



Reclaiming Justice: How Funding IPOA Can End Police Impunity in Kenya

A staggering 118 people were reportedly killed by police in Kenya in 2023, according to a report by local and international rights groups, a number that doesn't even account for the countless cases of brutality, enforced disappearances, and kidnappings by men in blue. The number in 2024 and 2025 is worsening courtesy of the protests. Page 18

NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL CONFERENCE,

WHERE: TWO RIVERS MALL - NAIROBI
WHEN: 17-21ST SEPTEMBER 2025

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P. 12. The Kiambu youth month culminated with a grand event at the County Headquarters in Kiambu town where Mr and Ms Kiambu Youth were crowned in an energetic and vibrant gathering of 4,500 youth.

Ruto: Gov't To Sue SHA Scammers

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President William Ruto. PHOTO| PCS

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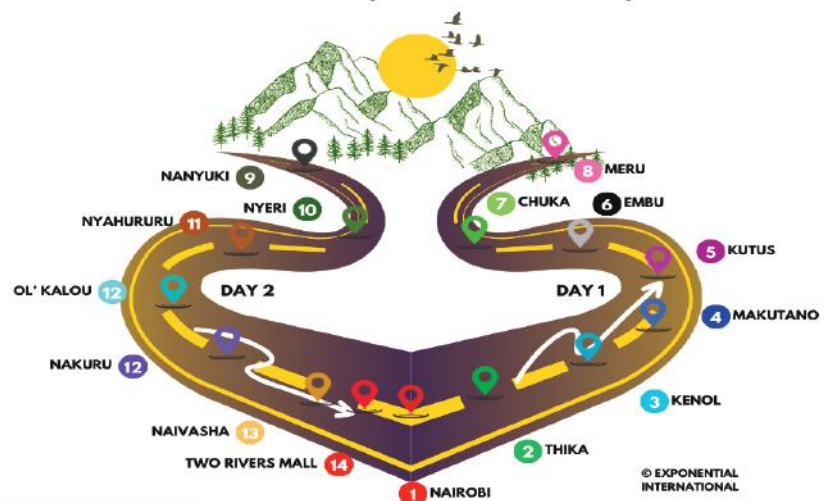
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President Ruto In Siaya County For Sunday Service, Commissioning And Launching Of Projects

By: MKT Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

President William Ruto yesterday toured Siaya County. The president attended a church service at ACK's St Peter's Cathedral Church in Maseno West diocese, commissioned Ugunja-Se-ga-Ukwala water project and also laid foundation stone for Sidindi modern market in Ugunja constituency. He also addressed members of the public at Ugunja town. He was eventually hosted by Energy Cabinet Secretary Opiyo Wandayi at his Sijimbo village home. The Head of State highlighted various issues as he defended his administration, saying he was up to the task. "Across the country, over 320,000 young Kenyans are today earning a dignified living by working in our Affordable Housing Projects. By December, this number will rise to 650,000, as we scale up investments in quality projects that not only create jobs but also transform lives and communities," he noted.



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NEWS IN BRIEF



Former Kirinyaga County Senator Charles Kibiru (in yellow jacket) leads his homecounty golfers in celebrations after being crowned the Inter-County champions. The County emerged the winners of the first series of the Inter-County Golf tournament held at the Thika Greens Golf Resort over the weekend. They scored 394 points beating Murang'a County by 22 points. Nyan-darua County came third with 372 points while Nyeri County came position four with 369 points. Nine counties took part in the first series. The next series will be held in the same venue later in the year.



Othaya Member of Parliament Wambugu Wainaina alias Kirima (left) inspecting the ongoing construction of Othaya stadium yesterday. The new stadium is one of the many projects that the MP has lobbied from the Kenya Kwanza administration. Others are three markets, roads, KIMC buildings, electrification as well as water for domestic and irrigation. The stadium, situated in the heart of Othaya town, is set to be completed and ready for use by football, volleyball, and several other indoor sports by early next year.



Women leaders in Laikipia, Isiolo, Samburu, and Marsabit counties have appealed to both the County and the National governments to intensify efforts of fighting Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and child marriages. The women leaders drawn from various organizations decried that despite an enhanced multi-sectoral approach to counter the outdated practice in the region, the impact was minimal, and so there was a need for strong government intervention for the campaign to be successful. They urged the two levels of the government, and especially the counties, to devise policies that strengthen and support the war against FGM and early marriages, which was sluggish and not vigorous. Speaking in Isiolo town, the four counties' representatives emphasised on the need for enhanced formulation of gender-related policies and budget allocations for the creation of awareness and enforcement of the existing laws. They asserted that the deep-rooted cultural practices among communities living in those regions demand concerted efforts involving both genders as well as spirited sensitization forums that could be impactful on behavioral change among all the players in the retrogressive traditional practices.



The government has reaffirmed its commitment to motivate civil servants through the harmonisation of salaries to boost efficiency and enhance service delivery. Speaking during the closing ceremony of the 44th edition of the Kenya Communications Sports Organisation (KECOSO) Games at Moi Stadium in Embu on Saturday, Cabinet Secretary for Public Service, Human Capital, and Special Programmes, Geoffrey Ruku, acknowledged existing challenges in remuneration disparities within the public sector. He noted that the Government was aware of the concerns around pay disparities and was committed to ensuring equity and fairness in remuneration was achieved. The CS assured workers that the government was actively working to address these issues and ensure fair and competitive compensation across all job cadres.



Experts in agriculture and technology have called for a more inclusive and farmer-centered approach to the use of digital technology in agroecology, warning that current systems risk sidelining smallholder farmers and eroding indigenous knowledge. The Programme Assistant of the Biodiversity and Biosafety Association of Kenya (BIBA-Kenya), Gideon Muya, has observed that his organisation is conducting a participatory technology assessment to understand how digital tools in agriculture are affecting small-scale farmers. During a stakeholders' forum held at a Murang'a hotel, Muya noted that while digital systems are increasingly shaping farming, many of the solutions fail to incorporate agroecological principles and traditional farming practices that conserve biodiversity. Muya also criticized the bias of many agricultural technologies toward chemical inputs rather than ecological practices and the neglect of indigenous knowledge in digital platforms.



Kisii tea growers representative at Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) Holdings, Mr. James Omweno (left) is the organisation's board new Vice-Chairman. Mr. Omweno, who is a Board Member and Director Zone 11, which is Kisii County, was elected to replace the late Eric Chepkwony who passed on in May. The board members, led by their chairman Chege Kirundi welcomed Omweno in the agency's top leadership saying he was equal to the task and would assist in championing for the interests of all stallholder tea farmers across the country.



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Murang'a Residents Urged To Embrace Government's Projects For Growth And Development

By: Bernard Munyao and Catherine Kamunyo
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Wahome listed some of the programmes including the Social Health Authority (SHA), the Affordable Housing Project, and increased investment in education and training, saying they are intended to improve their living standards and for Kenya's socio-economic growth.
- Speaking while inspecting the ongoing construction of the Ngararia Market in Gatanga Sub-County, the CS noted that the government is prioritizing projects that directly impact the lives of ordinary Kenyans positively.

Lands Cabinet Secretary Alice Wahome has urged Murang'a residents to embrace and support government-sponsored programmes and projects for accelerated and sustainable development in the region.

Wahome listed some of the programmes including the Social Health Authority (SHA), the Affordable Housing Project, and increased investment in education and training, saying they are intended to improve their living standards and for Kenya's socio-economic growth.

Speaking while inspecting the ongoing construction of the Ngararia Market in Gatanga Sub-County, the CS noted that the government is prioritizing projects that directly impact the lives of ordinary Kenyans positively.

She emphasized that healthcare remains a deeply personal matter, and citizens should take the initiative to register with SHA to avoid last-minute rushes when health problems arise.

"Somebody's health is a personal issue. People must take personal responsibility by enrolling in SHA instead of waiting until illness strikes. Registration is free, and it ensures timely access to medical services," she added, dismissing those who are faulting the health scheme on lame excuses.

The CS also defended the Affordable Housing Programme, saying it is designed not only to address the housing deficit in the country but also to create employment opportunities for thousands of young people.

She explained that the initiative is part of the government's broader agenda to stimulate economic growth through job creation.

"Currently, thousands of young peo-



Cabinet Secretary Alice Wahome with other officials during the project tour.

ple are employed at construction sites of affordable housing. The houses once completed will offer decent shelters to Kenyans, especially middle- and low-income earners," said the CS, revealing that Kenyans are already occupying the completed houses in various parts of the country.

Turning to education, Wahome highlighted the government's heavy investment in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions.

She said equipping TVETs with modern facilities and expanding enrollment will prepare young Kenyans with practical skills and open up opportunities in the labour market.

"The government is deliberately in-

vesting in TVETs to create jobs for young people. By strengthening technical training, we are giving the youth the skills and tools to become innovators, creators, and job generators," Wahome stated.

She further underscored the government's commitment to funding higher education, assuring parents and learners that resources are being channeled to universities and colleges to expand access and ease the financial burden on families.

The CS described the construction of Ngararia Market as part of wider efforts to uplift local economies by providing traders with decent and well-equipped facilities.

"Ngararia market is 76 per cent com-

plete, and we hope the facility will be complete before the end of this year. The market is among 15 other modern markets the government is constructing in Murang'a County. The facilities are spearheaded to offer conducive operating areas for our traders," she added.

Once complete, the market is expected to serve about 300,000 traders, offering a modern space that will improve the hygiene of the trading environment and boost incomes for the traders.

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Gachagua Hits Out Government, Says One Term Is Inevitable For Failing Kenyans

By: MKT Correspondents
 @themkenyatimes

Former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua yesterday continued to criticise the Kenya Kwanza administration saying it had terribly failed in its mandate.

The DCP Party Leader Fired shots at President William Ruto's government over failure to contain corruption, land grabbing and invasion, among other ills facing the country and its citizens.

He sharply criticized the current administration, accusing it of inconsistency and failure in the fight against corruption, an issue that is costing majority of Kenyans their well-being. He emphasized that the ultimate responsibility lies with President William Ruto, asserting that "the buck stops with him."

Gachagua pointed out that despite President Ruto publicly condemning corruption in Parliament, his actions suggest otherwise.

He has lamented that the State House has become a den of corruption citing instances where the President meets with different groups and allegedly offers money to buy support, undermining genuine efforts to combat



Former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua addressing residents of Ongata Rongai town yesterday.

corruption.

He made these remarks during a church service at PCEA Ongata Rongai in Kajiado County during the ordination of Reverend Joseph Mburu.

On the alarming invasion of Mandera County by Jubaland Forces, Gachagua expressed his devastation, questioning why the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces has yet to issue a statement or take action.

He condemned the silence of the government, stating that neighboring forces have taken advantage of the situation, taking hostage parts of the region in Mandera county against the treaty.

He called on President Ruto to act immediately to expel the Jubaland forces, warning that this invasion is a ticking time bomb for national security.

Furthermore, he addressed the controversy surrounding the alleged land grabbing at PCEA Ongata Rongai.

Gachagua condemned the act, describing it as "not just illegal but a moral insult" to the church that stood with the government through prayers during the 2022 elections.

He assured that the opposition will strongly oppose any attempt to seize sacred grounds under the guise of development, vowing to defend the



Former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua conferring with PCEA clergy as Kajiado North MP Onesmus Ngogoyo looks on. Photos/Courtesy.

church's integrity. He said a member of a family of a senior politician had plans of taking over the land for private investment, which he said the next government, established after the 2027 General Elections will revert it to church.

This he said, will be possible since the current administration will only serve for one term.

For the sake of majority of Kenyans, Gachagua urged the government to prioritize integrity, sovereignty, and

moral responsibility in its dealings, warning that failure to do so risks undermining public trust and national stability.

The former DP and his team of several former, current and aspiring political leaders were hosted by Kajiado County leaders led by the host and Kajiado North MP Onesmus Ngogoyo.

After the Sunday service, the team addressed roadside meetings in the area.

TVET Institutions To Integrate Green Skills For Sustainable Development

By: Sitati Reagan
 @themkenyatimes

The government has announced plans to embed environmental sustainability into technical and vocational training curricula in a move aimed at equipping young people with skills for a greener economy.

The initiative is designed to link training with employment opportunities while addressing urgent environmental challenges.

Speaking in Mombasa during a week-long training for trainers organised in partnership with EDUKANS Kenya, Principal Secretary for TVET Dr Esther Muoria said the initiative will align education with the country's environmental and employment priorities.

"We are working to green our institutions and curricula so that learners acquire skills that promote sustainable development. Kenya faces challenges of waste in our waters and environment. Addressing this must start with education," Dr Muoria said.

The PS noted that past efforts had only partially incorporated environmental content into TVET programmes, prompting the government to seek stronger partnerships with the private sector.

The collaboration would extend across all fields, including textiles, mechanical engineering, building, and civil works, to ensure sustainability is mainstreamed in every area of training.

Dr. Muoria stated that the government is also engaging universities, basic education institutions, and county governments to broaden the reach of the greening agenda.

She emphasised that President William Ruto has directed education agencies to stop working in isolation and instead adopt a unified approach to skills development.

Edukans Kenya Country Director Miriam Mugo said the organisation is committed to promoting education and skills development for marginalised communities while supporting a transition to a circular economy.

"Textiles are among the world's top three polluting sectors after oil, gas, and plastics. This is why we began the Green Future Project, where we are training 2,300 young people with green skills, particularly in the textile industry," Mugo said.

She noted that Edukans had trained 13 master trainers who will, in turn, support 200 trainers to reach thousands of young people across TVET institutions.

The programme also targets 100



Principal Secretary for TVET Dr Esther Muoria

small and medium enterprises SMEs in the textile sector, equipping them with knowledge to repurpose waste materials and reduce pollution.

"Our goal is not only to green the

curriculum but also to ensure that the industry is prepared to absorb graduates with sustainable skills," she said.

Gov't To Charge SHA Funds Fraudsters - President Ruto

By: PCS
 @themkenyatimes

One thousand hospitals whose licences have been revoked over attempts to fraudulently benefit from the Social Health Authority (SHA) will soon be prosecuted, President William Ruto has said.

The President said withdrawing the licences is the first step in ensuring accountability on SHA claims, which will be followed by surcharging for the illegal payments and finally prosecuting them.

"There's nothing as cruel as stealing from the sick," President Ruto said.

He made the remarks during the installation of Bishop John Kiplimo Lelei of the new Kapsabet Catholic Diocese at the Eliud Kipchoge Sports Complex in Kapsabet town, Nandi County, on Saturday.

In July 2025, Pope Leo XIV carved out Kapsabet Diocese from the Eldoret Diocese, making it Kenya's 28th Episcopal See.

President Ruto thanked the Church for partnering with the government on various sectors of the economy, such as education and health.

He commended Nandi County for being number 12 countrywide in SHA registration, with 450,000 people already under the scheme, but urged Kenyans to continue enlisting with the universal healthcare programme.

"For us to have a proper plan how to deliver universal health coverage, it is important that all citizens register," the President said.

On development projects in Nandi, he said the government has released KSh3.6 billion to complete stalled road projects in the county.

Further, he said the National Government will partner with Nandi County to improve the road network in Kapsabet town.

In addition, the President said the government has allocated KSh1.4 billion to connect 20,000 households in the county to electricity.

He said another KSh760 million has been set aside for the construction of a new stadium, while a further KSh350 million is earmarked for a modern market in Kapsabet town.

For affordable housing, fresh produce markets and institutional hostels in Nandi County, KSh13 billion will be spent to build 4,100 units, 13 markets and 5,700 hostels.

"We want to double that figure to



President William Ruto. PHOTO| PCS

KSh30 billion in our plan to raise the living standards in the county as we are doing elsewhere in the country," he pointed out.

President Ruto called on Kenyans to have faith in their own country and in the government's transformative projects.

"We can change this country in our lifetime if we have a plan, and if we eliminate ethnic divisions and corruption. I believe in the greatness of this nation," he said.

Also present at the ceremony were Archbishops Maurice Muhatia Makumba of Kisumu, Anthony Muheria

of Nyeri and Vatican Apostolic Nuncio to Kenya Hubertus van Megen, Governors Stephen Sang (Nandi) and Jonathan Bii (Uasin Gishu), MPs MCAs, among other leaders.

MPs Embezzling SHA Funds Through Private Hospitals - Sylvanus Osoro

By: Nelson Ledama
 @themkenyatimes

South Mugirango Member of Parliament and Chief Whip of the National Assembly Sylvanus Osoro has accused unnamed legislators of siphoning funds from the national insurance scheme, Social Health Authority (SHA) through private healthcare facilities.

Speaking during an event in Narok, the legislator claimed that the said MPs are pocketing funds through their facilities and using them to fund press conferences and briefings.

"There are MPs up to now who are pocketing funds from SHA meant for hospitals and there are those with hospitals saying that every now and then operations are being done, and they take the money and hold press conferences," said Osoro.

He took a jibe at former deputy

president Rigathi Gachagua and parliamentarians allied to him, alleging that Gachagua stole from Nyeri County and his brother, the late Nyeri county boss Nderitu Gachagua.

"There are legislators who are corrupt.....and we want to caution Wamunyoro (moniker coined for the former DP), he has no moral authority to talk about corruption. First of all, he's the one who stole from Nyeri county and his late brother, everything about him is corruption," remarked Osoro.

During Gachagua's impeachment motion, Osoro had alleged that following the death of his older brother, Gachagua who was then the legislator for Mathira Constituency siphoned funds from the estate of Nderitu and left the family of the deceased with nothing.

The chief whip of the national assembly further cautioned parties and persons involved in schemes to defraud SHA, that they will face the full force of the law.



File image of South Mugirango MP and National Assembly Majority Whip Sylvanus Osoro during a past address. PHOTO | COURTESY.

"Whether you like it or not, you'll soon see parliamentary cartels and SHA cartels at the county levels being arrested," said Osoro.

The South Mugirango legislator's remarks come as various issues about SHA continue to come to light with various health stakeholders raising

concerns about the feasibility and overall affair of the insurance scheme that replaced the now defunct National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF).

Embu County Waives Medical Bills For Patients In Marking Hospital's Centenary Anniversary

By: Samuel Waititu
 @themtkenyatimes

The Embu County Government has waived hospital bills amounting to KSh2.6 million for 16 patients admitted at Embu Level Five Hospital in celebrations to mark 100 years since the facility was established.

The beneficiaries are needy patients who have been treated and lacked money to clear their hospital bills but now will be discharged today following the waiver.

Speaking on Saturday during the colourful centenary anniversary celebration held at the facility, Embu Governor Cecily Mbarire pledged to transform the hospital into a world-class referral facility.

She painted a vivid picture of a facility that was for years on the deathbed with demoralised staff, no medicines, broken laboratories, collapsed oxygen systems, no food for patients, and wards where families had to bring their own blankets.

“When I took office, Embu Level 5 was practically dead. Patients suffered without medicine, staff were demoral-

ized, and mothers delivered in deplorable conditions,” she narrated.

She continued, “Today, this story has changed. We have breathed life back into this hospital, and we are determined to make it one of the best referral hospitals in Kenya.”

The Governor highlighted her administration’s achievements in turning around the facility, with one of the interventions being clearing crippling debts owed to medical suppliers.

She said the hospital had accumulated more than KSh150 million in debt with KEMSA and a similar amount with MEDS, effectively paralyzing supplies.

On the issue of staff welfare, which had long been neglected, the Governor said her administration has cleared KSh588 million in salary statutory deductions and committed to staff promotions within the current financial year to boost their morale.

She also reported that the hospital’s surgical capacity has been significantly expanded, with two maternity theatres in operation and the main theatres increased from two to four.

Additionally, she said KSh18 million laparoscopic machines are also being procured, and diagnostic services are equally strengthened with new X-ray



Embu Governor Cecily Mbarire (centre), her deputy Kinyua Mugo (2nd right), assisted by other officials in cutting a cake to mark the centenary anniversary.

and ultrasound machines, alongside modern dental chairs.

She reported that a CT scan is expected to be installed next week, followed by an MRI machine, further broadening the hospital’s diagnostic capacity.

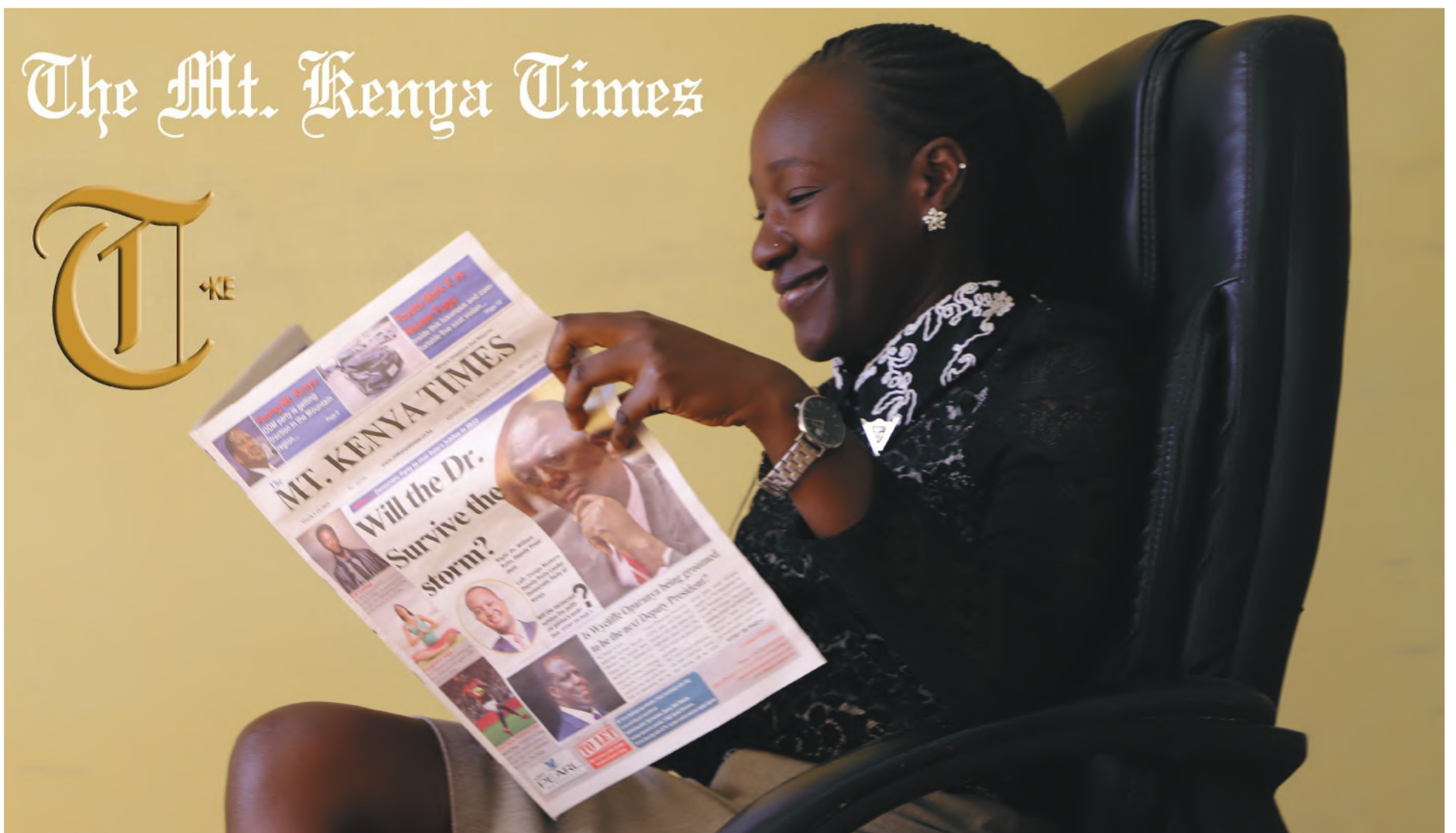
Governor Mbarire also noted that oncology and renal care services

have been scaled up, with the renal unit being fully equipped, with dialysis sessions supported by the Social Health Authority costing Sh10,600 per session.

On revenue collection, the county boss reported that in the 2024/25 financial year, the hospital recorded KSh478 million in revenue, with over

Sh300 million generated from Social Health Authority claims, leaving the hospital in a much stronger fiscal position.

She was accompanied by among others her deputy Kinyua Mugo.



A Chinese Selection Store Debuts In Nairobi, Bringing Chinese Brands Closer To Kenyan Consumers

By: Xinhua

@themtkenyatimes



Customers shop at Yiwu Selection store in Nairobi, Kenya, on Aug. 29, 2025. Yiwu Selection, a brand export collection store, officially opened in Nairobi, Kenya's capital, on Friday, introducing high-quality and affordable Chinese products to local shoppers. Photo/Xinhua/Han Xu.

Worth Noting:

- The Nairobi outlet, the first Yiwu Selection store in Africa, is located at China Square, a sprawling shopping complex in Waterfront Mall in the city's Karen suburbs.
- It mainly stocks female products such as cosmetics, designer clothing, beachwear, and household appliances.
- More than 20 Yiwu brands are already on the shelves, covering categories such as household items, digital accessories, and fashion jewelry.
- Speaking at the launch, Shao Chunhong, Bice Mayor of Yiwu, said that the high-quality and affordable Yiwu products are well-suited to the African market, and the opening of the store aligns with China's broader commitment to deepen economic and trade ties with Africa.

Yiwu Selection, a brand export collection store, officially opened in Nairobi, Kenya's capital, on Friday, introducing high-quality and affordable Chinese products to local shoppers.

Yiwu, a county-level city in East China's Zhejiang Province, is a global hub for consumer goods manufacturing, known for offering products that combine quality with affordability.

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Olivia Rachier, General Manager for Legal and Corporate Affairs at the Kenya Investment Authority, welcomed the move as a milestone, saying that Kenya welcomes Chinese investment across a wide range of sectors.

Kenya has enjoyed macroeconomic stability, is endowed with a young and skilled workforce, has a sophisticated

financial system, and is strategically located as a gateway for East Africa, offering vast opportunities to foreign investors, including those from China, Rachier said.

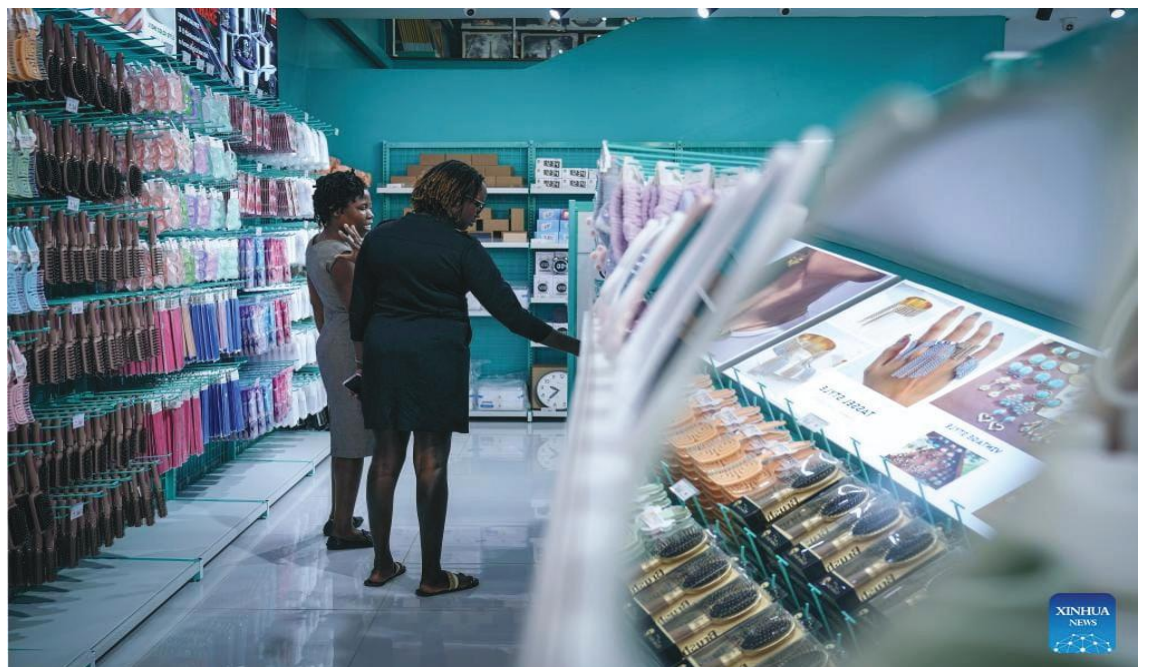
"We see great potential for Chinese investors to partner with us in manufacturing and industrialization, to establish industries in the economic zones, to drive exports into Africa and beyond," Rachier added.

Yuan Ying, General Manager of Yiwu China Commodities City Overseas Investment Development Co., Ltd., said that the Nairobi store will help deliver brands that resonate with local consumers.

"We have a very good partner here in China Square, and I believe we will bring more goods, more brands to Africa, including daily consumer goods like ornaments, clothes, perfumes, necklac-

es for female clients," said Yuan.

Cheng Lei, managing director of China Square, said the new store will ensure Yiwu products are easily accessible to local consumers. He added that China Square plans to explore franchising arrangements with Kenyan retailers to expand the distribution of Yiwu products tailored for women aged 25 to 55.



Customers shop at Yiwu Selection store in Nairobi, Kenya, on Aug. 29, 2025. Yiwu Selection, a brand export collection store, officially opened in Nairobi, Kenya's capital, on Friday, introducing high-quality and affordable Chinese products to local shoppers. Photo/Xinhua/Han Xu.

Mr & Ms Kiambu Crowned; Kiambu Youth Month Ends Spectacularly

By: Kiambu County Team
 @themkenyatimes

The Kiambu youth month culminated with a grand event at the County Headquarters in Kiambu town where Mr and Ms Kiambu Youth were crowned in an energetic and vibrant gathering of 4,500 youth.

Following a competitive beauty pageant, with contestants wearing differently themed attires, Mr David Nyoike was crowned Mr Kiambu Youth and Ms Sophy Naomi was crowned Ms Kiambu Youth. Mr Nyoike dazzled the judges with his upright chiseled look as he stepped out in different attires, while Ms Naomi strutted the runaway like peacock, with a perfect body shape.

Governor Kimani Wamatangi crowned the winners who were gifted with a KSh100,000 cheque and other goodies, while Members of the County Assembly (MCAs) gifted the other contestants for their exemplary performance.

Some of the partners included KCB and Dimkes Sacco who gave gifts to the participants.

The performing artist of the day, Iyarii, Ian Oure, of the famous song kufa dereva makanga, le oni kifo cha mende gave an electric performance and took the stage with a jig together with the Governor.

The International Youth Day 2025 was themed, "Youth Empowerment for a Sustainable Future; Empowering Youth, Building Tomorrow."

The youth showcased their talents and skills at the exhibition stands that included Mobile Applications, paintings, drawings, agriculture projects, and cultural designs. There was also creative works in form of rap songs, dance, choreography, and singing among others.

Those who were presented at the County headquarters were winners from the four zones; Thika (Zone One), Githurai (Zone Two), Kikuyu (Zone Three), and Limuru (Zone Four).

In his speech, Governor Wamatangi noted the diversity of skills among the Kiambu youth, and noted the need for the County to adopt some of the mobile technologies, like the Early Childhood Development (ECDE App) and environment app (Takataka App).

"My administration has identified some of the digital applications developed by the youth, which we will tap into to improve efficiency in our Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) programs, agricul-

ture, and waste management," said the Governor.

In addition, the Governor pledged to inject millions more in support of the youth, and Gen Z to continue growing their areas of interest in mobile technology and art, diversifying their income sources and also creating jobs.

"My administration has allocated Ksh300 million for a revolving fund aimed at supporting youth in business, innovators, and those pursuing talents in fashion, sports, and art, and, through a collaboration, Kenya Commercial Bank will inject Ksh 500 million into the kitty," said Governor Wamatangi.

In support of the upcoming musicians, and content creators, the county would invest in a recording studio. "We have also revived the stalled amphitheater at Kirigiti Stadium, which will also include a studio for recording artists. A similar facility will be constructed in Thika.

CECM Youth Affairs, Sports and Communication detailed the talent search conducted by the department across the sub-counties of Kiambu that attracted hundreds of the youth.

"Through the documentary, we have showcased the work we have done in building of stadiums, training the youth in film, APPs development, referee and sports management, and employment suitability, and also encouraging the growth of talents among the youthful population in Kiambu," said CECM Korar.

County Assembly Speaker Wakili Thiongo urged the youth to continue pursuing their passions, and rise in Kiambu and the world.

Deputy Speaker of Kiambu John Njue also commended the youth for their exemplary performance, and also the county for investing in the youth.



Governor Kimani Wamatangi gives a dummy cheque to Mr and Ms Kiambu Youth: Mr David Nyoike and Ms Sophy Naomi. They were crowned following the culmination of the Kiambu youth month at a grand event at the County Headquarters in Kiambu town that attracted more than 4,500 youth. Photos/Kiambu County Team/Ayub Muiyoro.



Governor Kimani Wamatangi goes down in Anguka Nayo style together with some youth and musician, Iyarii, Ian Oure, of the famous song kufa dereva makanga, le oni kifo cha mende in an electric performance.



Governor Kimani Wamatangi takes a selfie with some of the 4500 youth attending the Kiambu Youth Day at the County HQ on Friday.

Kenya, Uganda Move To Address Challenges Facing Cross-Border Trade

By: Absalom Namwalo and Owen Mutai
 @themtkenyatimes

The Kenyan and Ugandan governments have embarked on addressing challenges faced by cross-border traders marked by the poor state of infrastructure and inadequate scanners to support the clearing process so as to facilitate seamless trade along the Busia and Malaba One Stop Border Points.

Trade and transportation through the Busia and Malaba border crossings have experienced growth and constant activity at East Africa's cargo and passenger access points, but there has been a constant voice of concern from traders and transporters regarding an increase in delays, long queues, and high operational costs associated with obsolete and inapt systems.

Speaking after inspecting the OSBPs at Malaba and Busia, the Cabinet Secretary for Investments, Trade, and Industries, Lee Kinyanjui, and his Ugandan counterpart, Gen. Wilson Mbasu, noted that there is a need for urgent intervention to address the is-

ssues raised, which have led to traffic snarl-ups leading to huge losses as a result of delays that are occasioned by clearing processes.

"We cannot keep letting inefficiencies at our main points of entry hinder operations because every delay results in financial loss for our people. We want to make sure that traders move their goods quickly and predictably," stated CS Kinyanjui.

The two ministers noted that in order to facilitate trade, regional integration, and people-to-people ties, the Government of Kenya and Uganda must upgrade the Suam Point of Entry/Exit to a modern One-Stop Border Post (OSBP) to enable border management officers from both countries to share space for quicker clearance of human and vehicle traffic.

"When delays persist, the very essence of regional integration is undermined. Uganda and Kenya must act fast to keep trade flowing and protect the livelihoods of our traders," remarked Gen. Mbasu.

The business community, along with regional transport operators, is increasing its lobbying efforts for the delay to be lifted, which has been affecting trade competitiveness. In



Cabinet Secretary Lee Kinyanjui (in coat) during the event.

the past, truck drivers used to wait for days to get their consignments cleared, and as a result, perishable goods spoiled, and operational costs shot up.

Additionally, East African Community integration goals have been constantly undermined, as these issues have not only stalled the flow of goods, but their impact is slowly and

steadily becoming worse.

The completion of Suam OSBP (One Stop Border Post) will provide traders with an alternative clearance point, which will reduce procedures and congestion at Malaba and Busia.

The Suam One Stop Border Post will further streamline the security processes and will quicken the movement of manufactured goods, farm prod-

ucts, and other vital goods between the two bordering countries.

This points to the fact that the two countries are under one goal of fighting the trade barriers and of working towards the development of the integrated economy of the region.

Dr Paul Wanjohi Highlights Challenges of Running Two Curriculums in One School

By: John Kariuki
 @themtkenyatimes

Dr Paul Wanjohi, the Executive Director of Sharp Education Centre, has shed light on the growing challenges schools face as they prepare to run two parallel curriculums, the traditional 8 4 4 system and the new Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC), starting January 2026 when the pioneer CBC class joins senior schools.

According to Dr Wanjohi, the dual operation, though necessary during the transition, requires deliberate planning, strong leadership, and adaptive management to succeed. He notes that schools must address several pressing issues if they are to deliver quality education under both systems.

Among the challenges Dr Wanjohi points out are timetabling conflicts

that complicate scheduling, staffing shortages that overstretch teachers, and infrastructure pressures as classrooms and facilities strain to accommodate learners from both curriculums. He adds that financial demands are also a burden, with parents feeling the pinch of increased levies while schools struggle to expand resources without overcharging.

Dr Wanjohi further highlights the confusion surrounding the gradual phasing out of 8 4 4, stressing that schools must invest in clear communication with parents, teachers, and learners to build confidence in the transition process.

To navigate these hurdles, Dr Wanjohi recommends flexible timetabling, ongoing teacher empowerment through training and mentorship, resource optimization by repurposing facilities, and collaborative financing with support from parents, alumni, and well-wishers.



Dr Paul Wanjohi, the Executive Director of Sharp Education Centre

He also emphasizes the importance of consistent communication to maintain trust.

Dr Wanjohi concludes that while the

coexistence of two curriculums is complex, it also presents an opportunity for innovation and growth. With proper planning and resilience, he

believes Kenyan schools can maintain high standards of education and prepare learners for a brighter future.

Road To Recovery



My road to recovery
Leads me to self-discovery.

Searching for peace

Is not actually easy.

The heart asks for solitude,
To escape from this crude.

Pain goes far,
Leaving a deep scar.

Healing myself for the future,
To become my own booster.

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Your happiness is in your own mind



Your happiness is in your own mind,
Never be dependent or rely on others for your
happiness
They may cheat or leave, without a warning sign,
So be firm in yourself, and make your heart bold

Don't give your key to happiness to others,
keep them safe with you tight,
Don't let others rule you, day and night,
Your smile is in your hands, keep it secure and
bright,

Your happiness is your choice, don't give it away
to others
If you leave it to others, you won't know what
will happen
You can't dance to others tunes
They may bring you joy, or leave you in the mid

way

But when you hold yours, it is yours
choose your own way,
And your happiness will bloom every single day.
Keep your happiness, locked safely in your heart,

And don't let others dictate, how you feel from
the start,
You are in control, of your own delight,
Keep shining bright, and make your happiness
take flight.
Others can't see you happy for a long time,

so they may turn opposite
Be cautious and vigilant
Before experiencing bitterness
Understand when experienced people tell.

Brinda. D
CREATIVE WRITERS
GRADUATE TEACHER,
GOVT HIGH SCHOOL,
MELPATTAMPACKKAM
CUDDALORE,
Tamilnadu India

The Butterfly



Oh, butterfly, so beautiful, cute, and sweet,
My favorite creature, to meet.
To become a butterfly, is not so easy
A magical journey, through life's cycle,

From pupa to larva, and more, it grows,
Undergoing plenty of challenges and changes,

It is all nature shows.
After emerging, it flies so free,
With vibrant colors, wonderfully

Its wings are designed, in a beautiful way,
It is a masterpiece, every single day.
There's no word to express its beauty
It is a rare Creature
A butterfly's charm is beyond comparison.

When I see a butterfly, I feel so happy
Because I love them so much,
They never harm, they just fly and play,
Bringing joy to all, in their own sweet way.

My question is, who designed this butterfly?
Who crafted its beauty, with such beauty?
My request is, let's protect these creatures
And never harm them, for they bring us joy

R. Tharini, MA

GHS, Melpattampakkam
Cuddalore district
Tamil Nadu India

Every Child Shines Differently



Don't treat your child as a trophy,
Respect their unique identity.
Don't transfer your unfinished dreams,
Instead,
help them discover their own.

Not everyone is born for
Physics or Biology.
Ask them their priority.
When you let them choose their path,
Their true talent will shine apart,
Let them fulfill their dream
Filling life's cup to the brim.

Chetna Bhatia
Teacher/ Coordinator
Rustomjee Cambridge International School and
Junior College
Mumbai
India

A Greater Gate Ahead



Not every door is meant for us to pass,
Some stand unopened, guarding us from harm.
When effort fails and silence bars the way,
It may be God's own hand that turns the key.

This world holds treasures not for all to claim,
A wish may rise, yet grant another gift.
What seems denied is often grace concealed,
His plan unfolds beyond our mortal sight.

So do not grieve when dreams dissolve in mist,
But trust the path that Providence has drawn.
With patient heart and steady work each day,
The right reward will meet you in its time.

You may reach out desiring but a rose,
While God prepares a garden vast and fair.
What seems too small may bloom to endless
joy,
More radiant than you ever dared to dream.

A locked door does not speak of loss or end,
It whispers of a greater gate ahead.
And when it opens, light will fill your soul,
Revealing beauty you had never known

V Durgadevi
BT Assistant
GHS Nosal
Tiruvannamalai District

Something Destroying Me...

Something or someone,
That's inside me,
Fears me everyday,
Cries me everyday,
Make me run everyday,
Make me depress everyday,
That's something,
That i don't know,
But everyday something destroying me...

New questions every minute,
New problems every day,
New fears every second,
That's inside me,
Unknown by me,
Unidentified by me,
Not recognised in dark,
But it's something,
That i don't know,
Still everyday something,
Destroying me...

It's not an cancer,
It's not an asthma,
It's not a corona,
And it's not even,
Yes, typhoid like disease,

But if it is all i know,
Something is really,
Destroying me from inside...

Words by Family,
Words by teachers,
Words by Friends,
Words by mentors,
Even the words by gf,
Can be the reason,
That affects me hard,
As noone knows,
How dangerous,
the words can be
Yet something is really,
Destroying me everyday...

Yes ! Yes ! Yes !,
I'm feeling panic,
Im feeling fear,
I'm feeling afraid to live,
I'm felling depress,
I'm feeling thus anxiety,
It's that all that's wonders,
Destroying me everyday...

-lakshay kansal

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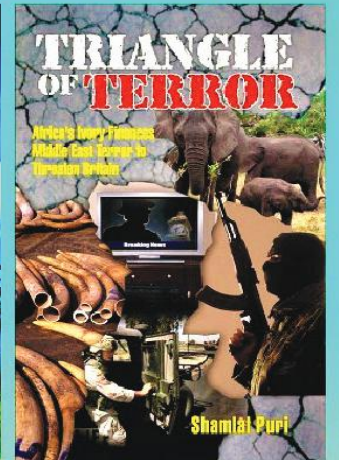
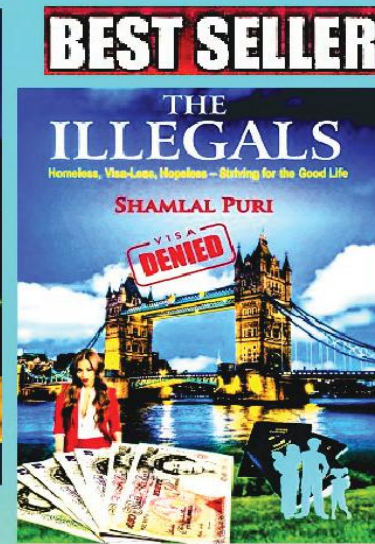
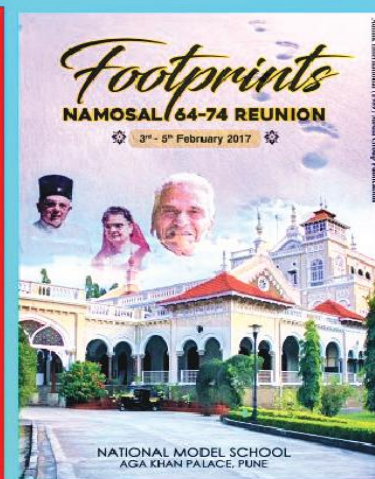
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BUSINESS

Prisons Seek KSh4 billion To Replace Obsolete Machines, Boost Inmate Training

By: Chris Mahandara
@themtkenyatimes



Director of Prisons Farms and Enterprises, Patrick Kariri during the interview.

Worth Noting:

- The proposed funding, he said, will replace obsolete equipment with modern technologies, enabling the enterprises to operate competitively in the market.
- “The old and obsolete machines will be disposed of and replaced with new ones to enhance production, performance, and efficiency,” Kariri said during an interview.
- He noted that the modernisation will have a dual impact: boosting revenues for the correctional service while equipping inmates with employable skills.
- “Inmates will now be able to derive some income from the products and work they do in the enterprises. With proper tools and certified vocational training, they will leave prison with marketable skills, reducing chances of reoffending,” he explained.

The State Department for Correctional Services has asked the National Assembly for KSh4 billion to modernise machinery and equipment at Kenya Prisons Enterprises to strengthen rehabilitation programmes while positioning the correctional services as a key revenue earner.

Director of Prisons Farms and Enterprises, Patrick Kariri, said most of the machinery at prison industries and farms was outdated, undermining both productivity and training.

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some income from the products and work they do in the enterprises. With proper tools and certified vocational training, they will leave prison with marketable skills, reducing chances of reoffending,” he explained.

Kenya Prisons Enterprises runs workshops and farms across the country, producing a wide range of goods—from school desks, motor vehicle number plates, hospital beds, and uniforms to processed dairy products, baked goods, and even leather footwear.

However, many of the machines powering these units are relics of the 1970s and 1980s, hampering efficiency in production.

In carpentry, for instance, creaking band saws and manual planers are still used to cut timber into desks and cabinets.

Tailoring workshops rely on foot-powered sewing machines to stitch prison and school uniforms.

With the proposed funding, the obsolete equipment will be replaced with industrial-grade equipment such as CNC wood-cutting machines, digital

embroidery units, and modern welding sets—technology that can raise efficiency, cut costs, and produce goods that compete with imports.

The Kenya Prisons Enterprise Fund Regulations 2025, currently under stakeholder review, seek to consolidate the existing Prisons Industries Fund (1987) and Prisons Farms Fund (1993) into a single entity governed by a board and chief executive officer.

According to Kariri, aligning prison enterprises with modern financial and governance frameworks will help transform them into commercially viable ventures.

This is expected to significantly raise the department’s revenue base, which currently relies on small-scale, low-output production due to old machinery.

The reforms also provide for inmates to benefit financially from their labour in structured ways, while officers with relevant expertise will be tapped to support the fund before new staff are recruited.

Kariri said once the modernisation takes effect, prison workshops and

farms will be able to produce goods and services that compete in the open market, while ensuring that rehabilitation remains at the core of the enterprises.

“We are looking at a situation where more inmates can be enrolled in training programmes, acquire certification, and utilise their skills after release. At the same time, the enterprises will generate more revenue for the country,” he said.

Public participation forums have already been held in major prisons across the country, with the final draft of the regulations expected to be completed in the coming weeks.



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Reclaiming Justice: How Funding IPOA Can End Police Impunity in Kenya



By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
@themkenyatimes

A staggering 118 people were reportedly killed by police in Kenya in 2023, according to a report by local and international rights groups, a number that doesn't even account for the countless cases of brutality, enforced disappearances, and kidnappings by men in blue. The number in 2024 and 2025 is worsening courtesy of the protests. This grim reality underscores a fundamental breakdown of public trust and the urgent need for a more effective system of accountability. While the Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) was established to be the beacon of hope, it has been relegated to a body that often appears to be "whining" about underfunding, leaving its noble mandate largely unfulfilled. The time for change is now, and it begins with a radical shift in how we empower this crucial institution.

The core problem lies in the chronic underfunding of IPOA. A look at previous budget statements reveals a recurring pattern: the Authority is consistently allocated a fraction of what it needs to operate effectively. For instance, in the 2022/23 fiscal year, IPOA had a budget shortfall of over KES 637 million. Such a deficit cripples its ability to hire adequate staff, procure necessary equipment, and respond to the myriad of complaints it receives. This financial starvation ensures that justice remains a luxury, a distant mirage for victims and their families. Without the resources to conduct thorough and timely investigations, cases languish, and the culprits who are often protected by a powerful, self-preserving system walk free.

The consequences of this underfunding are visible in IPOA's struggle to meet its basic operational needs. The Authority cannot hire the required investigators, forensic experts, and legal staff to handle the overwhelming number of cases. It's a classic case of being tasked with a colossal responsibility but given a shoestring budget. This lack of manpower means that investigations are often delayed, and evidence is lost or compromised. When a case of police brutality or an enforced disappearance is reported, a swift response is critical to preserve the crime scene, interview witnesses, and gather crucial evidence. With its current limitations, IPOA is often a step behind, its hands tied by a lack of resources, allowing impunity to thrive.

A game-changer would be to establish regional IPOA branches across the country. Currently, the Authority's presence is concentrated in Nai-



Police Impunity

robi and a few other major towns, making it logistically impossible to respond to urgent matters in remote areas. A case of police brutality in a far-flung county could go uninvestigated for days, or even weeks, simply because there is no one on the ground to handle it. Decentralizing IPOA's operations would create a network of accountability, ensuring that victims, regardless of their location, have immediate access to justice. This would not only fast-track investigations but also send a powerful message to police officers that their actions are being monitored everywhere.

Furthermore, the selection of commissioners and the chairperson is paramount. These are not merely symbolic roles; they are the face of accountability and the guardians of public trust. The individuals appointed must be in tune with the reality on the ground the struggles of ordinary citizens, the pervasive fear of police harassment, and the devastating impact of extrajudicial actions. We need leaders who understand that their job is not to make "roadside statements" but to lead from the front, to get to

work, and to let the results speak for themselves. Their commitment should be measured by the number of successful prosecutions, not by their public pronouncements.

For IPOA to be truly effective, its leadership must also prioritize transparency and public reporting. The public has a right to know the fate of the cases they report. Periodic reports, detailing the number of complaints received, investigations initiated, and recommendations made to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP), are essential for building trust. The public needs to see a clear path to justice and witness a commitment to holding wrongdoers accountable. Such regular updates would not only inform but also empower citizens, making them active participants in the fight against police impunity.

The cycle of police brutality and impunity in Kenya will not be broken by mere rhetoric or half-hearted measures. The only way to effect lasting change is to fully fund IPOA, enabling it to meet its operational needs, hire a dedicated workforce, and establish a

robust regional presence. This is not an expenditure; it is an investment in the rule of law, in human rights, and in a more just and secure society. It is the single most important step we can take to ensure that the tragic statistics of police killings and disappearances become a relic of the past.

The fight against police impunity is a marathon, not a sprint. It requires a relentless commitment from all stakeholders, from the government to the public. By ensuring IPOA is a well-resourced, proactive, and independent body, we can transform it from a "whining" entity into a powerful force for change. It's a reform that promises to dismantle the culture of lawlessness within the police service and restore the faith of a nation that has been let down for far too long.

The writer is a lawyer and legal researcher

Worth Noting:

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ruruto The Praying Mantis President: The Evolution Of African Symbology Through ICT

By: Gītaū Wa Kūng'ū
 @themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The praying mantis is an archetype of patience and strategic choreography. In my framework, it holds two faces: the Playing Mantis, a symbol of civic engagement and strategic movement, and the Preying Mantis, a critique of extractive systems that consume biodiversity and poison our soils.
- Under President Ruto's leadership, Kenya has begun to pivot toward regenerative agriculture, green energy, and youth-led innovation. This is not just a policy shift; it is a symbolic fulfillment.
- When the President launched the Jaza Miti (Plant Trees) campaign, it was more than just a climate initiative—it was an act of a Praying Mantis. It represents a strategic and symbolic move toward planetary healing.

In the highlands of Murang'a, where rivers whisper ancestral Gikūyū wisdom through the 'mūtūūrūrū' flute, Rūruto is the name for Praying Mantis, rhyming with President Ruto's surname.

Well, this is not just an opinion article but a prognosis for a new grammar of leadership emerging from Kīgumo.

It is not written in policy alone, but in prophecy, ecology, and poetic diplomacy. I call it the Rūruto Covenant—a symbolic framework that reimagines African symbology as a living tool for sustainable development, cultural integration, and planetary healing.

At the heart of this covenant stands President William Arap Ruto, not just as a political figure, but as a symbolic archetype. It is no coincidence that the President's name echoes this sacred creature, which embodies patience, precision, and spiritual choreography.

He has become, in both name and narrative, the Praying Mantis President—a leader whose tenure aligns with the rhythms of spiritual tones, ecological restoration, intercontinental diplomacy, and cultural renewal.

□ The Mantis as a Mirror and a Messenger

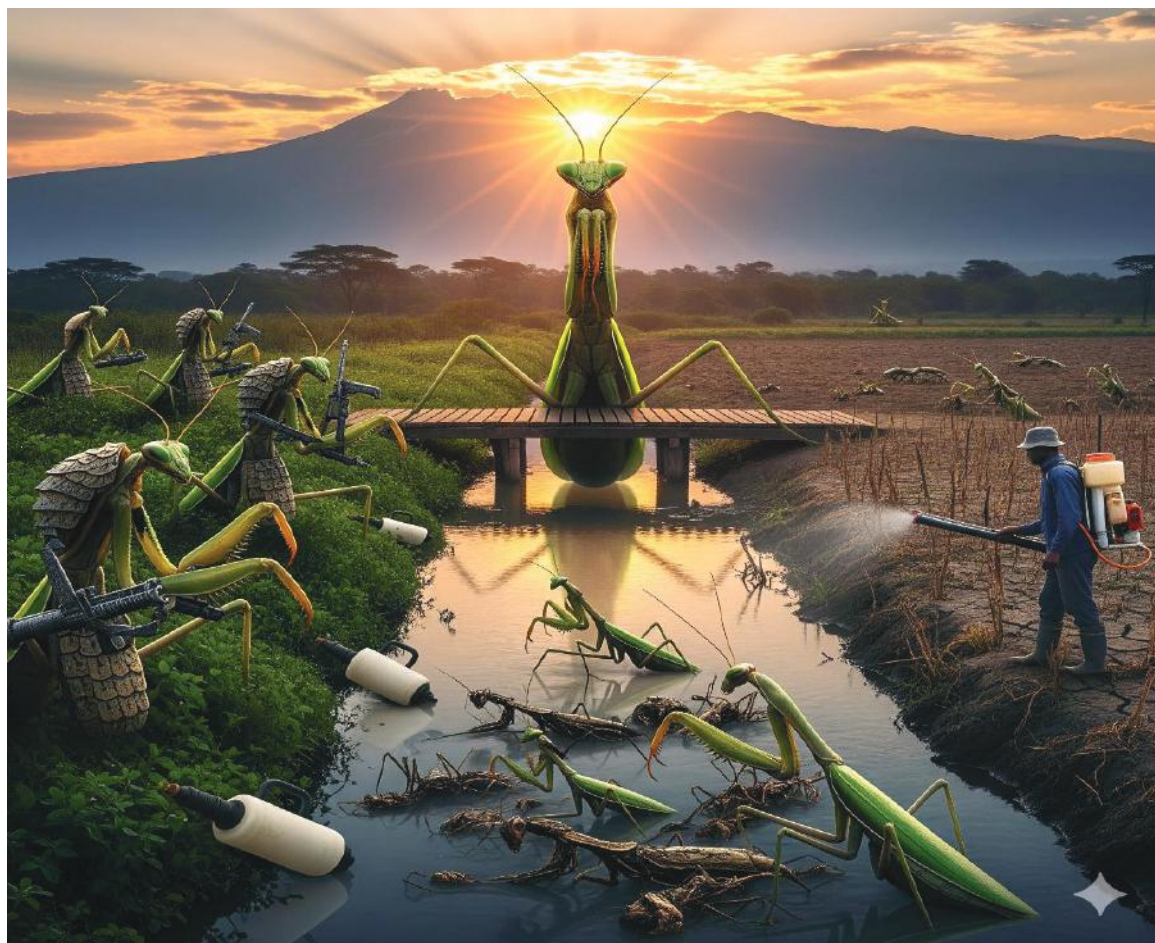
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□ A Covenant of Global Integration

The Rūruto Covenant shall be a ceremonial bridge linking Africa to Europe and Asia through onomastics (study of names), symbology, sociolinguistic, cultural, and religious



integration.

Consider the poetic exchange evident in recent "bamboo diplomacy" between Kenya and China. Bamboo becomes a diplomatic staff—a symbol of clean energy, a carbon sink, and a source of green livelihoods. This is our indigenous knowledge of nature blending with China's mastery of agroforestry.

In Europe, the covenant finds resonance in preventive care and organic farming movements. Our Honia-Heal Afrika herbal agro-processing cooperative in Kīgumo Ward, Murang'a County, offers a model of covenant economics—where prosperity flows from protection, not extraction.

This aligns with SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 15 (Life on Land), but more deeply, it aligns with Cheptalel, the rain-bringing heroine of Kalenjin folklore. Her story is our curriculum.

□ Indigenous Knowledge as Our Curriculum

We propose a new academic field: Spiritual Onomastics—the study of names and symbols in relation to spirituality.

It is through this lens that we decode the ecological and diplomatic meaning of our environment. The names of our leaders—CS Mvurya—Rain,

PS Elijah—Biblical prophet and HE Ruto—are not coincidences. They are signs elaborated in my research.

Our curriculum must teach youth to read these signs, to protect biodiversity as kin, and to engage in diplomacy rooted in identity. This is not nostalgia; it is a Pan-Africanist strategic renewal.

□ Technology as the Digital River

ICT is not a foreign concept. It is our modern-day Honia—the river that connects symbolic meaning to practical action. Through mobile-based citizen science, we can map mantis populations.

Through digital marketplaces, we can trade eco-products rooted in our identity. This is the spirit of the UNESCO Charter on Digital Heritage—digitizing not just data, but wisdom.

□ The Praying Mantis Presidency

President William Ruto's administration is not merely political—it is symbolic. His emphasis on climate action, green energy, and intercontinental diplomacy echoes the Rūruto Covenant. Whether intentional or ancestral, the alignment is clear: we are witnessing a symbolic fulfillment of a sacred ecological promise.

This article is not just addressed to him; it is offered to him as a ceremonial scroll, inviting deeper alignment between governance and sacred ecology.

□ A Covenant for a New Generation

The Rūruto Covenant is not mine alone. It is a Honia-Heal Afrika Initiative (HAI) Ebookclub communal offering—a story written in rain, ritual, and resolve. It is a call to ministries, mentors, and movements.

It is a grammar of healing—where African symbology becomes the nexus for sustainable development, cultural integration, and planetary regeneration.

And by Mwene Nyaga the Grandmaster, it has just begun.

(Gītaū is an Aspire Leader 2025, UNITAR Climate Champion, Youth SDGs Champion, Amnesty Int. Gender Justice Champion, Research and Policy Officer—Commonwealth Youth Council -CYC Back Office Africa Region, Founder Honia-Heal Afrika Initiative-HAI Ebookclub and a student at Moi University Main Campus).

How Chinese President Pushes For Building Common Home Of Peace For SCO

By: Xinhua
 @themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Since its founding in 2001, the group has maintained safeguarding regional security as a mainstay of collaboration.
- “Security is a prerequisite for national development, and safety is the lifeline to happiness of the people,” Xi said in Astana.
- For years, the Chinese leader has championed strengthening security cooperation to provide lines of defense for SCO members. At the SCO Dushanbe Summit in 2014, Xi proposed to negotiate and sign the SCO Convention on Countering Extremism. The convention was signed by member states in Astana in 2017.
- The Chinese leader has also been a strong advocate of the SCO’s fight against drug trafficking, organized crime and cyber-terrorism, resulting in notable successes.

The blue glass of the futuristic facade of the Palace of Independence shone in the sunlight when the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) leaders arrived in Astana in July last year for their annual gathering.

In his speech delivered at the group’s first-ever “SCO Plus” Meeting, Chinese President Xi Jinping called for building a more beautiful home of the SCO, with building “a common home of peace and tranquility” among the five priorities.

The SCO was born more than two decades ago when the acute security challenges of terrorism, separatism and extremism; the “three evil forces”, were posing menacing threats in Central Asia and neighboring areas.

Since its founding in 2001, the group has maintained safeguarding regional security as a mainstay of collaboration.

“Security is a prerequisite for national development, and safety is the lifeline to happiness of the people,” Xi said in Astana.

For years, the Chinese leader has championed strengthening security cooperation to provide lines of defense for SCO members. At the SCO Dushanbe Summit in 2014, Xi proposed to negotiate and sign the SCO Convention on Countering Extremism. The convention was signed by member states in Astana in 2017.

The Chinese leader has also been a strong advocate of the SCO’s fight against drug trafficking, organized crime and cyber-terrorism, resulting in notable successes.

Take drug trafficking. The group organizes anti-drug operations regularly, and has renewed its Anti-Drug Strategy for five years. In its most recent development, SCO members carried out an anti-drug operation dubbed “Web” earlier this month, with China chairing the coordination headquarters. The operation seized nearly 10 tons of narcotic drugs and identified 1,151 crimes related to illicit narco trafficking.

Apart from the SCO, the Chinese leader also seeks to advance common security in the region through other channels of cooperation, stating that a “vision of harmony and peaceful co-existence underpins China’s neighborhood diplomacy.”

At the 2014 Shanghai Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, Xi proposed a vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security. At the Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference in 2022, he presented the Global



Chinese President Xi Jinping attends celebrations marking the 80th anniversary of the victory in the Soviet Union’s Great Patriotic War in Moscow, Russia, May 9, 2025. Photo/Xinhua/Xie Huanchi..

Security Initiative, which Beijing views as a public good that advances global security governance.

“In enhancing security in Central Asia within the framework of the SCO, China undoubtedly plays an important and leading role,” said Azamat Seitov, a scholar of Uzbekistan’s University of World Economy and Diplomacy.

“Chinese initiatives ... contribute to strengthening stability, economic development and reducing security threats in the region,” said Seitov.

In today’s interconnected world,

peace remains fragile amid regional tensions and an uncertain security environment. This year marks the 80th anniversary of the victory of the World Anti-Fascist War, or World War II. In May, Xi visited Moscow, where he attended a Red Square parade.

Xi once pointed out that the painful lesson of war should never be forgotten. In 2015, the year that marked the 70th anniversary of the end of the World Anti-Fascist War, Xi noted that “all SCO member states endured the test of blood and fire of

World War II and contributed to the final victory with enormous sacrifice” when addressing the SCO Ufa Summit in Russia. In a joint statement issued after the meeting, Xi and other convening leaders made a resolute call for peaceful development and progress of all nations.

“Only with a peaceful environment at our front door can we develop ourselves with ease and comfort,” Xi once commented.



Chinese troops participate in the opening ceremony of the “Peace Mission 2021,” a counter-terrorism military exercise for Shanghai Cooperation Organization member states, at the training range in Orenburg, Russia, Sept. 20, 2021. Photo/Xinhua/Mei Shixiong.

Butterfly Sanctuary In Tanzania's Zanzibar Shines As Model Of Ecotourism, Conservation

By: Xinhua
 @themkenyatimes

A quiet revolution is taking place in the heart of the lush Jozani Forest on the Tanzanian island of Zanzibar, one fluttering wing at a time.

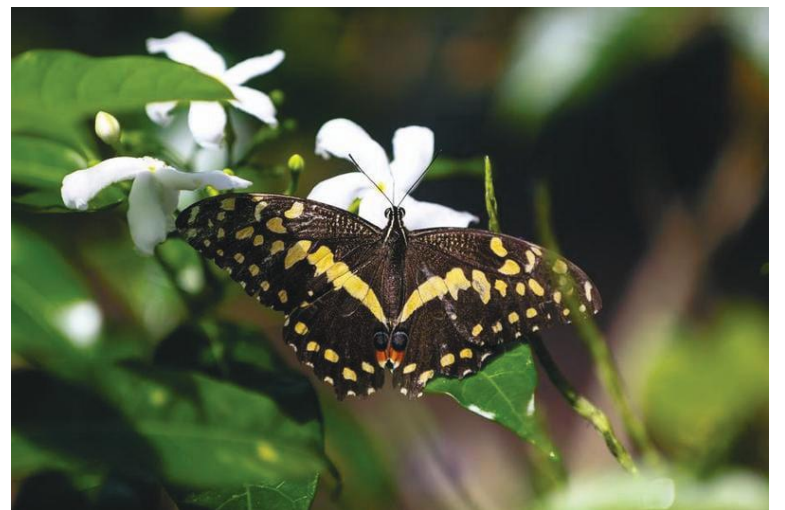
Green Tours and Safaris, led by Abduswamad Mohamed Khamis, is transforming the Indian Ocean island's approach to ecotourism and conservation through a unique butterfly sanctuary that is helping villagers embrace sustainable livelihoods while protecting endangered species. Founded with the vision of becoming a leading ecotourism destination in East Africa, Green Tours and Safaris has developed a multifaceted conservation park featuring a butterfly sanctuary, a wildlife zoo, medicinal plant gardens, and spice farms. These attractions not only draw nature lovers from around the world but also serve as educational platforms for local communities. "We teach farmers the full life cycle of butterflies, from egg to pupa to adult, so that they can raise them sustainably," Khamis told Xinhua in a recent interview. "This empowers them economically and replaces harmful practices with conservation-based livelihoods," he added. The butterfly sanctuary is more than a tourist attraction; it is a hub for biodiversity education. Villagers learn how butterfly farming can generate income while preserving the delicate ecosystem of the Jozani Forest. The initiative has sparked a shift in perception, with butterflies now seen as valuable contributors to both tourism and environmental health. Complementing the sanctuary is a wildlife zoo that houses native species, including bush babies, monitor lizards, elephant shrews, and the endangered Red Colobus monkey, which roams freely among the trees.

Unlike traditional zoos, Green Tours Park maintains a natural environment where animals live as they would in the wild. "We safeguard local wildlife by caring for endangered species brought to us by farmers," Khamis explained. "Our park is entirely natural. What you see here is what lives in the Jozani Forest." Visitors also explore medicinal plant gardens and spice farms, learning about traditional remedies and culinary uses of Zanzibar's rich flora. Cooking classes offer hands-on experiences that blend cultural heritage with environmental education. Mariam Shalghuf, an Italian visitor and mother of two, praised the park's immersive experience. "It's fascinating to see how spices grow and how butterflies develop. This place inspires me to create something similar to protect insects and improve our environment," she said.



Visitors hold a python under the guidance of staff members at Green Tours and Safaris park in Jozani Forest in Zanzibar, Tanzania, on Aug. 23, 2025. Photo/Xinhua/Emmanuel Herman..

Green Tours Park has become a vital economic engine for surrounding villages, providing jobs, purchasing locally farmed butterflies, and supporting handicraft sellers. Yet, challenges remain, particularly in raising awareness about endangered species and the importance of conservation efforts. Khamis, who earned his master's degree in public administration from Tsinghua University in Beijing, hopes to deepen ties with China. "Chinese visitors already appreciate our park. We aim to collaborate with Chinese tour operators to share expertise and support village economies," he said. Inspired by China's botanical gardens and conservation efforts, Khamis envisions a world-class sanctuary in Zanzibar that will attract global visitors and uplift local communities. "My time in China showed me what's possible. Now, I want to bring that vision to life here." As butterflies take flight over the spice-scented air of Zanzibar, Green Tours and Safaris stands as a testament to how small wings can carry big dreams, uniting conservation, culture, and community in one vibrant ecosystem.



A butterfly rests on a flower at Green Tours and Safaris park in Jozani Forest in Zanzibar, Tanzania, on Aug. 23, 2025. Photo/Xinhua/Emmanuel Herman.



TZ3: Abduswamad Mohamed Khamis, head of Green Tours and Safaris, gives an interview to Xinhua at the park in Jozani Forest in Zanzibar, Tanzania, on Aug. 23, 2025. Photo/Xinhua/Emmanuel Herman..

Worth Noting:

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Sports >> *Manchester United secured a much-needed first win of the season for under-fire manager Ruben Amorim but needed a 97th minute Bruno Fernandes penalty to beat newly-promoted Burnley 3-2.

Man Utd's First Win Not A 'Turning Point' For Amorim

Manchester United secured a much-needed first win of the season for under-fire manager Ruben Amorim but needed a 97th minute Bruno Fernandes penalty to beat newly-promoted Burnley 3-2.

After exiting the League Cup to fourth-tier Grimsby on Wednesday, the Red Devils twice blew the lead at Old Trafford on Saturday.

But they were saved in stoppage time when Fernandes, who missed a penalty in last weekend's 1-1 draw at Fulham, scored from the spot after a VAR review for a pull on Amad Diallo.

Victory takes United onto four points from their opening three Premier League games and eases the pressure on Amorim ahead of a two-week international break.

"I'm not thinking about turning points," said Amorim after securing just his eighth win in 30 Premier League games in charge. "I had this conversation with you guys (the media) like 10 times, so it's day by day...we have a lot to do, but we returned a little bit to our level today."

The 20-time English champions had suffered the latest and biggest embarrassment of Amorim's reign in losing to League Two opposition for the first time in the club's history in midweek.

The Portuguese coach cast doubt on his future in the aftermath, saying "something has to change" and that he would "think things through".

- 'Hard for Man United keepers' -

Amorim dropped goalkeeper Andre Onana after his role in both Grimsby goals, but his replacement Altay Bayindir endured another difficult afternoon. United have been linked with a move for Antwerp's Senne Lammens as a solution to their goalkeeping issues before Monday's transfer deadline.

"It's hard to be a Manchester



Manchester United's Portuguese head coach Ruben Amorim speaks during a press conference at Old Trafford in Manchester, north-west England on May 14, 2025 during a media day ahead of their UEFA Europa League final against Tottenham Hotspur. The UEFA Europa League final will take place on May 21 in Bilbao. (Photo by Oli SCARFF / AFP)

United goalkeeper in this moment. But if you look at the first goal, we can defend the better the box," added Amorim.

"The players are struggling a little bit with all the things around the club, that is normal. So it's not just the goalkeepers, I think everybody has to improve."

United began like a side keen to make amends.

Martin Dubravka did well to deny Bryan Mbeumo an early opener before United had a penalty overturned by a VAR review after Mason Mount went down under Kyle Walker's challenge.

United's only previous Premier League goal of the season came via the opposition when Fulham's Rodrigo Muniz turned into his own net.

Amorim's men needed another own goal to break the deadlock when Casemiro's header came back off the bar and in off the un-

fortunate Josh Cullen.

United should have been further ahead before half-time as Diallo sliced a huge chance wide from Mbeumo's pass.

Burnley had barely threatened as an attacking force in the first half but opened up United with ease to level on 55 minutes.

Lyle Foster stretched to meet Jacob Bruun Larsen's pinpoint cross.

Straight from the kick-off, United retook the lead.

Mbeumo's slick movement took him away from his marker to meet Diogo Dalot's cross and net the Frenchman's first Premier League goal since a £65 million move from Brentford.

United's frailty from set-pieces and their goalkeeping woes continued as Burnley again came from behind.

The Clarets and Foster were denied a second equaliser by

the finest of margins for offside against the South African international.

Instead, it was Jaidon Anthony who levelled when Bayindir could only parry Loum Tchaoua's effort back into the middle of the goal.

Amorim finally introduced £74 million striker Benjamin Sesko for the final 15 minutes in the search for a winner.

Twice the giant Slovenian headed chances to make himself a hero off target.

Instead Fernandes rode his side's rescue after a lengthy VAR check on whether Anthony's pull on Diallo continued inside the box.

An agonising defeat leaves Burnley with three points from their opening three games.

AFP

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >>> *Chelsea striker Nicolas Jackson has stayed in Germany in a bid to revive his aborted loan move to Bayern Munich after the deal was called off at the last minute.

Jackson Hopes To Revive Bayern Move After Chelsea Halt Loan Deal



Sheffield United's English goalkeeper Wes Foderingham watches as Chelsea's Senegalese striker Nicolas Jackson scores the team's second goal during the English Premier League football match between Chelsea and Sheffield United at Stamford Bridge in London on December 16, 2023. (Photo by Ben Stansall / AFP).

Chelsea striker Nicolas Jackson has stayed in Germany in a bid to revive his aborted loan move to Bayern Munich after the deal was called off at the last minute. Jackson flew to Munich on Saturday to seal his season-long switch to the Bundesliga champions, only to be told the move had to be aborted due to Chelsea's injury problems. Blues striker Liam Delap will be sidelined for up to eight weeks after suffering a hamstring problem in Saturday's win over Fulham, while England forward Cole Palmer is also out due to a groin injury. With Christopher Nkunku having joined AC Milan this week, Chelsea boss Enzo Maresca would be left with Joao Pedro as his only fit

senior striker if Jackson were allowed to leave. Speaking after a 3-2 win at Augsburg on Saturday, Bayern sporting director Max Eberl confirmed that the deal was off. "Chelsea informed us that they would like the player back after we agreed yesterday," he said. "The situation now is that the lad is here in Munich, but we are sending him back." But Jackson, 24, was angry with Chelsea's late change of plans and opted against leaving Germany on Sunday while his representatives work to resolve the stand-off. Jackson's agent Diomansy Kamara had insisted on social media that his player was not returning to Chelsea. "We're not going back. The plane

doesn't go backwards: Munich," he said. And on Sunday, Kamara, speaking at a hotel in Munich, told German newspaper Bild: "We're still hoping it will work. "If we didn't have hope, we wouldn't still be here anymore!" Meanwhile, Chelsea are reportedly exploring a move for Sporting Lisbon's Conrad Harder before Monday's transfer deadline, which could open the way for Jackson to join Bayern after all. Chelsea are reported to prefer selling Jackson on a permanent basis rather than reviving a loan deal. Earlier on Saturday, a deal had been agreed that would have seen the Senegal striker move for an initial £13 million (15 million

euros) loan fee with an option for Bayern to make the deal permanent for £52 million. Jackson, who has not played for Chelsea this season, had been told that he was not a part of Maresca's plans following the signings of Delap from Ipswich and Joao Pedro from Brighton. Jackson has endured a turbulent time at Chelsea since joining from Villarreal two years ago, with criticism of his erratic finishing marred his spell in west London.

AFP

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Ecological Aspects of Printing Technologies: Issues of Paper, Ink, and Waste

ABSTRACT

This article examines the ecological aspects of modern typography and printing technologies. In particular, it analyzes the problems related to deforestation caused by paper production, the presence of harmful chemical substances in printing inks, and the accumulation and improper disposal of printing wastes. Additionally, it explores theoretical and practical approaches to addressing these issues, including the use of recycled paper, eco-friendly inks, waste reduction strategies, and the introduction of the “green printing” concept. The research findings highlight ways to ensure environmentally sustainable development of the printing industry.

KEYWORDS: typography, printing technology, paper, ink, waste, ecology, recycling, green printing.

INTRODUCTION

Throughout human history, books and printed materials have played a crucial role in the development of culture, science, and education. Even in today's digital age, printed materials remain relevant and widely used, including books, newspapers, journals, textbooks, educational manuals, and advertising materials.

However, typography is an industry with significant economic as well as ecological impacts. Large amounts of wood are consumed for paper production, printing inks contain chemicals harmful to human health and the environment, and much of the waste generated in printing houses is not recycled.

According to international studies, more than 300 million tons of paper are produced annually worldwide. This requires the felling of millions of trees and the consumption of enormous amounts of water, contributing to climate change, global warming, and biodiversity loss. Thus, the ecological aspects of printing technologies are among the most pressing scientific challenges today.

The purpose of this article is to

analyze the environmental impact of the printing industry and to propose eco-friendly solutions. Its objectives include highlighting the ecological consequences of paper production, examining the negative effects of printing inks, identifying waste-related issues, and substantiating the concept of green printing.

MAIN PART

Paper Production and Ecology

The greatest ecological impact of printing processes is linked to paper production. On average, one ton of paper requires 17 mature trees, about 26,000 liters of water, and results in up to 2.5 tons of carbon dioxide emissions. This process contributes to deforestation, air pollution, and the aggravation of global climate issues.

For this reason, developed countries are increasingly focusing on recycled paper production. Recycled paper not only saves trees but also reduces water and energy consumption. For example, producing recycled paper reduces the use of natural resources by 40–60%. In the United States and Europe, more than 60% of printing companies use recycled paper. In Uzbekistan, initiatives for waste sorting and paper recycling have been introduced in recent years, but their scale is still limited.

Composition of Ink and Its Ecological Consequences

Ink is another critical factor for the environment. Traditional printing inks contain volatile organic compounds (VOCs), which evaporate into the air and cause harm to human health. In addition, inks may contain heavy metals such as lead, chromium, and cadmium, which can contaminate soil and water through printing waste.

Therefore, eco-friendly inks such as soy-based inks, water-based inks, and UV-curable inks are gaining popularity. They are not only safer for the environment but also ensure higher print quality. For example, soy-based inks emit 20–25% fewer harmful gases and are easier to remove from paper during recycling.

Printing Waste Issues



Printing houses generate significant amounts of waste, including excess paper, leftover ink, metal plates, and other materials. These wastes are often disposed of directly into landfills, contributing to environmental pollution and waste accumulation.

To address this, many modern printing houses are implementing the “zero waste” concept, which involves waste reduction, reuse of paper, filtering of ink residues, and improvements in energy efficiency.

The Concept of Green Printing

Globally, the concept of “green printing” is becoming increasingly widespread. Its main principles include the use of recycled paper and eco-friendly inks, reduction of energy consumption, minimization of waste, and the application of renewable energy sources.

For example, large printing companies in Germany and Japan use solar energy, recycle up to 90% of their waste, and significantly reduce the ecological footprint of their operations.

In Uzbekistan, the printing industry has been rapidly developing in recent years. However, ecological sustainability remains underdeveloped. The use of recycled paper is still limited, eco-friendly inks are rarely applied, and waste management practices are only beginning to emerge. Therefore, adopting the concept of green printing is of particular importance for Uzbekistan.

CONCLUSION

Printing technologies are an integral part of human culture, science, and information exchange. However, when analyzed in depth, it becomes clear that they also have a considerable impact on the environment. First, paper production consumes vast amounts of trees and water, exacerbating global ecological problems such as climate change, deforestation, and biodiversity loss. Second, traditional inks often contain heavy metals and volatile organic compounds that pollute the air, soil, and water. Third, wastes generated in printing houses are rarely recycled, further intensifying environmental issues.

Thus, the printing industry faces a dual challenge: on the one hand, meeting the demand for high-quality printed products, and on the other, ensuring ecological sustainability. This necessitates the implementation of the green printing concept. Measures such as using recycled paper, switching to soy-based and water-based inks, sorting and recycling printing waste, improving energy efficiency, and adopting renewable energy sources are crucial for reducing the environmental burden of typography.

In Uzbekistan, this issue is particularly urgent. While demand for printed materials continues to grow, ecological challenges are also increasing. Introducing eco-friendly technologies into the national printing industry requires government support, the development of

ecological standards, expansion of recycling infrastructure, and equipping printing houses with “green” technologies.

International experience demonstrates that eco-friendly printing practices not only protect the environment but also enhance economic efficiency. The demand for environmentally responsible products is growing, and companies adopting green technologies gain stronger competitiveness in the market.

Therefore, considering the ecological aspects of printing technologies and widely introducing the principles of green printing is not only an environmental necessity but also an economic and social requirement. In the future, the printing industry must fulfill its dual mission: spreading knowledge and culture while preserving nature and ensuring a healthy environment for future generations.

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