

Authoritarian

Authoritative

Permissive

Uninvolved

Parenting Style And Children Behaviors
 Parents play an influential role in molding and shaping the behavior of adolescents. From this perspective, Coste (2015) recognizes the work of Baumrind, a clinical as well as developmental psychologist best known for her work on parenting styles. Baumrind identified three parenting styles based on parental demandingness and responsiveness, which included authoritative parenting, authoritarian, and permissive parenting.

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News>>Waiguru Secures New Dialysis Machines At Kerugoya, Tripling Treatment Capacity for Kidney Patients

P. 12. Kirinyaga Governor Anne Waiguru has secured additional dialysis machines for Kerugoya County Referral Hospital, marking a huge leap forward in the county's fight against kidney-related diseases.

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National Assembly Gives Nod To Nine Envoys

By: MKT Reporter
@themtkenyetimes

The nominees include:

The National Assembly yesterday approved the appointment of nine nominees to serve as High Commissioner, Ambassadors, and Consuls-General. The decision followed the adoption of a report from the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence, and Foreign Relations, which had recommended the approval of all nominees after conducting rigorous vetting earlier this month. The committee found the candidates to possess the requisite academic credentials, professional competence, and personal integrity to effectively serve as stewards of Kenya's presence on the global stage.



Hon. Florence Chepngetich Bore – High Commissioner, Windhoek, Namibia



Amb. Anthony Mwaniki Muchiri – Ambassador, Ankara, Turkey.



Amb. Lucy Kiruthu – Ambassador, Bangkok, Thailand



Mr. Henry Wambuma – Ambassador, Bujumbura, Burundi



Mr. Abdirashid Salat Abdille – Ambassador, Jakarta, Indonesia



Amb. Joseph Musyoka Masila – Ambassador, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia



Amb. Edwin Afande – Ambassador, Vienna, Austria



Ms. Jayne Jepkorir Toroitich – Consul General, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.



Ms. Judy Kiaria Nkumiri – Consul General, Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo

Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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NEWS IN BRIEF



Parliamentary Officers drawn from the Committees of the National Assembly yesterday attended a strategic training convened by the Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA) and the Institute of Public Finance (IPF). The programme dubbed Strengthening Parliamentary Leadership for Improved Health and Gender Outcomes (SPALTA) seeks to equip both parliamentarians and staff with the knowledge and skills needed to advocate for and implement gender-transformative policies that enhance health and gender outcomes. The meeting brought together the secretariats serving Committees, including the Budget and Appropriations Committee, Finance and National Planning Committee, Health Committee, Social Protection Committee and Committee on Labour.



Meru County Alcoholic Drinks Control Board CEO Gitonga S. Akubu has reaffirmed the board's commitment to safeguarding the health, safety, and wellbeing of residents by intensifying enforcement against illicit brews and strengthening compliance measures across the county. During a staff meeting, he outlined key measures aimed at enhancing regulation and accountability within the alcoholic drinks sector including submission of compliance and non-compliance lists of bars, verification of distributors' licenses, and countywide inspections in six major towns this December. While officers raised challenges such as limited enforcement personnel, security concerns, and persistent illicit brew sales, the CEO assured them that steps will be taken to boost enforcement capacity.



Nyeri County Commissioner Ronald Mwiwawi (center, in uniform) with security officers and student leaders from Nyeri universities, tertiary and vocational institutions during the Jukwaa la Masomo forum. Students raised concerns over insecurity, political exploitation, and limited access to government opportunities.



Deputy President Kithure Kindiki yesterday hosted over 4,500 grassroots women from Mbeere North Constituency, UDA Party members and champions of the Bottom up Economic Transformation Agenda. The DP updated them on the status of various development projects in the Constituency, ranging from agricultural productivity programmes, construction of markets, job creation initiatives for the youth, rural electrification, water and roads projects. He urged them to support Leonard Muthende the UDA candidate in the November 27 by election so that he can continue the good work which had been initiated by the immediate former area MP Geoffrey Ruku who relinquished the seat after being appointed a CS by President Ruto. The DP was accompanied by among others, CS Ruku and Embu Governor Cecily Mbarire.



Dedan Kimathi Foundation yesterday delivered 1,000 bamboo seedlings to the University of Kabianga main campus in Kericho County. The team, led by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Evelyn Kimathi was honored to participate in planting too in honour of the promise she had made to the institution leadership on Thursday last week during the World Bamboo Day national celebrations at the higher learning facility during the event that was officiated by the Environment, Climate Change and Forestry Cabinet Secretary Dr. Deborah Mlongo Barasa. Ms Kimathi noted that Bamboos are underrated carbon sequesters only second to mangrove.



The National Gender and Equality Commission yesterday convened a consultation meeting with partners to advance the accessibility of Kenyan Sign Language (KSL). As an official language, KSL is vital for bridging communication barriers, fostering inclusion, and enabling the Deaf community to participate fully in education, healthcare, employment, and public life. Ensuring Kenyan Sign Language (KSL) is embedded in public forums and classrooms is a powerful reminder that true inclusion means creating spaces where the Deaf community can lead, be heard, and shape solutions that affect their lives. In a world where communication is key, KSL bridges the gap between Deaf and hearing communities.

NEWS PAPER

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Wetang'ula Urges University Unions To Embrace Dialogue, Avoid Disrupting Learning

By: PSCU
@themkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- The two unions, which declared a nationwide strike on September 17, are demanding a cumulative settlement of Sh11.53 billion in salary arrears dating back to 2017.
- At the core of the dispute is Sh2.73 billion owed under the second phase of the 2021–25 CBA and Sh8.8 billion arrears from the 2017–2021 CBA.
- The unions are also pressing for the negotiation, registration, and implementation of a new 2025–2029 CBA.



National Assembly Speaker Moses Wetang'ula has appealed to university staff unions to suspend their ongoing strike and instead engage in dialogue as a path to resolving their grievances. Speaking at Parliament Buildings after meeting officials of the Universities Academic Staff Union (UASU) and the Kenya Universities Staff Union (KUSU), the Speaker acknowledged their concerns over the government's commitment to honouring existing Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs).

The two unions, which declared a nationwide strike on September 17, are demanding a cumulative settlement of Sh11.53 billion in salary arrears dating back to 2017.

At the core of the dispute is Sh2.73 billion owed under the second phase of the 2021–25 CBA and Sh8.8 billion arrears from the 2017–2021 CBA.

The unions are also pressing for the negotiation, registration, and implementation of a new 2025–2029 CBA.

The boycott has plunged public universities into crisis, disrupting lectures, examinations, and research across all 39 public universities and their campuses.

The unions have accused the government, through the Inter-Public Universities Councils Consultative Forum (IPUCCF), the Ministry of Education, and the National Treasury, of acting in bad faith.

They further cite a January 2021 court order directing the government and the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) to fully fund the implementation of the 2017–21 CBA, which they say remains unfulfilled.

In response, Wetang'ula underscored Parliament's role as a neutral platform for resolving such disputes.



"I reminded the union leaders that Parliament remains a key institution for addressing such concerns and advised them to make use of the House by formally presenting their petitions, provided the matter is not before any court of law," he said.

The Speaker assured UASU and KUSU that once their petitions are processed by the Office of the Clerk and tabled before the House early next week, he will request the Public Petitions Committee to prioritise and fast-track their consideration.

According to him, the committee will invite the petitioners to present their submissions and will also summon top officials from the Ministry of Education, including the Cabinet Secretary and the Principal Secretary for Higher Education, to respond to the issues raised.

"This process will ensure that both

sides are heard and a structured way forward is developed," Wetang'ula noted.

At the same time, the Speaker appealed to the unions not to hold students hostage to the dispute, stressing that learning should not be disrupted when dialogue is possible.

"I encouraged them to return to class, give negotiations a chance, and allow Parliament to play its rightful role in mediating and finding lasting solutions in the best interests of all stakeholders in higher education," he added.

The strike, now in its second week, continues to deepen anxiety among students and parents as uncertainty over the academic calendar grows.

After meeting the Speaker, the dons also presented the petition to the National Treasury and Ministry of Education.

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Kenya Breaks New Ground As Orthodox Tea Auction Launches In Mombasa

By: MKT Correspondents
@themkenyentimes

Kenya has cemented its place in the global tea trade with the launch of the country’s first Orthodox Tea Auction at the Mombasa Tea Trade Centre, in a move hailed as historic for the sector and transformative for farmers.

The event, presided over yesterday by Agriculture and Livestock Development Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe, brought together senior industry leaders including Tea Board of Kenya Chairman Ndung’u Gathinji, CEO Willy Mutai, East African Tea Trade Association Chairman Hussein Abdi, KTDA Holdings Limited Chairman Chege Kirundi, CEO Wilson Muthaura, and AFA Kenya Director General Dr. Bruno Linyiru.

“Today, as we launch the auction of Orthodox teas, we are not just selling tea; we are making history,” Kagwe declared, noting that the specialty teas will open premium markets for farmers and reduce reliance on traditional bulk exports.

Kenya, long established as the world’s top exporter of CTC (crush-tear-curl) teas, is now positioning itself as a competitive force in the fast-growing Orthodox segment. These teas, processed using artisanal methods and prized for their unique flavors, consistently attract higher prices in international markets.

“Kenya is no longer just a CTC powerhouse — we are now a serious and competitive player in the global Orthodox market,” Kagwe affirmed.

At the inaugural auction, 2,925 packages equivalent to 91,798 kilos of Orthodox tea went under the hammer. KTDA Holdings Chairman Chege Kirundi said 13 of its factories are already producing both black and green Orthodox teas, with more to follow.

“This is a game-changer. Orthodox tea consistently commands higher prices globally and requires no additional investment from farmers, meaning better returns and greater resilience against market shocks,” Kirundi said.

He added that KTDA factories have the capacity to produce 10 million kilograms annually, and that expansion will help cushion farmers against volatility in the bulk CTC market.

According to KTDA, Orthodox teas earned between USD 3.40 and USD 4.16 per kilo in 2024, averaging USD 3.70. This is significantly

higher than the USD 2.28 per kilo average for bulk CTC teas sold at the Mombasa Auction.

Production has been fluctuating. In 2024, Kenya produced 7.51 million kilos of Orthodox tea, of which 5 million kilos were exported. This was lower than the 12.34 million kilos recorded in 2023, largely due to market challenges in Iran. The government, Kagwe said, is already in talks with Tehran to restore exports.

To boost competitiveness, the Tea Board of Kenya (TBK) has licensed 22 Orthodox manufacturers, with a target of 42 by 2027. Installed capacity is projected to grow from 15 million kilos this year to 200 million kilos by 2030.

Kagwe also unveiled TBK’s new Tea Quality Assurance Laboratory in Mombasa, which will provide real-time quality advisory, food-safety certification, and product testing. Officials said the lab will safeguard the reputation of Kenyan tea and enhance its credibility in international markets.

The CS further revealed that the Mombasa Tea Auction has gone fully digital, enabling global buyers to participate online in real time. “This will enhance price discovery, improve transparency, reduce cartels, and firmly position Kenya as a modern, efficient tea-trading hub,” he said.

Industry leaders welcomed the development as a bold step toward diversification and sustainability in one of Kenya’s largest foreign exchange earners.

“This milestone is not just a win for farmers, traders, and exporters, but a commitment to securing a brighter and more competitive future for Kenya’s tea industry,” Kagwe said.



CS Mutahi Kagwe sampling tea yesterday.



KTDA Holdings Chairman Chege Kirundi addressing the gathering yesterday.



Some of the stakeholders who graced the event yesterday. Photos/Courtesy.

Kenya And Benin Waive Visas For Their Nationals

By: OPCS Team
@themtkenyetimes

From Next month, Nationals of Kenya and Benin can travel to each other's countries visa free.

The move follows an agreement signed between the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Dr Musalia Mudavadi and Benin's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Oleshegun Adjadi Bakari on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

"I want to appreciate you (Dr Mudavadi) and commend President Ruto on the move. The waiver means that we are integrating the citizens of Africa and helping our youths take advantage of opportunities in Africa. It is a strong message," stated Bakari.

In the signed agreement, the nationals of both countries can visit for 180 days but not work.

After expiry of the period, the nationals will be required to obtain

visas in accordance with the national legislation of the receiving party. However, diplomats and their families will be required to obtain visas beforehand.

"Nationals of either party who are holders of valid diplomatic, official, service or ordinary passports, appointed as members of the diplomatic or consular mission on the territory of the other party, including members of their families, shall be required to obtain a visa before entering of the territory of the other party in accordance with the national legislation of the receiving party, States the agreement.

After signing the agreement, Mudavadi held a bilateral meeting with Mr Yvan Gil Pinto, Minister of the People power Foreign for Foreign Affairs of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

Mr Pinto affirmed the relationship between Venezuela and Kenya and noted that they are intentional as a country to establish relations with African countries.

"Fifty seven percent of our population is African. Hugo Chavez(the Late President of Venezuela) always



Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Dr Musalia Mudavadi and Benin's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Oleshegun Adjadi Bakari

told us to be strategic with Africa because it is the future. We want to make progress and sign the pending agreements between the two countries," stated Mr Pinto.

Mr Pinto noted that the pending agreements are in tourism, agriculture and education, insisting that "we want to make progress in all the co-

operation areas".Dr Mudavadi promised to progress the pending agreements during their coming meetings in Brazil and Nairobi.

"We can use this opportunity to sign one or two Memorandums of Understandings," stated Mudavadi.

Mudavadi stated that Kenya respects multilateralism and called for

respect of United Nations.

Mudavadi was reacting to remarks by Mr Pinto on the ongoing crisis between his country and USA on alleged drug wars.

"The fight against drug trafficking should be within the confines of the law," stated Mr Prnto.

Tharaka Nithi Assembly Approves New Public Service Board, Passes Key Bills

By: Alex Njeru
@themtkenyetimes

The County Assembly of Tharaka Nithi has approved six nominees to serve in the County Public Service Board during its sitting yesterday, marking a significant step in strengthening the county's governance and service delivery structures.

The approved members include Sylvia Kaari, who will serve as chairperson, alongside Jeremy Muchoka Njeru, Kelvin Kiruki Njeru, Miriam Kathure Mitambo, Albert Kinyua and Anderson Kaimenyi as members of the board.

The appointments are expected to inject new energy and expertise into the management of human resources within the county.

In the same sitting, the Assembly also considered and passed two critical pieces of legislation—the Tharaka Nithi County Finance Bill, 2025 and

the Tharaka Nithi Agroecology Bill, 2025.

The Finance Bill seeks to impose or vary various charges, including infrastructure maintenance fees and service charges, as part of the county government's efforts to boost revenue collection and improve service delivery.

On the other hand, the Agroecology Bill is designed to promote the organic agro-ecological food industry through the establishment of an agro-ecological development and marketing committee, in line with provisions of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010.

During the session, Gatunga MCA Hon. Salvestas Mugao Kanyaru raised concerns on the state of Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) within the county and also sought clarity on how orthopedic staff serving under contract terms are being managed by the county government.

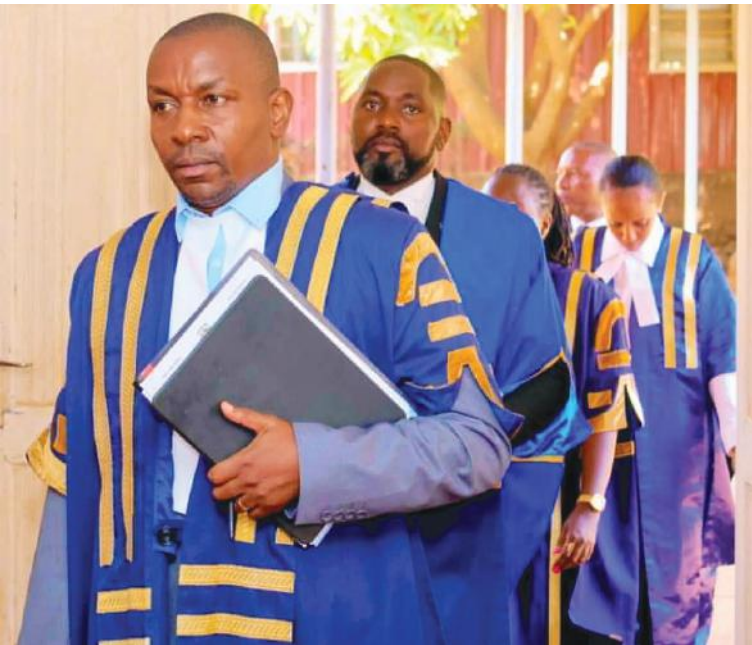
Karingani MCA Hon. Godfrey Murithi, meanwhile, sought a statement

on the status of artificial insemination services in the county, emphasizing the importance of reliable livestock improvement services for farmers.

Separately, Governor Muthomi Njuki forwarded the names of four nominees to the Assembly for vetting to fill positions of County Executive Committee Member (CECM) and Chief Officers. The Speaker of the Assembly referred the nominees to the relevant committees for consideration of their suitability.

Among the nominees is Ms. Kelly Karimi Rwigy, who has been nominated as CECM for Gender and Social Services. Others nominated as Chief Officers include Ms. Winnie Mukiri Kirimi (Department of Gender and Social Services), Mr. Alex Kinyua Mutegi (Department of Youth, Sports and Tourism), and Mr. James Mbae Karuku (Department of Lands and Physical Planning).

The approvals and tabling of new nominees highlight the Assembly's busy legislative and oversight role as



Tharaka Nithi County Assembly Speaker John Mbabu walks out of chambers in Kathwana. Photo/Alex Njeru

it seeks to strengthen service delivery and governance in Tharaka Nithi County.

Speaker John Mbabu stated that the

county assembly will diligently execute it's duties for smooth running of the devolved government.

Public Petitions Committee Calls For Nationwide Removal Of Asbestos Roofs

By: MKT Correspondent
@themtkenyetimes

The National Assembly Public Petitions Committee led by Muchangi Karemba has called for urgent action to phase out asbestos roofing across the country, citing its grave health risks despite a ban imposed nearly two decades ago.

This follows a Public Petition by Wajir North MP, Ibrahim Abdi which was tabled in the House on 28th September 2023 calling for the ban on the use of asbestos as roofing material.

The petition raised concern over the continued presence of asbestos roofs in public buildings, including schools, hospitals, dispensaries, and police stations, many of which were constructed with donor support.

The petitioners argued that exposure to asbestos, a known carcinogen, poses serious risks such as mesothelioma, lung cancer, and other respiratory illnesses.

Abdi noted that 55 countries, among them the USA, New Zealand, and Australia, have outlawed asbestos use.



National Assembly Public Petitions Committee chairman Muchangi Karemba

He avered that despite Kenya banning the use of asbestos roofing in the year 2006, the material still remains in use in several parts of the country.

When the petitioner appeared before the Committee, he informed the Members that removal efforts should involve specialized agencies such as the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) and the Ministry of Health to ensure safe handling and disposal. He further proposed that funds from the National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NG-CDF) and development partners be used to replace asbestos roofs with

safer materials.

Also appearing before the Committee, the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Aden Duale, confirmed that while NEMA had already undertaken surveys in 19 counties and issued guidelines on safe removal, asbestos roofs still exist in many public facilities due to slow replacement. He warned that deteriorating sheets release fibres into the air, contaminating soil and water and endangering communities.

After carefully considering submissions, the Committee in its report tabled before the House, observed that



National Assembly Public Petitions Committee

despite awareness campaigns and existing regulations, the pace of asbestos removal remained unacceptably slow. It noted that schools, hospitals, churches, and homes continue to expose Kenyans to hazardous fibres, undermining the constitutional right to a clean and healthy environment.

In its recommendations, the Committee directed that within six months of the report's tabling, NEMA should identify asbestos roofed buildings in the remaining 28 counties and develop a national disposal plan aligned with the 2011 asbestos management guidelines. The Ministry of Health

was also tasked to conduct medical surveys in affected areas to assess health impacts and provide necessary interventions.

Further, the Committee urged that all asbestos roofing in public institutions be removed within one year, with NEMA mandated to oversee and supervise the process.

The House is now expected to debate the Committee's report in the coming days.



National Assembly Committee Vets KNCHR And ORPP Nominees

By: PSCU
@themtkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- For the ORPP, the Committee vetted Mr. John Cox Lorionokou for the position of Registrar of Political Parties and Ms. Agatha Wanjiku Wahome for Assistant Registrar.
- At the KNCHR, Ms. Claris Awuor Ogangah appeared before the Committee as the nominee for Chairperson of the Commission.
- Ms. Ogangah was the first to appear before the Committee. The vetting focused on her ability to foster collaboration with other institutions mandated to safeguard human rights, avoid duplication of roles, and build partnerships that strengthen rights enforcement.
- Members also sought to establish how she would navigate situations where government policies or legislation conflict with constitutionally guaranteed rights, while outlining her long-term vision for the Commission.

The Justice and Legal Affairs Committee (JLAC), chaired by Tharaka MP, George Murugara yesterday conducted approval hearings for three nominees to the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP) and the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR).

For the ORPP, the Committee vetted Mr. John Cox Lorionokou for the position of Registrar of Political Parties and Ms. Agatha Wanjiku Wahome for Assistant Registrar.

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Members also sought to establish how she would navigate situations where government policies or legislation conflict with constitutionally guaranteed rights, while outlining her long-term vision for the Commission.

The Legislators pressed the nominee on how she intended to address systemic human rights concerns such as gender-based violence, femicide, inequality, extrajudicial killings, and threats to fundamental freedoms. They further tasked her with spearheading efforts to involve the younger generation in human rights discourse.

“For human rights for all to be effective you must be prepared to ruffle feathers and challenge the status quo. How prepared are you to confront the powers that be for KNCHR to be effective?” challenged Rarieda MP Otiende Amollo.

In response, Ms. Ogangah pledged to lead by example and speak truth on difficult human rights issues. She emphasized the importance of dialogue and promised to use her networks to strengthen partnerships that advance rights across all sectors.

“Human rights is not an abstract issue that simply focuses on civil rights only. For it to be effective there is need for involvement of human rights in the development agenda of the country,” she said.

The Committee then vetted Mr. Lorionokou for the position of Registrar of Political Parties. Members questioned how he would enforce compliance with the Political Parties Act, particularly ensuring timely submission of constitutions and notifications of changes by political parties.

Kanduyi MP John Makali posed the question “What will you do to ensure that we do away with briefcase parties that only pop up during the election period?”

The Committee also questioned the nominee on the management of the Political Parties Fund, with MPs emphasizing the need for transparent and



Committee chairman George Murugara (centre) and other members during yesterday's session..



John Cox Lorionokou.

equitable distribution of resources and addressing concerns over irregularities in party nominations and candidate selection.

The members stressed the need to strengthen the regulatory framework and enforcement mechanisms governing political parties.

Ms. Wahome, appearing as the nominee for Assistant Registrar of Political Parties, was also examined on her approach to enforcing the Act and supporting regulatory oversight. The Committee probed how she would contribute to enhancing compliance, ensuring fairness in party nominations, and promoting integrity in party operations.

The Committee is now expected to table a report of its findings before the House for consideration.



Ms Agatha Wanjiku Wahome



Ms Claris Owour Ogangah

Waiguru Secures New Dialysis Machines At Kerugoya, Tripling Treatment Capacity for Kidney Patients

By: MKT Correspondent
 @themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Waiguru has hailed the expansion of dialysis services as a promise fulfilled and a milestone in her health-care agenda.
- The upgrade is part of the transition from the Managed Equipment Service (MES) program, which had served the county for the last decade, to the new National Equipment Support Program (NESP).
- “With this upgrade, more patients will now access reliable dialysis services right here at home without being referred elsewhere,” Waiguru praising partnership between County Governments and the National Government for the supply of the medical equipment. County Executive Committee Member for Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation, George Karoki, said the new machines are fully digital and come with advanced safety features.

Kirinyaga Governor Anne Waiguru has secured additional dialysis machines for Kerugoya County Referral Hospital, marking a huge leap forward in the county’s fight against kidney-related diseases.

The highly sophisticated dialysis machines comes as a major relief for patients who have been relying on subsidized dialysis services at the public hospital.

Four of the additional modern dialysis machines installed this week are already in use at the county referral hospital and have been described as game-changer in various treatment modalities, including hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis.

The upgrade, done under the National Equipment Support Program (NESP), raises the hospital’s operational machines to six. Two had been functional before the latest consignment. Another six are expected in the coming weeks, which will more than triple the facility’s capacity.

Waiguru has hailed the expansion of dialysis services as a promise fulfilled and a milestone in her health-care agenda.

The upgrade is part of the transition from the Managed Equipment Service (MES) program, which had served the county for the last decade, to the new National Equipment Support Program (NESP).

“With this upgrade, more patients will now access reliable dialysis services right here at home without being referred elsewhere,” Waiguru praising partnership between County Governments and the National Government for the supply of the medical equipment. County Executive Committee Member for Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation, George Karoki, said the new machines are fully digital and come with advanced safety features.

“Once a dialysis session is complete, the machines automatically alert the medical team, unlike the previous manual systems. We can now serve more patients because of the increased capacity,” he said.

Karoki revealed that the renal unit had previously relied on two machines, serving just 10 patients and carrying out about 20 sessions per week.

“With the new equipment, the facility can now accommodate 30–40 patients, conduct 60 sessions weekly, and handle close to 300 sessions every month,” he added.

He added that the hospital remains the preferred center for renal care in the region, attracting referrals even from outside Kirinyaga. The county is also awaiting delivery of an addi-



The county MCEM in charge Public Health and Sanitation, George Karoki and other officials during the hospital visit.

tional 6 machines for Kerugoya and at least five for each sub-county hospital to meet rising demand.

“The new dialysis machines are more advanced in terms of technology, they are able to self-clean saving on time and efficiency. They also have an integrated blood pressure machine and blood gas machine unlike the old ones and therefore we are able to monitor the patient condition as the dialysis services goes on,” he said.

The renal unit also provides nutritional counselling and meals after every session apart from educating patients on managing non-communicable diseases such as diabetes and hypertension, which are the leading causes of kidney failure.

Senior renal nurse Racheal Nyaga, who has worked at the unit since 2017, said staff have already undergone training on how to use the new machines.

“We are very happy because patients who were previously referred to other hospitals can now receive care here. At the moment, we have about 30 patients under dialysis. With full county support, we are able to follow up on those with lifestyle conditions to prevent further kidney failure,” she said.

Nyaga advised patients to adopt healthier lifestyles through exercise, proper hydration, and timely medical checkups. For those requiring transplants, she noted that referrals are made to specialized hospitals in Nairobi.

For patients like Wambua Kioko, 85, who has lived with kidney complications since year 2022, the installation of the additional dialysis machines is a great relief to patients.

“I have depended on this hospital for my dialysis because the services here are good and relatively cheap. Dialysis in private hospitals are very expensive. I had transferred to another hospital before these machines arrived, but it was costly and very difficult. Now I feel comfortable and well taken care of here in Kerugoya,” he said.

Governor Waiguru has reaffirmed that her administration would continue investing in healthcare, saying improved facilities are central to her development agenda.



One of the dialysis machines.

MKU Studens Shine At Business Innovation Competition In Germany

By: James Wakahiu
@themtkenyatimes

Two Mount Kenya University (MKU) student innovators have emerged as the top investment-worthy innovators during a prestigious competition held in Leipzig, Germany held last week.

This milestone was reached during the African Centre for Career Enhancement a Skills Support (ACCESS) programme, where students from five African university participated in a rigorous two-week entrepreneurship training at the SEPT Competence Centre at Leipzig University. Esbon Ogeto and Bettinah Maruti's start-up project, EcoBlu, took first position as an investment worthy project.

The programme included sessions on business planning, market potential, financial modelling and pitch development, culminating in a high-stakes pitch presentation where "EcoBlue" stood out as the most promising start-up.

Dr. Henry Yatich, ACCESS Project Coordinator at MKU, said Esbon and Bettinah's success reflects the institution's commitment to nurturing entrepreneurial talent and addressing employability challenges among African youth. "Through Access Kenya, MKU continues to build the next generation of innovators by offering mentorship, training, and global exposure," he said.

To support the realization of their vision, the "EcoBlue" team will receive ongoing assistance from MKU's Incubation and Innovation Centre, including prototype development and testing, guidance on securing a utility model and patents from Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI as well as strategic support to access international markets, including in Europe.

The AGEA Start-up Class, a fully funded component of the ACCESS 2.0 project, was held in Leipzig, Germany, from September 3rd to September 13th, 2025. The event supported 12 young innovators from five African universities in developing innovative, market-ready business models from their science-based start-up projects.

The students and researchers came from universities in Kenya, Ghana, Benin, and Rwanda. For 10 days, these aspiring entrepreneurs immersed themselves in an environment of learning, coaching, and cross-cultural exchange that pushed

them to rethink, refine, and reimagine their businesses.

The seven participating start-ups were: Ecoblue (MKU, Kenya); Harcourt Agri-Eco Farm (Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Kenya); ObstaMed (Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology, Ghana); Wax-Farm (University for Development Studies, Ghana); BIOS Benin (University of Abomey Calavi, Benin); Tak-Avipack (University of Abomey Calavi, Benin) and DailyPlus (Rwanda).

The competition was part of the ACCESS 2.0 project, a European Union-funded initiative by Leipzig University and its African partners to promote entrepreneurship and bridge the gap between scientific research and market-ready applications. It brought together students and researchers from Africa to train them in developing innovative business models.

Beyond the technical training, coaching sessions gave space for one-on-one guidance. Teams refined their strategies, rehearsed pitches, and received feedback tailored to their contexts. The final days were dedicated to the Pitch Presentation, where each team stepped forward, presenting not just a business idea but a refined vision backed by research, strategy, and knowledge from the training.

The programme was not confined to classrooms as participants engaged with Leipzig University's SMILE start-up community to exchange experiences with local start-up teams such as TalentNet.AI and Hybeam. They also attended the iN4iN International Conference.

Cultural activities, from walking tours of Leipzig to networking dinners, created bonds that went beyond business. They also had the chance to visit the German capital as they participated in the IFA-Berlin international fair, the world's leading trade fair that showcases the latest trends and innovations in areas like smart home technology, audio, AI, and more, providing a platform for leading brands, start-ups, and industry experts to connect and demonstrate future technologies.

Dr Yatich said in line with its mission to scale innovation, MKU and its 10 affiliate universities are organizing a national business innovation challenge titled: "Innovate for Impact: Scaling Kenyan MSMEs through SDG 9" from mid next month.

"This challenge invites student ap-



Some the students and university researchers from four African countries who participated in the innovation competition in Germany. Photos/Courtesy

plicants to present solutions that empower micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in Kenya. Interested students are encouraged to submit their applications via MKU's official Facebook page. "Let's continue to celebrate and support the brilliance of our students as they transform ideas into impactful ventures," said Dr Yatich.



Tell A Lie Once And All Your Truths Become Questionable



Departed From the souls.
Destroys all Faith in them
And having doubts on every info.

Once they realise their mistakes
They want to rebuild their confidence
But it's very hard to reconstruct
The trust would not be built in a single day.

The foundation of the trust
Comes through the consistency, honesty,
and integrity.

Telling a small lie will shake the trust,
And collapses the entire harmony.

Telling a lie makes the minds and hearts,

Rajesh Kanna B N

I am Rajesh Kanna B N
B T Asst,
From Government Model High School, Tirur.
Tiruvallur District.
Tamil Nadu, India.

From I Wish To I Can, I Will, I Must



Just shift your mind, From wishing to doing,
"I can," "I will," and "I must" are powerful words
Though small, they are full of energy and high spirited
Gives new strength, to achieve, and reach the sky.

May all our wishes, dreams, and prayers come true,

For that, let's strive for our goals
Stop saying "I wish," start saying "I will,"
Automatically, we get energy to succeed

Every nerve, blood vessel, and vein will work
To reach the top, and reach our goals
Keep the wish aside, and work towards goal
No shortcuts to success, only hard work will work

With this mindset, we'll find our way,
To turn our wishes, into reality
So let's make the shift, and take the step
From wishing to doing, our dreams will come true

Brinda. D
GRADUATE TEACHER,
GOVT HIGH SCHOOL,
MELPATTAMPAKKAM
CUDDALORE, Tamilnadu India
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Speak Up, Shine Bright!



By Zainab Mustafa

Writer of Sahiba writing Squads
Soul Words publication

English helps you communicate and share,
With people here and everywhere.
Say "hello" and make a friend,
Learn some words, and the fun won't end!

English opens every door,
To books, jobs, and much more.
Watch a movie, sing a song,
You'll feel proud—you can't go wrong!

Practice daily, read and write,
Little steps will bring delight.
Try new words, don't be shy,
Mistakes are fine; just give it a try!

Speak with joy, speak with grace,
English helps in every place.
School or travel, work or play,
It makes your world bright every day!

So come along, let's start today,
Learn with laughter, learn your way.
English is your shining key,
To dream, to grow, and to be free

The Past Is Easy In My Breath Without You



The past is easy in my breath without you,
My day turned into a dark night.
Longing roamed the garden of the heart,
My night is passing without finding you.

Writing poetry, searching the heart,
Let's remember the past.
He wears the lamp of regret,
crying is stupid.

I will pour my heart out to you and empty the sack,
Don't let my feelings go to waste.
I smile, like a mountain next to me
You - be my root, let me live.

*
Comfort the beloved heart,
Deceive that you will come.
I'll just stick to it
We will also go to the tulip field.

The heavens know that I miss you,
Rain falls from his forehead.
Patience tested on my shoulder
A vein is shooting deep..

My heart goes out to you,
Get over the longings.
Maybe today, maybe tomorrow
Break the barriers.

Tuliyeva Sarvinov
Uzbekistan
Teacher of native language and literature at
Shaikhontohur District Vocational School,
Tashkent.

The Foundation Of Youth Future!



Hello, Dear Readers!

Let me start by introducing myself. My name is Umida Barotova Dehqonova, and I am the leader of the "Computer Design and Graphics" club at the "Barkamol Avlod" Children's Center, located in the Romitan district of Bukhara region. I was born on November 28, 1988, in a family of teachers in Bog'cha village. I am a teacher of the highest category, a graduate of Navoi State Pedagogical Institute, and a person who is constantly in search of new knowledge and self-development. My life goal is to contribute to the prosperity of my country and its people.

At the beginning of this year, we started our educational activities with lessons filled with the spirit of Independence. At our center, we established the "Zakovat" Club, where regular intellectual games are organized for our students.

> "Zakovat is the highest form of expressing the joy of intellect and knowledge."

During these games, as the members of our club complete the challenges step by step, we are delighted to see their enthusiasm, excitement, and cleverness. The most active participants are

regularly encouraged and rewarded by the school administration.

Although only a few months have passed since I started my work, our classroom is always full of students. The main goal of organizing such activities and competitions is to ensure that our children spend their free time effectively and productively, learning science and skills that will benefit them in the future.

We all know that youth are the foundation of our future. Guiding them on the path to happiness and success is a great honor for us, the teachers. My sincere wish is that every passing moment is valued and spent wisely.

As teachers, the more knowledgeable and intellectual we are, the better we can teach the young generation how to use modern information technologies wisely. I truly believe that the more skilled and informed we are, the more rapidly our future will develop and flourish.

Romitan District "Barkamol Avlod" Children's Center
Leader of the "Computer Design and Graphics" Club
Umida Barotova



MKU Hosts Alumni 4K's Reunion

By: James Wakahiu
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The Vice-Chancellor described the reunion as more than an event, calling it “a celebration of our journey together, a renewal of friendships, and a reaffirmation that MKU is a lifelong family.”
- He emphasized the importance of alumni connections, likening them to sails on a boat each strong individually, but only able to propel forward when joined together.
- Jaganyi also highlighted the MKU Alumni Awards, which recognizes graduates excelling in professional excellence, leadership, public service, community engagement, global impact, innovation, and entrepreneurship. These accolades serve as a reminder that the spirit of MKU continues to shine across diverse sectors through its alumni. He encouraged the alumni to continue nominating and be part of the award.

Mount Kenya University (MKU) alumni converged in Kisumu over the weekend for a memorable reunion that brought together graduates from the four campuses of Kakamega, Kericho, Kisii and Kisumu fondly referred to as the “4K’s”.

The event celebrated shared memories while charting new directions for collective growth and impact under the theme “Rekindling Bonds and Sailing Together.”

It was graced by university leadership by MKU Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Deogratius Jaganyi, partners and distinguished guests.

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On the MKU Alumni Tracer Study, a key initiative designed to track career progress, understand labor market trends and align academic programmes with industry demands, the VC said alumni feedback plays a vital role in shaping curriculum, empowering students, and ensuring MKU graduates remain competitive in the job market.

Issuing a passionate call to action, he urged alumni to mentor current students, provide internships, contribute to scholarships and research, volunteer in alumni activities, and advocate for the university. He concluded with inspiration from MKU Founder and Chairman, Prof. Simon Gicharu: “If you encounter a wall, climb over, break through, or go around it.”

Prof. Wanderi, Principal Corporate Services and Linkages urged the students to reconnect with their respective schools in matters of curriculum development and emphasized on the student’s mentorship and networking.

Mrs. Virginia Musawa, Director Alumni Relations emphasized the importance of sustained engagement between alumni and the university,



Some of the MKU alumni who attended the get-together in Kisumu last weekend. Photos/Courtesy.

describing the reunion as both a moment of celebration and a launch pad for greater collaboration. “This gathering is about more than memories. It is about building bridges between our past, our present, and our future. Every alumnus and alumna here today is a vital link in that chain,” she said.

She said the Alumni Relations Office, working closely with the MKU Alumni Association (MKUAA), is spearheading initiatives to strengthen connections. Keynote Speaker Ms. Dorcas Owinoh brought the theme to life by sharing her personal journey. Returning to campus, she described it as stepping back into a familiar harbor full of memories. She recalled teaching herself to code after college, which led to the creation of LakeHub, Kisumu’s first innovation hub. From an initial 10 students, LakeHub has grown into a vibrant ecosystem that has trained over 5,000 youth, supported hundreds of entrepreneurs, and touched more than 12,000 lives. Building on this success, she launched Zone01 Kisumu, a tuition-free, project-based software engineering programme. Within just three months, it attracted over 13,000 applicants, with 96 apprentices currently training in world-class digital skills.

Ms. Owinoh credited these achievements to collaboration: “Every step of the way, I was sailing with others — governments, funders, universities, global partners, and communities. They were the wind in our sails.”

She stressed that rekindling bonds provides continuity and grounding, while sailing together ensures collective strength to overcome challenges. “We are all builders,” she told the alumni. “If we want to build things that last, we must rekindle the bonds that ground us and sail together with those who share our vision.”

Representing the alumni body, Mr. Gikera Kahara, chairman of the MKU Alumni Association (MKUAA), welcomed participants from the “4K’s” campuses and thanked them for their dedication to building a vibrant community. He outlined MKUAA’s guiding slogan: Engage, Empower,

Evolve. Mr. Kahara also announced key milestones, including the official registration of MKUAA with the Registrar of Societies, giving it a solid framework for operations. He encouraged alumni to actively participate in the newly launched Annual Alumni Awards and the Graduate Career Tracker Survey, which will align MKU programs with market needs.

The 4K’s reunion was both a celebration of shared heritage and a call to collective action. Through the words of the speakers and panelists, alumni were reminded of the power of unity, collaboration and giving back to the institution and to the community. “Our network is our net worth,” he reminded the audience, urging alumni to embrace the pillars of engagement, empower, and evolve for the benefit of both themselves and their alma mater,” Mr Kahara said.



Some of the MKU alumni who attended the get-together in Kisumu last weekend. Photos/Courtesy.

HEALTH

Healthcare Crisis Grips Kiambu As Strikes Widen

By: Felix Njenga
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- The ongoing doctors' strike has left Kiambu's most vulnerable residents without access to critical medical care, threatening to reverse the progress made in the county's health sector.
- The Ndenderu Ward United CBO, a community-based organization, has directly appealed to Kiambu Governor Kimani Wamatangi, urging him to facilitate a constructive dialogue with the Kenya Medical Practitioners, Pharmacists and Dentists Union (KMPDU).
- In a letter dated September 24, 2025, the CBO's chairman, John Mweha Kariuki, expressed deep concern over the "devastating impact on healthcare services" and called for the Governor's direct involvement to "accelerate negotiations and restore normalcy." The CBO had previously written to KMPDU, appealing for members to resume duty while negotiations continue.

Kiambu County is facing a deepening healthcare crisis as multiple strikes cripple essential services, sparking widespread concern and calls for urgent intervention.

A protracted doctors' strike, now in its 112th day, has been compounded by a new threat of industrial action from a county workers' union, further jeopardizing public services.

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The petition reflects a broader sentiment among residents and the business community, who have also petitioned the County Assembly to address the issue. The petition specifically highlights the need for immediate payment of all outstanding salaries and allowances for healthcare workers, citing Article 43(1)(a) of the Constitution, which guarantees the right to the highest attainable standard of health.

Despite these appeals, Wamatangi has maintained a firm, uncompromising stance. Speaking at a bursary issuance event in Mwiki Ward, the governor stated he would not be intimidated by threats. "I vehemently refuse to yield to these cowardly threats," he said. "If you are not working, the county has no money to pay striking doctors."

Wamatangi insisted that only doctors who are actively working will be paid. "The Bible says that one shall eat after working," he declared. The Governor added that his administration would not pay those who stay at home while patients suffer and die. He encouraged those who wish to work to return, stating, "If you are a doctor in Kiambu, go to work and do your work, we will pay you."



Doctors strike outside Kiambu county government offices in Kiambu town. The doctors strike has entered its 112 day, the longest industrial action to have ever been conducted in the country.



Adding to the turmoil, the Kenya County Government Workers Union (KCGWU) - Kiambu Branch has issued a notice of its own intended strike. The union has accused the county government of persistent salary delays, with some employees' pay being withheld for up to two months.

In a letter dated September 22, 2025, to the County Secretary and Head of Public Service, KCGWU Branch Secretary Moses Ndungu cited a "fundamental breach of employment contract." The union announced that its members would not report to work on Wednesday, September 24, 2025, due to a "lack of finances." They also intend to stage a "salary parade" at the County Treasury Headquarters to demand their unpaid dues.

The county government in a response to the workers wrote, "We've just held talks with the Ag. County Secretary on the current status of unpaid salaries. On behalf of management he regretted that they

have not been able to access the funds from the COB and that it's not an isolated case but a national crisis.

He, however noted that the county is committed to making timely payments when there are no cash flow issues. Going forward he has also noted the need to making communication when such delays are experienced so that officers are well informed.

However, we have expressed our frustrations that employees cannot meet basic obligations that include feeding our families among other critical responsibilities.

Whereas we somehow understand how desperate the executive is to pay the wages due, it must also recognize the helplessness we tolerate as public servants when such salaries are paid late. Consequently, we encourage re-introduction of the bank facility that allowed payment of net salary during events of such nature," read the statement to workers.

The public outcry has prompted calls

for external intervention. The Bunge Mashinani Initiative, a non-governmental organization, has strongly condemned the Kiambu County Government's failure to resolve the strike. The group, which has been collecting signatures for a public petition, accused Governor Wamatangi of "leadership paralysis" and "gross negligence."

The initiative has now petitioned the National Government and the Executive to urgently intervene and hold the Kiambu County Government accountable. Bunge Mashinani has also condemned what it perceives as inflammatory remarks from Majority Leader Mucheche, who the organization claims has invited the public to engage in "acts of lawlessness."

The unfolding crisis highlights a deep chasm between the county government and its employees, as well as a growing impatience among Kiambu residents who feel their constitutional right to healthcare is being denied.

Celebrities in Art

Sabir Rustamkhanli; The National Poet Of Azerbaijan

By: Jakhongir NOMOZOV
@themtkenyatimes

Sabir Rustamkhanli is one of the rarest people who has left very deep and in-situ traces in the literary, cultural and socio-political life of Azerbaijan; who as a personality is well-recognized and loved in all families, popular around the whole Turkic world. The main reason of his nationwide popularity and admiration, which is unattainable even for the chosen ones, is love for his people and top patriotism traced through his whole creative activity along with the career of a leader of the national-liberation movement of the Azerbaijani people for independence after breaking up with the USSR in 1988. He is one of the authors of the Constitutional Act on the restoration of the national sovereignty of Azerbaijan and one of the minority of the parliament who pushed for its adoption in the parliament. He instituted the first independent and democratic newspaper named Azərbaycan (Azerbaijan) and was its editor-in-chief for two years.

Sabir Rustamkhanli is the national poet of Azerbaijan, as well as an outstanding literary critique, Doctor of Philology, author of a number of novels devoted to the past and new history of Azerbaijan, playwright and translator. His “My Road of Life” is one of the masterpieces of the popular writing in Azerbaijan, which is read with love in every family as a desk-book.

His novels “Göy Tanrı” (The Green God), “Ölüm Zirvəsi” (The Peak of Death), “Difai Fədailəri” (The Fedayeen of Difai), “Xətai Yurdu” (The Homeland of Khatai), “Sunami” (Tsunami) made him a beloved prosaist for his new approach to the events of history and for their high artistic-aesthetic evaluation.

Besides, over fifteen of his books have been published in Turkey, Russia, Iran, Uzbekistan, Sweden. He has been awarded state prizes such as “Qızıl Qələm” (Golden Pen) and the M. F. Akhund-zade prize for achievements in literature. In 2005 he acquired a title of the People’s Poet of Azerbaijan. The Ministry of Culture of the Polish Republic awarded him with the medal of the “Man-of-Letter Glory” for his ser-

vices in the field of culture.

In 1992 he founded the Party of Civic Solidarity, one of the leading political parties in Azerbaijan, and became its chairman; he has been the member of the Azerbaijani parliament for 22 years.

One of the focuses of his creative activity is the tragedy of his divided nation, 35 million of which is groaning under the Iranian regime and 20 percent of whose territory is under the occupation of Armenia. He is engaged in the diasporic activities and is the chairman of the Congress of the World Azerbaijanis, the biggest organization of the Azerbaijanis who immigrated to dozens of the world countries. He is well-known on the international arena as a tireless champion of peace, justice, and human rights.

In 1991-1995 he was the Minister of Press and Information of the Republic of Azerbaijan and greatly contributed to the development of the democratic press and establishment of the freedom of word in Azerbaijan.

UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE

When people do not speak my language,
I look up at Heavens, then down at earth.
I look at trees, at flying birds,
Then turn my eyes to the stars,
With ease I tell my words to seas and oceans.

The language of Heavens is the same everywhere, have no doubt!
The same is the rain of meteorites, the sound of thunder...

There is no doubt that once the nature itself
Acted as an interpreter among all the men.

Millions of people raise their hands towards the Sun, source of light and heat,
Maybe the language of bread is the language of the Earth?
Its voiceless whisper is native to everyone,
The interpreter for the world is the language of flowers!

Dreams pile up and form a mountain peak,
There are tombstones rising like exclamation marks,
My longest verses are coined in the



Sabir Rustamkhanli

book of skies
By the cranes migrating from continent to continent!

I am the oldest lover of the light of dawn,
A single ray of it burns my soul.
The sun is the language teacher of the universe,
And equally heats all its corners.

Spring showers are my everlasting love,
The warm, the cold winds which sometimes,
But suddenly block my way
And attack me in a friendly manner.

I am the moth on the rock, wrinkle of the water,
Feather of the crane, cobblestone of the road.
I am the citizen of the Earth by name a Poet,
As I know the language of the Universe.

TIME PASSES THROUGH ME

Time passes through me, filters and becomes transparent,
My heart is a magic filter of love,
Love passes through me and becomes pure.
The light of the sun, the light of the moon,
Pass through my doleful eyes and become transparent.
The whirligig of dreams like the rivers of mountains
Pass through my pressed words and become transparent.

What did I absorb and keep in me, what I did not do?
The blow of tests strikes me.
History passed through my nerves,
I am the bridge between the past and the present!

I am like a plant being grown between the Earth and Heaven,
It is the will of God.
I hear tunes not being heard by anyone,
That are whispers of stars and murmur of fog.

The spirit of the nation passes through my heart.
One part of it is eminence, the other – fear.

The blood of thousands of years is alive in me,
Who dies in the world? Those who have lost their memory!
My heart is a shelter for a refugee,
The tears of infants run through my heart.

The defeat of my brothers has gone into history,
My limbs are tired travelling amid the three continents.
Stronger is the motherland; higher is its banner,
When the motherland retreats, its banner appears tired.

My heart feels what the beginning is and what the end is.
Those who travelled into the past used to migrate through my heart, of which I have been unaware.
God himself together with the Time used to lay their road through my soul, of which I have been unaware.

Parenting Style And Children Behaviors



By: Wanjohi. P. Mugambi
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- Delinquent behavior is one of the most distressful problems during the period when people are considered adolescents, that is, between the age of 13 and 18. According to Griffin et al (2000), Elliott, Huizinga and Menard (2012), the list of delinquent activities include refusal to adhere to the parental demands, alcohol use and drug addiction, stealing, property destruction, theft and rape.
- It is a fact that opinion regarding the causes of delinquent behavior vary, but it is generally agreed that delinquent behavior in adolescent years is more common than in the group of people of other age. Furthermore, it is also argued that males are more likely to commit offenses than females (Griffin et al., 2000). Nevertheless, Moitra and Mukherjee (2012) argue that there is a noteworthy role of parents in shaping the delinquent behavior of adolescents.

Parents play an influential role in molding and shaping the behavior of adolescents. From this perspective, Coste (2015) recognizes the work of Baumrind, a clinical as well as developmental psychologist best known for her work on parenting styles. Baumrind identified three parenting styles based on parental demandingness and responsiveness, which included authoritative parenting, authoritarian parenting, and permissive parenting. Juvenile delinquency is directly linked to the behavior of parents they adopt to treat their children (Coste, 2015). However, et.al (2009) point out that young people’s parents are more frequently blamed for the criminal or delinquent behavior displayed by their children. Some of the courts even penalize parents for the inconsiderate or antisocial conduct of their children. Juvenile is a time in which youth looks for self-identity and autonomy. Some of them engage in activities that are illicit in nature, and thus their parents become worried about their well being. Taking this into account, the purpose of this research study will be twofold: (a) understanding the relationship between the delineated parenting styles and delinquent behavior; and (b) examining the difference between parenting style of Pakistani people and the delinquent behavior among adolescents

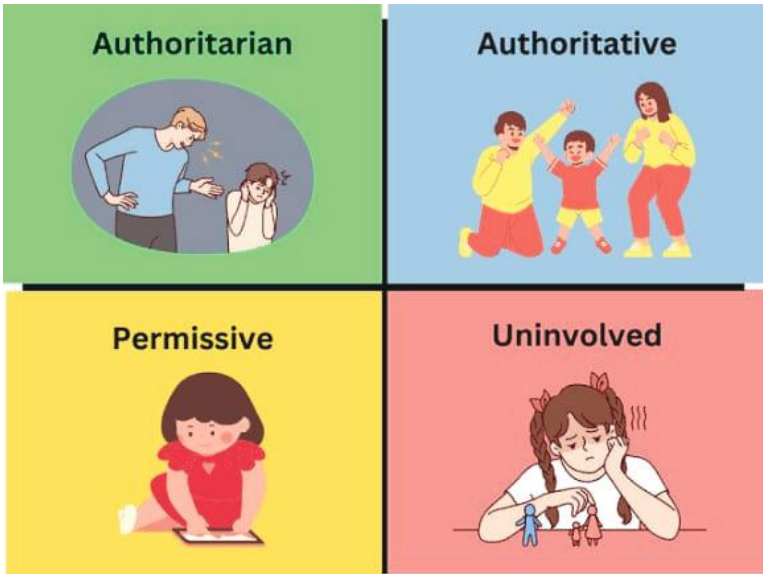
How does parenting style lead children to be juvenile delinquent?

Delinquent behavior is one of the most distressful problems during the period when people are considered adolescents, that is, between the age of 13 and 18. According to Griffin et al (2000), Elliott, Huizinga and Menard (2012), the list of delinquent activities include refusal to adhere to the parental demands, alcohol use and drug addiction, stealing, property destruction, theft and rape. It is a fact that opinion regarding the causes of delinquent behavior vary, but it is generally agreed that delinquent behavior in adolescent years is more common than in the group of people of other age. Furthermore, it is also argued that males are more likely to commit offenses than females (Griffin et al., 2000). Nevertheless, Moitra and Mukherjee (2012) argue that there is a noteworthy role of parents in shaping the delinquent behavior of adolescents. For example, they point out that home is the place where a normal and healthy development of any child starts and the family constitutes the backbone of an individual. From this perspective, family is considered to be a basic ecology in which

the behavior of children is manifested in their childhood by way of negative or positive reinforcement. Talib, Abdullah, and Mansor (2011) argue that the family of a child is a socio-cultural-economic arrangement that has a significant influence on not only the behavior of the children, but also on the development of their characters. Therefore, ignorance in their parenting can lead them towards unwanted damaging effects that ultimately create behavioral problems in children.

Baumrind (1966) believes that parenting is a compound activity of many particular behaviors working individually or together that affect on the behavior of children. It would not be wrong to state that adolescent delinquency is more concerned with parenting styles. As the literature suggests, the term juvenile delinquency can be defined as a law-breaking act committed by a minor, below the age of 18. This law-breaking act can result in the incarceration in detention centers, rather than prisons or correctional centers (Berger, 2000). Tompsett and Toro (2010) point out that the risk of adolescent’s development of delinquent behavior is often headed by parenting style. Authoritarian parental style particularly plays an influential role in developing the delinquent behavior among adolescents that eventually results in negative outcomes (Kerr, Stattin & Ozdemir, 2012). Therefore, it is accurate to state that indifferent parenting styles negatively affects the children in terms of psychological and behavior context. For instance, Hoskins (2014) finds that authoritarian parenting has deep connection with more negative behavioral outcomes.

Conceptualizing parenting styles/typologiesDiana Baumrind is widely considered to be the pioneer of introducing parental style and control – authoritarian, authoritative, and permissive. From this perspective, Cherry (2015) points out that the psychologist Diana Baumrind during the early 1960s, conducted a study on children studying in preschool using parental interviews, naturalistic observation and other research methods.



As a result, Baumrind identified four imperative dimensions of parenting including expectations of adulthood and control, communication styles, nurturance and warmth and disciplinary strategies. Based on the above mentioned dimensions, Cherry (2015) and Baumrind (1966) suggest that a majority of parents exhibit one of three mentioned parenting styles. Darling (1999) argues that there are four parenting styles including indulgent, authoritative, authoritarian, and uninvolved. This categorization is in accordance with their lowness or highness on parental responsiveness and demanding behavior. Darling also describes the viewpoints of Baumrind by stating that all of these four parenting styles reflect on different naturally occurring patterns of parental practices, behaviors and values and a different balance of demandingness and responsiveness. From this perspective, different parenting styles can be separated into two categories such as demandingness and responsiveness.

According to Baumrind (1966), the term demandingness refers to claims in which parents are supposed to be integrated into community and family by their maturity expectations, disciplinary efforts, supervision and willingness to confront a disruptive child. In the same way, Simons, Simons, and Wallace (2004) argue that

demandingness parenting can be judged through the level of well-defined monitoring techniques, direct confrontation and discipline patterns utilized by parents. Therefore, it would be justified to state that parents with higher level of discipline patterns, confrontation and monitoring are demanding, whereas parents with lower level of confrontation, inconsistent discipline and monitoring are characterized as not demanding. The term responsiveness is defined by Baumrind (1966) as the ratio of fostering self-assertion and individuality by parents being attuned, acquiescent and supportive to the demands and needs of children. In addition, Baumrind (1966) argues that the level of responsiveness can be measured through the level of communication, reciprocity, and warmth displayed by parents while dealing with adolescents. From this perspective, parents emphasizing on higher level of reciprocal behavior, warmth and communication are considered to be highly responsive, whereas low levels of delineated factors represent low responsiveness. Maccoby and Martin (1983) argue that higher level of responsiveness can be found in permissive and/or authoritative parenting style. On the other hand, Simons, Simons, and Wallace (2004) demonstrate that low level of responsiveness is reflected through neglecting and/or authoritarian parenting style.



When Abandonment Becomes Violence: The Silent Suffering Of Young Mothers In Uganda

By: Ahirirwe Leticia
@themtkenyetimes



Worth Noting:

- Honestly, what is wrong with some men? How can you get someone pregnant and then vanish as if your responsibility ended at the act of sex? This kind of behavior ruins lives. It doesn't just hurt the woman it affects the child, the families, and ultimately the community.
- We must start recognizing that abandonment is a form of gender-based violence. When a man leaves a woman to face pregnancy, childbirth, and motherhood alone with no emotional, financial, or moral support it is not just irresponsibility. It is abuse. It is violence. And it must be called out as such.

Yesterday, on my way home, I saw something that shook me to the core. A young woman, barely more than a girl, was standing in the middle of the road holding a baby no more than two months old and sobbing uncontrollably. She was clearly trying to get hit by a car. She was trying to end her life.

As we rushed to help her, she told us her story. She had become pregnant while still very young. When she informed the man responsible, he abandoned her. With nowhere to turn, she ran away from her mother's home. For months, she tried to reach the man who got her pregnant but he ignored her completely. Recently, he called her, asking her to come to Kampala to collect some money. Desperate and hopeful, she made the journey. But once she arrived, he switched off his phone and disappeared.

She was left stranded. Heartbroken. Hopeless. Alone with a newborn baby and no one to help her. This is not just an isolated incident. It is a reflection of a deeper crisis in our society a crisis where emotional abandonment, neglect, and economic violence against women go unspoken, unnoticed, and unpunished.

Where is the accountability?

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We must start recognizing that abandonment is a form of gender-based violence. When a man leaves a woman to face pregnancy, childbirth, and motherhood alone with no emotional, financial, or moral support it is not just irresponsibility. It is abuse. It is violence. And it must be called out as such.

Too often, we talk about gender-based violence only in terms of physical assault or sexual abuse. But GBV includes much more: emotional torment, psychological manipulation, social isolation, and economic exploitation. These are the kinds of abuses that don't leave bruises on the body, but they leave deep, permanent wounds on the soul.

The young mother I met yesterday could have died and we would have blamed it on "depression" or "poverty." But the truth is, she was pushed to the edge by a system and a culture that failed to protect her, value her, or hold the man accountable.



WE MUST DO BETTER

Uganda must wake up to the silent suffering of abandoned mothers. These young women are often left to carry the full burden of parenting alone emotionally, financially, and socially. Their pain is not always visible, but it is deep, and it is real. We cannot continue to look away.

As a society, we need to start holding men accountable for the children they father. Getting someone pregnant and then disappearing is not just selfish it's violent. It is a form of gender-based violence that leaves young mothers vulnerable to poverty, mental health crises, and sometimes even suicide.

Our legal system must do more. There should be strict consequences for men who abandon their responsibilities. We need laws that not only recognize economic and emotional abuse as GBV, but also enforce penalties when it happens. Too many

women are left to suffer in silence while the men walk away freely.

Education is key. We must begin teaching our boys from an early age about respect, responsibility, and consent. We must challenge the toxic beliefs that make men think it's acceptable to walk away from their children and from the women they harm. Until we address these mindsets, the cycle of abandonment will continue.

At the same time, we must strengthen support systems for young mothers. This includes access to counseling, shelters, legal aid, and vocational training. These women need more than pity — they need resources, respect, and a path forward.

This is not just a "women's issue." It affects all of us. When a mother is broken, a child suffers. When families are unstable, communities suffer. If we want to build a stronger, more compassionate Uganda, we must begin by protecting the most vulnerable among us.

That young mother I met could have died yesterday. She almost did. But her story should be a turning point a moment that reminds us all of what is at stake.

Conclusion

Gender-based violence isn't always loud. Sometimes, it looks like silence. Like abandonment. Like a young mother standing in the middle of the road, ready to end her life because she feels unseen, unloved, and unsupported. These quiet forms of violence are just as deadly and far more common than we admit.

We must expand our understanding of GBV to include emotional, economic, and psychological abuse. We must stop blaming women for the pain they carry and start holding men accountable for the pain they cause. And we must stop treating these stories as isolated incidents because they are not.



Malawian President Lazarus Chakwera Concedes Defeat In Presidential Election

By: Xinhua
@themkenyetimes

Malawi’s incumbent president Lazarus Chakwera yesterday conceded defeat in the Sept. 16 presidential election in which former president Peter Mutharika is leading by over one million votes.

Speaking in a televised address less than two hours before the Malawi Electoral Commission (MEC)’s scheduled announcement of final results for the election, Chakwera thanked all Malawians for their support over the past five years. In the last update on the official presidential results Monday, Mutharika had over two million votes against Chakwera’s over 700,000 votes. “It’s well clear that my main rival,

His Excellency Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika of the Democratic Progressive Party, had already secured an insurmountable lead and is the presumptive winner of the presidential election,” said Chakwera of the Malawi Congress Party. “For this reason, a moment ago I called Professor Mutharika directly to congratulate him on his historic victory and to wish him well in his upcoming tenure as the seventh President of the Republic of Malawi,” he said. He thanked his supporters, saying he would “forever be grateful for your trust in me and for your support of my candidacy,” and urged all Malawians to support Mutharika’s drive for national prosperity. Chakwera also hailed the MEC for what he described as a commendable job in presiding over the general elections.



Peter Mutharika



Lazarus Chakwera

Trump Claims Ukraine In Position To Win “All Of Ukraine Back”

By: Xinhua
@themkenyetimes

U.S. President Donald Trump has said on social media that he believes Ukraine, with support from Europe and NATO, “is in a position to fight and WIN all of Ukraine back in its original form.”

The remarks signaled a sharp shift in the White House’s position on the Russia-Ukraine conflict since Trump has for months pressed Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to make concessions to reach a cease-fire deal with Russia, claiming Kiev “doesn’t have the cards” in the negotiations. “After getting to know and fully understand the Ukraine/Russia Military and Economic situation and, after seeing the Economic trouble it is causing Russia, I think Ukraine, with the support of the European Union, is in a position to fight and WIN all of Ukraine back in its original form,” Trump wrote on Truth Social. “With time, patience, and the financial support of Europe and, in particular, NATO, the original Borders from where this War

started, is very much an option,” Trump said.

“We will continue to supply weapons to NATO for NATO to do what they want with them,” said the president. When meeting with Zelensky on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York City earlier on Tuesday, Trump told reporters that NATO countries should shoot down Russian jets that violate their airspace. In a letter dated Saturday and addressed to the president of the UN Security Council, Estonia claimed that three Russian MiG-31 fighters entered up to 10 km inside Estonia’s airspace and stayed for 12 minutes on Friday. Russia’s first deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, Dmitry Polyanskiy, denied that Russian jets had violated Estonian airspace and accused European states of Russophobia. Geng Shuang, China’s deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, said Monday that China urges the parties concerned to remain calm and exercise restraint, clarify facts and dispel doubts through dialogue and communication, avoid misunderstanding and misjudgment, and prevent the situation from expanding or escalating.



U.S. President Donald Trump

Who Is Failing Our Students? The Rise Of School Unrest In Kenya

By: Simiyu S Stanford
@themkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- Tengecha, Mukaa, Nakuru... The Pattern Spreads. Just weeks after the Litein incident, Tengecha Boys High School, also in Kericho County, experienced a similar episode. Students reportedly scrawled threats on walls days before setting fire to a dormitory housing over 170 learners.
- The school had to send all students home. Similar unrest was reported at Mukaa Boys High School (Makueni County), where students torched a dormitory in June 2025, leading to arrests and indefinite closure. Nakuru Girls High School closed in July 2025 after students vandalized school property, allegedly due to exam-related anxiety and stress.
- These are not isolated outbursts. They are symptoms of a deeper disease within Kenya's education system.

Every year, like clockwork, the same headlines dominate our news cycles: “School Closed Indefinitely After Students Riot”, “Dormitory Torched in Night Unrest” and “Administration Block Destroyed in Student Rampage.”

It is a cycle that repeats itself across counties and institutions, especially toward the end of Term 2 and the beginning of Term 3, the season leading up to the dreaded KCSE exams.

The immediate triggers may vary; poor food, denied privileges, exam anxiety, teacher-student tensions or overcrowded dormitories; but the deeper question is this: Who is failing when students riot, destroy property, and schools descend into chaos? Is it the government? Teachers? Parents? Students? The painful truth is that all are failing, each in different but connected ways.

Case Study: Litein Boys High School, When Football Turns to Flames

In what has become a recurring tragedy in Kenyan schools, Litein Boys High School in Kericho County was once again closed indefinitely in September 2025, after students went on a violent rampage, destroying property worth millions of shillings.

What triggered the chaos? Something as seemingly trivial as football. Students had requested to watch a highly anticipated English Premier League match between Arsenal and Manchester City, a common leisure activity in many boys' boarding schools. When the administration declined the request, citing disciplinary concerns, tensions rose rapidly.

In a coordinated response, students allegedly switched off lights across the school compound, overpowered security and police, and carried out the destruction under the cover of darkness. Dormitories, classrooms, and school offices were torched, with circulating videos showing charred walls, broken windows and debris scattered across the campus.

The financial loss is estimated in the millions. But this was not an isolated event. Just two months earlier, in July 2025, students at Litein staged another protest, this time over undercooked rice served at dinner. The situation escalated into a property-damaging rampage. And in May 2023, the school was also closed after unrest that led to destruction of biometric systems, smashed windows, and damage to school vehicles.

Clearly, it is not just about football or food. It's about pressure, mis-



Kenyan students keep setting their schools on fire

communication and unaddressed emotional stress, all boiling over in moments of perceived injustice.

Tengecha, Mukaa, Nakuru... The Pattern Spreads. Just weeks after the Litein incident, Tengecha Boys High School, also in Kericho County, experienced a similar episode. Students reportedly scrawled threats on walls days before setting fire to a dormitory housing over 170 learners. The school had to send all students home. Similar unrest was reported at Mukaa Boys High School (Makueni County), where students torched a dormitory in June 2025, leading to arrests and indefinite closure. Nakuru Girls High School closed in July 2025 after students vandalized school property, allegedly due to exam-related anxiety and stress.

These are not isolated outbursts. They are symptoms of a deeper disease within Kenya's education system.

The Deeper Issue: Exam Phobia and Emotional Overload

What do most of these unrest cases have in common? Timing. They typically occur in Term 2 or early Term 3, the peak of academic pressure before KCSE examinations. During this period, students are hit with: Mock exams and trial tests, piled-up assignments and night preps, sky-high expectations from teachers and parents and the overwhelming fear of failing an exam that is seen as life-defining.

When students feel unprepared, unsupported and unheard, even minor grievances like a denied TV match can become the spark in a powder keg of pressure. But these aren't just tantrums. They are cries for help.

Who Is Failing, Really?

The Government: Policies Without Support...The government

continues to push for academic performance without addressing the emotional and mental toll on learners. Most public schools still lack trained school counselors. Infrastructure in many institutions remains poor, flammable dorms, overcrowded classrooms and inadequate emergency systems. There is also no comprehensive national mental health strategy targeting secondary school students; despite rising cases of unrest, suicide and burnout.

Teachers: Under Pressure, Underprepared...Teachers are also victims of a system that prioritizes results over relationships. Many face enormous pressure to produce top grades, which trickles down to students as excessive drilling, threats or even humiliation.

Few teachers receive proper training in psychosocial support, crisis management or student counseling, meaning many early warning signs go unnoticed until it's too late.

Parents: Expectations Without Involvement...Too many parents are absent from their children's school lives, only showing up when problems explode. Others pile pressure on their children to succeed in KCSE, sometimes treating performance as a matter of family honor, without offering emotional or psychological support.

They demand outcomes, but often fail to understand or monitor the process.

Students: Not Just Victims... Yes, students are under pressure. But arson, theft and property destruction are not acceptable responses. At Litein, learners torched dorms and looted property. At Tengecha, they defied warnings and set ablaze sleeping quarters. These are not acts of protest, they are crimes.

Students must be taught that de-

struction is not dialogue, and that discipline and empathy can coexist.

What Needs to Change. To prevent another cycle of unrest in 2026, we must act on several fronts:

Introduce Mental Health Support in Schools: Every school should have at least one full-time trained counselor and the Ministry of Education must roll out school-based mental wellness programs.

Create Safe Communication Channels: Students need non-punitive spaces to raise grievances and suggestion boxes, peer councils, and mediation sessions should be institutionalized

Equip Teachers Beyond Academics: Training in emotional intelligence, student behavior, and conflict de-escalation should be mandatory in teacher development

Encourage Active Parenting: Parents must play active roles in school life, not just during roll calls or prize-giving days and home environments should reinforce empathy, not just performance

In conclusion, the mirror of unrest from Litein to Tengecha, from Mukaa to Nakuru, the message is clear: Our students are not okay and our system is breaking. Unrest is no longer just about bad food or cancelled football matches. It's about fear, fatigue, frustration and the absence of safe emotional outlets.

If we keep dismissing these incidents as mere “indiscipline,” we will keep missing the point. The failure is collective. And so must be the solution.

Until we start treating students as whole human beings, not just exam machines, the fires will keep burning. And the question will remain: Who is really failing whom?

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BREAKING NEWS

Sports >> *The Football Kenya Federation (FKF) has assured fans of the NSL that selected matches will be broadcasted live on television and radio in the 2025/26 season, in a move aimed at raising the league's profile.

FKF President Mohammed Pledges Live Coverage For NSL Matches



Football Kenya Federation (FKF) President Hussein Mohammed addressing the media after meeting with NSL club officials in Nairobi. Photo/ Courtesy

The Football Kenya Federation (FKF) has assured fans of the National Super League (NSL) that selected matches will be broadcasted live on television and radio in the 2025/26 season, in a move aimed at raising the league's profile.

FKF President Hussein Mohammed made the announcement on Wednesday during the unveiling of a sponsorship deal, which saw three NSL clubs – 3K FC, Migori Youth FC, and Kisumu All Stars – receive KSh 6 million in support, alongside full home, away, and third kits for the upcoming campaign.

Hussein emphasized that the decision to televise and air NSL matches is part of a wider strategy to enhance visibility and growth at the second-tier level.

“NSL also deserves to be covered on radio, also deserves to be covered on live coverage. Within this season, I assure you, we will have a few of your games live on TV. So that we can continue to build and give you more publicity and exposure, and we can continue to build your clubs at that level,” he said.

The FKF boss highlighted that increased coverage will not only boost the competitiveness of NSL clubs but also make them more appealing to potential sponsors.

He noted that the exposure will give players and coaches a bigger platform while also deepening fan engagement across the country.

However, Hussein was quick to stress that growth cannot be re-

alized without good governance. He called on clubs to embrace accountability and transparency in the management of resources.

“It is only the beginning, we are going to do more. So governance becomes very important at the club level.

“Make sure that whatever you do, you are accountable whenever the resources come, that you are transparent in how you do your things, and that you also have integrity in how we run the game. That is the only way you will attract more partnerships and more sponsors to come on board,” he added.

The NSL, often viewed as the direct pathway to the top-flight FKF Premier League, has struggled with limited visibility and minimal commercial support in

the past.

FKF's latest commitment, coupled with the latest sponsorship, signals a new chapter that could redefine how the league is perceived and consumed by fans.

With hopes of televised matches, radio broadcasts, and fresh investment, the 2025/26 NSL season promises to be one of the most engaging in recent years.

Citizen Sport

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

Sports >>> *The Boxing Federation of Kenya (BFK) has lauded the tremendous progress the sport has made in recent years, crediting both their vibrant league structure and grassroots initiatives for attracting more young people to the ring.

BFK Secretary Munuhe Hails Boxing Growth, Says Plan Is To Nurture More Talents



The Boxing Federation of Kenya (BFK) has lauded the tremendous progress the sport has made in recent years, crediting both their vibrant league structure and grassroots initiatives for attracting more young people to the ring. According to BFK Secretary General David Munuhe, the steady growth of the sport across the country demonstrates the sport is not only alive but gaining renewed momentum. He emphasized that boxing remains a vibrant discipline, pointing out the Ndongi Mashinani program, a county-based initiative

designed to scout and nurture talent at the grassroots level. “Boxing is still vibrant as you can see through our leagues and tournaments. In the counties we have also been running the Ndongi Mashinani program, which is very vibrant,” said Munuhe. He further dismissed claims that the sport has been neglected by the government, clarifying that state support has been vital in sustaining and expanding opportunities for athletes. “That notion that the government has not been assisting boxing is a lie. The Kenya team has been par-

ticipating in international tournaments courtesy of the government. In fact, next month we will be hosting Zone III, which involves East African countries converging in Nairobi with full government support,” he explained. Munuhe noted that the federation’s vision stretches beyond immediate competitions. The long-term goal is to revive Kenya’s rich boxing heritage, which once produced continental and global champions. By investing in youth and grassroots training, BFK hopes to rebuild the country’s reputation as a boxing powerhouse.

“We will continue to nurture young talents to ensure that we revive the image that the country enjoyed some time back,” Munuhe concluded.

Citizen Sport

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Backpage



Brilliant Writer Blessed With Creativity



By: Anila Bukhari

@themkenyatimes



Worth Noting:

- As the host of Listen Linda Radio and Listen Linda Book Club Live, Dr. Cox reaches 27 countries, sharing inspiration, truth, and tough love with her signature flair. Her magazine, Listen Linda Magazine, is an international bestseller, spotlighting authors, leaders, and change-makers from diverse backgrounds.
- But Dr. Cox's story is more than just accolades – she's a survivor and a servant. Despite facing life's storms, including grief and chronic illness, she channels her experiences into ministry and mentorship, reminding others that "God ain't through, but I'm staying true." As a wife, mother, and community builder, Dr. Cox is committed to breaking generational curses and leaving a legacy of faith, creativity, and impact.

Dr. Jacqueline Cox, affectionately known as "Listen Linda," is a force to be reckoned with. This 17x Best-selling Author, visionary publisher, and award-winning entrepreneur has built an empire that inspires and empowers people worldwide. As the CEO of Listen Linda Brand & Marketing and Listen Linda Publishing, Dr. Cox has helped hundreds of authors, speakers, and creatives share their stories and amplify their voices on global platforms.

Her memoir, "Mountains Can't Rise Without Earthquakes," was a game-changer, holding the #1 spot on Amazon for 91 consecutive days and remaining in the Top 100 for three years. This breakout success paved the way for a plethora of devotionals, anthologies, children's books, and empowerment projects that showcase her unique blend of faith, resilience, and raw storytelling.

As the host of Listen Linda Radio and Listen Linda Book Club Live, Dr. Cox reaches 27 countries, sharing inspiration, truth, and tough love with her signature flair. Her magazine, Listen Linda Magazine, is an international bestseller, spotlighting authors, leaders, and change-makers from diverse backgrounds.

But Dr. Cox's story is more than just accolades – she's a survivor and a servant. Despite facing life's storms, including grief and chronic illness, she channels her experiences into ministry and mentorship, reminding others that "God ain't through, but I'm staying true." As a wife, mother, and community builder, Dr. Cox is committed to breaking generational curses and leaving a legacy of faith, creativity, and impact.

Through her books, coaching, stages, and platforms, Dr. Cox proves that storms don't destroy you – they shape you. Her legacy is a testament to the power of resilience, faith, and determination. As she continues to inspire and empower others, Dr. Cox remains a shining example of what it means to live a life of purpose, passion, and devotion.

With her creativity, passion, and commitment to serving others, Dr. Jacqueline Cox is a true inspiration, and her story will undoubtedly touch hearts and minds for generations to come.



Dr. Jacqueline Cox