



Kenya Coffee Producers Association To Empower Farmers Fetch Better Deals
 Plans are underway to train and offer legal counsel to Smallholder coffee farmers in the country to understand the contractual and marketing dynamics to secure better deals during the sale of their produce.

Page 16

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News >> Wikimedia Foundation Announces Award Recipients Of The Open The Knowledge Journalism Awards

P. 8. Kenyan Journalist Carlos Mureithi Receives The First-Place Award Worth KSh300,000



Health >> Trans Nzoia County Launches Enhanced County NHIF Program for Vulnerable Families

P. 12. Governor George Nitembeya launches county insurance health cover (NHIF) program, which is set to provide crucial healthcare support to vulnerable households in the county.

Kiharu, Kangema, Tetu, Kabete and Othaya MPs Named Top Performers

Kiharu Member of Parliament Ndindi Nyoro was yesterday declared as the best performing legislator in the current National Assembly. Nyoro who is also the Parliamentary Budget Committee chairman emerged top with 70% approval rating.

The survey was carried out from July to September this year, encompassing all 47 counties, 290 constituencies, and 1450 wards, with a total sample size of 58,748 participants



L-R: Ndindi Nyoro, Peter Kihungi, Geoffrey Wandeto, Wambugu Wainaina and Wamacukuru

STORY ON PAGE 9

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Church-Gov't Partnership in Fighting Addictions

By: OSDP



DP Rigathi Gachagua and his spouse Pastor Dorcas greet the clergy after arriving at the ACK St. James Cathedral, Kiambu town. Pastor Dorcas was the guest preacher..

Worth Noting:

- “I challenge the leaders here today to formulate policies and guidelines that will remove the sale of alcohol, drugs and cigarettes next to primary and secondary schools. We cannot have biscuits and sweets laced with drugs being sold to our children,” said Pastor Dorcas.
- She also urged the church to open its doors and have helplines where men can speak openly about the issues facing them, instead of remaining frustrated, and resulting to suicide.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua on Sunday lauded the church for joining in the fight against alcohol, drug and substance abuse.

Speaking at the ACK St. James Cathedral in Kiambu town, the DP decried the high cases of alcoholism and drug abuse in Kiambu, but also acknowledged the efforts of the national administration and church in fighting the menace.

“I thank the church for agreeing to partner with us in the fight against alcoholism and drug abuse, and in establishing rehabilitation centres and also mentoring our youth,” said Rigathi.

The DP was accompanied by his wife, Pastor Dorcas Rigathi who was the guest preacher.

Pastor Dorcas challenged the political leaders present to draft legislation, policies and guidelines to protect children from being exposed to addictive psychoactive substances.

“I challenge the leaders here today to formulate policies and guidelines that will remove the sale of alcohol, drugs and cigarettes next to primary and secondary schools. We cannot have biscuits and sweets laced with drugs being sold to our children,” said Pastor Dorcas.

She also urged the church to open its doors and have helplines where men can speak openly about the issues facing them, instead of remaining frustrated, and resulting to suicide.

The church had a fundraising towards

construction of the cathedral with a target of Sh80 million.

The host clergy, Canon Charles Muturi has been in the forefront in fighting addictions and supporting the boy child.

The Mount Kenya South Diocese, under the Bishop, holds public events to advocate against alcoholism, urging many to go back to school and desist from alcohol and other drugs.

Kiambu Woman Representative Anne Wamuratha challenged the county to fight alcoholism, and rogue traders brought to book.

She decried sellers who were trading in poisonous drinks and hiding behind court orders.

Majority Leader in Parliament who is

also the Kikuyu MP Kimani Ichungwah said they were ready with the affordable housing project, and with the land cleared by county, they would start marshalling for the projects to start.

Also present were Governor Kimani Wamatangi, Senator Karungo Thang’wa, Kiambu Deputy Governor Rosemary Kirika, Kiambu Town Machua Waitthaka, MPs Njuguna Kawanjiku (Kiambaa), Benjamin Gathiru (Embakasi Central MP), Joseph Chererot (Kipkelion East MP), John Mutunga (Tigania West MP), Julius Melly, (Tinderet MP), Mary Wamaua (Maragua MP), Linet Toto (Bomet Woman Representative), Jane Kagiri (Laikipia Woman Representative) and Wanjiru Mwangi (nominated).

Others present were Karen Nyamu (Nominated Senator), Samson Cherargei (Nandi Senator), Eric Wamumbi (Mathira MP), Betty Maina (Murang’a Woman Representative), Kimani Kuria (Molo MP), Maina Karobia (EALA MP), David Gikaria (Nakuru East MP), Acting Jubilee Party leader Sabina Chege, Kamande Mwafrika (Roysambu MP), George Gitonga Murugara (Tharaka), Wanjiku Muhia (Kipipiri), and Maina Mathenge (Nyeri Town).

David Gikaria (Nakuru Town East), George Gachagua (Ndaragwa), Njuguna Kiaraho (Olkalou), Githua Wamachukuru (Kabete), Ken Leitia (Samburu North), Pater Kihungi (Kangema), Nimrod Mbai (Kitui West), Kuria Kimani (Molo), Elizabeth Kailemia (Meru County Woman Representative), Mary Maingi (Mwea), Eng Chege Kiragu (Limuru), Simon King’ara (Ruiru), Mwenda Gataya (Senator Tharaka Nithi), Charity Chepkwony (Njoro), Daniel Kiiiri (Igembe Central), Kamande Mwafrika (Roysambu), Julius Ruto (Kesses), Rindikiri Mugambi (Buuri MP), Dennis Waweru (former Dagoretti South MP) and Businessman Jimmi Wanjigi among others.

Editor's Desk



The Mt. Kenya Times

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NEWS IN BRIEF



At least 50 families in the Twarama area of Tigania west of Sub County have been left homeless after their houses were submerged due to heavy rains. The floods have destroyed their belongings, leaving them relying on their neighbours for food and clothing. Farmers in the area have also suffered significant losses, including the destruction of their crops. The flooding is attributed to the blockage of a tunnel, which led rainwater to flow to the Twale River by people who built homesteads along the way. The only solution to the flooding is to unblock the tunnel by evicting those who have settled there. Area MCA Jim Muchui called for the release of emergency funds to cushion the victims and for the Kenya Red Cross to assess the situation and take data to inform their response. She also authorised the formation of a joint committee to investigate the tunnel blockage issue once the rains subside.



The National Treasury is involving the public in the budget-making process for the 2024/25 financial year and mid-term budget review. Public participation forums led by technical officers from various state departments are being conducted across the country to gather opinions on key funding areas. The exercise, expected to end on November 6, aims to involve stakeholders in the budget planning process, ensuring inclusivity and promoting a healthy democracy. The budget will focus on the Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), which aims to create job opportunities and foster economic growth. The outcomes of these forums will enhance transparency, accountability, and strengthen trust between the government and citizens.



The Kenyan government has begun installing Wi-Fi hotspots in markets in Nakuru County as part of its digitization and economic transformation agenda. The initiative, launched at the Nakuru Wakulima Market, aims to help traders sell their produce and wares on social media networks and attract a large clientele. The free Wi-Fi is designed to revolutionize business operations for traders, allowing them to trade online from their stalls. The Kenya Kwanza government has set a target of laying out an extra 100,000km of fibre through the Universal Service Fund. Over the five-year period, the government aims to establish 1,450 digital hubs in each of the 1,450-County Assembly electoral wards. Internet connectivity also aims to bridge the unemployment gap by leveraging digital technologies. The Ajira and Jitume programs are equipping citizens digitally, with the state intending to equip one million learners with ICT skills for digital entrepreneurship. Digital marketing and e-commerce training modules have equipped over 350,000 youth with digital skills, creating over 110,000 digital jobs.



Kenya's government is investing heavily in infrastructure and policies to revamp its digital economy. The Ajira Digital programme and the National Broadband Strategy are among the initiatives aimed at promoting digital skills development. The digital skilling programme is part of the Kenya Kwanza government manifesto to transform the economy. The digital space is becoming increasingly important as a pathway to socio-economic development and employment creation in Africa, given the continent's unique status as a region with the youngest population but the highest youth unemployment rate. The government is establishing digital laboratories to enable students and youth to acquire digital skills for local and international job opportunities. The digital hubs in all 1,450 wards will provide high-speed internet connection, technical facilities, and networking opportunities for entrepreneurs and small businesses. The government has identified technology as the center-piece of its plans aimed at fostering job creation. The Kenya Kwanza administration is focusing on projects such as Konza Technopolis, digital hubs in wards, and free Wi-Fi in markets and trading centres.



Felix Waweru demonstrating how palm seeds massage is done

Palm Seeds Gain Popularity With Massage Fans

By KNA

Felix Waweru, a 20-year-old entrepreneur in Laikipia County, is selling palm seeds as a massage tool for residents.

He believes that Palm seeds are a safer alternative to electrified body-relaxing machines, as they have grooves that can be rolled on any part of the body effortlessly and do not require a professional masseuse.

Waweru has been selling palm seeds for massage therapy for a year and has seen positive customer feedback due to the lack of underlying dangers and the ease of use.

The seeds are sourced from the Coast region, where palm trees are abundant.

He hopes to expand his business and stock palm seeds in supermarkets and other retail outlets.

Waweru has been able to sustain himself financially and encourage young people to be innovative and avoid drug and substance abuse.

He advises parents to promote hardworking children and not engage in illegal activities.

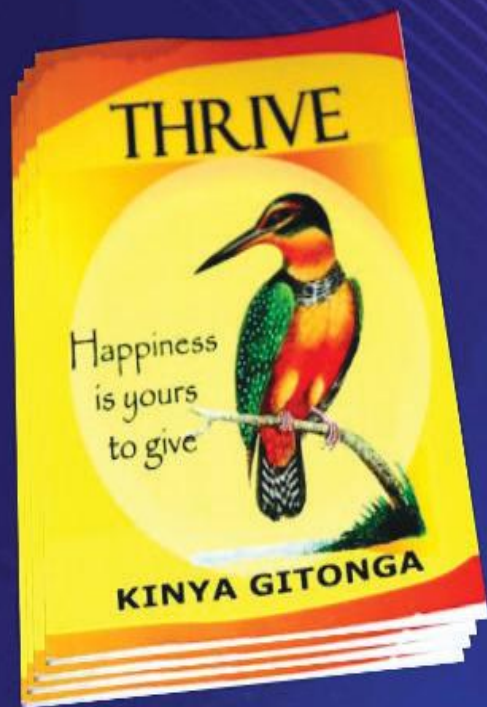
One customer, Jecinta Mwangi, loves using palm seeds for massage as they are cost-effective and rejuvenate the body and muscles.

Massage therapy, as per the Academy of Natural Therapy, dates back several centuries and is still used globally today.

Waweru's business has been successful, and he hopes to continue promoting the benefits of massage therapy.

Kingya N. Gitonga

PSYCHOLOGIST, AUTHOR, MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE
& FOUNDER SOUND MENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION
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Kinya N. Gitonga

Preparations Underway For MSMEs Participation In The 23rd EAC MSMEs Trade Fair To Be Held In Bujumbura, Burundi

By: John Kariuki
@themkenyaintimes

Worth Noting:

- Over the past 5 years, the volume of Kenyan exports to the EAC region has amounted to \$1.4 Billion. The National Export Development and Promotion Strategy envisions to increase this by ensuring that 60% of Kenya's manufactured products will be exported to the regional and global markets. This will grow the Country's export target by 25%.

- This comes at a time when Kenya's exports are projected to rise by 15% this year compared to the \$6.08B recorded in 2021 due to increased sales to new African countries upon the operationalization of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).



MSEA DG Henry Rithaa.

Preparations are in high gear for the 23rd Edition of the East African Community (EAC) Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Trade Fair, formerly known as the Jua Kali/ Nguvu Kazi Exhibition. The 23rd annual EAC Trade Fair will be held from 5th – 15th December 2023 at Cerle Hyppique grounds in Bujumbura, Burundi under the theme “Connecting East Africa MSMEs to enhance Intra EAC Trade,” and is expected to draw over 1500 MSMEs in trade, manufacturing, agribusiness and services sectors from the seven (7) EAC Partner States. Since its inception, the annual EAC exhibition has brought together MSMEs from the then East Africa's six partner nations (now seven) to expand their reach into new markets, share new technologies, and strengthen regional integration. About 5,000 Kenyans have benefited from this trade fair, with a majority having established a solid presence in the regional market through consistent supplies.

The EAC market size (300 million people) and GDP (approximately US\$250 billion) have a significant impetus to the push to increase Intra-EAC trade, especially given that the EAC

region now stretches from the Indian Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean, making it competitive and easy to access the larger African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). The existence of the EAC Common Market Protocol and EAC Customs Union has eliminated or significantly reduced tariffs and trade barriers. The EAC has also harmonized customs procedures among member states thereby significantly simplifying trade processes between member states.

Speaking during the commissioning of the National Organizing Committee for the trade fair, the Cabinet Secretary at the Ministry of Cooperatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Development Simon Chelugui, said that the Trade fair will present an opportunity for over 300 Kenyan MSMEs to create business linkages for increased trade. “This trade fair will not only avail a forum for showcasing what Kenya has to offer to the regional market but also play a leading role in facilitating trade and business exchanges among participating countries while at the same time offering an exciting platform for launching new and improved technologies targeting both the local and regional markets.

Burundi is a virgin market with immense unexploited opportunities and I encourage Kenyan MSMEs to take advantage of the excellent relations between the two countries to establish a foothold and exploit the emerging opportunities in terms of trade and investment. Possible areas of investment include the following: Agro-processing; Education; Health and medical; Finance and banking; Energy; Light Manufacturing, and the construction industry which aligns with the government's,” said CS Simon Chelugui.

Over the past 5 years, the volume of Kenyan exports to the EAC region has amounted to \$1.4 Billion. The National Export Development and Promotion Strategy envisions to increase this by ensuring that 60% of Kenya's manufactured products will be exported to the regional and global markets. This will grow the Country's export target by 25%. This comes at a time when Kenya's exports are projected to rise by 15% this year compared to the \$6.08B recorded in 2021 due to increased sales to new African countries upon the operationalization of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). According to the Africa Trade Barometer index, Kenya is amongst African countries with the highest share of intra-Africa trade. Africa accounted for 19.14 per cent, or Sh328.70 billion, of Kenya's Sh1.72 trillion total trade value in the January-June 2023 period.

Speaking at the same event, Principal Secretary State Department for MSMEs Susan Mang'eni said that the Government is keen on leveraging on international markets to create market linkages between producers, aggregators/off-takers and the final consumers. “The Government is keen on leveraging on Kenya's international engagements to create opportunities for its citizens, businesses and investors. Towards this end, the Government is implementing the export-growth strategy which calls for the Nation to develop goods that meet the needs and require-

ments of regional and international markets.” Said PS Susan Mang'eni.

The adoption of the EAC customs union has significantly increased the volume of commerce between Kenya and the other member countries. Kenya Exports to Burundi stood at US\$68.69 Million during 2021, according to the United Nations COMTRADE database on international trade.

Speaking during the commissioning of the National Organizing Committee, Director General Micro and Small Enterprises Authority Mr. Henry Rithaa said, “The Micro and Small Enterprises Authority (MSEA) is pleased to spearhead and coordinate Kenya's participation at the EAC MSMEs Exhibition and Trade Fair. The Authority is confident that this event will give an ideal platform for promoting diversified Kenyan brands, testing newly created technologies, and improving Kenya's business presence in Burundi and neighbouring countries as part of the enlarged East Africa Community trading bloc. The Authority is further collaborating with agencies represented in the National Organizing Committee to create forward linkages for participating MSMEs post-event. This includes developing a framework to support the linkage of farmers/small-scale MSMEs with Priority Value chain processors through sub-contracting and expanding the catalogue of the Authority's Digital Marketing platform.”

The Multi-sectoral National Organizing Committee will vet participating MSMEs and their products to ensure the image of Kenya and the sector is well represented through high-quality products and services. To participate in the Exhibition, Kenyan exhibitors are required to register at the nearest MSEA office or at <https://msea.go.ke/wpcontent/uploads/2022/04/MSEA-Regional-Offices.pdf>

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Wikimedia Foundation Announces Award Recipients Of The Open The Knowledge Journalism Awards

Kenyan Journalist Carlos Mureithi Receives The First-Place Award Worth KSh300,000

By: Our Correspondent
 @themkenyaintimes

Worth Noting:

- Earlier this year, the Wikimedia Foundation launched the Open the Knowledge Journalism Awards to celebrate the essential role journalists play in creating well-researched articles that volunteer editors can use as source materials to develop content on Wikipedia and other Wikimedia projects.
- Their work helps to grow the knowledge base on one of the world's most visited websites.
- Between May 3 to June 30, African journalists living on the continent were invited to self-nominate articles they had written that help expand knowledge about Africa under the following categories: Arts, Culture, Heritage, and Sports; Health, Climate Change, and Environment; Women and Youth; Digital and Human Rights.

The Wikimedia Foundation, the non-profit that hosts Wikipedia and other Wikimedia projects has announced the award recipients of the first Open the Knowledge Journalism Awards.

Journalist Carlos Mureithi from Kenya was declared the first place award recipient for the article "How a 'headstrong historian' is rewriting Kenya's colonial history", published in the Christian Science Monitor in January 2023.

Mureithi's article profiles Chao Tayiana Maina, a Kenyan historian and Dan David Prize winner who is uncovering buried and overlooked segments of Kenya's history under the colonial era.

He was presented the award at Wiki Indaba 2023 held over the weekend at an annual gathering of Wikimedia communities across Africa held in Agadir, Morocco.

Earlier this year, the Wikimedia Foundation launched the Open the Knowledge Journalism Awards to celebrate the essential role journalists play in creating well-researched articles that volunteer editors can use as source materials to develop content on Wikipedia and other Wikimedia projects.

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they had written that help expand knowledge about Africa under the following categories: Arts, Culture, Heritage, and Sports; Health, Climate Change, and Environment; Women and Youth; Digital and Human Rights.

In total 2,110 submissions were received from 37 African countries.

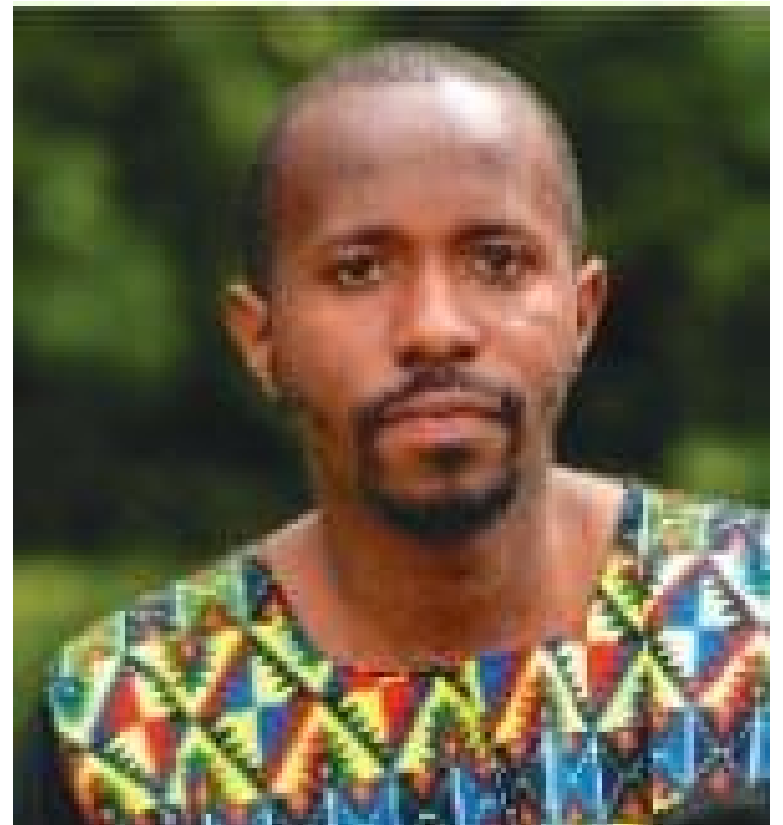
Mureithi's story shows the importance of filling historical gaps and making history accessible to people.

This recognition validates my work to tell stories of African changemakers and put their voices on the global stage."

The second place award went to Nigeria's Osarunamen Ibizugbe, for her article "FGM: Survivors narrate experiences dealing with absence of the clitoris", published in the Premium Times in January 2023.

It highlights the stories of women who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM), and details its negative effects. It highlights the voices of women who often go unheard.

Anusha Alikhan, Chief Communications Officer at the Wikimedia Foundation, said, "We congratulate everyone that has been recognised in this year's Open the Knowledge Journalism Awards. Their reporting helps to close knowledge gaps on Wikipedia and ensure that the topics, events and perspectives of Africans are there for the billions who visit the site. Wikipedia articles can't exist without reliable sources. We need more stories



Carlos Mureithi.



Osarunamen Ibizugbe.

like these that help volunteer editors to grow the knowledge base on Wikipedia so that it is more reflective of our world."

Four other outstanding articles also received Special Mentions in each of the award's four categories, including: Arts, Culture, Heritage, and Sports - Aanu Adeoye (Nigeria), "The Benin Bronzes and the road to restitution", (Financial Times); Digital and Human Rights - Philip Obaje Jr. (Nigeria), "The silencing of Sudan's journalists - again", (Al Jazeera Journalism Review); Health, Climate Change, and Environment - Jackson Ambole (Kenya), "How Mombasa's yoghurt cups powered a reforestation drive", (Al Jazeera); Women and Youth - Jacqueline Muchazoreka (Zimbabwe), "The story of how a Zimbabwean woman treated obstetric fistula despite criticism from her church & community" (BellaNaija).

Currently, only 104,000 articles of over 6 million English Wikipedia articles (1.5%) are about Africa. This issue reflects content gaps in the wider media ecosystem; new information can only be added to Wikipedia by volunteer editors if it is supported by a citation from a published, reliable source.

Wikipedia is the largest encyclopedia ever assembled. Its knowledge is built on information that is supported by many sources, including news

stories. Having a diversity of stories written by a diversity of people is vital to ensuring the encyclopedia is representative of many views, experiences and perspectives.

Olaniyan Ishola Oulushola, President of Wikimedia Nigeria, a group of Wikimedia volunteers in Nigeria, said, "The Open the Knowledge Journalism Awards, has enabled us to cultivate an impressive repository of more than 2,000 quality articles thoughtfully submitted by African journalists for this prestigious recognition. These articles will help facilitate the curation of thematic stories that can enrich Wikipedia's representation of African heritage. Furthermore, the Awards mirror the cherished African tradition of honoring and motivating those who distinguish themselves in their chosen paths, thus contributing to celebrating the excellence of African journalism."

This year's award categories and recipients were decided upon by the Wikimedia Foundation and a working group of volunteer African Wikimedia editors, as well as a group of external experts from across the fields of media, and academia on the continent.

This article was filed by Gugu Mthimkhulu, a Media Consultant based in South Africa

Kiharu, Kangema, Tetu, Kabete and Othaya MPs Named Top Performers

The survey was carried out from July to September this year, encompassing all 47 counties, 290 constituencies, and 1450 wards, with a total sample size of 58,748 participants

By: Our Correspondents

@themkenyentimes



Ndindi Nyoro



Peter Kihungi



Geoffrey Wandeto



Wambugu Wainaina



Wamacukuru

Worth Noting:

- In the Central region, Kiharu MP Samson Ndindi was the highest-rated legislator with a 70% approval.
- In Kiambu, Kabete lawmaker James Wamachuru earned the top position with 65%.
- In Nyeri County, Tetu legislator Geoffrey Wandeto also scored 65% to emerge the best.
- Othaya MP Wambugu Wainaina who is popularly known as MountKenya achieved a 62% rating and was further declared as one of the most improved lawmaker in the country. His colleague from the neighbouring Mukurweini John Kaguchia received 61%.
- MPs Wanjiku Muhia (Kipipiri), Chege Njuguna (Kandara), Edward Muriu (Gatanga), and Michael Mwangi (Ol Jorok) all secured a 58% approval rating.

Kiharu Member of Parliament Ndindi Nyoro was yesterday declared as the best performing legislator in the current National Assembly.

Nyoro who is also the Parliamentary Budget Committee chairman emerged top with 70% approval rating.

In a report released by Research firm; Infotrack, the law makers from the both sides of the political divide were ranked based on research conducted through interviewing thousands of Kenyans in all the 290 constituencies across the country.

Kangema MP Peter Kihungi who constituency neighbours that of Nyoro in Murang'a County was declared the second best with 68% rating approval.

In Nairobi, the capital city of the country, ODM's Embakasi East MP Babu Owino emerged as the top-performing legislator after earning a 60%.

Owino was closely followed by his Westlands counterpart Timothy Wanyonyi with 58%, Embakasi Central MP Benjamin Gathiru alias Mejjadonk with 56% and Embakasi North MP James Mwangi with 55%. Ruaraka MP Francis Tom Joseph Kajwang and Dagoretti South MP John Kiarie both received a 54% approval rating.

Embakasi West MP Mark Samuel Muriithi, Kasarani MP Ronald Kamwiko, and Embakasi South MP Julius Musili scored 52%, while Langata MP Phelix Odiwuor alias Jalang'o and Dagoretti North MP Beatrice Elachi each achieved a 50% rating.

In the Eastern Region, Igembe

South MP John Paul, Mwingi Central MP Gideon Mutemi, and Kathiani MP Robert Mbui shared the lead with a 66% approval rating each.

Kitui Central MP Benson Makali followed closely with 65%, while Chuka/Igambang'ombe MP Patrick Munene, Mwala MP Vincent Musyoka, and Kibwezi West MP Eckomas Mwangi earned a solid 63%.

Mwingi West MP Charles Ngusya, North Imenti MP Rahim Dawood, and Mbeere North MP Geoffrey Kiringa secured a 62% rating.

In the Central region, Kiharu MP Samson Ndindi was the highest-rated legislator with a 70% approval.

In Kiambu, Kabete lawmaker James Wamachuru earned the top position with 65%.

In Nyeri County, Tetu legislator Geoffrey Wandeto also scored 65% to emerge the best.

Othaya MP Wambugu Wainaina who is popularly known as MountKenya achieved a 62% rating and was further declared as one of the most improved lawmaker in the country. His colleague from the neighbouring Mukurweini John Kaguchia received 61%.

MPs Wanjiku Muhia (Kipipiri), Chege Njuguna (Kandara), Edward Muriu (Gatanga), and Michael Mwangi (Ol Jorok) all secured a 58% approval rating.

Along the Coastal region, Changamwe MP Omar Mwinyi emerged as the top-performing legislator with a 64% approval rating. Wundanyi MP Danson Mwakuwona followed closely at 63%, while Nyali MP Mohamed Ali received a solid 58%.

Taveta MP John Bwire and Lunjalunga Constituency MP Mangale

Ndegwa Chiforomodo both earned a 56% rating, while Kisauni MP Rashid Bedzimba and Ganze MP Kenneth Charo Tungule secured 55%.

Mwatate MP Peter Shake, Jomvu MP Twalib Bady, Matuga MP Kassim Sawa, and Rabai MP Mupe Kenga tied with a 54% rating.

In the Rift Valley, Samburu West MP Naisula Lesuuda led with a 63% approval rating.

She was also declared one of the best performing female legislator.

Chepalungu MP Victor Kipngetch Koech, Molo MP Francis Kuria, and Mogotio MP Reuben Kiborek achieved 63%, while Sigor MP Peter Lochakapong secured 62%.

In the North Eastern region, Mandera East MP Abdurahman Husseinweytan scored 55%, Wajir South MP Mohamed Aden and Ijara MP Abdi Ali both received 53%, and Mandera West MP Yussuf Adan Haji and Lafey MP Mohamed Abdi earned 51%.

In Wajir, Eldas MP Adan Keynan, Wajir North MP Ibrahim Abdi, and Wajir West MP Yussuf Mohamed all achieved a 50% approval rating.

In the Western region, Khwisero MP Christopher Aseka secured a remarkable 66% approval rating.

Mumias East MP Peter Salasya followed closely at 64%, while Teso North MP Edward Kaunya and Kabuchai MP Joseph Majimbo earned 63%.

Emuhaya MP Milemba Jeremiah received 62%, and Lurambi MP Titus Khamala achieved 61%. Ikolomani MP Bernard Masaka and Webuye East MP Martin Pepela Wanyonyi both scored 60%, while

Kimilili MP Didmus Wekesa Barasa and Kanduyi MP John Okwisia secured 58%.

In the Nyanza region, Homa Bay Town MP George Peter Opondo led with a 66% approval rating.

Kasipul MP Charles Ong'ondo Were scored 64%, and Uriri MP Mark Ogolla achieved 61%.

Kitutu Masaba MP Clive Ombane, Suba North MP Millie Odhiambo, Seme MP James Nyikal, and Ugunja MP James Wandayi all received a 60% rating. Rangwe MP Lilian Achieng, Kuria East MP Maisori Marwa Kitayama, and Nyaribari Chache MP Jhanda Zaheer secured 59%.

The survey also evaluated the average performance score of MPs by region, with Nairobi region achieving an overall score of 51%, slightly below the national average of 54%.

The Eastern region led with a strong 56%, while Central achieved 54%. Nyanza and Western regions both tied at 55%, and the Rift Valley scored 54%.

The Coast region had a score of 53%, while the North Eastern region had the lowest score at 49%.

The survey was carried out from July to September 2023, encompassing all 47 counties, 290 constituencies, and 1450 wards, with a total sample size of 58,748 participants.

Each county cluster sample size was determined based on the population and the number of wards within the county, varying from 619 to 3400 respondents.

Alarming Maternal Mortality Rates Spark Urgent Response from Nairobi Hospital



By: Cynthia Masibo
 @themkenyatimes

In Kenya, the maternal mortality ratio has reached a critical level, with a staggering 355 deaths per 100,000 live births. This disheartening statistic translates to nearly 5,000 women and girls losing their lives annually due to complications related to pregnancy and childbirth. In the face of this dire situation, The Nairobi Hospital has today embarked on a mission to reverse this unsettling trend by launching an ambitious initiative to raise awareness about safe maternal and childcare.



A first time mother speaking to media at Nairobi Hospital.

nizing danger signs during pregnancy, and the importance of timely medical intervention. The sessions also mentioned the stages of labor, proper birthing techniques, and postpartum care for both mothers and newborns.

The Nairobi Hospital aims to empower women and their caregivers with the knowledge and confidence needed to navigate the critical phases of pregnancy and childbirth safely. This initiative represents a significant step towards reducing the maternal mortality rate in Kenya and ensuring the well-being of mothers and children.

A Call for Collaboration

Addressing the maternal mortality crisis in Kenya requires a collective effort. The Nairobi Hospital calls on other healthcare institutions, governmental bodies, non-governmental organizations, and the community at large to join hands in this crucial mission. By working together, we can ensure that no more lives are lost needlessly, and that every woman in Kenya has the opportunity for a safe and healthy pregnancy and childbirth.

A Looming Crisis

Kenya's maternal mortality rate has long been a cause for concern, and these latest statistics underscore the urgency of addressing the issue. A maternal mortality ratio of 355 per 100,000 live births is a stark reminder

of the challenges women face in accessing adequate healthcare during pregnancy and childbirth.

The Nairobi Hospital Takes Action

In response to this healthcare crisis, The Nairobi Hospital has taken

proactive steps to make a difference. Today, a team of dedicated specialists conducted a series of free educational sessions aimed at mothers, expectant mothers, and nannies. These sessions focused on key aspects of pregnancy, labor, and childbirth, with the goal of equipping caregivers and expectant

mothers with the knowledge and tools necessary to ensure safe pregnancies and deliveries.

Raising Awareness to Save Lives

The sessions covered a wide range of topics, including prenatal care, recog-

Men Ought To Be Responsible In The Society

By: David Nyaga
 @themkenyatimes

The rate at which our young girls are becoming mothers at an early age is at an alarming speed reason being men are irresponsible and don't want to meet the costs in child upbringing leaving the girl child with nothing to do rather than to face the reality.

Love has made many young girls being tricked by men who end up sleeping with them and this is after fake promises being made to them. For example a man may confess his feelings to a girl who then falls in love with him and later the man is after the 'honeypot' which was his main motive in the relationship then after the lady bears a child, the man doesn't accept that he was the one responsible for the action and this has made many girls being single mothers. In addition the girl is left facing the reality not knowing what to do since the 'prey' was only looking for the greener

pastures then run away.

This is a thing that has left most of the girls saying that true love doesn't exist yet it does exist. It's a normality nowadays seeing girls who are in higher professions and are earning huge salaries but choose to remain unmarried reason being they fear heartbreaks and irresponsible father's of their children. I think men should be concerned in whatever that they do and be responsible, supportive and loving.

In my conclusion, men should be men and be responsible for their actions and since actions has consequences they should be ready to face their own consequences and to the girls, do not admit making love with someone who is not ready to be with you, make future where there is brightness and by doing so the society will be moving in the right direction.



King's Visit Opened A New Page in Strengthening Ties Between Kenya, Britain



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



Worth Noting:

- President Ruto had also revisited this matter during the banquet. He stated: This is not the first time this issue is coming up. There is a feeling that the interventions you have made so far were not commensurate to the atrocities inflicted on freedom fighters by the brutal British army.
- The President however noted that this issue should not be used to make us lose the sight of the bigger picture.
- Britain is our key development partner and thier Majesties have done a lot for Kenya since independence. So, our focus should be hinged on strengthening these ties.
- The King demonstrated he appreciated the role played the fighters by presiding two activities.



King Charles III and his wife, Queen Camilla

The head of Britain monarch King Charles III and his wife, Queen Camilla concluded their four-day historic visit to Kenya a few days go.

Of the 54 nations which were colonies of Britain, Kenya is the first Commonwealth country he chose to visit after being crowned as the King. The invitation had been extended by President William Ruto. The King took the throne following the death of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II.

During his stay, the King held bilateral talks with his host President William Ruto which centered on strengthening historical ties between the two nations.

He also met representatives of youth women, faith leaders and veterans freedom fighters who participated in the First and Second World Wars and Mau Mau struggles.

In response to the fighters' call on him to offer unconditional apology and compensate them for atrocities committed against them by the British colonial government, the King fell short of apologizing.

He told them during the State House banquet organized in his honor by President Ruto that he has had their concerns. I share your pain and suffering you encountered during that period but I cannot change that.

In the meantime he avoided the issue of compensation and reparations.

Perhaps this was because he was privy

to fact the British government had previously made some efforts to tackle this matter.

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The President however noted that this issue should not be used to make us lose the sight of the bigger picture.

Britain is our key development partner and thier Majesties have done a lot for Kenya since independence. So, our focus should be hinged on strengthening these ties.

The King demonstrated he appreciated the role played the fighters by presiding two activities.

First, he laid wreath on the graves of those who lost thier lives at Uhuru gardens Nairobi. He was accompanied by the President.

He later visited Kariokor Cemetery where he replaced and decorated three war veterans with new medals.

Matters of environmental conservation would also not escape his mind. He visited Karura forest and a model farm that was being run by organic manures

On third day of his visit, the Royal Couple flew to Mombasa where they were received by President Ruto, his

deputy Rigathi Gachagua and Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi.

The King, who is the Captain-General of British Royal Marine, inspected the guard of honor mounted by the Kenya Navy soldiers. The King was happy and thrilled by their experiences and skill to combat and annihilate the threat posed by the enemies. They showcased this by doing their drill with precision.

The following day the King held talks with Christian leaders and later Muslim leaders. The details of the talks were scanty.

This was expected as this came at a time when the Gaza-Israel war had intensified. It was triggered by Hamas, Palestinian troops, when they launched a vicious unprovoked attack against Israel.

Reports indicated the Israel intelligence was caught flat-footed.

This war has divided world. America and Britain are among the countries which have thrown their weight behind Israel.

The position of the United Kingdom was communicated by the Prime Minister (PM) when he visited Israel.

It was therefore hard to know the position of the King. Would he contradict the PM?

I'm persuaded to believe he took a neutral stand when addressing the faith leaders.

The wars are not the right course of re-

solving our disputes. We know innocent people mostly children and women are the ones who bear the brunt. A time has come to resolve the differences through diplomacy and dialogue.

The King also visited the Fort Jesus before being driven around by electric powered Tuk Tuk taxi together with his wife, Queen Camilla.

The Ministry of Education reaped big during this visit.

At ceremony held in Nairobi, Kenyan Minister and his Britain counterpart had signed an agreement involving billions of shillings to support Kenya education sector.

During the state banquet, the king reiterated the commitment of the British government to continue sponsoring and supporting the programmes and projects it had initiated and those undertaking in partnership with the Kenyan government.

We also going to increase the volume of funding and support new projects.

The King praised President Ruto for his exemplary and statesmanship leadership. Together, we are going to achieve much for the benefit of the citizens of our two nations.

Joseph Mutua Ndonga is a writer and political analyst based in Nairobi

Trans Nzoia County Launches Enhanced County NHIF Program for Vulnerable Families



By: Sefu Sabila
@themkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

In terms of insurance we as a county we are very much behind. Out of 100 people only 16 have an insurance cover. As a county, we are working extremely to raise the 16% to 70% together in collaborating with the people." The governor stated.

- The program, funded by the initiative "90 Kilograms of maize for each house", in the program, each family will contribute a 90kg bag of maize yearly, to be fully covered by the program. The governor further said, the complete identified vulnerable households unable to raise the one bag of maize, will be covered under the Natembeya Care.



Residents of sikhendu ward in Trans Nzoia county lining to give out the 90kg bag of maize to during the launch of "90 Kilograms of maize for each house" to be enrolled into the enhanced NHIF county program.

Governor George Natembeya launches county insurance health cover (NHIF) program, which is set to provide crucial healthcare support to vulnerable households in the county.

The cover will have families access free out and inpatient medical services at the county's public hospitals. Speaking during the launch in Sikhendu, Kimilili Constituency, the governor said, the program will reduce the gap of health provision among residents of Trans Nzoia.

"The primary objective of this initiative is to offer free out and inpatient medical services at our public hospitals to a minimum of 10,000 identified vulnerable households. These families will be able to access a wide range of medical services, ensuring their healthcare needs are met comprehensively." Governor George Natembeya said.

During the campaigns, in his ten point agenda for the people of Trans Nzoia, governor Natembeya pledged to provide quality healthcare, accessible and affordable. Noting during the launch, the governor said the in-

urance percentage of Trans Nzoia county stands at 16% which he says through the county program will increase from the standing 16% to 70%. "In terms of insurance we as a county we are very much behind. Out of 100 people only 16 have an insurance cover. As a county, we are working extremely to raise the 16% to 70% together in collaborating with the people." The governor stated.

The program, funded by the initiative "90 Kilograms of maize for each house", in the program, each family will contribute a 90kg bag of maize yearly, to be fully covered by the program. The governor further said, the complete identified vulnerable households unable to raise the one bag of maize, will be covered under the Natembeya Care.

"Since maize is what we have as Trans Nzoia, we will use it to get services, we want to ensure that our people have money, food and can also access medical services in our hospital through their produces." The governor said.

"This year we are targeting to get 10,000 bags, which translate to

10,000 families. As we move forward, the allocated budget for this enhanced NHIF cover is expected to reach approximately Sh.40 million. This financial support will be a vital lifeline for those vulnerable households who have struggled to afford even basic necessities like a bag of maize due to the burden of poverty." Governor Natembeya further explained.

With the governor positive of the success of the program, expressed his commitment to improving healthcare services to the residents of Trans Nzoia, curbing families from selling properties to lay medical bills and the struggles that come with financing health services.

"I understand the financial strain that medical bills can place on families, often forcing them to make difficult choices. The NHIF cover will provide relief and ensure that healthcare no longer comes at the cost of selling one's possessions. I believe that this program is a long-overdue step towards improving the lives of our less fortunate residents." He said.

The governor also directed govern-

ment officials to shun from getting themselves forested land set aside by the government for wananchi to plant, saying they are under watch. He further encouraged residents to demand services as they are fundamentally entitled to healthcare services from county employees, as they are paying for it.

The county is currently witnessing development in the health sector, including the completion of Kijana Wamalwa Memorial Teaching and Referral Hospital, to the construction of the Mother baby unit at Tom Mboya Health Facility in Tuwan Ward Saboti constituency.

The county was earlier this week ranked among top counties in the country, which has improved in service provision to the residents including health and development. Governor Natembeya was also ranked top performing governor alongside Homabay governor Gladys Wanga.

DP Gachagua Dismisses Kingpin Debate In Mt. Kenya

By: Sharon Resian

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has dismissed the ongoing debate about the Mt. Kenya region's political kingpin, describing it as trivial and detrimental to development.

Speaking at the Anglican Church of Kenya St. James Cathedral in Kiambu town, Gachagua emphasized that his efforts to unite the Mt. Kenya region behind President William Ruto are part of a broader strategy aimed at national unity.

Gachagua stressed that there is no constitutional provision for a political kingpin, and he has no intention of pursuing such a position. He underlined that his role as Deputy President keeps him fully occupied and that the kingpin debate should cease, allowing those interested in such positions to pursue them.

"I have no time or desire to aspire for any other office because the work I have as Deputy President is extensive.

That debate should end, and those interested in kingpin positions can pursue that," he stated.

Gachagua called on everyone in the region, especially those who supported the Azimio la Umoja Coalition in the 2022 elections, to support President William Ruto's leadership. This comes as the debate continues on whether Gachagua or former President Uhuru Kenyatta is the true kingpin of the Mt. Kenya region.

Public Service Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria recently made a cryptic comment on social media, alluding to the debate, saying, "Now that King Charles III and Camila are back to England, fake Kingpins can take over." Kuria has also linked this battle for regional leadership to the attempts to remove Meru Governor Kawira Mwangaza.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and Kiambu Governor Kimani Wa Matangi (left) during a church service on November 5, 2023. /X.

We'll Not Pursue Uhuru, Says DP Gachagua Who Raffled Feathers For Months

By: Sharon Resian

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has affirmed that the Kenya Kwanza government no longer has any issues with former President Uhuru Kenyatta, citing the absence of ongoing protests in the country.

During a Sunday service at ACK St James Cathedral in Kiambu County, Gachagua stated that since both Raila Odinga and Uhuru Kenyatta have maintained silence, the government sees no need to invoke their names or pursue them. He added that this silence has contributed to the restoration of peace in Kenya.

"President Uhuru Kenyatta is our son from Kiambu. He served as our fourth President. We had differences with him, but those differences are now in the past. He has retired, returned home, and kept a low profile, and we respect his decision," Gachagua remarked.

He also addressed the leader of the

Azimio la Umoja coalition, Raila Odinga, stating that his silence has similarly led to a cessation of discussions about him. According to Gachagua, the absence of protests and disturbances in the country indicates stability.

Nevertheless, Gachagua issued a warning to both leaders, cautioning them against organizing protests again. He emphasized that the government is alert and prepared to address any potential disruptions.

"Now that there are no protests and no disturbances, we are content. But if they restart, we will be ready to stand alongside them. We want everyone to come together and work in unity for the betterment of our country," Gachagua said.

Recent allegations have suggested that former President Uhuru Kenyatta may be financially supporting Azimio la Umoja protests, which have led to fatalities and property damage in various parts of Kenya. Despite several claims by Kenyatta's critics, he has denied any involvement in financing or orchestrating these demonstrations.



President William Ruto (right) and his Deputy Rigathi Gachagua (centre) launches the Bura Irrigation and Settlement Scheme rehabilitation and project headworks gate, Bura, Tana River County as Governor Godhana Dhadho looks on. /X.

Kenyatta, who is still the chairman of the Azimio la Umoja One Kenya Coalition council, has asserted that

he is not actively engaged in the daily operations of the party. This has led to increased focus on unity and

collaboration among leaders across the political spectrum.

14 POEMS

Really Love



Khajikurbonova Niginabonu (Uzbekistan)

There is a garden which is very strange
 Named for children
 Birds and animals in this
 They talk like a human.
 The fruit bar is a jam
 Sweet, sugary, or sour.
 There are few deaf people
 They live peacefully and happily.
 The swallow's cry
 It stuck in the ear.
 - Our wonderful garden
 The gardener is dead.
 When I walk in the garden, the garden is sad
 Trembling on the sprout leaf,
 Brown bear hair
 In an instant, it became white.
 His ear is prickling
 He slapped immediately
 To comfort the rabbit,
 I was myself.

Cherries, pomegranates, plums
 He was crying,
 Pumpkins, pumpkins
 Their faces turned pale.
 They say: Our Nahot garden
 That's all there is to life,
 My poet is dead
 The nightingale is crying.
 I told them: "Stop!"
 The wailing does not go away.
 As long as there are children
 Anwar Obid will not die!
 These gardens are blooming,
 We plant many seedlings.
 After all, the poet shared
 We have real love!"

The Golden Spike and the Golden Prayer
 The sun's golden light,
 The wheat harvester.
 To his ransom,
 The gardener shouted with joy.
 At the head of the field,
 Did you see it?
 Every spike was visible,
 Turned into gold.
 Golden blessings,
 The circles are on the four sides.
 When Shirmay is eating bread,
 Uzbek table.

Why Do Some Young People Don't Today Worry About Their Future?



If we consider several reasons for this, what are teenagers doing today? If we take teenagers as 100%, I can definitely say that 25% of them spend time reading books, and the remaining 75% are spent on the phone and various social networks! We all heard the famous saying of our teachers: "Can you read if your head hits a stone?!" one day our teacher said to us "I saw one of my students yesterday" and then "He is going to work abroad, it is heartbreaking to hear his cries

of regret" So what happened there?! So, the problem is that the student "Teacher, when I was a child, I had the opportunity to study, I even had time, I even had more than 15 textbooks, it's a pity, why didn't I use those books, even if I was in mathematics He said, "I can't work." These words The reader who says it is sorry enough to have been through it all! Now he either doesn't have time to study, or if there are both circumstances, life's trials and worries!

And when one female journalist interviewed black workers abroad on the topic "What would you do if you could go back to your childhood", 95% of people answered "I would study".

Young people, my peers, you have time to study now, but tomorrow may be late. Your today creates your tomorrow. Let's not be indifferent to our tomorrow, our future.

Takhmina Gayratovna

After you...

Consequence



Two neighbors lived in one end of the city. These two neighbors, who looked very friendly from the outside, were not what they seemed. They had a small disagreement in the middle, that is, the problem of the wall. One of the neighbors built a wall a little beyond the border of the other. The difference between them is not so big, it was only 1 meter. They had a dispute over this for years. Years have passed since then, the neighborhood and neighbors have all tried very hard to resolve this dispute. But these two neighbors did not want to understand each other. Neither one of the neighbors wants to

break down the wall, nor does this neighbor stop the conflict, he doesn't say that there is 1 meter of space for his horse. At the same time, the days of conflict continued. Time certainly separates a person from the sacred thing called life, from living. The time has come when the person who wants to break down the wall will fulfill this command of God. He died and after his death they did not remember him with a good name. It was a very sad situation. In fact, this wall will not be left behind, no matter how many rich people could not take their wealth with them. What is important is the warm relations of people to each other.

Akramova Shiringul
 She was born on October 28, 2004 in Syrdaryo district of Syrdaryo province. Author of many articles and stories. Currently, he is a 2nd-year student of Hydrometeorology at the Faculty of Hydrometeorology of the National University of Uzbekistan.



The sea is near, the sky is near,
 Freedom is getting closer
 interpret my eyes in what language
 autumn enters my mind - red, yellow.

The world against the rebellion of my heart
 I wonder if he's a deceiver or a liar.

Thoughts knocking on the heels - a dream ... now I love nothing but autumn, I swear.

The mountains lit up with longing
 What happiness, now I'm excited for autumn...

After you I kept going to God
 After you, God kept coming closer...

After you...

Nilufar Ergasheva is a young poet. She lives in the Fergana region of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Winner of the 2022 "Mushoirat" republican competition. In 2022, the book "Green Word" was published. In 2023, he won the State Prize named after Zulfiya in the field of literature. Graduated from Erkin Vohidov creative school. 1st-year student of the Faculty of Uzbek Language Philology of the National University of Uzbekistan.

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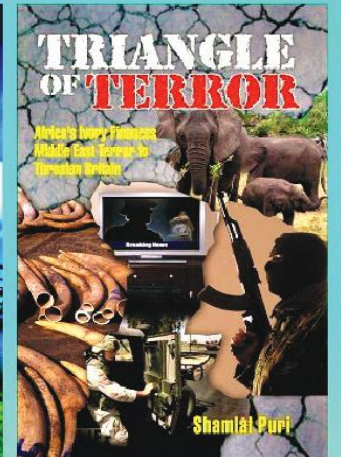
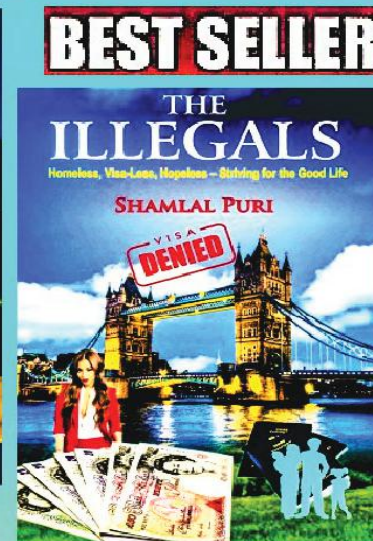
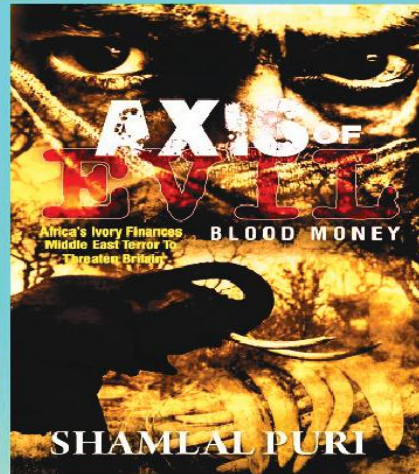
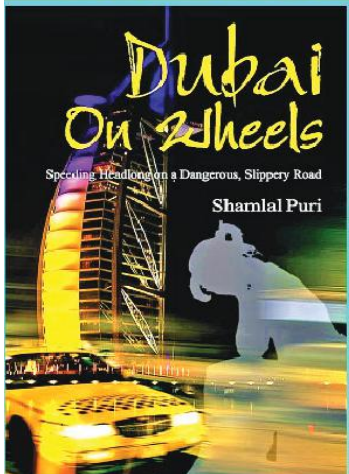
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BUSINESS

Kenya Coffee Producers Association To Empower Farmers Fetch Better Deals

By: Joseph Ng'ang'a
@themtkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- “It is when the farmer is empowered that they are able to negotiate, engage and sign contracts which they understand and can be enforced,” explained Gikonyo.
- The chairman explained that due to the exclusion of the farmer and lack of information, there are instances when the farmers have signed contracts with clauses that allow manipulation or cost addition which the farmer is not aware of and they will only see in their sales statement.
- Gikonyo said that the report which is a result of interaction with farmers and industry stakeholders will be a game changer and even with the current market prices coffee farmers will be able to get a fair share of earnings from their produce.

Plans are underway to train and offer legal counsel to Smallholder coffee farmers in the country to understand the contractual and marketing dynamics to secure better deals during the sale of their produce.

Kenya Coffee Producers Association (KCPA) chairman Peter Gikonyo expressed fears that the small holder farmers have been disadvantaged as they were excluded in the coffee value chain explaining that according to a survey they conducted only 11.5% of growers confirmed comprehensively reading and understanding of the milling and marketing contracts.

Speaking in Nairobi last week during the launch of the Enhancing Smallholder Coffee Farmers Inclusion in the Coffee Value Chain project report, Gikonyo said that they are working towards addressing the gaps identified by the report in efforts geared towards empowering farmers to take charge of their business.

“It is when the farmer is empowered that they are able to negotiate, engage and sign contracts which they understand and can be enforced,” explained Gikonyo.

The chairman explained that due to the exclusion of the farmer and lack of information, there are instances when the farmers have signed contracts with clauses that allow manipulation or cost addition which the farmer is not aware of and they will only see in their sales statement.

Gikonyo said that the report which is a result of interaction with farmers and industry stakeholders will be a game changer and even with the current market prices coffee farmers will be able to get a fair share of earnings from their produce.

According to the report, in the year 2020/2021 coffee contributed 0.15% to the total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (AFA, 2021) and about 20% of the total agricultural export earnings. The sub-sector supports over 5 million people or 10.5% of the Kenyan population directly and indirectly as per the 2019 national census.

Smallholder coffee growers remain the biggest producers producing between 60 -70% of the total coffee production in Kenya through cooperatives system of production and processing. It is estimated that smallholder coffee growers are 800,000, comprising 99.6% of the total coffee growers in Kenya.

KCPA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Sarah Nyagah said that



Peter Gikonyo

through the support of IDH (The Sustainable Trade Initiative), they were able to conduct a baseline study which unearthed a number of areas where the farmers are excluded and they can now address the challenges using evidence.

Nyagah explained that from the study they found out that farmers lack legal support when they are contracting the service providers for the milling and marketing of their coffee and they are now able to educate them on what needs to be done before engaging the service providers.

According to the CEO, they discovered a sad state of affairs where fam-

ers deliver their coffee for milling and leave without getting a report on the quality of their coffee which poses a risk since they can be later told their coffee was of lesser quality thus getting paid less money.

“Coffee is bought by its cup quality and if farmers does not get their pre-milling report, it opens a loophole for exploitation,” explained Nyagah adding that they have addressed the challenge by training the farmers to always get a pre-milling report so that they can ask any questions if there are differences between what they presented for milling and what they are getting after milling.

She highlighted that another challenge they encountered is that the majority of farmers do not have dollar accounts and coffee is traded in dollars as per the legal provisions and the marketing agents convert the payments by their own rates which are not necessarily declared to the farmers thus disadvantaging the farmer and worsening the exclusion.

Nyagah called on duty bearers to take charge in empowering the farmer by providing knowledge and information and enforcement of legal provisions that support the farmer inclusion.



Sarah Nyagah.

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President Ruto Urges Patience For Manifesto Fulfillment

By: Capital News

Worth Noting:

- The President's statement comes amidst criticism from some Kenyans and the opposition regarding the administration's progress in fulfilling its Kenya Kwanza manifesto promises, particularly in areas like taxation and governance.
- "I have come to understand that for me to fulfill the promises, made to Kenyans, there needs to be patience. Sometimes even I wonder why this promise has taken so long. However, I have learned that this is because I fail to understand that patience is crucial to fulfill any promise," he said amid pressure for him to keep the timelines he gave when seeking for votes a year ago.
- The President stated that the leaders across the country continue to remain anxious about when they would fulfill their promises, but they face difficulty because they fail to acknowledge that everything takes time.



President William Ruto speaks during a church service in Mombasa on November 5, 2023. /X..

President William Ruto has called on Kenyans to exercise patience while his Kenya Kwanza administration works toward fulfilling its election promises.

Addressing a thanksgiving church service at Mombasa's Mama Ngina Waterfront on Sunday, Ruto acknowledged that understanding the time required for promise fulfillment is crucial.

Inspired by a sermon delivered by the presiding bishop during the service, Ruto emphasized the virtue of patience in religious teachings. He acknowledged that leaders are eager to fulfill their pledges, but progress is affected when the necessary patience is lacking.

Ruto urged Kenyans to unite with the government to expedite the fulfillment of promises, emphasizing that collaboration with leaders from all parties is a priority for the Kenya Kwanza administration.

The President's statement comes

amidst criticism from some Kenyans and the opposition regarding the administration's progress in fulfilling its Kenya Kwanza manifesto promises, particularly in areas like taxation and governance.

"I have come to understand that for me to fulfill the promises, made to Kenyans, there needs to be patience. Sometimes even I wonder why this promise has taken so long. However, I have learned that this is because I fail to understand that patience is crucial to fulfill any promise," he said amid pressure for him to keep the timelines he gave when seeking for votes a year ago.

The President stated that the leaders across the country continue to remain anxious about when they would fulfill their promises, but they face difficulty because they fail to acknowledge that everything takes time.

He called on Kenyans to join hands with the government to help speed up the fulfillment of the promises made.

Ruto went on to say that the Kenya Kwanza administration is looking to collaborate with all leaders across the country, regardless of party affiliation, to provide services to wananchi.

Ruto's statement comes as his administration continues to come under heavy criticism from a section of Kenyans and the opposition for failing to fulfill most of the promises made in their Kenya Kwanza manifesto which enabled them to ascend into power.

The President who served as the Deputy during former President Uhuru Kenyatta's regime had pledged to improve the living standards of Kenyans and vowed to revise some of the policies he deemed "retrogressive" under the previous regime.

However, more than a year after assuming office, the Kenya Kwanza administration appeared to struggle to implement some of the promises they had pledged to achieve within the first year of their leadership.

However, more than a year after taking office, the Kenya Kwanza administration appears to be struggling to fulfill some of the promises they had pledged to achieve within the first year of their time in office.

One of the most contentious policies that has put President Ruto on the bad books of a section of Kenyans is the increased taxes on essential commodities that has made the lives of most Kenyans unbearable.

Ruto has also come under fire for hiring individuals with questionable character including those linked to corrupt practices to serve in his administration despite assuring Kenyans that he would not condone graft while in office.

The failure of the Ruto administration to lower the cost of living has also made him unpopular with Kenyans.

Coronation Of Gikambura Sub County Kiama Kia Ma Patron Elder Njunge Mukirae

By: Janet Wangechi
 @themtkenyatimes



Patron Elder Njunge Mukirae coronation.

Worth Noting:

- Kiambu patron Hon. Nyanja stated that we as Kiama Kia ma Kiambu County will suspend all other cultural ceremonies during the circumcision period up until the 30th November 2023 to honour the most important stage of our boys lives.
- The patrons called upon all parents to embrace the cultural practice of bringing our boys closer to their fathers and ensuring they get adequate life skills teaching, duties of the boy child in homesteads, how to tackle the challenges in the modern society as well as how to integrate and aim the sky in their high school education.

The National Gikuyu Council Elders Association Kiama Kia ma, Kiambu County chapter assembled on Saturday 4th Nov 2023 at Kikuyu Sub County Gikambura to coronate the Sub County Patron Elder Njunge Mukirae.

The elder was nominated by all kikuyu sub county kiama Kia ma elders to take charge of uniting elders from all corners of kikuyu Sub County and aide the county patron Hon. Nyanja too in uniting Kiama Kia ma Kiambu County.

Kiambu county elders from all sub counties joined the ceremony, the national office kiama Kia ma under the able leadership of Chairman Ngundu Gaithuma was well represented by the national Secretary General Eng.Muiru and the deputy national patron Hon. George Wainana they both gave a message of good wishes to all young boys who will be undergoing the circumcision from the 5th Nov 2023.

Kiambu patron Hon. Nyanja stated that we as Kiama Kia ma Kiambu County will suspend all other cultural ceremonies during the cir-

cumcision period up until the 30th November 2023 to honour the most important stage of our boys lives.

The patrons called upon all parents to embrace the cultural practice of bringing our boys closer to their fathers and ensuring they get adequate life skills teaching, duties of the boy child in homesteads, how to tackle the challenges in the modern society as well as how to integrate and aim the sky in their high school education.

Kikuyu Sub County patron Elder Mukirae promised to always be supportive in his society and the neighborhood too to ensure cohesiveness amongst the people living around kikuyu Sub County. He added he will always be ready to advice whenever approached. He further thanked the area MP. Who is also the majority leader in parliament Kimani Ichungwa for choosing not be partisan in Cultural matters, he applauded him for the respect of cultural ceremonies unlike those who have been trying to use administrative powers to intimidate and stop cultural ceremonies simply because

the said elders don't subscribe to dictatorship and egocentric ways of gaining millage in the name of Kiama Kia ma elders.

He added that a time has come for Kiama Kia ma Kiambu county to unite and speak in one solid voice by way of electing one Kiambu county chairman which will happen soon after the boys circumcision exercise to bring to an end the wrangles that have been murred by a self-appointed 'national Patron' yet he has never been appointed by the Gikuyu Elders.

The elders stated clearly with no fear of contradiction that the appointed national patron is and remains to be Elder Kinyua Mwangi who was appointed by elders from the 12 counties that subscribe to our Gikuyu language at a function held in Nyeri County in broad day light.

The interim Kiama Kia ma Kiambu county office announced that plans are underway to hold a Kiambu county Congress so as to elect a new United Kiambu county office later in December or there about.

Muthamaki Thiongo Wa Gitau em-

phasized the need to have unity in our counties under the leadership of National chair Ndungu Gaithuma and his two deputies Mugo Njoroge and Minae Njoroge. He challenged parents to bring our young generation closer to us to ensure we give them both the fatherly love and motherly love too, he said both parents must be supportive in the upbringing of the kids especially at the modern days where kids are growing without vast knowledge of culture and rule of respect like in the olden days. He asked parents to always make time to talk to their kids from time to time just like we bend a tree while it's still young.

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Unhappiness Is The Basis Of Happiness



By: Boqijonova Madinabonu
@themtkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- They always share their feelings with me. They say that this is life, everything is possible. They will explain many things in a real way so that you can be an example. My sister Gulnara is the eldest child of the family. He has a sister and a brother. In fact, no one lives easily, but my sister Gulnara also grew up in difficulties. His father left him at the age of 11, and he started working at the age of 12.
- At first he worked in a store. I don't know how anyone can imagine, but when I was 12 years old, I went to school in the morning and returned home in the afternoon. My sister Gulnara worked at this age.



What is happiness? Is it happiness to achieve what someone lacks? When will he come? When is a person happy? God has written a beautiful destiny for us, each of us, while we live in it, we will taste happiness or unhappiness. In fact, each of us is happy. You just need to understand. There is good in everything. I repeat this word many times in my life. Because I believe in these words with all my heart. I want to tell you the story that made me believe in these words once again.

One day I was working in the yard when someone called me. They invited us to the wedding. July 21 was the wedding day. I did my job. Since it was summer, the days got hot quickly, as my grandmother used to say, it would be better to cook eggs in a pan without fire. Around noon, my mother returned from work. They work in a hospital.

We had lunch together. He saw the invitation left for us in the morning. I did not know whose wedding I asked my mother. Aunt Rabiya's daughter Gulnara's wedding. She prayed, may God be pleased with her. Sister Gulnara in our neighborhood was 37 years old. They worked in a preschool. My mother remained silent for a while and began to tell what had happened to her. I love these habits of my mother.

They always share their feelings with me. They say that this is life, everything is possible. They will explain many things in a real way so that you can be an example. My sister Gulnara is the eldest child of the family. He has a sister and a brother. In fact, no one lives easily, but my sister Gulnara also grew up

in difficulties. His father left him at the age of 11, and he started working at the age of 12.

At first he worked in a store. I don't know how anyone can imagine, but when I was 12 years old, I went to school in the morning and returned home in the afternoon. My sister Gulnara worked at this age. Growing up early...responsibility...anxiety...Mom said it all. We talked about his performance, what about fatherlessness? An 11-year-old girl everyone remembers her when she goes to school, on the street, in the market, everywhere.

When they were studying, they got engaged to a young man at the age of 18. At that time, he had finished his second year and was working in the store where he had worked in his youth. Maybe then Gulnara dreamed of my sister, maybe I didn't see love from my father, maybe this boy made me happy, I felt that happy days are still ahead, happy days are near.

Maybe his poor mother thought so too. Our tomorrow is known only to Allah. These are just things that came to mind. Now let's hear the word from my mother. When my sister Gulnara was returning from the store one day, she had an accident. Her legs were broken. I don't know what was going through her and her family's imagination at that time.

They lived through these events that I was so moved by just listening to them. And the saddest thing is that this terrible event happened when they were about to marry a young man, and it ruined their sweet dreams.

That is, the groom's side told them

that there will be no wedding. My sister Gulnara somehow finished her studies. It was then that he started sewing hats again at home. According to my mother, my sisters often visited my sister Gulnara. Learned a trade.

Later, my sister Gavhar were married off to a good place. In the meantime, my sister Gulnara recovered and started working in the kindergarten. It worked for a long time. Together with his brother, they rebuilt their house. My mother said that at one time, the guy who was engaged to my sister Gulnara, stopped the wedding after the accident and then married someone else. I don't know how long he lived with his wife. But that young man drank a lot of vodka, and one day when he got drunk, he fought with his wife and had a big fight, so he sent her home.

At that time, they had 10-month-old children. He kept the child without giving it to his wife. After leaving, the young man gave the milk in the refrigerator to a 10-month-old baby. This event was enough for everyone to hear. Murgakkina died before realizing what life is. When I heard it, my flesh began to tremble.

Is it possible for a person to be so merciless and stupid? It is a good thing that my sister Gulnara had an accident and that she did not marry the boy. Today, when they told me about the wedding, among all the events, they told my sister Gulnara, who turned 37 years old, to her wedding. God gives happiness to man. Sooner or later, big or small, he will definitely give it to everyone. But a person needs patience in many moments. It

takes strength.

Among these events, my sister Gulnara's brother also got married. And now, it's July 21. Gulnara's sister's wedding. My mother told me about this incident and emphasized that we came to this life for a test, that happiness cannot be easily achieved and that we should seek wisdom from everything.

It is not easy for anyone in this world. Everyone is fighting their own battle. Everyone has their own mission, their own battlefield. Everyone thinks that the most difficult battlefield is his. In fact, the One who mobilizes to the battlefield is so great that everyone can carry out the task according to their own strength and endurance.

The truth is that sometimes it is difficult to fight at all. Even if a person has little strength, it will come to the point of collapse. But at those times, perhaps by making one of his the cause, or by some other reason, He gives power.

But until he gives the strength, the desire to start working again with enthusiasm, a person is as if dead and resurrected. These testing days are actually necessary.

Boqijonova Madinabonu

She was born on May 19, 2004 in Beshkapa village, Koshtepa district, Fergana region. Student of Russian language and literature at Fergana State University. Several of his stories have been published in many anthologies.

Sports >> *Kenya's Hellen Obiri is the new champion of the New York Marathon after edging a closely contested women's race yesterday.

Kenya's Obiri Wins New York Marathon After Pulsating Race



Hellen Obiri celebrates after winning the Boston Marathon. PHOTO/World Athletics...

Kenya's Hellen Obiri is the new champion of the New York Marathon after edging a closely contested women's race yesterday. The Boston Marathon champion clocked 2:27:23, outpacing world 10,000m silver medalist, Letesenbet Gidey of Ethiopia (2:27:29) and immediate former defending champion — and fellow Kenyan — Sharon Lokedi

(2:27:33) in second and third respectively. It was a women's race that always had the makings of a thrilling finish with Obiri and Gidey part of a leading pack that included Lokedi and former world record holder Brigid Kosgei, with approximately 3.2km to go. It was Obiri's second ever World Marathon Majors win of

her marathon career following her triumph in Boston in April this year. In the men's race, Ethiopian Tamirat Tola took top honours after timing a course record of 2:04:59 in first place as the 2021 champion, Kenya's Albert Korir, timed 2:06:57 in second. Another Ethiopian, Shura Kitata, came third in 2:07:11.

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Sports >>> *The Olympics champion for the women's marathon, Peres Jepchirchir, says she will come back home to rest and then prepare for next year's Paris Games after missing out yesterday's New York Marathon due to a calf injury.

What Next For Peres Jepchirchir After Withdrawal From New York Marathon?



Peres Jepchirchir celebrates after winning the Boston Marathon in 2022

The Olympics champion for the women's marathon, Peres Jepchirchir, says she will come back home to rest and then prepare for next year's Paris Games after missing out yesterday's New York Marathon due to a calf injury.

The three-time world half marathon champion remains confident of shining in the women's 42km in the French capital despite her latest setback.

"I will now go back...rest for maybe a week and get some treatment. I'd have to wait for my body to get fit and then prepare for it (Olympics). All this depends on whether our federation (Athletics Kenya) selects me in the team. Of course, they have told me that Eliud (Kipchoge) and I will be de-

fending our titles and then others will be selected," Jepchirchir said. Jepchirchir, who won the New York Marathon in 2021, was compelled to withdraw from the battle in the Big Apple at the last minute following advice from her physical therapist.

"I sustained a lower leg injury during the last workout of my marathon training. I travelled to New York with hopes that it would improve but after two days of physical therapy, we have made the decision that I should not start the race," she revealed.

Jepchirchir added: "I still hope to defend my Olympic title in Paris next year and do not want to do anything that might put that in jeopardy. I wish good luck to ev-

erybody running on Sunday."

The 2022 Boston Marathon champion arrived in New York full of momentum, on the back of making history at the World Road Running Championships in Riga, Latvia where she became the first athlete to win three consecutive world half marathon titles.

Understandably, she was heartbroken to be missing out on a second New York title.

"I am not happy at all because when I am preparing for a race and then suddenly I get injured. Regardless, I accept it because injuries are part of it (an athlete's career). It is something that has affected me mentally but I know I will be fit again," she said.

Despite the disappointment, Jep-

chirchir was happy to delve into the debate on the world record for the women's marathon.

She confessed her dreams of one day setting a new record albeit added that it does not figure so much in her thoughts.

"It is not easy to break it now... maybe it will take some years. But for me, I have never prepared to break the world record although I know one day...one time, I will break it," the former world record holder for the half marathon said.

Her withdrawal follows that of two-time New York Marathon champion Geoffrey Kamworor and men's defending champion Evans Chebet.

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The Mt Kenya Times



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The Role Of Annimarie Schimmel In The History Of Uzbekistan



By: Atajanova Araztaj Makh-sadovna

@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- On October 12, 1995, she was awarded the "Peace" prize by the German Book Organization, which clearly reveals the importance of her works.
- Mrs. Schimmel loved the spiritual world of Islam with all her heart, and for this reason Muslims give her great recognition.
- The work "Jonon mening jonimda", translated into Uzbek, is adapted to highlight the life, customs and cultures of women and girls in the Islamic world.
- During the work, the lady tried to shed light on the importance of women and girls in the Islamic world over the centuries, and I would not be mistaken if I say that she succeeded.



It is known to many people that the people of Uzbekistan have worshiped Islam since time immemorial. Therefore, some of our scholars have conducted research on the reasons for the emergence of the history of Islam.

Not only our scientists, but also non-religious people were interested in this situation.

Annimarie Schimmel, the leading German scholar of Islam in Germany in 1925, is one of those interested. His work "Johnon Mening John" occupies a great place in the history of Islam.

Throughout her life, Mrs. Schimmel has brought to the attention of

culture lovers profound and discussion-provoking facts about Islam and its history.

On October 12, 1995, she was awarded the "Peace" prize by the German Book Organization, which clearly reveals the importance of her works.

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During the work, the lady tried

to shed light on the importance of women and girls in the Islamic world over the centuries, and I would not be mistaken if I say that she succeeded.

The work mainly deals with books on the history of Islam and controversial topics in them.

Emphasizing, the issues of wrong propagation of religion and disrespect for women and girls were specially touched upon.

It is mentioned in the work that from the time of the Pailambers, women were given honor, education and upbringing, and they were even allowed to participate in battles as commanders.

When Mrs. Schimmel wrote the work, there were no deviations or exaggerations in the laws of Islam regarding women and girls.

For this reason, it is natural that Mrs. Schimmel and her works are glorified not only in the history of Uzbekistan, but also in the eyes of people who believe in the religion of Islam all over the world.

Student of Karakalpak State University named after Berdakh, Biology faculty 1st course

Atajanova Araztaj Makh-sadovna