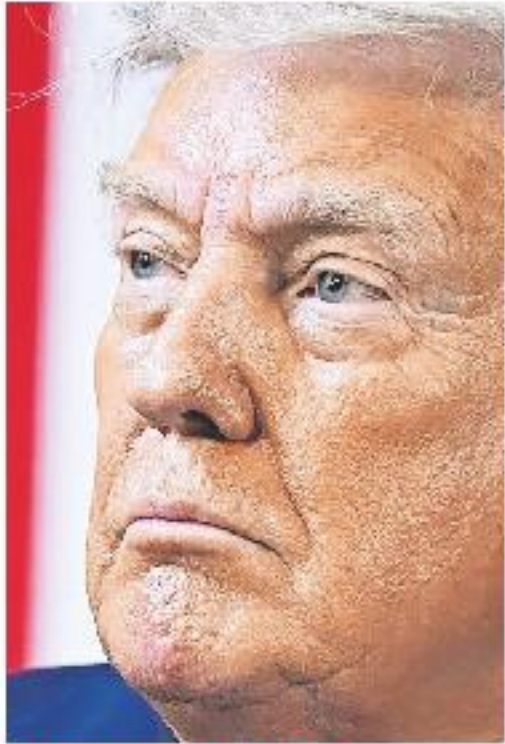


DAILY NATION

How I smashed 42-year record

Lilian Odira says running cross country did the trick for her as she recalls the remarkable race that saw her win the 800m world title and break the 1983 championship record. [Back Page](#)



DIPLOMACY

Kenya-US trade tariff to triple on Agoa expiry, job losses loom

Kenya's average weighted trade tariff with the US will nearly triple to 28 per cent on expiry of the preferential African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), according to the UN. **P.12**



HEALTH

MPs say SHA is misleading on premium benefits

Lawmakers accuse the State of promising enhanced medical cover than what the Social Health Authority is delivering. The situation has seen many patients asked to pay extra money to cover for the deficit. / **P.13**

Deadly Death toll for nine months of 2025 is higher than recorded similar period in 2024

Shattered lives

CRASH VICTIMS



Lydiah Njeri Mburu



Elijah Mburu



Robinson Karanja



Joyce Wambui



Naomi Wangui



Catherine Njambi



Pauline Muthoni



Loise Wambui



Lydiah Wanjiru



Beatrice Waitira



Lydia Wanjiru



Everlyn Nyawira

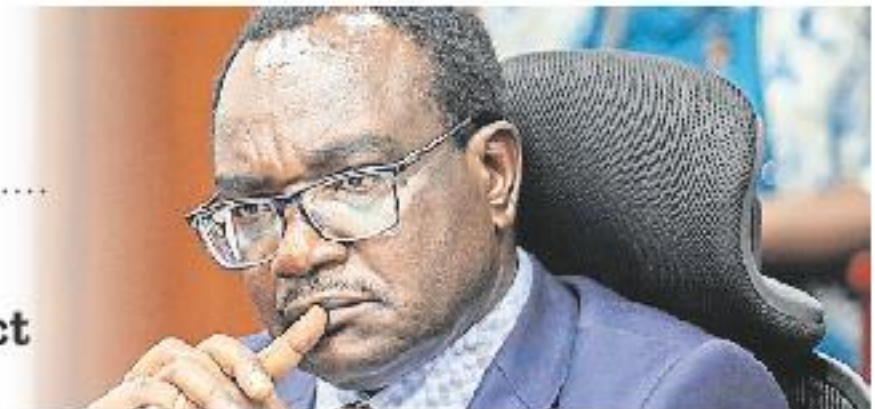


Elijah Mburu (driver)

Susan Wanjiru wishes it were just a nightmare. But it isn't. Her elderly parents, her son—the driver of the ill-fated matatu—and four sisters are gone. They were among 16 relatives who left their Murang'a village on Sunday for Lanet to visit an ailing kin. They never made it to their destination. See Full Story on Pages 2&3

Crackdown on school unrest

Students implicated in riots will sit their national exams at designated centres outside their schools as authorities grapple with a wave of unrest. Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Ogamba has directed school managers to enforce strict disciplinary measures, including expulsion. **Page 4**



SMART CITIES FORUM

Theme: 'Smart Cities for a Sustainable Urban Future'

30th - 31st October 2025

Two Rivers Mall

Every October 31st, the world marks World Cities Day to reflect on the urbanisation phenomenon and sustainable development. To bring this global agenda closer home, Nation Media Group (NMG), in partnership with stakeholders, will host the Smart Cities Forum 2025. It will bring together government leaders, private sector players, urban planners, academia, innovators, and development partners to explore solutions shaping Africa's Smart Cities Agenda.



OPPORTUNITIES Speaker | Exhibition | 360 Degree Media | Experientials | Master class | Networking | Family Fun.

To participate please contact:
Timothy: Tel 0721 678597;
Email: tmuthengi@ke.nationmedia.com
Martin: Tel 0723383744
Email: mwachira@ke.nationmedia.com

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National News

Tragedy For a month, Patrick Mburu's family had planned a reunion to visit their ailing aunt in Lanet. But the journey

One family, 16 lives lost: How Kariandusi

Beyond the anguish, the family now faces a crushing financial burden. "We are being told the bills have already reached Sh1.5 million," said Mr Boniface Njaramba.

BY MWANGI MUIRURI
AND MERCY KOSKEI

Susan Wanjiru, 65, should have been in the matatu that left Murang'a on Sunday morning for a long-awaited family trip to Lanet, Nakuru County. At the last minute, she changed her mind.

That single decision saved her life — but left her devastated as she mourns the loss of almost her entire family of 16 people. The matatu they were travelling in collided head-on with a trailer at Kariandusi on the busy Nakuru-Nairobi highway.

Among the dead was her son, Elijah Mburu, the 28-year-old driver of the ill-fated vehicle. She also lost both her parents, Elijah Mburu Maina and Lydia Njeri, and four sisters — Catherine Njambi, Loice Wambui, Naomi Wangui, and Pauline Muthoni.

Out of a family of seven brothers and five sisters, Wanjiru is now the only surviving daughter.

"I don't want to speak about this incident... I am alive through the love of my God. I am sad, I am devastated, but I leave all to God, who knows the meaning of all this," she said, her voice breaking.

The journey she skipped had been weeks in the making.

For a month, her brother Patrick Mburu's family had planned a reunion to visit their ailing aunt, 65-year-old Pauline Muthoni, in Lanet. It was to be a joyous get-together — their second in weeks after visiting another relative in Murang'a.

But the journey ended in tragedy before the 16 family members could reach Lanet. Their matatu collided head-on with a trailer at Kariandusi on the Nakuru-Nairobi highway on Sunday.

Mburu's nephew, Elijah Mburu, was driving the matatu, which carried his parents, Elijah Mburu Maina and Lydia Njeri, and his sister, Catherine Njambi.

On the way from Murang'a, they picked up his uncle, Robison Karanja, before proceeding to Gacharage, where they collected two children Mburu identified as Grace Waithera and Eunice.

In Nairobi's Kasarani area, Mburu's three sisters — Loice Wambui, Naomi Wangui, and Pauline Muthoni — also boarded the vehicle. In Naivasha Sub-county, his cousin's wife and her two children joined them, and together they left for Nakuru City. By around noon, the planned reunion had turned into heartbreak.

At about 6.30pm, Mburu received a call from one of his brothers

The toll of road accidents

Road accident death toll

VICTIMS	2024 (Jan 1-Sep 16)	2025 (Jan 1-Sep 14)
PEDESTRIANS	1,281	1,285
DRIVERS	281	309
PASSENGERS	654	568
MOTOR CYCLISTS	825	858

Traffic accidents comparison

TYPE OF ACCIDENT	2023 (Jan 1-Aug 27)	2024 (Jan 1-Aug 27)	2025 (Jan 1-Sep 14)
FATAL	2,481	2,582	2,937
SERIOUS	3,197	3,674	4,096
SLIGHT	733	858	1,014
TOTAL	6,411	7,114	8,047

3,397

Number of people who have died due to road accidents between January 1 and September 14, 2025. The total number of deaths between January 1 and September 16, 2024 was **3,369** and during the same period in 2023, **3,151** deaths were recorded.

17,290

Number of people involved in accidents between January 1 and September 14, 2025. A total of **16,979** people were involved in accidents between January 1 and September 16, 2024.

Victims of road accidents by month (Jan 1-Sep 14, 2025)

Month	Deaths	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total
January	392	938	684	2,014
February	360	828	627	1,815
March	387	1,044	716	2,147
April	408	1,028	679	2,115
May	395	910	723	2,028
June	414	885	655	1,954
July	396	958	620	1,974
August	461	1,135	754	2,350
September	184	337	352	873
Total	3,397	8,063	5,810	17,290



Source: National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) Compiled by Jackline Macharia

asking him to rush to their sister's house in Nakuru and pick up her children. Confused but obedient, he complied.

"I was in Nakuru town running errands when I boarded a matatu. The driver mentioned there had been an accident in Gilgil that claimed lives. I never imagined it involved my family. Later, my brother called. He didn't say much, only instructed me to take

the children to my house," he recalled. Then came the crushing news: their parents, four sisters, cousins and nephews — 16 family members in all — were gone.

"At first, I couldn't believe it. I only knew my nephew was an experienced driver. He had driven matatus for six years. I never imagined their journey would end this way. When I saw the bodies, the injuries... it was heartbreaking. We don't even know where to begin. The cost of post-mortems and transporting the bodies home is overwhelming," Mburu said in an interview, his voice heavy with grief.

When he arrived at Gilgil Hospital, Mburu was asked to identify the bodies, many of which were badly disfigured. "Seeing their bodies, having spoken to them just hours earlier, was devastating. They had been in high spirits. We were in constant communication during the journey, but at some point I got busy," he said.

Another family member, Stephen Gicheru, a Naivasha resident who lost his wife and daughter, said he had spoken to his wife moments after she left Naivasha, as he was meant to send money for snacks for their two children.

He said he was in Tanzania for work when he saw news of the accident trending on social media. He tried calling his wife on WhatsApp, but the calls went unanswered. Thinking little of it, he left her a message.

Later, at around 10pm, he received a call from his cousin in-

forming him that the family was travelling to Nakuru.

"I have lost a wife and a daughter. My son is in hospital receiving treatment. We had agreed that I would send the money two hours later, since I was almost at the border, but we never spoke again. I called to ask where they were, but their phones were not going through," he recalled.

WHAT HAPPENED

A crushing loss for family of sixteen

Elijah Mburu was driving the matatu, which carried his parents, Elijah Mburu Maina and Lydia Njeri, and his sister, Catherine Njambi. On the way from Murang'a, they picked up his uncle, Robison Karanja, before proceeding to Gacharage, where they collected two children Mburu identified as Grace Waithera and Eunice. In Nairobi's Kasarani area, Mburu's three sisters — Loice Wambui, Naomi Wangui, and Pauline Muthoni — also boarded the vehicle. In Naivasha Sub-county, his cousin's wife and her two children joined them, and together they left for Nakuru City. By around noon, the planned reunion had turned into heartbreak.

NAKUMATT HOLDINGS LIMITED STAFF PENSION SCHEME (IN LIQUIDATION)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Members of the above scheme who have not collected their benefits from the scheme are invited to meet the Trustees and the Liquidator from 9am – 4pm on the following regions:

REGIONS	VENUES	DATE
Kisumu	City Mega Plaza	7 th October 2025
Kisii	Naivas Supermarket Kisii (Formerly Nakumatt Supermarket Kisii)	8 th October 2025
Kakamega	Kakamega Holden Mall	7 th October 2025
Eldoret	Eldo Centre Mall	8 th October 2025

The meeting will discuss on how to access your benefits as the scheme is being closed on liquidation. Those who are on Whatsapp Groups, please inform your fellow members provided they still have benefits in the scheme.

Please come with necessary documents to prove you were a member of the scheme and your Identification Card (ID).

Should you require more details, contact the following:

Kimoli 0722659139
Reuben 0715864794
Rahab 0720828408

THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF NYAMIRA



TENDER NOTICE

ADDENDUM!!!

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND CLOSING TIME EXTENSION FROM 6th TO 09th OCTOBER 2025

The County Assembly of Nyamira hereby invites interested and eligible services providers to submit bids for the following tender.

TENDER NO.	DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE	TENDER ID	NEGOTIATION NUMBER	CATEGORY	BID SECURITY
CAN/PROC/001/MED/1/2025-2026	PROVISION OF MEDICAL COVER FOR HON. SPEAKER, HON. MCA'S, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD (CASB), STAFF OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF NYAMIRA AND THEIR DEPENDANTS.	T.I.D 92 T.R. No CASNYM/1605/0002/2025-26	1917743, 2-2025/2026	OPEN	600,000
CAN/PROC/WIBA/2/2025-2026	PROVISION OF GROUP LIFE/WIBA INSURANCE COVER FOR SPEAKER, MEMBERS OF COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF NYAMIRA (MCAs), MEMBERS OF THE BOARD (CASB), STAFF MEMBERS AND THEIR DEPENDANTS.	T.I.D 90 T.R. No CASNYM/1605/0001/2025-26	1917744, 2-2025/2026	OPEN	80,000

A complete set of tender documents containing detailed terms and conditions may be downloaded free of charge from the following platform:

Electronic government procurement EGP's, IFMIS Supplier Portal: <https://supplier.treasury.go.ke>, County Assembly of Nyamira Website: <https://www.nyamiraassembly.go.ke>

Tender Submission Instructions:

Duly completed tender documents must be submitted both on the EGP's platform and the IFMIS supplier portal, ensuring the content is exactly the same in both platforms. The deadline for submission is on or before 9th October, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. (East African Time).

Opening of Tenders:

Tenders will be opened electronically on the IFMIS and EGP's platforms immediately after the submission deadline. Bidders or their representatives may monitor the opening virtually through the platforms.

Important Notes:

- All bidders must ensure that the information submitted in both portals is identical.
- The County Assembly of Nyamira reserves the right to accept or reject any tender either in whole or in part and is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

For further inquiries or clarifications, please contact:

The Clerk
County Assembly of Nyamira
P.O. Box 590 Nyamira – Kenya
Email: info@nyamiraassembly.go.ke
Phone: 0202302020

ended in tragedy when their matatu collided head-on with a trailer at Kariandusi on the Nakuru-Nairobi highway horror crash has shattered generations

In Murang'a's Kandara Constituency, more than 200 kilometres away, the wider family first learnt of the accident through the radio.

By Sunday night, the family's three homesteads in Kahiga, Kangui and Gacharage had been transformed into mourning grounds.

"The family on that journey is widely known as that of Gicheru wa Gatari, with homesteads in Kahiga, Kangui and Gacharage villages," Mr Maina said.

"I was seated under a tree in Kahiga village when the news bulletin came on. The announcer said 13 people had died in a head-on collision at Kariandusi on the Nakuru-Nairobi highway. A cold chill swept through me. My body went weak. I instinctively knew it was my family," said Mr Charles Maina, 54, the family spokesman.

Mr Maina said the driver, Mburu, had arrived in Kandara village at around 9pm on Saturday and set off for the ill-fated journey after resting for barely three hours.

He recalled that his dread deepened when repeated phone calls to relatives in the matatu went unanswered. "The silence was its own confirmation. We clung to hope, but by afternoon the dev-



The scene of a road accident at Kariandusi on the Nakuru-Nairobi highway, where 16 members of the same family who were travelling in a 14-seater matatu were killed after a head-on collision with a trailer on Sunday. BONIFACE MWANGI | NATION

astating reality became clear," he said. By yesterday, confirmation had come that all 16 family members in the vehicle were dead.

"We lost six from my own household alone — my father, my mother, my twin sisters, Catherine and Pauline. How do you even begin to process that?" asked Mr Maina's younger brother, Zach-

ariah Mwangi, 45. At the Kangui homestead, 85-year-old Robinson Karanja died alongside his daughters and granddaughter. In Gacharage, 65-year-old Grace Waithera perished with her daughter, Judy Ruguru.

As neighbours streamed in, the air filled with wails, prayers, and despair. Some relatives collapsed

in grief, while others had to be restrained from harming themselves. "It was like a church without order — some praying in tongues, some fainting, others crying uncontrollably," recalled Mr Mwangi. Beyond the anguish, the family now faces a crushing financial burden. "We are being told the bills have already reached Sh1.5

million — hospital, mortuary, emergency services," said Mr Boniface Njaramba. "Post-mortems will add Sh300,000 more. Then burials for 16 people. How do we raise over Sh3.5 million?"

The family is pleading for help from the government, hospitals, and well-wishers to waive bills and support the burials.

Murang'a County Health Chief Officer Eliud Maina said the county would dispatch counsellors to assist the devastated family, noting the immense psychological toll. Governor Irungu Kang'ata is also expected to visit.

mwangilink@gmail.com
Merkoskey15@gmail.com

Dunga Beach fish kill deals farmers a Sh9.6m blow amid pollution fears

BY ALEX ODHIAMBO

A mass fish kill at Dunga Beach in Kisumu County has left thousands of tilapia dead, dealing a Sh9.6 million blow to cage farmers and reviving fears over pollution in Lake Victoria.

Dunga Beach Management Unit (BMU) chair Nicholas Oyete said 12 out of 150 cages were affected when the die-off began on Sunday. Each cage, he noted, costs about Sh400,000 to stock and can yield double that at harvest.

"This is a devastating blow," Mr Oyete said. "But no dead fish are entering the market. All affected fish remain in cages and will be disposed of under supervision."

While Mr Oyete attributed the deaths to oxygen depletion, conservationists pointed to pollution.

Hezbone Okoth Owino, Secretary of Friends of Dunga Swamp, said the incident was "predictable and preventable". He produced a letter his organisation sent to the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) on 7 July 2025, warning of untreated industrial effluent from the Nyamasaria River flowing into the lake, just upstream of the cages.

"It is not just fish at risk," he said. "Polluted water is used to clean



Fish farmers retrieve dead tilapia from cages at Dunga Beach yesterday. The mass fish kill has left farmers counting millions in losses and renewed calls for government action against Lake Victoria pollution. ALEX ODHIAMBO | NATION

fish sold to the public, exposing people to disease and long-term illnesses. This is not just an environmental issue but a public health crisis."

The usually lively Dunga fish market fell silent yesterday, with empty stalls and anxious traders. "I have no fish to sell today," said fishmonger Beatrice Achieng. "If this continues, I cannot pay school fees." Fisherman Joseph Omondi added: "We were told cage farming would save us. Now even the cages are dying."

County Agriculture, Fisheries

and Livestock Executive Kenneth Onyango led a team of health and fisheries officers to the site. "Our priority is to ensure no contaminated fish reaches the market," he said, adding that scientists from the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute were collecting samples.

But farmers and conservationists warned that similar promises followed previous fish kills. They are demanding enforcement of waste regulations, public release of water quality data, and compensation.



MINISTRY OF
ENVIRONMENT,
CLIMATE CHANGE &
FORESTRY

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR FORESTRY

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTIFICATION OF REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT ON THE DRAFT FOREST CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT (CONCESSIONS ON PUBLIC FORESTS)

IT IS notified to the general public that the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Forestry pursuant to section 8 (1) of the Statutory Instruments Act Cap. 2A, has prepared a regulatory impact statement on the impacts and likely impacts of the proposed Forest Conservation and Management (Concessions on Public Forests) Regulations, 2025 on stakeholders, members of the public and other persons likely to be affected by the proposed Regulations.

The proposed Regulations have been developed pursuant to section 71(1), 71(2)(i) and 71(2)(m) of the Forest Conservation and Management Act, Cap. 385 and the main objective of the Regulations is to prescribe the procedures and requirements for the participation of the concession party in commercial forestry through forest concessions; to define the modalities of engagements by parties in the forest concession arrangements; and to provide for community involvement and participation under the forest concession arrangements.

Any person likely to be affected by the proposed regulations is advised to take note of Gazette Notice No. 13619, Vol. CXXVII—No. 200 of 26th September 2025 and submit written memoranda on the prepared regulatory impact statement by 17th October 2025. The written memorandum should be delivered on weekdays and during the official working hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to the **Office of the Principal Secretary, State Department for Forestry, NHIF Building, Ragati Road, P.O. Box 30126-00100, Nairobi**. The soft copies of the written memoranda can also be submitted to ps@forestry.go.ke with a copy to forestrysecretary@gmail.com.

The Regulations and Regulatory Impact Statement can be accessed free of charge on the ministry website: www.environment.go.ke.

Dr. Deborah M. Barasa
CABINET SECRETARY, ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE & FORESTRY



National News

Indiscipline The new measures come in the wake of a surge in unrest that has forced the closure of several schools

Curbing unrest: Unruly students to sit KCSE exam outside schools

Learners found guilty of criminal behaviour will be required to take their exams at designated centres outside their institutions

BY WINNIE ATIENO

Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) exam candidates found guilty of serious indiscipline will face tough sanctions, Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Ogamba has warned.

The CS said learners found culpable of criminal behaviour, including destroying school property, will be barred from sitting their examinations within school compounds and instead be required to take their exams at designated centres outside their institutions.

"School rules must be adhered to," Mr Ogamba said. "Parents and students must participate in disciplinary hearings, and agreements must be reached. Education cannot thrive in an environment of lawlessness."

He spoke in the wake of a surge in unrest that has forced the closure of several schools and led to the destruction of property worth millions of shillings, insisting that the government will not tolerate lawlessness in learning institutions.

"Students involved in burning buildings or vandalism will not be allowed to remain in school as if nothing happened. If they are candidates, they will sit their exams from alternative centres. If they are in Form Two or Form Three, they will be required to learn from home," he said.

Mr Ogamba emphasised that the ministry is committed to due process



RESPONSE

Stakeholders back strict new measures

School managers and parents have voiced support for the government's tough stance. Jacob Konde, a board of management chair in Kilifi County, blamed poor academic performance on rising indiscipline. "Give us a clear direction on how to handle unrest and rogue elements in schools," he urged during a recent meeting. National Parents Association chairperson Silas Obuhatsa backed the ministry's measures, saying parents were unfairly burdened by the costs of unrest. "If evidence shows a student is guilty, the government must take firm action," he said.

KCSE candidates prepare to sit their first written examination paper at Coast Girls Secondary School in Mombasa on November 4 last year. Under strict new guidelines, candidates found culpable of criminal behaviour will be barred from sitting their tests within school compounds. FILE | NATION

before any expulsion.

"You can expel a student, but only after disciplinary proceedings. Once it is determined that a learner has committed an offence, a disciplinary committee must hear the case and make a decision. If the committee concludes the student deserves expulsion, then that is what will happen," he said.

He revealed that several students arrested for burning dormitories or stealing are already in custody. "It is a crime. There has to be discipline. You cannot allow a learner to burn a school because he or she has a right to education. Let the chips fall where they may," Mr Ogamba said.

Basic Education Principal Secretary Julius Bitok echoed the warning, saying offenders will face tough disciplinary action.

"We have given firm instructions to county and sub-county directors of education to remain vigilant. If they suspect a school is at risk of unrest, they must intervene quickly by convening meetings with teachers and students to prevent destruction of property," he said.

Prof Bitok appealed to parents, teachers, and religious leaders to work together to stem unrest.

"This is a delicate term, and we do not want disruptions. While some disturbances may be linked to stress,

all stakeholders must remain watchful," he said.

School unrest has placed a heavy financial burden on parents, who are often surcharged to cover damages caused by their children.

A parent of a Form Four student in a national school told *Nation* that families were forced to raise over Sh3 million after students burnt down a dormitory.

"We each paid Sh2,000 for reconstruction. Those who sought transfer letters were denied. The school, with 1,800 students, was closed for two weeks," said the parent, who requested anonymity.

A teacher at the school said two students accused of sneaking in petrol were arrested and charged. "They stayed home for two weeks, but when schools reopened, every student paid Sh2,000 to rebuild the dormitory," the teacher said.

The South Rift region has borne the brunt of the wave of violence, with more than 10 schools affected and property losses estimated at hundreds of millions of shillings.

Institutions hit include Tengecha Boys, Koiwa Boys, AIC Litein Boys, Kiptewit, Cheptenye Boys, and Lelwak Boys. School managers and parents have voiced support for the government's tough stance.

Mr Jacob Konde, a board of management chair in Kilifi County, blamed poor academic performance on rising indiscipline. "Give us a clear direction on how to handle unrest and rogue elements in schools," he urged during a recent meeting.

National Parents Association chairperson Silas Obuhatsa backed the ministry's measures, saying parents were unfairly burdened by the costs of unrest. "Parents are paying school fees and still being forced to repair property destroyed by their children. Destroying school property is illegal. If evidence shows a student is guilty, the government must take firm action. We support that," he said.

Mr Obuhatsa also called for dialogue, noting that corporal punishment remains outlawed in Kenya.

watieno@ke.nationmedia.com

Empty lecture halls and idle students mark third week of varsities strike

BY LYNET IGADWAH

As the nationwide strike by lecturers in public universities enters its third week tomorrow, lecture halls remain deserted while students are uncertain about their academic future.

Across campuses, a spot-check revealed locked lecture rooms, empty corridors and frustrated students confined to hostels, wandering aimlessly, or travelling back home.

Libraries and cafeterias remain open, but meaningful learning has stalled. At the University of Nairobi (UoN), lecture theatres are

closed, with only the library and student mess operating.

"I spend my time on TikTok and other social media since there's nothing else to do," said a journalism student. "Travelling back to my village in Migori is out of the question due to transport costs."

She noted that many of her classmates had already left.

The industrial action began on September 17 after the Universities Academic Staff Union (Uasu) issued a seven-day strike notice.

Lecturers accuse the government of failing to honour collective bargaining agreements (CBAs), citing Sh7.9 billion owed



University of Eldoret union officials Dr Philip Chebunet (second right), Joel Nakola (centre) and Robinson Kibet (right) join colleagues in a demonstration yesterday, demanding that the government honours their CBA. JARED NYATAYA | NATION

from the 2017-2021 CBA and delays in initiating negotiations for the 2025-2029 cycle. The government has since released Sh2.73 billion under Phase Two of the 2021-2025 CBA, but the stalemate remains unresolved. Education Cabinet Secretary Julius Ogamba insists talks are ongoing.

"Some universities are still not teaching, but most of them are teaching even as we negotiate to resolve the outstanding issues," he said yesterday during the opening of new hostels at PC Kinyanjui Technical Training Institute in Dagoretti South, Nairobi.

However, a visit to the Technical

University of Kenya (TUK) painted a different picture.

The campus was largely deserted, with only a handful of students making their way to the library. Security guards at the gate casually asked about visitors, but academic activity was at a standstill. "I check the news and social media daily to see if the strike has been called off," said a second-year Bachelor of Technology Survey student. "The rest of the time I idle in my rented room while still spending on food and data." His mother, a tailor, is struggling to pay his tuition and rent.

First-year students say the disruption has been particularly harsh. A civil engineering student paying Sh6,500 in monthly rent described how the downtime had encouraged risky distractions.

"My friends now make it routine to check social media for the next party. They pool resources and hire vehicles to shuttle around since Helb has already sent up-keep money," she said.

Similar frustrations have been reported at Kenyatta University and Egerton University, where students fear compressed academic calendars will compromise learning standards.

Last week, dons and staff from 42 public universities marched from the UoN graduation square to Parliament, the National Treasury, and the Ministry of Education to present their petition. Carrying placards and blowing vuvuzelas, they were escorted by police as they chanted and vowed not to resume work until their demands were fully addressed.

Uasu secretary-general Dr Constantine Wasonga accused Mr Ogamba of contempt of court for failing to honour an Employment and Labour Relations Court (ELRC) judgment on the 2017-2021 CBA. "You must pay us Sh7.9 billion. You have the judgment, and you have the Attorney-General's advisory opinion, dated 10 April 2025. Honour that first," he said during the peaceful procession.

Civic duty IEBC leadership encourages youth to register, say they're keen on not leaving out special groups

Low turnout as voter registration resumes

Potential voters blame long distances to commission's constituency offices

BY NATION TEAM

Low turnout and technical hitches characterised the first day of the resumption of continuous voter registration yesterday.

This even as the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) said it will require more resources to rollout countrywide mass voters' registration after the November 27 by-elections.

The commission is targeting to enlist some 6.3 million new voters, including the youth. But the low turnout yesterday has cast doubt on the attainment of this target.

Potential new voters failed to turn up for the exercise in most constituencies in Nakuru County. An IEBC registration clerk told the *Nation* that by 2pm yesterday, only 11 youth had registered as new voters.

"Most of the other people were those seeking to correct or update their voter details or transfer registration to a different electoral area," said the clerk.

Most of the youth we spoke to blamed the distance to the registration centres for the poor turnout, asking the IEBC to consider further devolving the exercise to wards and polling stations.

"With the harsh economic times in this country, we are busy looking for livelihoods, looking for jobs and other things that are important to our lives. We have less time to travel long distances to the constituency office at the heart of Nakuru City to register as voters," said James Maina, a Nakuru West Constituency resident.

In Ndaragwa Constituency, in the neighbouring Nyandarua County, turnout was also poor. By midday, IEBC clerks at the constituency office had registered less than 10 new voters, with distance to the registration centres also cited as a challenge.

"The voter registration exercise should be taken to polling stations and wards. That way, a majority of the youth will easily access the centres," said Mr Denis



IEBC officials register a voter at the Nakuru Town-East Constituency office yesterday. BONIFACE MWANGI | NATION

Ndereva, a Laikipia youth leader.

In Bomet Central, no one had turned up for the registration by 11 am. Low turnout was also registered in Bomet East, Konoin, Chepalungu and Sotik constituencies, with clerks idling at the appointed centres.

The Coast region also had its fair share of low turnout. By midday in Mombasa, centres had registered less than five new voters.

The majority of voters were seeking to transfer their polling stations, but system down-

time forced officials to send them home after only collecting their details.

Mvita Registration Officer Masha Masudi explained that to ensure no eligible voter is turned away on election day, the commission has introduced multiple authentication methods, including fingerprints, facial recognition, retina and iris scans.

In Lamu West, Lamu County, IEBC officials registered zero turnout, said registration officer Isaiah Madzungu. In Lamu East,

The voter registration exercise should be taken to polling stations and wards. That way, a majority of the youth will easily access the centres

Mr Denis Ndereva



only three voters had been registered by 3pm. Registration officer Stephen Kitsao Karani said they planned to have a town crier inform people about the exercise.

Kwale County also recorded a low turnout with only a handful of youth showing up to register. By midday, only two people had registered at the Matuga Constituency IEBC office.

Matuga Constituency Registration Officer Abdalla Chikophe said the number is likely to go up as more awareness campaigns are done.

Speaking in Mashuru town, Kajiado County where he officially launched the exercise, IEBC

Chairperson Erastus Ethekeon reiterated the commission's commitment to ensure all eligible voters are registered before the 2027 elections.

"We have hit the ground in a speedy manner to recover the time lost when there was no IEBC in place," he said, adding that they have put measures in place to ensure members of marginalised communities, rural dwellers, the old and persons with disabilities are not left out.

At the same time, Mr Ethekeon said IEBC will be pushing the National Assembly and National Treasury for resources for mass voter registration.

"We will be targeting a total of 28.3 million voters before the 2027 elections," he said.

Vice-Chairperson Fahima Abdallah challenged youth to register as voters in large numbers.

"It's an act of responsibility to come out to vote during elections. We can only ask for our rights after participating in an election," said Ms Fahima.

Reporting by Stanley Ngotho, Mishi Gongo, Kalume Kazungu, Siago Cece, Eric Matara, Waikwa Maina and Vitalis Kimutai.

FAMILY BANK LIMITED

NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING (EGM)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the Shareholders that in accordance with the Company's Articles of Association an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) of Family Bank Limited will be held via electronic communication on Monday, 27th October 2025, at 9:00 a.m. to conduct the following business:

- To table the proxies and note the presence of a quorum.
- To read the notice convening the meeting.

Special Business:

- To pass the following resolutions as special resolutions:
 - 3.1. **THAT** the Company be and is hereby authorised to apply for listing by way of introduction of all its issued ordinary shares on the Official List of the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) and to facilitate the admission of its shares to trading on the Main Investment Market Segment (or other relevant segment) of the NSE.
 - 3.2. **THAT** the Board of Directors be and is hereby authorised to do all such things as may be necessary, desirable or incidental to the listing by introduction, including but not limited to preparing and submitting all relevant documentation, making all required regulatory filings and submissions, and taking any other steps necessary to complete the listing by introduction.
- To consider any other business for which due notice has been received.

By Order of the Board

Eric K. Murali
Company Secretary
30 September 2025

NOTES

- The Company has convened and will be conducting the EGM by electronic means as provided for under Article 57A of the Company's Articles of Association.
- Shareholders wishing to participate in the meeting should register for the EGM by doing the following:
 - Dialling the USSD code *483*816# for Safaricom, Airtel and Telkom mobile telephone networks and following the various prompts regarding the registration; or
 - Send an email request to be registered to familybankEGM@image.co.ke
 - Shareholders with email addresses will receive a registration link via email through which they can use to register.

In order to complete the registration process, shareholders will need to have their ID/Passport Numbers which were used to purchase their shares and/or their Share Account Number at hand. For assistance shareholders should dial the following helpline number: (+254) 709 170 000 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from Monday to Friday.

- Registration for the EGM opens on Friday 3rd October 2025 at 9.00a.m. and will close on Thursday 23rd October 2025 at 12.00p.m.
- In accordance with Section 283 (2) of the Companies Act, the following documents may be viewed on the Company's website: www.familybank.co.ke (i) a copy of this Notice; (ii) proxy form. The agenda can also be accessed on the livestream link.
- Shareholders wishing to raise any questions or clarifications regarding the EGM may do so by:
 - sending their written questions by email to familybankEGM@image.co.ke; or
 - submitting questions by dialling the USSD Code above and following the prompts; or
 - to the extent possible, physically delivering their written questions with a return physical address or email address to the registered office of the Company at 8th Floor, Family Bank Towers, Muindi Mbingu Street, or to Image Registrars Limited offices at 5th floor, Absa Towers (formerly Barclays Plaza), Loita Street; or sending their written questions with a return physical address or email address by registered post to the Company's address at P.O. Box 74145-00200 Nairobi. Shareholders must provide their full details (full names, ID/Passport Number/Share Account Number) when submitting their questions and clarifications.

All questions and clarification must reach the Company on or before Friday 24th October 2025 at 12:00p.m. Following receipt of the questions and clarifications, the directors of the Company

shall provide written responses to the questions received to the return physical, postal or email address provided by the Shareholder no later than 12 hours before the start of the general meeting. A full list of all questions received, and the answers thereto will be published on the Company's website not later than 12 hours before the start of the general meeting.

- In accordance with Section 298(1) of the Companies Act, shareholders entitled to attend and vote at the EGM are entitled to appoint a proxy to vote on their behalf. A proxy need not be a member of the Company but if not the Chairman of the EGM, the appointed proxy will need access to a mobile telephone. A proxy form is attached to this Notice and is available on the Company's website via this link: www.familybank.co.ke/company-profile/investor-relations. Physical copies of the proxy form are also available at the following address: Image Registrars Limited offices, 5th Floor Absa Towers (formerly Barclays Plaza), Loita Street. A proxy must be signed by the appointor or his attorney duly authorized in writing. If the appointor is a body corporate, the instrument appointing the proxy shall be given under its common seal or under the hand of an officer or duly authorized attorney of such body corporate. A completed form of proxy should be emailed to info@image.co.ke or delivered to Image Registrars Limited, 5th Floor Absa Towers (formerly Barclays Plaza), Loita Street, P.O. Box 9287 - 00100 GPO, Nairobi, so as to be received not later than 24th October 2025 at 11.00a.m. Any person appointed as a proxy should submit his/her mobile telephone number to the Company no later than 24th October 2025 at 11.00a.m. Any proxy registration that is rejected will be communicated to the shareholder concerned no later than 24th October 2025 at 11.00a.m. to allow time to address any issues.
- The EGM will be streamed live via a link which shall be provided to all shareholders who will have registered to participate in the general meeting. Duly registered shareholders and proxies will receive a short message service (SMS/USSD) prompt on their registered mobile numbers, 24 hours prior to the EGM acting as a reminder of the EGM. A second SMS/USSD prompt shall be sent one hour ahead of the EGM, reminding duly registered shareholders and proxies that the EGM will begin in an hours' time and providing a link to the live stream.
- Duly registered shareholders and proxies may follow the proceedings of the EGM using the live stream platform and may access the agenda. Duly registered shareholders and proxies may vote (when prompted by the Chairman) via the USSD prompts.
- Results of the EGM shall be published on the Company website within 24 hours following conclusion of the EGM.



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National News

Justification National government says the new system is critical to ensuring transparency and accountability

Governors: E-procurement system crippling services

Deputy President acknowledges need to review the system to address concerns

BY KEVIN CHERUIYOT

Governors have maintained a hardline stance against the Electronic Government Procurement System (e-GP), warning that it is crippling county operations.

At the same time, Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has urged stronger alignment between national and county governments to avoid economic fragmentation that could undermine growth and stability.

Council of Governors (CoG) Chairperson Ahmed Abdullahi said that essential county functions are "barely working" since the National Treasury introduced the e-GP system. He argued that the rollout of numerous new systems in the current financial year has created serious administrative bottlenecks in-

stead of easing operations.

"While these systems are meant to be facilitative and improve existing processes, on the contrary, most have increased administrative hurdles. Some operations through these systems are not even supported by law," he said.

He added that procuring critical items such as drugs has become almost impossible.

"We are in real problems and we have been accused of all manner of things, including being in bed with the national government. We cannot intervene as before and buy drugs in emergencies. A lot of governors here have even been frozen by their fuel vendors," he said.

The governors have demanded a total overhaul of e-GP and fresh negotiations on the way forward.

"We feel that this e-GP thing will eventually have to be reversed, or

implemented with unnecessary pain. We have been pushed to the wall and are unable to operate," Mr Abdullahi said.

The standoff played out during the 28th Ordinary Session of the Intergovernmental Budget and Economic Council held at the Deputy President's official residence in Karen, Nairobi County.

The governors also expressed

disappointment over delayed disbursement of funds, saying that as the first quarter closes, several counties have gone for up to a month without paying workers.

Prof Kindiki maintained that e-GP is critical for enhancing transparency and accountability, but acknowledged the need to address the governors' concerns. He pledged to engage National Treasury Cabinet Secretary John Mbadi and relevant sectoral committees to unlock the stalemate.

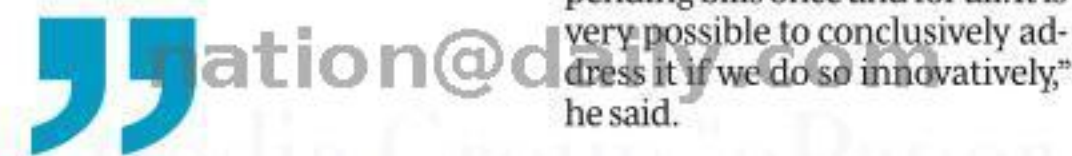
"There is an urgent need to re-look the systems, how they are being rolled out, and ensure they are in strict compliance with the Constitution," he said.

The DP also urged counties and the national government to confront the ballooning pending bills problem.

"We must resolve this issue of pending bills once and for all. It is very possible to conclusively address it if we do so innovatively," he said.

While these systems are meant to be facilitative and improve existing processes, on the contrary, most have increased administrative hurdles

Governor Ahmed Abdullahi



Council of Governors Chairperson Ahmed Abdullahi speaks during a meeting in Nairobi on September 2. FILE | NATION

4th NATION Mental Wellness & Counselling CONFERENCE

30 SEPTEMBER 2025

EMARA OLE SERENI NAIROBI

THEME: Improving the Quality of Mental Health Services in Kenya



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Dr. Catherine Syengo Mutisya
Consultant Psychiatrist.



SPEAKER
Prof Catherine Gachutha
Chairperson
KCPA



SPEAKER
CHRP Quresha Abdullahi
Executive Director,
IHRM



SPEAKER
Evelyn N. Mbugua
Commissioner of Police & Counselling
Psychologist, OC Counselling & Psycho-
Social Support, Kenya Police Service



SPEAKER
Sen. Dr. (Arch) Sylvia M.
Kasanga h.c., FCI Arb



SPEAKER
Dr. Matilda Mghoi
Chief Executive Officer &
Registrar, Counsellors and
Psychologists Board.



SPEAKER
Rosemary Wangari
Business Growth &
Customer Experience,
Transnep Insurance Brokers



SPEAKER
Irene Kashindi
FCI Arb, Partner & Head of
Employment and Labour Relations
Practice Group, Munyao, Muthama
& Kashindi Advocates



SPEAKER
Dr. Crystal Vulavu
Head of Wellness
Minet Kenya



SPEAKER
John Kimura
Clinical Psychologist,
HealthX Africa



SPEAKER
Anthony Muoki
Clinical psychologist



SPEAKER
Dr. Stella Ogoro
Kerongo
Clinical Psychologist



SPEAKER
Celestine Omondi
Consultant Occupational
Therapist/Psychologist, Oasis
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| Nurse In-Charge, Riara
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National Police Service Commission



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ADDENDUM

ADVERTISEMENT FOR RECRUITMENT OF POLICE CONSTABLES INTO THE NATIONAL POLICE SERVICE

The National Police Service Commission advertised for recruitment of Police Constables on 19th September, 2025 in the Daily Nation and on 20th September, 2025 in the Standard Newspaper inviting applications for recruitment of Police Constables into the National Police Service.

The National Police Service Commission wishes to inform the public of the following clarifications, additions, and corrections to the designated recruitment centres .

The following centres which were inadvertently omitted in the initial advertisement are hereby included:

Recruitment Date	County	Sub-County	S/No.	Recruitment Centre
Tuesday 7th October 2025	Kitui	Nuu	417.	Nuu TVET Grounds
	Wajir	Sabuli	418.	Sabuli
	Kitui	Zombe	419.	Zombe Stadium
	Tana River	Kokane	420.	Kokane
Wednesday 8th October 2025	Tharaka Nithi	Tharaka West	421.	Kibun'ga
	Meru	Imenti East	422.	Thuura Secondary School
Thursday 9th October 2025	Kitui	Mwingi East	423.	Mathuki DCC's Grounds

The following centres as previously advertised are corrected as indicated:

Recruitment Date	County	Sub-County	S/No.	Recruitment Centre
Friday 3rd October 2025	Kilifi	Kilifi North	27.	Karisa Maitha Stadium
	Nairobi	Embakasi Central	60.	Humama Grounds
	Nairobi	Embakasi North	62.	Dandora Stadium
Monday 6th October 2025	Bungoma	Bungoma West	110.	Sirisia Sports Grounds
	Homa Bay	Suba West	121.	Sena Air Strip
	Kiambu	Kabete	131.	Kirangari Vocational Training Center
	Kilifi	Chonyi	133.	Banda La Salama
	Kitui	Nzambani	143.	Chuluni DCC's Office
	Kwale	Samburu	145.	Kasarani Grounds
	Tharaka Nithi	Chuka North	177.	Chuka DCC Grounds

Recruitment Date	County	Sub-County	S/No.	Recruitment Centre
Tuesday 7th October 2025	Homa Bay	Mbita	207.	Onunga Stadium
	Kiambu	Kikuyu	215.	Alliance High School
	Kilifi	Kaloleni	217.	Kaloleni Grounds
	Kwale	Lunga Lunga	227.	Lunga Lunga Secondary School
	Uasin Gishu	Soy	276.	Chepkigen in Ziwa
	Kilifi	Ganze	378.	Ganze Primary School
	Tharaka Nithi	Igamba Ng'ombe	270.	Igamba Ng'ombe Dcc Grounds
Wednesday 8th October 2025	Kitui	Kitui Central	34.	Old Municipal Stadium
	Kiambu	Githurai	311.	Play Ground next to Mwhoko Police Station
	Kilifi	Magarini	315.	Marafa Polytechnique
	Kitui	Mutitu North	323.	Mutitu Stadium
Thursday 9th October 2025	Kitui	Lower Yatta	322.	St. Lukes Boys Secondary School
	Bungoma	Webuye East	366.	Pan Paper Grounds

National Youth Service (NYS) graduates who meet the minimum entry requirements are encouraged to apply. However, it is clarified that NYS graduates will be recruited at their respective Counties.

Applicants may also fill, download and print the application form using the following link (<https://prs.npsc.go.ke>)

All other information contained in the earlier advertisement remains unchanged. Interested applicants are advised to take note of the above changes when responding.

For more information visit NPSC official accounts only:

Website: <https://npsc.go.ke/>

X (Former Twitter): @NPSC_KE

Facebook: NPSCKenya2013

Telephone: 0709 099 000

**PETER LELEY, EBS
CS/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
NATIONAL POLICE SERVICE COMMISSION**

National News

Politics The former PM has in recent weeks embarked on a flurry of political activities in a bid to rejuvenate the party

Inside Raila's plan to lock in ODM bases

ODM has staged rallies in Kisii, Wajir and Narok, and held grassroots elections

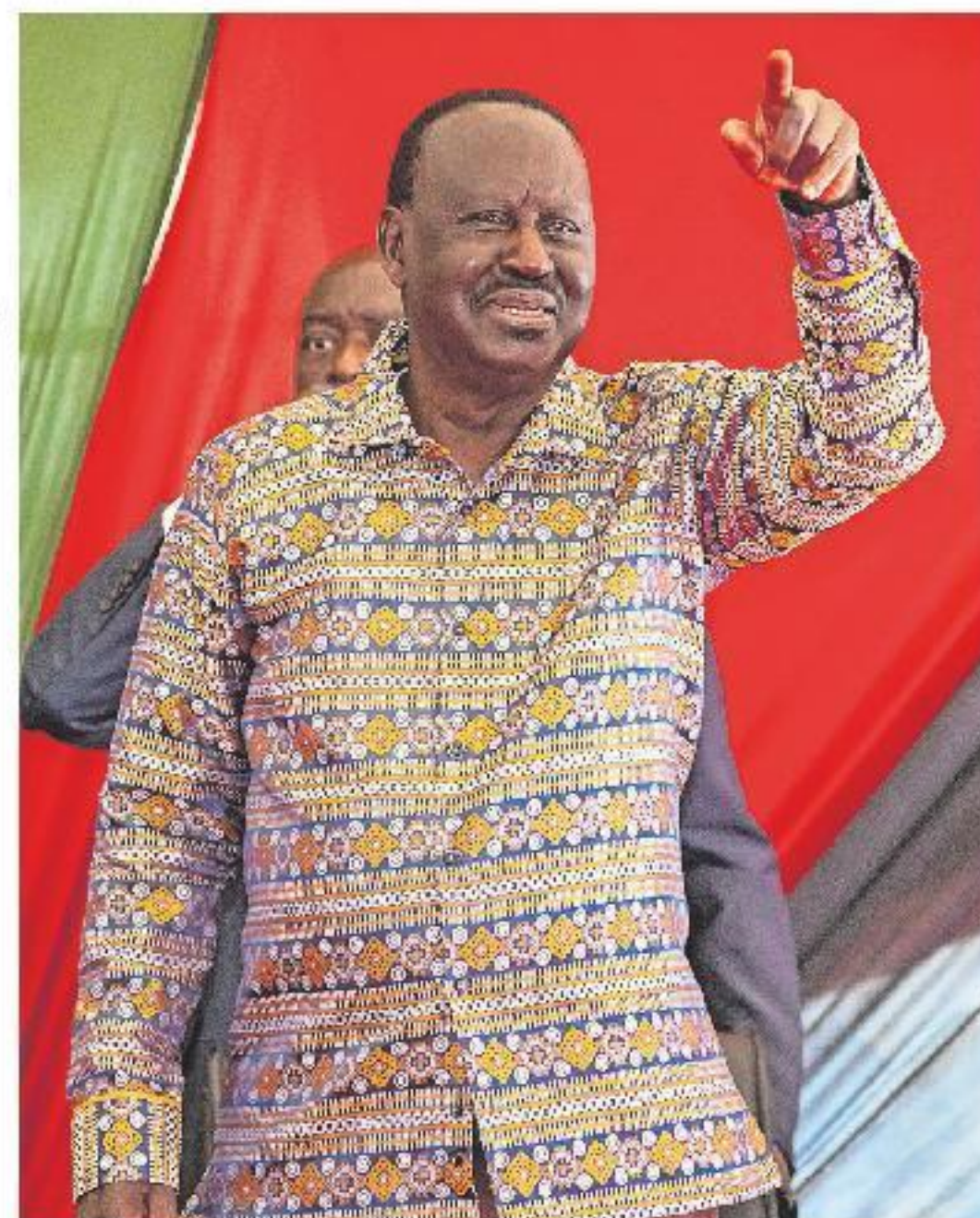
BY MOSES NYAMORI
AND COLLINS OMULO

Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) leader Raila Odinga has intensified efforts to secure his party's

traditional support bases amid speculation of a possible alliance with President William Ruto.

The former prime minister has in recent weeks embarked on a flurry of political activities to rejuvenate the party, caution-

ing members against prematurely endorsing President Ruto for re-election in 2027. He insists ODM remains focused on strengthening its grassroots structures as it marks its 20th anniversary next month.



ODM leader Raila Odinga at a past event. The former prime minister has in recent weeks embarked on a flurry of political activities to rejuvenate the party. PHOTO | POOL

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ODM has staged rallies in Kisii, Wajir and Narok, and conducted grassroots elections from polling station to county level in preparation for its National Delegates Convention (NDC) set for March next year.

The anniversary celebrations, dubbed ODM@20, will take place in Mombasa and Kilifi counties between October 10 and 12.

At a parliamentary group meeting in Nairobi last week, Mr Odinga dismissed talk of ODM backing Dr Ruto, stressing that no decision had been made on the party's 2027 candidate. "So, wherever you are, don't commit the party to things that have not been discussed," he told MPs.

His caution followed a series of endorsements for Dr Ruto by ODM stalwarts now serving in government. The President, who secured victory in 2022 with strong support from Rift Valley and Mt Kenya, is seen as wooing new blocs following the impeachment of Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua.

Insiders say ODM views retain-

We will ensure ODM forms the next government or is part of it. ODM will never be called an opposition party again.

National Assembly Minority Leader Junet Mohamed.



ing its strongholds in Nyanza, Western and the Coast as crucial to preserving its bargaining power in any future coalition. Mr Odinga has underscored this point during recent tours, where he and his lieutenants declared that ODM would contest the next election either alone or with like-minded partners.

National Assembly Minority Leader Junet Mohamed declared in Kisii: "We will ensure ODM forms the next government or is part of it. ODM will never be called an opposition party again."

Party chairperson and Homa Bay Governor Gladys Wanga echoed the message in Narok, praising the Maa community's loyalty to ODM.

"The Maa have always been the bedrock of ODM, embodying our ideals of justice, devolution and human rights," she said.

ODM Secretary-General Edwin Sifuna said the anniversary would reflect the party's resilience and sacrifices since its formation.

"This milestone is not only a commemoration of ODM's journey but also a reflection on the struggles, victories and lessons that continue to shape our vision for a just, united and prosperous Kenya," he said.

As part of its outreach to young voters, the party in July launched the Young Captains, a women's league chapter for students in higher learning institutions.

Leaders say the move is part of a wider bid to capture the imagination of Generation Z ahead of the 2027 elections.

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National News

Petition Justice Mugambi gives AG 14 days to file a reply, hearing set for February 25

Why Besigye is on the warpath against three Ruto ministers

Ugandan opposition leader accuses Muda-vadi, Murkomen and Soipan of being behind his extradition

BY SAM KIPLAGAT

Ugandan opposition leader Kizza Besigye wants Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi and Defence CS Soipan Tuya declared unfit to hold public office over his abduction and extradition from Kenya in November last year.

Interior CS Interior Kipchumba Murkomen, Inspector-General of Police Douglas Kanja and Director-General of Immigration Services Evelyn Cheluguet have also been named in the petition to the High Court.

Dr Besigye, 68, and his political aide, Obeid Lutale, stated in the petition that the officials are jointly and severally liable for violating the Constitution during his extradition from Kenya to Uganda on November 16, 2024.

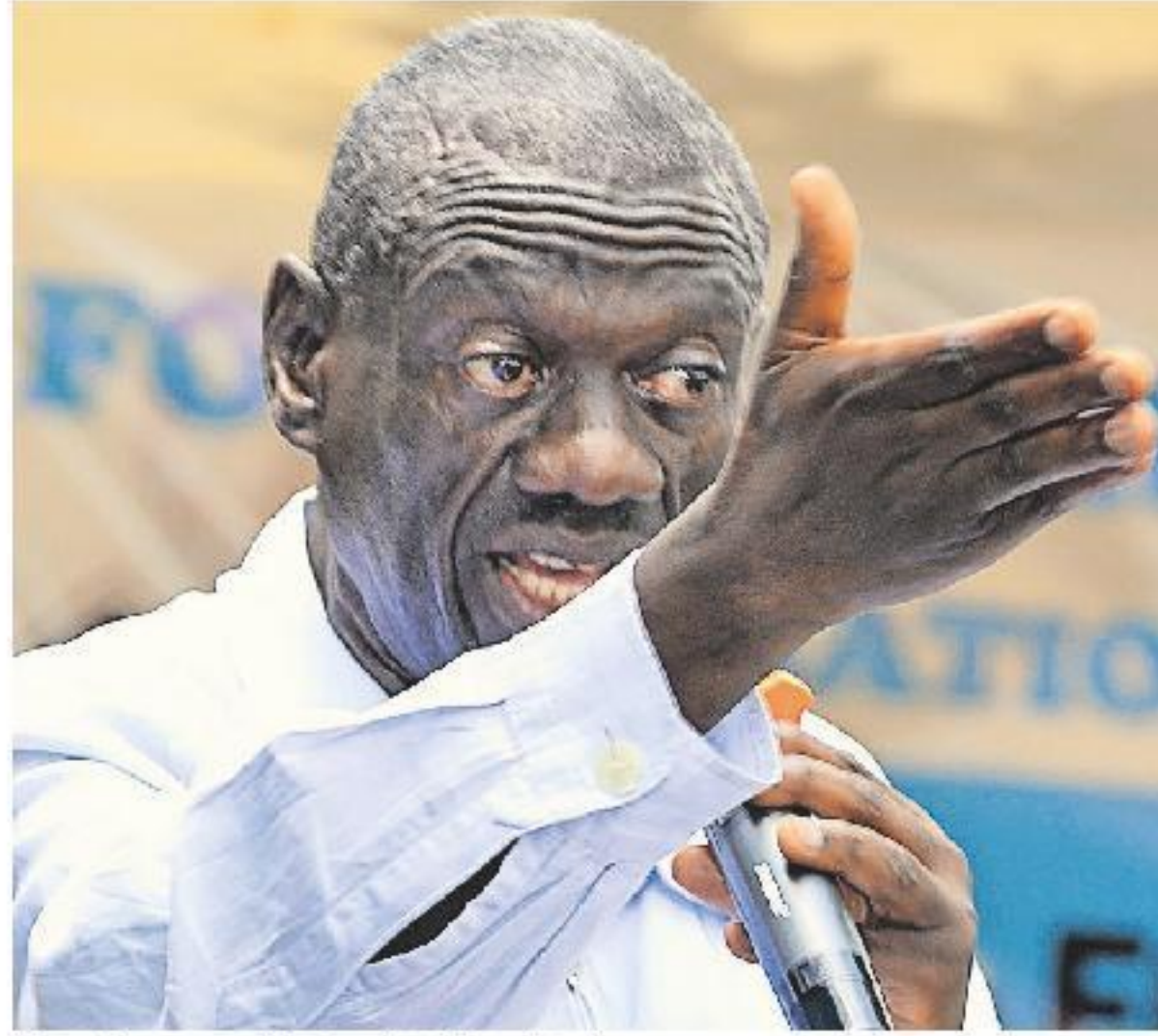
They claimed that they were removed from Kenya by Ugandan police acting in concert with Kenyan security forces, and without any legal or due process.

The petition stated that the Ugandan government had confirmed that the arrest and extradition had been carried out in collaboration with Kenyan officials.

"An order that the respondents violated the Constitution and are thus unfit to remain in office under this Constitution," the petition stated.

When the parties appeared before Justice Lawrence Mugambi yesterday, Attorney-General Dorcas Oduor pleaded for more time to file her response in the matter.

But Senior Counsel Martha Karua



Ugandan opposition leader Kizza Besigye. FILE | NATION

and James wa Njeri pointed out that the AG was served the court documents on July 28.

Justice Mugambi gave the AG 14 days to file the replies. The hearing of the case is scheduled for February 25.

Dr Besigye also wants to be paid damages for the abduction and extradition.

"A declaration that the extradition and or repatriation of the petitioners from Kenya to Uganda was illegal, unconstitutional and did not meet the strict requirements of the Extradition (Commonwealth Countries) Act Cap 77," the petition stated.

Dr Besigye and Mr Lutale were arrested in Nairobi after being invited for a book launch by Ms Karua.

The two said allowing security agents of a foreign state to have

free rein within the Kenyan borders amounts to abdication of responsibility and betrayal of the Constitution.

The petitioners said the fact that the abduction was done in concert with Uganda is a clear indication that government officials violated Kenya's sovereignty and territorial integrity, causing a serious breach of national security.

"This action alone shows that the respondents are unfit to hold office and

Nov 16

The date on which Dr Besigye and his political aide, Obeid Lutale, were abducted in Kenya and extradited to Uganda last year.

exercise public authority for violating Article 1 of the Constitution, which provides that [All sovereign power belongs to the people of Kenya and shall be exercised only in accordance with this Constitution]," said the petition.

Narrating their ordeal, Dr Besigye and Mr Lutale said shortly before their abduction, at least eight men in civilian clothes armed with sub-machine guns introduced themselves as Kenyan police and arrested them.

They were taken to the basement of the apartment block they were in. They were then bundled into a vehicle with four other people, which was escorted by three other cars to a petrol station before heading to the Malaba border post. "...and it is from there that we got to know that the four people in the vehicle with us were Ugandans after we heard them speak in their local dialect 'Runyankore'," Dr Besigye said.

Upon arrival in Kampala, Dr Besigye and his aide were detained incommunicado at Makindye Military Barracks. They have since been charged before a court martial sitting at Makindye. They are accused of possessing firearms while in Kenya, contrary to Section 1 and 2 of Uganda's Firearms Act.

"The unlawful repatriation of the petitioners in the pretext of an extradition was conducted despite the fact that the charges of possession of firearms is not among the list under Schedule 1 of the Act listing the description of Extradition Offences," the petition stated.

Dr Besigye and Mr Lutale faulted top Kenyan officials in the petition, saying they facilitated their abduction and illegal extradition, which led to their political persecution, prosecution, indignity and torture. They said that they faced threats to their lives.

skiplagat@ke.nationmedia.com



Manderla Governor Mohamed Adan Khalif. BONFACE BOGITA | NATION

Parklands school sues governor in land dispute

BY JOSEPH WANGUI

A public primary school in Parklands, Nairobi, has moved to court seeking to recover part of its land that was allegedly hived off and sold to a private developer three years ago.

North Highridge Primary School wants the court to examine the validity of the title deed held by Manderla Governor Mohamed Adan Khalif and order its revocation and his eviction from the property.

However, the dispute took an unexpected turn yesterday when Justice Mohamed Kullow recused himself, citing personal reasons.

Key details of the dispute are that the land originally measured 2.219 hectares (5.48 acres). The school claims that part of the land was illegally excised leaving it with 1.06 hectares (2.6 acres).

The dispute dates back to 1995 when alleged illegal transactions began. The institution's administrators and headteachers have written protest letters to the government since 2004.

Court documents reveal that Mr Khalif bought the property in February 2021 from Mr Richard Maoka Maore for Sh140 million.

The Land Registrar in Nairobi, listed as a defendant, had allocated the plot (L.R No.209/21526, originally 209/12673) along Sixth Avenue Parklands to Mr Maore.

"The land excision violated all legal and administrative procedures," said the school's advocate Alfred Ndambiri. "The developer entered the property without the school's knowledge or consent, amounting to trespass," he added.

The court documents show that in March 2025, Mr Khalif together with an entity called Asili Hills Apartments started the construction of 160 residential housing units in a 10-storey building on the contested land.

The construction was approved by the Nairobi County Government's County Executive Committee Member for Built Environment and Urban Planning in a permit dated September 19, 2024 addressed to Mr Khalif.

The lawyer claims that the school principal's residential house was demolished during the construction.

The case was filed by members of the school's board of management. The board blamed the county government and the County Executive Committee Member in charge of Lands and Urban Planning for failing to take action on the alleged illegal entry.

The claimants argue that the transfer of the land by Mr Maore to Mr Khalif was illegal, null and void.

Family feud over dead tycoon's Sh350m estate

BY SIMON CIURI

When Mburu Kinani, 92, was finally buried at 6.45pm on September 17, it was in a shallow grave at a hushed ceremony attended by only a handful of mourners.

Kinani, who died on November 20, 2024 after a long illness, left behind a fortune estimated at Sh350 million — money in bank accounts, vast tracts of land, shares in multiple cooperative societies and proceeds from his avocado exports to Europe.

The polygamous man had a large family of four wives and 20 children. The widows are; Phylis Wanjiru Mburu, Cecilia Mumbi Mburu, Salome Wambui, and Magdalene Waithira — the mother of Kiambu Deputy Governor (DG) Rosemary Kirika.

The tycoon's body lay in a mortuary for 10 months as the widows and 20 children tore each other apart in court.

Instead of receiving a dignified send-off, Kinani's burial became the subject of sensational headlines

after videos emerged online showing his coffin being lowered hurriedly into a shallow grave.

The burial was done despite a Court of Appeal order directing that both his first and second families jointly lay him to rest.

After Kinani died, the second family that included Ms Kirika, allegedly went to AIC Kijabe Hospital seeking to take the body at night for burial in Gilgil, Nakuru County.

On November 23, 2024, members of the first family Ms Edith Wairimu Mburu, Ms Joyce Muthoni Mburu and Ms Hannah Wanjiku moved to the Milimani Law Courts and secured a stay order so that the body is not be released until the family settles the burial dispute.

In their affidavits, they claimed that according to Agikuyu customs, their father ought to be buried at his ancestral home in Gatanga, Murang'a County where his parents and first wife, Phylis Wanjiru Mburu, were laid to rest. On June 12, 2025, a magistrate's court in Nairobi, led by Mr Gerald Gitonga, ruled in favour of the first family.

Aggrieved, the second family went to the High Court and filed an appeal. Family members said that it was their father's wish to be buried on his land in Gilgil, where he had lived for over four decades. His second wife, Magdalene Waithira, was also buried there in a family graveyard that he had set up. The second family further said that the lower court lacked territorial jurisdiction to handle a burial dispute in Nairobi.

And Justice Hellen Namisi, while issuing a judgement on September 16, said that Kinani should be buried in Gilgil, after overturning a previous ruling in favour of the first family.

The first family claims that it had discovered that millions of shillings and vast parcels of land are the reason why their father was hurriedly buried so that they can be disinherited. But the second family disputes the theory.

The first family claims it was not involved in the burial of their father and has filed an application to have his body exhumed so that he can be given a decent burial.

National News

Court Move 'traumatizes families'

Hospitals can't detain patients or bodies over bills, says judge



Mater Hospital, Nairobi, on February 28, 2024. It detained the body of a patient over bills. WILFRED NYANGARESII | NATION

Judge orders Mater Hospital to release the body of a woman whose family faces a Sh3.3m debt

BY SAM KIPLAGAT

Hospitals have no right to detain bodies or use the remains of deceased patients as security until medical bills are cleared, a judge has ruled.

High Court judge Nixon Sifuna said no law provides hospitals with a "lien over patients or over the remains".

"This informal action has become a habit and gained so much ground that it is almost becoming a practice, despite its lack of legal backing," he observed.

Directing Mater Hospital to release the body of Caroline Nthangu Tito to her relatives for burial, Justice Sifuna said debts arising from treatment charges are recoverable as civil debts and should be pursued as such, through demand letters or litigation if necessary.

Legal option

The judge ordered the hospital to release the body to Caroline's son, Moses Mutua, adding that besides mortuary charges, the part of the bill related to treatment and medication—which the family did not contest—should be pursued through lawful debt collection methods.

Sh3.3m

Amount that Caroline Nthangu Tito had accumulated at Mater Hospital by the time she died on August 2, 2025.

"This court finds that the detention and continued detention of the remains of the late Caroline Nthangu Tito by Mater Misericordiae Hospital is wrongful and without legal or lawful justification," Justice Sifuna said.

Caroline died at the hospital on August 2, 2025, while undergoing treatment. Mr Mutua said that before her death, she had accumulated a bill of about Sh3.3 million. The hospital subsequently refused to release the body until the family cleared the bill.

Mr Mutua told the court that the retention of the body was causing them distress, as it continued to attract daily charges of Sh2,000. He said he and his brother are college students with no stable income, and had relied on their mother for financial support. Their father, Tillers Mutua, died in 2023.

Accumulating debt

Mr Mutua said they were willing to enter into a reasonable repayment arrangement with the hospital, but its management refused to cooperate, insisting the bill be settled in full.

He added that the continued detention of the body had worsened their financial hardship due to accumulating mortuary charges.

Justice Sifuna stressed that following the death of a person, the remains should be dealt with in accordance with the Public Health Act and related protocols, one of which is to ensure a body is disposed of respectfully.

"Socially, the detention of bodies by mortuaries and hospitals for debt claims traumatizes bereaved families and disrespects the departed. It has, in many instances, been employed to blackmail, embarrass, traumatise and coerce bereaved families into submitting to monetary demands by hospitals," he said.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

SALE OF ADULTERATED OR EXPORT BOUND MOTOR FUELS IN THE LOCAL MARKET

The Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (The Authority) is mandated under Section 92 of the Petroleum Act 2019 to monitor petroleum products offered for sale in the local market with the aim of preventing motor fuel adulteration or dumping of export bound fuels. In this regard, the Authority undertakes a program of continuous monitoring of the quality of petroleum motor fuels on sale, transport and storage throughout the country.

During the period July - September 2025, a total of 6,090 tests were conducted at 1,315 petroleum sites. From the tests, 1303 (99.09%) of the sites were found to be compliant. However, tests from Twelve, 12 (0.91%) sites turned out to be non-compliant.

Pursuant to Regulation 15 of the Energy (Retail Facility Construction and Licensing) Regulations 2013, the non-compliant stations and their particular offences are listed hereunder:

	Test Date	Name of Station	County	Physical Location	Nature of non-compliance	Status as of 1 st July 2025 to 28 th September 2025
1	17.07.2025	Riva Petroleum Bahati Service Station	Nakuru	Bahati	Offering for sale Diesel containing high Sulphur	Station reopened after upgrading of product and paying taxes and penalties amounting KShs 102,400
2	20.07.2025	PMS Sample drawn from Vehicle No. KBN 250L	Uasin Gishu	Eldoret	Super Petrol adulterated with Export fuel and containing high Sulphur level.	Matter still in court-
3	04.08.2025	Kambero Filling Station, Migosi	Kisumu	Migosi	Offering for sale Diesel adulterated with Domestic Kerosene and Export Fuel	Station closed
4	05.08.2025	King Size (Joymart) Filling Station, Mwala-Kivandini	Machakos	Mwala-Kivandini	Offering for sale Diesel containing high Sulphur and adulterated with Export fuel	Station closed
5	13.08.2025	Dalo Energy Filling Station, Sultan Hamud	Makueni	Sultan Hamud	Offering for sale Diesel containing high Sulphur	Station closed
6	03.09.2025	Sasa Filling Station, Chwele	Bungoma	Chwele	Offering for sale Diesel meant for Export	Station closed
7	09.09.2025	Noble Energy Filling Station, Stendikisa	Vihiga	Stendikisa	Offering for sale Diesel meant for Export and adulterated with domestic kerosene	Station Closed
8	12.09.2025	Bellstar Filling Station, Miharati	Nyandarua	Miharati	Offering for sale Diesel containing high Sulphur	Station closed
9	16.09.2025	George Kamau Filling Station, Meli Kubwa	Kwale	Meli Kubwa	Offering for sale Diesel adulterated with Domestic kerosene	Station closed
10	17.09.2025	Vipingo Service Station, Kikambala	Kilifi	Kikambala	Offering for sale Diesel containing high Sulphur REPEAT OFFENDER	Station closed
11	17.09.2025	Midtown Filling Station, Timau	Meru	Timau	Offering for sale domestic Kerosene adulterated with non-marked fuel	Station closed
12	23.09.2025	Gateway Inn Filling Station, Miritini	Mombasa	Miritini	Offering for sale Super petrol adulterated with Domestic kerosene REPEAT OFFENDER	Station closed

The Authority maintains a hotline number (0709 366 000), operational during normal working hours to enhance enforcement and compliance activities. Members of the public are requested to report suspected cases of petroleum fuels adulteration or export dumping through the hotline number as well as use the Authority's USSD code (*363#) and SMS service code (40850). Further, a list of all sites found with adulterated products is also available on the Authority's website: www.epra.go.ke

Corporate Communications
Energy & Petroleum Regulatory Authority



National News

Remedy Local and American business associations have called for a two-year transition extension of the trade

US-Kenya trade tariff to triple on Agoa expiry

Steep rise in tariffs is expected to drive investors out of business, erode jobs

BY LUKE ANAMI

Kenya's average weighted trade tariff with the United States will nearly triple to 28 per cent on expiry of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (Agoa), the United Nations trade agency has revealed.

This is expected to deal a major blow to jobs and investments in the country's textile and apparel sector.

The United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD) warned that if Agoa, which expires today,

is not extended, Kenya and other African nations dependent on the US export market will be hard hit by the projected sudden jump in tariffs.

"For example, Kenya would see its trade-weighted average US tariff nearly triple, jumping from 10 per cent to 28 per cent. For Madagascar, it would double to 23 per cent," UNCTAD said.

Kenya would be the second-hardest hit in Africa after Lesotho if Agoa deal is not extended. The Lesotho average weighted trade tariff with the US would



Workers prepare clothes for export at the United Aryan Export Processing Zone factory in Ruaraka, Nairobi, on April 4. PHOTO | REUTERS

jump from 15 percent to 32 percent.

Agoa gives more than 6,000 products from sub-Saharan Africa, such as textile, food and beverages, wood, plastics and rubber to the US market. But Kenya has largely tapped the apparel line, alongside small quantities of macadamia nuts.

"Without Agoa's renewal, Africa's export competitiveness in the US market could quickly erode at a time when competition for alternative export markets intensifies globally. Acceler-

ating the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area could help mitigate this situation, but such a readjustment would be challenging and require considerable time," UNCTAD said.

Kenya's textile and apparel industry is one of the biggest Agoa beneficiaries, earning a record Sh60.57 billion from exports to the US in 2024—a growth of 19.2 percent over the Sh50.82 billion in the prior year.

Data by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics shows that the

sector directly supported 66,804 jobs in 2024—an indication of the impact the non-renewal of Agoa would have on the many households supported by workers in the sector.

"The increase in tariff is for everybody exporting to the US. Nobody is exporting at zero. By October 1, we have a composite taxation of 10 per cent, and we expect additional taxes that could go as high as 26 per cent," said Jas Bedi, chairperson of the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (Kepsa) in an interview.

Kepsa and the American Chamber of Commerce in Kenya (AmCham) have both called for a two-year transition period to cushion workers and investors against the shock of a sudden lapse of the Agoa deal.

Agoa was initiated in 2000 with the intention to wean developing nations from dependency on donations. The deal was initially planned to run for 15 years starting in 2000, but was later extended to 2025.

The renewal of the Agoa pact would require the approval of the US Congress, controlled by the protectionist President Donald Trump's Republican Party.

"Without renewal, many African economies will lose export competitiveness in the US market. Since April 2025, rising US tariffs – especially country-specific tariffs implemented on Au-

28%
Tariffs on Kenyan goods exported to the United States could rise to this much after Agoa lapses

gust 7, 2025, and new sectoral trade measures – have increased duties on a wide range of products, regardless of Agoa preferences," said UNCTAD.

The UN agency added that the expiry of Agoa means that country-specific and sectoral tariffs would apply on top of most-favoured-nation rates, which are applied equally to all World Trade Organisation (WTO) members, instead of the current preferential treatment.

The WTO last week urged African economies to embrace its newly-formed Investment Facilitation for Development Agreement (IFDA) to plug the trade flows gap expected to emerge. The IFDA was signed on February 13, 2024 as a recognition of the complementary relationship between investment flows and trade flows, with participating members committing to accelerate cross-border cooperation and investment facilitation, especially in trading with Least Developed Countries.

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Health cover Lawmakers say the SHIF Act limits coverage to the Essential Benefits Package

Lawmakers criticise ministry for 'lying about SHA benefits'

Association warns that SHA is running a Sh3 billion monthly deficit, with unpaid claims standing at Sh76 billion

BY DAVID MWERE

MPs have accused the government of fuelling the Sh76 billion Social Health Authority (SHA) debt crisis by promising people commercial-like cover that the Social Health Insurance Fund (SHIF) Act does not provide.

The debt is owed to hospitals under the Rural and Urban Private Hospitals Association (Rupha) and mission health facilities enrolled by SHA to provide medical services to its members and indigents. Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale dismissed the claims, saying the government pays about Sh6 billion in claims to hospitals contracted under SHA and does not owe any facility with a valid contract "a coin" for services rendered.

But even as CS Duale pushed back, the National Assembly Health Committee accused the government of misrepresenting SHA benefits to citizens and employers outside the Essential Benefits Package (EBP). Member Anthony Kibagendi (Kitutu Chache South) pointed out that Section 24 of the SHIF Act limits entitlements to the prescribed EBP, "making it unlawful to cross-subsidise commercial schemes from statutory contributions".

"The Act does not provide an express window for integrating commercial insurance premiums, yet this is what the government is promising Kenyans."

Dr Brian Lishenga, founding chairperson of Rupha, noted that as of the end of August, the national health debt stood at Sh76 billion, comprising Sh33 billion in arrears from the defunct Na-



Social Health Authority building in Nairobi on March 18. Lawmakers have faulted the government for fuelling the SHA debt crisis by overpromising its benefits. BONFACE BOGITA/NATION

tional Hospital Insurance Fund and Sh43 billion from SHA's current account. "We estimate Rupha members are owed a cumulative Sh15 billion of this national sum," Dr Lishenga said.

Rupha, which brings together more than 380 private hospitals and medical centres serving remote parts of Kenya and underserved urban communities, has announced that civil servants and other government employees visiting their facilities will now be treated on a cash basis.

They say SHA's failure to pay claims has caused salary delays, stalled investments in equipment and medicine, and disrupted emergency services due to reimbursement uncertainty.

Mr Duale, however, told the *Nation* yesterday that SHA "only

signed contracts with individual hospitals, which do not recognise the umbrella body," dismissing the association's claims.

"We deal with specific hospitals, not Rupha. As far as I know, we have paid all claims," he said, sidestepping MPs' accusations of misrepresenting SHA benefits.

Mr Kibagendi insisted that while SHA markets generous inpatient benefits of between Sh2 million and Sh5 million, along with expanded outpatient, dental and maternity cover for teachers, civil servants and police officers, "the reality is far from that."

Documents before the Health Committee show that SHA offers Sh700 per person annually—far below the Sh200,000 outpatient benefits promised under government-backed medical schemes.

SHA also provides Sh4,480 per day, capped at 180 days per family for inpatient care. That translates into about Sh806,400 annually—well short of the Sh2 million to Sh5 million inpatient limits offered under commercial insurance to civil servants.

As a result, patients at Level 5 and 6 hospitals, where a single consultation costs over Sh2,000, often have to pay cash out of pocket because SHA cannot legally cover such charges. SHA CEO Mercy Mwangangi did not respond to enquiries sent to her phone number. Among the issues she was expected to address were how much SHA owes Rupha and other hospitals in unpaid claims, and why claims are not being settled on time.

She was also required to explain

These claims are not moving to the payable stage. It is a strategy to throttle claims, deny payment and improve SHA liquidity

Dr Brian Lishenga



why the government is promising commercial-like or expanded cover for teachers, civil servants, and police officers under SHA, yet the law limits benefits to the EBP.

According to Dr Lishenga, liquidity challenges have worsened SHA's woes. He said SHA collects about Sh5.4 billion to Sh6 billion monthly in member contributions but receives claims of up to Sh8.8 billion monthly.

"SHA, therefore, runs a Sh3 billion monthly deficit," he said.

To cope, he added, SHA has been rejecting claims worth about Sh10.6 billion and "throttling" another Sh24 billion in the system at the medical review stage. "These claims are not moving to the payable stage. It is a strategy to throttle claims, deny payment and improve SHA liquidity," Dr Lishenga said.

Documents presented to the Health Committee by medical practitioners show that while voluntary top-up schemes can run in parallel under SHA and remain ring-fenced from statutory SHIF funds, this can only happen if a policy decision exists to inte-

grate commercial schemes into SHIF. This would require amending the SHIF Act, which establishes three statutory funds: the Primary Healthcare Fund, the Social Health Insurance Fund, and the Emergency, Chronic and Critical Illness Fund.

SHA's EBP provides primary care, including outpatient consultations, essential drugs, maternal care and immunisation. The inpatient package covers maternity (normal and C-section), capped ICU and HDU stays, dialyses, and oncology treatment.

Emergency and critical care benefits include trauma, cardiac cases, strokes, obstetric emergencies, and ambulance services to referral facilities. Some benefits are expressly restricted to levels 2 and 3 facilities, such as routine outpatient care. When accessed at level 5 or 6 hospitals, SHIF only reimburses the level 2/3 tariff. The difference must be paid out of pocket by the patient, in line with the referral principle under Section 25 of the SHIF Act.

Where SHA settles claims beyond the EBP—such as for VIP wards, unlimited outpatient visits, or overseas treatment—such actions violate Section 24 of the Act. Section 196 of the Public Finance Management Act further prohibits accounting officers from committing government to unauthorised or un-appropriated expenditures.

"Payments outside SHIF tariffs are, therefore, irregular and unauthorised. Accounting officers who authorise such payments risk audit queries, surcharges and prosecution under the Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Act," Mr Kibagendi warned.

Dr Lishenga emphasised that commercial premiums cannot be integrated into SHIF without statutory amendments and must instead operate as voluntary top-ups.

"My view is that these are enhanced schemes, and they don't fall within the gazetted essential benefits package. The SHIF Act expressly prohibits SHA from running enhanced schemes. Without amending the Act, this move is illegal," he said.

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Magistrate to rule on detention of officers accused in arms trade

BY RICHARD MUNGUTI AND NICHOLAS NJORGE

Six police officers accused of illegally acquiring over 1,000 rounds of ammunition and a firearm for sale at the Kenya-South Sudan border are to know their fate today.

Milimani Chief Magistrate Lucas Onyina will rule on whether to detain the officers for 14 days or release them on bond. They are Isaac Kipngetich, Charles Lotira Ekidor, Ileri Cyrus Kismawa, Samson Mureithi Mutongu, Wesley Sang, and Paul Kipketer Tonui. The Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI), through the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, urged the court to detain the suspects, arguing the matter is of nation-

al security and public interest. The prosecution said the officers were trafficking weapons to a border town plagued by cross-border conflict. DCI officers recovered 1,007 rounds from the suspects.

In its application, the DCI asked the court to allow their detention at Capitol Hill Police Station for 14 days to facilitate investigations into possession of government stores, conspiracy to commit a felony, and illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition. The prosecution said ballistic tests must also be conducted on the seized firearm and ammunition.

"This is a matter of great public interest. I urge the court to allow police to keep the suspects in custody for 14 days," the prosecution counsel requested.

14

Number of days the DPP requested to have the suspects detained to allow completion of investigations.

The arrests came barely three weeks after Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen disclosed that firearms stolen from government stores were being sold by rogue officers to bandits in the conflict-ridden North Rift. During a high-powered security meeting in Baringo, the CS revealed intelligence reports linking officers to the illegal arms trade fuelling cattle rustling and banditry.

In an affidavit filed before court, senior DCI detective Hillary Kimuyu said intelligence reports linked the six officers to the trafficking ring. The suspects were arrested in Nairobi and Eldoret and booked at Capitol Hill Police Station under OB number 02/26/09/2025.

Upon arrest, a Remington Rand pistol, 19 assorted magazines, and ammunition were recovered. According to Mr Kimuyu, Kismawa and Mutongu allegedly ferried ammunition from Nairobi police stores, where they were attached, while Ekidor, a prison officer, was to transport the cache to Lodwar. Intelligence further links Ekidor to selling ammunition at Lokichogio market, near the South Sudan border. Sang was identified as custodian of

the keys to the armoury where the arms were stored.

Mr Kimuyu argued that releasing the officers on bond could compromise investigations, noting they have access to armouries and could interfere with witnesses, many of whom are junior officers and possible accomplices. He also warned that suspects might abscond across the porous border if freed.

The DCI said the investigation is at an advanced and delicate stage, involving ballistic analysis, cyber-forensics, tracing of other suspects, and verification of armoury records. Mr Onyina ordered the suspects to remain in custody until today, when he is to decide on whether to grant bond or allow the DCI's request.

National News

Concern Boy shared clips of him caring for his bedridden father, sparking a nationwide movement and a home visit

How TikTok gave lifeline to teen's father

On 'Kaluma Day', TikTokers in their hundreds visited their home, bringing food, medical help and a promise of a house

BY MERCY MWENDE

When 18-year-old Vincent Kaluma shared raw videos of caring for his bedridden father on TikTok, he never imagined the posts would spark a nationwide outpouring of love culminating in "Kaluma Day", which drew supporters in their hundreds to his Ngaru village in Othaya, Nyeri County.

The short clips showing him juggling farm work and caring for his father, who had suffered a stroke, were not meant to go viral. They were simply a glimpse into his daily reality.

"I joined TikTok in February, posting funny clips like any other teenager. People knew me as the cheerful one. But one day I chose to show my real life—me taking care of my father after his stroke,"



TikTokers at Vincent Kaluma's home in Othaya, Nyeri County, on Sunday. PHOTO | POOL

recalled Kaluma, now widely known online as Kaluma Boy.

That moment of honesty struck a deep chord. Strangers flooded his inbox with messages of encouragement, urging him to share more. Many believed his openness might attract well-wishers ready to help.

That small push changed everything. Out of desperation and a little courage, he began sharing more videos, documenting his father's struggles and his own role as a caregiver. Last Sun-

day, his quiet village was transformed into a sea of humanity as thousands of TikTokers visited.

Motorbikes roared in convoys, matatus arrived packed, and neighbours stood in disbelief as strangers who had only known Kaluma from their phone screens flocked to his home.

By midday, the crowd was singing and dancing to Kaluma's favourite songs *It Shall Be Alright* and *Siku Moja Nitakununua Nyama*. Bags of food and bales of flour piled high in the compound

as cement, furniture, and cash flowed in. Doctors in the crowd pledged to treat his father, while companies stepped forward with ambassadorial deals for Kaluma. The day ended with a pledge: a house to be built for his father.

The event, dubbed Kaluma Day, was deliberately stripped of politics. When a local MP and MCA tried to address the crowd, they were denied the microphone. Only words of support were welcomed. Kaluma's story is as heart-breaking as it is inspiring. His fa-

What touched me most was his courage—he was not ashamed. He stood boldly with his father, showing the world his reality

Wachera Kingo'ri



year but missed both the March and September intakes.

Family friend Wachera Kingo'ri says she knew about the father's illness but never realised how worse things had become until she saw Kaluma's TikTok videos.

"What touched me most was his courage—he was not ashamed. He stood boldly with his father, showing the world his reality. That confidence is what touched my heart," she said.

Chrispus Mwaura, a TikToker known as CID, was the first to mobilise support. "I had seen his funny posts before—like him eating cactus. But when he shared about his father, I was moved. That was when I told people: follow this

boy caring for his dad alone."

What began as a single WhatsApp group quickly ballooned. Within days, thousands joined. Companies offered transport and supplies. The first planned visit on September 14 was postponed to September 28 to allow wider mobilisation.

"This is the grace of God. I have organised many charity events but I have never seen so many people show up. Thousands answered the call," says Mwaura.

For him, it was not just about Kaluma. "This showed what social media communities can achieve. We can unite, tribeless, leaderless, and without politics. As TikTokers, we are planning to make this a monthly venture."

Kaluma's mother, Wangechi, says she had never expected such overwhelming support. "I have fundraised before for Kaluma's school fees and even had a sponsor who helped him until Form Three. But with two children in school and a sick husband, seeking help was never easy. What I witnessed this time is something I had never seen before."

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PUBLIC NOTICE

REGISTRATION OF PLUMBERS AND DRAINLAYERS EXAMINATION LICENCES 2025

Nairobi City County Government invites qualified Plumbers and Drainlayers for Registration of Examinations for their licences to be conducted on **24th & 25th November, 2025**.

Applications for licensing are open to applicants with Government Grade II Trade Test with over 3 years' experience and Government Grade III Trade Test with over 5 years' experience or any acceptable equivalent qualifications. Application for Examinations closes on **01st November, 2025**.

Application forms to be picked, filled and returned together with ID/Passport, Certificates and any other relevant documents to be dropped at City Hall Annexe, 1st Floor, Development Control Section.

More information can be obtained from the above mentioned office during normal working hours.

GODFREY AKUMALI
AG. COUNTY SECRETARY AND HEAD OF COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE

LET'S MAKE NAIROBI WORK

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Adoption of Bio pesticides in Kenya

Dr. Geoffrey Ongoya - Executive Director – IBMA Kenya

The Integrated Biopesticides Manufacturers Association of Kenya is the national chapter of the global IBMA network, representing manufacturers, distributors, and growers of biocontrol solutions, biofertilizers, biostimulants, and other organic products that are environmentally safe and harnessed from nature.

Our mission is to champion sustainable agriculture by creating an enabling environment for organic input manufacturers, ensuring farmers have access to safe, effective, and innovative pest management tools.

Call to Action
Kenya must maintain her competitive advantage in fresh produce exports, and to do this, she must have efficient access to the best biological products to replace withdrawn chemicals and conventional inputs in the coming years.

The bioindustry should be added to the list of priority sectors driving sustainable farm production, not only for export farmers but also for local farmers, in order to deliver national food security.

As Africa moves toward holding 25% of the global population, with a surging middle class and rising consumption, the urgency is clear. We have our work cut out if we are to remain sustainable and secure by 2050.

IBMA is a clear vehicle to support Kenya in meeting these challenges, providing farmers with the correct standards and high quality biological inputs they need to thrive.

Looking Ahead
IBMA Kenya is committed to expanding farmer awareness, strengthening regulatory frameworks, and increasing market access for biopesticides. Our goal is to make biological solutions the first choice for pest management in Kenya protecting human health, safeguarding the environment, and ensuring food security.

By uniting stakeholders, advocating for supportive policies, and fostering innovation, IBMA Kenya continues to lead the way in transforming agriculture for a healthier, more sustainable future.

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Web: <https://ibmakenya.org/>



**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER
BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND URBAN PLANNING
County urban Development and Planning Sub- Sector**

PUBLIC NOTICE

REGULARIZATION (APPROVAL) OF UNAUTHORIZED DEVELOPMENTS

Pursuant to the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010; Sections 3, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59 and 63 of the Physical and Land Use Planning Act, 2019; and Section 8 of the Nairobi City County Regularization of Unauthorized Development Act, 2025, notice is hereby given to all individuals, developers, occupiers and land-buying companies with unauthorized developments to apply for regularization.

Unauthorized developments (Subdivision, Amalgamation, Extension of Use, Change of Use, Architectural Building Plans, Informal Settlements on Private Land, Structural Engineering Building Plans and Occupation Permits, Advertising Structures, Billboards, LEDs, Wall wraps) are those undertaken without the necessary permissions or approvals under the Physical and Land Use Planning Act, 2019 the Regularization Act 2025 and other relevant built environment laws and regulations but meet the minimum requirements for approval. The Regularization process as guided by the Regularization Act 2025 seeks to promote compliance with the applicable planning and development statutes.

All development applications for Regularization must be submitted by registered built environment professionals (Physical Planners, Architects, Structural Engineers, EIA Experts) through the Nairobi Planning and Development Management System (NPDMS) for Regularization (edev.nairobiservices.go.ke)

For any clarification on the process, please contact the Director, Development Management OR Assistant Director (Regularization and sectional Developments) office at City Hall Annex (1st Floor) cellphone 0790-275-134, or 0725-138-018, the Director County Physical & Land Use Planning.

**Cs, PATRICK MBOGO, OGW.
COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER -
BUILT ENVIRONMENT & URBAN PLANNING**

Nairobi City County - Dated 30th September 2025

LET'S MAKE **NAIROBI** WORK

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MOTOR VEHICLES FOR SALE

NO.	DESCRIPTION	REG. NO	Y.O.M	TO BE VIEWED AT	RESERVE PRICE
1	MITSUBISHI FUSO FIV1	KDN 382D	2023	PHILLIPS INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS YARD-KILELESHWA	7,390,000.00
2	MITSUBISHI FUSO FXJ3	KDH 047Z	2021	PHILLIPS INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS YARD-KILELESHWA	5,670,000.00
3	ISUZU FRR 90N	KDR 759N	2024	LEAKEYS STORAGE YARD- MSA ROAD	5,080,000.00
4	ISUZU FRR 90N	KDP 834Z	2023	PURPLE ROYAL STORAGE YARD - KIAMBU ROAD	5,080,000.00
5	MITSUBISHI FIV1	KDM 148Y	2023	PHILLIPS INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS YARD - KILELESHWA	4,770,000.00
6	ISUZU FRR 90N	KDL 249Y	2023	LEAKEYS STORAGE YARD- MSA ROAD	4,440,000.00
7	MERCEDES BENZ ACTROS 2545	KDM 129S	2016	BLACKBIRD AUCTIONEERS - MILIMANI KISUMU	4,400,000.00
8	ISUZU FVR 90L	KDJ 475Q	2022	MOUNT KENYA AUCTION YARD - MERU	4,230,000.00
9	MERCEDES ACTROS 2545	KDJ 582Y	2015	PAMBO AUCTIONEERS - KISUMU	4,020,000.00
10	MITSUBISHI FUSO FE85	KDP 541M	2023	BLACKBIRD AUCTIONEERS - NYALI	3,920,000.00
11	MERCEDES BENZ ACTROS 2545	KDN 048H	2016	VALLEY AUCTIONEERS YARD - MEMBLEY	3,700,000.00
12	MERCEDES ACTROS 2545	KDC 206X	2015	BUNGOMA SAFE KEEPERS YARD - BUNGOMA	2,560,000.00
13	AUDI A4 TFSI S LINE	KDM 722P	2016	PURPLE ROYAL STORAGE YARD - KIAMBU ROAD	2,350,000.00
14	SUBARU OUTBACK BS9	KDL 966S	2016	VALUERS YARD - ROASTERS THIKA ROAD	2,250,000.00
15	TOYOTA NOAH ZRR80	KDS 891P	2017	PHILLIPS INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS YARD-KILELESHWA	2,100,000.00
16	NISSAN X-TRAIL T32	KDP 393U	2017	STARTRUCK AUCTIONEERS INV YARD LTD-KIAMBU ROAD	2,070,000.00
17	MAZDA CX-5 KE2FW SKYACTIV	KDQ 544N	2016	STARTRUCK AUCTIONEERS INV YARD LTD-KIAMBU ROAD	1,700,000.00
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National News

Bottles of hope His story is a cautionary tale of how pseudoscience and political theatre thrived in the Nyayo era

Arthur Obel: The 'miracle' man who exploited a nation's grief

Professor once stood at the centre of the war on HIV/Aids, hailed as a national saviour who promised cures

BY JOHN KAMAU

There was a time, not too long ago, when Professor Arthur Obel walked like a man anointed. Heavy glasses framed his face, his lips curled with quiet conviction, and his words carried the weight of revelation. He was the professor who promised the impossible—that Aids, the grim reaper of the 1990s, could be reversed, undone, and erased from the blood.

In a nation haunted by funerals and hollowed by grief, his voice was a balm. It rose above the dirge, above the doubt, promising healing where science had declared none. To many Kenyans, Obel was not merely a scientist—he was a saviour. He spoke in parables of cure, in the language of resurrection. The infected and affected listened. Hope, as they say, was louder than reason.

It began, as many Kenyan miracles did, in the corridors of state science. Obel, then a pharmacologist at the University of Nairobi, joined forces with Dr Davy Koech, the silver-tongued director of the Kenya Medical Research Institute, and an American veterinarian named Joseph Cummins. Together, in the twilight years of President Daniel arap Moi, they unveiled Kemron, a low-dose oral interferon they claimed could turn HIV-positive patients into HIV-negative ones. The announcement would be one of the triumphs of the Nyayo era—and it was unveiled as such.

The announcement cracked like thunder across a frightened nation. It was the late 1980s. Hospitals were full, graves were fresh, and the alphabet of sorrow—HIV/Aids—had entered every household through radio and television programmes that sold fear. Obel and Koech stood before cameras and declared deliverance. The press, unburdened by skepticism, called it a miracle. The government, ever eager to clutch a patriotic victory, blessed it. Kemron, they said, was proof that Africa could heal itself. In a country yearning for dignity, the story

was irresistible: two Kenyan scientists, armed with little more than faith and formula, had done what the West could not. Obel was at the centre of it all.

The Nyayo regime wrapped the discovery in the flag. Like the Nyayo Pioneer car, Kemron became an emblem of self-reliance. For a fleeting moment, Obel stood tall among the prophets of progress. But miracles do not fare well under microscopes. The World Health Organization, summoned to verify the claims, found none of it credible. Trials were unblinded, results unreproducible, the science soft as sand. What Obel and Koech called "sero-reversion" was nothing more than a statistical illusion. The supposed miracle dissolved under the harsh light of scrutiny. Still, the myth travelled faster than the truth. Across the Atlantic, Louis Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam embraced Kemron as a black cure suppressed by white science. Prof Obel tried to sell his concoction. In Harlem's radio waves and church basements, the drug became a symbol of defiance—an African answer to a Western plague. Obel said nothing to correct them.

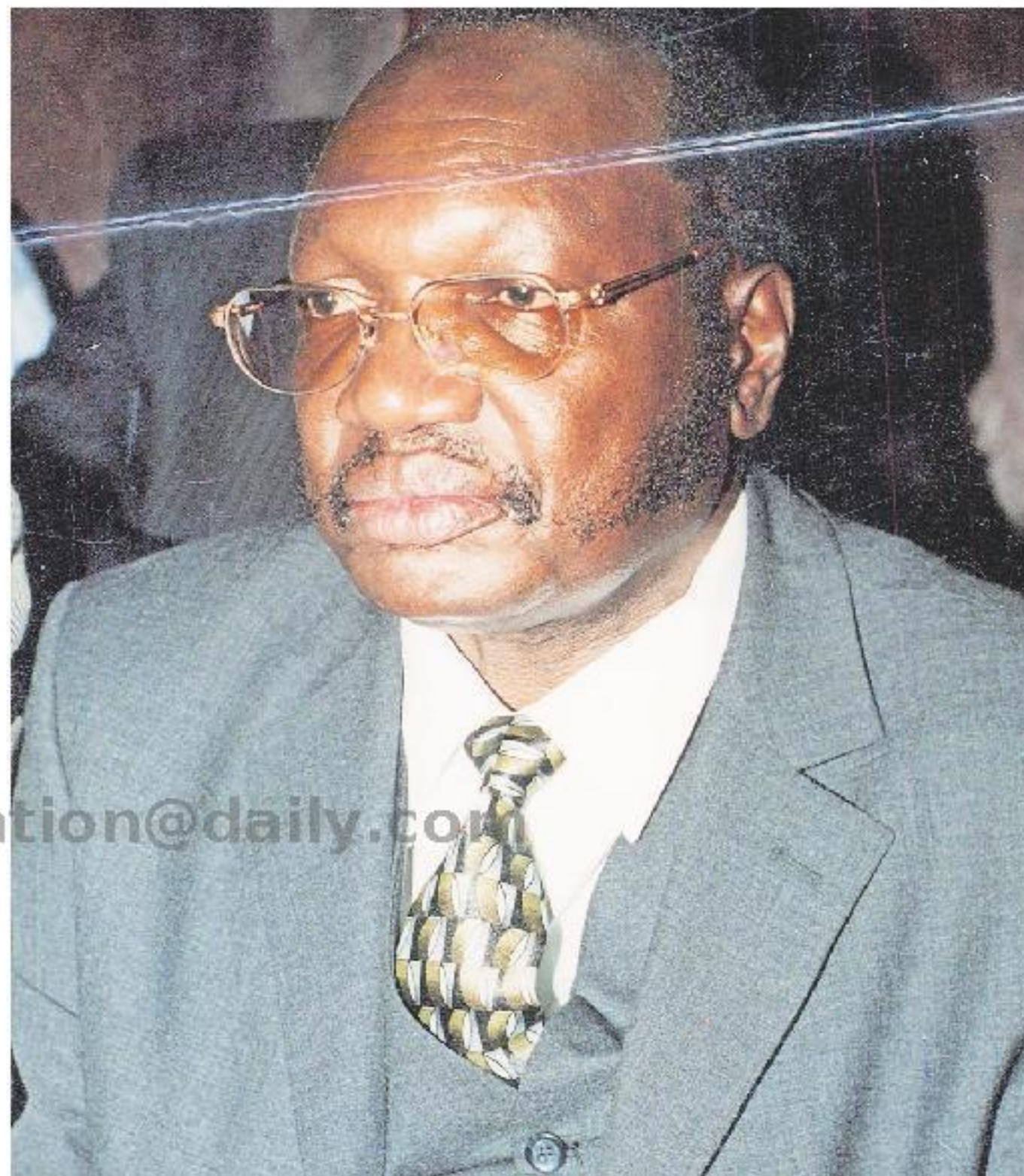
Fantasy

He let the fantasy bloom. In Nairobi, patients lined up at Kemri, clutching hope in trembling hands. In New York, the faithful paid \$1,500 for a bottle that cost \$50. Obel smiled behind his spectacles. The snake oil was flowing.

When Kemron finally collapsed, Obel did not retreat. He simply changed labels. In 1993, he announced a new revelation: Pearl Omega, another herbal concoction he claimed could not only halt HIV but erase it. This time, he came armed with testimonials—seven patients, he said, had turned negative. Parliament listened. Assistant Health Minister Basil Criticos spoke of further trials. For a moment, it seemed Obel's resurrection was complete.

But within a week, Health Minister Joshua Angatia condemned the drug as a hoax. It had never been licensed, never been tested, never peer-reviewed.

The Kenya Aids Society called it a fraud. The medical fraternity turned its back. Still, Pearl Omega found its way to the market—quietly, illegally—sold through Obel's International Medical Foundation at Sh30,000 a bottle. Patients, desperate and dying, bought it by the dozen. Money flowed and Obel, a polygamist, bought two adjacent houses in Lavinton, each



for his wife. He went out to sell his Pearl Omega cure as a pan-African drug and dismissed Western opponents as anti-black. Once, at Kenyatta University, he gave a lecture that bordered on a sermon. He offered to donate Pearl Omega to the campus. Students cheered. Then, with the solemnity of a high priest, he warned that European condoms were laced with HIV—a falsehood so wild it should have ended his career. But in those days, faith outran fact. The government stayed silent. Obel walked out a hero. Behind the curtain, he had powerful friends. Philip Mbithi, former Chief Secretary and an old schoolmate, was rumoured to have steered him research funds.

In Moi's Kenya, where politics was theatre and truth a prop, Obel's confidence was its own credential. To challenge him was to invite accusations of betrayal—not just of a man, but of a continent's pride. But Obel's life was not confined to laboratories and lecture halls. Away from the cameras, he carried a temper that simmered just below the surface.

One evening, in the fading light of a Nairobi street, he drew a gun and shot a man who had blocked his car. The city buzzed with the news—that the professor who promised life had, in a moment of fury, dealt death. In another country, it might have ended him. It

barely dented his legend. Power, in those days, had its own way of bleaching the record clean.

By 2004, when antiretroviral therapy had begun saving lives across Africa, Obel reappeared for one final act. In a small press conference in Nairobi, he unveiled his third "cure": Compound Q27. This, he said, was not merely management—it was eradication. "We are talking about total deconversion," he told reporters, his tone that of a man reciting scripture. "No trace of the virus in blood, glands, or tissue." But the world had moved on.

The journalists scribbled, half-listening. The public, chastened by years of false dawns, barely blinked. Obel's gospel had grown old. The miracle man was now a caricature—a relic of an era when pseudoscience could masquerade as patriotism.

Obel's story cannot be told without Koech, his old comrade-in-cure. The two had risen together under Moi—polished, persuasive, draped in scientific prestige. But while Obel peddled potions, Koech built empires. On his watch, Kemri became a factory of dubious ventures, from Viroxan, a phony Aids drug manufactured in Kenya and shipped to the Americas, to murky licensing deals with foreign quacks. When the curtain finally fell, Koech was convicted of corruption, found guilty of trans-

Prof Arthur Obel, who died on Saturday. On February 8, 1997, the government ordered the immediate withdrawal of the controversial Aids drug Pearl Omega from the Kenyan market. In a swift reaction, Prof Obel, the inventor of the drug, announced his resignation as the Government's Chief Scientist. FILE IN NATION

ferring Sh19 million from Kemri to his personal account. His fall was spectacular—from presidential limousines to a Kamiti Prison cell. He would later beg President William Ruto for clemency, citing stroke and sorrow.

But Obel, though never jailed, suffered a slower punishment—the erosion of reputation. He faded, not in scandal, but in silence. His laboratories emptied. His bottles gathered dust. His name became a whisper of warning.

Obel was not merely a man; he was a mirror. In his reflection stood a nation too eager to clap, too weary to question. He thrived because Kenya allowed him to—because in a land where sickness was common and science distant, hope had become legal tender. He understood the currency of despair, and traded in it with the precision of a seasoned merchant. Like the Loliendo bush doctor in Tanzania, he bottled faith and called it medicine. Obel wrapped his concoctions in the flag, draped them in patriotism, and sold them at a premium from his Nairobi clinic—a place where the line between herbalist and physician blurred conveniently beneath the weight of a professorial title. And the people, crushed beneath the burden of the unknown, paid not in coin alone, but in trust.

Comforting story

He was, in the end, a creature of his age—the Nyayo years, when spectacle passed for science and loyalty for logic. The regime wanted heroes, not heretics. It crowned Obel not because he cured disease, but because he told a comforting story. Yet the damage was not theatrical. Behind every bottle of Pearl Omega was a mother who stopped seeking real treatment, a husband who sold his land, a child who buried a parent. Obel's fraud was not academic. It was intimate. It lived in homes, in graves, in memories.

Today, Obel survives in footnotes and faded headlines. The man who once promised to heal a continent is remembered, if at all, as a charlatan in a lab coat—a cautionary tale in the annals of Kenyan medicine. He never apologised. Like many who mistake applause for evidence, he believed doubt was jealousy. To the end, he carried himself like a martyr—the misunderstood genius persecuted by lesser minds.

Last week, the professor finally bowed out—quietly, without ceremony, his passing as understated as the truth he long evaded.

But time, unlike tribunals, does not forget. History has shelved him beside the quacks and conjurers, the merchants of miracle cures who preyed on a nation's wounds. There is a lesson buried in his story, as there is in every scandal. Science, like faith, demands humility. To play God is to gamble with lives. And in the arithmetic of deception, the sum is always sorrow.

Obel once stood before cameras and promised life. All he left was a warning that in the marketplace of miracles, the loudest prophets often sell the emptiest bottles.

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Health Minister Joshua Angatia condemned the drug as a hoax ... The Kenya Aids Society called it a fraud

John Kamau





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WE CAN LEASE IT

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Alex Ndegwa
Lead Editor, Daily Nation

Published at Nation Centre,
Kimathi Street, and printed
at Mombasa Road, Nairobi, by
Nation Media Group PLC
P.O. Box 49010,
Nairobi 00100
editor@ke.nationmedia.com
Registered at the GPO as a
newspaper

How local NGOs can sustain programmes after aid cuts

When US President Donald Trump announced a halt on USAID funding overseas earlier in the year, Kenya was one of the many countries affected by the aid cuts. The announcement by Trump caused a major ripple effect as several other donor countries; Germany, the United Kingdom and Japan, to mention a few, followed suit. They announced that they would also be cutting aid funding. The resultant effect was and continues to be massive job losses and a pause in live-saving projects in many countries relying on foreign aid, Kenya included.

According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United States continues to be the largest Development Assistance Committee (DAC) member country provider of Overseas Development Assistance (ODA). It provides USD 63.3 billion that accounts for 30% of the total Development Assistance Committee ODA in 2024, followed by Germany (USD 32.4 billion), the United Kingdom (USD 18.0 billion), Japan (USD 16.8 billion), and France (USD 15.4 billion).

ODA is government aid that promotes and specifically targets the economic development and welfare of developing countries. But this funding is declining. In April this year, OECD announced a 7.1% decline in international aid from official donors in 2024 compared to 2023 - the first drop after five years of consecutive growth. The fall, according to the organisation, is because of a reduction in contributions among other reasons.

The Institute of Security Studies revealed that given the major contribution to aid by the US, the funding cuts would push some 5.7 millions more Africans into poverty in 2026. Kenya has been ranked as the 5th largest recipient of US aid after Ethiopia, Somalia, the DRC and Nigeria; and has relied on these funds for over a decade.

In 2024 alone, Kenya received over USD 400m, which benefitted over 230 institutions. This all means that the impact on Kenya has been and will continue to be largely felt in the education and health sectors, being the major beneficiaries of the funding.

Many countries that have relied on foreign aid for years have been faced with the difficult truth that it is shrinking as donor countries have shifted priorities

After losing between 75 to 100 per cent of their USAID funding, 17 local NGOs in Nigeria got a lifeline from the Development Research and Projects Center



Sarah Mukisa | Donor funding

to their own needs and interests. It will no longer be business as usual; there will need to be an out of the box thinking, to ensure sustainability of key projects that have been funded by ODA countries.

But, in the midst of these challenges, there are lessons that can be learnt, especially from some African countries that have shown resilience during the chaos. A good example is a local Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) in Nigeria. Being one of the countries that relied heavily on foreign aid, the country has shown that it is possible to still create impact with smaller funds, adjust to actual needs of communities and promote the localisation agenda.

After losing between 75 to 100 per cent of their USAID funding, 17 local NGOs in Nigeria got a lifeline from the Development Research and Projects Center (DRPC). The NGO based in Nigeria stepped in to bridge the funding gap through a localisation initiative. DRPC has been supporting localisation by building capacity of Civil Society Organisations in leadership for development, mobilising CSOs for policy change and to demonstrate their competence, sustainability and comparative advantage in delivering cost-effective development programmes.

DRPC did what many never thought of during the donor-funding crisis; it reallocated funds from a major grantmaking philanthropic foundation and used it to support the 17 local civil society organisations that had been hard-hit by the US Executive Order, providing them with small bridging grants to keep them afloat. But the funding alone wasn't enough, managing dozens of smaller grants required technical skills,

oversight, and mentoring.

The organisation worked with a network of local mentors it had developed under a past grant, offering training and project management support. This mentorship proved crucial, ensuring grantees not only survived, but adapted to the new business unusual. Though the grants were far smaller than the original USAID budgets, they enabled the CSOs to keep running their programmes, giving room for adjustments in activities, sourcing, and advocacy focus.

The result? From empowering young girls to supporting increased agricultural productivity, food security and economic resilience, to building the capacity of community members and improving availability of gender-based violence data for evidence-based decision-making, this model continues to do tremendously well for communities that highly relied on aid in Nigeria. There has also been increased participation of women in politics.

This model where a local NGO funds others, or CSOs with grants from philanthropic foundations, comes with a lot of lessons at a time when DAC member countries are reducing if not halting aid funding to countries and international NGOs. If anything, this model is proof that localisation works and local CSOs and community members don't just have to be implementers as has been the case for years, but they can also be funders and decision-makers when entrusted with resources. Instead of shutting down, grantees used the opportunity to diversify funding, adopt cost-saving measures, and innovate with community-driven solutions. This experience may leave them more resilient in the long-term than if external funding had continued uninterrupted.

It is important that local organisations also realise that they can be able to support other smaller community-based NGOs through offering expertise and training in financial and project management, support advocacy and campaigns for policy change, monitoring evaluation and evidence-based research.

Based on the new model introduced by DRPC, we learn that it is always important for donors to have flexibility in funding. When multi-year and unrestricted funding is given to local NGOs, combined with dedicated organisational development, this leads to stronger and more resilient organisations able to establish deeper connections with the communities.

The DRPC's decision to backstop other CSOs was possible because donors allowed a degree of flexibility in use of resources. This flexibility empowered the local NGO to act quickly and strategically.

Lastly, this model shows that small funding to local organisations can lead to a big impact.

Ms Mukisa is a monitoring and evaluation expert with over 10 years experience in International Development in Africa and Asia.

Alliances of utility eclipsing genuine solidarity

ately, one of the phenomena around Kenya's politics is the rediscovery of the neighbouring cousins! We know that this is an endearing political statement, and indeed it has worked to some extent. In other words, it is a befriending statement. It is wading off suspicion among people who have looked at each other as thieves and witches. They have become friends and are willing to work together for a very specific goal. That friendship is seemingly confined to political mileage. Similarly, Kenya has enjoyed a friendship with China for a long. The technological impact of China to Kenya is evident, especially the famous Moi International Sports Centre, Kasarani, and the expressway. We can say, Kenya and China have been good cousins!

From ancient times, friendships have often been considered to be of three kinds. The first type of friendship is pleasure friendship. This friendship is the most common friendship among young people. This does not mean it is not seen among adults, indeed it does exist, given that a fully grown person can remain stuck in a seven-year-old child's personality. At this age, the child tends to view things from the perspective of their own immediate happiness. It is easy for your Grade One child to come back from school and tell you she has changed her friends. Reason, because her friends did not make her happy today in school. Happiness, according to this childish friendship, is limited to such things

One of the phenomena around Kenya's politics is the rediscovery of the neighbouring cousins!



Richard Wanyeki | Politics

as playing together and giggling secretly. Of course, children do not discuss business ideas; this is why that friendship fits children well.

The second type of friendship is utility friendship. Utility friendship lasts for as long as either party benefits from it. For instance, if a man marries a woman because she is easy to manipulate and she is dependent on the man, and probably the woman poses as a good listener; that union will only exist for as long as these qualities the man married her for lasts. But because each person is constantly growing, the woman may no longer be that plaything anymore. She may fully develop and attain autonomy that seems to replace her previous subservience. In this case, the husband may look at her as a hard-headed woman and an unworthy wife.

She is no longer a malleable tool for his benefit, and their friendship or whatever union exists cannot be sustained anymore. What he needed in her is not there anymore. It can also be true if a man who provided can no longer do so, and the wife leaves him because the woman does not consider a union with him worth keeping. Such is the friendship of utility. It is a friendship grounded on utilising or making use of others, and it is selfish.

The third type is continental friendship. It is friendship that can be termed as stable. The uniting factor is a genuine intention to promote mutual growth. One party intends to make the partner grow. Likewise, the other party does not aim for its own benefits. Going back to the idea of cousins, a rational mind ought to wonder, what kind of friendship is being cultivated? How sustainable is that friendship? After getting the political positions, which appear to be the binding factor, will they still be cousins? It should be in the consciousness of many that there is no better friendship than continental friendship. This is a friendship that is also referred to as solidarity. It is a mutual exchange of goodwill for all cousins. Solidarity is the most fitting term for continental friendship. Solidarity means being one with others. It is counter to fake alliances based on utility or temporal pleasures and hedonism.

Fr Wanyeki is a lecturer and a PhD student at Catholic University of Eastern Africa.

Send your opinion article to: dnopinion@ke.nationmedia.com or write to The Editor, Daily Nation, P. O. Box 49010, Nairobi 00100.

DAILY NATION

Explore new markets to fix tea farmers' woes

Farmers work so hard cultivating, planting and harvesting their crops, expecting a fair return on their sweat. However, they need well-organised channels to reach the most rewarding markets. This is more so for those involved in growing cash crops for export.

There is an uproar as tea bonus payouts have dropped across all the crop-growing regions. A Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) official may have inadvertently sparked the raging controversy when he publicly acknowledged that this year's payments would be significantly lower.

The sharp decline in tea bonus payments has also rekindled the long-standing concern among smallholder farmers over the apparent disparities in earnings between factories in the East and those West of the Rift Valley.

According to an interim KTDA report for the financial year that ended on June 30, farmers in the 21 tea-growing constituencies earned between Sh0.80 and Sh19.10 less per kilogramme than last year.

The 680,000 smallholders also have to contend with markedly uneven payments. While farmers in the Mt Kenya region will receive a bonus of between Sh26 and Sh57 per kilo, their counterparts in the Rift Valley and South Nyanza will get between Sh10 and Sh32 per kilo.

The disparities have angered farmers, who have accused the industry of perpetuating unfairness. However, the challenge is much wider than this perceived bias in payouts. One director has called on the government to strengthen the existing system while carrying out more aggressive marketing of Kenyan tea and opening new outlets instead of relying on the shrinking international markets.

There is also a call for the establishment of a second auction in the South Rift to complement the Mombasa one to expand markets and also help to address the price disparities.

The authorities should explore new markets, enable the farmers to reduce production costs, and also give them good incentives to boost their harvests and improve their earnings.

Enhance road safety

The horror crash in which 16 people perished on the Nairobi-Nakuru highway at the weekend is a grim reminder of the deadly danger that lurks daily on our roads.

A speeding matatu was reportedly recklessly overtaking several other motor vehicles when it was involved in a head-on collision with a lorry. This came just 48 hours after another accident on the same highway involving an ambulance in which three people—the driver, a nurse and a patient—died.

With the road crash death toll in the first nine months of the year now at 3,397, it has surpassed the annual average of 3,000 deaths. This is an average of 12 people killed every day. Besides the deaths, there is also immense suffering from injuries and disabilities. Last year, 4,748 people died on the roads.

This is a serious crisis that calls for urgent measures by the National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) and the traffic police.

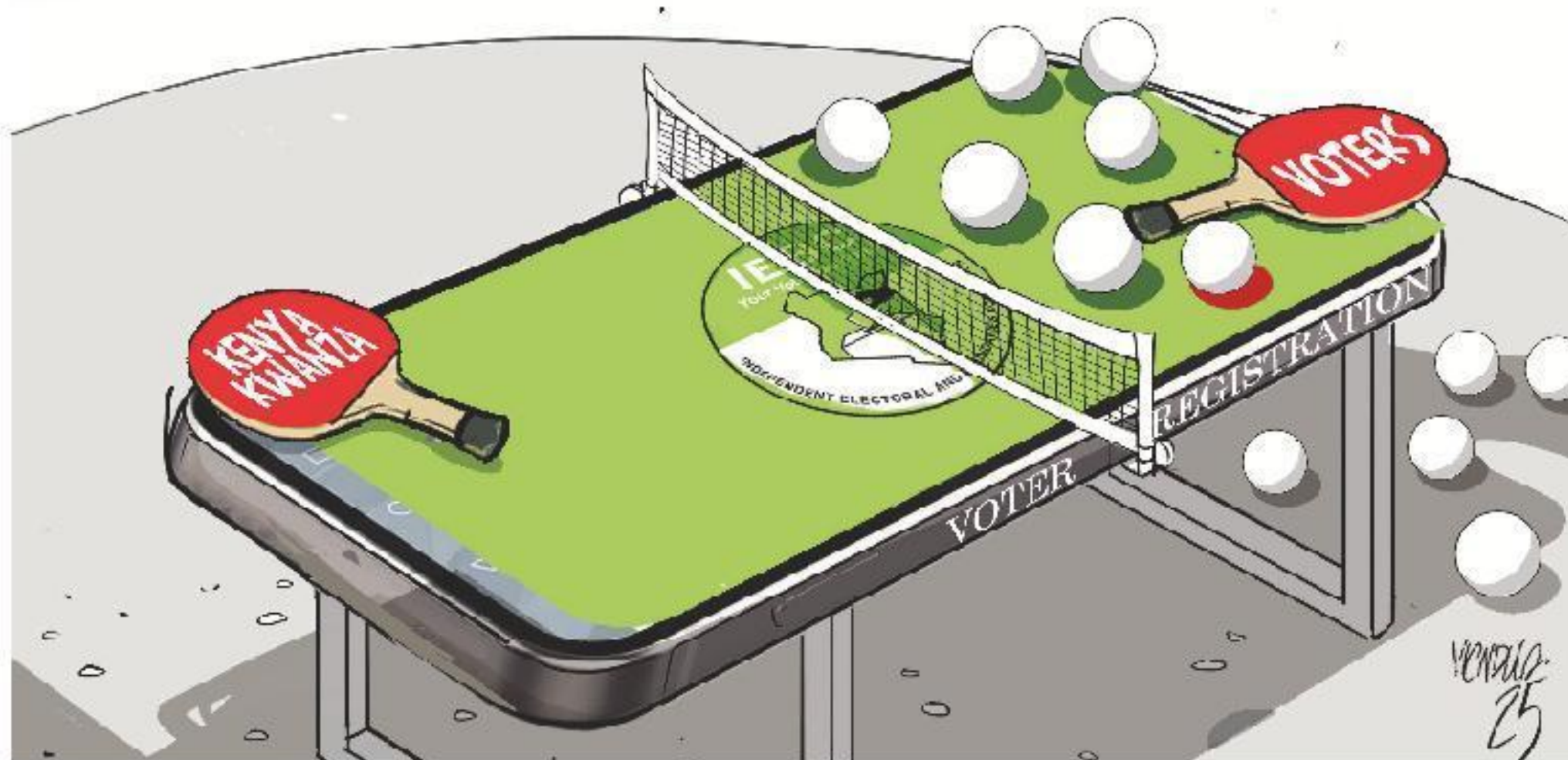
These deaths are not just a painful loss to the bereaved families, but also a burden to the healthcare system and the economy. Road accidents create a significant burden, gobbling up billions. The annual health costs attributed to road traffic injuries are about Sh46.1 billion. A significant number of victims are in the economically productive age bracket, hence a heavy loss of human capital.

Pressure is mounting on the NTSA and traffic police to curb speeding and reckless driving on the highways. There have also been calls to mount a road safety campaign to promote public awareness.

The government's tough five-year National Road Safety Action Plan targets reckless drivers and high-risk behaviour such as drink-driving and the monitoring of black spots.

There is a need for strict enforcement of traffic rules and regulations to enhance road safety.

WHEN THE BALL(S) IS IN YOUR COURT...



Ruto banks on Mt Kenya split, Raila

The launch of a registration drive targeting an ambitious 6.3 million new entries in the voters' roll seems to have coincided with a flurry of political activities.

Retired President Uhuru Kenyatta came out of his shell to signal a revamp of his largely moribund Jubilee Party, and for the first time since his exit, publicly hurled broadsides at the leadership of his successor William Ruto.

Elsewhere on the opposition front, People's Liberation Party leader Martha Karua used the occasion of her party delegates conference to restate her presidential bid.

And former opposition chief Raila Odinga, at a series of events marking the ODM party's 20th anniversary, emphasised that the political marriage with President Ruto that birthed the broad-based government did not extend to his party backing the incumbent at the next elections.

From the other side, Ruto must have been looking on with a mixture of emotions, ranging from quiet satisfaction to outright alarm.

He would have taken the two rival opposition events as a Godsend. Uhuru's entry flanked by his presumed choice for the presidential ticket, former Interior Cabinet Secretary Fred Matiang'i, indicated his determination to make Jubilee a major factor in the next elections. However, it also signalled rivalry in the opposition ranks, and particularly in the vote-rich Mt Kenya region where Uhuru has ceded ground to former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua.

The absence of Jubilee leaders at Ms Karua's party event was notable. The host and her key guests—including Gachagua, Kalonzo Musyoka and Eugene Wamala—all spent their time on the podium pledging a united opposition, but the absence of Jubilee leaders, holding their own function elsewhere, was telling.

Gachagua has emerged as a first amongst equals in the new alliance cour-

Ruto will be looking on with great pleasure at the divisions in opposition ranks now manifested by open sniping between the Gachagua and Uhuru camps



Macharia Gaitho | Politics

tesy of his hold on the Mt Kenya vote. He has signalled that he is looking to swing that vote to Musyoka, but re-emergence of Uhuru to pledge the same basket to Matiang'i already indicates a split in the region, which eases Ruto's headache after losing the stronghold that supplied nearly 50 per cent of his tally at the 2022 elections.

It is also significant that Karua, who as Raila's running-mate in 2022 faced-off against Gachagua who was on the same ticket with Ruto, declared a presidential bid that will also be seeking the Mt Kenya voting base.

It could become a crowded field from the populous region as controversial tycoon and political wheeler-dealer Jimmy Wanjigi has also announced his own presidential bid from outside the main opposition coalition, as has civil society activist Boniface Mwangi. Former CS Moses Kuria, who in July made a cordial exit as Ruto's senior economic advisor, is also widely expected to enter the presidential race, but most likely as a spoiler to split the Mt Kenya vote.

These are just the kind of divisions in

Mt Kenya, and the wider opposition, that could greatly work in Ruto's favour.

An increasingly crowded field has also seen presidential aspirations from outside Mt Kenya declared by former Chief Justice David Maraga and Busia Senator Okiya Omtatah.

Ruto will be looking on with great pleasure at the divisions in opposition ranks now manifested by open sniping between the Gachagua and Uhuru camps, but he must also be deeply concerned at Raila's restatement of ODM's continuing presidential ambitions.

Murmurs within ODM against the broad-based government arrangement have always seemed like a minor rebellion by a small handful of figures led by party secretary-general Eliud Sifuna.

Key party stalwarts close to Raila, including his elder brother Senator Oburu Oginga, Homa Bay Governor Gladys Wanga and the direct beneficiaries of the dalliance with Ruto's UDA, including Treasury CS John Mbadi and Energy counterpart Opiyo Wandayi, have become key cheerleaders for Ruto's re-election bid.

Invited to offer guidance, Raila has limited himself to inviting perusal of the MoU between the two parties, which makes no reference to 2027 alliances, but has in the past declined to expressly state whether or not ODM would support Ruto.

His weekend affirmation that nothing stops ODM from fielding a candidate was thus significant. Having lost Mt Kenya, Ruto's survival is wholly dependent on Raila and the vast base he controls. Without Raila's backing, his re-election prospects drastically diminish.

It is probable that Raila was just speaking to placate a restive base, and maybe also displaying the aces he holds in ongoing political bargaining, but his pronouncement could have sent alarm bells among Ruto loyalists who see that 2027 support cannot be taken for granted.

gaihoma@gmail.com; @MachariaGaitho

Letters

THE CUTTING EDGE THE WATCHMAN

Email your letter to the watchman@ke.nationmedia.com or write to The Watchman, P.O BOX 49010, Nairobi 00100

End deployment • The government should withdraw our police officers from the mission fighting Haiti gangs, says Lucas Kimanathi. "We may be global citizens, yes, but our own needs outweigh our involvement in this faraway campaign. Seeing mothers and children cry over their slain kin in a conflict that we are not direct stakeholders in is quite unnecessary." His email address is lmkimanathi@gmail.com.

National pride • The national flag, Chris Kiriba says, is a key symbol of the country, its national pride and sovereignty. "All the citizens and visitors must respect it, as it embodies our unity and cohesion. It also symbolises the sacrifices that were made to secure our freedom. This is why I have been angered by visitors who have the temerity to desecrate it." His contact is chriskiriba14@gmail.com.

Respect flag • The viral video of two Somali youths trampling on the Kenyan flag at Nyayo stadium in Nairobi during a soccer match, Dr Kennedy Miyoro Mochabo finds quite disgraceful, happening on our territory. Says he: "The flag must be respected as a symbol of national sovereignty whether or not the culprits come from a border community." His contact is kmochabo@hotmail.com.

Two-faced • Insurance firms enable the pooling of resources through members paying premiums so that when one is hit by a misfortune, one gets compensated, says F. Mukembu. "But it's never that easy, as the policy holders are taken round in circles. The soft-talking insurance agents who sell the policies are nowhere when one needs help. This should be streamlined." His contact is fmukembu@gmail.com.

Obsolete term • Many employees in private and public sectors, university don XN Iraki notes, "no longer work in offices, but share open spaces or work from home or online". The word, officer, which "denotes a bygone age that is repugnant to progress and modernity", he adds, should, therefore, be retired. "I leave the readers to suggest the best replacement for it!" His contact is xniraki@gmail.com. Have an appropriate day, won't you!

LETTERS

Don't elect liars in 2027 elections

The socio-economic hardships we face shall only end if we open our eyes and elect leaders of integrity. Every electoral cycle, candidates, especially those vying for the presidency, moot very attractive manifestos, which they know are difficult to implement. The pathetic part is that Kenyans will be attracted to the candidate who speaks more lies. Kenyans would not be suffering if the manifesto by the Kenya Kwanza government was implemented. Why can't the people learn from experience? Why can't they elect leaders from humble backgrounds who do not offer handouts? Dear Kenyans, stop being blind; open your eyes and elect leaders with credibility and integrity.

Damson Opiyo Onger, Koru

Register as voters and turn up during polls

We have a golden opportunity to register as voters at the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) constituency offices. By registering as voters, we will make our voices heard in the coming elections. And after registering, we should all make sure that we show up in our polling stations and vote for leaders to represent our interests. Let us encourage our relatives, friends, colleagues and neighbours to register as voters. This will be our small contribution to growing our democracy. IEBC should also make the exercise smooth and efficient; Kenyans should not take long on queues waiting to be served.

Elijah Kimathi, Maua

NG-CDF disbursement not a priority

I read an article in the *Saturday Nation* on September 27 that stated that the National Treasury is racing against time to pay out close to Sh58 Billion to the NG-CDF before the fund becomes defunct in 2026. The move is worrying considering that university learning has been paralysed due to demands by lecturers, private hospitals have locked out patients due to unpaid Social Health Authority Bills, and secondary school principals are hiding from suppliers due to delayed capitation. The money should be first channelled to these pressing issues.

Jacob Kiilu, Nairobi

'Glass buildings' economics not the way

I don't know who came up with the economic theory of "Tall Glass Buildings" because Nairobi sure seems full of them. Many house exhibitions and stalls, which sell the same items—mobile phones, shoes and cosmetics. Maybe to our policy wonks, this is progress, but in reality it is a symptom of a black market economy, an increased gap between growing imports and declining exports, and meagre manufacturing capability. Kenya cannot achieve middle income status with this kind of copy-paste strategy or create any kind of meaningful pensionable jobs.

Brian Maitai, Nairobi

Prepare to mitigate sink hole disasters

What happened in Bangkok, where a section of the highway sunk with vehicles, should worry us as a country. This is more so in the Rift valley, where the ground is prone to geological instability that is now exacerbated by climate change. The swelling of Rift Valley lakes and displacement of adjacent communities due to flooding is the clearest sign that business is no longer as usual in the region. Early warning systems and advisories should be put in place to forestall calamities.

Muriithi King'au, Laikipia

TODAY IN HISTORY



September 30, 2005: MPs David Mwenje (left) and Reuben Ndolo are dramatically arrested after ending their 26-hour stay inside Parliament. They were seized in court corridors and taken to police cells in spite of being granted bail. The two had earlier outwitted police to slip out of Parliament and surrender themselves to a magistrate who had ordered their arrest on charges of incitement and assault. COMPILED BY ANNIEL NJOKA

LETTER OF THE DAY

Take decisive action to end road carnage

The Nakuru-Nairobi highway has become a corridor of grief. Hardly a week passes without lives lost, often at the very same blackspots. The recent tragedies at Kikopey, where a matatu collided with a lorry, and at Kimende, where an ambulance overturned killing all aboard, underline a painful truth: these are not accidents of fate but the result of negligence, complacency and corruption. The causes are well-known. Dangerous blackspots remain unimproved, with narrow lanes, poor markings, absent barriers and inadequate shoulders. Reckless overtaking, speeding, driv-

er fatigue and poorly maintained vehicles are common issues. Yet, enforcement remains weak, reduced to a transactional system where traffic police officers collect bribes instead of saving lives. When unroadworthy vehicles are waved through checkpoints and reckless driving ignored in exchange for a few notes, those officers become complicit in the bloodshed. Every bribe taken is a life gambled away, and the government's silence in the face of this rot makes it an accomplice. Equally damning is the failure of emergency response. Survivors of crashes often die waiting for

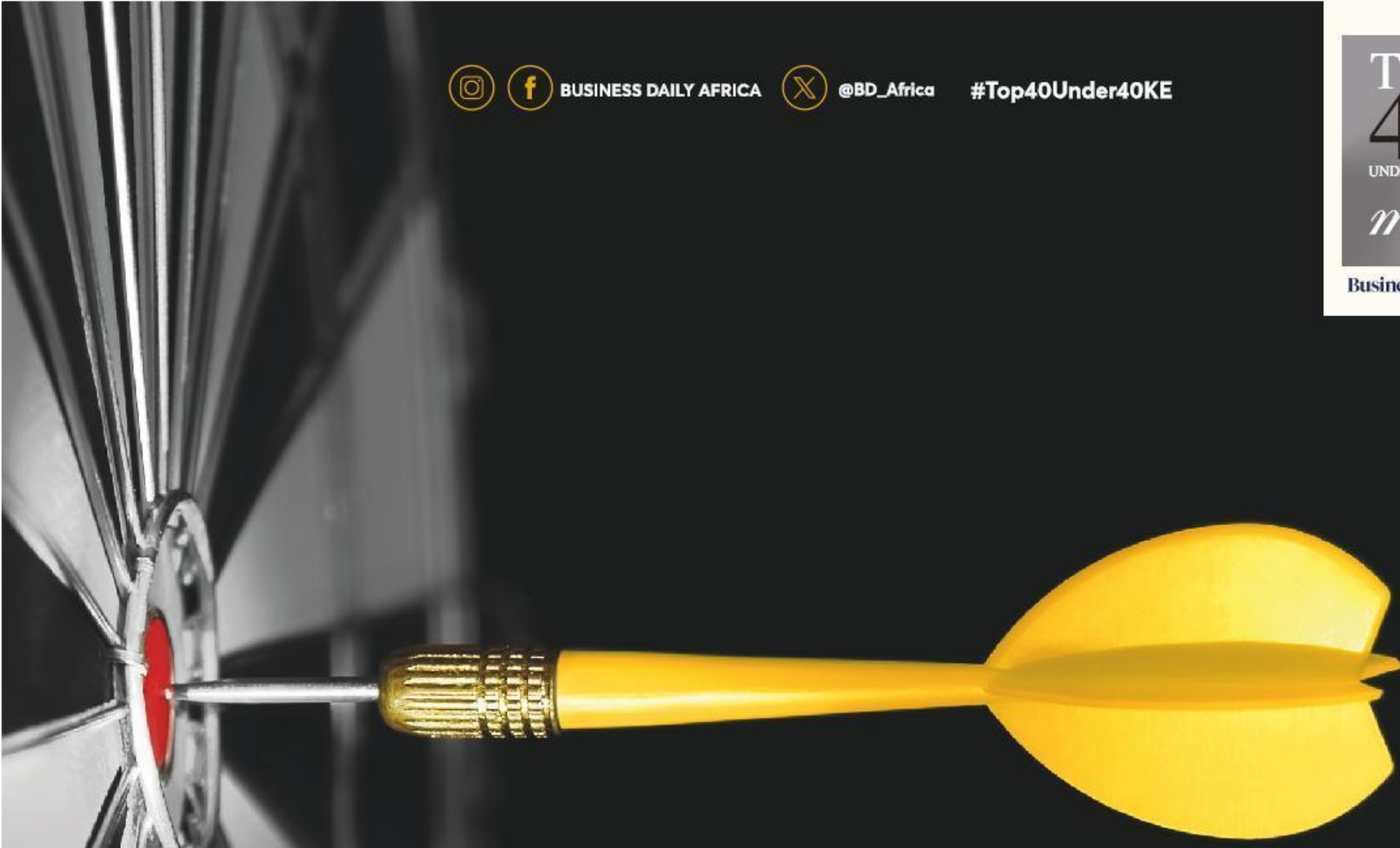
ambulances that arrive too late or are transported to hospitals without trauma units. This crisis demands urgent, decisive action. Blackspots must be fixed now, not endlessly studied. Rumble strips, reflective signage, barriers and wider lanes should be standard on dangerous stretches. Technology must replace bribery-prone human discretion; speed cameras, automated radars and public reporting can restore transparency. Public service drivers must undergo stricter training and regular recertification, and there should be permanent bans for

repeat offenders. Equally, ambulances and trauma units must be strategically positioned along highways. But the heart of the problem lies in political will. Road safety cannot remain a seasonal talking point after major accidents. Leadership must commit resources and hold traffic officers accountable for their action and inaction. Without dismantling the entrenched culture of corruption, every other measure will remain cosmetic. Kenyans cannot continue to bury their kin and friends while the State looks away.

Rony Alal, Nairobi



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County News

Murang'a

Woman found wrapped in parcel 'was strangled'

BY MWANGI MUIRURI

The woman whose body was delivered to Kangari Police Station in Murang'a County packed like a parcel was strangled to death, a post-mortem has revealed.

Murang'a Level Five Hospital pathologist Dr Abraham Njoroge said 45-year-old Hannah Wanjiku Kiiru died after her trachea was crushed, cutting off oxygen to the brain.

He noted the spine fracture occurred after death, when the body was folded at the waist to ease packaging.

"This was not suicide. It was murder. She was strangled with force, most likely using a nylon or plastic cord," Dr Njoroge said.

Samples have been taken to determine whether she was sedated before the attack.

The post-mortem found no additional injuries or evidence of sexual assault.

Dr Njoroge suggested several attackers may have been involved, restraining the victim while she was strangled.

Detectives are exploring possible motives, including a marital dispute, cult activity, a love triangle, or family inheritance.

Another woman

Police said Ms Wanjiku's 60-year-old husband, a casual labourer, had recently left their Mairi home for another woman, prompting her to move to Njiiris village.

She had also recently converted to the Akurinu faith, which investigators say may have caused tension.

Kigumo Sub-county Police Commander Hassan Bashir confirmed four suspects are in custody: the husband, a taxi driver, and two neighbours. Two of the dead woman's sons, initially held, have been released.

Police believe Ms Wanjiku was killed on September 23, with her body delivered to the station the following evening.

The taxi driver told police he was paid Sh500 by a hooded man to transport a 55-kilo parcel to Kangari town.

Suspicious of its weight and smell, he handed it to police, who found the body wrapped in blankets, clothes and sacks.

Ms Wanjiku will be buried on October 3.

Market of woe Hawkers, matatu operators and commuters jostle every day for limited space

Muthurwa: From monument of progress to face of decline



A garbage heap blocks a section of the road at Muthurwa Market, Nairobi, on March 2, 2025. Traders and residents lament the County Government's failure to collect waste. DENNIS ONSONGO | NATION

The only floodlight that works is Kenya Railways'. The City Council lights are unreliable. Once it gets dark, people are at the mercy of muggers.

John Macharia, matatu operator



ers burst, as they often do, raw effluent flows across the market, raising fears of disease outbreaks. "We have complained many times about the blocked sewerage system, but nothing has been done," says Muthurwa Market chairman Nelson Githaiga Waitaha.

The physical environment is equally unforgiving. During dry spells, thick clouds of dust blanket the market and neighbouring Muthurwa Estate. When it rains, roads and trading sheds turn into mud traps.

"You cannot walk at the tomato selling point without wearing gumboots. At the cabbage sheds, uncollected garbage oozes towards the stalls, sending customers away with the foul smell," says Mr Githaiga.

The problem is compounded by inadequate waste collection, leaving heaps of rotting produce and rubbish piled in trading areas.

Poor lighting

Poor lighting has also fuelled insecurity.

"The only floodlight that works is Kenya Railways'. The City Council lights are unreliable. Once it gets dark, people are at the mercy of muggers," says John Macharia, a matatu driver on the Kayole route.

With insecurity rife, many commuters avoid the Muthurwa terminus, and matatus have followed suit. Designed to handle more than 7,000 vehicles daily, the space barely accommodates 1,000.

Many stalls now stand empty as traders drift back to the CBD, rekindling the old game of cat-and-mouse between hawkers and city askaris.

"The capacity of Muthurwa cannot accommodate all matatus from Eastlands," says Inspector Gertrude Muyumba of the City Inspectorate.

Nairobi Central Business District Association chairman Timothy Muriuki has urged the expansion of feeder roads to ease access to the terminus, but progress has been slow.

skimatu@ke.nationmedia.com

It was designed as a modern one-stop hub, complete with water supply, toilets, lighting, a hospital, police post, banking hall and administration block

BY SAMMY KIMATU

When Muthurwa Market opened in 2008, it was billed as a landmark project that would transform small-scale trade in Nairobi and restore order to the city centre.

Built on 12 hectares acquired from the Kenya Railways Corporation, the Sh700 million market was intended to relocate hawkers from the Central Business District, streamline revenue collection, and ease traffic congestion. With space for 8,000 traders and a matatu terminus for vehicles from Eastlands, it was designed as a modern one-stop hub, complete with water supply, toilets, lighting, a hospital, police post, banking hall and administration block.

Urban management

It was even envisioned as a 24-hour operation, a symbol of Nairobi's march towards modern urban management.

Seventeen years later, that promise lies in tatters.

Instead of order, Muthurwa has become synonymous with chaos. Hawkers, matatu operators and

commuters jostle daily for limited space, while burst sewers, poor lighting and water shortages make life miserable for both traders and customers. Starehe Deputy County Commissioner John Kisang, whose office oversees the facility, concedes that Muthurwa has failed.

"This project solved nothing; it compounded problems," he admits. The Architectural Association of Kenya has branded the market a monument to poor workmanship, pointing to its rushed construction in under a year and glaring design flaws that were overlooked.

Kisang says the government now plans to build new interchanges at City Stadium to link Bus Station and Gikomba, in an effort to decongest Muthurwa.

Public consultations are expected before construction begins.

Daily survival

For traders, daily survival has become an uphill battle.

With no reliable water supply, many are forced to buy water at Sh20 for a 20-litre jerrycan.

"Water was disconnected just after the market opened. We were told it was for contractors. What we now depend on is borehole water, but it's unreliable and saline," says hawker Peter Gitari.

The borehole sunk by the now-defunct Nairobi Metropolitan Service offers some relief, but traders say it frequently runs dry. When sew-

AT A GLANCE

Muthurwa's issues

Lack of space: The Architectural Association of Kenya has branded the market a monument to poor workmanship, pointing to its rushed construction in under a year and glaring design flaws that were overlooked.

Lack of water: With no reliable water supply, many are forced to buy water at Sh20 for a 20-litre jerrycan. The borehole sunk by the now-defunct Nairobi Metropolitan Service offers some relief, but traders say it frequently runs dry.

Poor construction: During dry spells, thick clouds of dust blanket the market and neighbouring Muthurwa Estate. When it rains, roads and trading sheds turn into mud traps.

Insecurity: With insecurity rife, many commuters avoid the Muthurwa terminus, and matatus have followed suit.

Lack of electricity: Poor lighting has also fuelled insecurity. "Once it gets dark, people are at the mercy of muggers," says John Macharia, a matatu driver on the Kayole route.

County News

Relief as nurses in Trans Nzoia end strike after talks

BY EVANS JAOLA

After six weeks of silent hospital corridors and desperation among patients, nurses in Trans Nzoia have returned to work, even as the county battles a deepening financial crisis that threatens the gains they have been fighting for.

Services resumed after nurses called off their 42-day strike to give room for structured negotiations with the county government. The strike had brought operations to a standstill in more than 90 healthcare facilities.

A return-to-work agreement was signed between top county officials, led by County Secretary Truphosa Amere, and officials of the Kenya National Union of Nurses and Midwives, led by Branch Chairperson Cyprian Nyakundi and Secretary Edward Cheruiyot.

A major sticking point in the dispute was the delayed recruitment of 134 nurses whose appointment letters had been suspended due to an order by the Employment and Labour Court.

The union has also demanded the recruitment of 50 additional nurses by January next year to replace those who have exited service, a gap that has strained the existing workforce.

The return-to-work deal followed extensive negotiations between the union and Governor George Nitemba's administration, brokered by County Labour Officer Toffick Nalanyia.

Mr Cheruiyot said the agreement also includes full payment of remuneration arrears, including uniform and risk allowances, to be paid in three phases of Sh5,000 per year. The nurses also accepted an offer of Sh10,000 as Nursing Services Allowance to be paid over three years and a Sh1,150 top-up to their risk allowance.

Further, the administration pledged to remit all third-party deductions by the 9th of every month and assured that no disciplinary action would be taken against any of the nurses who participated in the strike.

But while the agreement marks progress, it comes amid mounting fiscal challenges for the county. As of yesterday, county workers had not received salaries for two consecutive months.

A senior county official revealed that the administration is struggling to comply with the Controller of Budget guidelines to ensure the timely disbursement of funds.

Constrained Counties are struggling to finance operations and pay employees on time

Senators criticise Treasury over delayed county funds

Disbursements to counties are delayed despite existence of agreed-on schedule

BY COLLINS OMULO

A major clash is looming between the National Treasury and senators over delays in the disbursement of the Sh415 billion equitable revenue share meant for counties.

The standoff comes at a time when devolved units are grappling with cash flow problems, with the last disbursement made in August.

President William Ruto had pledged to end the problem of delayed funds, which was a hallmark of his predecessor's administration. But senators now accuse his government of paying lip service, with Treasury starving counties of cash and forcing governors to resort to expensive commercial loans to keep operations running.

Mombasa Senator Mohamed Faki faulted Treasury Cabinet Secretary John Mbadi's office for failing to adhere to the disbursement

schedule approved by the Senate. He said instead of releasing funds by the 15th day of every month, as required by law, the Treasury has pegged transfers on the performance of national revenue collection, which he termed an "escape route" to underfund counties.

According to Mr Faki, counties' equitable share amounts to less than 15 per cent of the national revenue and is therefore too small to be affected by monthly shortfalls.

"In the financial year ended June 30, 2025, about 42 per cent of counties' equitable share was only released in the fourth quarter between April and June. This back-loading of disbursement slows down county budget implementation, as resources arrive at the tail end of the financial year," he said.

The Constitution provides that county revenue should be stable and predictable, and that the

transfers from the national government must be made without undue delay or deductions. Similarly, the Public Finance Management Act obligates Treasury to release funds to counties at the start of every month, and no later than the 15th day.

Kericho Senator Aaron Cheruiyot said that the disbursement schedule, introduced in 2016, was meant to curb a trend where Treasury would lump outstanding payments towards the end of the financial year, leaving counties scrambling to spend before June 30.

You never hear of salaries being delayed in the national government. But in counties, workers go for months without pay

Senator Godfrey Osotsi



"The Constitution already divides these funds between national and county governments. Yet up to now, we still push, issue statements and even threaten through the Council of Governors for Treasury to release what is due," Mr Cheruiyot said.

Vihiga Senator Godfrey Osotsi argued that delayed funding undermines county planning and staff welfare.

"You never hear of salaries being delayed in the national government. But in counties, workers go for months without pay," said the ODM deputy party leader.

He called for the creation of a dedicated department at Treasury to handle county financing, saying that the ministry currently operates at the whims of the national executive.

Nairobi Senator Edwin Sifuna said Treasury does not treat county funds as a priority and suggested releasing them at the beginning of each quarter to give counties a three-month window for planning.

"The last disbursement counties received was for July. If the disbursement schedule was

meant to tie Treasury's hands and ensure predictability, why is it never respected?" Mr Sifuna asked.

Kakamega Senator Boni Khalwale demanded accountability from Treasury in cases of non-compliance, dismissing the revenue shortfalls justification for delays.

"The excuse that releases depend on Kenya Revenue Authority collections cannot fly. Counties' share—Sh415 billion—is negligible in a Sh4 trillion economy," Dr Khalwale said.

Narok Senator Ledama Olekina decried the humiliating situation where counties queue daily at Treasury for funds, with some forced to borrow from commercial banks at high interest rates.

"This is a shoddy way of managing resources. By delaying funds, we incubate corruption, as county treasurers decide who gets paid and who doesn't," he warned.

He added that in some counties, staff have gone unpaid for two to three months, crippling services and exposing suppliers to property auctions due to unpaid bills.

Bumper harvest drives tomato prices down in Nakuru



Tomato traders at Wakulima Market, Nakuru, sort produce from Ukambani and Loitoktok yesterday. A glut has pushed crate prices down to between Sh1,800 and Sh3,000 from last week's Sh4,500–Sh6,000. BONIFACE MWANGI | NATION

Graft suspected in Kajiado revenue drop

BY COLLINS OMULO

Senators have warned Kajiado Governor Joseph Ole Lenku he risks a date with the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission if his administration does not stem revenue collection leakages running into millions.

The Senate County Public Accounts Committee accused the second term governor of running the county government like a "village kiosk".

The problem was laid bare in a Receiver of Revenue report for the financial year ending June 30, 2024 where drop in revenue collection was recorded in various streams, including conservancy administration (Sh33 million), advertising (Sh17 million), cess (Sh6 million) and parking fees (Sh5 million).

This is after it emerged that some rogue county officials have allegedly set up their own Pay-bills that they use to siphon revenue from the county government.

MOTOR WEDNESDAY



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PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions received from our clients, the Chargees, in exercise of "Chargees Statutory Power of Sale", we shall sell by Public Auction the property described herein-below together with all the developments and improvements erected thereon:-

ON THURSDAY 23RD OCTOBER 2025 AT 11.00A.M AT OUR OFFICES SITUATED AT NACICO PLAZA, 5TH FLOOR, ROOM 514, ALONG LANDHIES ROAD, NAIROBI

All that Freehold Interest parcel of land known as **LR No. Muguga/Gitaru/3185, Kiambu County**, measuring **0.0465Ha** or **0.115 Acres** approximately and registered **i.n.o Tenacity Capital Ltd** of P.O. Box **3686-00625, Nairobi**. The subject property is situated **within Rungiri Area, Gitaru**, approximately 295mtrs off Nairobi-Nakuru Highway, 915mtrs from Rungiri Primary School and approximately 1.7kms from Gitaru Market. **Coordinates are: 1°14'32.7"S, 36°40'49.3"E**. Mains electricity and piped water are available for connection from the neighbourhood. Foul drainage will be into a septic tank/pit latrine. Access road is earth surfaced. **This is a very prime vacant residential property ready for developments.**

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- All prospective purchasers are hereby requested to view and verify for themselves all the necessary details pertaining to the above named property as the same are not warranted either by the Auctioneers or their Principals.
- A deposit of **twenty-five percent (25%)** of the purchase price must be paid either by **Bankers Cheque** or **RTGS** only at the fall of the hammer and balance directly to our principals within **Ninety (90) days** from the date of sale failure to which any money received including the Deposit will be forfeited absolutely. **[Certificate of Sale and Memorandum of Sale] for the completion of the purchase.**
- Prospective bidders are hereby requested to obtain a bidding number prior to the date of sale by depositing with us a refundable deposit of **Kshs. 100,000/=** in form of **Bankers Cheque** only to enable them participate in the sale. **Note:** There will be no bidding whatsoever without a Bidding number. **Further, the said bidding security is Non-refundable to any Successful Bidder who fails to raise the deposit at the fall of the hammer.**
- The sale is subject to a **Reserve Price** and other necessary consents.
- Further details herein such as encumbrances, rates etc. can be obtained from our offices while pointing out can be done during normal office hours.



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PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our principals /financers, we shall sell by public auction the undermentioned motor vehicle on the **9TH October, 2025 at Chekup Limited, Nairobi** starting at **10:30 A.M**

REG NO	Y.O.M	MAKE/MODEL	YARD
KDT 712J	2018	SUZUKI ALTO	CHEKUP LIMITED

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- Sale is subject to reasonable reserve price
- Sale is on AS-IS-WHERE-BASIS and subject to reserve price
- Strictly at the fall of the hammer

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Mombasa Branch: Social Security House, Southern Wing, 10th Floor

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions received from the chargee, we shall sell by public auction the under mentioned property on **2nd October 2025** at our **Mombasa offices, Social Security House, Southern Wing, 10th Floor**, starting at **11:00 a.m.**

A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY WITHIN MAJENGO AREA OF MOMBASA ISLAND, MOMBASA COUNTY



All that property known as **TITLE NO. MOMBASA/BLOCK XII/402 MAJENGO AREA, MOMBASA ISLAND, MOMBASA COUNTY**, measuring **0.0128 Ha**. The property is situated within Majengo Area of Mombasa Island, Mombasa County. It is situated approximately 45 metres off and to the East of Lumumba Road, deviating to the immediate North of Kingorani junction / Lumumba and Ronald Ngala Roads junction. The property lies on GPS coordinates **4°02'51.5" S and 39°39'29.6" E**. Tenure is **Freehold interest** registered in the name of **AHMED HABIB MOHAMED g/t KIZINGO PALMS APARTMENTS LIMITED**. The property is developed with a five-storey block of flats comprising of 1 No. three-bedrooms (master ensuite) flat on each floor. Main services electricity and water are connected to the property. Foul drainage is into a septic tank and soak pit.

CONDITION OF SALES

- All the interested purchasers are requested to view the property and verify the details for themselves as these are not warranted by neither the auctioneer nor the Chargees
- A deposit of 10% of the sale price must be paid in cash as banker's cheque or RTGS during the day of the auction and balance paid within 90 days to the chargee/chargee advocates
- A deposit by way of a bankers cheque in the name of **DALALI TRADERS AUCTIONEERS** of **Kshs. 500,000/=** will be required to enable one to obtain a bidding number and be allowed to bid. The deposit is refundable in case one will not be successful, but the same will be forfeited if one makes a bid and it is confirmed and fails to pay the required 10% deposit
- The sale is subject to a reserve price and other requisite consents.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Physical and Land Use Planning Act No. 13 of 2019

NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED RENEWAL OF LEASE

Notice is hereby given that the registered owner of L.R No, 1870/X/72 (Org55/2), Located in Westlands Sub-County, Consolata Area, Off Waiyaki Way, Nairobi City County, Proposes to renew lease subject to approval by Nairobi City County Government,

Individuals, institutions or organisations etc, with objections or comments to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within 14 days of publication of this notice to.

**The County Executive Member for Built Environment and Urban Planning
Nairobi City County Government
P.O BOX 30075-00100 Nairobi.**

Reg. Physical Planner : Joyce K. Kariuki (RPP NO. 0085)



FORTUNE AUCTIONEERS

AUCTIONEERS, REPOSSESSORS, INVESTIGATORS,
DEBT COLLECTORS & COMMISSION AGENTS.

GATAKINI (II) HOUSE, 2ND FLOOR, ROOM 213, P.O BOX 21941-00100, NAIROBI
CELL: 0727145535 EMAIL: FORTUNEAUCTIONEERS18@GMAIL.COM

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under Instructions received from our principals the chargees in the exercise of statutory power to sell we shall sell by public auction the under mentioned properties together with all Improvements erected thereon:-

AGRICULTURAL PROPERTIES AT KANUNGA AREA-KIGORO IN MURANGA COUNTY-ON FRIDAY 17TH OCTOBER 2025-AT CHADOR AUCTIONEERS OFFICES -COMMERCIAL STREET -THIKA BUSINESS CENTRE (NAIVAS BUILDING)5TH FLOOR OPPOSITE THIKA EQUITY BANK- AT 11.30 AM.

- All that piece of land known as **TITLE.NO.LOC.16/KIGORO/1707** Registered in the name of **EDWARD N.KAGIRA P.O BOX 196-00100, THIKA**, measuring 0.20Ha or 0.5Acre approximately. It is situated in Kanunga Sub-Location, Kanunga Location, Kigoro-Division, Gatanga in Muranga County.GPS coordinates are-**0.830197,36.883100**.The property is vacant.,Mains water and electricity are readily available for connection in the neighbourhood ,foul drainage is into a pit latrine. Tenure of the property is on freehold interest.
- All that piece of land known as **TITLE.NO.LOC.16/KIGORO/1710** Registered in the name of **EDWARD N.KAGIRA P.O BOX 196-00100, THIKA**, measuring 2.26Ha or 2.584Acre approximately. It is situated in Kanunga Sub-Location, Kanunga Location, Kigoro-Division, Gatanga in Muranga County.Its neighbour Kanunga Primary School.GPS coordinates are-**0.829250,36.882639**.The property is developed with temporary structures and is under tea bushes.Mains water and electricity are readily available for connection in the neighbourhood ,foul drainage is into a pit latrine. Tenure of the property is on freehold interest.

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- All intending purchasers are requested to verify the details for themselves.
- A refundable deposit of Ksh 100,000.00 to obtain bidding prior to auction.
- A deposit of 25% for properties of the sale price in cash or banker cheque at the fall of hammer and the balance paid within 90 days to the charge.
- 4. Sale is subjected to reserve price.

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA
IN THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE'S COURT OF KENYA
AT KITALE
CIVIL CASE NO. E256 OF 2021**

**BENARD NYONGESA KHAEMBA.....PLAINTIFF
-VERSUS-
PETER MBURU GITAU.....DEFENDANT**

Dated at ELDORET this.....29th day of...
September.....2025.

**M/S KOMM ADVOCATES
FOR THE DEFENDANT/RESPONDENT**

HEARING NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that the above suit shall come up for **Hearing on 6th November, 2025**, at 9.00 O'clock in the forenoon or as soon thereafter as the suit can be heard at Kitale Law Courts.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if no appearance is made on behalf of yourself, your advocates, or by someone in law duly authorized to act for you, the same will be heard and such directions and orders given, your absence notwithstanding.

DRAWN AND FILED BY
M/s KOMM Advocates
Santuri Court, 1st Floor, Kenyatta Street
P.O. Box 8575-30100, ELDORET
EMAIL: info@komm.co.ke

TO BE SERVED UPON:
BENARD NYONGESA KHAEMBA
BODA BODA RIDER
SINENDET, KITALE
TRANZOIA COUNTY.

International

Republican, Democrat tussle over budget risks shutdown

WASHINGTON, MONDAY

With US government funding due to expire at midnight on Tuesday, Republicans and Democrats in Congress are showing no signs they will agree to a temporary spending fix that would avert a shutdown.

President Donald Trump will convene a meeting with congressional leaders at the White House on Monday in a last-ditch attempt to end the standoff. But Democrats have signalled they are not willing to simply sign off on the short-term funding plan Republicans support without some accommodations.

If Congress does not act, thousands of federal government workers could be furloughed, from NASA to the national parks, and a wide range of services would be disrupted. Federal courts might have to close and grants for small businesses could be delayed.

Temporary funding

This is a fight over more than temporary funding, however. It is the continuation of a battle that has been brewing since Trump took office in January and refused to spend billions of dollars that Congress had already approved.

Democrats aim to use the threat of a shutdown to restore some of that funding and shore up healthcare subsidies due to expire at the end of the year.

At stake is \$1.7 trillion in "discretionary" spending that funds agency operations, which will lapse at the end of the fiscal year on Tuesday if Congress does not extend it.

That amounts to roughly one-quarter of the government's total \$7 trillion budget, with much of the remainder going to health and retirement programmes and interest payments on the \$37.5 trillion debt.

The spotlight will be on Trump, a Republican who has blamed Democrats for the impasse, and Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer, who will have to keep his rank-and-file in line in order to attain his party's goals.

The Republican-controlled House of Representatives narrowly passed a bill on September 19 to keep government agencies funded through November 21. The Senate, where 60 votes were required to approve the measure, promptly defeated it. (Reuters)

Toll More than 66,000 Palestinians have been killed in Israel's assault since October 2023

Israel's war machinery roars on as Trump, Netanyahu talks loom

Israel says it will not stop unless Hamas frees all hostages and lays down its weapons permanently

CAIRO/JERUSALEM, MONDAY

Israeli tanks thrust closer to the heart of Gaza City on Monday in the hours before Donald Trump was due to host Benjamin Netanyahu at the White House, where the US president has promised "SOMETHING SPECIAL" in his latest bid to end the war.

After nearly two years of failed diplomacy, Washington presented a 21-point plan to Arab and Muslim states last week that calls for a permanent ceasefire and the release of remaining hostages, and Trump said he believed a deal was close.

"We have a real chance for GREATNESS IN THE MIDDLE EAST," he wrote on social media on Sunday on the eve of his meeting with Netanyahu. "ALL ARE ON BOARD FOR SOMETHING SPECIAL, FIRST TIME EVER. WE WILL GET IT DONE!!!"

Though Netanyahu praises Trump as Israel's closest ally, there are signs of Israeli scepticism over the proposal, as well as some reservations among Arab states.

A source familiar with the discussions said Israeli officials had raised concerns with Washington over issues including the proposed involvement of Palestinian security forces in Gaza after the war, expelling Hamas officials from the enclave and assigning overall security responsibility. Sources in Egypt, which has acted as a mediator in ceasefire talks, said Cairo was concerned that the internationally recognised Palestinian Authority not be sidelined from administering Gaza, and about guarantees Israel would abide by any agreement's terms once hostages are freed. Meanwhile, there was no let-up on the ground, where Israel has launched one of its biggest offensives of the war this month, an all-out assault on Gaza City, where Netanyahu says he aims to wipe out Hamas in its final redoubts.

Huda, a woman sheltering in Deir Al Balah south of Gaza City with two children, said by phone she was worried Trump's latest peace plan was "going to be another



Leaflets dropped by Israeli forces ordering Gaza City residents to evacuate drift across damaged buildings as children collect them yesterday. PHOTO | REUTERS

disappointment. Trump has made promises in the past that all turned out to be fiction." Abu Abdallah, sheltering with nearly two dozen family members in tents along the Gaza City coast, said the family was waiting until after the White House meeting before deciding whether to flee south.

"It is either peace or Gaza City would be wiped out, just like Rafah was," he said, referring to a southern city that Israel completely flattened earlier in the war. The assault on Gaza City has worsened a dire humanitarian crisis that has increased Israel's international isolation. Several Western countries including Britain and France have recognised Palestinian independence, defying Israeli objections.

Israeli tanks advanced on Monday to within a few hundred metres from Gaza City's main Al Shifa Hospital, where doctors say hundreds of patients are still being treated despite Israeli orders to leave.

Health officials said tanks had also surrounded the area around nearby Al Helo hospital, housing 90 patients including 12 babies in incubators. Medics said it was shelled overnight.

Israel has said it will not halt fighting unless Hamas frees all hostages and perma-

The stakes are too high, and our families have waited too long for any interference to derail this progress.

Hostages Families Forum



nently surrenders its weapons.

Hamas says it is willing to free its hostages in return for an end to the war, but will not give up its arms as long as Palestinians are still fighting for a state. It has said it has yet to be shown any new US peace proposal. Hamas-led fighters precipitated the war nearly two years ago, killing around 1,200 people and capturing 251 hostages in an attack on Israel. More than 66,000 Palestinians have since been killed in Israel's assault, according to Gaza health authorities.

In Israel's latest offensive, troops have flattened Gaza City neighbourhoods, dynamiting buildings which they said were

used by Hamas. Hundreds of thousands of residents have fled, though many say there is nowhere to go. Israel has told them to head south, where other cities have already been razed.

The military said in a Monday statement it was continuing to target militant groups. Medics said the military had killed at least 18 people across Gaza on Monday, most of them in Gaza City.

Previous ceasefire efforts backed by the US have fallen apart due to a failure to bridge the gaps between Israel and Hamas. Netanyahu's far-right allies in the Israeli government want the war to continue until Hamas has been defeated. But the Gaza City offensive is also a source of domestic Israeli political tension, with families of hostages saying it is time to seek a peace deal to bring their loved ones home.

The Hostages Families Forum, representing many relatives of those held captive in Gaza, sent a letter to Trump ahead of his meeting with Netanyahu, urging him not to let anyone sabotage the deal he is putting forward to end the war.

"The stakes are too high, and our families have waited too long for any interference to derail this progress," they wrote. (Reuters)

Zelenskiy proposes joint aerial shield with allies

WARSAW, MONDAY

Ukraine has offered to build a joint aerial defence shield with its allies to protect against threats from Russia, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said on Monday, after a series of airspace incursions that caused alarm on NATO's eastern flank.

NATO leaders have said that Russia has been testing the alliance's readiness and resolve with airspace incursions in Poland

and the Baltic states, and Kyiv says its experience in dealing with aerial threats would be valuable.

"Ukraine proposes to Poland and all our partners to build a joint, fully reliable shield against Russian aerial threats," he said in an address to the Warsaw Security Forum delivered via video link.

"This is possible. Ukraine can counter all kinds of Russian drones and missiles and if we act together in the region we will have enough weapons and production ca-

capacity." Ukraine has already said that its troops and engineers will train their Polish counterparts on countering drones.

The topic of defence cooperation with Kyiv was high on the agenda as leaders gathered in Warsaw for the annual security forum. German Defence Minister Boris Pistorius told the conference that "Europe's and Ukraine's defence industry must work together more closely and effectively". "The European Union must back this by providing a much more flex-

ible regulatory framework for the defence industry in Europe." Following the Russian incursions into NATO airspace, countries on the alliance's eastern flank have agreed on the need for a "drone wall" with advanced detection, tracking and interception capabilities.

However, Pistorius warned that establishing this would not be a quick process. "We need to prioritise, and recognise that we require more capabilities and capacities than previously described." (Reuters)

Business



5,476

Accounts counties had with commercial banks as of June 2025

Company unveils Sh19bn EV plant in Naivasha

BY FRANCIS MUREITHI

A Kenyan firm, Aquilastar Corporate Investment, backed by a United Arab Emirates (UAE) investor, has broken ground for a Sh19.37 billion (\$150 million) electric vehicle (EV) assembly and accessories plant within an industrial park established by the Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen) in Olkaria, Naivasha.

Aquilastar aims to produce 50,000 EV units annually and create 13,000 direct and indirect jobs through the plant with financial backing of the UAE conglomerate, Alsayegh Group, which has interests in the fields of technology, financial services, education, automotive, and oil and gas.

"For Aquilastar, Olkaria is more than a factory site—it is the launch pad of a new mobility future for Kenya, Africa, and the world," Abdulatif Alsayegh, chairman of Aquilastar, said during a groundbreaking event in Olkaria at the weekend.

The EV plants will sit within KenGen's Green Energy Park, which straddles 845 acres of land at the Olkaria geothermal field in Naivasha. The park is set to host industrial and non-industrial activities such as offices, data centres, research and development centres, hospitality, visitor experience centres, as well as administrative and commercial uses.

Mr Alsayegh said the plant would produce up to 50,000 units annually, directly employing 3,000 Kenyans and creating another 10,000 indirect jobs while nurturing a local supply chain for EV accessories.

Aquilastar Managing Director and CEO, Barbara Modani Alwena, said that EV adoption presents Kenya with an economic opportunity to reduce dependence on fossil fuel imports, which currently cost the country between Sh600 billion and Sh700 billion annually.

Stakeholders discuss investment in tourism sector



Tourism Cabinet Secretary Rebecca Miano (centre) and Investment Promotion PS Abubakar Hassan (right) join other government officials during the Kenya Coast Tourism Investment Conference 2025 at Sarova Whitesands Beach Resort, Mombasa, yesterday.

KEVIN ODIT | NATION

BRIEFLY

FINANCIALS

SKL issues profit warning on debt

Recently listed packaging materials manufacturer Shri Krishana Overseas Limited (SKL) has issued a profit warning for its full year after it recorded a 70.4 per cent drop in earnings in the six months ended June 2025. SKL reported a net profit of Sh2 million in the half year period, down from Sh6.8 million a year earlier. The drop was attributed to a 53.5 per cent jump in finance costs following an uptake of new loans. George Ngigi

BANKING

Diamond Trust expands with 90th Kenya branch

Diamond Trust Bank (DTB) has opened a new branch in Kilimani, Nairobi, marking its 90th branch in Kenya and its 159th in East Africa. "Kilimani is a vibrant business and residential hub, and we are excited to provide innovative solutions that meet the evolving needs of professionals, entrepreneurs, and corporates here," said George Otiende, director of retail banking at DTB. Linet Owoko

RECEIVERSHIP

United Insurance to be liquidated after 20 years under

The process of selling the assets of United Insurance to pay creditors, including lenders and policyholders, has finally taken off 20 years after the insurer was placed under receivership. Kamal Anantroy Bhatt, the court-appointed administrator of United Insurance, has invited all the creditors of the insurer to lodge their claims, the clearest intent to finally wind up the company and ending a protracted court process that High Court judge Alfred Mabeya described as a "classic case on how litigation should not be in this country". Dominic Omondi

Accountability Opaque use of taxpayers' funds creates room for abuse

Nyakang'o gets access to counties' bank accounts

County Public Finance Laws Act 2025 mandates CoB to monitor spending

BY JOHN MUTUA

Controller of Budget Margaret Nyakang'o has been granted access to the thousands of accounts that counties have opened with commercial banks, boosting efforts to curb abuse of funds.

This follows the gazettment of the County Public Finance Laws (Amendment) Act 2025, where the budget controller will now be able to monitor cash inflows and outflows, allowing for the flagging of suspicious transactions.

Counties had 5,476 accounts with commercial banks as of June 2025, which was more than double the 2,028 a year earlier. The sharp surge in the number of accounts has raised concerns that they may be abused

to swindle taxpayer funds away from the scrutiny of the Controller of Budget office.

The Public Finance Management (County Governments) Regulations, 2015, stipulate that county bank accounts must be opened and maintained at the Central Bank of Kenya. The accounts held in commercial banks are used for county-established funds, salary processing, and operations.

"The Controller of Budget shall have viewer rights access to all bank accounts maintained by the county executive, county assembly, and all other county government entities," reads the amended Act in part.

The 47 counties are grappling with opaque use of taxpayers' cash amid concerns that rogue officials are siphoning the mon-

THE FIGURE

558

The number of commercial bank accounts that Homa Bay County has

ey largely using the commercial bank accounts.

Low levels of transparency in the use of cash have exacerbated the cash flow woes that have paralysed critical operations such as healthcare.

Dr Nyakang'o has, in recent times, intensified calls to have the multiple commercial bank accounts of the counties kept in check.

She says her office will sparingly monitor the accounts, adding that the changes to the Act are a deterrent on their own.

"Now we shall be able to see the statements as long as pub-

lic funds have passed through them. We shall view on a need basis. But knowing that we can view is a deterrent on its own, so it is a good thing," Dr Nyakang'o said yesterday.

Homa Bay County leads with 558 commercial bank accounts, followed by Kitui at 350, Nakuru at 311, Bungoma (301), and Baringo (280).

Counties are required by law to seek approval from the CoB's office before opening these bank accounts, a requirement that they had breached.

The Public Finance Management (County Governments) Regulations, 2015 bar counties from operating accounts at commercial banks, except for revenue collection and petty cash.

Besides Dr Nyakang'o's office, the Auditor General, Nancy Gathungu, has also questioned the thousands of commercial bank accounts.

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Stocks

NAIROBI SECURITIES EXCHANGE

Last 12 Mths	Security	Prices			Shares
		High	Low	Yesterday	

AGRICULTURAL

23.00	10.00	Easgads Ord 1.25	20.20	20.00	4.570
440.00	240.00	Kakuzi Plc Ord 5.00	413.50	413.50	75
357.75	81.00	Kapchoruar Tea Kenya Plc Ord	334.00	327.00	1,943
430.00	320.00	The Limuru Tea Co. Ord 20.00	380.00	376.00	244
32.60	13.60	Sasini Ltd Ord 1.00	18.80	18.90	3,653
289.00	120.00	Williamson Tea Kenya Plc Ord 500	264.50	248.25	5,922

AUTOMOBILES & ACCESSORIES

49.00	18.50	Car & General (K) Ord 5.00	38.45	35.40	9,496
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BANKING

23.75	10.00	ABSA Bank Ord 0.50	20.75	20.60	316,205
42.00	26.50	BK Group Ord 0.80	38.25	38.60	1,409
109.25	43.05	Diamond Trust Bank Ord 4.00	104.25	104.50	4,963
58.75	33.70	Equity Group Holdings Ord 0.50	57.75	58.00	55,873
11.30	2.80	HF Group Plc Ord 5.00	10.45	10.80	75,127
44.80	15.80	I&M Group Ord 1.00	43.00	42.95	34,687
58.00	15.00	KCB Group Ord 1.00	56.75	57.00	172,002
75.00	28.50	NCBA Group Ord 5.00	69.25	69.00	6,060
190.00	90.00	Stanbic Holdings Ord 5.00	184.25	183.25	54,837
347.50	134.00	Standard Chartered Bank Kenya Ord 5.00	284.75	285.00	43,472
21.55	10.10	The Co-op Bank of Kenya Ord 1.00	20.95	21.15	688,465

COMMERCIAL & SERVICES

0.45	0.45	Deacons (East Africa) Ord 2.50		0.45	
1.88	0.59	Eveready EA Ord 1.00	1.41	1.42	39,101
10.00	2.70	Express Kenya Ord 5.00	7.24	7.82	2,874
4.66	4.66	Homeboyz Entertainment Plc Ord 0.50		4.66	
9.18	3.65	Kenya Airways Ord 1.00	3.97	3.99	195,091
3.46	2.00	Longhorn Publishers Ord 1.00	2.99	3.01	10,015
5.00	1.58	Nairobi Business Ventures Ord 1.00	1.62	1.61	140,257
22.40	10.60	Nation Media Group Plc Ord 2.50	13.10	13.80	5,696
17.00	1.80	Sameer Africa Plc Ord 5.00	15.70	15.70	224,081
10.80	4.50	Standard Group Ord 5.00	5.98	5.54	1,190
18.70	10.85	TPS Eastern Africa Ord 1.00	15.35	15.45	3,108
0.41	0.16	Uchumi Supermarket Ord 5.00	0.37	0.34	100,481
3.95	1.80	WPP ScanGroup PLC Ord 1.00	2.98	2.82	29,472

CONSTRUCTION & ALLIED

5.55	5.55	ARM Cement Ord 1.00		5.55	
84.00	21.30	Bamburi Cement Ltd Ord 5.00		54.00	
62.00	29.00	Crown Paints Kenya Ord 0.50	57.50	57.00	660
3.27	0.72	E. A. Cables Ord 0.50		1.71	
64.25	4.38	E.A. Portland Cement Ord 5.00	59.25	59.50	7,096

ENERGY & PETROLEUM

10.40	1.94	KenGen Ord 2.50	8.72	8.82	1,325,615
14.90	1.30	KP & LC Co Plc Ord 250	13.75	13.95	1,485,674
4.20	4.00	KP & LC Plc 4% Pref. 20.00		4.51	
6.00	6.00	KP & LC Plc 7% Pref. 20.00		6.00	
39.90	14.55	TotalEnergies Marketing Kenya Ord 5.00	34.40	32.15	1,526
24.75	6.30	Umeme Ltd Ord 0.50	7.94	7.62	212,250

INSURANCE

9.28	4.01	Britam Holdings Ord 0.10	8.86	8.94	39,629
5.50	1.60	CIC Insurance Group Ord 1.00	4.96	4.91	132,539
320.00	142.00	Jubilee Holdings Ord 5.00	315.00	320.25	415
3.77	1.05	Kenya Re Insurance Ord 2.50	3.16	3.18	2,280,701
12.20	3.30	Liberty Kenya Holdings Ord 1.00	10.95	10.85	3,717
11.00	4.00	Sanlam Kenya Ord 5.00	8.94	8.92	5,613

INVESTMENT

16.50	7.60	Centum Investment Co Ord 0.50	15.15	15.15	37,798
1.36	0.27	Home Afrika Ltd Ord 1.00	1.32	1.22	3,608,711
1,500	1,500	Kurwitu Ventures Ltd Ord 100.00		1,500.00	
7.12	1.91	Olympia Capital Holdings Ltd Ord 5.00	5.82	5.68	898
1.78	0.29	Trans-Century Plc Ord 0.50		1.12	

INVESTMENT SERVICES

16.50	5.22	Nairobi Securities Exchange Ord 4.00	14.95		14.05	172,357
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MANUFACTURING & ALLIED

130.00	65.00	B.O.C Kenya Group Co Ord 5.00	122.00	123.75	357	
495.00	325.00	British American Tobacco Kenya Ord 10.00	428.00	428.00	6,350	
27.05	11.00	Carbacid Investments Ord 1.00	25.35	25.35	39,911	
244.00	100.00	East African Breweries Ord 1.00	214.00	215.00	102,031	
2.33	0.86	Flame Tree Group Holdings Ord 0.825	1.68		1.61	34,545
80.00	10.40	Africa Mega Agricorp Ord 5.00			65.00	
0.27	0.27	Mumias Sugar Co. Ord 2.00			0.27	
31.00	12.00	Unga Group Co. Ord 5.00	24.90		24.25	10,980
8.56	5.90	Shri Krishana Overseas Plc 0.20	8.08	8.22	242,005	

TELECOMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY

31.00	11.50	Safaricom Ltd Ord 0.05	29.00	29.40	192,953
20.00	20.00	Lap trust I-Reit Co. Ord 20.00		20.00	
3330.00	1880.00	Absa New Gold ETF	4595.00	4535.00	148
761.00	761.00	Satrix MSCI World Feeder ETF	831.00	831.00	43

NSE ALL SHARE INDEX: 01st Jan 2008 -100 Up 1.21pts - 176.88 NSE 20-Dwn 14.18pts -2964.45 01st sep 2015-4101.67 Dwn 22.17pts 4612.52 NSE 20-S 1-30 Aug 2023=1000 Dwn 11.49pts -1776.86

COMMERCIAL BANK RATES

		Euro	\$	£	C\$	SF	IR	JY	ZR
ABC	buy	151.32	129.00	173.35	92.62	161.86	1.45	86.58	7.43
	sell	152.16	129.50	174.28	92.98	162.69	1.45	86.97	7.50
Absa	buy	151.34	129.15	173.35	92.70	162.04	1.45	86.68	7.45
	sell	151.83	129.35	173.87	92.90	162.70	1.45	86.93	7.47
Co-op	buy	148.68	128.50	171.08	90.77	159.85	1.41	85.73	6.52
	sell	153.86	129.50	175.48	94.52	164.69	1.58	88.95	8.38
Equity	buy	151.45	129.00	173.41	92.57	161.82	-	86.72	7.46
	sell	151.94	129.40	174.00	92.87	162.40	-	87.02	7.48
NBK	buy	151.40	129.00	173.45	92.72	162.10	1.45	86.66	7.46
	sell	151.62	129.40	176.65	92.73	162.44	1.45	86.81	7.47
KCB	buy	151.44	129.03	171.44	92.59	161.87	1.48	87.00	7.46
	sell	151.94	129.43	174.03	92.91	162.46	1.48	87.00	7.49
NCBA	buy	151.20	128.95	173.30	92.65	161.90	1.45	86.65	7.45
	sell	151.75	129.40	173.95	92.95	162.55	1.45	86.95	7.47
Stanbic	buy	151.20	129.00	173.26	92.73	162.65	1.45	86.67	7.46
	sell	151.75	129.45	173.80	93.02	162.75	1.47	86.94	7.56
Prime	buy	151.40	129.00	173.25	92.60	161.65	1.45	86.80	7.45
	sell	151.90	129.50	173.75	93.10	162.15	1.46	87.40	7.55

CBK RATES

	Exchange Rate	Swiss Franc	161.9639
US Dollar	129.2472	100 Japanese Yen	86.4125
1 Sterling Pound	173.1266	1 Swedish Kroner	13.7124
1 Euro	151.1158	1 Norwegian Kroner	13.7124
South African Rand	7.4363	1 Danish Kroner	20.2450
Ksh/USH	27.0257	1 Indian Rupee	1.4669
Ksh/TSH	18.9946	1 Hongkong Dollar	16.383
Ksh/RWF	11.2279	1 Singapore Dollar	99.9862
Ksh/BIF	23.7839	1 Saudi Riyal	34.4613
1 UAE Dirham	35.1885	1 Chinese Yuan	18.1155
1 Canadian Dollar	92.6802	1 Australian Dollar	84.5083

UNIT TRUSTS

		Daily Yield	Annual Rate
African Alliance Kenya Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	7.27%	7.52%
African Alliance Kenya Enhanced Fund	Kenya Shilling	7.72%	8.00%
Britam Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	10.34%	10.89%
Britam Money Market Fund	USD	4.48%	4.58%
Absa Shilling MMF	Kenya Shilling	7.77%	8.06%
Absa Dollar Fund MMF	USD	3.82%	3.88%
Gulfcap Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	11.55%	12.18%
Gulfcap Fixed Income Fund	Kenya Shilling	11.91%	12.59%
Gulfcap Shari'ah Fixed Income Fund	Kenya Shilling	6.93%	7.15%
Old Mutual Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	10.05%	10.51%
Old Mutual Dollar Money Market Fund	USD	4.88%	4.99%
Etica Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	11.38%	12.05%
Etica Money Market Fund	USD	5.56%	5.72%
CPF Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.70%	9.09%
Co-op Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.51%	8.88%
Co-op Bond Fund	Kenya Shilling	10.24%	10.78%
Arvocap Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	11.77%	11.31%
Arvocap Alimasi Fund	Kenya Shilling	1.35	1.36
Mayfair Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.09%	8.42%
Mayfair Fixed Income Fund	Kenya Shilling	15.67	15.67
Enwealth Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	10.57%	11.09%
CIC Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.22%	8.53%
CIC Wealth Fund	Kenya Shilling	7.00%	7.00%
CIC Dollar Fund	USD	4.60%	4.70%
Equity Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	4.97%	5.08%
Kuza Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	10.72%	11.31%
Kuza Money Market Fund	USD	5.64%	5.81%
Madison Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	10.27%	10.82%
Madison Fixed Income Fund	Kenya Shilling	11.18%	11.83%
Orient Kasha Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	10.09%	10.67%
Jubilee Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	10.27%	10.77%
Jubilee Money Market Fund	USD	4.91%	5.03%
Lofty-Corban Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	11.37%	12.06%
Lofty-Corban Money Market Fund	USD	5.00%	5.12%
Lofty-Corban Bond Fund	Kenya Shilling	13.19	13.19
Cytonn Money Market	Kenya Shilling	12.06%	12.82%
NCBA Fixed Income Fund	Kenya Shilling	7.72%	8.00%
NCBA Dollar Fixed Income Fund	USD	4.15%	4.23%
ICEA LION Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.66%	9.05%
ICEA LION Dollar Fixed Income Fund	USD	105.68	105.68
ICEA LION Fixed Income Fund	Kenya Shilling	126.47	126.47
Britam Special Fixed Income Fund (3 months)	Kenya Shilling	10.06%	10.54%
Britam Special Fixed Income Fund (6 months)	Kenya Shilling	10.08%	10.56%
Britam Special Fixed Income Fund (12 months)	Kenya Shilling	10.25%	10.75%
Sanlam Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	9.02%	9.44%
Sanlam US Dollar Fund	USD	4.91%	5.03%
Apollo Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	9.60%	10.07%
Genghis Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.10%	8.44%
GenAfrica Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	10.15%	10.63%
KCB Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	8.43%	8.76%
KCB Money Market Fund	USD	4.75%	4.86%
Nabo Africa Fixed Income Fund	USD	5.96%	6.14%
Nabo Africa Money Market Fund	USD	5.41%	5.56%
Nabo Africa Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	11.62%	12.32%
Nabo Africa Fixed Income Fund	Kenya Shilling	11.80%	12.28%
Dry Associates Money Market Fund	USD	5.02%	5.14%
Dry Associates Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	9.43%	9.85%
Dry Associates Special High Yield Fund	Kenya Shilling	11.94%	13.08%
Faulu Money Market Fund	Kenya Shilling	9.50%	9

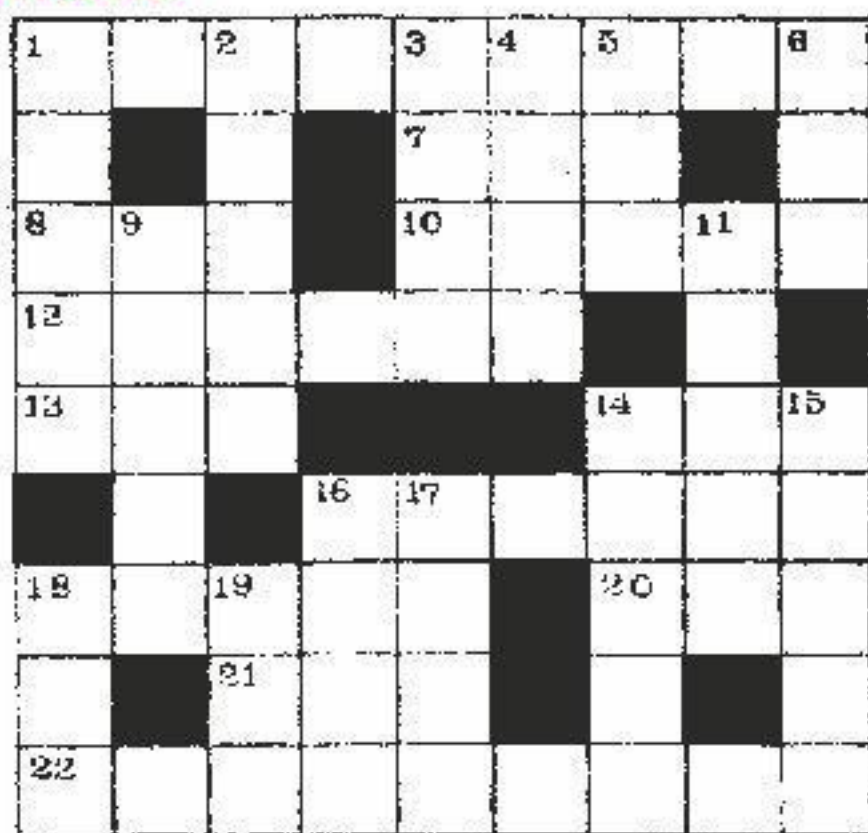
SIMPLE CROSSWORD

ACROSS:

- 1. A confusing and difficult problem or question
- 7. Before, poetically
- 8. The self
- 10. Evaluated
- 12. Rarely
- 13. Large salt water body
- 14. Chop or cut with an axe
- 16. Tropical fruit
- 18. Large round fleshy fruit of the gourd family
- 20. Sexually Transmitted Infections (abbreviation)
- 21. Consume
- 22. The 32nd president of the USA

DOWN:

- 1. Board game with pieces called queens, knights etc
- 2. Copperbelt city of Zambia
- 3. Cruel emperor in ancient Rome
- 4. A small drink of whisky
- 5. Soak hemp in water to soften it
- 6. Mentally ill
- 9. Duck-like birds
- 11. Occurrence or happening
- 14. Great speed or



- the act of hurrying
- 15. The narrowest part of the torso
- 16. Snakes that constrict prey
- 17. Stake in poker game
- 18. Damage or spoil
- 19. The 5th sign of the zodiac

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

- 1 Topical
- 7 Aloof
- 8 Molotov
- 10 Eve
- 11 Nero
- 13 Pie
- 14 Aloe
- 16 Aga
- 18 Peruses
- 20 Sieve
- 21 Netball

DOWN:

- 1 Tome
- 2 Pile
- 3 Cat
- 4 Alone
- 5 Love
- 6 Afro
- 9 Oval
- 12 Rege
- 13 Peeve
- 14 Also
- 15 Open
- 16 Asia
- 17 ASAL
- 19 Ret

SUDOKU

Enjoy the Sudoku Game Daily

Use Numbers 1-9. Sudoku is played on a grid of 9 x 9 spaces. Don't Repeat Any numbers. in the upper left square (circled in blue), this square already has 7 out of the 9 spaces filled in. Don't guess. Sudoku is a game of logic and reasoning, so you shouldn't have to guess. Use process of elimination.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

2	1	3	7	5	4	9	6	8
7	4	5	8	6	9	3	1	2
9	6	8	2	3	1	5	4	7
8	9	2	1	4	7	6	5	3
5	3	1	9	8	6	2	7	4
6	7	4	5	2	3	8	9	1
1	8	9	3	7	5	4	2	6
3	5	6	4	1	2	7	8	9
4	2	7	6	9	8	1	3	5



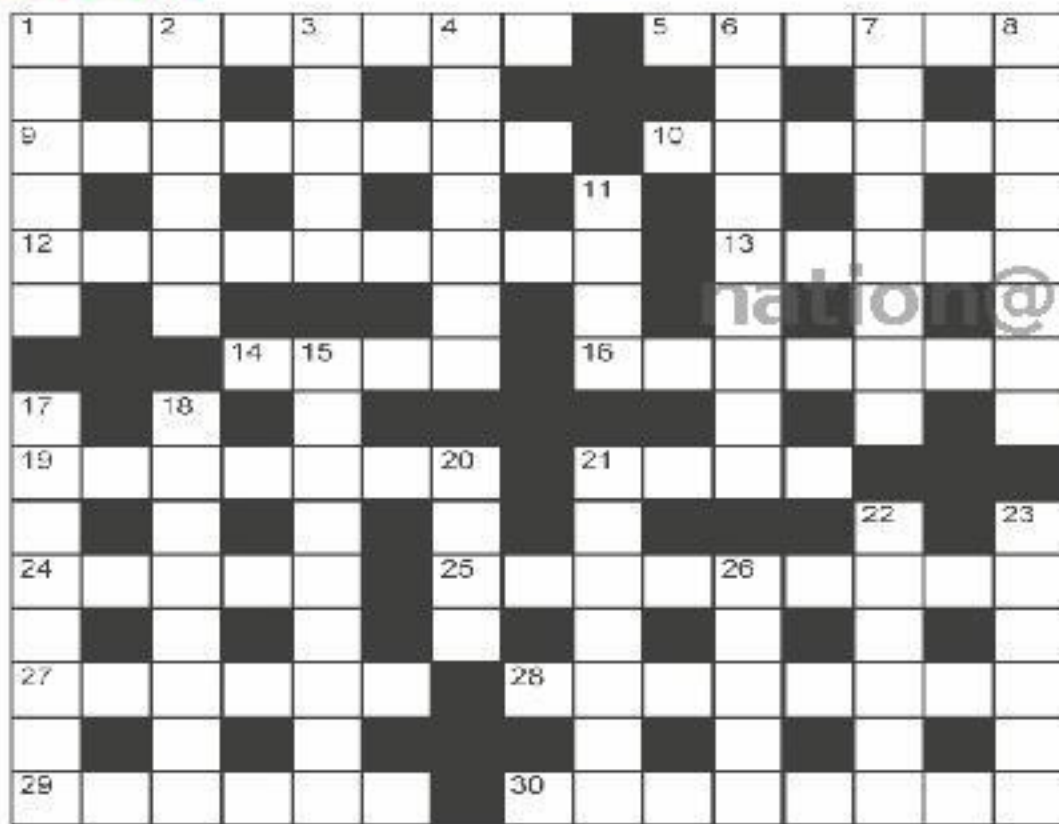
COMPLEX CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Almost no sweat in underwear for country people (8)
- 5 Takes advantage of sailors in steamship (6)
- 9 Sister maybe runs with joy (8)
- 10 Trump - gambler (6)
- 12 Thoroughly sad? Correct (9)
- 13 Flipping clever vehicles (5)
- 14 Silly person left in bed (4)
- 16 Turned calmer? I wonder (7)
- 19 Adult's in an excited state after wrong bananas (5-2)
- 21 Some niff is hardly smelt, perhaps (4)
- 24 Starts to obsess about signals in shortwave band (5)
- 25 Programme's vulgar group of actors (9)
- 27 A minor thoroughfare overseas (6)
- 28 Boss first to resign after dreadful time in company (8)
- 29 The most wonderful, unfinished ancient city (6)
- 30 Conservative holds up drink (8)

DOWN

- 1 Column standard by American editor on the up (6)
- 2 Everyone old with aches ultimately suffers (6)
- 3 Become an expert in pruning minute plant (5)
- 4 All the same temperature? Fancy! (7)



- 6 Rears cute wild animals (9)
- 7 Hypnotic state after topless men's arrival (8)
- 8 Husband comes out of shed and rests, awfully agitated (8)
- 11 Squad leaving area after I object (4)
- 15 Picture kinky lap dances (9)
- 17 I admit penning half of note in the dark (8)
- 18 Understand prisoner's loyal (8)
- 20 Places using bar stools, primarily? (4)
- 21 Rather like a creamy pudding, half-baked (7)
- 22 Upset informer regularly talked (6)
- 23 Republican entering data finches (6)
- 26 Doctor, each month, shows ambition (5)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

ACROSS

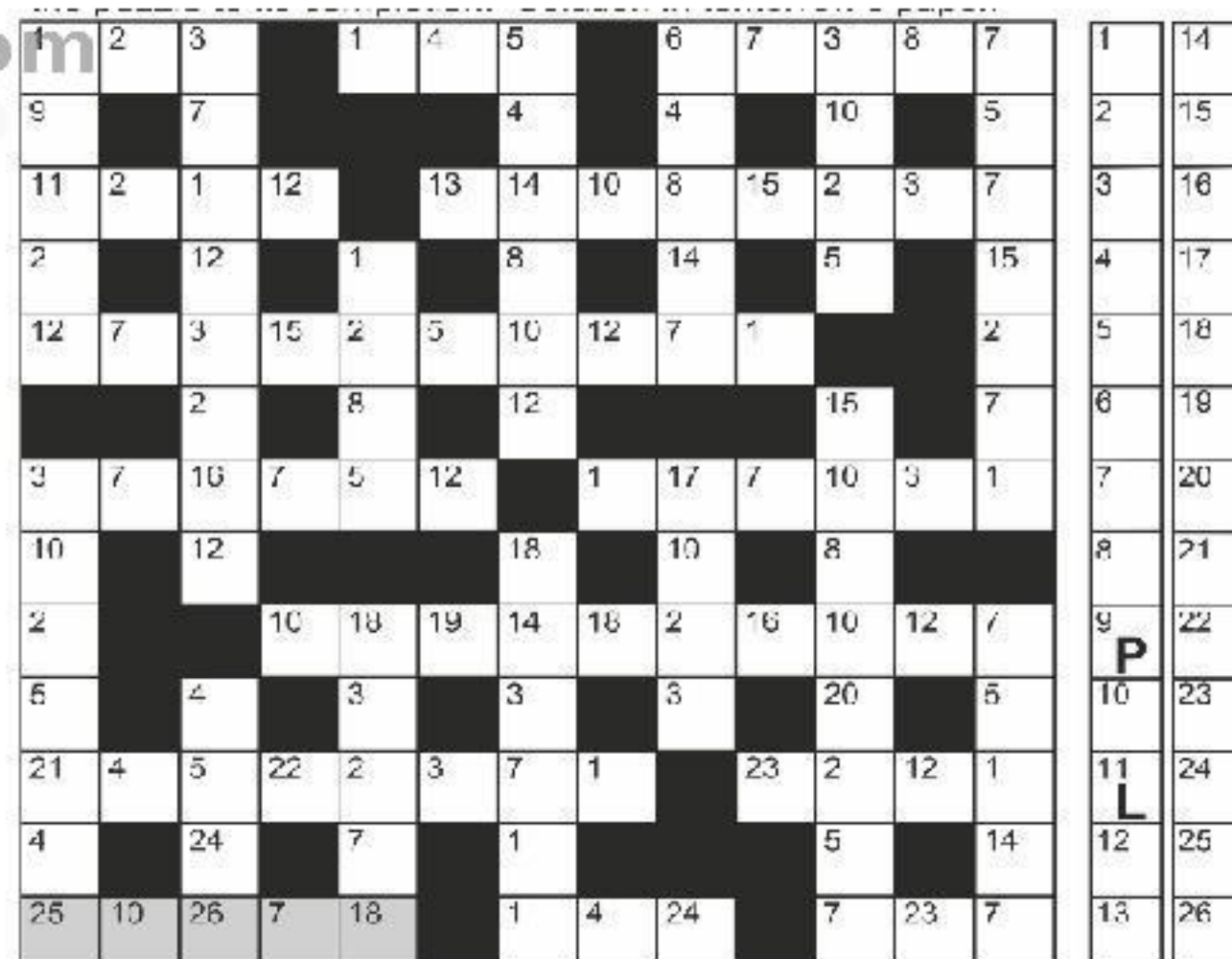
- 1 Forage cap
- 6 Picks
- 9 Ruler
- 10 Panellist
- 11 Cabinetmaker
- 14 Impress
- 16 Tiny tot
- 17 Leo
- 18 Canasta
- 20 Net gain
- 22 Clothes horse
- 26 Afterlife
- 27 Umami
- 28 Torso
- 29 Keepsakes

DOWN:

- 1 Farm
- 2 Rill
- 3 Germane
- 4 Capri
- 5 Pinkerton
- 6 Pullman
- 7 Cricket bat
- 8 Saturating
- 12 Witchcraft
- 13 Spin doctor
- 15 Slapstick
- 19 Scherzo
- 21 Tissues
- 23 Obese
- 24 Hack
- 25 Digs

CODEWORD

Each number in our Codeword grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. For example, today 9 represents P - every time the figure 9 appears in the main grid, then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you get the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and control grid. Check off the list of alphabetical letters as you identify them.



A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

1	H	2	O	3	W	4	S	5	P	6	E	7	A	8	R	9	G	10	U	11	X	12	N	13	V
14	L	15	T	16	I	17	F	18	K	19	M	20	D	21	J	22	Q	23	B	24	Z	25	Y	26	

YOUR STARS

AQUARIUS | JAN 21 - FEB 19

Are you having problems with the lighting or heating in your home, Aquarius? If so, you might not be able to get a professional out today. There could be problems in the entire neighbourhood. You might have to get out the candles and flashlights to get you through the evening.

PISCES | FEB 20 - MAR 20

Be careful of people who talk a great deal and promise the world but have a difficult time delivering the goods, Pisces. You might get trapped today if you rely on people who simply don't come through the way they said they would. Feel free to engage in social activities with partners.

ARIES (MAR 21-APR 20)

Your positive strength is especially noticeable today. You may find that you're radiating gloriously to the people around you, Aries. This is due to your polite, gentle, and peaceful

nature. You're the jewel that isn't always noticed or appreciated as much as it should be. More than likely, you leave it up to others to make the first move.

TAURUS | APR 21 - MAY 20

Dreams and visions about your family paint a rosy picture of your future. These dreams could well be prophetic, but don't jump to that conclusion without first analysing the symbols. There could be something that you need to consider before you can move ahead toward the future you want to create.

GEMINI | MAY 21 - JUNE 21

Today, you might decide to attend a social gathering held in your community that involves a lot of people who are into psychic or spiritual matters, Gemini. This should be an interesting experience for you, because you could not only glean a lot of fascinating information but also make some new friends. Keep your eyes and ears open,

CANCER | JUN 22 - JULY 22

This could be a very busy day in your community, Gemini. Some kind of rally, protest, or other public gathering might take place. If you attend, you may not hear much because of all the noise, and the event could seem disorganized at best. It could also render traffic impossible! If you can, stay home today.

LEO | JULY 23 - AUG 22

Are you unhappy or uncertain about your current profession, Leo? Are you thinking of making a change? News could reach you today of possible avenues to explore, but you shouldn't make any decision today. Your mind isn't as objective as it should be to think through everything.

VIRGO | AUG 23 - SEP 23

Making decisions today is apt to be nearly impossible for you, Virgo. That's why you should leave them up to someone else. Walk

with your partner so you don't have to really think about where you're going. Your job is to focus on the emotional side of things and make it safe for everyone to dream.

LIBRA | SEP 24 - OCT 23

This is going to be one of those days when you get annoyed if someone takes too long to make up his or her mind about something, Libra. You aren't going to have the patience to abide anyone who continues to go over every single detail of an issue. You're more likely to want to simply make a decision, for better or worse.

SCORPIO | OCT 24 - NOV 22

Use the power of words as an artistic medium to express you. You have a magic way with words that often goes unrecognized. Your sensual nature is poetic. You shouldn't deprive others of this talent, so show it off to the world. Perhaps you're moved to write a poem to a partner who means a great deal to you.

SAGITTARIUS | NOV 23 - DEC 21

Whatever you're working on at this time can be expanded tremendously with the help of a partner, especially a creative project or written work. Watch as one seed of an idea blossoms into a whole field of creativity. There is more than meets the eye as you find yourself soaring higher and higher.

CAPRICORN | DEC 22 - JAN 20

Take advantage of the light-hearted, flighty feeling of the day instead of getting annoyed by it. Well, you could, but you'd end up wasting away and no one would even notice. This is a good day to get out and have fun with friends. Make wishes for people instead of cursing them.

To receive NATIONmobile horoscopes on your mobile, SMS the Star you want, eg LEO, to 20667 at 5/- above normal rates.

Leisure

TREAT OF THE DAY



- 4:00am Aljazeera
- 5:00am Off The Hook
- 6:00am Fixing The Nation
- 10:00am Your World
- 12:00pm Flaqo
- 12:30pm Mikoba ya Demokrasia
- 1:00pm NTV Adhuhuri
- 1:30pm Sport On
- 2:30pm Kwetu Mixx
- 3:30pm I Got A Rocket
- 4:00pm Beatz and Buzz
- 6:30pm NTV Mashinani
- 7:00pm NTV Jioni
- 7:30pm Business Redefined
- 8:00pm Noma
- 8:30pm You Are The One
- 9:00pm NTV Tonight
- 9:30pm The Last Word
- 11:00pm Fixing The Nation
- 12:00am Aljazeera



THE LAST WORD 9:30PM
The Last Word- Offers bold, fact-based analysis on national issues with James Smart, Joe Ageyo, Eric Latiff, Zaha Indimuli, and Sharon Momanyi..



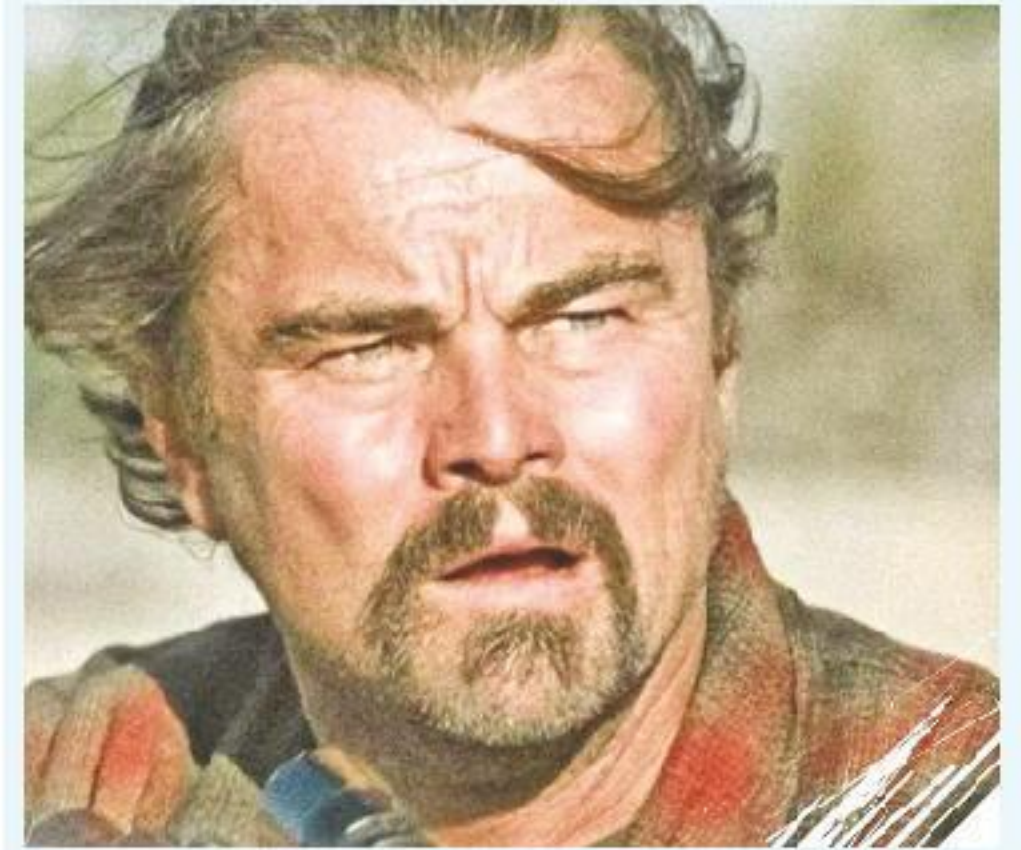
NTV JIONI 7:00PM
Evening news focused on accurate reporting, human stories, and impactful analysis of daily national events with Nicholas Wambua and his colleagues.

NOMA 8:00PM

NOMA is a gripping family drama that delves into the complexities of sibling rivalry, parental expectations, and the struggle for identity within a powerful business family. In the heart of Nairobi, the Mwamba family stands as a beacon of success, with a thriving business empire built by the patriarch, Mzee Amaan Mwamba. However, beneath the surface, the family is fractured by jealousy, unspoken desires, and the weight of expectations.

Today's highlight:
FIXING THE NATION @6:00AM
YOU ARE THE ONE @8:30PM

CINEMA GUIDE



One Battle After Another ..Now showing in cinema halls across the country.

- NAIROBI**
ANGA DIAMOND PLAZA
Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba Infinity Castle 11AM, 4:15PM, 7:10PM
Homebound 2PM, 7:20PM
Jolly 2D 11AM, 9:40PM,
One Battle After Another 2D 11AM, 4:15PM, 7:10PM, 10PM
Sanghavi and Sons 2D 2PM, 10PM
The Conjuring Last Rites 2D 1:50PM, 4:50PM
ANGA SKY CINEMA, PANARI CENTRE
Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba Infinity Castle (Subbed) 2PM, 9:10PM
One Battle After Another 2D 1:2PM, 3PM, 6PM, 9PM
The Conjuring Last Rites 2D 4:45PM
The Long Walk 2D 12PM, 7:10PM
WESTGATE CINEMA WESTGATE MALL
HOLLYWOOD TITLES- PREMIUM SCREENINGS
One Battle After Another 2D-SCRN 1,2&3(TBA) 11:15AM, 6:10PM & 9:10PM
Demon Slayer: Kimetsu No Yaiba Infinity Castle 2D-SCRN 1&2(PG) 3:40PM, 6:20PM & 9:15PM
Gabby's Doll House:the Movie 2D-SCRN 1&2(TBA) 11:00AM, 2:30PM & 4:25PM
The Long Walk 2D-SCRN 5 & 6(16) 4:40PM & 9:50PM
BOLLYWOOD TITLES- PREMIUM SCREENING
Homebound 2D-SCRN 1,3&4(PG) 11:15AM, 3:15PM, 6:35PM & 9:30PM
Jolly Lib 3 2D-SCRN 1,2&3&4(PG) 11:10AM, 3:00PM, 6:25PM & 9:05PM
HOLLYWOOD TITLES: VIP SCREENING
The Conjuring Last Rites 2D-SCRN 5(16) 11:30AM, 6:50PM & 9:25PM
The Long Walk 2D-SCRN 5 & 6(16) 4:40PM & 9:50PM
Demon Slayer: Kimetsu No Yaiba Infinity Castle 2D 2D-SCRN 6(PG) 11:20AM
One Battle After Another 2D-SCRN 6(TBA) 4:15PM
BOLLYWOOD TITLES: VIP SCREENING
Homebound 2D-SCRN 5&6(PG) 7:15PM
CENTURY CINEMAX TWO RIVERS MALL - LIMURU ROAD
Gabby's Doll House: 2D 12PM, 2PM, 4PM, 6PM, 8PM & 10PM
Superman: Legacy 11AM, 2PM & 10PM
The Fantastic Four: First Steps 2D 3D 4:30PM & 7PM
One Battle After Another 2D 1PM, 4PM, 7PM & 10PM
The Long Walk 2D 1PM, 3:15PM, 5:30PM, 7:45PM & 10PM
Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba Infinity Castle 2D- 2D 1PM, 4PM, 7PM & 10PM
The Conjuring Last Rites 2D 11AM, 1:45PM, 4:30PM, 7:15PM & 10PM
CENTURY CINEMAX SARIT CENTRE KARUNA ROAD, WESTLANDS
One Battle After Another 2D- 1:00PM, 4:00PM, 7:00PM & 10PM
Gabby's Doll House: 2D 11:00AM, 1:00PM, 3:00PM & 5:00PM
The Conjuring: Last Rites 2D 7:15PM, 10PM
Demon Slayer: Kimetsu No Yaiba Infinity Castle 1:45PM, 7PM
The Long Walk 2D 4:45PM & 10:00PM
The Bad Guys 2 - 2D (PG) 11:30AM
Jolly Lib 3 2D- 1:30PM, 7PM & 10PM
Homebound 2D 4:30PM
PRESTIGE CINEMA, PRESTIGE PLAZA
Demon Slayer: Kimetsu No Yaiba Infinity Castle 2D- 6PM, 9PM
Gabby's Doll House: 2D 12:30PM,
One Battle After Another 2D- 5:45PM, 9PM
The Conjuring: Last Rites 2D , 3PM
The Long Walk 2D 12PM, 3:15PM
MOTION CINEMAS, GREENSPAN MALL, DONHOLM
One Battle After Another 2D- 3:00PM, 5:30PM, 8:00PM
Gabby's Doll House: 2D 12:00PM, 2:00PM, 4:00PM, 6:00PM
Demon Slayer: 12:00PM, 8:00PM
MEGA CINEMA, KISUMU
Gabby's Doll House: 1:30PM, 3:30PM
The Long Walk 2D 2PM, 4:10PM
Gabby's Doll House: 1:40PM
One Battle After Another 5:40PM, 8:30PM
Homebound 8:45PM

TELEVISION

TV47 TV

- 5:00 Morning Decree
- 5:30 TV47 Fitness
- 6:00 Morning Café
- 11:00 TV47 Matukio
- 2:00 Baze 47
- 3:00 Mint Rpt
- 3:30 Nuzo and Namia
- 4:00 TV47 News Now
- 4:15 Sports Life
- 4:30 Kiki and Nuna
- 5:00 Beat Plug -
- 7:00 Upeo Wa Tv47
- 7:30 Ukumbi
- 8:00 DW Docufilm
- 8:30 Eco Africa
- 9:00 The Daily Report With Linda Alela and- Victor

- Muyakane 11:30 DW Docufilm
- 12:00 Beatplug Mix
- 2:00 Wild Kingdom
- 4:00 Morning Devotion
- CITIZEN TV**
- 5:00 Pambazuka
- 5:30 PE @ Home
- 6:00 Day Break
- 10:00 Sema Na Citizen
- 1:00 News @
- 2:00 Mseto Africa
- 3:00 PE @ Home
- 4:00 News Briefs
- 4:15 Kali ni
- Kali 5:30 Tahidi High
- 6:00 Kenya's Gold
- 7:00 Nipashe
- 7:30 Elimu Mashinani

- 8:00 Aurora's Quest (El Ángel De Aurora)
- Juana
- 9:00 The Explainer
- 11:00 Mrs Garcia And Her Daughters
- 12:00 Afrosinema
- 1:00 The Explainer Rpt
- 4:00 Pambazuka
- KTN TV**
- 5:30 Command Your Morning
- 6:00 The Situation Room
- 10:00 VOA
- 10:30 Culture Quest
- 11:00 Yanayojiri
- 1:00 Newsdesk
- 2:30 The Broken Marriage Vow
- 3:00 Farm Kenya

- 4:00 Mbiu
- 4:30 Kids
- 5:00 Baseline
- 6:00 To Have And To Hold
- 7:00 KTN Leo
- 8:00 The Trading Bell
- 8:30 The Entrepreneur
- 9:00 KTN Prime News
- 11:00 KTN Classics
- 1:00 Baseline
- 2:00 Aljazeera
- KBC TV**
- 5:30 Maombi
- 5:35 Gear Up
- 6:00 CGTN
- 7:00 Good Morning Kenya
- 9:50 Local Feature
- 10:00 Newscheck

- 11:50 Shift
- 12:00 Kurunzi
- 12:30 Tamrini
- 1:00 KBC Lunchtime News
- 2:00 Grapevine Rpt
- 2:30 Parliament
- 5:30 Club 1
- 6:30 Stringed
- 7:00 Darubini
- 7:30 Gunduu
- 8:00 Dadas
- 8:30 Afrimax
- 9:00 KBC Channel 1 News
- 10:00 Tushinde Charity Show Rpt
- 1030 Club One Rpt
- 1130 CGTN
- 12:30 France 24

ANDY CAPP



READERS ARE ADVISED

To make appropriate enquiries and take appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expense or entering into binding commitment in relation to an advertisement.

NATION MEDIA GROUP shall not be liable to any person for loss or damage incurred or suffered as a result of his/her accepting or offering to accept an invitation contained in any advertisement published in the Nation.

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Beauty/Medical/Health/ Entertainment/Herbal & Acupuncture Sections
All Days 750/= per line per day

ALL OTHER SECTIONS: VAT Inclusive
All Days 450/= per line per day

SEMI DISPLAY BLACK & WHITE (Boxed Classified)
+VAT Days 1,400/= per centimetre

SEMI DISPLAY COLOR (Boxed Classified)
All Days 1,500/= per centimetre +VAT

Beauty/Medical/Health/Herbal & Acupuncture Sections - Black & White
All Days 1,500/= per centimetre +VAT

Beauty/Medical/Health/Herbal & Acupuncture Sections - Color
All Days 1,600/= per centimetre +VAT

NB: Minimum size on boxed ads is 4cm²

DNA Voucher Fee 2,500/-

BUREAU OFFICES

IMAARA (opposite Pandya Hospital)
8th floor located along Dedan Kimathi Avenue, Kizingo Mombasa
Tel: 0732 138 900, 0719 038 900, 0722 200 770, 020 3288900

Tufform Mall, 2nd Floor
Jomo Kenyatta Highway Tel: 0719 038 930

KAKAMEGA OFFICE
Mega Mall, 2nd Floor opposite NHF
Tel: 0719 038 988

Royal Towers, 1st Floor Tel: 0719 038 924

MOI UNIVERSITY PENSION SCHEME PLAZA (MUPS TOWERS) Waiganjo Str, Off Uganda Rd. 7th Flr, Wing B. P.O. Box 2772 -30100 Eldoret
TEL: 0722-200773 0734-333- 389
0719-038-950/1

Tower 1, 6th Floor, Moi Road.
Tel: 0719 038971/ 73/ 74/ 77

KDS BUILDING, 6th FLOOR, KIMATHI STREET.
Tel: (061) 2030640, 0719 038998/95
Tel/Fax: (061) 2034120

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adcentre@ke.nationmedia.com

NAIROBI & UPCOUNTRY

PERSONAL NOTICES

A109 Lost

LOSS of land Title deed number Dag/Mutuni 467

LOSS of title deed No. LR 1/208 Lawrence Githinji Magundu

LOSS of title kishumu/kasule/7052

LOST Cert. of Lease Nakuru Municipality/ block 18/74 Alexander Kipngetchi Siziency

LOST EM/Chepsigot 'A/948 for Tapyotin Chesaina 'alias' Tabiotin Chesaina

LOST Title Deed Aguthi/ Mung'aria/ 868 of Joise Wamaicha Githaiga

LOST Title Deed: Central Kitutu/ Mwamosioma/ 586 of Benard Nyabando

LOST title deed no. Abogeta/U-Kiungone/ 2574 of George Kimathi Magambo

LOST title deed No. Ng'enda Nyamangara 1522 of Margaret Kigio Njoroge and Martha Nyambura Njoroge

LOST Title Deeds Iveti/Mung'ala/274, Mavoko Town Block 3/3105 & Kiandani/ Mung'ala/688

LOST title deeds no. Machakos/Nguluni/ 8424, 8425, 8428, 8431, 8433 and 8436.

LOST title no. Kiambogo/Kiambogo block 2/17151(Mwariki)Geoffrey Muraya Githii

LOST Title Number: I.R 75318 (L.R.14752/9) Proprietor Jane Kigetu Thirikali

RECONSTRUCTION of Land Register with respect to Title Number Ntima/ Igokil/ 2775

PERSONAL SERVICES

A167 Acupuncture

MEN'S Vitality Clinic 0722-242243

PAIN Relief Clinic 0724-044383

A230 Health

TEETH replacement 0797664766

A279 Notices

FORM PLUPA/DC/3 (3)(3)(4)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Physical and Land Use Planning Act 2019
CHANGE OF USER

The registered owner of parcel No. Transmara/Otieni/1518 located along Mararanta - Kawai Road, is proposing to change its use from Agricultural to Commercial (Safari Camp) subject to approval by the County Government of Nakuru. Individuals, institutions etc with objections to the proposal should forward the same in writing within 14 days of this notice to:

The County Executive Committee Member, Lands, Housing, Physical Planning & Urban Development, Nakuru County Government, P.O Box 898-20500, Nakuru.

Name of registered planner: Newton G. Karuri, Reg. No. RPP145

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
IN THE HIGH COURT OF KENYA
MILIMANI COMMERCIAL COURT IN THE MATTER OF
INSOLVENCY ACT 2015
IN THE INSOLVENCY CASE NO. HCCM/COM/NO.E002/2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE IN HEREBY GIVEN THAT SIMON MUTUGU KAROBIA P.O. BOX 183 KANGEMA INTENDS TO PRESENT A PETITION TO THE COURTS OF KENYA AT MILIMANI LAW COURTS SEEKING A VOLUNTARY DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY PURSUANT TO THE INSOLVENCY ACT. FURTHER TAKE NOTICE ANY CREDITOR OR OTHER INTERESTED PARTY WHO MAY HAVE OBJECTION TO THE INSURANCE OF THE INSOLVENCY ORDER AGAINST THE SAID PERSON IS REQUIRED TO SUBMIT THEIR OBJECTION TO THE HIGH COURT OF KENYA AT MILIMANI LAW COURTS WITHIN SEVEN DAYS FROM THE DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.
SIGNED: SIMON MUTUGU KAROBIA, PO BOX 183 KANGEMA

PUBLIC NOTICE
Physical and Land Use Planning Act No 13 of 2019
NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSED CHANGE OF USER FROM AGRICULTURE TO LIGHT INDUSTRY.

The registered owners of Land Parcel No. BARAGWE/RAIMU/4885 in Kiungu Town, have applied for change of user from agriculture to light industry subject to approval by the County Government of Kirinyaga. Individuals, institutions or organizations with comments, recommendations or objections to the development proposal are requested to forward the same in writing within 14 days of this notice to:
The County Executive Committee Member, County Government of Kirinyaga P.O BOX 260 KUTUS.
Name of the Registered Planner: Michael Gachoki Reg. No PPO052

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
IN THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE COURT AT MILIMANI
MILIMANI COMMERCIAL COURTS
MISCELLANEOUS APPLICATION NO. MCCC/MISC. E2027 OF 2025
PHILIP WAINAINA NJUGUNAAPPLICANT
-VERSUS-
THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL TRANSPORT AND SAFETY AUTHORITY.....1st RESPONDENT
HON.ATTORNEY GENERAL..... 2nd RESPONDENT
SUBSTITUTED SERVICE BY ADVERTISEMENT
HEARING NOTICE

(Pursuant to the Court Order given by Hon.H.M Ng'ang'a (P.M) on the 24/09/2025)

TO: DOUGLAS OMURUA,
TAKE NOTICE: that the Applicant Mr.Philip Wainaina Njuguna has filed an application dated 30th March 2025 in the Chief Magistrate Court at Nairobi, Milimani Commercial Division seeking the to compel the National Transport and Safety Authority to transfer the Motor Vehicle Registration number KBV 574V from your name to his.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE: That upon hearing the Notice of Motion dated 30/03/2025 and the Supporting Affidavit attached thereto on the 8/09/2025, the court made the following Orders:
a. **THAT** the registered owner of Motor Vehicle Registration number KBV 574V be served by newspaper advertisement on a Daily Newspaper.
b. **THAT** the application be fixed for hearing on the 5/11/2025.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE: that you are hereby notified of the aforementioned Hearing date and that service of the said Application and the consequent Court Order is hereby effected upon you in accordance with the Court Order dated 24/09/2025. As such you may access the copies of the said Application and Court Order at the offices of Githi Mburu & Company Advocates, Dune House 1st Floor, Room 82, Ruai- Nairobi or at the Chief Magistrate Court at Nairobi, Milimani Commercial Division, Civil Registry

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE: that should you or your legal representative fail to appear at the appointed place on the said date and time, the Suit shall be heard your absence notwithstanding.

DATED at NAIROBI this 24th day of September 2025.

GITHI MBURU & COMPANY ADVOCATES ADVOCATES FOR THE APPLICANT

DRAWN BY: -
GITHI MBURU & COMPANY ADVOCATES, DUNE HOUSE 1st FLOOR, ROOM 82, RUAU P. O. BOX 784-00520 RUAU, NAIROBI. TEL: 0720380241/0728849335 EMAIL: githimadadvocates@gmail.com

TO BE SERVED UPON: -
DOUGLAS OMURUA

NATIONAL LAND COMMISSION

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ALLOCATE LAND To The General Public and Any Other Interested Parties

Notice is hereby given that at the expiry of **30 days** from the date of publication of this notice, the National Land Commission on behalf of the County Government of Laikipia intends to allocate **L.R NO. 23114** in Laikipia County measuring **20.35 Ha** for Agricultural use (Subject to terms, covenants, conditions and reservations which shall be included in the conveyance documents) in accordance with section 14 of the Land Act 2012.

Any interested party wishing to raise any comments may do so to the Chairman, National Land Commission within **15 days** of publication of this notice.

In the absence of any valid objections, allocation shall take place at the Commission's office in Nairobi (316 Upper hill Chambers 2nd Ngong Avenue) as from 2:30 p.m. on the next working day following the expiry of this notice.

The terms of allocation are available in the Commission's Office in Nairobi and the office of the NLC County Coordinator in Laikipia County.

The land is planned and surveyed, and ownership details may be inspected at the offices of the CECM in charge of Lands for Laikipia County, Director of Surveys Nairobi and the National Land Commission Office during working hours.

Gershon Otachi Bw' Omanwa CHARIMAN

PUBLIC NOTICE
Physical and Land Use Planning Act No 13 of 2019
NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSED DENSIFICATION OF USER TO INCLUDE STORES.
The registered owner of Land Parcel No. INDI/KERUGOYA/3783 in Kerugoya Central Sub County, has applied for densification of user subject to approval by the County Government of Kirinyaga. Individuals, institutions or organizations with comments, recommendations or objections to the development proposal are requested to forward the same in writing within 14 days of this notice to:
The County Executive Committee Member, County Government of Kirinyaga P.O BOX 260 KUTUS.
Name of the Registered Planner: Michael Gachoki Reg. No PPO052



PUBLIC NOTICE
The **Waso Trustland Project**, a registered Public Benefit Organization registered under the Public Benefit Organizations Regulatory Authority (PBORA) in Kenya, wishes to notify the general public that it has changed its name to **Drylands Resilience Action (DRA).**

PUBLIC NOTICE
Physical & Land Use Planning Act No. 13 of 2019
EXTENSION OF USE
The registered owner(s) of Nairobi/Block 245/434 (L.R. No. 3330/434) and Nairobi/Block 245/433 (L.R. No. 3330/433) located at Thome Estate off Thika Road proposes to do an extension of use of a petrol service station to include an auto gas filling station subject to approval by the Nairobi City County Government. Individuals, institutions and Organizations with objections or comments etc. are requested to forward them in writing within **fourteen (14) days** of the publication of this notice to:
The County Executive Committee Member, Built Environment & Urban Planning, Nairobi City County Government, P.O. Box 30075-00100 NAIROBI

FORM PLUPA/DC/3
THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT No.13.2019
PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTIFICATION FOR CHANGE OF USE
The registered owner(s) of Nakuru Municipality Block 15/16 situated within Nakuru East Sub County wishes to change the use of the land from Residential use to commercial use subject to the approval of the County Government of Nakuru. Individuals, institutions, members of the public etc. With comments and or objection to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within 14 days of the date of this notice to:
The CECM-Land, Physical Planning, Housing & Urban Development, County Government of Nakuru, P.O Box 2870 - 20100, Nakuru Registered Physical Planner: Plan James M.G. Michoma Rpp.No 0047

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Physical & Land Use Planning Act No. 13 of 2019
CHANGE OF USER
The Owners of Title No. **Mombasa/Block XXVI/694 & 695, Kizingo Mombasa County** wishes to Change the User of the plot from Residential to Commercial (Shopping Mall), subject to the approval of the County Government of Mombasa. Any interested person or institution wishing to make any representation or objection to the above application, stating grounds for objection may send them in writing within 14 days from the date of this publication to:
The County Executive Committee Member - Department of Land, Planning, Housing & Urban Renewal, County Government of Mombasa, P.O. Box 81599-80100, Mombasa.

DCP SKIZA WARENHA

NOTICE
APPOINTMENT OF PARTY LEADER
Pursuant to Article 16.2.2 of the Constitution of the Democracy for the Citizens Party (DCP),

the National Executive Council (NEC) hereby appoints: Party Leader

This appointment takes effect from 23rd September 2025, and has been recorded in accordance with party constitution and the political parties act 2011

For more details, please check the party website. www.dcpkenya.com
By order of the National Executive Council

Signed,
Hezron Obaga
Secretary General

PUBLIC NOTICE
Physical & Land Use Planning Act No. 13 of 2019
CHANGE OF USER
The registered owners of Land Parcel No. **Nairobi/Block103/2017** located off Muhoho Avenue in South C area, Langata Sub County intends to change its use from **Residential Single-dwelling to Residential Multi-dwelling (Flats)** subject to approval by the Nairobi City County Government. Individuals, institutions and organizations with comments, objections to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within **fourteen (14) days** from publication of this notice to:
The CECM - Land, Urban Planning, Urban Renewal, Housing & Project Management - Nairobi City County, P.O. Box 30075-00100, Nairobi.
Peter Kabereje | Registered Physical Planner No. 028

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A279 Notices
REPUBLIC OF KENYA
IN THE PRINCIPAL MAGISTRATES COURT
AT SIAYA
ELC NO. 56 OF 2020
JOHN WALTER O. OTIENO PLAINTIFF
-VERSUS-
SIGNINVESTMENTS LIMITED.....1st DEFENDANT
MILICENT ATIENO ONDEGO..... 2nd DEFENDANT
LAND REGISTRAR, SIAYA 3rd DEFENDANT
SUBSTITUTED SERVICE BY ADVERTISEMENT
(Order 5 Rule 2 & 17 of the Civil Procedure Rules, 2010)

TO: MILICENT ATIENO ONDEGO
TAKE NOTICE that a suit has been filed in the Principal Magistrates Court at Siaya being **MCELC CASE NO. 56 OF 2020** in which you are named as the Defendant. Service of summons on you has been ordered by means of this advertisement.
A copy of the Amended Plaint dated 3rd February, 2025 witness statement, list of witnesses, list and bundle of documents all dated 17th August, 2020 may be obtained from the firm of Wangusi I.N. Advocates, Nyaku House, 2nd Floor, Hurlingham, Argwings Kodhek Road, P.O. Box 21064-00100, Nairobi or from the court's registry at Siaya.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that you are required to enter appearance and file a response and all other necessary documents within 21 days from the date of this Notice.
DATED AT NAIROBI this 29th day of September 2025.

WANGUSI I.N. ADVOCATES ADVOCATES FOR THE PLAINTIFF
DRAWN & FILED BY:
WANGUSI I.N. ADVOCATES,
NYAKU HOUSE, 2nd FLOOR, ROOM F15B,
HURLINGHAM, ARGWING KODHEK ROAD,
P.O. BOX 21064-00100, NAIROBI.
Email: winaadvocates@gmail.com

FOR SALE OR WANTED

A871 Miscellaneous

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RESIDENTIAL & BUSINESS PROPERTIES
B740 Land, Plots for Sale
1.165 acres 15km from namanga centre 200m from amboseli Rd asking price 500k/acre. 2.145 acres 15km from namanga high way asking price 300k/acre. 0722857532.
5 Acre blocks Ndeiya 2m, 4m 0711627333
KINANGOP 1/4, 1/2, 3/4. 0739717955 Owner
KITENGELA Kimalat 1km from Namanga rd 100x100ft 3.5m 0720801704
MACHAKOS Lukenya near Daystar 91Ac 0711182038
MARINGO NBI 6acs 500m 0722889064
NGONG prime 1/4, 1/8 acre. 0722275282
SALE of 10 acres farm in Gilgil contact mbobmughal@gmail.com
UTAWALA Embakasi 1/2 AC 0711182038

RESIDENTIAL & BUSINESS PROPERTIES
E740 Land Plots for Sale
NYL links road 1/2acre 60M 0723350066

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RELI REGULATED NWDT SACCO wishes to advertise for the following vacant positions

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recruitment@relisacco.co.ke

The application window is up to 14th of October from the day of publication.

Canvassing will lead to automatic disqualification.

Vumbua utamu wa akiba

RESIDENTIAL & BUSINESS PROPERTIES

B740 Land, Plots for Sale

1.165 acres 15km from namanga centre 200m from amboseli Rd asking price 500k/acre. 2.145 acres 15km from namanga high way asking price 300k/acre. 0722857532.
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NGONG prime 1/4, 1/8 acre. 0722275282
SALE of 10 acres farm in Gilgil contact mbobmughal@gmail.com
UTAWALA Embakasi 1/2 AC 0711182038

COAST (Telephone Coast Numbers Only)

RESIDENTIAL & BUSINESS PROPERTIES

E740 Land Plots for Sale

NYL links road 1/2acre 60M 0723350066

Death and Funeral Announcement

It is with deep sorrow and acceptance of God's will that we announce the promotion to glory of the late John Kebaso Mosomi which occurred on 24th September 2025 after a short illness.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Meshack Mosomi.

Brother of the late Elijah Mosomi, the late Joseph Mosomi, Richard Mosomi, Lilian Mosomi & Innocent Mosomi. John was father of Blessing and Jordan.

He is uncle of Peter Tosh & Brother-in-law of Mary Kiarie.

Nephew of the late Rioba, the late Ocharo, Omayio, Momanyi, the late Nyamota, the late Nyakina, Nyaboke, Priscah, Osiris and others.

Cousin of Riobas, Ocharos, Charanah, Obares, Siro, Subanos and Bogonkos among others.

The cortege leaves Montezuma, Monalisa funeral home on 02nd October 2025 at 6:00 am for burial on 3rd October 2025 at Rirumi village, Kebirigo Nyamira county.

"In God's arms you rest, in our hearts you live forever"



John Kebaso Mosomi

Death and Funeral Announcement

It is with humble acceptance of God's will that we announce the passing of Alfred Muandale Kibandah on 24th September 2025 after a long illness bravely borne.

He was the son of the late Jamin Angombi and the late Norah Sandere. He was the husband of Margaret Sayo Muandale, father of Felix Ogola, Eugene Avoga Bradley Libese and father in-law of Eunice Achieng. He was blessed with six grandchildren namely Marcus, Moziah, Marvin, Myah, Kyra and Alfred. He was the son-in-law of mzee Amos Kegode and the late Karen Kigunyi. He was the brother-in-law of Edith Ketenyi, Janet Kegode, Bernard Amata and Jescah Kegode.

He was a brother of the late Renson Oyangi, Epainitus Kibanda, Nelson Angombi, Jescah Mulusa, Zebedayo Kisaka, Janet Adisa, Saphan Magana & Caleb Kibanda, Kennedy Kisia and Betty Angombi.

A funeral service will be held on Wednesday 8th October 2025 at 2:00 pm at Friends International Center (Quakers) Church Ngong Road. He will be laid to rest on Saturday 11th October 2025 in Kibomet Village, Trans Nzoia County. Family and friends are meeting daily for prayers at his residence in Nairobi at Donholm Harambee Sacco Estate Huma Hills Court.

There will be a funds drive on Tuesday 30th September 2nd and 6th October 2025 at Holy Family Basilica at 5PM and a major Harambee on 4th Saturday October 2025 at Friends Church International Centre (Quakers) Church Ngong Road starting 2PM.



Alfred Muandale Kibandah

Nyeri Teachers' Plaza Housing Co-operative Society Ltd Celebration Of A Life Well Lived

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing on of Bernard Muritu Kanyari. Until his death he was a Supervisory Committee member in Nyeri Teachers' Plaza Housing Co-operative Society Ltd. Son of the late Beethoven Kanyari and the late Priscilla Wahu. Brother of the late Joseph Muturi.

Husband of the late Joyce Gathoni. Father of Rev. Jeannette Mathenge of PMI The Family Church Nyeri, the late Elizabeth Mwangi, Mary Priscilla Wahu (TZ), Caroline Kamuru (TZ), Nancy Mugo-Karazona and Beethoven Kanyari (Nrb). Father in-law of Samuel Mathenge, Leonard Kamuru, Michael Mugo, and Rachel Kanyari. Grandfather of Joyce Mathenge (New Zealand), the late Peter Kalvin, Joyloise (Outspan Hospital, Nanyuki), and Blessed Rose (Rev. Muhoro), Joyce Wahu (New Zealand), Caros, Christian and Joy Esther (TZ), Berna, Ben, Joyce and Charity (Nrb). Great grandfather of Jeannette, Wesley, Tala, Johniel and Nicole. Family and friends are meeting daily in Tambaya for prayers and funeral arrangements.

The cortege leaves Nyeri Funeral Home (Outspan) on Friday 3rd October 2025 at 8:30am for a funeral service at PCEA Tambaya Church. He will later be laid to rest at his home in Tambaya, Mukuruweini, Nyeri County. *"The Lord Giveth and He taketh May his soul find Eternal Rest"*



Bernard Muritu Kanyari

Death and Funeral Announcement

It is with deep sorrow and humble acceptance of God's will that we announce the passing on of Mrs. Waiyego Gikonyo Mwangi, who rested in the Lord on 15th September 2025 after a short illness.

She was the beloved daughter of the late Gerald Gikonyo Kanyuira and the late Mary Wangari Gikonyo. Waiyego was the second-born among her siblings: Wachinga, Maina, Kanyuira, Gichimu, and Kamau. She was also lovingly raised alongside her step-siblings, members of the wider Gikonyo family.

She was a devoted wife of Mwangi Kuria and a cherished mother of Kuria Mwangi and Gikonyo Mwangi. She was a resident of Atlanta, Georgia (USA).

Family and friends are meeting daily for prayers and funeral arrangements at Blue Springs Hotel, Thika Road, from 6:00 p.m.

The cortege will leave Kenyatta University Mortuary on Friday, 3rd October 2025 at 7:00 a.m. for a funeral service and burial at her family home in Ihiga-ini Village, Kangema.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." - 2 Timothy 4:7



Mrs. Waiyego Gikonyo Mwangi
Sunrise: 16/11/1957
Sunset: 15/09/2025

Death and Funeral Announcement



Stephen Mutisya Maingi
1933 to 18/09/2025

It is with humble acceptance of God's will that we announce the promotion to glory of our father, grandfather and great grandfather Stephen Mutisya Maingi, which occurred on 18th September 2025.

He was the son of late Anna Nzisa and late Maingi Kaloki. Brother of the late Kikuyu, the late Mutua, Elizabeth Wanza, the late Nziku, the late Kithuka, the late Nguluutu, the late Mbatha, the late Ngili, Mzee Michael Mukosi and others. Beloved husband of the late Rose Wavinya.

Loving father of Mathias Mbiti, Julius Limu, Dominic Maingi, the late Ann Nzisa, James Mutunga, Adolf Wambati, Daniel Kaloki, Alexander Kimeu, Francisca Ng'ondo and Lillian Mutio.

Father-in-law of Margret Mumbua, Pauline Kakuvi, Mary Katunge, Mercy Waithira, Bridget Mumbi, Gloria Wanza and John Muthui. Grandfather of Ian, Magdalene, Emmanuel Maingi, Paula, Stephanie, late Matthias, Natalie, Florence, Dennis, Rita, Emmanuel Mutisya, Victor, Clare, Claudia, Andrew, Sylvia, Zita, Adrian, Flannan, Flavian, Rose, Laura, Precious, Faith, Joy, Jonathan, Christian, Leon, and Karl.

Great grandfather of Clara, Ira Gregory, Idris & Odin.

The cortege will leave KUTRRH Memorial Mortuary on Friday 3rd October 2025 at 6:00am for Funeral Mass and burial on the same day from 10:00am at his home in Kunikila village, Mbiuni sub-location, Mbiuni Ward, Mwala Sub-County, Machakos County.

Tata we loved you but God loved you more, rest in God's eternal peace

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



PHYLLIS WANJIRU MBUGUA

7.7.1941 30.9.2015
TEN YEARS ON, YOUR LOVE AND WISDOM STILL GUIDE US EVERY DAY. A PIECE OF OUR HEARTS WENT WITH YOU TO HEAVEN AND OUR LIVES HAVE NEVER BEEN THE SAME AGAIN. WE CELEBRATE YOUR LIFE WITH GRATITUDE, JOY, AND UNENDING LOVE FROM YOUR FAMILY.

Celebration of a Life Well Lived



Mr. Nehemiah Kiptum Chemelil

It is with deep sorrow, yet with humble acceptance of God's will that we announce the passing on of Mr. Nehemiah Kiptum Chemelil, formerly of Kenya Airways and Baraka Travels Mombasa, who went to be with the Lord on 23rd September 2025 while undergoing treatment at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital, Eldoret.

The late Nehemiah was the devoted husband of Naomi Nyamusu Chemelil.

He was the beloved son of Mzee Aaron Chesang Chemelil and the late Elima Teriki Chemelil. Step-son of Rose Chemelil. Son-in-law of Mzee Elikanah Momanyi and Milkah Momanyi.

He was a loving father of Brian Kibowen, Anita Jepkoech, Edgar Kipkurui and Kennedy Kibet. A cherished father-in-law of Florence Odhiambo. He was a treasurer brother of Julia, Kiptala, Rose, Tito, Hilda, Milly, Nicholas, Barkenya, Silas, Mercy, Philip, Jonathan and Chematia. A dear brother-in-law of the late Yabesh, Grace, Edward, the late Gilbert, Susan, Onesmus, Lydia, Loyce, Shem, Abigail and Eucabeth. An uncle, cousin and friend of many.

Blessed with a gentle spirit and a generous heart, he was a pillar of strength, love, and wisdom to all who knew him.

He will be dearly missed by his grandchildren Logan Kiptum, Nathan Kipsang, Nolan Kimtai and T. Kigen who brought him immense joy.

The family warmly invites relatives and friends to join them in honoring his life at a funeral service on Saturday, 4th October 2025. The cortege will leave MTRH Funeral Home at 8:00 AM on the same day. Burial and memorial service will follow at his family home in Ainabkoi, Usain Gishu County.

"The righteous man walks in his integrity; blessed are his children after him." - Proverbs 20:7

Death and Funeral Announcement

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing on of Dennis Kasyoki Muendo (Nzou) Chief Executive Officer - NutriBlends Africa Ltd through a tragic road accident along Mombasa Road.

He was a loving husband of Regina Mumo Kasyoki. A devoted father of Nisha Katwe and Clive Kendwa.

He was son of the late Muendo Masika and Mary Yumbya. Brother of John Mutua and Dickson Mwaka. Cousin of Hon. Harrison Yumbya, Benjamin Mbithi and many others. Brother-in-law of Kyania Kangau, Mambo and others.

Daily meetings are ongoing at his rural home, T-Toe Machakos and Galas Garden Syokimau.

A fundraiser/candle lighting will be held on Thursday 2/10/2025 at Captains Lounge Sabaki.

For support channel your contributions to Paybill 3001515, Account; Your name.

He will be laid to rest on Saturday 4/10/2025 at Iretani Mbooni Makueni County.

2nd Timothy 4:7 "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."
Rest in Power Nzou



Dennis Kasyoki Muendo (Nzou)
Sunrise: 26/06/1983
Sunset: 21/09/2025

Death and Funeral Announcement

It is with humble acceptance of GOD'S will, we announce the sudden passing to glory of The Rev. Dr. Samuel Kiuguini Nduati of Baraka Lanet, priest A.C.K. Diocese of Nakuru and Chaplain/lecturer Egerton university which occurred on 27th September 2025.

He was the son of the late Gabriel Michael Nduati and Mrs. Margaret Muthoni (Engoshura). Devoted husband of Mrs. Tabitha Wairimu, caring and loving father of Margaret Muthoni (AITS), Michael Nduati (Baraka), Peter Kinuthia (Nairobi) and foster father of Briget (Nakuru). Father in law of Kaynet Nang'ambo and Isaac Kiarie. Cherished grandfather of Samuel Mburu and Angel Natalia.

Son in law of Peter Kinuthia and Beatrice Njoki (Engoshura). Brother of Njuguna, Njeri, Wairimu, Wambui, Mumbi, Ndung'u, Wanjiku, Paul, Waceke, Waithira, Hanah, and Wanjiru. Brother in law to Mugo, Wangui, Wangeci, Gichuki, Muthoni, Wanjau.

Prayers and funeral planning meetings are taking place at ACK St. Mathews Umoja I Church - Lanet between 3:30p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

The cortege leaves Umash Funeral home (Nakuru) on Friday 3rd September 2025 at 8:00 am for funeral service at A.C.K. Cathedral of the Good Shepherd Nakuru (opposite Central Police Station Nakuru), at 9:45 am. There after burial will be in his home at Baraka Lanet.

"Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of a saint" (Psalms, 116:15)



Rev. Dr. Samuel Kiuguini Nduati
1972 - 2025

Celebrating the Life of

The family of Canon Misheck Muchira sadly and in humble acceptance of God's will announce the promotion to glory of our beloved Zipporah Njeri Muchira, Principal of Kamuruana Hill Premier Academy in Kirinyaga Central on Thursday 25th September 2025.

She is the cherished wife of Canon Misheck Muchira and Daughter of the late Ibrahim Gachoki Kinyiri and late Milka Wanjira.

A loving mother of Peris Wambui, Agnes Nyawira, Ann Karuana, Antony Karimi, Martin Wachira, George Mwaniki, Winnie Muthoni and Ezra Muriithi.

Beloved Mother-in-law of David Mukuru, Peter Muchira, Rose Karimi, Florah Wachira, Eva Mwaniki, Peter Waititu and Shelmith Muriithi.

She was a caring sister of the late Eunice Muthoni, Eliud Muriithi, Peninah Wanjiru, late Priscilla Wakabari, Zephania Njagi, late Elijah Karani, Muriithi, Wanjiru, Kinyua, Muthoni, Wanjohi, Njeri, Wanjiku, Njagi, late Mugo, Njoki and Waweru.

She was Sister-in-law of the late Judy Gachui, late Mary Wainoi, Beatrice Waruguru, Elijah Mwaniki, late Rose Wanjiru, Flora Kaguu, David Muriuki and Mercy Njoki.

She was a doting grandmother of Patience, Christable, Daisy, Misheck, Elvis, Joshua, Precious, Abigail, Miriam, Ryan, Debby, Joy, Jayden, Collins, Micah, Caleb, Malachi and Janet.

Family and friends are meeting daily at her residence in Mung'etha village, Kariko location, Kirinyaga Central for funeral arrangements.

The cortege will leave Mt. Kenya Ack Funeral Home, Kerugoya, on Friday 3rd October 2025 for the funeral service at ACK St. Barnabas Karaini Church and thereafter burial at her residence in Mung'etha.

2 Timothy 4:7, I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."



Zipporah Njeri Muchira
Sunrise :1946
Sunset 25th September 2025

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Death and Funeral Announcement

It is with great sorrow and acceptance of God's will that we announce the death of Margaret Wanjiku Muchoki. Wife of Patrick Muchoki Waithuki of Githunguri location Kanjai sublocation Kiambu County.



Margaret Wanjiku Muchoki

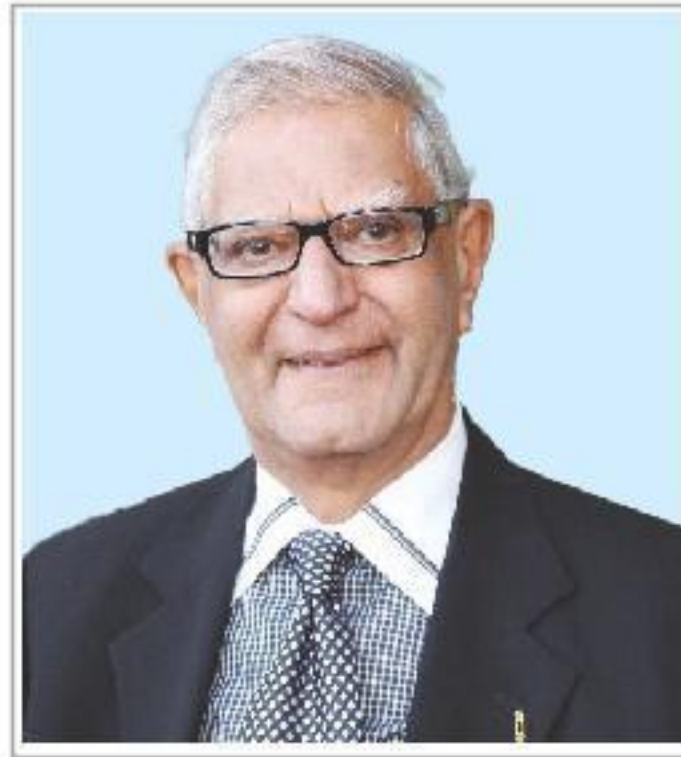
She was a loving mother of the late Pauline Wanjiku Muchoki, Eric Waithuki Muchoki, Jackie Njambi and Sylvia Wanjiru Muchoki. She was mother-in-law of Catherine Muthoni and Omari Kang'au Mwarangu. She was an adoring grandmother of Collins Muchoki and Ryan Muchoki. She was a daughter of the late David Ndungu and the late Mary Njambi. She was daughter-in-law of Teresia Wanjiku Waithuki and the late Samuel Waithuki.

She was sister of Joseph Njoroge, Dominic Gichinga, Moses Ngigi and Rose Nyakio among others.

She was a sister-in-law of Mrs Lucia Wanjiru Karundu Philomena Wangui Ngugi the late Charles Waithuki, Dominic and Alice Waithuki and Joseph Waithuki among others.

Family and Friends are meeting daily at the family home at 4pm for prayers and funeral arrangements. The cortege leaves Kenyatta University Hospital at 8.30am on Friday 3rd October 2025. The funeral service will start at 11 AM at the family home followed by interment.

Death Announcement



Anil Ishani

**Inna Lillahi wa Inna Illayhi Rajun
Surely we belong to Allah and to Him we shall return.**

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Anil Ishani aged 87 years in Nairobi, Kenya on 28th September 2025. He was a kind, humble, and generous gentleman who dedicated his life to voluntary service and touched the hearts of many.

Anil was a long-standing Advocate of the High Court of Kenya since 1960 and the Resident Representative of the Aga Khan Development Network in Kenya from 1998 to 2007.

He was a devoted father to his daughters Shaheen and Karina, father-in-law to Rizwan, loving son of late Gulamhussein Kassam and Rabia Ishani from Mombasa and doting grandfather to Iman, Zahra, Ziyana, Khalil and Zaki.

The funeral will be held in London, United Kingdom.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.



Death and Funeral Announcement



Christine Nzisa Kioko

Sunrise: 1965 - Sunset: 21st September 2025

It is with humble acceptance of God's will that we announce the sudden passing of Christine Nzisa Kioko, an employee of Kimani & Michuki Advocates.

She was the loving daughter of the late Peter Kioko and the late Sarah Kioko of Kyome village, Uuni Sub-location, Vyulya location, Masii Division, Machakos County.

She was the wife of the late Evans Karani Shabira of Vihiga Town, Mago village.

She was beloved mother of Maureen Karani of Kathama Sofdev Self Help Group, Irene Karani and Stacy Karani both of Endeavour Construction Company Ltd.

Daughter in-law of the late Joseph Shabira and Rachel Shabira. Sister of Rhoda Nzioki, Agnes Kioko, Nancy Kioko, Duncan Kioko, David Kioko, John Mutisya, the late Beatrice Mbithe, the late Susan Ndinda and the late Benson Wambua. Sister in-law of Tony Senerwa, Nickson Nduga and Lilian Bujede.

Grandmother of Abigail, Annabel, Dorcas, Brian, Ryan, Jaydan, Ethan and Jayson.

Friends and relatives are meeting at 360 Syokimau, Katani Road.

The cortege leaves Montezuma Monalisa Funeral Home, Machakos on Friday 3rd October 2025 at 9.00 am. Funeral and burial service will take place at Kyome Village, Uuni sublocation, Vyulya location, Machakos County at 11.00 am.

"The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord" Job 1:21

Death and Funeral Announcement

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of Ms Caroline Ajiambo Sande, formerly of Postbank that occurred on 20th September 2025 at Family Care Hospital Eldoret after a long illness.



Ms Caroline Ajiambo Sande

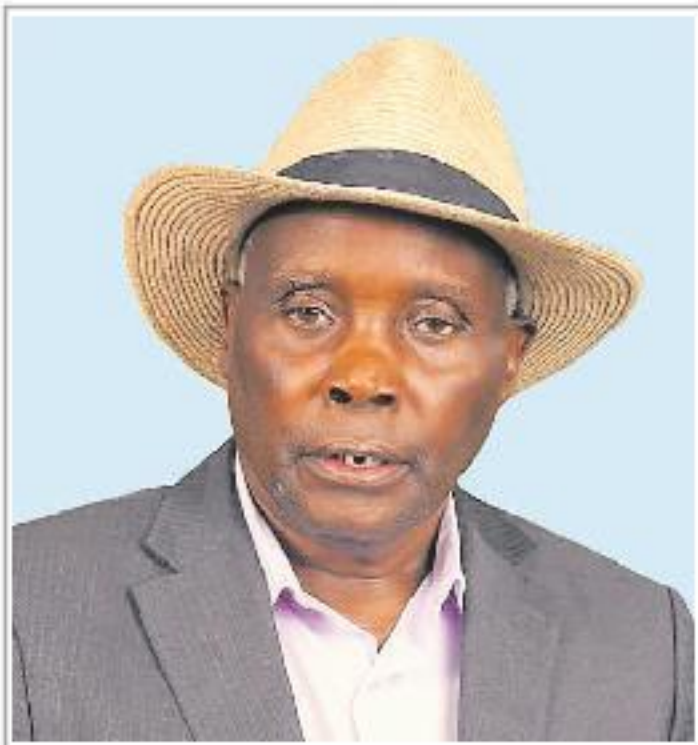
Daughter of Mzee Vincent Sande and the late Prisca Jemutai Sande. Beloved sister of Stanley Juma Sande, Catherine Nabwire Onyango (Australia), Nancy Auma Kingdom, Emmanuel Shikuku Sande.

Sister-in-law of Eric Sila, Elijah Liech (Australia), Joanne Juma and Kate Nelima. Aunt of Wayne, Sasha (Australia), Owen (Australia), Shana, Chemutai (Australia), Charlene, Glen (Australia), Sammy, Azalia, Shawn. Loving cousin to many.

The cortege will leave the Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital Mortuary, Eldoret on Tuesday 30th September 2025 for burial on Wednesday 1st October 2025 at their home in Kongoni Village, Kakamega County.

Rev 21:4 "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

Death and Funeral Announcement



Alfred Amwata Mang'era

It is with humble acceptance of God's will that we announce the sudden passing of Alfred Amwata Mang'era on 21st September 2025. Beloved son of (all late) Mikael Mang'era Mokaya, Paustina Kerubo (Nyang'ara), Moraa (Nyang'anyi) and Mong'ina, of Mokorogoinwa Village, Kemera Location, Manga Sub-County, Nyamira.

Son-in-law of the late Onserio Osoro, Truphena Sese and Yukuza Onserio (late).

Beloved husband of Lucy Gesare Amwata.

Cherished father of Nyamoita, Gladys and Kelvin, Janet, Lydia, Victor and Venny Migiro, Nemwel and Yvonne Mang'era and, Ruth Mwarisha.

Father-in-law of John Oriewo and Teri Mwarisha.

Korera of the late Samson Mayaka and Sarah Mokeira, Elijah Nyang'au and Jane Moraa, Benson Kisyanga, Ong'era, the late Kariuki Gichanga and Ng'endo Kariuki, the late Nyang'au, the late Kepha Oriewo and Janet Odimo, Tumaini Elibariki and the late Tabitha Tumaini.

Adored Grandfather of Olyvia, Yvonne, Henry, Joy, Alicia, Baraka, Adrian, Jayden, Rochelle, Ryan, Alvin, Abigail, Samantha, Myles, Griffins, Gavin, Alfred, Trevor, Adam, Mwanicha, Bochaber, Lloyd Mang'era, Winston, Favour and, Alma, Father Nyanga among others.

Fifth born and eldest son, and brother of: Agnes Bosibori, Teresa Moraa, Rebecca Nyarinda (all late), Robina Boyani, late Nyamoita, Johnson Ongubo and Priscilla, Meroka, Nyakang'i, Mokaya, Nyamoita, Ochoiki, Nyabate, Nyagisere, Ogaiki, Nyanga, Nyang'anyi, Nyarumba, Sabina, Nyagisere, Kimani, Bochere, Nyakerario, Mandere, Bokea, Makori and, Ngoko.

Cousin of Manyura, Nyaigoti, Mokayas, Chief Ngoko, Onsomu, King'oina, Makoris, Migiro, Monda, Kong'ara, Obare, Ong'au, Mabare, Nyakundi, Motari, Ombaba, Ondieki, Masega, Nyaangas, Nyamodi, Victor Nyang'aya, Mogesi, Nyanyuki, Solicitor General Shadrach Mose among others.

Uncle of David Mokaya, Joshua Mokaya, Makoris, Albert Ongwae, Nyamoitas, Ogeras, Migiros, Mang'eras, Joshua Ngoko, Chief Joseph Atambo, Father Amwata, Henry Bwokero, Clr Nyakundi King'oina, Karatas, Mokayas, Mayor Nyangeso, Lydia, Ogeras, Nyang'au, Onchiri, Polycarp, Nyaangas.

Nephew of Onchiri, Obare, Nyaanga, Kenyuri, Matoko, Bironga, Nyakieni, Ogera, Obwocha, Matini, Mang'era, Omwenga, Mogesi, Nyang'aya, Bochere, Kiyondi, Mobunde, Mobagi (all late), Itra Mose, Bwari, Sangwera, Mamboleo, Binsari, Nyorana, Mokaya, Nyanduko.

Brother-in-law of Iyoga, Okero, Mwitwa, Mokua, Mocha, Marube, Getuno, Birai, Francis, Anne, Bosibori, Mary and John Mogusu, Queen, late Mike, Joshua, Wilkister and Maxwell, Alice and Ben Oongo, Evans and Gladys among others.

The main Fundraising will be held today, Tuesday 30th September 2025 at Maxwell SDA Central Church Old Sanctuary, Milimani, Nairobi from 5:00 pm.

The cortege shall leave Montezuma Funeral Home on 2nd October, 2025 at 6am for home Mokorogoinwa, Kemera Location, Manga Sub-County, Nyamira County. Memorial service and interment will be held on 3rd October, 2025.

"In my Father's House are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you". John 14:2

"What we have once enjoyed we can never lose. All that we love deeply becomes a part of us."

Heller Keller

CHAT WITH US ON WHATSAPP NUMBER: 0799616161

Death and Funeral Announcement



Mama Mary Nyaboke Sagini (1928 - 09/09/2025)

It is our humble acceptance that we announce the sudden death of Mama Mary Nyaboke Sagini of Riensune, Nyansiongo sub-county, Nyamira County which occurred on 9th September, 2025.

Daughter of the late Yuvenalis Masese and the late Marcella Nyagechanga from Nyaura Village, Nyaribari Chache.

Wife of the late Hon. Dr. Lawrence George Sagini, Kenya's First Minister of Education.

Mother of the late John Nyakundi Sagini, the late Anthony Oyagi Sagini, Dr. Margaret Kwamboka Siika, Michael Kibagendi Sagini, the late Morris Bitange Sagini and Esther Sagini - Ongoto.

Mother-in-law of Margaret Bosibori, Jane Kerubo, the late George Siika, the late Jane Bochaber, Jedida Kawuki, Carren Mwangi, Alfred Ongoto.

Grandmother of Esther (US), Diana (US) and Michael Timko, Mary Jacqueline (US) and Sheldon Jaquay, Dr. Christine Sagini (Parliament), George and Lucia Ndemo, Michelle and Nelson Mogaka, Emmanuel, Esther Maria, Stella, Cynthia, Cece, Chief and Ruthann Siika, Arnold, Elaine, Pascal Ndemo, Joyce, Loraine, Francien, Brian, Lawrence, Beverly, Laura, Michael.

Great grandmother of Jedidah, Malkia, Elyse, Titan, Ellen, George, Georgia, Zola, Sheldon Jr., Ethan Jude, John Nathaniel, Sean, Laleti, Kaya, Anthony Joseph.

Sister of Daudi Onsongo Masese.

Daughter-in-law of Ndemo Kibagendi and Esther Ndemo, Penina, Priscilla, Nyakebande and Teresa.

Friends and relatives are gathering daily at United Club Nairobi, Garden Estate, and at her home in Nyansiongo. For financial support to cover Medical and Funeral Expenses, kindly use **PAYBILL 8062941 - MAMA MARY SAGINI FAREWELL, A/C YOUR NAME**, or send money to **0700418951 - GEORGE NDEMO** for both MPESA and SendWave.

The main fundraiser will be held on today **Tuesday 30th of September 2025** at United Kenya Club from **5.00pm**. A requiem mass will be held at Holy Family Basilica on the **Tuesday 7th of October 2025** at **2.00pm** followed by her burial at her Nyansiongo Settlement Scheme home, Nyamira County on **Thursday 9th of October 2025**.

RIP Omongina Mary Nyaboke Sagini.

Sport



Athletics
Odira reveals how she prepared and won gold at the Tokyo World Athletics Championships
← P.36

Football The latest medal tables from all the big leagues in Europe P.35

Youth Olympics

IOC calls for medal design proposals for Dakar Games

BY VICTOR OTIENO

International Olympic Committee (IOC) has invited the public to submit medal design proposals for the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games set for October 31 to November 13.

Kenyan rugby legend Humphrey Kayange, who is IOC Dakar 2026 Coordination Commission Chair, will be part of the jury that will help pick the winning designs.

According to a statement issued by the IOC, the submission should be made "through a dedicated platform on *Olympics.com*" by October 7.

The platform also gives candidates access to a toolkit with design specifications, guidelines and rules.

Entries will be judged on five criteria: creativity, originality, relevance to the Youth Olympic Games (YOG) narrative, feasibility and the written description.

The winning design, IOC said, will feature on the front of the medals to be awarded to athletes in the Games.

The jury, also featuring Gangwon 2024 medal design competition winner Dante Akira Uwai; IOC Young Leaders Peniamina

Percival and Pragnya Mohan; IOC Young Reporters Yun Su Park and Yann Durand; and Dakar 2026 ambassador Elzo Jamdong, will review applications, rank designs and share their recommendation with the IOC Executive Board for validation.

The back of the medal will be developed by the Dakar 2026 Organising Committee and will incorporate Senegalese cultural elements alongside the YOG emblem.

Uwai said winning the Gangwon 2024 medal design competition changed his life.

"A lot has changed since Gangwon. Many opportunities have opened up to me thanks to the medal design competition, especially for my career. But I think the most important change was actually internal. It was realising the transformative power of both art and sport," said Brazilian Uwai.

The opportunity to design the front of the medal was first introduced for the Singapore 2010 YOG, when Japan's Setsuko Fukuzawa created the "Yes Youth Can" design.

Since then, young designers from different countries have seen their creations presented to athletes on the YOG podium.

Machakos welcomes medical training college with golf event

BY LARRY NGALA

Fresh from hosting the Isuzu and I&M golf tournaments back to back two weekends ago, the nine-hole Machakos Golf Club course was again an action packed venue on Saturday.

The only golf course in the Eastern regional counties of Machakos, Kitui and Makueni, the par 72 course was the stage for a special golf tournament to welcome to Machakos town, the newest branch of the North Coast Medical Training College.

Machakos club vice chairman Peter Kimatu emerging the overall winner. Playing off handicap 14, he produced the day's top score of 42 points.

He was followed closely by the men winner Faustine Maithya who carded 39 points. In the ladies section, Purity Kioko was spot on with 38 points, beating Jane Kiti by four points. In the subsidiary, Nick Ndonye took the men's prize with 40 points, while the lady winner was Jackie Omare on 27 points. Lazarus Kemei emerged top in the guests section on 35 points, while Harry Mule and Joseph Kitema took the nines on 22 and 24 points.

42

Points that Peter Kimatu carded to win a special tournament at Machakos Golf Club on Saturday

World Para Athletics Championships Medal prospect Lokedi races today

Scent of gold with proven winner Muchai in action

2017 and 2019 world 5,000m champ races in 1,500m T11 today at 5.56pm (Kenyan time)

BY AYUMBA AYODI

All Kenyan eyes will be on multiple world and Paralympic champion Samwel Muchai and John Lokedi when they race in their respective finals at the World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi, today.

Mushai, who was disqualified after finishing fourth in the men's 5,000m T11 final on Sunday will hope to exorcise the disappointment with a podium performance in men's 1,500m T11 at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.

Mushai, the 2017 and 2019 world 5,000m champion, guided by Jean Kipchumba, finished third in the first semi-final heat in a season best four minutes and 09.98 seconds to ease through to the final.

Mushai, who is also the 2012 London Paralympics 1,500m and 2016 Rio Paralympics 5,000m champion, finished behind winner, 2024 Paris Paralympics 1,500m bronze medallist Julio Ceaser Agripino (4:09.51) from Brazil and Japanese Kenya Karasawa (4:09.63).

Karasawa will be aiming for a double after he recaptured the 5,000m T11 title on Sunday. Mushai was also disqualified in the men's 5,000m final during the Paris Paralympic Games last year.

The men's 1,500m T11 final will be the last event of the day at 5.56pm Kenyan time.

Lokedi clocked a season best 4:03.98

to settle for second place in men's 1,500m T13 second semi-final that was won by Uganda's Jonas Oryema in a personal best time of 4:01.62. Al Mikail from Turkiyie won the first semi-final in 4:18.47.

The men's 1,500m T13 final will be raced at 7.30am Kenyan time.

The Kenyan men will be eager to emulate their female folks who have already bagged two silver medals at the championships that ends on Sunday in the Indian capital.

Africa silver medallist Sheila Wanyonyi, not only claimed her maiden medal at the global stage, but also recaptured her Africa record with a massive throw of 38.63m. The effort won her a silver medal.

After a disappointing Paris Paralympics outing last year, Nancy Chelangat, the 2023 world para-athletics 1,500m T11 champion, claimed silver in the women's 1,500m final.

2

Medals, all silver, that Kenya have so far won at the 2025 World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi, India

The fairest of them all at 2025 Concours d'Elegance



Sati Gata Aura parades his magnificent 1947 MG TC that was declared the overall car winner of the well-attended 53rd Africa Concours d'Elegance motorshow at Ngong Racecourse, Nairobi on Sunday. BILLY OGADA | NATION

SportPesa League Newbies Bomet find the going tough, so do seasoned Tusker

We are a good team, says Gor deputy coach after win



FLYING TACKLE: KCB defender Josphat Andafu (left) in an aerial tussle with Mathare United midfielder Paul Kinyanjui during their SportPesa League match at Moi International Sports Centre, Annex ground, Nairobi on Friday. CHRIS OMOLLO | NATION

K'Ogalo bounce back, Shabana and Ranger keep perfect record after two outings

BY VICTOR OTIENO

Gor Mahia recovered from their poor start in the SportPesa League as Tusker, and newcomers APS Bomet faltered again, piling early pressure on their coaches.

The record 21-time league champions started their campaign with a surprise 1-0 loss to Bidco United but bounced back on Saturday with a 2-0 win over 2009 champions Sofapaka at Dandora Stadium

New Gor signing Ghanaian Ebenezer Adukwaw continued with his impressive form as he scored a brace, his second a stunning strike from distance.

Upon noticing Sofapaka goalkeeper Victor Kamungo off his line, Adukwaw unleashed a powerful left-footed shot from midfield that sailed true to ripple the net.

Many fans have tipped the strike as a strong contender for goal-of-the-season.

"I got a wonderful goal. I am very happy," remarked Adukwaw, adding that every match is "very tough."

The victory eased pressure off the shoulders of Gor's new coach Charles Kwabla Akonnor of Ghana.

The club's assistant coach Ko-

bi-Mensah Bismark hailed the team for the redemption.

"I think it is always important to respond well and the players have done exactly that. Winning today's game is a sign we are a good team," he said.

For 13-time champions Tusker, they were not as lucky in their bid for redemption as they went down 2-1 to Posta Rangers earlier at the same venue.

The brewers had lost 2-0 to KCB in the season's opening match on September 19 - a result that saw a section of the club's supporters call for the firing of coach Charles Okere.

Speculation was rife that Okere would be shown the door at the end of last season after he guided Tusker to a fourth place finish.

However, the club chose to stick with him for another season.

"We have now lost two consecutive matches and it doesn't look good. We need to put in more work," said Okere.

Perhaps the only positive news for Tusker after the second round of matches is that their marquee signing this season striker Erick Kapaito opened his accounts.

The 2018, and 2021 league Golden Boot winner is among the players the brewers are banking on in their quest to reclaim the ti-

tle they last won in 2022.

Bomet are the only other team to have lost both their opening matches.

The ambitious South Rift region side, who have declared they are at this level to compete, had a rude welcome to the league when they were hammered 4-2 by hosts Shabana two weekends back.

On Sunday, they went down 2-0 to visiting Murang'a Seal, a result that has piled more pressure on their coach Michael Nam.

Num replaced Evans Mafuta, the coach who guided Bomet to promotion to the SportPesa League.

SportPesa League

	P	W	D	L	F	AG	GA	D	Pts
1. Shabana	2	2	0	0	5	2	3	6	
2. Posta Rangers	2	2	0	0	4	2	2	6	
3. Ulinzi Stars	2	1	1	0	1	0	1	4	
4. Gor Mahia	2	1	0	1	2	1	1	3	
5. KCB	2	1	0	1	2	1	1	3	
6. Murng'a Seal	2	1	0	1	2	1	1	3	
7. Bidco United	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3	
8. Mathare United	2	1	0	1	2	2	0	3	
9. K. Sharks	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	
10. AFC Leopards	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	
11. K. Homeboyz	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	
12. Mara Sugar	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	
13. Bandari	2	0	1	1	0	1	-1	1	
14. Sofapaka	2	0	1	1	1	3	-2	1	
15. Kenya Police	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
16. Nairobi United	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
17. Tusker	2	0	0	2	1	4	-3	0	
18. APS Bomet	2	0	0	2	2	6	-4	0	

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Goals that were scored in the second round of matches of the 2025/2026 SportPesa League

Mafuta does not have the CAF 'A' License required to coach in the top-flight league.

He has been retained in the team's technical bench.

Is a new order being established in the league?

Shabana and Rangers are perfect on six points from two matches.

Shabana defeated host Bandari 1-0 on Sunday to go top of the standings.

Shabana's faithful midfielder Brain Michira scored Shabana's winning goal to extend his tally to three thus far.

Rangers are placed second with six points after their 2-1 identical wins over Tusker and Mathare.

After falling 2-1 to Rangers in their opener, Mathare, who lifted the title in 2008, redeemed themselves with an upset 1-0 win over KCB on Friday.

KCB beat fancied Tusker in their league opener only to lose to Mathare on Friday.

This result did not amuse the bankers' coach Robert Matano, a proven league winner, who issued a bold declaration.

"I think this might be our last loss. We cannot afford to lose again in that manner. We have lost but in a bad way," said an angry Matano as he placed blame on goalkeeper Bonphas Munyasa.

Nine goals were scored in the second round of matches.

EUROPEAN STANDINGS

PREMIERLEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Liverpool	6	5	0	1	12	7	15
2 Arsenal	6	4	1	1	12	3	13
3 Crystal Palace	6	3	3	0	8	3	12
4 Tottenham	6	3	2	1	11	4	11
5 Sunderland	6	3	2	1	7	4	11
6 Bournemouth	6	3	2	1	8	7	11
7 Man City	6	3	1	2	14	6	10
8 Chelsea	6	2	2	2	11	8	8
9 Brighton	6	2	2	2	9	9	8
10 Fulham	6	2	2	2	7	8	8
11 Leeds	6	2	2	2	6	9	8
12 Everton	5	2	1	2	6	5	7
13 Brentford	6	2	1	3	9	11	7
14 Man Utd	6	2	1	3	7	11	7
15 Newcastle	6	1	3	2	4	5	6
16 Aston Villa	6	1	3	2	4	6	6
17 Nottm Forest	6	1	2	3	5	10	5
18 Burnley	6	1	1	4	6	13	4
19 West Ham	5	1	0	4	5	13	3
20 Wolves	6	0	1	5	4	13	1

BUNDESLIGA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 B. München	5	5	0	0	22	3	15
2 Dortmund	5	4	1	0	11	3	13
3 Leipzig	5	4	0	1	7	7	12
4 Frankfurt	5	3	0	2	17	13	9
5 Stuttgart	5	3	0	2	7	6	9
6 Leverkusen	5	2	2	1	10	8	8
7 Köln	5	2	1	2	10	9	7
8 Freiburg	5	2	1	2	9	9	7
9 St. Pauli	5	2	1	2	8	8	7
10 Hoffenheim	5	2	1	2	9	11	7
11 Union Berlin	5	2	1	2	8	11	7
12 Wolfsburg	5	1	2	2	7	7	5
13 Hamburg	5	1	2	2	2	8	5
14 Mainz 05	5	1	1	3	5	6	4
15 Bremen	5	1	1	3	8	14	4
16 Augsburg	5	1	0	4	8	12	3
17 Heidenheim	5	1	0	4	4	10	3
18 M'gladbach	5	0	2	3	5	12	2

LA LIGA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Barcelona	7	6	1	0	21	5	19
2 Real Madrid	7	6	0	1	16	8	18
3 Villarreal	7	5	1	1	13	5	16
4 Elche	7	3	4	0	10	6	13
5 Atlético	7	3	3	1	14	9	12
6 Betis	7	3	3	1	11	7	12
7 Espanyol	7	3	3	1	10	9	12
8 Getafe	7	3	2	2	8	9	11
9 Sevilla	7	3	1	3	11	10	10
10 Athletic	7	3	1	3	7	8	10
11 Alavés	7	2	2	3	6	7	8
12 Valencia	6	2	2	2	8	10	8
13 Osasuna	7	2	1	4	5	7	7
14 Levante	7	1	2	4	11	14	5
15 Rayo	7	1	2	4	7	10	5
16 Celta	7	0	5	2	6	9	5
17 Real Sociedad	7	1	2	4	7	11	5
18 Mallorca	7	1	2	4	6	11	5
19 Oviedo	6	1	0	5	2	11	3
20 Girona	7	0	3	4	3	16	3

LIGUE ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 PSG	6	5	0	1	12	4	15
2 Lyon	6	5	0	1	8	3	15
3 Marseille	6	4	0	2	12	5	12
4 Monaco	6	4	0	2	14	10	12
5 Strasbourg	6	4	0	2	9	7	12
6 Lille	6	3	1	2	13	9	10
7 Lens	6	3	1	2	8	5	10
8 Rennes	6	2	3	1	7	8	9
9 Brest	6	2	1	3	11	11	7
10 Toulouse	6	2	1	3	9	11	7
11 Paris	6	2	1	3	10	13	7
12 Nice	6	2	1	3	7	10	7
13 Lorient	6	2	1	3	9	14	7
14 Auxerre	6	2	0	4	4	8	6
15 Le Havre	6	1	2	3	6	8	5
16 Nantes	6	1	2	3	5	7	5
17 Angers	6	1	2	3	3	6	5
18 Metz	6	0	2	4	5	13	2

SERIE 'A'

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Milan	5	4	0	1	9	3	12
2 Napoli	5	4	0	1	10	5	12
3 Roma	5	4	0	1	5	1	12
4 Juventus	5	3	2	0	9	5	11
5 Inter	5	3	0	2	13	7	9
6 Atalanta	5	2	3	0	10	4	9
7 Cremonese	5	2	3	0	6	4	9
8 Como	5	2	2	1	6	4	8
9 Bologna	5	2	1	2	5	5	7
10 Cagliari	5	2	1	2	5	5	7
11 Udinese	5	2	1	2	5	8	7
12 Sassuolo	5	2	0	3	7	8	6
13 Torino	4	1	1	2	1	8	4
14 Lazio	4	1	0	3	4	4	3
15 Fiorentina	5	0	3	2	3	6	3
16 Verona	5	0	3	2	2	8	3
17 Genoa	4	0	2	2	2	4	2
18 Parma	4	0	2	2	1	5	2
19 Pisa	5	0	2	3	3	6	2
20 Lecce	5	0	2	3	4	10	2

Premier League

Shabana, Rangers perfect as Gor bounce back and newbies Bomet find competition level tough after round two matches P.35



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Athletics Migori-born athlete is now the fastest woman over the distance this season and lies 7th on all-time best list



Kenya's Lilian Odira crosses the finish line ahead of Britain's Georgia Hunter Bell and Britain's Keely Hodgkinson to win the 2025 Tokyo World Athletics Championships women's 800m final at Japan National Stadium on September 21. PHOTO | REUTERS

How Odira transformed from an also-run to world champion

Women's 800m gold medallist says after getting eliminated in semi-final of the 2024 Paris Olympic Games she changed her training regime to build her strength

BY BERNARD ROTICH

Lilian Odira capped a storming performance by Kenyan women at the 2025 Tokyo World Athletics Championships with a sensational gold in the 800 metres race.

Her victory, on the final day of competition on September 21, gave Kenya a clean sweep of the gold medals in the middle and long distance races, that is, from 800m to marathon, becoming the first country in history to achieve such a feat.

And she did it in a personal best and championship record time of

1:54.62.

World new agency Reuters broke her story with the headline "Kenyan Odira storms to shock 800m gold".

World Athletics published her exploits under the heading "Odira times finish to perfection to win surprise 800m gold in Tokyo".

The *Nation*, euphorically screamed "Kenya writes athletics story" and dramatically described how she brilliantly played her cards on the home stretch to smash the 42-year-old championship record.

The 26-year-old Odira dedicated her victory to her two daughters

and said she has been working hard in training because of them.

"Getting into the championships, I was in good shape and I really felt strong and I just had to run calculated races to make it to the final, and here I am, the world champion. I'm so excited about my performance because it was my first time competing at the championships," Odira told *Nation Sports*.

What many Kenyans may not know are the hours of daily training that Odira put in, and her change in training regime that eventually made her the strongest 800m runner in Tokyo.

She attributes her success to participating in cross country races which tremendously built her endurance with a podium finish in Tokyo her season's main objective.

"I competed in a number of local cross country races and that

helped me a lot because I was working on my resilience and endurance before heading to the track," she said.

Odira raced in four local cross country meets in the 2km loop category, finishing third in Bomet, second in Olkalau and Sirikwa Classic and third at the national championships.

That endurance building paid off beautifully.

"We crossed the 400m mark with 55 seconds and that was quite fast for me because I'm not a 400m athlete and I had to be patient and keep my focus. The 800m race is tactical and I had to hold on until the 600m mark where I started my move. I saw myself in the top three but towards the end a dug deep and found I had reservoirs of strength to coast through to victory," Odira recounts her Tokyo run.

It was a crowning moment for a

girl who had been overshadowed for long in the 800m race by more illustrious runners the likes of her compatriot Mary Moraa, Keely Hodgkinson of Great Britain and Athing Mu of the USA.

Odira represented Kenya at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games women's 800m exiting at the semi-final stage after finishing a disappointing fourth in a time of 1:58.53.

It is after this performance that Odira took a step back to critically review her training alongside her coach of three years Jecinta Muraguri.

"My coach understands how my

body works. She knows how to handle me well and I treat her as my mother despite being my boss at the Kenya Prisons Service in Nairobi. We have worked so well together since we met. We agreed I venture into cross country to build my strength," she said.

The rest is history.

Well, a year later, Odira is the fastest woman over 800m this season and is currently ranked fourth in the world behind Georgia Hunter Bell and Hodgkinson of Great Britain and Audrey Werro of Switzerland.

Odira is the second fastest Kenyan over the distance after the great Pamela Jelimo who holds the national record of 1:54.01. Odira lies seventh on the all-time list of best 800m runners in the world thanks to her Tokyo effort.

Odira was born on April 18, 1999 in Ndonyo Village, Suna West, in Migori. She joined Ndonyo Primary School before transferring to Bondonyironge Primary School where she did her Kenya Certificate of Primary School (KCPE).

She would later join Sagero Mixed Secondary School before shifting to Nyota High School and then St Peter's Keberesi High School on an athletics scholarship.

"I got the scholarship through my talent and it is at Keberesi that I started running in the 800m races."

Odira showed her vast potential by winning the 2016 Kenya Secondary School Games nationals girls' 800m title and the East Africa Secondary School Games crown over the same distance that year.

"That is how my career started and I knew I was destined for greatness," she simply said.

Odira failed to make the Kenya team for the 2016 World Junior Championships after finishing third in the 800m national trials.

She joined Kenya Prisons Service in 2017 which paused her running career as she underwent training.

She resumed her athletics career in 2019 joining Rongai Athletics Club under coach Bernard Ouma until 2020 when Covid-19 struck and the camp was closed. She also had her first baby and the second followed soon after.

With two mouths to feed she returned to athletics with renewed vigour

The newly minted world champion says she will compete at this year's Kenya Prisons Service Cross Country Championships before sitting down with her coach to craft a long-term plan with the 2028 Olympic Games and 2027 World Athletics Championships in mind.

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Age of Lilian Odira, the reigning women's 800m world champion

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Clean cooking revolution in Kisumu

An entrepreneur is redefining the concept of waste in a region that has long depended on firewood and charcoal for cooking

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At Olex Techno, non-carbonised briquettes are compressed from raw agricultural residues such as rice husks, sugar cane bagasse and sawdust



How Kisumu entrepreneur is turning agricultural waste into clean fuel

BY NDUGU ABISAI

Just outside Kisumu City to the south, Alex Odundo, founder of Olex Techno, is redefining the concept of waste in a region that has long depended on firewood and charcoal. He is on a bold mission, which is not apparent from his modest workshop. He and his team are turning agricultural and industrial waste into clean, affordable fuel for households, hotels, schools and small businesses.

"I started this business immediately after college," says Alex, who has a penchant for innovation. His workshop—even in its modest state—boasts fabricated machinery that is useful not only for his work, but also for other industries in Kisumu and beyond.

"I wanted to create job opportunities and solve the problems I saw around me. At that time, there was a serious fuel crisis. Charcoal and firewood were becoming scarce, and the government had imposed restrictions for environmental reasons. We had to think differently."

Reliance on charcoal and firewood in Kenya has, for decades, put strain on both forests and household incomes. Kisumu, situated on the shores of Lake

Victoria, has not been immune to this issue. Fish fryers along the lake, local hotels and families all depended on these traditional fuels despite the rising costs and health hazards of smoky kitchens.

"Anytime you want to eat, you must cook. And when you think about cooking, you think about firewood, charcoal, or gas. For many people here, gas was too expensive. Firewood meant cutting trees, and charcoal meant the same. We asked ourselves: what if we turned waste into fuel?" he says.

It was this question and its answer that led to the creation of Olex Techno's flagship product: non-carbonised briquettes.

Unlike carbonised briquettes, which resemble charcoal, these are compressed from raw agricultural residues such as rice husks, sugarcane bagasse and sawdust, without first converting them into carbon. The result is a compact, firewood-like block that burns cleanly and efficiently.

The process is deceptively simple. Agricultural residues and sawdust, which are often discarded or burned as waste, are collected and dried. They are then compressed under high pressure into dense blocks.

"We call them non-carbonised briquettes because we don't burn the raw

In numbers

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Number of people directly employed at Olex Techno and many more are benefiting indirectly across the value chain. The team helps to turn agricultural and industrial waste into clean, affordable fuel for households, hotels, schools and small businesses.

material before moulding. The product burns with no smoke, unlike charcoal or firewood. And our customers tell us they save almost 50 percent compared to what they used to spend on cooking fuel."

His lifelong solution-oriented mission didn't stop there.

To ensure the briquettes worked effectively, Olex Techno developed custom stoves designed for their product. These stoves are slightly more expensive than conventional ones, but they pay for themselves through long-term savings.

Enter the Kenya Climate Innovation Centre (KCIC). With their technical and financial support, Olex Techno was able to design, test and manufacture stoves tailored for their briquettes.

"KCIC helped us acquire our machines and even expand the number of stoves we produce," says he. "They've walked with us not just technically, but also in business thinking. Honestly, we wouldn't be here without their support."

For Alex, the venture goes beyond fuel. It is about livelihoods. Olex Techno directly employs about seven young people, with many more benefiting indirectly across the value chain.

"We have people drying the raw materials, others collecting waste, some working on the machines, and others in sales and marketing," he explains. "It's a whole chain of operations. Most of them are youth and women, because this work needs their energy and creativity. For me, that's one of the biggest

achievements—creating jobs."

The company's products have also found an unexpected early market among women who fry fish along Lake Victoria. Traditionally, these women have relied on firewood to fry fish for customers passing through the lakeside stalls. Olex Techno is positioning these women as early adopters of their invention.

"They use a lot of firewood," explains Alex. "If they switch to briquettes, they save money and attract the attention from customers, because people ask about the fuel. That's how the word spreads."

Despite its promise, the road for Olex Techno has been far from smooth. Like many start-ups, financing remains a thorn in their flesh.

"When you start small, nobody wants to give you a loan for such a business," Alex admits.

"We struggle to do marketing ourselves. Sometimes, we even give out products for free, just so that people can try them and believe in them. It takes resources, and resources are always a challenge."

Transport costs are another challenge. It is costly to collect waste from rice mills, sugar factories and furniture workshops because the raw material is bulky.



The stove prototype Olex Techno is building at their workshop near Kisumu.

PHOTO | POOL

“Also, at the collection point, waste has no value. It only gains value once we bring it to the site and turn it into briquettes,” he says.

“But hiring trucks is expensive, and it pushes up the cost of the final product. That affects our competitiveness.”

Another challenge is raising awareness. Many customers are still unfamiliar with briquettes. Convincing them to switch from charcoal and firewood requires demonstrations, exhibitions and patience.

This is where KCIC’s support has been transformative. As well as funding machines, they have provided capacity building in investor readiness, financial management and legal compliance through the SHIFT programme. These interventions have enabled Olex Techno to prepare for growth.

“We’ve received training that opened our eyes,” he explains. “They prepared us not just technically, but also in business strategy. We are better prepared for the future because of them.”

Olex Techno has also collaborated with the Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute (KIRDI) on research and process improvement. These partnerships have boosted the enterprise’s technical credibility and operational capacity.

Olex Techno’s marketing strategy combines innovation with pragmatism. The team attends exhibitions, sets up demonstrations in open-air markets and engages directly with potential customers. However, Alex is also pragmatic about building a cus-

tomers base.

“One of our strategies is to work with women who already sell charcoal. Instead of stopping their trade immediately, we give them briquettes to sell alongside. Over time, as briquettes become popular, they shift from charcoal to briquettes. That way, they don’t lose income, and we gain new markets.”

Alex’s vision extends beyond Kisumu. In the short term, he wants Olex Techno to become the region’s leading producer of briquettes. In the longer term, he dreams of expanding into other countries and establishing briquettes as a widely accepted alternative to wood fuel.

“Our goal is to drastically reduce the use of firewood and charcoal in Kenya. If we can scale this up, we will conserve forests, reduce carbon emissions, and make cooking more affordable for households. Cooking is universal. Unless we solve this problem, we won’t achieve our goals for environmental conservation.”

Through his mission of climate-smart innovations in Kenya, he has been working to bridge waste management, clean energy and livelihoods, and showcase the pivotal role that small, community-rooted businesses can play in the country’s green transition.

“We are turning waste into wealth. And in the process, we are giving people cleaner kitchens, cheaper meals, and a healthier environment. With the right support, this can transform not just Kisumu, but the whole country,” he concludes.

If we can scale this up, we will conserve forests, reduce carbon emissions and make cooking more affordable for households

Alex Odundo, founder of Olex Techno



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Trash to treasure: Pharmacist transforming plastic and glass waste into home decor

This type of art is seen as a hobby or a way to relieve stress, but for Ambiche, it is a calling as well as a source of livelihood

BY FRIDAH OKACHI

For many years, plastic jerrycans used for packaging cooking oil have mostly been reused in homes for fetching water. However, in Oruba Royal Estate in Migori town, Nixtone Ambiche, a 33-year-old pharmacist, is redefining this concept by transforming plastic jerrycans into decorative items and baskets.

Every Friday, his day off, he travels from Kisumu, where he works, to Migori County to make items such as flower pots, baskets, household containers and ornaments.

For many, this type of art is seen as a hobby or a way to relieve stress. But for Ambiche, it is a calling as well as a source of livelihood, particularly given the high cost of living.

"My monthly salary as a pharmacist averages Sh30,000, so I had to find an alternative source



Flower vases made from plastic containers by Nixtone Ambiche at Oruba Royal Estate in Migori town on September 5. FRIDAH OKACHI | NATION nation@daily.com

of income," explains Ambiche.

He was inspired by a friend who sympathised with him when he was unable to raise money for his tuition fees to join a medical training college.

"I stayed at home for more than three years until a friend encouraged me to start this art. He reminded me to use my art talent, which he had noticed since our days in primary school,

to raise my fees," he says.

He started with a simple trial using a two-litre plastic container, and has now grown a thriving business that turns waste into functional art.

That encouragement from his friend fuelled his motivation and pushed him to experiment with larger 20-litre containers. With a vision, patience, and determination, Ambiche shows that true

art is not just about beauty, but also money.

"Art is something I was born with and isn't easy when you have no capital to start. However, the purpose, patience, and the courage will always push you to see value where others see waste and eventually succeed," he says.

"Transforming those containers boosted my confidence, although it took me about three

hours to make my first flower pot. The first time I sold it, I earned Sh400."

That breakthrough enabled him to enrol at the Kenya Medical Training College (KMTTC) in Meru County in 2022.

When they relocated to Meru, his wife encouraged him to scale up his business, as many customers appreciated his craft.

"The first flower vase she saw, she praised me for it. She told me it was a good job and that I should not give up. That gave me motivation. Even my friends kept calling daily to ask about my progress," Ambiche says.

With that support, he invested more energy into his craft until he completed his pharmacy course and secured employment in Kisumu County. Still, he chose to continue the art business in Migori County.

Ambiche's creativity serves direct practical purposes as well as decoration.

He transforms 10 and 20-litre plastic jerrycans into laundry baskets, storage containers or flower pots for both natural and artificial flowers. Five-litre jerry cans are repurposed into paper holders, onion and carrot storage containers, or food carriers for students. "I want people to see that art is not just about decoration. It can be functional," Ambiche explains.

He often buys the raw materials cheaply from his customers. Sometimes hospitals sell them at low prices, especially when the jerrycans lack lids, which reduces their usefulness.

Today, Ambiche has expanded his range of innovations to include glass waste as well as plastics. He transforms them into drinking cups, bowls, paper holders, flower vases and glasses for beverages. His unique, customisable designs attract a growing clientele.

"As for bottles, I usually collect them from hotels. They give them to me for free since they don't know where else to dispose of them," he explains. "In two months, I can collect up to 14 sacks of glass, each weighing about 90 kilogrammes. What others see as useless waste is raw material waiting to be transformed."

Between 2022 and 2024, he has inspired many young people. While living in Meru for two and a half years, he taught three young people how to make products from plastic and glass.

Now, in Migori County, he mentors young people who produce household glass items.

"All of them are under 30 and jobless. Instead of sitting idle, I decided to teach them something meaningful," he says. To him, art is not just about survival; it's

about empowering others with income-generating skills.

Despite juggling pharmacy work with his art business, Ambiche's dream remains clear: to establish a company dedicated to recycling plastics and glass. "I believe one day I will set up a company. This is not just art, it's about protecting the environment too."

His vision is to merge art, sustainability, and entrepreneurship in order to create jobs for young people and reduce environmental pollution.

On average, the entrepreneur earns about Sh15,000 or less per month from his art. Though this may seem small, to him it is proof of hidden potential. Every cup, basket or glass tells the story of how waste is transformed into value and how challenges can lead to hope.

"Art lives in me. Even with my busy pharmacy schedule, I can't stop creating. Whatever little I earn, I share with my teammates who stay behind working from Saturday through Thursday."

Most of Ambiche's customers come through referrals and social media, particularly TikTok, where his work has attracted buyers from as far away as Nairobi County.

"Recently, a customer ordered 10 items. I sold each at Sh350. The market here in Migori is different from Meru County. I remember Mondays, Fridays and month-ends were the best for sales in Meru. In Migori, customers appear randomly, but the demand remains steady," he explains.

However, he faces challenges, particularly when collecting waste materials, as it takes time to prepare them manually without machinery. The carving process also poses a risk of injury.

"While working, you can cut yourself or your finger can be trapped inside a jerry can. But I am very careful."

Another challenge is the lack of finishing materials. Paint would greatly enhance the value of his products, but for now, Ambiche sells them unpainted and at lower prices. He hopes to be able to get paint to make his products more attractive. "Some customers see my work as just a jerry can instead of appreciating the creativity behind it."

His major obstacle with glass is disposing of leftover shards, since he lacks a machine to melt them. This forces him to stockpile them and later sell them cheaply to customers from Nakuru and Nairobi.

"If I had a melting machine, I would convert the glass waste into strong fence posts or flower pots," he says.

As Kenya continues to grapple with unemployment and environmental pollution, Ambiche's story serves as a reminder that solutions can be found in the most unexpected of places, such as discarded plastic jerrycans and bottles carelessly thrown away in the environment in which we live.

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When art heals



Inside Kenyatta National Hospital's Ward 1E where children battle cancer, the most powerful medicine isn't always in a syringe. Sometimes, it's a paintbrush. The result is not just beautiful paintings, but a restored will to fight and a practical way to clear hospital bills. [P.4&5](#)

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EDITOR'S NOTE

No child should fight alone

Each September, we pause to address a subject often too painful to discuss yet too important to ignore: childhood cancer. Few words carry the weight of a cancer diagnosis, especially when the patient is a child.

Behind every brave smile of a child battling cancer is a story of immense courage. These are children who trade playgrounds and classrooms for hospital wards, undergoing treatments that test the limits of their young bodies while displaying resilience that defies their years. They are supported by families clinging to hope and navigating a world of fear and uncertainty.

This struggle is part of a global crisis. Childhood cancer remains largely invisible, often overshadowed by adult health concerns.

Yet the statistics are stark: while survival rates for paediatric cancer exceed 80 per cent in high-income countries, fewer than 30 per cent of children in low- and middle-income nations like Kenya survive.

This is more than a disparity—it is an injustice. Behind every number is a life interrupted, a family shattered, and a battle demanding urgent attention. In Kenya, too many children are diagnosed late, forced to travel far from home for treatment, or receive no treatment at all due to inadequate resources.

This month, we honour the young warriors who face cancer with resilience, the parents and caregivers who stand by them every step of the way, and the healthcare professionals who devote their lives to treating, comforting, and searching for cures.

The gaps persist: delayed diagnoses, limited treatment access, and the emotional and financial toll on families. Through stories, interviews, and expert insights, we aim to raise awareness, inspire support, and push for change—because no child should die from a treatable disease.

As you read this special coverage for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, we invite you to listen with empathy, share widely, and support efforts that bring hope, healing, and brighter futures to children living with cancer.

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CHILDHOOD CANCER



Global	Survival rates:	Common cancers:	Key barriers:
400,000 Estimated new cases per year (0-19 years)	80% ↑ High-income countries 30% ↓ Low and middle-income countries	»Leukemia »Brain and CNS tumours »Lymphomas	»Late diagnosis »Limited diagnostics »Drug shortages »Few specialists »Treatment abandonment

Africa (2018-2022)	Common cancers:	Key barriers:
100,000 Estimated new cases per year 41% Average survival rate 25% Treatment abandonment	»Burkitt lymphoma »Wilms tumour »Retinoblastoma »Leukemia »Hodgkin lymphoma	»Late presentation »Weak pathology/radiology »Drug shortages »Limited oncology workforce »High costs

Kenya	Common cancers:	Key barriers:	Major treatment centres:
2,500 Estimated new cases per year (2021-2023) 20-30% Survival rate (2021-2023) 60% Survival target (2018) by 2030	»Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) »Burkitt lymphoma »Wilms tumour »Retinoblastoma »Hodgkin lymphoma	»Late diagnosis »Long travel to referral hospitals »Financial barriers	»Kenyatta National Hospital »Moi Teaching & Referral Hospital »Gertrude's Children's Hospital »Aga Khan Nairobi

Sources: World Health Organization, National Cancer Institute of Kenya, Ministry of Health. Compiled: Linet Owoko. Graphic: Emmanuel Olulo

Treatment

BY PAULINE ONGAJI

Kenya makes strides in childhood cancer fight, but challenges remain

Childhood cancer remains one of the most pressing, yet often overlooked, health challenges in Kenya. While survival rates for paediatric cancer exceed 80 per cent in high-income countries, less than 30 per cent of children in low- and middle-income countries like Kenya survive. This stark difference is largely due to late diagnosis, limited access to care, and the high cost of treatment.

However, the last five years have seen notable progress in strengthening childhood cancer diagnosis and treatment through a combination of technological innovation, policy changes, and international partnerships. The

launch of the National Cancer Control Strategy (2023-2027) has placed childhood cancers among priority areas, aiming to improve survival rates through early detection, access to essential medicines, and workforce development.

One key innovation is the integration of childhood cancer screening and referral services into existing maternal and child health programmes in

public health facilities. This approach allows health workers at lower-tier facilities to recognise early signs of cancer and refer patients for further care.

In 2022, the Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Kenyan Paediatric Association and partners like St. Jude Children's Research Hospital launched a national paediatric oncology training programme to equip frontline health work-

ers with the skills needed to detect and manage childhood cancers. Another breakthrough has been the digitisation of diagnostic services, particularly in rural and underserved areas. Telepathology services, where tissue samples are scanned and shared with specialists remotely, are now being used in pilot counties, reducing delays in diagnosis and treatment planning.

"But still, there are serious challenges on access to precision diagnostics, which are key for risk stratification that determines the treatment each child should receive," explains Dr Irene Nzamu, paediatric haematologist and head of pediatric oncology at Kenyatta National Hospital. "It's one thing to have a policy document, and another to see real

change on the ground implementation. We still struggle to access timely precise diagnosis for our children, including immunophenotyping and cytogenetics. In most cases, families have to pay out of pocket, and the diagnostic services are often outsourced. That means we're still a long way from achieving timely and affordable diagnosis for our children. However, as a country we are making positive steps towards achieving this goal." But despite the progress, more needs to be done as cost of care remains a critical challenge, with many families struggling to afford transportation, housing near treatment centers, and out-of-pocket costs for diagnostics and supportive therapies.

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In partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

HealthyNation

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Setbacks

How Homa Bay's lack of a cancer centre costs time, money and lives—and the plan to fix it

BY ANGELINE OCHIENG
AND GEORGE ODIWUOR

Every two weeks, Benta Otieno makes a long journey from her home in Oyugi, Homa Bay County, to a health facility in Kisii. She travels so her 14-year-old son, a colon cancer patient, can receive chemotherapy; a treatment unavailable in their home county.

Homa Bay County lacks a dedicated facility to treat cancer patients, including children. According to the County Chief Officer for Health, Dr Kevin Osuri, the main referral hospital sends up to 15 cancer patients each week to neighbouring counties for management.

Benta Oketch, an oncology nurse at Homa Bay County Referral Hospital, explains that the facility is currently equipped only for screening and staging cancer.

"After screening, we perform an X-ray and later collect tissue samples, which are transported to a lab in Nairobi for tests," says Ms Oketch. The results take about two weeks to return.

Once the results are in, the hospital performs a CT scan to determine the disease's stage and then refers patients to a better-equipped facility outside the county for treatment. The hospital also provides counselling for patients and their caregivers.



"The childhood cancer cases are often referred either to Moi or Kenyatta Teaching and Referral Hospitals," says the nurse. She notes that

the most prevalent childhood cancers in the county are leukaemia and cancers of the blood and bone marrow.

"For the last two years, we have referred 20 cases of childhood cancers to other facilities for treatment," says Ms Oketch, adding that the cases might be higher since some of the patients are referred directly from the paediatric clinics.

The health expert further notes that referral of patients for either diagnosis or treatment often leads to late diagnosis, affecting the treatment outcomes after the cancer. Patient follow-ups, she says, have also revealed that some fail to access services at the referral facilities, citing financial constraints.

"We also have cases where the patients end up defaulting treatment due to the distance to the hospitals."

A partnership between the county government of Homa Bay and the Aga Khan hospital is, however, promising to offer relief to the cancer patients.

The two signed a Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate the establishment of the first cancer centre under the East Africa Comprehensive Cancer Project.

According to Ms Oketch, the groundbreaking of the project set for next month will see the county put up both child and adult cancer

care clinics in two months.

"Before a child is diagnosed with cancer, we always refer them to different facilities. The same happens once they are diagnosed and referred for treatment. The waiting period often allows the disease to progress, affecting treatment outcomes."

She adds: "With the facility in place, the cancers will be diagnosed and managed at an early stage, improving our treatment outcomes."

Dr Osuri further says the facility will remedy the challenge of staff shortage and poor infrastructure that has derailed cancer care in the county.

Commentary

BY DR NELLY BOSIRE

Barry* was the typical middle child. It did not help that he was born after a responsible first-born brother and before an adorable little sister. He did not have to play the protective big brother as that role was already taken; and he was no longer the family baby who needed protection. This left him to his devices a lot of the time, which he spent getting into mischief.

Barry's chief partner in crime was his beloved dog, Sport, making the two an ungovernable duo! Barry was an outdoorsy boy, spending all his free time exploring the farm, climbing trees, eating all manner of berries and fruit out there, and swimming with Sport in the nearby creek, which may have been too small to swim in but creative Barry had dammed it downstream, creating his very own little swimming pool. He drove his mother crazy. He was never home for lunch during school holidays as he could never be found. He showed up in the evenings, a dirty little imp with a lost shoe or a torn T-shirt, mostly muddy or dripping wet; with Sport looking no better beside him. Every evening, the routine was the same; mum would lament his poor state as she banished him to the bathroom, threatening to let him walk barefoot and live shirtless. All Barry wanted was a hot meal for himself and his dog, and a bed.

Despite all of his mum's admonishing about Barry catching disease out there, he was the only child in the house who hardly got sick. His colds lasted a day, and he had never had a fever in his life. Nothing could hold him

Little warriors, big hearts: The power of peer support in wards

They were just children, but they were veterans in the war against cancer. And for one boy named Barry, they became his most crucial treatment

down. His dad always said that the wild berries he ate out there gave him a sterling immune system. As a result, the day his mum found him on the couch in the middle of the afternoon, she knew instinctively that he was not OK. With a burning forehead and glassy eyes, she grabbed him and headed straight to hospital.

Barry was admitted at the local district hospital and basic tests done. He was initiated on antibiotics and antimalarials since he grew up in a malaria zone. Despite the medication, intravenous fluids and paracetamol for the fever, Barry showed no improvement in the next two days. He was transferred to the provincial hospital, where he stayed for a week. When the hospital's paediatrician reviewed Barry during his ward rounds, he noted that Barry had an enlarged liver and spleen, coupled with anaemia and a very high white blood cell count. His fevers were unremitting, his heart was failing and his feet were swollen. He was not convinced that this was malaria. He suspected that Barry had childhood leukaemia; but he lacked the necessary facilities to confirm the diagnosis. The eight-year-old boy was transferred to the re-

gional referral hospital.

His mother had to remain behind to watch Barry's siblings while his father, a teacher at the local high school, took leave from work to travel to the referral hospital with his son. Barry arrived at our hospital weak and quite sickly. He urgently needed blood transfusion as the severe anaemia was causing his heart to overwork, in an effort to keep his organs oxygenated by the little blood he had, causing it to fail. He was started on third line antibiotics, which were limited in variety at the time and used with extreme caution; and he underwent a raft of tests, not only to ascertain diagnosis but to also establish his body's current status. As a medical student, I spent a lot of time with Barry. As his heart settled after the blood transfusions; he had the energy to sit up in bed and regale me with stories of his dog Sport, and their wild adventures. I would tease him about how he clearly missed Sport more than any other family member. His dad concurred and reported that Sport was in even more distress at home.

Barry's diagnosis was confirmed as acute lymphoblastic leukaemia; a childhood blood cancer that commonly affected children aged five to 15 years of age. He soon made friends with other children in the ward who were there on treatment for various cancers, quickly building a kin-

ship. They would have to do that for company until he was ready to get back to Sport.

With his anaemia resolved by blood transfusion and his infection under control, Barry was initiated on his first round of chemotherapy. It was rough on his frail body; causing him severe vomiting, fatigue and weakness. He could not eat, spending the day on intravenous fluids. While his father fretted on how to help his son, support came from the most unlikely quarters; the other children in the ward facing a similar fate.

Survived it all

These youngsters cheered Barry up in a way that only they could. They teased him, officially inaugurating him into 'club chemotherapy'. They gave him a high five when he was able to start sipping water; brought his bowl closer when he had to throw up for the umpteenth time and emptied it as necessary; rubbed his back when he bent over to wretch; and put a cool flannel cloth on his forehead when he lay back to catch a breath.

These little ones were battle-hardened. They were into their multiple chemo courses and had survived it all. Most of them had never left the ward for months to years as they could not afford to go home and be back in time to get their next round of chemo. There was no guarantee they would be safe from infections at home, especially considering their compromised immunity. A few were onto second-line chemotherapy as their cancers had resisted their

first-line treatments, with a whispered prayer for success this time round. Within weeks, Barry had learnt the names of his chemotherapeutic drugs by heart, could interpret his blood counts; and understood the importance of avoiding infections. He had also made a new friend, Michael*, a boy nine-year-old, five months into treatment for Burkitts Lymphoma, having come to the ward with an orange-sized swelling on his jaw. Though Barry missed Sport greatly, he had acquired a new partner in crime. We were in for a rough ride as the only thing that would slow those two little rascals was their chemo day.

Hundreds of children across the country's cancer centres share Barry's experience, with some never having the opportunity to narrate their experiences. Thankfully, Michael and Barry did leave us and rejoined their families. I bet Sport gave the warmest welcome. I always wonder whether they ever reconnected. In the uniqueness of their childhood, they showed us the power of standing together in the face of adversity; winning as a team!

In the darkest of times in the fight against this monster called cancer, the spirit of resilience in children is above board. How they support each other through it all, mourn their departed, and celebrate their progress and recovery is heartwarming.

Even as care transitions from inpatient care to a mostly day-care model, the health systems must find ways to protect this spirit of Ubuntu among the little cancer warriors as its benefits are beyond question. Small adjustments such as group care, group scheduling for chemotherapy sessions, and hospital-led patient care groups that bring the children together both physically and online, will do wonders for their spirit in this tough journey. The children have shown us the power of standing together in the face of adversity; and they are winning as a team!

The writer is a gynaecologist/obstetrician.

The art therapy 'healing' children battling cancer



Inside KNH's Ward 1E, paintbrushes are transforming pain into hope, funding treatment and restoring joy for children

BY HELLEN SHIKANDA

frown at the rain for choosing to pour on a Friday evening, a day when the city awakens. Rain in Nairobi has a way of washing away the vibrant spirit that makes the city what it is.

My colleagues and I are en-route to Kitisuru, a suburb in the north-western part of Nairobi. Our destination is a restaurant where we are going for an art auction of pieces made by children living with cancer. The traffic snarl-up, caused by the rain, is crazy. As an art lover, the only beautiful thing about this evening is the assignment ahead. I am restless. Eager.

We get to the destination just after the first speech has been made—an introduction. The olive green wall on the right side of the room catches my eyes first. It is here that more than 20 white framed art pieces hang, waiting for the highest bidder to take them home.

The genesis of the output of this day is borne out of Ward 1E, a long-term paediatric oncology ward at the Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH). There, children enter frail, sick and with a cancer diagnosis, but every Thursday afternoon for the last five years, has given them something to look forward to. On this day, the children have art therapy sessions organised by a volunteer group from Hope for Cancer Kids.

About two weeks before this auction, I had joined them for an art therapy session. We got to the ward just after the afternoon hospital visiting window had closed. The ward, despite carrying the weight of sob stories, is colourful. There are paintings of cartoon characters like *Winnie the Pooh*, *Sofia the First* and *Lightning McQueen* on the blue walls. By the



I have had a parent come to ask me: 'where is this cancer on my child?' Because they think of cancer as something to be seen, like a large wound

Beatrice Amadi



bedside, the children have toys and some have hung their paintings from previous sessions. The nursing station is busy because it's time to give some of the children medication.

Unlike other wards, children in this ward do not need close parental supervi-



Dominic Mutinyu, who bought a piece titled '2 Fish' at Sh50,000 during the Hope for Cancer Kids Art Auction event held at Ankole Grill in Kitisuru, Nairobi, on September 26, PHOTO | BONFACE BOGITA

sion. Even though some of them are visited often, others rarely see their parents or guardians in months. The children are delighted when visitors come to engage in fun activities with them.

At the playground downstairs, the volunteers were prepping for the art session, starting by mixing colours. The class that day was on creating sunflowers using leaf impression art—a technique where they paint colours onto a leaf and press it onto plain paper. Once everything was set, the children were signalled to come down. They arrived in groups and some came down alone, running eagerly to their teachers who began by giving instructions for the day's activity. They were given paint brushes, a white piece of paper and small disposable plates which have different water

colours. "I am mixing primary colours to create the colour green," one child told me. I watched her silently as she painted. She was with her friend and they shared inside jokes that I couldn't relate to.

"Here's my final piece," she told her friend, who looked at it and smiled. She showed her instructor who congratulated her for completing the work.

"I enjoy these classes," she told me. I moved to another child. She was sitting with her instructor and was on her second painting for the day. She was looking for colour yellow and I got it for her from a different team. The boy from that other team reminded me to return it after using it. I promised to do exactly that. She was now drawing a love heart and had painted it red. She wanted to use the yellow colour to write the word

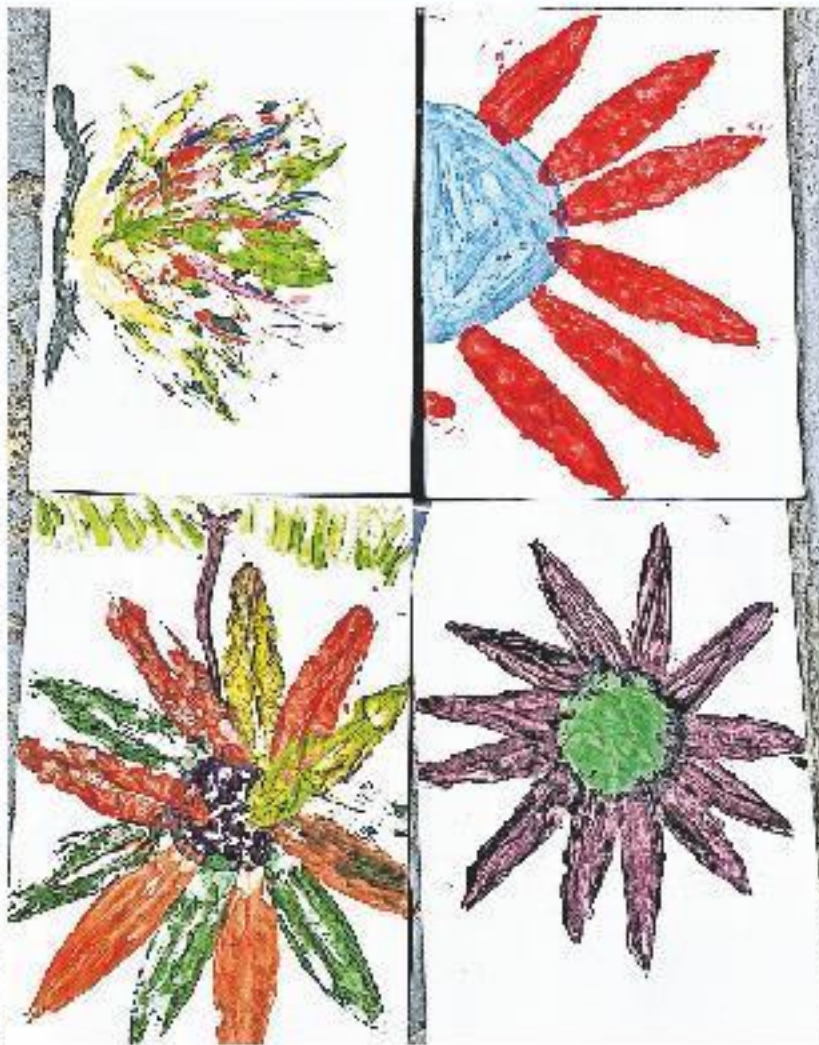
LOVE. At that moment, the meaning of was being there. Witnessing pain turned into joy through fun. Love means creating time for someone that cannot pay you for that time. Love means giving hope. Love means reminding these little children that they, too, matter.

I returned the yellow painting and moved on to a different team. There, a boy told me that they had mixed colours that matched my skin tone as a make-up foundation. He even tried to paint my face with the colours to prove his point. He ran away after that first stroke of paint.

Kanyi Ohawa, the lead instructor of the art therapy classes who also sits at the board of Hope for Cancer Kids as the chairperson, said these sessions make her feel that she is living her purpose.



Children battling cancer at Kenyatta National Hospital's oncology Ward 1E take part in an art therapy class on September 18. PHOTOS | FRANCIS NDERITU



Some of the art pieces drawn by cancer patients at KNH's Ward 1E.



Art paintings that were auctioned during the Hope for Cancer Kids Art Auction event held at Ankole Grill in Kitusuru, Nairobi, on September 26. PHOTO | BONFACE BOGITA



We come here every Thursday to give them a chance to be children again. We allow them to express themselves creatively, to play, to forget for a minute the things that they're going through

Kanyi Ohawa

"We come here every Thursday to give them a chance to be children again. We allow them to express themselves creatively, to play, to forget for a minute the things that they're going through," she said. The team has done this for about five years now. They do different types of art every week; it could be mosaic, painting, paper collage, drawing, crayons, and mirror painting.

For many years, Kenya has had two main public cancer centres that care for children: Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH) and KNH.

Kanyi said that at KNH, the two things that unite the children are their diagnosis and their love for art. "It started accidentally," she said. She is creative and one time before this programme started, a different volunteering group invited her to teach art to the children.

"I've always wondered how to give away my craft. When I came to this organisation, I started doing this," she noted. "When we first started, I used to think that I was coming to help them. I realised that I was helping me. It's the most precious time of the week for me and that's why I would not give it up for anything," she added.

Her most memorable moment was meeting a child who was once at Ward 1E and actively participated in her classes. He was cancer free when Kanyi met him a year later and had started an art business where he paints on t-shirts.

"That was more precious than any amount of money I can ever be paid," said Kanyi.

It's not every Thursday that the classes go as planned. The volunteers first assess the state of the children to know if most of them are in a position to work on the art projects. They take cues from their state of health, acknowledging that chronic illnesses have their ups and downs. For the children who cannot completely come downstairs to the

playground, some volunteers go to their beds and help in lifting their spirits.

There was a break between the art therapy session, and the children all went to the ward to take porridge. Within a few minutes, they came back down and started the second part of the therapy—a play date of sorts. They hopped onto a mini carousel merry-go-round, led by Abednego Mutua, a social worker at the hospital, along with younger volunteers. Their faces brightened as they pretended to be on a bus heading to western Kenya. Over the moon with excitement, they hoped the merry-go-round would spin round, and round, and round... until infinity. The art class ended at 4pm, and they all returned to the ward, heading straight to the entertainment room where a few other children were already watching cartoons. Books lined the shelves, toys filled the corners, and more paintings decorated the walls.

Beatrice Amadi has worked in the paediatric oncology unit for six years and currently serves as the principal nursing officer. She said working in this unit has humbled her profoundly. In her time there, she has witnessed many families disintegrate when they learn their child has cancer. This is because of the many myths surrounding cancer and the challenges parents face when dealing with the disease," she explained.

Beatrice believes the art therapy sessions form an essential part of treatment. She has observed that children often appear unwell in the morning hours, especially when awaiting procedures. But when the art volunteers ar-

rive, she notices a transformation—their faces brighten. "It does a lot to their well-being. It boosts their esteem, especially when the teachers tell them that their art is good. They sometimes come to show us and feel proud of their work," she noted.

If it were possible, she would want these activities done daily. For some children, especially those who are rarely visited, the sessions provide a sense of parental love they desperately need.

Beatrice emphasised the importance of supporting parents from the beginning, which is why the unit involves psychologists and social workers. This helps parents accept the diagnosis from a place of understanding rather than succumbing to myths.

"I have had a parent come and ask me: 'Where is this cancer on my child?' They think of cancer as something visible, like a large wound," she told *Healthy Nation*.

"Some parents believe children cannot get cancer at all. Others point fingers at relatives, especially when there have been family disputes. Empowering them with information, she said, goes a long way. Beatrice perked up when I asked about her happiest moments working as a paediatric oncology nurse.

"That is what has kept me here to this day," she said.

The nurses witness the children's suffering first-hand, and it's not easy. But what excites them, Beatrice explained, is watching patients arrive extremely sick and emaciated, then gradually improve once treatment begins. "It gives us joy," she said.

Some of the children she has treated are now cancer-free. However, a painful reality remains: because of family issues, some are left alone at the hospital. In these cases, the hospital has no choice but to place them in children's homes."

My colleagues and I went back to the newsroom in high spirits, wishing we could join them every Thursday.

Back at the art auction, during a panel discussion, Dr Shiyenzi Clinton, a paediatric haematology oncologist, says KNH receives about 400 to 450 new childhood cancer cases every year.

He says that even though some families are willing to come for cancer care, returning to the hospital after discharge becomes difficult for them.

"It is easier to call them champions, not survivors. It is not easy," he says, referring to the children's ongoing struggles.

"We are there to give them hope. Cancer is not a death sentence. We are fighting clinically to ensure every child diagnosed with cancer is given a chance to live again," he adds.

At the auction, Mutua, the social worker, urges fathers not to abandon their children after a cancer diagnosis.

The evening culminates with the actual auction. Attendees hold numbered raffle tickets as Kanyi works with an emcee to begin the bidding process. For each piece, she shares the story behind it before announcing the starting price. Only the highest bidder gets to take home the art that speaks to their heart.

One piece breaks the record for the highest bid that night, selling for Sh145,000—a new milestone for the team. Titled 'Walking Together,' the piece depicts friendship in the corridors of Ward 1E and was painted by five children. One of the young artists has been visited only once this year by her mother, who lives in Lokichogio, Turkana County. Without a phone and with another young child to care for, the mother is difficult to reach. The long journey from northern Kenya to Nairobi is also

a significant barrier. Funds raised from the auction help children like these by paying for their insurance and covering basic needs when their parents are unavailable.

I stand beside Dominic Mutinyu, one of the highest bidders of the evening, who purchases a piece titled '2 Fish.' The painting was created by a 13-year-old girl diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia, an aggressive form of cancer. She had fought bravely for nearly two years. Two weeks before she died, she participated in the art therapy sessions and completed her final piece.

One day in Ward 1E, she turned to a fellow young cancer patient in the next bed and quietly said, 'I am tired of this.' She died later that day.

During the auction, Dominic does not hesitate to raise his ticket and bid Sh50,000 for the piece. When no one goes higher, the beautiful work becomes his. I ask him why he is here tonight.

"I lost my mother to throat cancer some years ago. We only discovered it was cancer a few days before she died. After moving from hospital to hospital, we were referred to a teaching and referral hospital," he says.

"A kind medical officer pulled us aside and quietly confided that our mother had cancer, with no chance of survival, and that she was being admitted only for teaching purposes," he adds.

His mother's death devastated the family. He tells me he felt the weight not only emotionally, but financially as well.

"By the time she passed away at home in the village, I could only afford to borrow Sh50,000 (approximately USD 380) for a quick, modest burial," he recalls. He says the reality of cancer from his point of view is that the costs of treatment are high, there is a challenge of accessing the right facilities and a long struggle of being present during the days of treatment.

"If adults find this journey overwhelming, then for children, it is almost impossible. Children with cancer face a uniquely disadvantaged battle—one they did not choose, but one they must fight with every ounce of strength they have," he says.

He wonders what the little girl was thinking about when drawing the two fish. "Was it something small and seemingly insignificant that brought abundance and hope? Did she want to symbolise provision against the odds? Was it sustenance—in essence, life itself? Was it harmony, partnership, and resilience, symbolising cycles of life, endurance, and interconnectedness? Was it her way of expressing hope, simplicity, or even sharing something she enjoyed?" He muses. "We may never know."

The painting, he says, is no ordinary piece of art. It is a voice that still speaks, a reminder of resilience, and a call to action. "It represents the will and determination of a young girl who fought with everything she had—one who deserves to be remembered," he says.

His personal commitment to community service involves dedicating several hours each month to meaningful conversations that remind him that while humanity cannot solve some of the world's biggest problems—sickness, pain, and loss—there will be a definite end to all suffering.

We leave the auction as the olive green wall, once filled with art when we arrived, and now stands empty. Every piece has been purchased. This means more children with cancer will get another chance to fight.

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Resilience



Mary Mugure (right) with her 12-year-old daughter, Tabitha Blessing, who is battling cancer, at their home in Kahawa West, Nairobi, on September 23. PHOTOS | WILFRED NYANGARESI



Blessing displays some of her art pieces at their home during the interview.

Miracle child who survived after being given an 'end of life' status

After years of wrong treatments, 12-year-old Tabitha Blessing faces leukaemia with art, courage and a mother's love

BY WANJA MBUTHIA

The morning sun filters through the window of a single-room house in Kahawa West. Inside, Mary Mugure is preparing breakfast on a two-cooker burner, its base elevated by two 20-litre jerrycan. Her four-year-old daughter plays quietly on the floor. This is where we meet 12-year-old Tabitha Blessing, Mary's first-born daughter. To an outsider, she appears healthy, composed, and warm. When greeted with a "how are you?" She responds with a quiet, confident smile, "I'm blessed." But four years ago, even a stranger's eyes would have told a different story.

Blessing, then just eight, was a shadow of her current self, worn down by an illness that dimmed her light and tormented her mother. "My daughter led a normal life until 2021 when she started experiencing persistent headaches, swollen feet and hands, and tonsils," recalls Mary, her voice steady but her eyes betraying the memory of a pain so deep it has left permanent marks.

As any worried mother would, she sought medical attention for her daughter.

The cycle repeated itself — another five months of misdiagnosis and treatment for arthritis, TB and pneumonia.

She would get better, Mary thought. Yet, six months of medication yielded no improvement. They went to another health facility, and another,

but she was not getting better. All this time, in her telling, Blessing was taking medication to treat arthritis, TB, and pneumonia.

"I resorted to prayers. I tried various churches, made multiple goat sacrifices, but nothing was working out. My daughter was getting worse by the day," she admits. When that didn't offer her the answers, she turned to her family. Had her parents, who died when she was young, succumbed to a similar strange illness?

"My relatives turned their backs on me. They said we don't have a history of such an illness." Alone and terrified, Mary took one day at a time. Then, one evening, the unthinkable happened. Blessing lost consciousness and could not move.

"I was working as a waiter then and Blessing had stopped going to school because of her frail health," Mary recalls.

"When she fainted, I didn't know what to do. I was reluctant to take her to the hospital because, judging from my past experiences, we were not going to get a solution. But a neighbour encouraged me."

After a series of tests, the doctors called Mary aside. "They told me Blessing had leukaemia — a cancer of the blood," she says in a way as if she is disclosing the diagnosis for the first time.

"Before this, I didn't know that young children could get cancer, and I also didn't know that cancer was curable. So, in that moment, my world was crumbling."

At the health facility, she was counselled and referred to another hospital for Blessings' chemotherapy sessions. Bearing the burden of a sick child, work and the many hospital visits, her marriage crumbled. "He said there was no cancer in his lineage."

"I felt depressed and lonely," Mary offers. "And for a while, I deserted Blessing in the hospital. I was overwhelmed and alone with no family

or friends to turn to, and at the same time, I was taking care of my other daughter, who was just one month old."

Her lifeline appeared in the form of Julian Maina, programmes assistant lead at Hope for Cancer Kids, a non-profit organisation dedicated to providing support, resources, and hope to families affected by childhood cancer.

"I was called by the social workers, nurses, and the doctor who was attending to Blessing," Julian recalls. "At the point they were calling me, it was not only because of money but also the abandonment issue."

Hospital bills

Mary was no longer visiting her daughter, yet Blessing kept telling the medical staff that she was yearning for her. Julian offered not just empathy, but a profound challenge and a promise. "I think the one thing I said to her was: 'Do not do to her what everyone has done to you. This is your child, and you never know how long you have left with her. So, give it your best.'"

Hope for Cancer Kids assured Mary they would finance her transport to the hospital.

"We became like a family to them," Julian smiles. Beyond emotional support and practical aid on boarding them to the social health scheme, the organisation provided something equally vital: a sense of purpose and a means to contribute to her own survival.

Inside the ward at Kenyatta National Hospital, of Kenyatta, Blessing discovered an extraordinary talent.

"Blessing is an artist," Julian explains with palpable pride. "She learned how to crochet scarves while at the ward, and she is also very good at colouring and art things." This creativity became a crucial part of Blessing's therapy and her financial lifeline.

The organisation frames the chil-

dren's artwork and sells it at auctions and events. The proceeds are split: 70 per cent goes to clearing hospital bills, initially through the National Health Insurance Fund and now through the Social Health Authority (SHA), while 30 per cent is deposited directly into the child's hospital account.

"Blessing has really benefited," says Julian. "On more than four occasions, we have sold her art and given her 30 per cent of the proceeds. That money, when SHA is clearing a bill of, say Sh500,000, it will clear a portion. The money from her art is used to top up the remaining balance. She is super talented, and her work is reflective of a very creative and bright mind."

In November 2024, Blessing underwent her final chemotherapy session and was discharged, attending regular clinics until March this year. Her progress has been nothing short of remarkable.

Godfrey Wadu, a clinical officer who has walked

Blessing displays some of her hand-made scarves at their home in Kahawa West

with Blessing since April 2022, confirms this.

"Blessing's progress has been impressive, and we are glad that she is no longer on chemotherapy. However, we still recommend a bone marrow transplant before we can give a final status on the cancer. She has had two relapses, so a bone marrow transplant is a top-priority."

Wadu explains that leukaemia is the most common childhood cancer. The cost of the life-saving transplant Blessing needs is Sh6 million, money that her family lacks.

"Her family is currently fundraising and as soon as they have the funds, we will do a referral to India because we do not do the transplants locally." For now, her condition is managed with a chemotherapy drug that costs Sh2,500 for a month's supply.

Medically, Blessing's survival is a mystery that borders on the divine. Julian from Hope for Cancer Kids calls her a "miracle." She was declared "end of life" over a year ago, and the window for a bone marrow transplant had elapsed.

"But her body is still fighting," Julian marvels.

"If you saw Blessing in the hospital, she looked sick. I was surprised when we came to visit them here. She looks very fine. She's better now than when she was in the hospital."

Today, Blessing, who has been out of school for almost five years, is filled with excitement at the prospect of resuming classes in Grade five in January. In the meantime, she crochets scarves and paints, the skills she honed in Ward 1E at Kenyatta National Hospital, now a testament to her strength and a practical tool for her future.

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Fighting spirit

Every pill, every prayer:
A mother's daily battle
for her son's lifeBY MERCY
CHELANGAT

Every day, when the sun's rays creep through the cracks in Ann Wanjiru's curtains, they carry with them a weight. The weight comes in the form of at least four tablets that her eight-year-old son, Ryan, must take before the day ends. The tablets are evidence of the child's battle with leukaemia, the most common cancer in children, characterised by an overproduction of abnormal white blood cells.

Before her son and daughter wake up, Wanjiru is already up, cooking breakfast as her mind quietly hopes that her child will wake up feeling well, with fewer symptoms, and will tolerate his medications. Some days, her mind runs through a mental checklist of the day's medical needs: "What time is the next medication dose? Do we have a hospital appointment or lab work? What symptoms do I need to monitor and report? What can I prepare to eat that he can actually tolerate?"

Just two years ago, her son was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. She can still feel the raw anxiety of his admission to Kenyatta National Hospital on June 26 and the memory of his first chemotherapy on July 7 of 2023. The months that followed were a blur of treatments and hope, a period that culminated in a PET scan and the doctor's pronouncement that he was cancer-free.

For a while, they existed in a state of fragile normality, with frequent check-ups throughout most of 2024. Then the world tilted again on December 9, 2024. Ryan complained of intermittent pain in his ribs, culminating in tears and a night rush to the hospital. An MRI scan revealed fluid in both his lungs, leading to another admission on December 17.

Anne remembers the hectic months that followed—a blur of tests and anxious back-and-forth communication with doctors. A new, more brutal

truth emerged from a biopsy: the diagnosis had changed from lymphoma to leukaemia. The new round of chemotherapy started on April 12. Ryan has accepted his fate, finding strength in a simple faith, and occasionally tells his mother: "Mum, God will take care of me because I am not sick." That belief, a small, unwavering flame, has kept them both going.

In the three years of Wanjiru being her son's caregiver, the hardest part of her days has been convincing him to go to the hospital. The sterile smell, the hushed hallways, the sight of other sick children, all weigh on his young spirit. She has to prepare him mentally for the ward, a conversation more difficult than any she has ever had.

"You have to go and take the medicine because if you don't take, you will get sick again," she often tells him. Wanjiru notes that the medical battles were only part of the fight. The emotional and social toll was immense. The father of her child left, and her business collapsed under the weight and demands of caregiving.

"My resilience was not built alone. It was held up by a strong support system, including my mother, sisters, cousins and friends. They have provided not just emotional solace but also crucial financial support." Wanjiru issues a stern warning to all caregivers who, in a desperate search for healing, mix modern and traditional medicine.

"I have witnessed the tragic loss of too many children whose parents started using traditional medicine while their children were on chemotherapy. I urge caregivers to follow the doctor's instructions precisely, since pharmaceutical drugs are a chemical necessity."

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Ann Wanjiru during the interview.
PHOTO | FRANCIS NDERITU

Opinion

Why Kenya's
children are
losing to a beatable
foe, and the way forward

The problem isn't a lack of cures, but a broken chain from diagnosis to treatment completion... Here's what needs to be fixed

BY TOM OCHIENG
AND CAROLINE KANYI
MUTHIORA

Childhood cancer in Kenya is a profound crisis that exposes critical weaknesses in our health system, social protections, and national priorities.

Over the past years, Kenyan health policy has rightly focused on fighting infectious diseases and improving maternal and child health. Yet, the growing attention to non-communicable diseases has not meaningfully translated into robust services for children with cancer. This neglect is not an abstract policy failure; it is a series of avoidable family tragedies.

Paediatric cancers progress rapidly, require specialised oncology expertise, and respond best to timely, intensive treatment. But in Kenya, specialised services are concentrated in a handful of tertiary hospitals, mostly in urban areas. The consequence is that many children from rural and marginalised communities endure long journeys, multiple referrals, and costly delays before they are seen by a specialist. This late presentation to care drastically reduces a child's chance of survival and makes treatment more complex and expensive.

The economic toll turns an al-

ready difficult situation into a catastrophe. The costs of diagnosis, chemotherapy, supportive medicines, transport, and accommodation near treatment centres quickly overwhelm families.

Even when public programmes subsidise core treatment, ancillary costs drive households into debt or force them to abandon therapy. Treatment abandonment is not a medical inevitability; it is a predictable outcome of poverty and a patchy social safety net.

To achieve equity, we must design systems that prevent families from being forced to choose between a child's survival and their own basic subsistence.

The harms extend beyond the physical. Children with cancer and their families suffer profound psychosocial strain—long hospitalisations separate children from school and peers, while painful procedures and uncertain prognosis cause lasting trauma.

Parents and siblings live with chronic fear and financial stress long after treatment ends.

An effective response to childhood cancer, therefore, demands a holistic approach: accessible psychosocial support, school reintegration programmes, and caregiver networks that provide practical and emotional solidarity.

There are practical, high-impact steps that policymakers can take now. We must empower frontline health workers to recognise early warning signs—a persistent fever, unexplained lumps, abnormal bleeding, or prolonged bone pain—to reduce dangerous diagnostic delays.

Counties must strengthen their diagnostic capacity, particularly in pathology and imaging, to prevent unnecessary referrals. We must also establish clear referral pathways and improve travel and accommodation support for families, removing predictable

non-medical barriers to care.

For long-term success, partnerships must be strategic and oriented toward sustainability. International donors, NGOs, and academic partners have been indispensable in building paediatric oncology capacity in Kenya, supplying training and equipment; and supporting patient care.

Predictable budgets

Short-term projects that are not embedded in a national strategy risk creating uneven services and dependence. The government must take the lead by integrating childhood cancer into national health planning, allocating predictable budgets for paediatric oncology, and coordinating partners around long-term capacity building: workforce development, supply chain reliability, and resilient data systems.

Data is the foundation of progress. A national childhood cancer registry and investment in operational research would allow policymakers to track outcomes, identify geographic gaps, and measure the impact of interventions. Without reliable data, resources will be scattered and progress will be slow. With good data, Kenya can adapt treatment protocols to local realities, scale what works, and concentrate limited resources where they will save the most lives.

Equity must be central. A child's chance of survival should not depend on their county of residence, the education level of their parents, or family income. Decentralising basic diagnostic services, subsidising travel and lodging for families, and including paediatric cancer care under universal health coverage will narrow the gap between urban centres and underserved counties.

Social protection measures that prevent medical impoverishment are essential complements to clin-

ical interventions.

Cultural factors also shape outcomes. Stigma, fear, and misinformation about cancer can delay care-seeking and isolate families. Community-based education in local languages, delivered by trusted leaders such as community health volunteers, teachers, and faith leaders, can dispel myths and encourage early referral. Amplifying the voices of survivors and their families, with consent and sensitivity, can reshape public perceptions and foster communal support.

Ultimately, responding effectively to childhood cancer is a matter of political will and moral clarity. Kenya has the professional talent, civic energy, and international partnerships needed to make rapid, measurable gains. What is needed is consistent prioritisation: predictable financing, integrated policies, workforce investment and an unwavering commitment to equity.

When a child survives cancer, a family is spared grief, communities retain hope, and the nation benefits from an investment in its future.

We must move from rhetoric to action by funding paediatric oncology units, training multidisciplinary teams, and embedding psychosocial and social protection services into standard care. This is achievable with deliberate planning. It is morally inexcusable to postpone. Kenya must act now to give every child a fighting chance.

This is achievable with deliberate planning and political commitment. It is morally inexcusable to postpone. Kenya must act now to give every child a fighting chance.

Mr Ochieng is the executive director at Hope for Cancer Kids. Ms Muthiora is the Board chairperson.

Study links environmental pollution to killer disease

BY SIAGO CECE

A new international study has revealed a strong link between environmental pollution and rising cases of childhood cancer, raising concerns over public health risks in developing countries.

The study dubbed "Environmental Pollution and Risk of Childhood Cancer: A Scoping Review of Evidence from the Last Decade" found that exposure to air pollution, pesticides, indoor toxins, and electromagnetic fields significantly increases the risk of cancers such as leukaemia, brain tu-

mours, and neuroblastoma in children.

In the study, which reviewed 174 research papers published between 2013 and 2023, air pollution was the biggest culprit, with up to 84 per cent of studies confirming a positive link to childhood cancer.

"Air pollution is one of the biggest health hazards worldwide, accounting for approximately nine million deaths per year," the paper noted.

The researchers also found that pesticides used in farming were another major hazard, with their exposure before or just after birth raising the risk

of leukaemia and brain cancers in children. "Pesticides are used worldwide in several human activities, and tonnes of these chemicals are produced globally. However, the health effects of these products have been of concern because they are associated with diseases such as cancer," the study said.

Key drivers

Indoor pollutants such as tobacco smoke, poor ventilation, and chemical exposure were also flagged as key drivers of childhood cancers.

Leukemia was the most commonly linked cancer, followed

by CNS tumours and neuroblastoma. Unlike adult cancers, the study emphasised that many of these cancers in children often appear with no known genetic predisposition, suggesting that environmental factors may play a larger role.

Researchers called for urgent action to reduce exposure to harmful pollutants, especially in homes, schools, and agricultural areas. They also recommended stronger regulation of pesticide use, improved air quality monitoring, and public education on environmental health risks.

The study comes at a time

when air pollution, especially in urban areas in Kenya, has become a growing concern.

Juma Nasoro, programme officer at Health and Environment Research Institute Kenya, based in the Coastal region, said it was important for the public to understand how the environment affects health.

The organisation focuses on public health while translating complex research to locals to understand the connection between the environment that they live in and their health.

He explained that lack of information over possible pollutants, including proper waste management, pesticide use and exposure to smoke in homes, was putting children and families at risk and was catalysing the spread of diseases.

"There are some practices that people are already used to, but as an organisation we are working towards educating community service providers who will, in turn, inform the masses on the precautions they could take," he said.

Mr Nasoro added that with increased knowledge, most diseases can be managed.

"We are encouraging households to make small changes like proper disposal of waste, avoiding burning plastics, improving ventilation in kitchens and being cautious with how pesticides are stored and used. These steps may look minor, but they go a long way in protecting children from harmful exposure," he said.

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Explainer

Understanding childhood cancer in Kenya

The most common cancers among young ones, what parents need to know about signs and survival, and new initiatives offering hope

BY DR CATHERINE MUENDO

What is childhood cancer, and how does it differ from adult cancers?

In Kenya and globally, a child is anyone under the age of 18. Cancer is the uncontrolled growth of cells and tissues, so childhood cancer is this abnormal growth occurring in children.

According to Dr Muendo, childhood cancers are quite different from adult cancers in a number of ways she explains in the subsequent questions.

What are the most common types of childhood cancer?

Dr Muendo notes that the most common type is leukaemia, a blood cancer. Almost all childhood leukaemias are acute forms, either acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL) or acute myeloid leukaemia with ALL being the more common of the two.

"After leukaemia, the next most common cancers we see are lymphomas, which are another type of blood cancer. Among solid tumours, the most common are Wilms tumour, which affects the kidney, and retinoblastoma, which affects the eye," she says.

She notes that these cancers are not among the most common in adults, highlighting how distinct childhood cancers are.

"At Kenyatta National Hospital, the cancers we most often encounter are leukaemia, lymphomas, Wilms tumour and retinoblastoma. These four dominate the childhood cancer landscape in Kenya," says Dr Muendo.



What are the early warning signs that parents should look out for?

Dr Muendo explains that unlike many adult cancers, childhood cancers are not caused by lifestyle or environmental factors. Children may even be born with cancer due to genetic mutations, so it is not possible to prevent them. That's why early recognition is critical.

She says signs to watch for include persistent fever that does not respond to antibiotics, unexplained bleeding or bruising, white discoloration in the eye (cat's eye reflex), sudden loss of the ability to walk or play, a staggering gait, swelling in the neck that does not resolve with infection treatment and dark circles around the eyes caused by bleeding under the skin.

"We educate communities and healthcare workers about the signs of cancer through training sessions, the media and social media platforms because spotting it early can save lives," she says.

What is the prevalence of childhood cancer in Kenya?

The Ministry of Health estimates there to be around 2,500 cases per year. However, this figure may be underestimated due to under-diagnosis and incomplete data reporting. Paediatric cancer cases are far fewer than adult cases, but 2,500 is still a significant number.

"We are strengthening data reporting to get a more accurate picture. The National Cancer Institute, which is part of the Ministry of Health, collects this data and maintains a cancer registry. This helps to prioritise resources for treatment and care," says Dr Muendo.

What is the survival rate for childhood cancers in Kenya?

This depends on the type of cancer, its stage and risk category. For acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, the survival rate is around 70 to 80 per cent, compared to 90 to 95 per cent in Western countries. The survival rate for acute

myeloid leukaemia is lower, at around 30 to 35 per cent, whereas in Western countries, it is around 70 per cent. Lymphoma survival rates range from 60 per cent to 90 per cent depending on the subtype.

Dr Muendo says early-stage solid tumours have better outcomes than advanced stages.

Overall, when looking at all childhood cancers in Kenya, general survival is around 20 to 30 per cent. The World Health Organization's (WHO) Global Initiative on Childhood Cancer aims to improve this figure to 60 per cent by 2030.

Which types of childhood cancer does the WHO initiative focus on?

The initiative focuses on six index cancers that are common and highly curable with proper therapy: These are acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, Burkitt lymphoma, Hodgkin lymphoma, retinoblastoma, Wilms tumour and low-grade glioma. These six cancers account for around 50 to 60 per

cent of all childhood cancers worldwide.

What developments or initiatives in paediatric oncology in Kenya give hope for the next five to 10 years?

"Yes, several initiatives give us hope," says Dr Muendo. One such initiative, she explains, is the patient navigation programme, which provides holistic support for children and their families, guiding them through diagnosis, treatment and survivorship.

The programme addresses physical, emotional and financial challenges, and helps to prevent treatment abandonment, which is a major cause of poor outcomes.

Studies in Kenya have shown that treatment abandonment can be as high as 50 per cent, leading to cancer progression or relapse.

Another initiative is childhood cancer awareness and sensitisation programmes. "We train healthcare workers in counties that frequently refer patients late, helping to ensure earlier detection and timely referral. We are also streamlining referral pathways to reduce delays and improve access to treatment," she explains.

Partnerships and collaborations are also key. Paediatric haematologists across Kenya communicate and work together in both public and private facilities. With only about 15 specialists serving the population, coordination is critical to improving care.

Advice for parents whose children have just been diagnosed with cancer

Dr Muendo says parents should not be scared by the diagnosis. There is a support system in place to guide them and their children through treatment. They should seek care promptly rather than waiting at home. "Cancer is not necessarily fatal—children can survive and thrive with proper treatment."

Dr Muendo is a paediatrician haemato-oncologist at Kenyatta National Hospital