Kitui Senator David Musila as the non-executive chairperson of the National Industrial Training Board. Musila, a veteran public administrator before joining elective politics, returns to public service in a strategic oversight role.

Mbadi also reappointed George Murugu Muthui as chairperson of the Public Procurement Administrative Review Board and appointed five additional members to strengthen the tribunal that hears disputes arising from public procurement processes.

In another appointment, Johnson P. Osoi was named non-executive chairperson of the Local Authorities Provident Fund Board.

Labour Cabinet Secretary Alfred Mutua reappointed Jeremiah Kendagor, Jane Nyokabi and Joseph Tarus as members of the Retirement Benefits Authority Board, ensuring continuity in the oversight of Kenya's pensions industry.

Energy Cabinet Secretary Wandayi appointed Rosemary Nyambura Njaramba, Philip Kibiwot Cherige and Hussein Abdinassir Mohamed as members of the Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Corporation Board to support the government's drive towards universal electricity access and expansion of renewable energy.

Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe appointed Rose Sang to the KALRO Board but not as the chairperson to replace Dr Mathenge, while Abdikarim Mohamed Ali joined the Kenya Forestry Research Institute Board.

Kagwe also appointed Joseph L. Ole Kasae to the Kenya Leather Development Council Board.



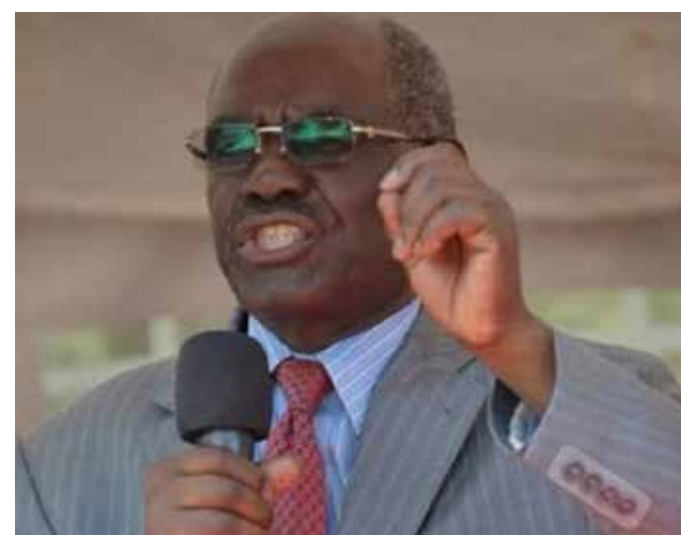
Dr Thuo Mathenge

Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale appointed Hesbon Omollo, Jane Masiga and Bernard Bett as directors of the Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (KEMSA) Board as the agency continues reforms aimed at strengthening medical commodity procurement and distribution.

Meanwhile, Sophie Chepkorir Sang was appointed to the board of the National Authority for the Campaign Against Alcohol and Drug Abuse (NACADA), adding to efforts to strengthen governance at the anti-drug agency.



Adan Hassan Ali



David Musila

Politics What is already clear is the damage that follows when public leaders frame national issues through an ethnic lens

Words that divide

Kenya cannot afford the politics of ethnic rhetoric

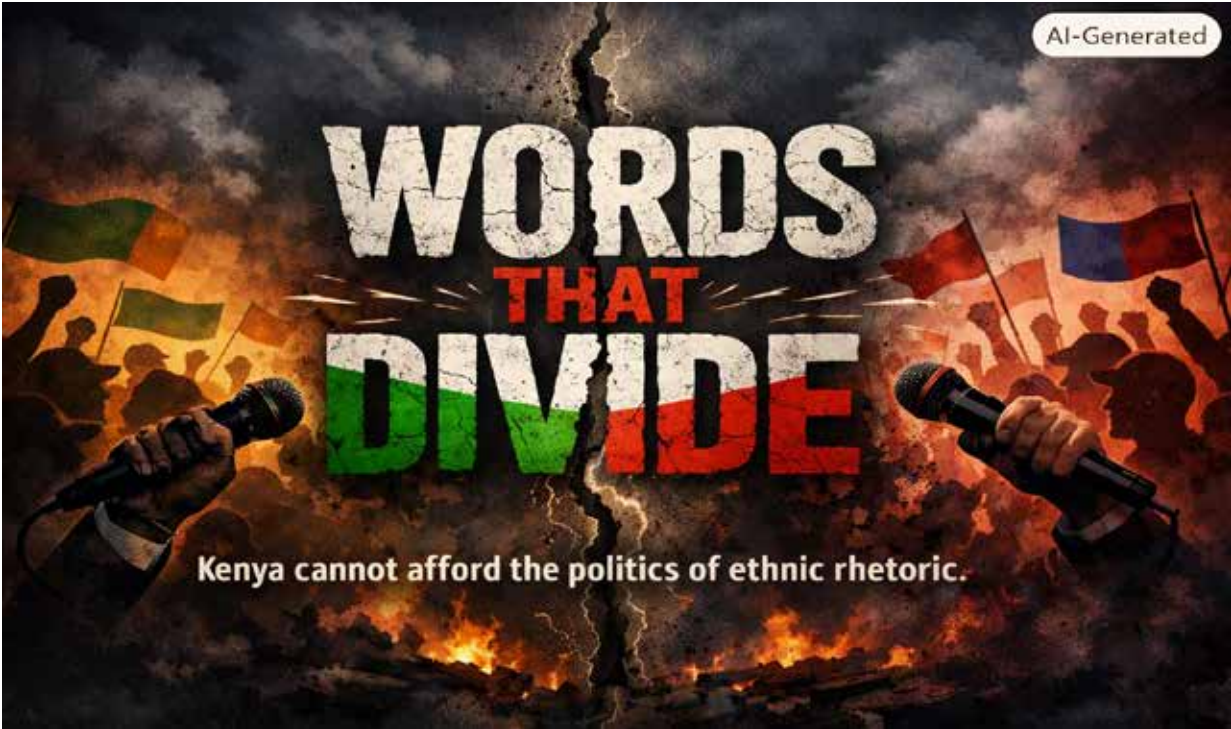
BY Hadassah Karangu
@themtkenyatimes

Kenya has travelled a long and difficult road toward national unity, and every election cycle risks unravelling the progress made.

The controversy surrounding Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale’s recent remarks has reignited that anxiety. The National Cohesion and Integration Commission has launched an investigation following public complaints. Duale insists his words — drawn from a Somali proverb — were misquoted and stripped of context, and has declined to apologise. Many Kenyans remain unconvinced.

Whether the remarks constitute hate speech is for the law to determine. What is already clear is the damage that follows when public leaders frame national issues through an ethnic lens.

For many in the Mt Kenya region, the comments felt like a direct attack on their community. For others, they reflect a broader, increasingly bit-



ter political rivalry between former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and leaders aligned with President William Ruto. Whichever side one takes, the danger is the same: political disagreements becoming ethnic disagreements.

Duale’s counter-argument — that the NCIC should investigate Gachagua for equally divisive past remarks — raises a legitimate principle. The law must be applied equally. Selective accountability corrodes public confidence in institutions and creates the perception that justice follows

political alignment rather than evidence.

But equal enforcement cannot become a shield against legitimate scrutiny.

Kenya’s history carries enough warnings about where ethnic rhetoric leads. Communities that live peacefully together can fracture quickly when political language trades in suspicion and stereotype. Neighbours become opponents. Distrust replaces dialogue.

Political power is temporary. The words spoken in pursuit of it can echo for generations.

This moment is not only about Duale or Gachagua. It is about whether Kenya is drifting back toward politics that judges citizens by their surnames rather than their ideas. Every leader — in government and opposition alike — carries a constitutional and moral duty to protect national cohesion.

Elections come and go. Neighbours remain.



The diet of a brain is the company of good people



Having friendship with great minded people
is the growth of our life as the tree of peepul.
Nuts and grains are the best food for the health
Like friendship with good hearted people.

Behaviour and character builds the personality

Nurturing and organising the healthy life
is an art of living.
Wake up early and meditation helps to build good
health.
Good friendship and good health travels
throughout everyone's life.

Rajesh Kanna B N

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Creative Writers.
Educationist.

A homeland awakened by reforms



We are an awakened generation, with light shining
in our souls,
Hope dwells in our hearts; our spirits are alert.
A free land burns bright on the path of knowledge;
We remain deeply committed to our Homeland's
destiny.

Reforms have opened a wide and promising path,
Matching the inspiration surging within our
hearts.
New ideas, a new spirit—the future is here,
And we live every moment with noble intentions.

Hope in our smiles, meaning in our hearts,
Today's single step lights the way to the future.
An era of transformation has come to life;
Every heart is a builder, striving for the nation's
happiness.

Technology and science have flourished here,
And the ranks of reform-minded youth grow by
the moment.
Our country's progress has soared in this era—
A Homeland awakened by reforms.

A fresh perspective in every endeavor,
With a wealth of new methods and approaches.
Scholars and poets abound in the world—
A Homeland awakened by reforms.

To'xtayeva Muqaddas
3rd-year student, Primary Education program,
Higher School of Primary and Preschool Pedagogy,
Jizzakh State Pedagogical University.

If you are brave enough to say goodbye



If you are brave enough to say goodbye
Your thoughts in your life will be valued high
It rewards you a good hello
Leading life towards a peaceful meadow.

The hot sun says goodbye to the moon
The caterpillar to the butterfly The infant to a

complete man Indicating the transformation
So say bye to your dark past
Work at present for the future to blast

Let your ego go
Welcome humanity within you to flow
A healthy goodbye is a temporary break
But a permanent goodbye is a full stop to ache
Good bye let us meet tomorrow Blessed with a
good day to outgrow.

Lock & throw the keys away where you find
negatives
The Creator will unlock to the path of positives
Be brave enough to say goodbye to be bestowed
For your life to be rewarded with a good hello.

G.Sarala

If you are brave enough to say goodbye



If you are brave enough to say goodbye
Life will reward you with the new hello

“Change is constant” — be ready to accept the
change,
Range of endings pulls you, dare to rearrange.
Strange thoughts arise on accepting the new and
strange,
Exchange what's gone; don't cry for spilt milk,
embrace the change.

Old times had glory, yet tightly controlled,
Consoled heart fears the pain of losing its hold.
Enrolled ideas fold; the mind turns cold,
Untold layers bewilder — be brave, be bold.

Unfold the fear to uncover the gold,
Hold one thing too tight, you can't grasp the
untold.
Bold enough to stretch your hands and unfold,
Cajoled by hope, you'll love the new chapter, even
if mould.

New preface, unknown ending — just go through,
Through your vision make it possible, don't feel
blue.
Pursue the goal without tiring, earn revenue,
Review the old, renew your will, start anew.

Skew the frequency of thought, enjoy the dew,
Who dares to face the goodbye will succeed —
it's true.

S. Mangaleswari
BT Assistant
Govt.Girls' Hr. Sec. School,
Kovilpatti,
Thoothukudi District,
Tamilnadu,
India.

Fight for what you want to achieve



A buried seed has a burning desire
To grow higher and higher.
Breeding period doesn't mean to Retire
It is the period of evolution to inspire.

A chopped tree leaves its foot print
By giving a twig fresh as mint.
The twig of the chopped tree is a hint

The fight makes the faintest tree into a new print.

The fight of a bird decides its height of flight
The fight against night leads to the path of light
The fight of a larva makes it a beautiful butterfly
Be it a bird or a butterfly, it is the fight that let
them fly

The world always glorifies winners
As fearless fight makes them ahead of runners
When the strike is harder ours should be the
hardest.
Then our life will be the gladdest.

Penned by

E.Ranganathan B.T asst(Eng)
Marwar Govt Boys Hss, Acharapakkam

Fight to win



The road you travel may be dark,
Fight it with a candle,
If you want to reach the destination.

The path you walk may be thorny,

Fight it with shoes of courage,
If you want to reach the destination.

The sea you sail through may be stormy,
Fight it with the sail of determination,
If you want to reach the destination.

The mountain you climb may be steep,
Fight it one step at a time,
If you want to reach the destination.

M.Raddhika
Freelance content writer,
Sivakasi, Tamil Nadu,
India

Politics Every five years, Mudavadi said the Kenyan constitution guarantees citizens the right to vote and exercise their democratic will at the ballot.

Stop the propaganda that elections will not be peaceful: Mudavadi tells opposition

BY OPCS Press Service
@themkenyatimes

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has assured Kenyans of free, fair and credible elections next year. Every five years, Mudavadi said the Kenyan constitution guarantees citizens the right to vote and exercise their democratic will at the ballot. He dismissed the opposition for propagating lies and instilling fear amongst Kenyans that elections will not be peaceful. “We have only one constitution and it guarantees every Kenyan the right to vote. Those beating drums of disunity and spreading ethnicity are enemies of democracy. Kenyans should ignore their call and focus on the agenda to exercise their constitution-



PCS Musalia Mudavadi and other leaders addressing the residents on Saturday | Photo: Courtesy.

al right and vote.” Mudavadi said. “History has proved that after every five years, Kenya has conducted peaceful elections. We have always come out a united people. In 2027, it will not be different and there will be no shortcut. We will hold elections and they will be peaceful.” Mudavadi emphasized.

Mudavadi was speaking at Emusire High School during the School’s Annual General Meeting and a fund raiser to aid the school purchase a 67-seater new bus. He told Kenyans to desist from listening to cheap propaganda from politicians who do not mean well for the country. “Those saying they want to be elected to reverse the policies and gains being made by President William Ruto should be questioned. What do they want to reverse? Do they want to reverse the roads that are being constructed? Do they want to reverse the health gains being made? Do they want to stop the SGR project that aims to bring a Railways station at Luanda here in Bunyore? Do they want to reverse the strides being made in the education sector, the employing of more teachers?” What policies do they want to reverse?’ paused the Prime CS. “Let us remain focused to help President Ruto win his second term. After the win as the Luhya community, we now begin, strategically planning how to bring the Presidency through one of our own to this region. If you listen to me carefully and follow the direction I am giving, I assure you that this will be done, and I am there to lead our people.” Mudavadi explained. The meet the people forum at the AGM was part of the series of many more meetings Mudavadi has recently held in Western Kenya after visiting Trans Nzoia and Kakamega Counties two weeks ago where he also met the Tiriki elders and opinion leaders. The Emuhaya tour in the Bunyore land has also played out to be a critical component of Mudavadi’s strategy to rally the larger Mulembe nation to remain focused on supporting President Ruto’s re-election bid. “Propaganda can be very destructive and it destroys the best things that are happening for our region and our people. We need to remain focused and be in the winning team.” Mudavadi told the Emuhaya residents. Mudavadi was accompanied by Principal Secretaries Jane Imbunya and Beatrice Inyangala together with area MP Omboko Milemba, UDA national vice chair Kelvin Lunani and a host of Members of County Assembly.

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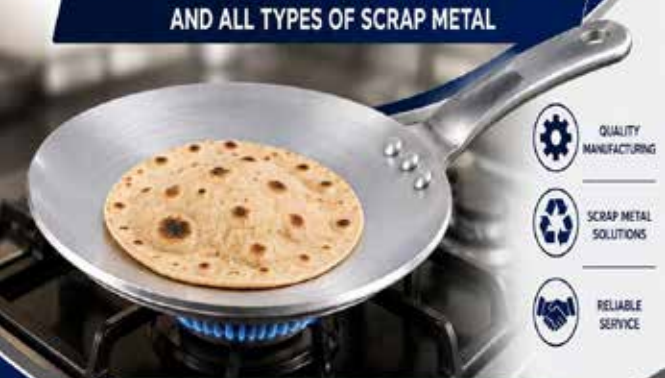
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Politics In an apparent response to critics questioning his political future, the Deputy President insisted the region would remain in government.

Kindiki tells Mt Kenya to remain united, says DP position 'is going nowhere'



Deputy President Kithure Kindiki with Meru governor Isaac Mutuma addressing Meru residents on Saturday.

BY DPCS

@themtkenyetimes

Deputy President Kithure Kindiki on Saturday called on the Mt Kenya region to remain united behind the Kenya Kwanza administration, saying the region's place in government was secure.

Addressing thousands of farmers during the 11th Annual Meru Dairy Farmers Field Day at ASK Gitoro Showground in Meru, Kindiki said political divisions should not undermine the economic gains made by dairy farmers under the current administration.

"Those of us who come from

this region, myself included, are one community. We have been one community since Independence. We have traded together and shared a common cultural heritage," he said.

In an apparent response to critics questioning his political future, the Deputy President insisted the region would remain in government.

"The same government cannot be bad because the Deputy President comes from one region and become good when he comes from another region. It is not possible," he said.

Using a metaphor to drive home his point, Kindiki added: "You do not build a house,

complete it, furnish it, and then abandon it to go and live in the forest. That is not possible. We are not going anywhere. We are in government to stay."

The Deputy President said President Ruto had directed the National Treasury to release Sh100 million this week for the second phase of the Meru Dairy animal feeds factory and pledged another Sh100 million through the Supplementary Budget to complete its expansion.

He said the new factory would reduce the cost of livestock feeds, with a 50-kilogramme bag set to retail at Sh2,800, compared to the current market price of between

Sh3,100 and Sh3,200.

"Because feed prices will reduce, farmers will retain more profit, and we will continue introducing more measures to increase farmers' earnings," he said.

Kindiki also announced improved returns for dairy farmers, saying that from August 1, Meru Dairy farmers would receive Sh52 per litre after deductions, up from the current Sh50.

He said the annual bonus would also increase to Sh54 per litre, attributing the gains to government interventions that have seen milk prices rise from between Sh33 and Sh37 per litre in 2022.

The Deputy President further said the government had reduced the price of sexed semen from Sh7,000 before President Ruto took office and was working to improve its availability following increased demand from farmers. He praised the growth of the Meru Central Dairy Cooperative Union, noting that membership had expanded to 168 cooperative societies with more than 161,000 farmers, while annual milk production had grown from 83.6 million litres in 2020 to over 220 million litres in 2025.

Kindiki urged leaders seeking support in Meru to present their development record rather than engage in political rhetoric.

"Those moving around Meru claiming to be important leaders should tell us what they have done for the people of Meru and how they helped increase milk prices for farmers," he said.



Opposition leaders in a rally




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Politics Politics, in its most noble sense, is society's navigation system. It exists to organize collective life, resolve competing interests, and distribute scarce resources

Kenya's political compass in dilemma: Why the country must recalculate its route before it is too late



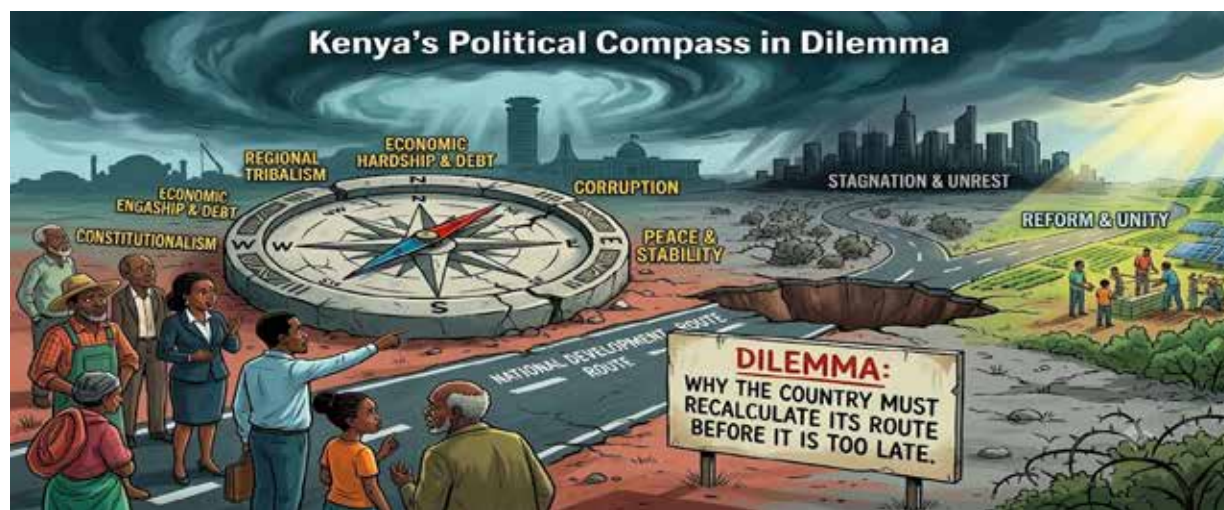
BY Fredrick Chelimo

@themtkenyatimes

Every journey begins with a simple question: Where are we, where are we going, and how do we get there? For centuries, humanity struggled to answer these questions. Early traveler's followed familiar landmarks, watched the movement of the sun and stars, studied the winds and waves, and stayed close to the safety of the shore. When they ventured into unknown waters, they relied on courage, memory and instinct. Over time, the compass gave them direction, the astrolabe and sextant helped them establish their position, the marine chronometer enabled them to determine longitude, and maps transformed their understanding of the world. Today, satellites and GPS can pinpoint a person's location within seconds. Yet even the most sophisticated navigation systems can be jammed, spoofed or misdirected. The lesson is profound: navigation is never simply about having a tool; it is about knowing where you are, trusting the information you receive and having the wisdom to correct your course when you are wrong.

Kenya's political journey is no different. The country has travelled from traditional systems of community leadership through colonial rule, independence, one-party dominance, multiparty democracy and constitutional devolution. Each era introduced new political instruments intended to help the nation find its direction. Yet, more than six decades after independence, Kenya appears to be facing an unsettling question: Are we actually moving towards the destination we have repeatedly promised ourselves, or have we become experts at navigating in circles?

Politics, in its most noble sense, is society's navigation system. It exists to organize collective life, resolve competing interests, distribute scarce resources and establish the rules by which people live together. Aristotle understood politics as



inseparable from the pursuit of the common good. In Kenya, however, politics has too often become less about the destination and more about controlling the steering wheel. Elections are treated as the ultimate measure of political success, while the deeper questions of national progress, social justice, economic opportunity and institutional integrity are frequently pushed aside.

Our political journey began with inherited maps. At independence, Kenya inherited a highly centralised state whose structures had largely been designed for colonial administration rather than inclusive national development. The early years of independence strengthened central authority, creating political stability but also concentrating power and resources at the centre. Over time, the consequences became evident: regional inequalities deepened, political competition became intertwined with ethnicity and access to state resources, and communities increasingly viewed national politics through the lens of who was winning and who was losing.

The return to multiparty democracy in the 1990s was supposed to provide a new compass. It opened political space and restored competition. But while Kenya acquired more political parties, it did not necessarily acquire more political ideas. Parties frequently became temporary vehicles for personalities, alliances and electoral calculations rather than enduring institutions with coherent philosophies and long-term national programmes. The faces changed, coalitions shifted and political friendships were repeatedly rewritten, but the fundamental architecture of power remained remarkably resilient.

The Constitution of 2010 attempted

to redraw the national map. Devolution was designed to bring government closer to the people, distribute resources more equitably and give communities greater control over their development priorities. It was one of the boldest attempts to correct the historical imbalance created by excessive centralisation. Yet devolution has also demonstrated a hard truth: a better map does not automatically produce a better journey. Where institutions are weak, corruption is tolerated and political interests override public priorities, power can simply be decentralised without governance being transformed.

Today, Kenya possesses more data, policies, strategies, development plans and performance frameworks than perhaps at any other time in its history. We have sophisticated statistics and elaborate monitoring systems. We can count kilometres of roads built, projects launched, beneficiaries registered, funds allocated and meetings held. But increasingly, citizens are asking a more uncomfortable question: What has all this activity actually changed?

The farmer wants a reliable market, not another workshop. The young person wants a job, not another promise. The parent wants a functioning school and affordable healthcare, not another policy document. The person with a disability wants genuine inclusion, not a paragraph in a government report. The small business owner wants an economy in which effort is rewarded rather than suffocated by bureaucracy, corruption and unpredictable taxation. The ordinary citizen wants to know why, despite decades of development programmes and billions of shillings spent, the quality of everyday life remains so difficult.

This is where Kenya's political GPS appears to be failing.

A GPS can confidently direct a driver to the wrong destination if the information guiding it is inaccurate. Politics can do the same. False narratives, political propaganda, ethnic mobilisation and misinformation can create an alternative reality in which failure is presented as success and responsibility is endlessly shifted to someone else. A government may announce progress while citizens experience hardship. Leaders may celebrate statistics while families struggle with the rising cost of living. Political actors may spend enormous energy explaining why the past was responsible for the present, while offering little credible evidence that the future will be different.

Kenya is also experiencing a form of political jamming. Good policies often exist, but their signals are obstructed by corruption, patronage, bureaucratic inertia, weak accountability and political interference. A well-designed agricultural programme can fail because farmers cannot access markets. A development fund can exist without producing sustainable livelihoods. A county can receive resources yet fail to deliver quality services. The problem is not always that Kenya lacks ideas. Too often, it lacks the political discipline and institutional integrity to execute them.

The greatest danger, however, is short-termism. A nation cannot navigate by looking only at the next wave. Yet Kenyan politics is frequently trapped in the rhythm of electoral cycles. Leaders favour projects that generate immediate political visibility over reforms whose benefits may take years to emerge. National priorities are repeated-

ly reshaped by succession politics, coalition bargaining and the pursuit of electoral advantage. The country moves from election to election, while structural problems remain stubbornly in place.

Kenya therefore needs more than new political leaders. It needs a new political navigation system.

The politics of the future must be measured by results rather than rhetoric, competence rather than charisma, institutions rather than personalities, citizenship rather than ethnicity, and long-term national interest rather than short-term electoral gain. The central political questions must change. Instead of asking who belongs to which community, we should ask who can deliver. Instead of asking who has captured power, we should ask what power has delivered. Instead of celebrating how much money has been allocated, we should demand to know what has been achieved.

Kenya must learn to navigate by four simple principles: distance, duration, direction and destination. How far are we from the promises of the Constitution? How long will genuine transformation take? Which direction will produce sustainable prosperity? And what will ordinary citizens actually experience when we finally arrive?

The answer will require a new political culture—one willing to confront uncomfortable truths, acknowledge failure, reward competence and hold power accountable. Kenya must stop confusing movement with progress and activity with impact. It must stop mistaking political noise for national direction.

The history of navigation teaches us that every system eventually reaches its limits. The compass replaced guesswork; the sextant improved precision; GPS transformed global movement; and now quantum navigation is being explored because even GPS has vulnerabilities. Politics must evolve in the same way.

Kenya cannot navigate the complexities of the twenty-first century with political instruments designed for another era. The country must recalculate its route before the distance between political promises and citizens' lived realities becomes impossible to bridge.

The real question before Kenya is therefore not simply who will win the next election. It is far more consequential: Are we finally prepared to choose a destination worthy of the nation we want to become—and to build the political system capable of taking us there?

Kenya is not short of navigators. What it desperately needs is a direction.

GenZ They are labelled entitled, distracted, rebellious, allergic to commitment and constitutionally incapable of looking up from their phones

Generation Z is not the beginning of the story

Every generation inherits the world the last one built — and bears responsibility for the next

BY Hadassah Karangu

@themkenyatimes

Every generation believes it is living through the most turbulent chapter in history. Generation Z is no exception — except that today the verdict is delivered faster, louder and more ruthlessly, via the same platforms that define their daily lives.

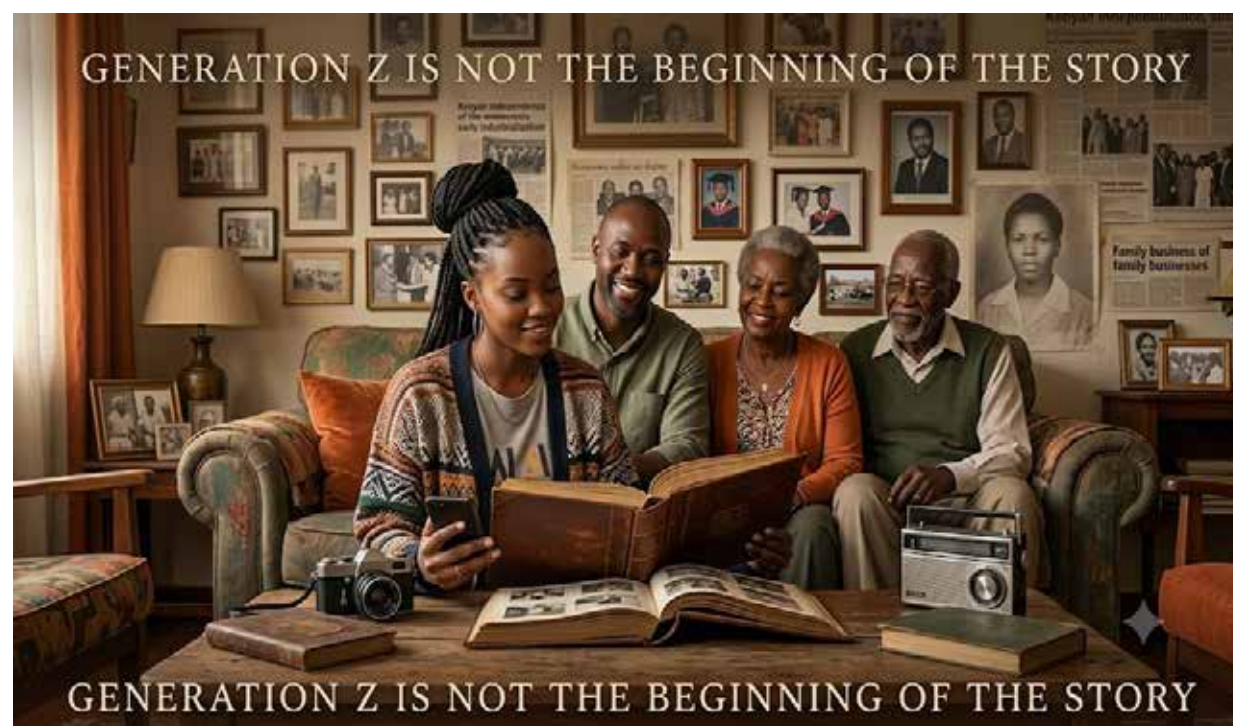
They are labelled entitled, distracted, rebellious, allergic to commitment and constitutionally incapable of looking up from their phones. Social media has become the courtroom where young people are tried daily, sentenced by comment sections and hashtags, with no right of appeal. The charges are familiar: they want everything immediately, respect nothing, challenge authority reflexively and mistake online activism for genuine courage.

Perhaps some of that is true. But before the prosecution rests, a more honest question deserves asking: what story did this generation inherit?

No generation appears from nowhere. Every cohort is shaped by the one before it — its values, habits, wounds and opportunities all planted years, sometimes decades, earlier. The habits we celebrate today, the problems we condemn, the freedoms we enjoy and the burdens we carry did not begin with us. They were seeded in homes, schools, communities and nations built by people who are now doing much of the criticising.

Our parents were young once too. Long before smartphones and artificial intelligence reorganised daily existence, they were navigating economic hardship, political uncertainty, romantic mistakes and social expectations that quietly but decisively shaped how they would eventually raise their children. They rebelled against their own elders. They questioned traditions that no longer made sense to them. They dreamed of lives that felt impossibly distant. They, too, were told they were doing it wrong.

Many of their sacrifices are the harvest today's youth enjoy without fully recognising its origin. Some walked kilometres to school



so their children could inherit better options. Some surrendered personal ambitions — careers abandoned, dreams deferred — so the next generation could access opportunities they themselves never had. Others worked without holidays, without rest, without complaint, building homes and educating families on incomes that barely stretched to the end of the month. The foundation most young Kenyans stand on today was laid by hands that are now wrinkled and tired.

That deserves acknowledgement before any criticism is issued.

Access to instant information, careers that did not exist twenty years ago, a mobile phone that functions simultaneously as office, classroom and business centre — none of this arrived by accident or divine generosity. It is the fruit of seeds planted by people who had far less and gave far more. When a young person in rural Kenya today can access a university lecture, conduct business across county borders or apply for a job in another country from the same handset, that possibility was paid for by generations who built the infrastructure, advocated for connectivity and created the economic conditions that made it conceivable.

Yet every harvest carries weeds, and honesty requires naming them too.

The same generations that built

roads also bequeathed inequality. The same leaders who expanded education also entrenched corruption. The institutions meant to deliver justice, opportunity and security have, in too many cases, been hollowed out by the very people trusted to protect them. The broken families, the rising tide of mental illness among young people, the unemployment that haunts even the university-educated, the cynicism that greets every political promise — Generation Z did not manufacture these realities. They inherited them, fully formed and already deeply embedded, before they were old enough to vote.

Blaming young people for every social failing ignores a fundamental truth: a generation does not raise itself. Every child grows within a home, a school, a community and a nation shaped by choices made before their birth. The environment we construct eventually produces the people who inhabit it. Parents who wonder why their children seem impatient raised those children in a world where technology delivers everything in seconds. Employers frustrated by young workers who want rapid advancement operate within a culture that celebrates overnight millionaires and viral success stories. Communities anxious about declining values have often struggled to model those values consistently,

squeezed by economic pressures that left little room for the slower work of character formation.

We get, in large measure, what we build toward.

Equally, however, Generation Z cannot spend its entire adult life presenting inheritance as alibi. That path leads nowhere useful. Every generation receives an unfinished world. None begins with a blank page, a clean slate or a society without contradictions. The measure of each generation is not what it was handed but what it chooses to do with what it has. Problems inherited without effort to resolve them become problems bequeathed — and the cycle continues, growing heavier with each rotation.

The choices made today will shape children who have not yet been born. That is not a metaphor. It is a mechanism. The decisions Kenya's current generation makes about governance, accountability, family, education, environmental stewardship and civic participation will become the lived reality of the next generation — their starting point, their inheritance, their burden or their advantage. History has never been more or less than this: one generation's choices becoming another generation's conditions.

That thought should humble everyone, regardless of age.

What Kenya needs now is less com-

parison and more conversation. The generational debate has too often been conducted as a competition — older Kenyans defending their record, younger ones dismissing it; each side talking loudly while listening minimally. It is a debate that produces heat and no light, and the country can ill afford it.

Older generations carry wisdom forged through experience — the hard-won knowledge of what works, what fails and what the cost of impatience can be. Younger generations bring the creativity, technological fluency and appetite for disruption that calcified systems desperately need. Neither is sufficient alone. Wisdom without innovation stagnates, repeating comfortable failures. Innovation without wisdom destroys, mistaking speed for progress and novelty for improvement.

The strongest societies are not built when generations compete for moral superiority. They are built when generations cooperate toward shared purpose — when experience and energy are placed in conversation rather than opposition, when the old teach without condescending and the young challenge without dismissing, when both recognise that the national story belongs to all of them equally.

That is the conversation Kenya needs to be having. Not which generation is worse, but how every living generation can contribute to a country that the next one will be grateful to inherit.

One day, today's Generation Z will watch their own children grow up in a world they barely recognise, shaped by technologies and social forces not yet imaginable. They will hear the familiar complaint — that young people are simply not what they used to be, that standards are slipping, that the old ways had more dignity. And in that moment, if they are honest, they will understand that history has always moved exactly this way. Every generation looks at the next with a mixture of hope and bewilderment. Every generation is convinced, somewhere deep down, that it did things better.

Perhaps the most important inheritance any generation can leave is not wealth, infrastructure or even institutions — though all of those matter enormously. Perhaps it is the habit of humility: the willingness to acknowledge that no single generation has all the answers, that the story did not begin with us and will not end with us, and that our highest obligation is to leave the next chapter more hopeful than we found it.

The harvest our children will enjoy depends entirely on what we choose to plant today.

Farming Kindiki attributed the cooperative's growth to what he described as strong leadership and a stable operating environment

Kindiki hails Meru dairy as Africa's largest processed milk producer

Deputy President credits cooperative's record output to strong leadership and government investment as milk buying price rises

BY Brian Gitonga

@themtkenyatimes

Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has praised the Meru Central Dairy Cooperative Union after it was ranked the largest producer of processed milk on the African continent. Speaking at the 11th Annual Farmers Field Day at Gitoro Showground in North Imenti Constituency, Meru County, where he represented President William Ruto, Kindiki said the cooperative had grown its milk processing capacity from 650,000 to 670,000 litres per day.

He added that the union had established a KSh500 million feed processing mill, with the national government contributing KSh200 million towards the project.

"Meru Central Dairy Cooperative Union is today the largest producer of processed milk in Africa. With a milk processing capacity of 670,000 litres per day, the union has established a magnificent feed processing mill at a cost of KSh500 million, including KSh200 million support from the Government of Kenya," Kindiki said.

The event drew approximately 50,000 farmers, politicians and government officials.

Earlier, Kindiki officially commissioned Phase One of the Meru Maziwa Millers Feed Mill at Mitunguu in South Imenti Constituency on behalf of Ruto. The mill, constructed at KSh500 million with KSh200 million from the national government, will produce subsidised dairy cow feed to reduce production costs and improve farmer returns.

Kindiki attributed the cooperative's growth to what he described as strong leadership and a stable operating environment under the Kenya Kwanza administration. He also urged Meru residents to support Ruto's bid for a second term at the forthcoming general election.

Hours later, the union's Chief Executive Officer, Kenneth Gitonga, announced a rise in the milk buying price, telling farmers the cooperative would begin purchasing a litre of milk at KSh52, with payments made on the fifth of every month.

Gitonga said production, which

stood at between 10,000 and 20,000 litres per day when the cooperative began operations, had grown to the current 670,000 litres and was expected to reach one million litres per day by the end of the year.

"When we started, we used to produce about 10,000 to 20,000 litres per day before it rose to 670,000 litres. Production will hit the one-million mark by the end of this year. We expect to continue expanding the market abroad to increase production. We always ensure that all farmers are paid promptly by the fifth of every month," Gitonga said.

He added that the cooperative had embraced the national government's greening programme and planned to plant approximately one million trees under the initiative. Gitonga also appealed to the national government to support the union in expanding its export market to Comoros, Nigeria and other African countries.

Meru County Governor Mutuma M'Ethgingia echoed the praise, saying the KSh500 million feed mill would produce subsidised dairy feed, lower production costs and strengthen the county's dairy value chain.

"With a processing capacity of 670,000 litres per day, Meru Central Dairy continues to set the pace in agricultural value addition. The KSh500 million feed mill will produce quality subsidised dairy feed, lower production costs and increase returns for our hardworking dairy farmers," Mutuma said.



Meru Dairy Cooperative Union CEO Kenneth Gitonga (middle) alongside Meru County Governor Mutuma M'Ethgingia (right) and Deputy President Kithure Kindiki (left) during an exhibition at the Meru ASK Showground | Photo: courtesy



Deputy President Kithure Kindiki addresses Dairy Farmers at the Meru ASK Showground. | Photo: courtesy



Dairy farmers keenly follow the proceedings at the Meru ASK show ground. | Photo: courtesy

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ruto announces western Kenya road link to Nakuru-Malaba Highway

By Alfred Mutua

President William Ruto announced plans on Sunday to construct a link road connecting western Kenya to the Nakuru-Malaba Highway, positioning the project as a catalyst for regional trade and economic growth.

Speaking at a public rally in Busia County, Ruto said the road would improve movement of people and goods, strengthen cross-border commerce with Uganda, and generate employment during construction. He did not disclose project costs or a construction timeline, saying both would follow the completion of feasibility studies and budget approvals.

The announcement was welcomed by residents and local leaders, who said improved road infrastructure would reduce transport costs, ease congestion on existing routes, and attract new investment to a region that has long argued



its economic potential is constrained by poor connectivity.

Busia sits at a strategically significant junction — a key border crossing between Kenya and Uganda through which substantial volumes of trade flow daily. Proponents of the project argue that a reliable, modern link road to the Nakuru-Malaba corridor would cut haulage times significantly and lower costs for farmers moving produce to Nairobi and region-

al markets.

The government has framed the project within its broader infrastructure expansion agenda, though critics have noted that road announcements without binding timelines or published costings are a recurring feature of campaign-adjacent political activity.

A promise on a Sunday in Busia is not tarmac. Residents will be watching.

Albert Ojwang's death demands answers

By Sheila Juliet

The recovery of CCTV footage in the Albert Ojwang case has reignited public attention — and rightly so.

Ojwang died in circumstances that remain officially unexplained. The footage is now expected to establish the precise sequence of events leading to his death, filling gaps that have left his family and the wider public with more questions than answers. That it took this long to surface is itself a question worth asking.

Kenya's justice system is on trial here as much as any individual suspect. When deaths occur in or near state custody, the burden on investigators is not merely procedural — it is moral. The public is not asking for perfection. It is asking for honesty, speed, and courage.

Those three qualities have not always defined how such cases are handled in this coun-



try. High-profile deaths have a troubling habit of fading from official urgency as public outrage subsides. Families are left waiting. Files gather dust. Accountability gets deferred indefinitely.

Ojwang's case must not follow that pattern. Investigators must pursue every lead the footage reveals, name those responsible where evidence permits, and

update the public without being forced to. Transparency is not a favour — it is an obligation.

Justice delayed is justice denied. Justice conducted in silence is justice suspected.

Kenyans deserve better than a system that performs accountability only when cameras are watching.

The cost of voting with our surnames

By Levis Wangamati

Kenya has turned elections into the world's most expensive family reunion.

For a few months every five years, the Constitution quietly steps aside while surnames take over. Competence becomes negotiable, integrity optional, and accountability an inconvenience. The only qualification that truly matters is the oldest one: he is one of us.

We vote. We celebrate. We slaughter goats. We dance ourselves hoarse. Then the music stops, and reality arrives — carrying no tribal identity whatsoever.

The tax collector never asks for your community before demanding payment. The supermarket cashier does not reduce the price of unga because your candidate won. Fuel stations have never offered discounts to loyal supporters. Hospitals do not stock medicine according to voting patterns. Poverty has never bothered to learn our mother tongues.

That is the precise cost of voting with our surnames. We celebrate symbolic victories while living through identical hardships.

Kenya possesses a remarkable superpower. We condemn corruption — until the suspect shares our surname. At that moment, corruption transforms into political persecution. Investigations become witch hunts. Accountability becomes victimisation. The problem is no longer the stolen money. The problem becomes who is asking where it went.

We call it defending our people.

We complain loudly that government jobs are distributed through favouritism. Then we immediately ring an uncle, a cousin, a party official, or someone who knows someone, to help our own child skip the very same queue. Merit is an excellent principle — provided it inconveniences somebody else. Nepotism, it turns out, is a national scandal until it benefits our own family.

The beauty of Kenyan politics is that it unites politicians far more effectively than it unites citizens. During campaigns



they call each other enemies. After elections they call each other colleagues. Coalitions are negotiated quietly over tea while supporters continue fighting imaginary wars on social media and in village shopping centres. The politicians moved on long ago. The voters never got the memo.

Perhaps the most loyal people in Kenyan politics are not the politicians at all. It is the voters.

We inherit political loyalty the way we inherit ancestral land. Children are introduced to political parties before they understand what a national budget is. We teach them which leaders to cheer long before we teach them how leadership ought to be judged. Then we act surprised when elections become ethnic censuses rather than interviews for public office.

The tragedy is not that politicians exploit tribalism. Politicians pursue votes — that is their business, and they pursue it with considerable skill. The greater tragedy is that educated citizens continue offering themselves as willing customers. Degrees decorate our walls while prejudice occupies our minds. We analyse surnames more carefully than we analyse manifestos.

And after the celebrations, we all find ourselves in the same queues. The same queues at hospitals. The same queues

at job interviews. The same queue at the petrol station forecourt. The same scramble for water, for opportunity, for a decent life. Reality has never recognised tribal boundaries, and it has no intention of starting now.

Perhaps Kenya does not suffer from a leadership crisis at all. Perhaps what Kenya suffers from is a citizenship crisis.

The day we stop asking who comes from my community and start asking who will govern this country with competence, integrity and justice — that will be the day elections begin producing governments instead of excuses. The ballot paper has never cared about our surnames. It has always cared only about our choices. Every election is less a test of the politicians on the ballot than it is a test of the people who place them there.

Until that day arrives, our democracy will remain a spectacular national theatre. We will dance before elections, defend failure after elections, complain bitterly throughout the term, and then return to the same ballot box resolved to repeat the whole experiment with remarkable — and entirely misplaced — confidence.

Nothing, after all, has cost Kenya more than mistaking a shared surname for shared prosperity.



SPORTS
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BREAKING NEWS

Sports >> *Paramilitary side outclass first-time finalists in dominant display at Kasarani to seal back-to-back cup honours

GSU defend Kenya Cup title with straight-sets win over Chema

By Martin Weche

General Service Unit retained the Kenya Volleyball Federation Kenya Cup men's title on Sunday, defeating Chema Volleyball Club 3-0 in the final at the Kasarani Indoor Arena to complete a commanding defence of their crown.

GSU took the match 25-20, 25-21 and 25-19, never relinquishing control from the opening rally to the final whistle. The result extended the paramilitary side's grip on domestic volleyball's most coveted cup prize and confirmed their standing as the country's most consistent men's volleyball outfit.

The opening set established the pattern for the evening. GSU neutralised Chema's attacking play with disciplined block work and precise serving to move 1-0 ahead without excessive alarm. They carried that authority into the second, where Chema made brief inroads before GSU reasserted themselves to edge within one set of the title. The third was the most convincing display of the night — composed, controlled and clinical — as GSU closed out the match and the season in style.

The road to the final had tested both sides in contrasting ways. GSU survived a stern examination from Kenya Ports Authority in Saturday's semi-final, edging a five-set thriller 3-2 that required every ounce of their experience and nerve. Chema, by contrast, were the more convincing semi-finalists, dispatching Kenya Prisons 3-1 to book a place in their first Kenya Cup final — a result that few at the start of the season would have predicted.

Chema's is a story worth telling on its own terms. The Juja-based club arrived in the top flight as something of an unknown quantity, yet proceeded to dismantle expectations at every turn. They



reached the National League final in their debut campaign in the top flight before going one further to qualify for the Kenya Cup decider. In both instances they fell at the final hurdle, but the margin of their progress is itself a measure of how rapidly the club has developed.

Sunday's defeat will sting, but it carries no shame. Chema came up against a side that has spent years building the winning habits that separate contenders from champions. GSU's setters, liberos and outside hitters operated with the kind of interchangeable efficiency that only comes from extended time together at the highest level. Against that collective maturity, Chema's youthful energy, while admirable, was never quite enough to threaten the scoreline.

What the final illustrated, be-

yond GSU's individual quality, is the growing depth of Kenyan men's volleyball. That a club in only its first top-flight season could reach a national cup final and push established names out of the competition speaks well of the sport's grassroots health and the competitive standards of the National League. The Federation will take encouragement from a tournament that produced genuine drama across multiple rounds.

For GSU, the trophy is familiar but no less significant. Back-to-back Kenya Cup titles demand sustained effort, squad depth and the mental resilience to handle the weight of defending champions. They have provided all three in abundance this season, and will now look ahead to the next domestic campaign with their reputation further burnished.

The continental chapter is where the storyline takes its next turn. Chema, by virtue of their National League campaign, will represent Kenya at the African Club Championship — an extraordinary achievement for a club so new to elite competition. The experience of facing continental opposition will be invaluable, and if the progress of the past twelve months is any indication, Chema are unlikely to embarrass the country on that stage.

GSU, meanwhile, close their season with the satisfaction of a title retained and a domestic campaign that once again placed them above every side in the land. In Kenyan volleyball, they remain the standard against which all others are measured.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >> *At this point there has been no club-to-club contact, but the interest is real. Vinicius Jr is one of a number of forward targets Arsenal are exploring, with Julian Alvarez, Yan Diomande and Bradley Barcola

Arsenal Exploring Deal For Real Madrid Winger Vinicius Jr



Vinicius Junior

By: AGENCIES

Arsenal are looking into a potential deal for Real Madrid winger Vinicius Junior. At this point there has been no club-to-club contact, but the interest is real. Vinicius Jr is one of a number of forward targets Arsenal are exploring, with Julian Alvarez, Yan Diomande and Bradley Barcola also players of interest. The Brazilian international, 26, has entered the final year of his contract and if an agreement cannot be found on a new deal, Real could be open to selling, rather

than lose him for free next summer. The Gunners are aiming to strengthen their left-wing options this summer and the Brazil ace would be a superstar addition. Arsenal sold Leandro Trossard to Besiktas for £17m earlier this summer and have brought in Christo Tzolis from Club Brugge for £34m. However, their alternative option in that area of the pitch, Gabriel Martinelli, scored just one Premier League goal last season. Vinicius Jr, the 2024 Ballon d’Or runner-up, is currently on

holiday following his exploits for Brazil at the World Cup. “It’s well known Arsenal are aiming to strengthen their left-wing options this summer – but a deal for Brazil ace Vinicius Junior would be a jaw-dropping addition. “Vinicius Jr has one year left on his current Real Madrid contract so this could be the window of opportunity for potential suitors to make their move, as Real try to tie the winger down to a new deal. “Vinicius Jr’s relationship with new Real Madrid boss Jose Mourinho has been in focus.

“However, it is understood the player and head coach have been in touch since an incident last season which saw Vinicius Jr abused by Mourinho’s Benfica midfielder Gianluca Prestianni and that the pair were ready to start this new campaign together with a clean slate. “But with Arsenal’s interest being reported, there is now the possibility Vinicius Jnr will be kicking off the 206/27 season in the Premier League. “It’s a thrilling thought for Arsenal fans and neutrals on these shores – but a worrying one for the Gunners’ title rivals.”

SPORTS NEWS

PHOTOS
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BREAKING NEWS



Leading change through community, advocacy & compassion



By: Anila Bukhari
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- Her commitment to community extends far beyond her professional responsibilities. For 13 years, Amanda served as a Tenant Representative in the Jane and Finch community, becoming a trusted advocate for residents and working closely with families to improve local neighbourhoods. Throughout her years of service, she worked tirelessly to help residents launch meaningful community initiatives while creating opportunities that brought people together and strengthened community connections.
- Amanda played an active role in organising community events that celebrated togetherness and supported local families. From hosting back-to-school barbecues to coordinating holiday celebrations, her efforts created welcoming spaces where residents could connect and children could feel supported. She also helped provide essential supplies for children, ensuring that families had access to valuable resources during important times of the year.



Amanda Coombs

Amanda Coombs has dedicated her career to strengthening communities through leadership, advocacy, and an unwavering commitment to mental health and social equity. As the Executive Director of Back 2 Basicz Youth Support Services, she leads a non-profit organization focused on providing mental health, academic, employment, and justice-related support for youth. Alongside this role, she serves with the Toronto Community Crisis Team, a program that delivers essential support to individuals experiencing mental health crises, reflecting her ongoing commitment to serving those facing some of life's most challenging circumstances.

Driven by a passion for creating equitable systems and addressing systemic barriers, Amanda has also contributed her expertise as a member of the Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Committee (AROA). Her work consistently reflects a belief that stronger communities are built through inclusion, fairness, and meaningful support for individuals

from all backgrounds.

Amanda's academic journey has played a significant role in shaping her professional path. Holding a degree in Psychology and pursuing a Master of Divinity in Clinical Counselling, she has combined education with practical community service to create lasting impact. Her dedication to mental health education led her to become a certified Mental Health First Aid Instructor, through which she has certified more than 1,000 individuals across Toronto with the knowledge and practical skills needed to support people experiencing mental health crises. By equipping others with these critical tools, Amanda has helped strengthen community capacity to respond with compassion, confidence, and understanding.

Her commitment to community extends far beyond her professional responsibilities. For 13 years, Amanda served as a Tenant Representative in the Jane and Finch community, becoming a trusted advocate for residents and working closely with

families to improve local neighbourhoods. Throughout her years of service, she worked tirelessly to help residents launch meaningful community initiatives while creating opportunities that brought people together and strengthened community connections.

Amanda played an active role in organising community events that celebrated togetherness and supported local families. From hosting back-to-school barbecues to coordinating holiday celebrations, her efforts created welcoming spaces where residents could connect and children could feel supported. She also helped provide essential supplies for children, ensuring that families had access to valuable resources during important times of the year. At the same time, she served as a Community Outreach Worker, further expanding her ability to connect individuals with support services and community opportunities.

Her advocacy produced tangible improvements within the Jane and Finch community. Amanda's leadership contributed to the beautification of community spaces, helping create environments that residents could enjoy with greater pride. She also played a role in supporting the opening of a local gym for residents, providing additional opportunities for recreation, wellness, and community engagement. These initiatives reflected her practical approach to community development—one focused on creating accessible spaces and improving quality of life through collaborative action.

Amanda's dedication to resident advocacy continued through her service on the Toronto Community Housing Board. As a member of both the Building Investment, Finance, and Audit Committee (BIFAC) and the Tenant Services Committee, she contributed to discussions and decisions that directly affected residents across the housing system. Through these leadership positions, she worked to amplify the voices of tenants while helping address community needs on a broader systemic level. Her involvement demonstrated her commitment to ensuring

that resident perspectives remained central in conversations surrounding housing, investment, and tenant services.

Across every stage of her career, Amanda has consistently focused on breaking down systemic barriers while creating pathways that enable individuals and communities to thrive. Whether through youth support services, mental health education, community outreach, resident advocacy, or committee leadership, her work reflects a deep commitment to service and meaningful social impact.

Today, Amanda Coombs continues her journey of public service as a candidate in the 2026 municipal elections for City Councillor representing Humber River-Black Creek Riding. Her candidacy reflects years of experience working directly with communities and addressing issues affecting residents through practical leadership and sustained advocacy.

Drawing upon her experience as a community advocate, non-profit leader, mental health professional, volunteer, and public servant, Amanda remains committed to uplifting residents while promoting stronger, more connected communities. Her vision is rooted in creating equitable systems, breaking systemic barriers, and ensuring that every individual has access to the support and opportunities they need to succeed.

Amanda Coombs' leadership is defined by service, compassion, and a steadfast dedication to community well-being. From supporting youth and strengthening mental health awareness to advocating for residents and contributing to systemic change, her work continues to demonstrate the lasting impact that committed leadership can have on individuals and communities alike. As she continues to serve Humber River-Black Creek, her proven record of advocacy and dedication remains at the centre of her vision for positive and lasting community change.