

POLITICS

BBI: A Ploy to through Dec

13 min read.

AKOKO AKECH explains why the BBI formula that has sabotaged Kenya

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By **Akoko Akech** 



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After several weeks of speculative fake v the real report was launched on Wedne: document turned out to be woolly. Wh authors.

At first glance, the BBI report appears to and calls for an urgent response. But a c is an attempt to sabotage democracy – a and obsequious citizenry. This is most t

city of Nairobi the right to be ruled by :
status as the capital and as a diplomatic h

However, the BBI report's rhetoric igno
handshake" between Uhuru Kenyatta an
competition masks the identity of the p
2007 have produced successive governn
destruction in their wake. By referring t
elections, the crises within the family, ir
of a once great nation now beleaguered

Moreover, the report not only partly att
models, but also seeks to reverse them. *N*
responsibilities take precedence over *rig*
responsibility-light and rights-heavy so
the BBI's tentative political programme
human rights talk, and setting the publi
ostensibly the conduits of such rights id

The BBI is a revisionist project on many
history to the heart of government. It ap
with a capital H as it were, ostensibly in
every community and stretching back a
Historian resident in the National Archi
(assuming there ever was one).




**The report not only part
of Western democratic
Whenever rights and re:
responsibilities take pre**

BBI neither critically engages with Ken election politics that necessitated its form just as it does the moral panic over current ambitious multi-pronged short-term and structure of the executive arm of the government the ground for conservative social reform long term.

The Uthamaki crisis

Simply put, Kenya is not in the kind of constitution and social institutions can afford – the ideology of the Gikuyu elite that led the same Gikuyu elite. It's mainly a crisis of disastrous economic record and of how elite's interests.

Arguably, it's a crisis which has no ready-made solutions: several crises: they have no credible patriotic interests after Uhuru Kenyatta's second term or ideology that can justify Uhuru Kenyatta's dismal economic performance that has led



**The Gikuyu elite who co
“kumi kumi” deal, short-
searching for a new part
new legitimating myths
process.**

What’s more, there is hardly sufficient to
disenchanted political base and steer the
And Uthamakists are caught between the
reconstituted executive that could guarantee
suitable successor to Uhuru.

It wouldn’t be a crisis if the presidency
uncertainties of a truly democratic process
nor do they respect the outcome, as we

Electoral coups

Since 2007, the Uthamakists have found
but only perfectly well when an Utham
candidate. It’s the formula for the execu
enduring legacy.

Arguably, the Johann Kriegler Commis
remedy against them. Instead, the Krieg
of harvest for Kenya’s electoral coup d’état
diffuse the claims and counterclaims of the
claiming, contestably, that both sides st

dexterously avoided the question of how the electoral contest being so muddled that

The Kriegler commissioners kicked the can to secure the integrity of future elections using technology and procedures for voters to note.

Since 2007, the Uthmaniyah has been seizing and keeping state power, leaving behind a legacy of an electoral coup d'état.

Poignantly, the Kriegler Commission found that the Kenyatta International Conference was the stealing of elections. The 2007 election was the international media. It was switch-circuit preferred candidate the winner, and ordered

The success of the strategy rests on a demand for an executive's preferred candidate the winner through an election petition or a popular vote such a victory. Not even a courageous S

In recent times, this formula has had a powerful core or as the constant, plus or minus or a disgruntled elite left out of the incumbent unexpectedly wins the presidential election

Electoral and Boundaries Commission (backs to the wall, you can press the “los

Better still, you can launch a sleek media incumbent’s developmental record or de of the incumbent’s coalition. With the e forces at your beck and call, you can tak up the judicial cul-de-sac, with a nod fr fear losing out to the Chinese on lucrati

And presto, you are back as the status q democracy, broken limbs, rapes, destroy yet another round of this “democratic” t and a formal or informal power-sharing deficit, especially when he reneges on tl whole loaf of bread midstream.

The kumi kumi promise

A case in point is the Jubilee governmen Jubilee’s core patriarchal, ethno-chauvir is in tatters. It was the myth of the “tyra Kikuyu/Kalenjin mainly male elite dom William Ruto’s disbanded United Repul

“We reluctantly but robustly supported investigations. Some victims were depic That’s after quiet efforts by some of us t

thread of tweets, which suggests that W
winning political formula.

“William Ruto, it seems, is very cunning
wa Kabando. “Ruto controlled both how
see Ruto. Even governors in trouble will
happen. Everyone knows ‘Annex’ became

The Gikuyu elite who control state power
Kalenjin elite, and are searching for a new
myths for the next government through
the promise of a ten-year William Ruto
office. The Kalenjin are seemingly out of
prospect is increasingly looks dim.

Disastrous economic performance

However, substituting Raila Odinga for
easy but for Uhuru Kenyatta’s disastrous
the executive, and the burden of history
campaigns of the recently closely-fought

Before the Jubilee government took Kenya
borrowing of commercial loans heavily
was sold as the filthy rich presidential candidate
doesn’t need money. Unlike his mentor
Mwai Kibaki, he was the archetypical Kenyan
prosperous.

But, after six years in power, the economic "Prince" among those impoverished by the unprecedented levels of corruption. The instruments of state power with which he is stirring the Central Kenya revolt, and the woes fueling the rebellion. This has given him the Prince and driven the Uthmaniyah much demonised Raila Odinga and his

Raila: A hard sell

But Raila Odinga has never been an easy sell for the Gikuyu after playing a decisive role in the 2002 election between 2003 and 2017, during which he was demonised and characterised as the ultimate

As Kabando wa Kabando says, "Central Kenya courageously crash unjustified phobia. It was bad. In 2002 Raila was 'our' hero. 2

Before the Jubilee government suffocating waters of debt, commercial loans heavily out of business, Uhuru was a candidate who will invade he doesn't need money.

Raila Odinga and the ODM party may be heavy lifting of reforming the executive

for long, which is also, as the late John I
reforms when one of their own is not in
power looms. And a new political coalition
self-fulfilling prophecy or narrative of a

The BBI brief is to seek to legitimate a
plan, and it does this through historical
Ruto has to be replaced with Raila Odinga
bourgeoisie than Raila Odinga, but excludes
peasants and the working class, then Uhuru
conveniently leaves out Ruto, and brings

Or, better still, a new legitimating myth
portraying him as the originator of the
casting out the “*kusema, kutenga na ku*
while laying claim to the “pedigree” that

A mythical past

The BBI’s first communiqué and report
the scions of Kenya’s founding fathers. It
Kenya’s first president and vice president
dreams and promises of Kenya’s independence
Kenya’s founding fathers’ independence

In its first March 9, 2018 communiqué,
rediscovery of the unfulfilled promises of a
historical past and assigned Uhuru Kenya
Kenya’s destiny.

A new legitimating myth simultaneously leaves Raila Odinga the originator of the Jubilee

The communiqué claimed that “Kenya’s founding mothers and fathers had for us

What triumphed after “Independence,” and promised at independence; it was a little success – Jomo Kenyatta’s ethno-c

The communiqué also gives Kenya a myth that was peaceful and conflict-free, and later fought and defeated with the promise of

These are the myths that legitimate the succession politics. The BBI did not see congratulatory speeches at the Bomas of

The jubilant mood at Bomas of Kenya was a Masinde Muliro reincarnate nor a Jubilee imagination. Murkomen’s plea for fair representation, a belligerent call for minorities’ voices to be respected, dissenting voices – a cardinal demand championed briefly.

The founding fathers’ myth might bridge the gap between the demonised Raila Odinga’s political conservatism and the Odinga leadership. But a victory by any

would make Uhuru's opinion of Raila Odinga's demand to repeat 2017 elections ring true: "There is no alternative to make Kenya a multiparty democracy. If we don't have a democracy for Kenya cannot be questioned."

The desire by the Deep State to steady the ship of Uhuru Kenyatta's Ruto-stirred rough and turbulent political waters hasn't put wind behind Raila's sails. But it has done much to the chagrin of some of Uhuru's supporters who say, "Uthamaki ni witu, thamaki ni ciao".

The BBI's Bomas show was a ploy. It was a show of democracy, always with the same predictable outcome. In historic, it was in reality the Deep State's

A new supporting cast

The BBI report inspires little confidence – held hostage by a cabal of ethno-chauvinists and political deception by introducing a new

cast of characters (that Raila Odinga is aiding and abetting Uhuru's presidency) is tragic. It's a capitulation to tribalism and patriotism over self-interest.

Kenya might be playing Russian roulette with a loaded bullet, but with a half-loaded revolver, millions of Kenyans can't effectively and

and craves a home-grown solution, then the patrimony of the KANU founding fathers.

The evils that KADU stalwarts such as Rotich are in Kenya's body politic. But at least KADU has raised the heights of state bureaucracy by one or two degrees above KADU's prescriptions for the cure – a free press, Human Rights, and a multiparty system of government since 1992.

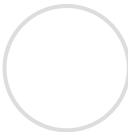
The desire by the Deep State for a peaceful succession ship, and guided by the rough and turbulent political ambitions against Ruto's leadership, has assigned to Raila a

It seems the powers that be have turned the formula. Perhaps the key question one can ask is to continually stage an electoral coup d'état. How many more such coups can Kenya survive?

Kenya's political problem is not competition, but the violence it engenders on both sides of the aisle. The parties and electoral positions to the pre- and post-electoral coups plots.

Until the Kenyans who benefit from minority rule who oppose illegitimate minority rule. Unfortunately, the deadly recasting of v

chauvinistic minorities who control stat
“Uhuru”.



By **Akoko Akech**

Akoko Akech is a graduate studer

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Nicholas Rabach —

AvatarOnce again, my friend Oby has shared we arguments regarding the forgotten strength of t marketplace' in defining our social & economic say he convinces me. I also join him in wonderin flamboyant GDP figures being bandied around t Economists are all about when the players in ou markets remain out of touch with them. Even m profoundly, Oby shares real stories. I am particu by William's story, that Malawian boy who instea school dropout status stunting him, it instead b foundational impetus he needed to build a villag that helped irrigate farms in his village. The tran drive Oby explains in this article is powerful. One though, I wonder why Oby left me out of the pre respondents' list when he knows I would have r ideas. I will discuss this with him later. Great pic

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1 comment • 8 days ago



Arthur Larok —

AvatarExcellent essay. Tough times and choices ahead. Arthur

BBI

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in light of similar efforts in the past
expected of current initiatives.

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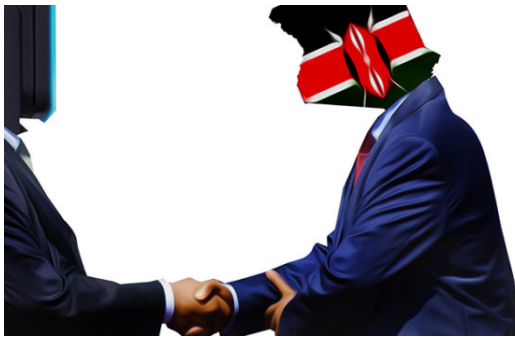
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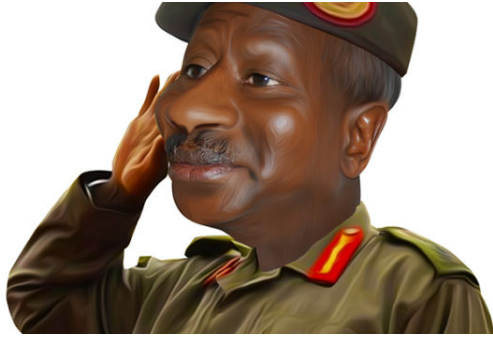
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