

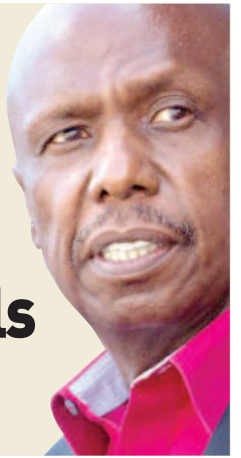
## Cell phone at centre of exam cheating

**Page 5** 63 candidates and one invigilator arrested in Kakuma over malpractices



**P2**

## End of his tether or tact? Gideon's polls game plan



# PD

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NO-07528

# Gloves off as Ruto takes war to Uhuru

**No holds barred:** DP is tomorrow scheduled to campaign at President's Ichaweri village in move seen as taking on his boss directly **PG 4**



## New tough rules for scrap metal dealers **P.7**



Deputy President William Ruto addresses a campaign rally at Ngara area, Nairobi, yesterday. PD/ PHILLIP KAMAKYA

**Keroche, KRA enter agreement on tax payment plan **PG 3****

## POINTERS



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**Keep off Uhuru, Azimio leaders tell Ruto**



NEWS BEAT PAGE 15

**Officer killed, rifles stolen in Samburu police post attack**

## WEATHER TODAY

Nairobi	29°	Nyeri	28°
Mombasa	31°	Kitui	32°
Kisumu	30°	Wajir	39°

# End of his tether or tact? Gideon's polls game plan

Analysts warn that this could be his decisive year if he does not play his card well politically

by Roy Lumbe  
@PeopleDailyKe

Just like an eagle, Baringo Senator Gideon Moi seems to have decided to fly high in order to spot his prey on the ground without being noticed.

But unlike an eagle that is gifted with amazing eyesight that can see both within its vicinity as well several kilometres away, Gideon's apparent failure to arouse his own Rift Valley backyard has raised eyebrows on whether the son of the late President Daniel arap Moi possesses the highly effective habits of a bird, whose indefatigable habits he aspires to follow.

Almost a year ago, Gideon had been touted as the only man in the Rift Valley with both the financial and political muscle to pose any threat to Deputy President (DP) William Ruto's forays in the vote-rich region.

But political analysts are now warning that 2022 could be Gideon's decisive year in politics if he does not calculate and play his cards well, in line with the political environment.

"He seems to be making many gambles along the way that could end up being suicidal. To me, it appears he does not have any specific game plan," says Dr Richard Bosire, a lecturer in political science at the University of Nairobi.

At one point, Gideon was among key politicians who were expected to shape the August 9 General Election after he announced his presidential candidature and thereafter formed the One Kenya Alliance (OKA) alongside Kalonzo Musyoka (Wiper), Musalia Mudavadi (ANC), Cyrus Jirongo (UDP) and Ford Kenya's Moses Wetang'ula.

The 57-year-old politician is the son of the country's second President Moi, who died in 2020. He led the country for 24 years, between 1978 and 2002. Gideon is the leader of the independence party Kenya Africa National Union (Kanu). Since 2013 he has been the senator for Baringo County in the Rift Valley.

Early this week, Kanu came out to end speculation about Gideon's political future which had been the subject of debate in his home county when it declared that the senator would not be defending his seat in August elections but would instead concentrate on national politics.

This, coming days after the OKA coal-

ition dropped plans to field a joint presidential candidate in favour of the Azimio La Umoja flag-bearer Raila Odinga, left many wondering what Gideon's game plan is as the General Election fast approaches. As a condition for joining Azimio, the senator is said to have negotiated a national role, if the coalition clinches power in the August 9 polls.

Consequently, Kanu has encouraged interested members to apply for the party ticket for the Baringo senatorial contest.

"First, I want to make it clear that Gideon Moi will not seek re-election in the August 9 polls because he is focused on national politics. In Baringo, Kanu welcomes any interested candidate to apply and use the party as their political vehicle in the General Election," Kanu secretary-general Nick Salat told People Daily last evening.

But Salat was at pains to explain what may have compelled Gideon into taking the decision that has not only caused confusion within Kanu, but has clearly left Ruto as the undisputed Rift Valley political kingpin.

"We expect him to tell his Kanu supporters and all Kenyans in general why he has done that. He is better placed to explain it by himself because it was an individual decision," Salat said.

## Presidential candidate

Salat was, however, categorical that Kanu's decision not to field a presidential candidate and instead support Raila, was final. Salat said the decision had been unanimously agreed upon by the party, leaving several unanswered questions on Gideon's political future should Azimio fail to win on August 9 and Ruto, his perennial arch-enemy occupying the house on the hill.

But according to Bosire, Gideon's decision not to vie for any seat in the coming elections has left him weak in terms of bargaining with other political players and marshalling support from the Rift Valley and his Baringo home county.

"In the public eye, he has been left as a man who has given up on everything. Though he remains the leader of Kanu, he has given the projection of being a toothless man. It was suicidal for him to drop his bid for the presidency and senate," says Bosire.

With him dropping out of the two races, the don says, Gideon has been left with only two options.... Raila wins and incorporates him in his government, or Kanu wins enough seats in the National Assembly and Senate to have him nominated.

"Should Azimio not win in the next election and Kanu performs poorly in parliamentary polls, I see a situation where Gideon could be consigned to the political dust-



Kanu chairman Gideon Moi. PD/FILE

bin. And perhaps that could be the end of the Moi dynasty role in national politics at least in the near future," Dr Bosire warns.

When he first announced his presidential bid, Gideon said he wanted to change the political tide in the Rift Valley to ensure the Kalenjin community remains politically relevant even after President Uhuru Kenyatta's exit.

But pundits say Gideon seems to have given up on his desire to penetrate the Rift Valley, and sensing embarrassment in his own Baringo county, has decided to leave his fate in the hands of Raila's Azimio.

Indeed, since Kanu's entry into Azimio, Gideon and his party stalwarts have been traversing the country encouraging aspirants to vie on the independence party's ticket.

"The anti-Ruto campaigns in the Rift Valley have been to his disadvantage because many in the region view him as a traitor. That is the reason he has retreated and decided to launch his arsenal from constituencies outside the region," says Dr Oscar Otele of the University of Nairobi.

Sources intimated to People Daily that Kanu seems to have concentrated its efforts and resources in Azimio strongholds that Gideon's father used to enjoy good support.

The party has been encouraging aspirants from areas such as the North Eastern, Gusii, Western, Lower Eastern and Coast to vie on its ticket.

Other pundits warn that this could still be a herculean task, given the fact that the networks the late Moi established in many parts of the country have largely disintegrated with party stalwarts having either died or those still living having joined other political parties.

Exactly two years since Gideon was handed a replica of the baton that was synonymous with his father's 24-years rule, signifying the unenviable responsibility to not only revive Kanu, but to restore it to the giant it once was, the outgoing Baringo senator seems to have left all guessing over the direction he is headed to.



## Leaders call for peaceful campaigns

by Kepher Otieno  
@PeopleDailyKe

A section of Kanu leaders in Kisumu have called for peaceful campaigns as the General Election gains momentum.

Led by Kanu National Executive Committee member Kesia Opondo (pictured), they warned the youth against indulging in electoral violence.

"We want youth to conduct themselves with civility during the electioneering period," said Opondo.

She was addressing the media in Kisumu, where the officials met to update themselves on the pending campaigns plan Opondo lauded efforts by the party leader Gideon Moi to rally members to join the Azimio coalition.

She said they fully support plans to work together with the Azimio coalition to unite Kenyans, who have been torn apart by deep ethnic divisions: "For us unity in diversity is key and paramount. We will tag along with our party leader wherever he goes." S

Kanu national organising secretary Jack Nyambega stressed on the need for peaceful campaigns for the sake of the country's security.

## BRIEFLY

## Panic as elephants cause village scare

There was a scare in Mai Mahiu area yesterday after a herd of elephants strayed to the area from Kamae region of Aberdare Forest. Residents fled in panic as the five elephants moved from one farm to the other leaving a trail of destruction before KWS officers moved in. "The animals are very wild and we hope that KWS officers will be able to drive them back to Kamae Forest before they injure or kill someone," a resident Joseph Njoroge. A senior KWS officer who declined to be named said they were working to drive the animals back to their habitat.

—Kirera Mwiti

## BOSIRE

Though he remains the leader of Kanu, he has given the projection of being a toothless man





## Keroche, KRA enter agreement on tax payment plan

Keroche Breweries Limited finally reopened after it entered into a tax payment plan with the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) following a week-long negotiation over arrears that left the brewer shut for over a month.

The new payment plan will see Keroche settle an undisputed tax amount of Sh957 million over a period of 24 months starting from January 2022.

The brewer has already remitted the first installment as per the agreement after the taxman gave a directive lifting an agency notice issued to 36 banks against Keroche.

"Kenya Revenue Authority and Keroche Breweries Limited have agreed on a payment plan on taxes owing, and not in dispute from Keroche," KRA said in a notice yesterday.

### Dispute Resolution

The tax collector further said any tax dispute will be dealt with in accordance with the laid down statutes and procedures which flows from an earlier Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) deal already agreed between the two parties.

"As a law-abiding entity, the company gives a renewed commitment to ensure that they meet their statutory obligations as they fall due. This will ensure that we make our fair contribution to the exchequer for building our Kenyan economy," Keroche CEO Tabitha Karanja said in response to the

notice.

KRA and Keroche have been in a 16-year long tax dispute resonating around the classification of the brewer's products, leading to two agreements between the two parties, in July and December 2021. By the second agreement of December 21, 2021, a tax of Sh7.54 billion was agreed to be owing and payable. The brewer, however, stated earlier it only owes KRA Sh322 million in arrears plus Sh500 million it had defaulted paying in 24 monthly installments.

Now as the two enter into yet another agreement, the issue of product reclassification, which has been the bone of contention, remains unresolved.

The taxman had reclassified the brewer's Vienna drink to a higher 60 per cent excise rate and went ahead to demand the rebates, which according to Keroche, bloated the tax arrears.

The firm has appealed to the national government to consider reviewing some of the existing laws and enacting new ones to give incentives and facilitate local businesses, especially in times of economic hardships.

The finances of Keroche, a private company, are not publicly available but it is expected to struggle to raise the billions of shillings if the KRA has its way and the parties fail to reach a permanent solution to the decade-long disputes.

- Herald Alo

# Raila promises tough war on corruption, impunity



ODM leader Raila Odinga and his delegation meet UK Minister of State Foreign Affairs Lord Tariq Ahmad in London, yesterday. COURTESY

by Rawlings Otieno  
@PeopleDailyKe

Azimio la Umoja Presidential aspirant Raila Odinga has promised to jail the corrupt including his family should he be elected President in August polls.

Raila said that under his administration, nobody will be indispensable, adding that to be successful in dealing with corruption it must start from the family level.

While responding to questions raised after his Chatham House speech yesterday evening, Raila was categorical that if a government takes drastic measures to jail the corrupt not only in the public sector but across the criminal justice system.

"Nobody will be indispensable in my government. If you want to successfully win the war against corruption then you must begin from your family. If any member of your family is caught in corruption, you must ensure that action is taken against him. I give an example of President Kagame whose own brother was arrested and imprisoned, he would go to visit him to tell him sorry but this is where you belong," said Raila.

He went on: "If you take those kind of actions, then people will begin to know that things are not as usual. It is business unusual. It must be business unusual in dealing with this hydra-headed animal called corruption."

He said action should not only be taken on public servants, but be extended to the prosecutors and the judicial officers, adding that the some prosecutors refuse to prosecute cases in court.

He claimed that there are some cases that take long to be completed, adding that

such after the suspects have been released on bail or bond then stall.

"We must take action not just on public servants or the citizens but the whole criminal justice system. There are prosecutorial authorities who refuse to prosecute cases. There are cases which were taken to court at the beginning of 2018 have not been prosecuted today," said Raila.

"We will do a cleaning exercise from the police, prosecution authorities up to the Judiciary to ensure that our system works properly in the interest of our people," said Raila.

According to Raila, his administration will continue with the positive works and not inherit the negative things of Jubilee government.

He said that President Uhuru Kenyatta has in the past admitted that the government loses Sh2billion daily, explaining that it is because he has a divided government.

"We will not inherit the negative things of the Jubilee government. We will continue with the positive ones.

"The President is being undermined by his deputy. If a person is arrested, charged, he claims so and so is being targeted because he is associated with him. Internal contradictions within the government. I do

not have that kind of baggage. I am coming with clean hands."

Raila further charged that his role of opposition did not collapse and neither did he and his troops go into government.

"We remain what is known here as 'Her majesty's loyal opposition'. We don't just oppose for the sake of opposing, but oppose and also offer constructive alternatives. This is what has been happening in Kenya. There have been fallacious statements that we have opposition in government and government in opposition," said Raila.

He explained the hypocrisy of his political nemesis deputy president William Ruto, saying that unlike Ruto, he uses his personal funds to travel abroad together with his entourage.

"What is so called 'government in opposition' is leaving in officialdom. The DP spent over Sh100 million. He is traveling on taxpayers money with all the entourage he came with. I had to pay my travel expenses to come here. The government has paid for none of the people who have accompanied. He (Ruto) cannot be a government in opposition," he said.

He told the participants that the 'Handshake' came after the National Super Alliance (NASA) discovered that they had won the August elections and decided to swear their presidential candidate.

"Handshake" came as a result of the crisis at the time. We went somewhere and we had 38 coffins. We again went to the City Mortuary and we found 27 corpses victims of police brutality with a number of people with wounds in various hospitals. Loss of lives and economy was slowing down," said Raila.

### RAILA ODINGA

**We must take action not just on public servants or the citizens but the whole criminal justice system**

## ODM requests for police security during party primaries

Orange Democratic Movement has written to Inspector General of Police Hillary Mutiyambai to provide security to the party when they conduct their primaries from Monday next week through April 21.

The party's National Elections Board (NEB) said the month-long exercise will take place in one or two counties at a time and it will be necessary for the law enforcers to

maintain peace, law and order.

In their letter, the board's Chairperson Catherine Mumma requested for security during the primaries, "to enable the exercise be conducted peacefully."

"The ODM National Elections Board intends to conduct party primaries March 21-April 21. This is to request you to provide the party with the necessary security to en-

able the primaries be conducted in a peaceful atmosphere," said Mumma (pictured) in her letter.

The Orange party has also requested Education Cabinet Secretary Prof George Magoha to permit schools to allow the party to conduct its primaries in a conducive environment.

Mumma said that some of the electoral agency gazetted polling

stations are largely public schools which they intend to use for the exercise.

"This is to request your office to authorize schools to permit the National Elections Board officials and ODM members to access the schools for the purposes of conducting and participating in the party primaries," said Mumma.

- Rawlings Otieno







## Hunt for city vote

Makadara MP George Aladwa, with his Embakasi East counterpart Babu Owino during the Azimio rallies in Nairobi, yesterday. The Azimio la Umoja team held several campaign rallies in Dagoretti and Langata areas. PD/BENARD ORWONGO

## Kenya Kwanza in campaign trail in the 'city of hustlers'

by Jeremiah Kiplang'at  
@jere\_kiplangat

Deputy President William Ruto yesterday declared Nairobi as the city of hustlers, promising to make it a model for the bottom-up economic policy he has made a hallmark of his 2022 presidential bid.

Speaking during a campaign trail in the city that covered Starehe constituency, the DP, who was crowned the United Democratic Alliance (UDA) presidential candidate on Tuesday, said if elected he would focus on economic policies that will uplift the downtrodden.

Nairobi has become the epicenter of fierce supremacy battles between Ruto and his rival, Azimio presidential candidate Raila Odinga. The latter recently said Nairobi was "his to lose" but Ruto has promised to wrestle it from him.

On Wednesday, Ruto said they would make sure city hustlers benefit from economic programmes he will put in place if elected.

He sustained his attacks on President Uhuru Kenyatta and Raila, accusing them of misplaced priorities since their 'handshake' in 2018. He said they were not in sync with the hardships facing most Kenyans.

### Kenyans challenges

"Nairobi is a city of hustlers ... The 'handshake' brothers have never slept hungry, they have never walked kilometers looking for jobs. That is why they are telling us it is better to change the Constitution to create positions instead of coming with economic policies to improve the lives of Kenyans," said Ruto.

He said he understood the challenges inundating the poor and was better placed to provide solutions to them. "You should elect a leader who understands the challenges of most Kenyans, not a child of privilege," he added.

Ruto has often passed himself off as a hustler, owing to his humble upbringing in Uasin Gishu, although he has risen to become one of the richest men in Kenya.

The DP also asked the government to stop harassing boda boda riders, saying the hundreds of motorcycles impounded during the crackdown a week ago should be released immediately. The onslaught was launched after a group of riders molested a woman on Prof Wangari Maathai Road in Nairobi, after she was involved in a traffic accident.

Ruto asked the government to apply the same force in finding and arresting those who stole billions of money allocated to the Kenya Medical Supplies Agency for Covid-19 response programmes.

Ruto was accompanied by Amani National Congress leader Musalia Mudavadi and a number of lawmakers and aspirants allied to Kenya Kwanza Alliance. They included Tharaka Nithi Senator Kithure Kindiki, Mathira MP Rigathi Gachagua, Nairobi Senator Johnson Sakaja and Bishop Margaret Wanjiru.

# Gloves are off as Ruto takes battle to Uhuru

Jubilee divorce was finalised when President endorsed Raila Odinga as his preferred successor

by Oliver Musembi  
@PeopleDailyKe

Buoyed by his endorsement as the UDA presidential candidate on August 9, Deputy President William Ruto now appears more emboldened and ready to take on President Uhuru Kenyatta as election date draws closer.

Shedding the mien of a loyal principal assistant not ready to lock horns with his boss, Ruto is tomorrow scheduled to hold a campaign rally at the President's Ichaweri village, Gatundu South in Kiambu county in what could be interpreted as his determination to take on the President directly.

Ruto, who previously shied off from confronting the President directly, has lately taken a different approach, responding to attacks on him by the Head of State.

His tour of Ichaweri comes barely two days after the DP was crowned as the Kenya Kwanza presidential flag-bearer and in the wake of defections by the President's political foot soldiers from his Kiambu county home turf.

In his acceptance speech on Tuesday after being endorsed by UDA delegates, Ruto accused the President of betrayal, intimidation, plunging the country into debt, impoverishing farmers, cracking down on legitimate businesses and weaponising State institutions.

"We want to tell our competitors, we will do the complete opposite," Ruto told the cheering 5,000 delegates at Kasarani stadium, a statement that political analyst Macharia Munene says was daring Uhuru.

"In his entire speech, Ruto gave the indication that he is keen to go it all alone and was in fact daring the President to assemble a team against him," Prof Munene said yesterday.

Last week, while endorsing his preferred candidate ODM leader Raila Odinga of Azimio La Umoja, Uhuru reiterated his com-

mitment not to leave instruments of power in the hands of an individual who could jeopardise his and former President Mwai Kibaki's legacies.

Ruto's visit to Gatundu will be the first since he fell out with his boss after the 2017 elections in which they had weathered a stiff challenge from the Odinga-led Nasa coalition.

The DP, who will be accompanied by his close allies and coalition party leaders including the host Gatundu South MP Moses Kuria (Chama Cha Kazi), Musalia Mudavadi (Amani National Congress), William Kabogo (Tujibebe Wakenya Party), among others, will make stop-overs at various centres including President Kenyatta's Ichaweri village, setting the stage for a potential major political showdown should Uhuru's men respond.

The Ruto team is expected to address locals at Kenyatta Road Estate, Kimunyu trading centre, Mutomo, Ichaweri and Gatundu town among other areas.

Kuria, an aspirant for the Kiambu governorship, had earlier said he would host the DP in Gatundu following his coronation as the UDA presidential candidate.

### Scathing attack

"We want to show you that the people of Kiambu and in particular Gatundu love you and you will get a hero's welcome," Kuria had said and added that area residents had no problem with Uhuru and would receive their son home warmly when he retires.

This will be the second time that Ruto will be holding a meeting at Uhuru's doorstep since last Sunday's meeting in Thika at which he and his political troops unleashed a scathing attack on the Head of State, accusing him of betrayal.

Many of the President's lieutenants including MPs have decamped from the ruling Jubilee Party to Ruto's UDA on which ticket they are seeking elective positions.

Among the latest defectors is Ruiru MP Simon King'ara who quit Jubilee during UDA's National Delegate's Congress at Kasarani.

The MP will seek to retain the seat on a

### UDA WAVE

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● Among the latest defectors is Ruiru MP Simon King'ara who quit Jubilee during UDA's National Delegate's Congress.

● Kiambu Town legislator Jude Njomo and his Limuru counterpart Peter Mwachhi are the only Uhuru loyalists in the county.



PROF MUNENE

Both the defection of Wamatangi and tomorrow's visit to Ichaweri are a manifestation that Ruto is now ready to take the war to the President's doorstep

UDA ticket for which he will have to fight it out with former MP Esther Gathogo and nominated senator Isaac Mwaura, both of who had joined the Hustlers' party earlier.

King'ara's defection came as a surprise to many since the MP was seen as one of President Kenyatta's staunch supporters in Kiambu. His move now leaves Kiambu Town legislator Jude Njomo and his Limuru counterpart Peter Mwachhi as the only Uhuru loyalists in the county.

Prof Munene says that by going for Kiambu Senator and Senate Majority Whip Kimani Wamatangi, who has been one of Uhuru's key lieutenants in Kiambu and Mt Kenya, Ruto was sending signals to the President that "their differences have now become bare-knuckled".

"Both the defection of Wamatangi and tomorrow's visit to Ichaweri are a manifestation that Ruto is now ready to take the war to the President's door step. It is no longer a gentleman's affair but a real battle," says Munene.

Besides the MPs, Kabogo's Sunday decision to join the Kenya Kwanza coalition appears to have dealt another blow to the Azimio camp since he has hitherto been seen as a close ally of the President.

### Heroic reception

Since last year, Ruto has been making in-roads in President Kenyatta's Mt Kenya backyard, winning over politicians such as Irungu Kang'ata (Murang'a), Gathoni Wamuchomba (Kiambu), Gabriel Kago (Githunguri), Mwangi Kiunjuri and (former Agriculture CS) among others.

Some of the organisers of tomorrow's event led by Gatundu South parliamentary aspirant Gabriel (GG) Kagombe are confident that residents will turn out in large numbers to welcome the DP.

"The DP enjoys solid support from the people of Kiambu County and by extension Gatundu. We shall give him a warm and heroic reception," Kagombe told People Daily.

However, Kiambu Jubilee party leaders led by Governor James Nyoro, his deputy Joyce Ngugi and Thika Town parliamentary aspirant David Ngari Gakuyo, warned the DP's brigade that they will not be allowed to demean the President this time.

"We shall not allow anyone to insult the President like they did in Thika which was a blatant show of disrespect to our leader," said Nyoro in a statement without specifying what action they plan to take.

Following his Handshake with Raila in 2018, Uhuru parted ways with his deputy, leading to a bitter end to their bromance.

Allies of the President including Jubilee deputy Secretary-General Joshua Kutuny, who is also the Cherang'any MP, say the DP has of late come out strongly to take his boss head-on after realising that he no longer enjoys the support of the President.



# Cell phone headache in exam cheating

Magoha says gadgets posing a challenge as dozens of them are impounded on day three of the tests

by PD Team  
@PeopleDailyKe

The cell phone has emerged as the greatest impediment to the fight against cheating in the ongoing Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) examinations.

Education Cabinet Secretary George Magoha admitted as much yesterday when hawk-eyed examination officials impounded dozens of cell phones from candidates on the third day of the tests.

"The greatest singular enemy we have today is the cell phone during exam time. Do not push us to say that we shall not want to see any cell phone in the school during exam time. You really have to manage the cell phones," said Magoha.

This came as 63 candidates and one invigilator were arrested in Kakuma, Turkana County, for allegedly engaging in exam malpractices.

County police commander Samuel Ndanyi said 25 candidates from Somali Bantu Secondary School and 38 from Greenlight Secondary School in the refugee camp were released on free bond and one invigilator will be granted cash bail as investigations continue.

Ndanyi said all the suspects will appear in court later to

answer to charges of exam malpractice and negligence of duty.

He said police are investigating unusual activities in the two schools within the refugee camp.

"Sub-county security committee who were on routine KCSE examination check in Kakuma Refugee Camp noticed unusual activities," he said.

Ndanyi said all the mobile phones were scrutinised and money kept as exhibits before the suspects were allowed to sit their papers. A county security team and Ministry of Education officials are investigating the incidents.

Two other candidates sitting their KCSE exam at Olmariko Secondary in Narok County are also being investigated after they were found with a cell phone.

## The WhatsApp curse

Narok County Commissioner Isaac Masinde said the two were late for the exam only to be found in the dormitory with a phone.

"The candidates were missing when the exam was beginning, but when the exam managers alerted the security officers, they searched for the two and found them in their dormitory with a cell phone," he said.

Masinde, however, said the two were allowed to continue with the exam as police carry out investigations.

"We are investigating whether there is any teacher who was involved in the incident so that we can take action immediate-



Education CS George Magoha (left) interacts with State House Girls KCSE exam candidates just before they sat English paper in Nairobi, yesterday. PD/KENNA CLAUDE

ly. The Ministry of Education is very clear that no student should be found with a phone during the examination period," he said.

In North Eastern, Regional Commissioner James Kianda cautioned those entrusted with administering the exams that any form of malpractice will be dealt with in accordance with the law.

Kianda was reacting to an incident where an examination centre manager took a photo of an exam paper and sent it to the principal of the institution via WhatsApp.

"We are cautioning anybody who is hell-bent on trying to cheat in the exam. It is their future and we cannot allow anybody to mess with it," he said.

Elsewhere, the Directorate of Criminal Investigations is

investigating an incident where distribution of papers in 23 schools in Uasin-Gishu county was delayed after keys to a storage container were misplaced.

There was confusion at Kapsoya exam collection centre in Ainabkoi sub-county when the key could not be traced.

Examination officials and security personnel who had arrived to collect the papers had to wait as confusion ensued.

Uasin-Gishu County Director of Education Harrison Muriuki said the key was in the

custody of the Ainabkoi Deputy County Commissioner.

"We forcibly opened the padlock after consulting with KNEC. The exams were later distributed without further hitches," said Muriuki.

The keys to each exam container at the sub-county headquarters are kept by the sub-county director of education and sub-county deputy commissioner who must be present to open the containers.

Yesterday, Magoha, however, denied fears that the examina-

tions had leaked, saying the situation was under control.

"The exam is going on well but we are a bit worried about certain hot spots. For avoidance of doubt, this exam has not leaked because of the multi-agency approach we are giving it through the ministries of Education, Interior and ICT. Let us be very careful not to scare our children," said the CS, who spoke at Precious Blood Riruta Secondary School in Nairobi.

## Screenshots menace

Magoha blamed the incidents on a "few crooked teachers" who he accused of accessing the exam during its collection from containers for onward transportation to exam centres.

He regretted that some teachers were going against the ministry's directives.

He singled out a teacher in Sir Newton High School in Eastleigh, Nairobi, who was arrested after he was found taking shots of an exam paper.

Another student in Eastleigh High School was found with a phone which contained screenshots sent from Daraja Mbili in Kisii county.

Reporting by Irene Githinji and Wycliff Sang and KNA

# Dons warn politicians against using youth to cause violence

by Alvin Mwangi  
@PeopleDailyKe

University dons have challenged the youth to promote peace and unity ahead of the August General Election.

Vice-chancellors from various universities who spoke yesterday during a forum to discuss students involvement in the coming elections urged the youth to shun politicians who are out to use them for their selfish gains and instead engage in activities that will empower them.

"We are telling our students to be on the lookout and study all the politicians who approach them. As chancellors, we are concerned that there are some leaders who are out to use our learners and once they have achieved what they want, they leave them to continue suffering in poverty," said Kenyatta University Vice-Chancellor Prof Paul Wainaina (pictured).

Prof Wainaina said they had drafted proposals which they will present to presidential candidates to ensure students are fully involved in the elections.

## Fulfil dreams

The vice chancellors are proposing that two students from every university be nominated to participate in peace building and the electoral process. The two will also serve as voter educators in their learning institutions.

"We want our students to be on the negotiating table. While at the table, they will be



in a position to present their demands," said Wainaina.

The Vice-Chancellor said it was shameful for politicians to hire young people to cause violence and heckle other leaders instead of helping them to achieve something meaningful in life.

The vice-chancellors also proposed a national youth peace convention where young people will express their views. The convention would be held under the auspices of the Universities and Colleges Students Peace Association of Kenya (UCPAK), the said.

They also called for the use of social media to spread the message of peace.

"Social media is the new thing in Kenya and as we all know it can be used to spit venom that can destroy this country. We want them to use their social media handles to spread peace," said the Vice-Chancellor of Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University Prof Stephen Agong.

## MURANG'A COUNTY GOVERNMENT OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



### TENDER NOTICE

Murang'a County Government invites sealed tenders from interested bidders for the supply of Goods, Works and Services for Financial Year (2021-2024). Bidders are informed that goods and services will be procured on a "as and when required basis". Interested bidders should download the tender documents from our website [www.murangago.ke](http://www.murangago.ke) free of charge.

CATEGORY A : CONTRACT AGREEMENT TENDERS FY 2022-2024	
Tender No.	Description
MCG/001/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of office stationery (special category)
MCG/002/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of Cleaning and Sanitation Items
MCG/003/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of Hardware Items
MCG/004/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of toners and dot matrix ribbons. (special category)
MCG/005/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of animal feeds and concentrates
MCG/006/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of food stuff
MCG/007/2021-2024	Supply and Delivery of vegetables and fruits (Special category)
MCG/008/2021-2024	Supply of firewood and charcoal
MCG/009/2021-2024	Supply and Delivery of meat and eggs
MCG/010/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of pharmaceutical drugs
MCG/011/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of non-pharmaceutical items and dressings
MCG/012/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of motor vehicle batteries, tyres and tubes
MCG/013/2021-2024	Supply and Delivery of Medical records (Special Category)
MCG/014/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of Hospital Linen, Curtains and Uniform materials
MCG/015/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of medical and industrial gases
MCG/016/2021-2024	Supply and Delivery Household Items
MCG/017/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of dental items
MCG/018/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of X-ray films and chemicals
MCG/019/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of occupational and Physiotherapy items
MCG/020/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of veterinary drugs and vaccines
MCG/021/2021-2024	Supply and Delivery of Laboratory Reagents and Chemicals
MCG/022/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of Building Materials
MCG/023/2021-2024	Supply and Installation of Pipes and Fittings
MCG/024/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of Water Treatment Chemicals
MCG/025/2021-2024	Supply and delivery of Rhodes Grass, Rucem Hay and Napier Grass (Special Category)
MCG/026/2021-2024	Provision of Events Organisation (Special Category)
MCG/027/2021-2024	Supply and Delivery of Ophthalmic and Optical Medical Equipments
MCG/028/2021-2024	Supply and Delivery of Digital X-ray Films and Chemicals
MCG/029/2021-2024	Supply and Delivery of Renal Unit Consumables
MCG/030/2021-2024	Construction and Equipping of Boreholes
MCG/031/2021-2024	Supply and Delivery of ECD Materials (Special Category)
MCG/032/2021-2024	Supply and Delivery of Printed Accountable documents
MCG/033/2021-2024	Provision of Security Services
MCG/034/2021-2024	Provision of Hotels Services And Conference Facilities
MCG/035/2021-2024	Pre-Qualification of Suppliers For Provision of Travel Agency And Air Ticketing Services - IATA registered (Special Category)
MCG/036/2021-2024	Supply And Delivery of Nutrition Commodities

Interested bidders must attach documentary evidence of the following:

- Certificate of Registration/Incorporation
- Copy of VAT and PIN Certificate from KRA
- Valid Tax Compliance Certificate
- Current Single Business Permit
- Registration certificate from relevant bodies/authorities
- Valid Registration Certificate From National Treasury (AGPO) For Special Category groups
- Provide valid PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD certificate and PREMISES LICENCE for tender no. MCG/011/2022-2024 - Supply and delivery of pharmaceutical drugs.
- Details of company directors (CR12)
- Bidders must serialise /paginate the bid document submitted.

### NB:

- People with disability, youth and women are encouraged to apply.
- Special category is reserved for youth, women and persons with disabilities duly registered with the National Treasury.

Completed tender documents enclosed in plain sealed envelopes and marked with Tender Name and Reference No. should be deposited in the Tender Box at Murang'a County Government Headquarters offices, Ground Floor, or be addressed to:

The County Secretary  
Murang'a County Government  
P.O. Box 52 - 10200, MURANG'A

So as to be received on or before Thursday 31, March 2022 at 10.00 am.

Tenders will be opened at the boardroom immediately thereafter in the presence of bidders or their representatives who wish to attend.

HEAD OF SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT SERVICES  
FOR: COUNTY SECRETARY





Hillary Mutyambai at a past function. PD/FILE

## Police boss fined Sh500k for snubbing Senate

by Hillary Mageka  
@hillarymageka

The Inspector General of Police, Hillary Mutyambai, has been slapped with a Sh500,000 fine by a parliamentary committee for snubbing its invitations.

Mutyambai, who failed to appear before the Senate Devolution and Inter-governmental Relations committees three times, attracted the wrath of legislators after he skipped a crucial meeting yesterday. The nine-member panel is investigating forcible eviction of county staff from houses in Eastleigh and Pumwani owned by the Nairobi City County.

The committee chaired by Homa Bay Senator Moses Kajwang' said the conduct of Mutyambai was untenable.

“We are going to apply sanctions as spelt out in the Powers and Privileges Act,” ruled Kajwang', adding that the committee will issue fresh summons for him to appear. The Parliamentary Powers and Privileges Act 2017 states that where a witness summoned does not appear, the relevant committee may impose a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand shillings to the Clerk of the relevant House.

“This amount of money will be paid from his pocket, not public resources, and he will produce a receipt that he paid from his own personal account,” Kajwang' held. After payment, he explained, the IG will have to honour fresh

summons, failing which he will again be fined a similar amount.

“A man who is vetted and approved by this House cannot afford to avoid invitations to appear before Senators. It was not just an invitation; this was a summons,” he said.

According to him, if the Senate can impeach presidents and governors, nobody, not even the IG, can ignore and act in a manner that risks contempt to the Senate. His sentiments were shared by Elgeyo Marakwet Senator Kipchumba Murkomen.

The Kajwang'-led committee also wanted the IG to explain the presence of police signs on a disputed property in Pumwani, Nairobi.

## Plot to kick out over 100 rebel Jubilee leaders

Party preparing list of all defectors to UDA before invoking Article 103 of the law on vacation of office

by Eric Wainaina  
@EWainaina

President Uhuru Kenyatta's Jubilee Party has initiated a process to kick out over 100 rebel lawmakers who have defected to Deputy President William Ruto's UDA party before the expiry of their terms in Parliament.

Yesterday, officials at the Pangani-based party were preparing a list of senators and National Assembly members elected on a Jubilee Party ticket, with intentions of writing to Speakers of both Houses demanding to have all of them sent home.

The ruling party's Vice Chairman, David Murathe, said they will rely on Section 14A and 14B of the Political Parties Act on membership resignation, court advisories and Article 103 of the Constitution.

These are explicit that MPs automatically lose their elective positions if they stop being members of the political parties that sponsored them during the elections, by either resigning or being expelled.

According to Murathe, the party was preparing a list of those who have sent their resignation letters to them, and after counter-checking with the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties.

On confirming their status, they will write to clerks of the respective Houses asking them to invoke Article 103 of the Constitution on vacation of office of an MP and have the positions declared vacant.

“The law is very clear that a seat becomes vacant the moment the holder switches political parties. Most of these MPs want to defend their seats on UDA tickets. For that to happen, they will be required to resign from our party,” said Murathe.

“We have elected members who have resigned from our party and have done it through writing. What we (Jubilee) are doing now (yesterday) is that we are synchronizing the list with that of the Registrar of Political Parties and once we get the list of those who have quit — because they are

supposed to notify the Registrar of Political Parties of their resignation — we will write to the Houses and they will have no option but to declare the positions vacant,” Murathe told ‘People Daily’.

Should the move succeed, the affected MPs will lose salaries and allowances for the remaining months to August. Those who have pending loans will be required to seek alternative ways of clearing them.

Murathe says they will be guided by Article 103 of the Constitution, which says: “The office of a Member of Parliament becomes vacant if, having been elected to Parliament as a member of a political party, the member resigns from that party or is deemed to have resigned from the party as determined in accordance with the legislation contemplated; the member may be expelled as per the procedure under section 14B.”

However, this will not affect Ruto despite being the leader of UDA, and governors and deputy governors who have joined him, owing to a court advisory in the case of Migori Governor Okoth Obado who was sued after ditching People Democratic Party (PDP) which sponsored him in 2013, to defend his seat on an Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) ticket. The advisory exempts them from application of the Act.

### Law on expulsion

A member of a political party, according to Section 14A of the Political Parties Act, is deemed to have quit his party if they form another party, join in the formation of another outfit, join another political party, in any way or manner publicly advocate the formation of another party, or promote the ideology, interests or policies of another political party. Section 14B says a person may be expelled from a political party if that person contravenes any provision of the constitution of that political party.

The party's move comes barely a day after Murathe, who is one of Uhuru's confidantes, said the party was not taking it lightly that some MPs, particularly those from central Kenya, among them Moses Kuria of Gatundu South, Rigathi Gachagua (Mathira), Ndindi Nyoro (Kiharu) and Alice Wahome (Kandara) were disparaging the President.

Murathe said that once they are done



Party vice-chairman David Murathe. PD/FILE

### BLACK LIST

● Leaders affected by the intended purge include senators Kimani Wamangangi, Kithure Kindiki (Tharaka Nithi), Irungu Kangata (Murang'a), Mithika Linturi (Meru), Njeru Ndwiga (Embu), Mwangi Githioni (Ndaragwa), Susan Kihika (Nakuru) and John Kinyua (Laikipia).

● Yet others are Elgeyo Marakwet's Kipchumba Murkomen, Aaron Cheruiyot (Kericho), Samson Cherargel (Nandi), and MPs Rigathi Gachagua (Mathira), Ndindi Nyoro (Kiharu), Gathoni wa Muchomba (Kiambu), Cate Waruguru (Laikipia), Faith Gitau (Nyandarua) and many other leaders especially in Ruto's backyard.

with the ongoing campaign to revamp Jubilee Party; they will target the rebels, adding that none of them will win their seats back. He noted that in Mt Kenya region, in all elections, 80 per cent of the leaders are never re-elected.

Lawyer Ndegwa Njiru said that given the fact the MPs have officially left their mother party through writing and joined UDA, which can be confirmed by the office of the Registrar of Political Parties, the lawmakers will “easily and automatically” lose their seats.

“The move is executable; it is feasible because that is the law. The MPs cannot continue holding the party to ransom yet they are no longer members. Under what circumstances will they continue holding their positions and enjoying the benefits which they do, yet they are not members of the party?” the lawyer asked.

But the DP's allies, led by Keiyo South MP David Rono, said they were unmoved, vowing to challenge any such move in court. Further, he said, they are hopeful that National Assembly Speaker Justin Muturi, who has been accused by Uhuru's supporters of leaning towards Democratic Party, will not allow the process to happen.

Those likely to be affected include Speaker Justin Muturi, who is now the Democratic Party leader, and his Senate counterpart Ken Lusaka, who is keen to recapture Bungoma seat on a Ford-K ticket.

## Naming of new IPOA leader still in limbo

by PD Reporter  
@PeopleDailyKe

Despite rigorous interviews, the appointment of the CEO of Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) remains in limbo after the authority's chairman disagreed with the outcome. Seven of the members approved the appointment of acting CEO Elema Halake, who is also the Director of Investigations. He emerged top after scoring 86.28 per cent.

However, according to minutes of the meeting seen by ‘People Daily’, the chairperson Ann Makori protested and walked out of the meeting. She refused to sign the minutes.

“Based on the requirements of the job and the candidates' performance, it was resolved that the candidate ranked number one should be appointed as the director/chief executive officer,” the minutes read.

The minutes of the meeting were signed by vice-chairman Jonathan Lodompui, commissioners Doreen Muthaura, Praxedes Tororey, Fatuma Muhamed, Walter Ogony, and Rose-line Odede, as well as the head of human capital, Solomon Lemuren.

Some commissioners said that when the results were announced, the chairperson disagreed with the outcome and walked out of the meeting.

“The vice-chairperson proceeded with the meeting and it was resolved that the best candidate be appointed with immediate effect,” the commissioners said.

Halake has been acting in the position, which was advertised earlier. Seven people were shortlisted, including Halake.

Halake was followed by Christopher Kinyua Wanjau of National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA), who got 66.58 per cent. Simon Cheruiyot came third with 62.28 per cent; while Samson Wangusi Palia, former head of the Kenya Relief and Rehabilitation Department, scored 53.72 per cent.

Ms Makori has, however, denied claims that the meeting ended abruptly, saying the process proceeded to the next stage of security vetting.

She added that the names of the top three would be forwarded for vetting.



# New rules to regulate scrap metal business

Matiang'i says lifting of the moratorium issued by the President will be pegged on compliance with the regulations

by Zaddock Angira  
@BerniceMuhindi

The moratorium on scrap metals trade will not be lifted until the office of the Attorney General comes up with new regulations to control the sector.

Interior Cabinet Secretary Fred Matiang'i yesterday directed all scrap metal dealers will have to seek fresh licences from the Scrap Metal Council under new regulations.

The regulations that are derived from the Ministry of Trade and stakeholders' recommendations on the control of the sector blamed for encouraging vandalism of critical infrastructure, also propose separate and special vetting of all copper dealers.

Only the government-owned Numerical Machining Complex (NMC) will be allowed to buy scrap metal disposed from critical national infrastructure such as roads and railways under the regulations.

The new requirements are a prerequisite for the lifting of moratorium on scrap metal trade announced by President Uhuru Kenyatta on January 20.

Matiang'i, who chaired a meeting, warned that the lifting of the moratorium, will be pegged on compliance with the new regulations. The meeting was attended by the scrap metal dealers and regulatory agencies in the sector.

"We are not going to allow the sector to continue operating in unlicensed manner, and no amount of political intimidation or pressure will make us abandon the resolve.

"We are not building infrastructure for scrap metals vandals. We would rather the scrap metal business died but we managed to protect our critical infrastructure," the CS said.

## Special unit

Attorney General Kihara Kariuki said he will advise the President against withdrawing the moratorium.

"As long as I am the AG of this country, I will not advise the President to lift the moratorium until we have the regulations in place," he said.

Matiang'i says a special multi-agency unit had been set up to protect power lines and other critical installations. Under deterrence measures announced in January, vandals will be treated as economic saboteurs and charged under the counter-terrorism laws.

Trade Cabinet Secretary Betty Maina said only 20 scrap

metal dealers are officially licensed in the country while 91 others have their applications pending. More than 3,900 other operators are operating illegally.

Energy PS Gordon Kihlangwa, who attended the meeting, said on average, 10-15 transformers were being vandalised in the country every week, while the cable line supplying power to the Nairobi Central Business District from Embakasi was recently stolen to feed illegal trade in copper.

Losses of transformers have however been cut to around seven per week under new security arrangement, that placed power installations under the supervision of country security teams chaired by county commissioners.

In the proposed regulations, licensed dealers, millers and smelters will be charged Sh250,000 in annual fees while the amount for agents and jua kali collectors will be Sh150,000 and Sh50,000, respectively.

## Declare details

Other requirements are that dealers must prominently display the name and license number of their businesses outside their facilities and keep receipts detailing the nature of the scrap metal, its source, previous use and the registration details of the vehicle and the driver delivering it if it's ferried to the premises.

They will also be required to belong to a Business Member Organisation and obliged to ensure they only trade with licensed dealers when sourcing or selling their stock.

To transport scrap metal, dealers will have to carry a copy of their license and obtain a letter authorising the vehicle to carry the load that must declare details of source and destination, type and quantity and name, ID and contact details of the driver.

## IN ATTENDANCE

● The meeting was also attended by the Inspector General of Police Hilary Mutumbai, and representatives from the Directorate of Criminal Intelligence.

● Others were the Kenya Revenue Authority, Kenya Railways, road authorities, Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KMA) and various scrap metal dealers' associations.



Interior Cabinet Secretary Fred Matiang'i chairs a meeting on licensing of scrap metal dealers in Nairobi yesterday. COURTESY

## Stakeholders' talks slam brakes on PSV operation

by Zaddock Angira  
@PeopleDailyKe

The planned crackdown on non-compliant public transport vehicles has been suspended following a deal between the police, National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) and the Federation for Public Transport Sector (FPTS).

Following the planned crackdown, some matatu owners had called for a strike, which was to start yesterday.

The National Police Service Spokesperson Bruno Shioso yesterday said following the meeting, it was agreed that both the matatu strike and the planned

crackdown be suspended.

"It was further agreed that the FPTS be represented in future multi-agency operations," he said.

The meeting was attended by the FPTS chairman Edwin Mukabana, Deputy Inspector General Edward Mbugua and NTSA Director General George Njau.

The matatu operators who opposed the crackdown said the sector was yet to fully recover from effects of Covid-19 pandemic and that the checks were exacerbating an already bad economic situation.

Four days ago, police also suspended the boda boda crackdown to give room for consultations.

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# IEBC to summon Kuria over remarks on vote rigging in favour of Uhuru

by Bernice Mbugua  
@BerniceMuhindi

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) chair Wafula Chebukati yesterday said he will summon Gatundu South MP Moses Kuria over his remarks on rigging votes in favour of President Uhuru Kenyatta.

The MP while addressing the UDA National Delegates Conference at Kasarani on Tuesday, claimed that they stole votes for in favour of Uhuru.

"Our team will investigate and if the wording he said is confirmed and found to be offensive, then we shall proceed to summon him," he said.

Chebukati spoke after the swearing in of IEBC chief executive Officer Marjan Hussein Marjan at the Supreme Court building by Chief Justice Martha Koome.

"We gazetted the election date on January 20, which means the election offenses act kicked in and also code of conduct... we had a case involving Sabina Chege but we were stopped by the High Court... We hope the judgment will be delivered soon so that we see the way forward in that particular matter," he said.

Chebukati further insisted they are ready for the August General Election and that matters challenging the procurement process in court had all been disposed of.



IEBC chairman Wafula Chebukati addresses the media yesterday at the Supreme Court. PD/JOHN OCHIENG

"Procurement was one of the headaches but now we are on top of it. We are now more ready than we were in the previous elections," he said.

According to Chebukati, things like technology, had already been done noting that they have commenced procurement of 14,000 more kiems kits and they will be able to have all materials in place.

## Driver for democracy

Marjan, who has been in an acting capacity since 2018, takes over from Ezra Chiloba, who is now the Director-General of the Communications Authority of Kenya.

The CEO vacancy was advertised in December 2021, attracting 511

applicants. Only five candidates were shortlisted and interviews conducted on March 8, 2022.

Koome congratulated the new CEO and urged the commission to be absolutely impartial in how they manage the election.

"IEBC is intended to be our driver for democracy by enhancing and strengthening constitutional democracy through free and fair elections and to make sure that each and every vote is counted and transmitted," she said.

"I urge the commission to bear in mind our history of contested elections and that the anchors of our constitution made sure we had very detailed principles regarding how we conduct elections," she added.

# Ruto gets new fighters as home boys retreat

Team members mostly from Mt Kenya and will be key in delivering votes from the region to the DP

by Jeremiah Kiplang'at  
@PeopleDailyKe

Deputy President William Ruto has acquired new faces in his quest to become the country's fifth President, as older allies from his backyard have taken a backseat with slightly over four months to the August General Election.

On Tuesday at Kasarani where he was crowned the UDA presidential candidate, Ruto got the backing of fresh figures that declared support for his bid, injecting impetus to his campaign.

UDA is in the Kenya Kwanza Alliance with Amani National Congress (ANC) and Ford Kenya parties led by Musalia Mudavadi and Moses Wetang'ula, respectively.

Most of the new entrants, however, are from Mt Kenya region, who he will now bank on as he attempts to lock up the over five million votes in the larger region.

## Special recognition

The DP received the support of party leaders Mwangi Kiunjuri (The Service Party), Moses Kuria (Chama Cha Kazi), William Kabogo (Tujibee Wakenya Party) and Jimi Wanjigi who recently joined Safina party.

Before Tuesday, the leaders had blown hot and cold over the DP's candidature, some even ruling out possibility of ever working with him.

However, during the NDC, the leaders were accorded special recognition and reception capturing how important they were to the DP's State House battle.

Once they found comfort in the yellow-themed affair at Kasarani Indoor Arena, the leaders expressed readiness to throw their weight behind Ruto's first attempt at the presidency, praising him for standing firm against the outgoing regime's alleged oppression.

"We will work hard to ensure the vic-

tors are those in this building (Kasarani). I have no doubt whatsoever, that we will write history from this gathering. Climbing the mountain is not easy but those of us who are up will help you climb easily," said Kiunjuri, one of those who had not publicly declared if he would ever support Ruto's bid, despite strong indications in the past he would do so.

Up to last year, claims had abounded that the DP was considering Kiunjuri; former Agriculture Cabinet Secretary who was sacked in 2020, as his running mate although the possibility has since waned.

Wanjigi traced his relationship with the DP to 2006 when they first met, revealing he once hid Ruto at his home in Nairobi when members of the proscribed group-Mungiki, were looking for him in 2007.

"It is Ruto who brought Uhuru to my house (before the 2013 elections)," he said.

Wanjigi, a former life member of ODM, recently left the party in a huff, after he was denied an opportunity to challenge the outfit's leader Raila Odinga for the presidential candidature.

Raila was picked as the Azimio La Umoja presidential candidate last weekend with the full backing of President Uhuru Kenyatta.

"All Kenyans should reject Azimio. Their politics is about oppression not ideologies. It is not about Raila in Azimio, there is another one who is after a third term against the country's Constitution...time has come to say no more," said Wanjigi, whose Safina party will hold its NDC next week and Ruto will be expected to grace it.

Kabogo- the former Kiambu governor, said he had no doubt in his mind who he will support for the top seat in the coming elections, saying Ruto had the credentials to become the country's fifth leader.

"No one has coerced me to join Ruto. I am here on my own volition. I would like to tell those feeling bad about my decision, I'm so sorry," said Kabogo, who revealed he had warned Ruto against sitting pretty waiting for Uhuru's endorsement.

Kuria has been the most fickle among



Gatundu South MP Moses Kuria with TSP party leader Mwangi Kiunjuri, businessman Jimi Wanjigi and Jibebe party leader William Kabogo on Tuesday at Kasarani stadium during UDA's National Delegate Conference. PD/JOHN OCHIENG

## IN THEIR WORDS

● **Kiunjuri:** Climbing the mountain is not easy but those of us who are up will help you climb easily.

● **Wanjigi:** It is not about Raila in Azimio, there is another one who is after a third term against the country's Constitution.

● **Kabogo:** No one has coerced me to join Ruto. I am here on my own volition. I would like to tell those feeling bad about my decision, I'm so sorry.

the new entrants, often expressing willingness to work with Ruto but also tampering such a possibility with claims of his readiness to get other allies.

On Tuesday, he made it clear he will support Ruto and will look for votes for him in the Mt Kenya region.

Ruiro MP Simon King'ara also became the latest lawmaker from Mt Kenya to shift allegiance to Ruto. He was received at Kasarani. He jumped ship a day after Senators Kimani Wamatangi (Kiambu) and Njeru Ndwigwa (Embu) moved to DP's camp.

Trans Nzoia Governor Patrick Khaemba also joined Ruto's camp in Kasarani and would be tasked with popularising UDA in the county.

## Peripheral roles

However, his reception at Kasarani was an awkward affair as the second-term governor, who was elected twice on Ford Kenya, jumped ship in front of his party leader Wetang'ula who appeared not to have had any qualms about the governor's decision.

Khaemba has been hobnobbing with the DP for a while and it was only a matter of time before he joined his camp.

It has also become evident some of the Ruto allies, mostly from the Rift Valley, have adopted a lower profile as his presidential bid shapes up.

Formerly, prominent figures from the region like Senators Kipchumba Murkomen (Elgeyo Marakwet), Aaron Cheruiyot (Kericho), Samson Cherargei (Nandi), MPs Caleb Kositany (Soy), Oscar Sudi (Kapsaret) and Joyce Korir (Bomet Woman Rep) among others, would get lots of airtime in

DP's functions.

Lately, they perform peripheral roles, speaking occasionally in high-profile events. None of them spoke in Kasarani on Tuesday.

Nominated MP Gideon Keter said they had agreed to give enough space to Ruto's supporters from other regions.

"It is something we have consulted about. It is for the purposes of accommodation. We are okay when Ruto speaks because he speaks on behalf of Kenya and our behalf. We will allow others to speak," said Keter, who is seeking the Kuresoi South parliamentary seat.

Ruto also formally recognised Chama Cha Mashinani as one of the parties within Kenya Kwanza Alliance with the party leader Isaac Ruto, among those who spoke during the Tuesday event.

After months of treating the party with caution and at times cynicism, the DP said they were ready to work with it, indicating a mellowing of headline stance against smaller outfits ready to work with UDA in its strongholds.

CCM leader Ruto, also former Bomet governor, thanked the DP promising to make sure he wins the presidential seat.

"We will walk this journey with you. We will vote for you as our next President... we believe that we have got to pay attention to the man in the grassroots," said Ruto, who is seeking to recapture the seat on his party.

With CCM working with UDA it is expected to give Ruto's outfit a run for its money in the Rift region as it has already been receiving dozens of defectors keen to vie on it for various seats in the next polls.



# Keep off Uhuru, Azimio MPs tell Ruto

...as the President says no amount of insults hurled at him will change his focus

by Anthony Mwangi  
@PeopleDailyKe

MPs allied to the Azimio la Umoja movement yesterday reacted angrily to recent attacks on President Uhuru Kenyatta and his government by the UDA politicians.

They claimed Deputy President William Ruto and his supporters have been organising platforms whose agenda is to malign the person, character and family of the President.

Led by Jubilee Party secretary general Jeremiah Kioni and Dagoretti North MP Simba Arati, the MPs told a press conference at Parliament Buildings Ruto has been exhibiting aggression, anger and warmongering tendencies, actions that they said were likely to create tension in the country.

## Independent bodies

This came on a day the President said no amount of abusive language will deter him from working to ensure the country is peaceful and united under the spirit of the "handshake".

Uhuru spoke yesterday when he addressed wananchi at the Kenyatta Market in Nairobi after an inspection tour of the facility. He also had a moment to enjoy *nyama choma*, a delicacy associated with the market.

The market is set to receive a major face-lift to provide traders with improved workspaces and enable customers to enjoy better services.

The Kioni team said the trend started at the Kenya Kwanza rally at Thika Stadium Saturday and intensified at the UDA National Delegates Conference at Kasarani Stadium Tuesday.

"The rally at Thika quickly metamorphosed from a political event to an enclave for brewing animosity, negative ethnic indoctrination and blatant incitement," read a statement signed by over 20 MPs.

They accused the DP of



President Uhuru Kenyatta enjoys 'nyama choma' at a joint in Kenyatta Market, Nairobi, yesterday. COURTESY/ PSCU

lives were lost, property worth billions of shillings obliterated and thousands rendered homeless," they warned.

They said that Ruto has been

accusing Uhuru of betrayal and ungratefulness while cunningly avoiding the real reasons why he fell out with the President.

"It is in the public domain

that soon after election in 2017, the UDA Party leader, blinded by greed for power and money, abandoned the cause of national unity and delivery, and immediately embarked on an unparalleled looting spree that almost crippled this country," they said.

The DP, they said, had for the last four and a half years, done nothing but campaign as the President focused on fulfilling his election promises to Kenyans.

"In an exaggerated guilt-tripping scheme, William Ruto purported to have been subjected to untold suffering and immense trauma and that he had left the President to God," the MPs said.

They went on to hit at some

of the leaders who addressed the NDC, singling Jimi Wanjigi whom they accused of pushing for tenders involving huge projects leading to loss of billions of shillings in public funds.

On claims that it was the DP who helped the President out of the International Criminal Court cases, the MPs said that, contrary to the allegations, it was Uhuru who played a major role in ending Ruto's case at the ICC.

"It is in his case where witnesses were bribed, threatened, and killed to conceal the evidence, but the truth is now coming out. His role in what happened to Kenyans in Rift Valley is finally being unmasked and the truth will be told one day," the MPs said.

## BRIEFLY

### ODM leaders back Lenku bid

ODM leaders in Kajiado have supported Governor Joseph ole Lenku's re-election in the August 9 election. Speaking at Ong'ata Rongai yesterday, the leaders led by chairman of ODM Kajiado Caucus Tarayia ole Kores and Nominated Senator Judy Pareno, said they held consultations with the party leader Raila Odinga and agreed to back a Jubilee candidate. They said they would use consensus in sharing elective seats for MPs

and Woman Rep even as they support Lenku. Kores said he had withdrawn from the contest governor race to support Lenku after consensus by the ODM leadership. "As ODM leaders we will support Jubilee Governor and that is Lenku. Any other person who has joined or intends to join Jubilee to vie should come prepared to hit the ground and woo voters without our support," said Kores.

- Christine Musa



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**EDITORIAL**

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## QUOTED TODAY



**“The greatest enemy we have today is the cell phone during exam time. Do not push us to say that we shall not want to see any cell phone in the school during exam time. You have to manage the cell phones.”**  
EDUCATION CS  
GEORGE MAGOHA



**“The law is clear that a seat becomes vacant the moment the holder switches political parties. Because most of these MPs want to defend their seats on UDA, for that to happen, they will be required to resign from our party.”**  
JUBILEE VICE-CHAIR  
DAVID MURATHE



**“IEBC is our driver for democracy by enhancing constitutional democracy, through free and fair elections. I urge the commission to bear in mind our history of contested elections.”**  
CHIEF JUSTICE  
MARTHA KOOME

## IEBC proposal on primaries ill-timed

Political parties are among the primary pillars of a parliamentary democracy such as Kenya's. They provide the platform on which actors compete for power to actualise personal aspirations and implement their dreams for constituents and the country.

There is no doubt about the challenges that come with highly-personalised and ethnicised political parties especially in nascent democracies.

Here the environment for competition continues to be constantly skewed and factors that form the basis for solidarity with candidates continue to revolve around selfish, even primordial, interests at the expense of progressive ideas and a genuine desire to serve.

With the country barely four months to the August election, candidates for various political seats are burning the midnight oil as they cobble together campaigns and respond to realignments ahead of party primaries, with March 26 being a critical date in the journey to the polls. This is the deadline by which political parties must have presented their members list to the Registrar of Political Parties.

Perhaps to forestall what appears to be a huge number of possible defections after the primaries that could increase the cost of the polls by the candidature of many independents, the electoral agency has proposed radical amendments to the Elections Act. The key objective of the changes is to bar losers in primaries from running as independents.

The Elections Act provides a window through which a candidate who has lost in the primaries can divorce his or her party and vie as an independent but they cannot join another outfit.

Anyone familiar with history regarding the conduct of primaries in Kenya would understand the reason for the window. Party primaries are usually characterised by rigging, bribery and favouritism that results in credible candidates being locked out.

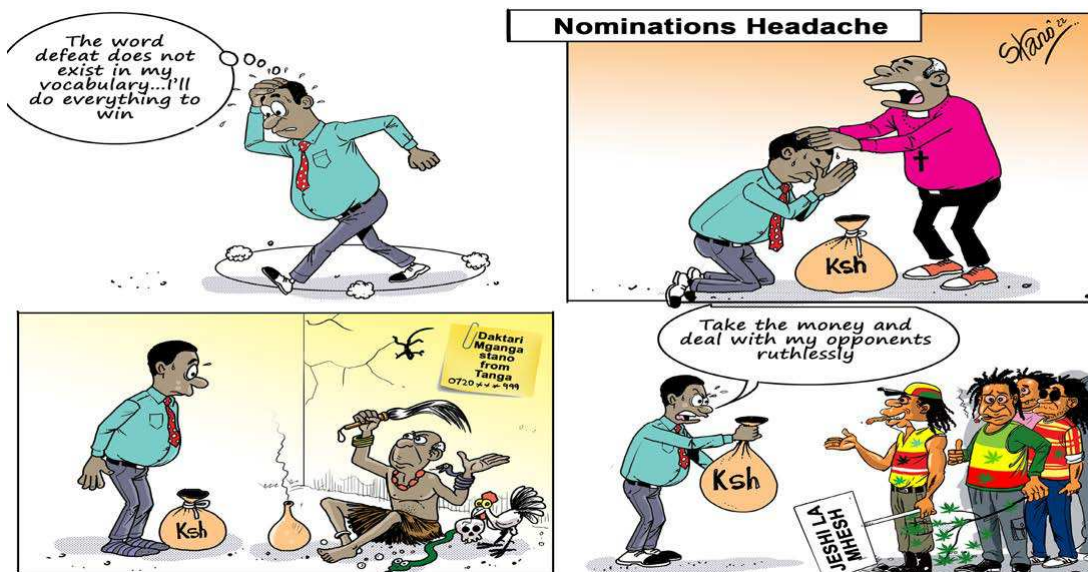
Though the key parties have promised free and fair primaries, aspirants for various posts are sitting on the edge ready for any eventuality as they calculate fallback positions in case of dodgy elections. This is the primary reason for party-hopping. And the cure can't be found in suffocating law amendments aimed to box political competitors into a corner and deny them any avenues for recourse in case of mischief.

The answer to such political migration is to strengthen parties to enable them conduct credible primaries as envisaged both in our election laws, the Constitution and as guided by the historic 2017 Supreme Court decision.

### THOUGHT OF THE DAY

RONALD REAGAN

**“Preservation of our environment is not a liberal or conservative challenge, it's common sense”**



## Kenya's forest cover needs urgent restoration

At a time when the world is becoming increasingly hotter, the importance of adequate forest cover in maintaining life on earth cannot be gainsaid. However, it is just recently that people have realised that climate change is real, as heat from the sun's rays gets a notch hotter.

In Kenya, we seem just one step short of the fatal heat waves experienced in other parts of the world, particularly in the Indian sub-continent. The heat in Nairobi and other cooler upcountry towns so far this year, feels way above what people are used to in our scorching coastal towns.

The answer to our predicament is obvious. In our quest for 'development', we have run roughshod over nature, particularly the land. We have cut down vast swathes of trees in order to make way for new real estate fads that we can ill sustain.

Unbeknown to many Kenyans, forest cover has been dwindling at an alarming rate. Kenya's forest cover today is estimated at less than seven per cent, quite lower than the 10 per cent recommended by the United Nations. That is why the rains keep delaying, and dry spells taking longer than anticipated.

Worse, the massive and unplanned change of land use from agricultural to construction poses a grave threat to the country's food security.

Monday March 21, marks the International Day of Forests. This year's theme is "Forests and sustainable production and consumption". The first-ever forests day was observed on March 21, 2013. This makes it the tenth anniversary since.



STEPHEN NDEGWA

**Unbeknown to many Kenyans, forest cover has been dwindling at an alarming rate**

According to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), forests are home to about 80 per cent of the world's terrestrial biodiversity, with more than 60,000 tree species. Around 1.6 billion people depend directly on forests for food, shelter, energy, medicines and income. Unfortunately, the world is losing 10 million hectares of forest each year - about the size of Iceland.

Environmental benefits provided by forests include carbon sequestration, biodiversity, and landscape protection. These have a direct impact on sectors such as agriculture, environment, and energy.

Retired President Daniel arap Moi (now deceased) must have foreseen such a time as this, when early in his presidency he lobbied Kenyans to plant more trees. If only we had kept the momentum. But we must now retrace our steps, or risk roasting to death in the blazing sun. Communities play a crucial role in restoring nature. The underlying assumption here is that forest conditions, and human use of forests, are largely determined at the local level. This can be achieved by sensitising people on

the vulnerability of their lives to the vagaries of adverse climatic conditions.

Forestry and biodiversity are inseparable. Both encompass aspects like sustainable agriculture, desertification, land degradation and drought, water and sanitation, energy, climate change, oceans and seas, vulnerable groups, food security, and indigenous people.

The foregoing has informed shifting the locus of decision-making and resource management away from the central government to the counties. Not only do the latter have greater knowledge of local resources, but are better able to monitor resource use and compliance.

Forest conservation, therefore, must also build the capacity of communities to address challenges facing exploitation of wood resources, and non-wood forest products. Because they are often directly dependent on the resource, it is assumed that communities have the greatest incentives to jealously protect its base.

The world as a whole has lost sight of the forest for the trees. Humankind is right now on the cusp of an environmental tipping point. As we dither on taking drastic action on restoring our forests, we risk hitting the irreversible, and suicidal, 1.5 C rise in global temperatures.

Ultimately, it is important to consume and produce wood in a more environmentally sustainable way for the earth as a whole. As FAO appeals, let us protect this easily renewable resource with a sustainable management of forests.

— The writer comments on topical issues



# When presidential candidate is a ghost worker

Mid last year, it was revealed that a whopping Sh32 million was earned by ghost workers in Vihiga county. At a time when the country was groaning from the effects of the Covid pandemic, an audit failed to trace 426 employees at the duty station.

In Siaya, a move to weed out ghost workers ended in a surprise appearance of elderly people who trooped to the county headquarters to receive pay as the county government had issued a directive to workers to come physically for their wages. The situation shocked the many legitimate employees who had also lined up for wages.

Welcome to the world of ghost workers, a phenomenon that greatly deters development, increases a society's wage bill and denies others opportunities for employment while compromising the quality of work done by being absent without apology or portraying any need to show up.

But do we understand what exactly a ghost worker is? Alive or dead, in the case of an organisation or company, a ghost worker is simply described as a person who is on an employer's payroll but does not work



KIPNGETCH CHERUIYOT

**The DP has been spending taxpayers money taking care of his personal ambitions.**

for the organisation.

In other terms, it is also viewed as a deceased whose records are still in a company's records or someone who left the company. With all its anomalies, these employees or workers often "benefit" from salaries and perks which they, or others pocket, using it as a bait to embezzle funds from an institution or government.

In such cases, for those active and living, many are known joy-riders who intentionally stay away from their mandate without valid reason but expect to draw salaries and allowances.

A proven menace within the government payrolls, the existence of ghost workers is not a new phenomenon. Occurring in almost every sector of economy, reports have indicated that ghost workers in Kenya have gobbled up billions over the past decades despite efforts to eradicate the vice.

As far back as 2014, counties have been conducting frequent staff audits as the government engaged in purging of ghost workers from the payroll. Despite this, the problem again emerged in 2019, five years after 12,000 names were struck out. These were workers who had either died, retired or absconded from duty.

Why is all this critical at this time? Being an electioneering period when Kenyans are required to elect their next set of leaders, they must be keen about their track record, experience and work ethic.

Having been and still in government, Deputy President William Ruto has been campaigning for the past five years right from the 2017 elections. The DP has been spending the taxpayers money and time taking care of his personal ambitions. He has left his mandate behind, but carries the title with him as he traverses the country.

In many occasions, the DP has been conspicuously missing in government functions and events. This has often left Kenyans questioning his commitment to his mandate as the Deputy President of the Republic of Kenya.

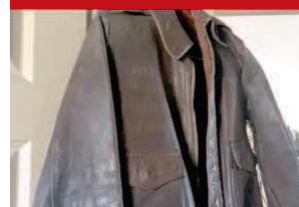
Portraying characteristics of a worker who absconds duty, Ruto has intentionally missed several crucial events some of which includes the Nairobi County takeover where the President oversaw the transfer of functions from the Nairobi County government to the national government and the launch of the 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census Enumeration.

Even at a crucial time when support from all leaders in government was required, Ruto missed the President's announcement of measures to be taken after the country received the confirmation of the first coronavirus case.

If such a senior leader seeking the presidency can choose to abscond duty, will he be able to give the presidency the attention and the respect it deserves?

— The writer comments on topical issues

## ODDLY ENOUGH

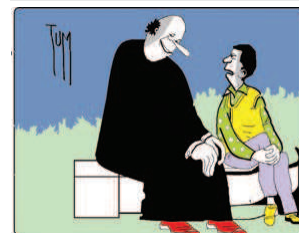


## World War jacket sent to owner's kin 60 years later

A World War II bomber jacket left behind at a Washington restaurant in the early 1950s was returned to the daughter of its original owner more than 60 years later. Pat Nesbitt, who now lives in Molalla, Ore., said he was 5 years old and undergoing treatment for polio when his uncle gave him the leather bomber jacket he found abandoned at a Tacoma restaurant. "When my uncle gave me the jacket, from 10 years old to 18, I put on the jacket because it gave me superpowers," Nesbitt told KATU-TV. "If he could do 40 missions in that jacket, I could sled down the cliff, and I did." Nesbitt said he kept the jacket in good condition over the decades. "I oiled it, replaced the cuffs and the zipper. My biggest goal was to find somebody who would appreciate it as much as I did and eventually give it back to the family," he said. Nesbitt said the name of the jacket's original owner, Miles E. Blum, was written inside the jacket's lining, and in February he decided to enlist the help of friend to try to find members of Blum's family.

Ferguson used Ancestry.com to connect with Blum's daughter, Teri Sargent of Bella Vista, Ark. Sargent said her father died when she was only 14. Sargent said Nesbitt was right about the jacket belonging to a superhero. "He flew B24 bombers in that jacket. He flew 40 missions in that jacket. He was all over Europe, France, and Germany," Sargent said. Sargent received the jacket in the mail this month.

—UPI



TRUTH: Fruitfulness for Christ depends on our fellowship with Christ.

# Creating jobs will reduce cases of human trafficking

Sub-Saharan Africa, Kenya has had some of the highest level of child trafficking. Child trafficking is considered one of the most serious crimes.

Kenya is recognised as a country of origin, transit and destination of human trafficking.

Though the causes and sustenance of human trafficking are varied, one of the explanations for the rising cases is the labour migration and development patterns and the susceptibility of people crossing borders.

Poverty, unemployment and lack of opportunities have also been identified as major factors promoting both internal and transnational human trafficking.

In Kenya, internal trafficking is considered to be prevalent particularly from rural to urban areas, such as Nairobi and Mombasa, for exploitation in domestic labour and commercial sex.

The government, in collaboration with NGOs and other international organisations, have been trying to fight the vice.

The Kenya government, for instance, has utilised the victim assistance fund and launched a cyber-

JACKSON NGARI AND MAXWELL KAMAU

**Poverty and unemployment are some of the factors that contribute to trafficking.**

crime centre to investigate crimes of sexual abuse and labour.

A 2020 trafficking in-persons report published by the US state department confirmed that the Kenyan government has made significant strides in taming human trafficking. But the report states that the government has not met the minimum standards required to claim the elimination of trafficking.

Kenya has remained in Tier 2 of the US Department of State report for the last five years.

According to the report, Kenya prosecuted at least 22 individuals under the trafficking law in 2019, compared with at least 33 in 2018.

In spite of the government coming up with measures to mitigate the impact caused by human trafficking, some victims have been labeled as criminals, which limits their access to resources and funds.

Kenya is a signatory to the United Nations protocols to prevent, sup-

press and punish trafficking in-persons especially of women and children.

The most widespread forms of trafficking are labour and sexual related, at 44 per cent and 53 per cent respectively according to a research done by the National Crime Research Center in 2015.

Most of these cases involve the youth and children who are more vulnerable and susceptible to human trafficking primarily for sexual exploitation and labour.

One in every six victims trafficked is a child. Two-thirds are aged between 18 and 29 while 17 per cent are between 30 and 47.

According to Kwale Woman Rep Zuleikha Hassan, who is also the founder of Tawfiq Muslim Association, poverty and gender inequalities are some of the factors that make women and girls vulnerable to human trafficking.

Human trafficking is not only a

grave injustice to the victim, but it is also an injustice to families and friends of the victim. Let us, therefore, work together in protecting their rights and to end human trafficking in our country and the world.

There is also need for global coordination on counter trafficking in-person case so that both the receiving country and the country of origin can collaborate to have the cases handled promptly, fairly and appropriately in manner that meets global standards.

Governments should fully utilise national referral mechanisms and train law enforcement agencies and other government officials on identification of victims of trafficking in need of care services especially victims of transnational trafficking.

The government should also strive to create public awareness about human trafficking and its effects.

It should also address the root causes of human trafficking through job creation schemes, vocational and skills empowerment programmes and the provision of livelihood support to youths.

—The writers are communication and media students at Rongo University

## #TWEETS TO THE EDITOR



### Kemsa at it again

**@SeweS:** I don't know why Kenyans believe that Police is the most corrupt section of our country. Have you guys ever heard of MoH and its line agencies? KEMSA is in the news again.

### When we cooperate...

**@shaazmemo:** Great things happen when we come together, the transformation at Makueni hospital is a result of the collaboration between the government and charity organizations in ensuring the children get the safest and most efficient surgery services.

### Gossip is a money maker

**@BravinYuri:** Women love gossip. Men love gossip. But men will monetize gossip while women will give it out for free. Look at the biggest Gossip blogs in Kenya. They are run by men but look at the sources of the gossip, women. If women monetized gossip, many would build empires.

### Celebrate yourself

**@Rixpoet:** You may not be loudly celebrated for breaking generational trauma like you would if you got a new job or earned a degree. Emotional labour often goes unrecognized. So this is for you. Celebrate yourself for facing the chaos. Center your communities on healing.



# Kiambu Big Six troop to UDA in own bids for governor slot

But critics say convergence of Kabogo, Wamatangi, Waititu, Wainaina, Kuria and Ndicho in Ruto camp may favour Jubilee's Nyoro

By Eric Wainaina  
@EWainaina

The convergence of six high-profile Kiambu governorship competitors under Deputy President William Ruto's hustler camp, has tinkered with the dynamics of the race where presidential campaigns are expected to play a significant role.

Former governors William Kabogo and Ferdinand Waititu, as well as Senator Kimani Wamatangi, Thika MP Patrick Wainaina, Gatundu South's Moses Kuria and Speaker Stephen Ndicho are coalescing around Ruto's Kenya Kwanza camp.

This leaves Governor James Nyoro of Jubilee Party as the main candidate in Raila Odinga's Azimio la Umoja front.

Others seeking to dislodge Governor Nyoro are Agnes Ndong'u, a social and community development worker, ex-county executive Juliet Kimemia, and Mwende Gatabaki, wife of economist David Ndii. But the three are largely regarded as fringe candidates. The fact that all the aspirants, save for Nyoro, are vying for the seat on their respective parties under Ruto's United Democratic Alliance (UDA), could give him a head start.

Kabogo, who is seeking to recapture the seat he lost to Waititu in 2017, is vying on his Tujibebe Party, while Waititu — who was impeached over theft of public money — Wamatangi (Senate Chief Whip who until last Saturday was ambivalent about his support for Uhuru or Ruto), Wainaina and Ndicho will all be seeking the UDA ticket. Kuria will contest using his Chama Cha Kazi party.

Incidentally, Kabogo in 2017 accused Ruto of orchestrating his downfall in favour of Waititu. He and Wamatangi, Wainaina, Kuria and Ndicho are hoping to ride on the DP's perceived popularity in the region.

On the hand, Nyoro wants his track record to assist him, as well as the recently launched campaign by President Uhuru Kenyatta to revamp his Jubilee party.



Also, a gradual change of tide against Ruto, as well as support of minority communities in Kiambu who are mostly allied to Raila, could boost Nyoro's campaigns.

There is consensus among observers, and even among candidates in the Ruto camp, that the convergence of six main contenders around the DP could work in favour of Nyoro. Speaker Ndicho says unless the DP's camp averts sibling rivalry, it could hand victory to Nyoro.

Ndicho says that in an effort to avert this, he has withdrawn his quest for the governorship and opted to run for the Senate seat, which has so far attracted only former county youth executive Karungu Thangwa under UDA.

## Unwarranted opportunity

"I urge the other gubernatorial candidates to consider doing the same so that we don't give our competitors in Azimio the unwarranted opportunity to run away with the Kiambu gubernatorial seat. I have been approached by various people to consider negotiated democracy and step down from the gubernatorial position in favour of the senatorial post," Ndicho told 'People Daily' yesterday.

Further, in Ruto's camp, other than Wamatangi who hails from Kabete in Kiambu West — which has seven constituencies — the rest of the aspirants are from Kiambu

DP William Ruto (centre) with Kiambu UDA gubernatorial aspirants at Thika Stadium, Kiambu County, on March 13. COURTESY/DP/PS

## VIEWS FROM OTHER SIDES

● **James Nyoro:** He equates his main competitors to the Biblical reference of King David's wars with Moabites and Ammonites, where the rival troops got confused and fought each other.

● **Kinoo Ward Rep Samuel Kimani:** Unity of pro-Ruto candidates could work in favour of James Nyoro, especially in regard to voters who do not subscribe to UDA politics.

East. Kabogo is from Ruiru, Kuria from Gatundu South, Ndicho from Thika while MP Wainaina, though representing Thika where he has been a businessman, is from Gatundu North.

Concerns are rife that they could split the votes further, since the county is divided into two — Kiambu West and Kiambu East. A geographical ingredient has already played out where Kabogo and Nyoro have been accused of favouring their respective Kiambu East and Kiambu West sides, respectively.

"Out of the nine gubernatorial candidates, six of us come from Kiambu East. We must manage this as leaders (in the pro-Ruto camp)," Ndicho argues.

Since Uhuru comes from Kiambu county, he could influence the voting patterns, especially if he campaigns for the Jubilee candidate. And with Raila in the mix, the tables could turn in Jubilee's favour. Raila could influence the minorities in Kiambu — Luos, Luhyas, Kambas and Kisii — to vote for Nyoro. This segment accounts for over 100,000 voters.

"The President will definitely have a level of influence in the voting, which could be in favour of Nyoro, but whether that influence will be enough to make Nyoro governor, I am not sure. In the last two by-elections of the county, Jubilee Party lost," recalls Prof Macharia Munene.

## Retrace steps and ditch DP, Aseka urges ANC leader

by Dennis Lumiti

Khwisero MP Christopher Aseka (below) has asked Amani National Congress leader Musalia Mudavadi to reconsider his decision to join forces with Deputy President William Ruto.

Speaking yesterday, Aseka said the move could cost Mudavadi much politically and likened it to the case in 2002 when he declined to join Narc and instead supported the 'Uhuru Project'.

The then Vice-President lost even his Sabatia parliamentary seat after he declined to team up with, among others, Mwai Kibaki, Michael Wamalwa and Raila Odinga.

## Yet another blunder

"I respect my elder brother Mudavadi but I fear he has made yet another blunder that may ruin his political ambitions for good," the MP said.

"Joining forces with Ruto is very detrimental to his political future. I urge him to rescind his decision and join forces with Raila Odinga," he added.

Speaking at Emalindi in his constituency when he inspected development initiatives, Aseka said he de-camped from ANC to Azimio la Umoja due to pressure from the constituents.

He said he could easily sell the presidential candidacies of Mudavadi and Raila in Khwisero, but not Ruto's.

He termed his former party boss as a visionary. "Politics is about interests. I would not want to lose my seat just because I joined the so-called 'Kenya Kwanza Alliance'," said Aseka.

The legislator is seeking to end a one-term jinx in his constituency.



## Elders beseech Marende to pull out in favour of Governor Ottichilo

by Enock Amukhale  
@PeopleDailyKe

The Bunyore council of elders is facing an uphill task of convincing former Speaker of the National Assembly, Kennedy Marende (right), to pull out of the Vihiga governorship race to increase Governor Wilber Ottichilo's chances of retaining the seat.

Marende's entry in the contest has complicated matters after the elders had settled on Ottichilo. The council's secretary general, Patrick Ongaya, says Marende's candidature might divide the Bunyore vote.

Marende has declared he will vie for the seat under the Democratic Alliance Party of Kenya (DAP-K) ticket

while Ottichilo will defend the seat on an Orange Democratic Movement ticket. Both ODM and DAP-K are in Azimio la Umoja coalition that supports Raila Odinga's presidential bid.

Ottichilo and Marende are facing serious competition from Senator George Khaniri, who comes from the Tiriki community; Sabatia MP Alfred Agoi; Moses Akaranga; and Federal Party of Kenya (FPK) leader Francis Ominde.

"We must talk to the former Speaker of the National Assembly, Marende, to shelve his ambitions and pave the way for Governor Ottichilo. If the two go to the ballot, we are likely to divide our votes and lose," said Ongaya. He added that DAP-K



should field Marende as their Nairobi governorship candidate, going by his popularity across the country.

"Marende can do better in city politics because he is a national leader," said Ongaya. During the burial of his mother last month, the former Speaker spoke about his friendship

with Ottichilo since the days they were at Kagumo High School together. Ottichilo feels that the entry of Marende in the race is a scheme to divide Bunyore votes. "We have some people who have declared to vie for the seat with the aim of dividing our Bunyore votes," he said.

The county is dominated by Maragoli clan, followed by Bunyore who inhabit Luanda and Emuhaya constituencies, while the Tiriki are mainly in Hamisi. The Maragoli occupy Sabatia and Vihiga constituencies.

Last December, Bunyore elders endorsed Governor Ottichilo and nominated MP Godfrey Osotsi to contest the Vihiga gubernatorial and senatorial seats, respectively.

Former Governor Moses Akaranga, who is seeking a comeback, has said Maragoli ancestors are bitter with the community for losing the seat to Ottichilo.

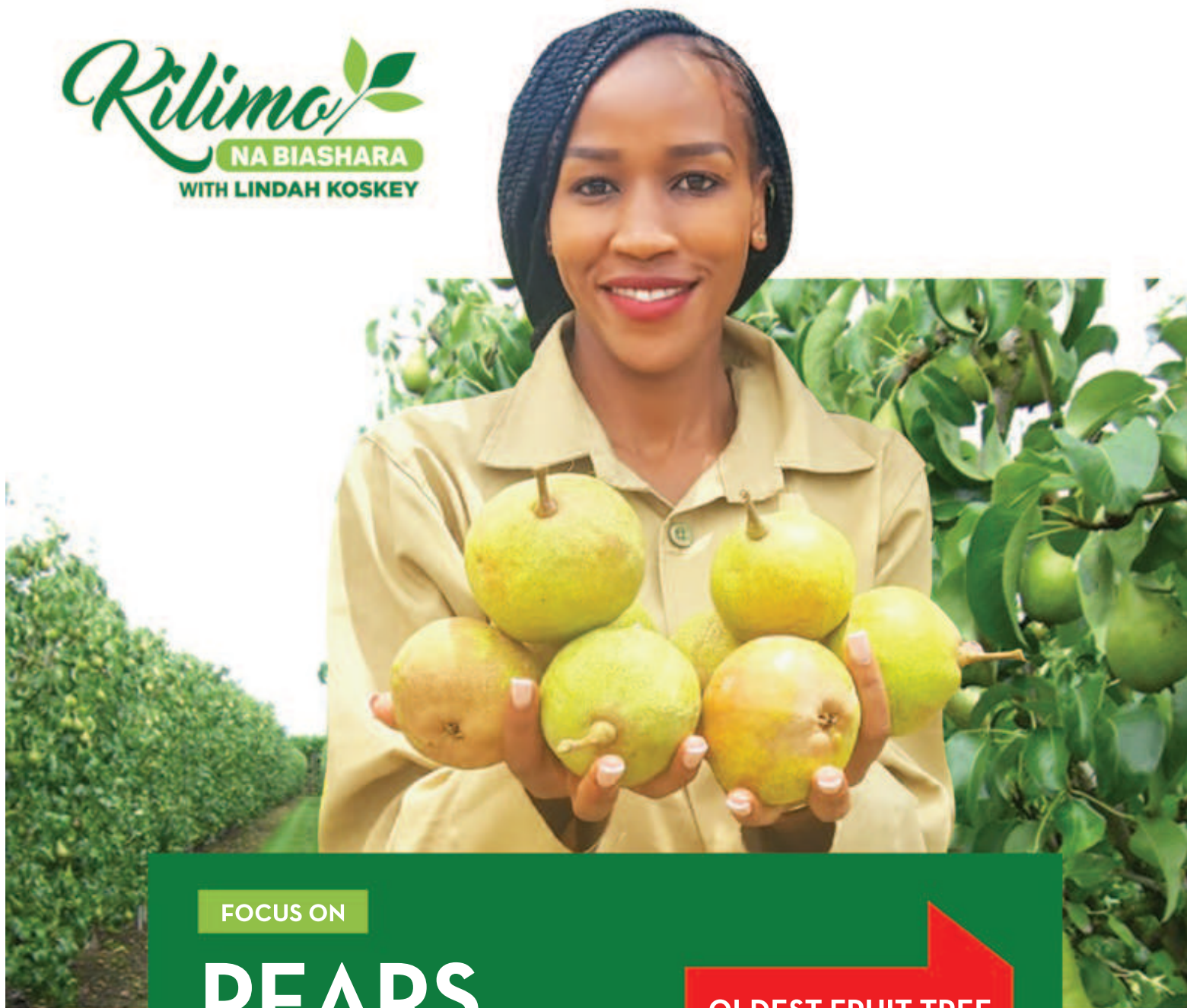
Akaranga, while addressing his supporters yesterday, said it is time for leaders from Maragoli community to unite and reclaim the post.

"Our ancestors are not happy with us for losing the governor seat. We have let someone else sit in our leadership shrines," said Akaranga.

He asked Sabatia MP Alfred Agoi to shelve his ambitions for the post and support him. The former governor said recent opinion polls showed he was leading, followed by Ottichilo, Khaniri and Agoi.



*Kilimo*  
NA BIASHARA  
WITH LINDAH KOSKEY



FOCUS ON

# PEARS FARMING

OLDEST FRUIT TREE  
WITH HIGH FIBER  
CONTENT

**TOMORROW  
AT 8PM**







Government Spokesperson Cyrus Oguna distributes relief food in Kwale for vulnerable people amid the ravages of drought. KNA

## State rolls out measures to mete drought effects

■ Nairobi, Wednesday

The Government has rolled out various interventions to alleviate the debilitating effects of drought on communities in Arid and Semi-Arid Land (Asal) regions.

The ongoing drought as a result of diminished rainfall in the last three seasons has led to about 2.8 million Kenyans from 23 Asal regions facing food distress.

The interventions by the government include, Emergency Relief Cash Transfer, launched in December, 2021, targeting 225,705 beneficiary households from the affected counties.

In a press release, Government Spokesperson Cyrus Oguna said each

beneficiary received Sh3,000 as emergency relief and the total amount disbursed is Sh677,115,000 in December, 2021, and another similar amount for January/February, 2022 period.

The second intervention, he added, is Physical Food Distribution whereby due to technical challenges experienced with Emergency Cash Transfers affecting a few individuals in the targeted group, the government re-introduced physical food distribution to all the counties as an emergency intervention.

"The amount of food currently being distributed to the counties include, 63,100 (50kg) bags of rice, 62,000 (50kg) bags of beans and 800 cartons of corned beef," said Col (Rtd) Oguna,

stating that the physical distribution of relief food does not replace the Emergency Cash Transfer but an emergency intervention to help in areas where food may be a challenge to acquire even when one has the money.

The spokesperson said other short-term interventions include water trucking to provide water for livestock/domestic use and the off-take programme which aims to off-load very weak cattle from farmers at a fee.

For this programme, Oguna said the government had allocated Sh450 million for phase one

and that a similar amount is earmarked for Phase Two expected to start soon.

- KNA

# Charting path to women land ownership rights

Lobby champions for change in traditions across many communities that denies women land ownership

■ by Malemba Mkongo  
@PeopleDailyKe

When Esther Acharri lost her husband in 1998, she did not know it would be the beginning of her long journey to fight for a land she bought with him a decade earlier.

The 'land grabber' was not her family or anyone closely related. It was a stranger she met while seeking to fend for her family.

Acharri's husband was the sole breadwinner and when he died, the burden of taking care of their five children lay squarely on her shoulders.

"I did not have any source of income and so I decided to sell a portion of the land. It was just a small portion of the 2 acres of land," she says.

However, the buyer later changed his mind and demanded for his money back. Acharri had already utilised it.

The buyer threatened her with a court case if she failed to pay back his money.

She says she was forced to take a bank loan so as to repay the loan and took the money to the buyer's lawyer.

Acharri says what happened is still a mystery because the money never reached the said buyer.

Ten years later after settling the debt, Acharri was shocked to receive a notice letter demanding her to vacate the land within a few days.

Upon following it up with her lawyer, she learnt the buyer had sold the entire 2 acres land instead of his portion allegedly for failing to receive the payment. The new buyer gave Acharri and her family few days to vacate the land and not even considering her husband's grave sits on that piece of land.

She moved to court where the new buyer was temporarily stopped from evicting her family or trespassing on the land.

"On that land sits my husband's benefits which I received after his death and decided to build a house for my children," she says.

She adds: "They did this because I'm a woman and thought I did not have the rights to own land. But I'm going to fight for it to death."

The land is estimated to be worth millions of shillings considering its sits next to Kisumu-Busia Highway.

Women's rights to own land is a big talking point not only in Kenya but Africa in general. Certain archaic tradition forbid women from owning land.

According to a national survey, women only hold one percent of total title deeds in Kenya despite recent data showing the population of women to men is 2:1.

Another five percent of women hold title deeds but jointly with men. All this is despite the fact women provide 89 percent of farming labour force and 32 percent of households are managed and provided for by women.

In Taita Taveta County, the problem is not in any different. Hollines Mwadime says widows are the most affected group of women as they are normally denied land by the husband's family.

"This happens mostly when the widow does not have male offsprings as it is believed girls will be married off and therefore do not have any right to their father's land," she says.

### Unmarried and divorced

She further says for the unmarried and divorced women, they also face difficulties in inheriting land in their own families as they are expected to inherit at their husband's home.

"It is a double tragedy for them. They are being denied land in their husband's home and in their own families. The men in the families mostly force them out thus ending up on streets or renting rooms in shopping centres," she says.

The situation has been made worse by lack of goodwill by the community to ensure equality when it comes to division of ancestral land. Also, slow wheels of justice caused by delays in determination of land cases has made most women lose trust with the court process thus shying away from seeking legal redress therefore opting out of the fight to own land.

But this situation is about to change



Women from Africa discussing the land ownership biasness during the 2022 International Women's Day. Inset (Esther Acharri) PD/MALEMBAMKONGO



### WOMEN LAND RIGHTS

● Women only hold 1 percent of total title deeds in Kenya despite recent data showing the population of women to men is 2:1

● African chapter of lobby 'Stand for her Land' says plans are being rolled out on how to make sure women have equal rights to land.

with the launch of "Stand for Her Land" campaign aimed at securing women land rights in Africa and across the globe.

The campaign is already running in several countries including Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Senegal and Colombia.

The journey was marked with the unveiling of the African Chapter and the plans are being rolled out on how to make sure women have equal rights to land.

Esther Mwaura, the global advocacy director for "Stand for her Land" says the focus is to make alliances with grassroots women groups to come up sustainable guidelines for equity.

She says their intention is to bring to the table government agencies who will then synergies recommendation from grassroots, adopt them into policies.

This will be done in consideration of the cultures and taboos of various communities in Africa since they cannot be ignored when it comes to solving land problems touching on women.

Mwaura says lands issues are not isolated in particular counties as the problem cuts across all communities who have different beliefs on women owning land.

"We also want to use these communities to gather data on women owning land and have the government mitigate the loopholes and issue more title deeds to women," she says.

They also aim at ensuring court cases are heard and determined expeditiously contrary to the current situation where land cases can go for more than five years.

Alternative dispute resolution is also one of the mechanism that will be used in

resolving land disputes especially when women are denied their right to own land.

"Grassroot organisations will do the research to identify the challenges and we will bringing all stakeholders on the table to discuss how to solve these challenges," she says

Revolution at the community level is already taking a centre stage with sensitization of the local residents and locals leaders on how to mediate land conflicts amicably.

In Kakamega County, Butsoto chief Wycliffe Kombo says local administration offices are the focal point in resolving the issue at hand as they are familiar and understand the cultures thus the most suitable to resolve cases before seeking legal redress.

"I'm from a place where culture denies women their land rights. On daily basis, I receive close to five cases of women denied land by their husbands, sons or brothers. I however resolve the differing pacts through dialogue."

The chief alongside village and clan elders have taken it upon themselves to ensure they resolve the issues within the common and still ensure women own land

But when the oppressor holds on to their stand, Kombo says they usually advice the aggrieved women to seek legal redress. Being a product of woman who was denied land after losing their father, Kombo says he is now committed in educating other chiefs and locals leaders on how to handle land cases fairly. He is now taking the campaign to other areas in the Western and Nyanza regions where there is reservation when it comes to women owning land.



# Officer killed, rifles stolen in Samburu police post attack

Latest in a series of daring raids on security personnel in bandit-prone region sends alarm bells ringing

by Zaddock Angira  
@PeopleDailyKe

Unknown assailants shot dead a police officer and seriously injured another before stealing four G3 rifles and 197 rounds of ammunition at Lodokoje Police Post, Samburu West Sub-county.

The daring night attack happened just two days after a gang shot dead a General Service Unit (GSU) senior officer and stole his firearm in Mochongoi, Baringo.

The National Police Service (NPS) said the men raided the post—about 40km from Maralal Police Station—at around 8.45pm. Only two officers were around. They were caught unawares and shot inside their houses.

The officer in charge of the post, Sgt Benard Leleur said he left the station to a nearby shopping centre, about 100m away, and while there, he heard gunshots from the post.

On returning, he found the two officers lying in a pool of blood. The attackers had also broken the steel box and taken the weapons.

The two injured officers were rushed to Maralal County Referral Hospital where Constable Joel Muchai was pronounced dead on arrival while his colleague, Constable Erick Miano is admitted in a serious but stable condition. He was shot in the stomach and the right hand.

Police Spokesperson Bruno Shioso yesterday said a manhunt for the gang had been launched with a view to recovering the firearms and bringing the bandits to book. He, however, said by last evening, no arrest or recovery had been made.

"Security and safety of all police officers and firearms remain a key priority area for the government and the National Police Service. It is owing to this that NPS continues to review and assess the security situation and risk factors that officers are exposed to which may compromise their personal safety," Shioso said.

He said the review included the closing or reinforcing of the security outposts at risk. "It is a continuous exercise," he added.



Police officers patrol a village after a recent bandit attack in Samburu. PD/FILE

## POLICE ATTACK

● The daring night attack happened just two days after a gang shot dead a General Service Unit officer and stole his firearm in Mochongoi, Baringo.

● On October 26, 2021, another gang raided Kirimon Police Post in the same Samburu West sub-county and stole two G3 rifles together with two magazines loaded with a total of 40 rounds of ammunition.

There have been several attacks in the Central Rift targeting officers in the recent past where some have even lost their lives.

On Saturday, for example, contingents of security officers were dispatched to Baringo to hunt down bandits who had shot and killed Inspector Wycliffe Nyongesa in Mochongoi in an ambush. The attackers also stole his firearm.

On October 26, 2021, another gang raided Kirimon Police Post in the same Samburu West sub-county and stole two G3 rifles together with two magazines loaded with a total of 40 rounds of ammunition.

## Last year's attack

Following the October last year attack, police headquarters directed all police posts and patrol bases with less than six officers be closed and the officers deployed to the mother stations.

The Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of the Kenya Police Service Edward Mbugua said such officers were unable to provide services to the members of the public as expected.

"It has come to my knowledge that there are police posts and patrol bases which are being manned by an inadequate number of officers and therefore unable to provide services as expected," Mbugua said, further directing that such areas would be policed by officers from the mother stations.

"You are directed to recall those officers and deploy them to their mother stations. Security within the affected areas will be

provided by sending officers on patrols," he added.

The directive was issued just a day after unknown people raided Kirimon police post in the same area and stole two G3 rifles, serial numbers A01278 and A04499.

Unknown people raided the post on Tuesday at around 9.30pm and broke the door of the armoury before stealing the firearms. They shot one round in the air as they were leaving.

The post had only four officers and at the time of the incident, there was one officer at the post who had gone to his house, leaving the post unmanned. An officer at the station then during the incident said while in his house he heard the door of the office and the armoury being broken and he assumed it was the in charge of the post who was breaking the door.

The officer said he assumed it was his senior because he had in the past broken the door several times after losing the keys. Shortly after, he heard a gunshot and checked outside but did not see anything. He then got out and proceeded to the office where he found the door having been broken and the steel box used as the armoury wide open.

Investigations revealed that there was no officer manning the report office and the armoury. The in charge who was not present during the time of the incident claimed he had rushed home and left two constables at the post.

## Concern after low uptake of Covid-19 jab in Mombasa

by Harrison Kivisu  
@PeopleDailyKe

Mombasa County government has expressed alarm over a sharp drop in the Covid-19 vaccine uptake following the government's decision to lift all the containment measures.

Last week, health Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe relaxed a number of measures including the wearing of masks in public places.

And yesterday, Mombasa County Public Health Chief Officer Pauline Oginga (below) expressed fear the low uptake of the Covid-19 jab may see thousands of doses expire. "It was a very good announcement, but how the public received it is different, this has forced us to create demand by going to the streets, because we want people to get vaccinated."

The county has now been banking on extensive community outreaches so as to rally the public to get vaccinated in order to contain the further spread of the virus. Oginga says so far, the county has returned about 40,000 expired doses following the low uptake in the Coast region in general.

"The doses that were returned are 40,000 doses and it is not Mombasa alone, many other regions have returned them to KEMSA," said Oginga adding only foreign tourists are turning up at vaccination centres.

The county department of health says since the pronouncement by the Health CS, only 5,000 had showed up to be vaccinated. In addition, only 223 people got their booster shots, a situation, according to Oginga, could lead to the rise in community transmissions. "We are experiencing a lot of apathy from members of the public since the pronouncement, the churches which had initiated vaccination programmes have canceled them," said Oginga.



## Women groups get grants to help fight TB in Kisumu

Kisumu County Department of Health has awarded 19 women groups cheques funding grants worth Sh855,000 funded through the Tuberculosis (TB) Reach programme in the area.

Through the initiative, women from beach areas across five sub-counties in Kisumu were trained on early TB case detection, prevention, community education and sensitisation.

Speaking during the cheque awarding ceremony, the Ag County Executive Committee Member (CECM) Health Dr Gregory Ganda said the money would help them carry out their activities even as they sensitised

and championed for the TB-free community in the fishing areas.

He said the women had been equipped with knowledge and skills on the detection, maintenance and referrals of TB symptoms and cases through community health volunteers at the sub-county levels.

"We did the training, but after research, we found out that it will be hard to engage these groups without financial support as most of them are financially unstable. The money will help the groups to boost and venture into businesses," he explained.

- KNA

## State deploys 20 reservists to Baringo county

Baringo County Commissioner Abdirisack Jaldesa has commissioned 20 National Police Reservists (NPR) recruited and deployed to insecurity-prone areas of Baringo North Sub-county to assist other agencies in restoring peace and stability in the area.

Jaldesa (pictured) said the number was part of the 80 NPRs commissioned by Rift Valley Regional Commissioner Mohammed Maalim on Tuesday last week at Lamaiwe area of Mochongoi division to end runaway insecurity in the county.

Accompanied by the county security team, Jaldesa said the recruits would be under the



command of an OCS Baringo North.

Jaldesa said in the sub-county, areas like Yatya, Chepkesin, Kap-turo and Chemoe were among the most volatile and it was expected the recruits would be a

game changer.

He encouraged the officers to immediately embark on their new responsibilities and be more vigilant in their line of duty.

"Be on your toes every day to see this insecurity menace comes to an end. We believe in you and we are very optimistic that you will be able to tackle insecurity within Baringo North," he told the reservists.

He said the NPRs would team up with the formations including Rapid Deployment Unit, Anti Stock Theft Units and General Service Unit as a way of complementing efforts.

- KNA





**Development budget recorded the lowest at 34.6pc, which is far below the expected level of 50pc**

# Businesshub

## Treasury blamed for low funds absorption

Budget watchdog says poor absorption is due to delays in release of funds to implement planned activities

by John Otini  
@PeopleDailyKE

Delays in the release of funds by the National Treasury is the reason behind the low absorption of development expenditure budgets, the office of the Controller of Budget (CoB) has said. This is in turn hurting planned development projects that are meant to improve the lives of Kenyans and instead the government is paying salaries and bills.

According to the CoB as of the end of December last year, overall government budget absorption stood at 39.5 per cent compared to 40.3 per cent in a similar period of the year 2020/21.

### Development budget

"Comparatively, the development budget recorded the lowest at 34.6 per cent, which is far below the expected level of 50 per cent as at half-year period," CoB said in the National Budget Implementation review. The low absorption is attributed to delays in the release of funds to implement planned activities by the National Treasury and delay in implementing programmes by Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs).

An analysis of budget performance by programmes shows that some recorded very high while others recorded very low absorption rates. The CoB recommends that Accounting Officers closely monitor budget performance and make nec-

essary reallocations for programmes with low absorption to ensure the budget is fully utilised well in time to avoid the last minute rush to spend.

"There should be timely procurement of goods and services such that the activities are implemented once funds have been received from the exchequer," the report urged.

However, there was a general improvement in liquidity and cash flow compared to the previous financial year on rising tax revenues and improving economic fortunes.

In the first half of this financial year, revenues into the Consolidated Fund amounted to Sh1.42 trillion, representing 44.5 per cent of the annual budget of Sh3.19 trillion, a

growth of 21.3 per cent compared to Sh1.20 trillion received in a similar period of the year 2020.

### Public debt

Total exchequer issues to the Ministries, Consolidated Funds (CFS) and County governments were Sh1.36 trillion, representing 42.7 per cent of the net estimates, compared to 42.2 per cent (Sh1.18 trillion) recorded in a similar period of 2020/21.

The CFSs are the allocation towards repayment of public debt, pensions and gratuities, salaries and allowances to constitutional officeholders and miscellaneous services.

### BUDGET IMPACT

● According to the CoB as of the end of December 2021, overall government budget absorption stood at 39.5 per cent compared to 40.3 per cent in a similar period of the year 2020/21.



### World Water Day

The Upper Tana-Nairobi Water Fund (UTNWF) President Eddy Njoroge (centre) presents their five-year strategic plan to The Nature Conservancy Regional Managing Director Africa Ademola Ajagbe, right, during the launch and Pre-World Water Day Stakeholders breakfast event at a Nairobi hotel. With them is UTNWF Executive Director Emmanuel Rurema. World Water Day, held on March 22 every year, celebrates water and raises awareness of billions of people living without access to safe water. PD/ALICE MBURU

## Why imported goods are more expensive

**TRADE:** Inefficiencies in the local value chain have been blamed for the increase in the final price of goods from the region, Kenya Trade Network Agency (Ken Trade) has said. The agency noted that it has become very difficult for the local producers to compete in the international market due to the uncompetitive nature of prices for Kenyan goods.

"International trade or movement of goods in this region will make much business sense if the trade logistics ac-

tivities in Kenya are efficient and cost effective," said Amos Wangora, Chief Executive of KenTrade. "Imported goods are as expensive as the inefficiencies in the system, while the goods from the region are as expensive and uncompetitive as the inefficiencies in the system," he added.

### Trade barriers

In a bid to increase International trade and eliminate the barriers, Kenya through KenTrade is set to host the first trade facilitation summit in the East African region

bringing together over 200 stakeholders. "The summit is aimed at building linkages between customers in the region and reducing blockages that inhibit international trade," added Wangora. Already KenTrade has been able to map out procedures for 95 commodities, which include all procedures of export, import and transit on the trade information portal, dubbed InfoTradeKenya.

Going forward Kenya Trade Network Agency has now petitioned parliament to fast-track passing of the Single

Window Bill 2021 that seeks to entrench KenTrade as the official constitutional body in charge of facilitating trade in the country.

The agency revealed that engagements are ongoing with the parliamentary committee to expand its mandate. Mugambi Imanyara, KenTrade Chairman said that KenTrade will be expected to play a crucial role in the achievement of Vision 2030, where Kenya's exports are expected to hit Sh1.2 trillion by 2030.

— Jacktone Lawi

### BANKING

## KCB mulls Sh2 dividend as net profit hits 34.2b

KCB Bank shareholders will have a windfall after the lender declared Sh2.00 dividend payment following surge in profits for the 2021 financial year.

The lender recorded a 74 per cent rise in after tax profit after tax to Sh34.2 billion, buoyed by a growth in total income, and reduction in loan loss provisions.

"The board of directors has recommended a final dividend of Sh2.00 per share. This follows an interim dividend of Sh1.00 paid out in January this year. The final dividend will be payable to the members of the company on the share register at the close of the business on Monday 25 April 2022," said Joshua Oigara (pictured) Group CEO and managing director.

### Cost management

During that period KCB's net profit surged from Sh19.6 billion posted a year earlier to Sh34.2 billion, on the back of increased income, cost management and lower credit provisions which saw the group post higher returns to shareholders. Overall, revenues increased by 13.5 per cent to Sh108.6 billion due to a rise in net interest income.

Non-funded income increased by 9.9 per cent to Sh30.9 billion on increased customer transactions, forex income and income from accelerated loan growth.

"In the year we deliberately focused on supporting customers to weather the healthcare storm. We expect good business momentum this year with a projected economic recovery across markets," Oigara said.

Operating expenses also went up to Sh47.8 billion from Sh42.8 billion following an increase in staff and organisational costs, particularly from the consolidation of Banque Populaire du Rwanda (BPR) and inflationary adjustments across the group. However, despite increased revenues, the ratio of non-performing loans (NPL) increased from 14.7 per cent to 16.5 per cent, signalling the long-term effects



of Covid-19 impact.

Oigara attributed the scenario to the slow recovery by several key sectors, largely construction, hospitality, and manufacturing which continued to come under pressure with slow recovery.

"Provisions for the period reduced by 52 per cent to close at Sh13 billion from Sh27.2 billion a similar period last year. The decrease is largely due to lower corporate and digital lending impairment charge after the deliberate action on covid related provisions absorbed in the previous year," KCB said.

Following the successfully completed the acquisition of BPR on July 31, 2021, KCB said it has kicked off integration activities that will see the amalgamation of BPR and KCB Bank Rwanda into a single banking business.

### Increased lending

With the bank eyeing a Sh1.5 trillion balance sheet in the next 5 years it will be looking at finalizing a deal with the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) to revert to a risk based lending with a focus to tap on the SME market.

This comes in the backdrop of increased lending to MSMEs which grew by 23 per cent from Sh60 billion to Sh74 billion. Last year, KCB partnered with various Counties in Kenya in lending to MSMEs under a Credit Guarantee to cushion them from effects of Covid-19.

In line with the bank's Beyond Banking Strategy, the Bank is focusing on putting its customers first with leading value propositions.

To support this approach, in December, the bank revamped its MSME proposition across the markets.



## Kenya, Saudi Arabia chambers ink deal to deepen business ties

**PARTNERSHIP:** Kenya and Saudi Arabia chambers of commerce have signed a memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to improve the balance of trade between the two countries.

This is after the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) engaged with Saudi Arabia officials on bilateral relations between Kenya and Saudi Arabia.

The meeting first session of the Joint Commission for Cooperation (JCC) between the countries ended in Riyadh on Friday. Senior officials from the two countries met to delib-

erate on salient areas of interest in socio-economic development that are key to both countries, according to a despatch from Riyadh.

Foreign Affairs Cabinet Secretary Raychelle Omamo who led the Kenyan delegation for the meeting said the JCC framework sets the stage for deeper cooperation and reaffirms the close and robust relations between the two countries.

"I believe that this milestone is a manifestation of the fortitude that our countries and people have to deepen and reinforce," she said.

Richard Ngatia, KNCCI president disclosed that the chamber

negotiated trade opportunities with the Federations Council of Saudi Chambers (FCSC) which will see Saudi Arabia will employ at least 100,000 Kenyan youths on the sidelines of the JCC meeting.

### Business forum

The business forum convened of government officials, business leaders, industry regulators and business associations to engage in bilateral trade conversations under the theme, 'Enhancing Trade and Investment Potential between Kenya and Saudi Arabia.' During the event, I executed a historic MoU

between KNCCI and FCSC under my counterpart Secretary-General Hussain Alabdulkader," he said.

The MoU was executed at the Saudi Arabia – Kenya Business Forum at the Council of Saudi Chambers on Monday. The MoU, Ngatia added, will ensure the chambers facilitate trade information, services and opportunities to improve the balance of trade. He said Kenyans need to seize opportunities in the region through the help of the chamber to seize the opportunities in Saudi Arabia for direct employment and importation of commodities like bitumen – Jacktone Lawi



KNCCI president Richard Ngatia and FCSC secretary-general Hussain Alabdulkader display documents after the signing ceremony. COURTESY

## BRIEFLY



### KTDA to unveil tea plucking machines

**FARMERS:** Small-scale tea farmers will soon start using plucking machines to reduce labour cost, enhance productivity and ensure good returns. Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) argues the introduction of the small affordable machines will help in reducing labour cost which for long has been eating into their annual earnings. Further, the new machines will enhance efficiency in time taken to pluck the green leaves. KTDA chief executive Wilson Muthaura told *Business Hub* in an interview the board through its subsidiary—Temec Company—has been selling to farmers' the machines on need basis. "Themachine costs Sh25,000. We are undertaking training to the farmers on how to use it. The training will help to ensure quality is maintained once farmers start using the machines," he said. Muthaura said introduction of machines in tea harvesting is critical and dictated by global trends.

— Nicholas Waitathu

### Heathrow drops face mask rules

**TRAVELLERS:** The UK's largest airport has dropped mandatory face mask wearing for passengers. Heathrow Airport no longer requires people to wear them in its terminals, railway stations or office buildings but will continue to recommend they do so. British Airways and Virgin Atlantic are the latest airlines to relax policies on face coverings. Passengers must still wear them on board flights if the country they're travelling to requires it. 'Plan B' measures ended in late January, meaning masks were no longer legally required on some public transport and in shops. However Heathrow, which handles a large number of international flights, had kept the rule that face coverings must be worn, until this week. Heathrow's chief operating officer, Emma Gilthorpe, said the airport was pleased to move away from mandatory face mask requirements.

— BBC

# February new car sales up 14pc, but disruptions loom

Industry identifies polls and overseas logistics challenges as factors that could see low figures being registered this year

by Steve Umidha  
and Noel Wandera  
@PeopleDailyKe

New vehicle sales rose by 14 per cent in February to hit 1,984 units compared to 1,738 cars sold in a similar period last year, industry statistics show.

Kenya Motor Industry Association (KMI), a lobbyist for the formal motor sector, says the data shows an impressive and best performance in a single month for car makers who sold 1,680 new cars in a similar month in 2019 and 1,969 total units a year earlier. That growth, is however, not expected to sustain in the coming months, according to industry predictions.

Arvinder Singh Reel, managing director of CFAO Motors Kenya, formerly Toyota Kenya, lists volatile exchange rates, looming general elections as well as overseas logistics challenges as some of the factors that could see players register low figures this year. "We could see possibly similar numbers as last year as we expect a lot of challenges this year which may also be affected by global prices of crude oil and the pending automobile policy still at the Ministry of Transport," he stated in a previous interview with *Business Hub*.

Further, with the number of infrastructure projects coming to their tail end owing to the looming general elections, Dinesh Kotecha, Group chief executive of Simba Corporation, the manufacturer of Mahindra brands, believes that car dealers will likely see a reduction in government contracts as the new administration takes office after the August national polls.

Auto dealers' businesses were adversely impacted by Coronavirus hangovers but are now angling for new opportunities with CFAO Motors, for instance, venturing into the car trade-in business model as a new strategy to grow sales of its new vehicles in a deal announced on Tuesday.

The automobile firm which rebranded to CFAO Motors will, however, remain the exclusive distributor of brand new Toyota vehicles and genuine parts in the Kenyan market. On Tuesday, CMC Motors Group



Stanbic Bank Kenya Head of Business and Commercial Clients, Florence Wanja, CMC Group chief executive Alan Crossan sign an MoU to enable customers buy Ford vehicles at flexible rates. With them are Stanbic's Head of Banking Kennedy Muthama (right) and CMC Sales Manager Robert Gichuki. PD/ALICE MBURU

### AUTO DEALERS

● Auto dealers' businesses were adversely impacted by Coronavirus hangovers but are now angling for new opportunities.

● CFAO Motors, for instance, is venturing into the car trade-in business model as a new strategy to grow sales of its new vehicles in a deal announced on Tuesday.

partnered with Stanbic Bank to launch Ford Finance scheme to enable clients to access competitive and flexible financing solutions for Ford vehicles in Kenya. The partnership will see the Ford Motor Company, CMC Motors Group Ltd, Stanbic Bank Kenya and Standard Bank of South Africa come together to enable clients within Kenya to afford new Ford units.

### Repayment tenures

Speaking at the Partnership launch, CMC Motors Group CEO Alan Crossan said the initiative comes when the economy is steadily recovering from the

harsh effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. "This will be a sign of relief as the facility will enable customers to enjoy interest rates as low as 10.71 per cent and comfortable repayment tenures of up to 60 months with no collateral required to access the asset," he said.

Stanbic Bank Kenya Head of Business and Commercial Clients, Florence Wanja, said the deal would enable Kenyans to acquire brand new vehicles at affordable pricing and flexible financing options.

"This partnership will be important in enabling our clients to gain access to new units that will give them service for longer with less downtime, increasing productivity," she added.

Domestic car dealers ended 2021 on an electric high, selling an impressive 14,250 new car sales in 12 months to December despite a tumultuous year occasioned by Covid-19.

Higher spending from buyers and ease of the economic disruption of Coronavirus restrictions as well as cheaper financing options by the banks were all mentioned as reasons for last year's growth.



SINGH

We could see possibly similar numbers as last year as we expect a lot of challenges this year



# Insurer nets Sh668m in 2021 profit

CIC reverses a net loss of Sh296.83 million recorded in the previous year

by Steve Umidha  
@PeopleDailyKe

CIC Insurance Group posted Sh668 million net profit for the year ending December 2021, on healthy income from investments and premiums, after recovering from Covid-19 shocks that devastated businesses.

This saw the insurer reverse a net loss of Sh296.83 million recorded in the previous year, attributing the fete to ongoing implementation of its corporate strategic plan, operational efficiency as well as cost optimisation.

CIC Group chief executive Patrick Nyaga said digitisation, research and innovation were among key strategic tweaks that spiked performance. "Our focus on balance sheet reorganisation is on course and aims at optimal utilisation of the available resources including disposal of non-core assets mainly land and focusing on the core business of the Group," Nyaga said in a statement.

During that period, the insurer posted Sh960 million pre-profit for the full year to reverse a loss before tax of Sh80 million recorded the previous year.

Gross written premium without pension contributions surged by 16 per cent to Sh19.6 billion compared to Sh16.9 billion posted in 2020, while investment income grew significantly by 64 per cent from Sh1.4 billion in 2020 to Sh2.3 billion last year, driven by increased investments in various profit-driven instruments.

The group's management

fees also increased by 35 per cent, due to a 17 per cent growth in assets under management in the CIC Asset Management business from Sh80 billion to Sh94 billion, as customers continued to increase investments for good returns.

However, the board of directors did not recommend payment of dividends for 2021 compared to 2020.

## Regional operations

Operations and other expenses for the year hit Sh4.7 billion compared to Sh4 billion the previous year. Total assets increased by seven per cent to Sh41.5 billion in the year under review compared to Sh38.8 billion recorded a year earlier.

Regional operations also registered an improved performance and all were profitable with exception of CIC Uganda whereby they contributed 11 per cent of the group's gross written premium.

Gross written premium of the firm's Malawian unit grew by 43 per cent while CIC Uganda grew by 44 per cent.



PATRICK NYAGA

**Our focus on balance sheet re-organisation is on course and aims at optimal use of the available resources**

## Coffee union recoups Sh105m in direct export

Coffee broker Kipkelion District Cooperative Union (KDCU) has received payment for their first direct coffee export to South Korea one month after the consignment was officially flagged off.

State-backed move to end the previously unregulated coffee value chain saw KDCU export a total of 134.4 metric tonnes of coffee valued at \$908,160 (Sh105 million) which will be used to pay 9,582 small scale farmers in Kericho, Nandi and Bomet counties at an average rate of

Sh116 per kilo of cherry.

The same coffee would have fetched an average of Sh76 per kilo of cherry at the local auction, representing 40 per cent change in earnings.

"Today we witness the completion of a successful end-to-end process of coffee grown, processed and now directly being sold by small scale farmers from Kericho all the way to South Korea and money coming back to our pockets," said KDCU chair Dr Joseph Koskei.

- Herald Alooi

## NAIROBI SECURITIES EXCHANGE

HIGH	LOW	SECTOR	YVAP	PREVIOUS	TOTAL
		AGRICULTURAL	PRICES		SHARES
15.00	10.00	Eaagads Ltd Ord 1.25	13.50	12.60	100
420.00	360.00	Kakira Pld Ord 5.00		415.00	
101.00	80.00	Kapchora Tea Kenya Pld Ord 5.00		98.00	
350.00	290.00	The Limuru Tea Co. Pld Ord 20.00		320.00	
22.60	16.75	Sasini Pld Ord 1.00		19.70	
154.75	125.00	Williamson T. Kenya Pld Ord 5.00		130.00	

HIGH	LOW	SECTOR	YVAP	PREVIOUS	TOTAL
		AUTOMOBILES & ACCESSORIES	PRICES		SHARES
76.00	20.00	Car & General (K) Ltd Ord 5.00	68.50	66.50	200

HIGH	LOW	SECTOR	YVAP	PREVIOUS	TOTAL
		BANKING	PRICES		SHARES
12.90	11.30	ABSA Bank Kenya Pld Ord 0.50	12.20	12.25	889,900
29.35	26.50	BK Group Pld Ord 0.20		27.00	
57.00	54.25	Diamond Trust Bank Kenya Ltd Ord 4.00	57.00	55.25	10,200
53.00	49.55	Equity Group Holdings Pld Ord 0.50	52.75	51.25	139,100
3.60	3.20	HF Group Pld Ord 5.00	3.45	3.22	500
22.00	20.30	I&M Group Pld Ord 1.00	20.90	21.00	4,100
46.00	43.60	KCB Group Pld Ord 1.00	45.05	45.00	3,638,500
25.00	23.00	NBSA Group Pld Ord 5.00	24.50	24.35	6,800
100.00	95.00	Stanbic Holdings Pld Ord 5.00	99.50	99.50	1,400
142.00	130.75	Standard Chartered Bank Kenya Ltd Ord 5.00	139.75	139.00	45,100
13.15	12.70	The Co-operative Bank of Kenya Ltd Ord 1.00	12.95	12.95	39,300

HIGH	LOW	SECTOR	YVAP	PREVIOUS	TOTAL
		COMMERCIAL & SERVICES	PRICES		SHARES
5.10	0.45	Deacons (East Africa) Pld Ord 2.50		0.45	
0.98	0.84	Evereast East Africa Ltd Ord 1.00	0.93	0.86	1,600
4.02	3.95	Express Kenya Pld Ord 5.00		3.95	
0.00	0.00	Homeboy Entertainment Pld Ord 0.50		4.66	
9.50	0.80	Kenya Airways Ltd Ord 1.00	3.83	3.83	
3.90	3.60	Longhorn Publishers Pld Ord 1.11		3.68	
5.10	4.60	Nairobi Business Ventures Ltd Ord 0.50	4.44	4.87	19,800
21.80	18.70	Nation Media Group Pld Ord 2.50	19.15	19.65	4,000
2.70	2.40	Sameer Africa Pld Ord 5.00		2.40	
16.40	11.90	Standard Group Pld Ord 5.00	11.90	13.00	100
13.00	11.60	TPS Eastern Africa Ltd Ord 1.00		11.60	
0.22	0.19	Uchumi Supermarket Pld Ord 5.00		0.21	
4.37	4.00	WPP Scangroup Pld Ord 1.00	4.14	4.10	19,700

HIGH	LOW	SECTOR	YVAP	PREVIOUS	TOTAL
		CONSTRUCTION & ALLIED	PRICES		SHARES
8.35	2.40	ARM Cement Pld Ord 1.00		5.55	
37.50	36.75	Bamburi Cement Pld Ord 5.00	37.00	37.00	2,500
36.30	34.00	Crown Paints Kenya Pld Ord 5.00		36.00	
120	1.06	E.A. Cabl. Ltd Ord 0.50		1.14	
7.10	6.88	EA Portland Cement Co. Ltd Ord 5.00		6.30	

HIGH	LOW	SECTOR	YVAP	PREVIOUS	TOTAL
		ENERGY & PETROLEUM	PRICES		SHARES
4.00	3.61	KenGen Co. Pld Ord 2.50	3.70	3.75	316,100
1.70	1.50	Kenya Power & Lighting Co. Pld Ord 2.50	1.55	1.54	60,900
5.50	4.10	Kenya Power & Lighting Co. Pld Ord 2.50		4.11	
6.00	6.00	Kenya Power & Lighting Co. Pld Ord 2.50		6.00	
24.00	23.15	TotalEnergy Marketing Kenya Pld Ord 5.00	23.50	23.50	100
6.70	5.50	Ummelo Ltd Ord 0.50		6.70	

HIGH	LOW	SECTOR	YVAP	PREVIOUS	TOTAL
		INSURANCE	PRICES		SHARES
7.10	6.84	Britam Holdings Pld Ord 0.10	7.00	7.00	35,900
2.24	1.98	CIC Insurance Group Ltd Ord 1.00	2.09	2.10	35,900
280.00	272.00	Jubilee Holdings Ltd Ord 5.00		275.00	
2.30	2.20	Kenya Re Insurance Corporation Ltd Ord 2.50	2.30	2.26	2,700
7.18	6.30	Liberty Kenya Holdings Ltd Ord 1.00		6.36	
13.55	11.50	Sank. Kenya Pld Ord 5.00		11.55	

HIGH	LOW	SECTOR	YVAP	PREVIOUS	TOTAL
		INVESTMENT	PRICES		SHARES
14.40	13.00	Centum Investment Co Pld Ord 0.50	13.10	13.50	12,800
0.39	0.34	Home Afrika Ltd Ord 1.00	0.37	0.37	3,900
1500.00	1,500.00	Kurwitu Ventures Ltd Ord 100.00		1,500.00	
1.00	1.90	Olympia Capital Holdings Ltd Ord 5.00		2.00	
1.28	1.00	Trans-Century Pld Ord 0.50	1.03	1.13	5,600

HIGH	LOW	SECTOR	YVAP	PREVIOUS	TOTAL
		INVESTMENT SERVICES	PRICES		SHARES
7.90	6.98	Nairobi Securities Exchange Pld Ord 4.00	7.04	7.46	17,500

HIGH	LOW	SECTOR	YVAP	PREVIOUS	TOTAL
		MANUFACTURING & ALLIED	PRICES		SHARES
98.00	61.25	B.O.C Kenya Pld Ord 500	85.00	85.00	100
510.00	420.00	British American Tobacco Kenya Pld Ord 10.00	490.00	489.25	100
13.20	10.00	Carbacid Investments Pld Ord 1.00	11.15	10.90	7,200
194.00	145.00	East African Breweries Pld Ord 2.00	150.00	150.00	10,800
1.45	1.10	Flame Tree Group Holdings Ltd Ord 0.825		1.26	
14.00	10.40	Kenya Orchards Ltd Ord 5.00/Tras		10.40	
0.70	0.25	Mumias Sugar Co. Ltd Ord 20.00		0.27	
36.40	26.10	Unga Group Ltd Ord 5.00		27.00	

HIGH	LOW	SECTOR	YVAP	PREVIOUS	TOTAL
		TELECOMMUNICATION	PRICES		SHARES
45.25	34.05	Safaricom Pld Ord 0.05	35.40	35.65	5,152,100

HIGH	LOW	SECTOR	YVAP	PREVIOUS	TOTAL
		REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST	PRICES		SHARES
7.48	5.86	ILAM FAHARI I-REIT Ord 20.00	5.62	5.84	4,400

HIGH	LOW	SECTOR	YVAP	PREVIOUS	TOTAL
		EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS	PRICES		SHARES
2075.00	1780.00	ABSA New Gold ETF	20891	203500	

NSE ALL SHARE INDEX: DOWN 0.30 points to close at 159.18  
NSE 20-SHARE INDEX: DOWN 2.84 points to close at 1884.92  
NSE 25-SHARE INDEX: UP 9.92 points to close at 3828.98

## MARKET WATCH

### TREASURY BONDS ISSUE



Central Bank of Kenya

RESULTS OF 91, 182 & 364 DAYS TREASURY BILLS ISSUE 240991, 2423082 & 2372564 DATED: 29/12/2021

	91 DAYS	182 DAYS	364 DAYS	TOTAL
Bid Date	28/02/2022	08/03/2022	28/02/2022	
Amount Offered (Kshs. M)	4,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	24,000.00
Bids Received (Kshs. M)	3,936.46	2,520.43	9,034.51	15,491.41
Performance Ratio (%)	98.42	25.20	90.35	44.93
Total Amount Accepted (Kshs. M)	3,936.28	2,520.19	6,547.11	13,003.59
Of which: Competitive bids	3,514.24	2,272.20	6,003.13	11,790.66
Non-competitive bids	422.04	247.99	543.98	1,213.93
Bid-to-Cover Ratio	1.00	1.00	1.58	1.19
Purpose / Application of Funds:				
Refinance / Redemptions	1,779.40	4,550.90	4,285.40	10,615.70
New Borrowing/Repayment	2,156.88	2,066.71	2,261.71	
Market Weighted Average Interest Rate	7.182%	7.834%	8.972%	
Weighted Average Interest Rate of Accepted bids	7.181%	7.835%	8.944%	
Price per Kshs 100 at average interest	98.241	96.249	91.811	

COMPARATIVE AVERAGE INTEREST RATES OF ACCEPTED BIDS

	This Auction	Last Auction	Variance
91-day	7.181%	7.51%	0.367%
182-day	7.835%	7.747%	0.088%
364-day	8.944%	8.940%	0.004%

NEXT TREASURY BILLS AUCTIONS: ISSUE NO. 240991, 2423082 & 2372564 DATED 06/03/2022

	91 DAYS	182 DAYS	364 DAYS	TOTAL
Offer amount (Kshs. M)	4,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	24,000.00
Auction Dates & Bids Closure	02/12/2021	02/12/2021	02/12/2021	
Bidding Announcement	03/12/2021	03/12/2021	03/12/2021	
Redemptions				19,791.65
New Borrowing/Repayment				4,608.35

### CBK KEY RATES

Central Bank Rate	7.00%	26/01/2022
Inter-Bank Rate	4.28%	15/03/2022
CBK Discount Window	13.00%	26/01/2022
91-Day T-Bill	7.206%	14/03/2022
REPO	0.00%	10/02/2022
Inflation Rate	5.08%	February, 2022
Lending Rate	12.12%	January, 2022
Savings Rate	2.55%	January, 2022
Deposit Rate	6.53%	January, 2022
KBRR	8.9%	27/07/2016

### KEY CBK INDICATIVE EXCHANGE RATES 15/3/2022

CURRENCY	MEAN	BUY	SELL
US DOLLAR	114.2865	114.1865	114.3865
SW KRONER	11.8775	11.8653	11.8897
STG POUND	149.7074	149.5571	149.8576
SINGAPORE DOLLAR	83.8523	83.7635	83.9411
SAUDI RIYAL	30.4610	30.4335	30.4884
SARAND	7.5654	7.5569	7.5740
S FRANC	121.4393	121.3072	121.5713
NOR KRONER	12.6816	12.6684	12.6948
KES / USHS	31.4124	31.3411	31.4836
KES / TSHS	20.2562	20.1947	20.3176
KES / RWF	8.8849	8.8028	8.9671
KES / BIF	17.9415	17.4920	18.3910
JPY (100)	96.6932	96.5963	96.7900
IND RUPEE	1.4962	1.4943	1.4980
HONGKONG DOLLAR	14.6109	14.5981	14.6237
EURO	125.8426	125.7165	125.9688
DAN KRONER	16.8574	16.8422	16.8727
CHINESE YUAN	17.9973	17.9796	18.0150
CAN \$	89.1470	89.0551	89.2389
AUSTRALIAN \$	82.5377	82.4541	82.6213
AE DIRHAM	31.1149	31.0838	31.1459

## Indian refiner mulled stake in Tullow Kenya



Indian Oil Corp. has looked at potentially investing in Tullow Oil Plc's \$3.4 billion Kenyan project, according to people familiar with the information.

Tullow Chief Executive Officer Rahul Dhir has previously said a deal with a strategic partner could include operatorship of the development that would include an 825-kilometre (513-mile) pipeline running from the oil discoveries in Turkana to the port of Lamu. The project has planned production of 120,000 barrels a day.

Indian Oil, the Asian nation's biggest refiner, has

considered the opportunity, said one of the people, who declined to be identified because the matter isn't public. While discussions haven't progressed further, the proposal hasn't been dropped, the person said.

### Dealing with debt

A spokesperson for Indian Oil didn't reply to emails seeking comment, while Tullow declined to comment. "Constructive discussions with interested parties are progressing," Tullow said about finding a partner for the Kenyan project in an annual results statement on

March 9.

Tullow submitted a final field development program to the government in December, reviving the project that had stalled while the company focused on dealing with debt and finalising its strategy. The Vancouver-based partner in the Kenyan development, signaled momentum has picked up again.

There are "very interested parties" and finding a strategic partner is getting closer, Chief Financial Officer Pascal Nicodeme said on a March 1 conference call.

- Bloomberg



# World News

LUIGI DI MAIO

As leaders of the Council of Europe we expressed on several occasions our firm condemnation of the Russian Federation's aggression

## Security Council renews mandate of UN Mission in Juba

■ New York, Wednesday

The Security Council on Tuesday adopted a resolution to renew the mandate of the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) for a year, until March 15, 2023.

Resolution 2625 decides to maintain the overall force levels of UNMISS with a troop ceiling of

17,000 personnel and a police ceiling of 2,101 personnel. It expresses the Security Council's readiness to consider adjustments to UNMISS force levels and capacity-building tasks to match security conditions on the ground.

The resolution decides that UNMISS's mandate is designed to advance a three-year strategic vision

to prevent a return to civil war in South Sudan, to build durable peace at the local and national levels, and to support inclusive and accountable governance and free, fair, and peaceful elections in accordance with the 2018 Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan.

The four core elements of the

mandate remain largely unchanged, namely protecting civilians; creating the conditions conducive to the delivery of humanitarian assistance; supporting the peace process; and monitoring, investigating and reporting on violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights.

- Xinhua

## BRIEFLY

### British-Iranians out of Tehran jail

Two detained British-Iranians, Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe and Anoosheh Ashoori, are leaving Iran, according to their lawyer Hojjat Kermani and a British MP. British lawmaker Tulip Siddiq said on Wednesday that Zaghari-Ratcliffe was "at the airport in Tehran and on her way home". Earlier Kermani said Ashoori was on his way to the airport along with Zaghari-Ratcliffe (pictured). Zabihollah Khodavian, Iran's judiciary spokesman, was quoted as saying by Fars news agency that Ashoori was released conditionally "due to his age and physical condition". Fars earlier reported the development came after the British government had paid Iran \$52 billion debt.

- BBC



### Senegal offensive against secessionists

Senegalese authorities have launched a military offensive against fighters allied to the Movement of Democratic Forces of Casamance, a separatist group in the southern region of the country. According to a statement on Sunday evening by the military chief of staff, the offensive aims to "destroy all armed gangs conducting criminal activities in the area" and "preserve the integrity of the national territory at all costs". "As part of their regalian missions of securing people and property, the armies launched an operation on Sunday, March 13, 2022, whose main objective is to dismantle the bases of the MFDC faction of Salif Sadio", the statement said.

- AFP

### North Korea fires missile, launch fails

North Korea has fired an "unknown projectile" which appeared to fail immediately after launch, South Korea's military said. The suspected missile was fired from an airfield outside the capital Pyongyang. The airfield has been the site of several launches, including previous tests of what were the US alleges were intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs). It comes as North Korea has in recent weeks stepped up its weapons testing. "North Korea fired an unknown projectile from the Sunan area around 09:30 today, but it is presumed that it failed immediately after launch," Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement.

- BBC

### Protesting high cost of living

An opposition activist shouts slogans holding up bread as he protests along with others against rising living costs, at the entrance of the president's office in Colombo yesterday. Protests in capital demand President Gotabaya Rajapaksa resign as the country suffers its worst economic crisis in decades. AFP



## Russia formally quits Europe human rights watchdog body

Russia said it would pull out of the Strasbourg-based body after pressure over Ukraine invasion

■ Moscow, Wednesday

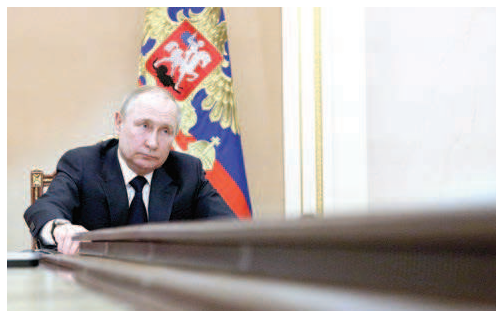
Russia said it would pull out of the Council of Europe after pressure mounted for Moscow to be expelled from the pan-European rights body over its invasion of Ukraine.

Essentially jumping before it was pushed from the Strasbourg-based body, the Russian foreign ministry said on Tuesday it had given notification of its departure to Secretary General Marija Pejcinovic Buric.

The decision draws the curtain on Russia's quarter-century membership of the Council of Europe (CoE) and also opens the way for Moscow to reimpose the death penalty if the authorities decide.

The so-called "Ruxit" from the council means Russia will no longer be a signatory to the European Convention on Human Rights, and its citizens will no longer be able to file applications to the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR).

It is only the second time in the history



Russian President Vladimir Putin chairs a meeting at the Kremlin yesterday. AFP

### RUSSIA QUILTS EUROPE

● Russian foreign ministry said on Tuesday it had given notification of its departure to Secretary General Marija Pejcinovic Buric

of the CoE that a member state has announced it has quit the body after Greece walked out temporarily in the late 1960s. 'Aggression against Ukraine'

The move by Moscow comes as the CoE is preparing to formally expel Russia. On Tuesday, the Parliamentary Assembly of the CoE voted to expel Russia after an emergency session in Strasbourg. The body's ministerial committee is to hold a special meeting on Wednesday to prepare for the suspension. "As leaders of the Council of Europe we expressed on several

occasions our firm condemnation of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine," Italian foreign minister Luigi Di Maio, President of the CoE's Parliamentary Assembly Tiny Kox, and Buric said in a statement.

Ukraine's Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal on Monday demanded Russia be immediately expelled, saying it had no right to remain a member after sending troops into the pro-Western country.

The Russian foreign ministry posted a statement on "launching the procedure to exit the Council of Europe" on its Telegram account, adding it had "no regret" about leaving. Russia joined the Council of Europe in 1996.

The ministry said its exit would "not affect the rights and freedoms of Russian citizens" and "the implementation of already adopted resolutions of the European Court of Human Rights will continue, if they do not contradict Russia's Constitution".

EU and NATO member states within the Council of Europe had turned the organisation into an "instrument for anti-Russian policies", it added.

Russia's exit will mark a major change for the ECHR, which acts as a court of final instance when all domestic avenues are exhausted.

- Xinhua and BBC



# Clique & Clicks ▶ Get Spotted



UoN WEE communication, policy, advocacy and knowledge management officer Emily Owiti.

## Bridge gender gap

by Njenga Kung'u

The Crawn Trust recently held a conference dubbed Women's Economic Forum 2022 in Nairobi. Running under the theme "Financing and Market Linkages for Women Economic Empowerment in a Post-Covid Environment", the event intended to amplify the voices of women and girls in regard to policy asks on women economic empowerment, with an aim to bridging the gender gap, especially in the post-Covid era. It was in partnership with Care Kenya, UoN Women Economic Empowerment (WEE) Hub, ActionAid, Association of Media Women in Kenya, Digital Oasis and CIO Africa, On Air Studios.

PD/NJENGA KUNG'U



Shikanga Shiboko with Angie Kite.



Theta Ward aspirant Wanjiku Thiga.



Commercial model and actress Jackie Waime, writer and film director Ngwatilo Mawiyoo and actress Anne Munene.

Best TV Actress award winner Catherine Kamau with Best Actress TV Drama award winner Jacky Matubia.



## FOR PERSISTENCE

by Gerald Ithana

The Women in Film Awards (Wifa) 2022 gala went down recently at the Kenya Cultural Centre in Nairobi, where the winners in various categories in the film industry were feted. Dubbed 'Nevertheless She Persisted', the red carpet event aimed at celebrating women of character, courage and commitment while bringing women together to provide a space where the diversity of women's voices, stories and creativity is equally recognised and celebrated. Among those awarded were Catherine Kamau, Jacky Matubia, Riziki Ambrose, Lynn Ngugi, Zippy Okoth, Angel Achieng, Anne Mongare, Mercy Chebet, Sheila Mulinya and Dina Mwende. Present were Broadcasting and Telecommunication PS Esther Koimett, Wifa director Susan Gitimu, Kenya Film Commission CEO Timothy Owase, and State House spokesperson Kanze Dena.

PD/GERALD ITHANA



Broadcasting and Telecommunication PS Esther Koimett presents the Most Influential Woman award to Ann Mongare.



MultiChoice Talent Academy director Victoria Goro presents Zippy Okoth with the Best Director Film award.



Angel Achieng receives the Best Actress Kids award from radio presenter Cate Rira.



KFC chief executive officer Timothy Owase.



State House spokesperson Kanze Dena.



MultiChoice Talent Academy ambassadors Nduruka Njoroge, Yvonne Wambua, Cecelia Achieng and Audrey Egesa.



Participant Dorothy Njiraini gives her views.



Some of the participants follow proceedings.



# Ten...

Also known as tooth decay or dental cavities, dental caries is the most common oral condition. It is a global public health problem and affects all human race. It is also one of the neglected health problems in developing countries, yet it is preventable. In light of this, World Oral Day will be marked this Sunday, March 20 under the theme *Be Proud of Your Mouth For Your Happiness And Well-being*. **Milliam Murigi** digs deeper to help us understand the condition

## Things you should know about dental caries



### 1. It is a major public health problem globally

Untreated dental caries in permanent teeth is the most common health condition according to the Global Burden of Disease 2017. In developing countries, the prevalence of dental caries is increasing due to the growing consumption of sugary foods, poor tooth brushing habits, and generally, a low level of awareness about dental caries.

### 2. It is also the most prevalent of all health conditions

Almost half of the world's population is affected by dental caries. High levels of dental caries occur in middle-income countries, where sugars consumption is high. The majority of dental caries occurs in adults because the disease is cumulative. There is a clear dose-response relationship between sugar consumption and dental caries. The disease is also associated with socioeconomic status, with high prevalence rates among the poor and disadvantaged population groups.

### 3. Majority of dental caries are not treated

Majority of dental caries remains untreated due to inappropriate, unaffordable or unavailable dental health services. The current dentists population ratio in Kenya is 1:42,000 which is far below the World Health Organisation recommended ratio of 1:7,000. A scrutiny at the provision and distribution of dental equipment in the public health facilities indicate that most are not functional while the supply of dental materials is erratic. Most public health facilities in Kenya have no adequate physical infrastructure for dental clinics. Also, almost all the dentist are concentrated in urban centres leaving a large population in the rural areas with no access to qualified dental personnel. Actually, available data shows that untreated dental caries is the single most prevalent condition globally, affecting almost three billion people.

### 4. Everyone is at risk of dental caries

Dental cavities is a common problem in children, teenagers, and older adults, but anyone who has teeth can get cavities, including infants. Worldwide, 60 to 90 per cent of school children and nearly 100 per cent of adults have dental cavities.

### 5. It is preventable and can be treated in their early stages.

Dental cavities can be prevented by maintaining a constant low level of fluoride in the oral cavity. Also, limiting free sugars intake to less than 10 per cent of total energy intake and ideally even further, to less than five per cent minimises the risk of dental caries throughout the life course. Fluoride can be obtained from fluoridated drinking water, salt, milk and toothpaste,

as well as from professionally-applied fluoride or mouth rinse. Long-term exposure to an optimal level of fluoride results in fewer dental cavities in both children and adults.

### 6. It is a major cause of tooth loss

Cavities are areas of decay that end up becoming small holes in your teeth. Without proper treatment, the holes can cause further damage to the teeth beyond just a cavity. If left untreated, they can damage your enamel, the pulp in the centre of your teeth, and may result to extraction leading to complete loss of the natural teeth. Complete loss of natural teeth is widespread and particularly affects older people. Globally, about 30 per cent of people aged 65 to 74 years have no natural teeth.

### 7. Dental caries is an expensive disease to treat

Dental caries is expensive to treat because it requires highly specialised personnel to treat and is usually not part of the universal health coverage (UHC) in most countries. What makes it even more expensive is that professional services are not readily available or are inaccessible.

### 8. Develops over time

Cavities don't develop overnight. It takes weeks, months, even years for a cavity to form. In fact, most cavities take around six months to five years to develop. If a cavity is caught early enough, one can actually reverse the damages. Early stages are often without symptoms, but advanced stages of dental caries may lead to pain, infections and abscesses, or even sepsis.

### 9. It's not sugar's fault

Despite popular belief, sugar is not the main cause of cavities, though it definitely assists in the building of bacteria and acid. Consuming any starchy food — including cookies, cake, chips, bread, crackers, pasta, soda, fruit juice, and citrus fruit — can eventually lead to cavities. These foods are full of refined carbohydrates, white flour, or sugar that easily stick to the surface of the teeth, initiating the production of acid.

### 10. It is commonly undetected

It is difficult to detect a cavity on your own as you can't always feel early decay. Decay begins in the bone of your tooth and if left unchecked, will eventually form a hole, which makes its way to the nerves in the centre of your tooth. By the time you can feel a cavity, the decay has reached the nerves and has already caused extensive damage. The best way to prevent this irreversible damage is routinely visiting your dentist, who will catch early stages of the decay.

**11** The current dentists population ratio in Kenya is 1:42,000





# Travel Wise ▶ Get set... go!

## Welcome to Meru's little-explored piece of history

Almost facing its closure 30 years ago due to endemic poaching and bandit attacks, Meru National Park is emerging from the ashes claiming its place with its chequered history, diversity and unspoilt nature

by Harriet James  
@harriet86jim

Have you ever watched two male giraffes in an intense fight? They steady their legs, and swing their necks to deliver heavy blows to each other using their heavy skulls like clubs. The longer and thicker the neck, the more likely the giraffe is going to win. I witnessed this first hand at Meru National Park under the guidance of my knowledgeable guide, Moses Njuguna of Elsa Kopje camp, who informed me that male fights are known as necking. "They do this to assert their dominance or impress the females in the area," he says as he stopped the vehicle and handed me the binoculars. "Their necks are the most powerful and maneuverable weapon that they have in their body," he added.

Apart from the usual elephants, buffaloes and zebras, the park is also home to endangered species such as the reticulated giraffes. There is also a rhino sanctuary set up in the park, which is a success story that has helped elevate the status of the park. The sanctuary is considered to be faring better than most of the other rhino sanctuaries found in the region in factors such as birth rate and mortality rate. The park is a sister wilderness to Koru National Park also known as the last wilderness, and has over 400 species of birds. I never anticipated that the park would be so diverse and rich when it comes to game watching. I loved its untempered nature and the fact that I did not have to scramble with other travellers or photographers trying to catch a glimpse



of animals, there were not so many tourists roaming around. It has stunning features, including being fringed on its western boundary by the chain of the Nyambeni Hills, whose elevation, my guide told me could rise up to 2,500 metres above sea level. The hills have pockets of forests on the top, which make them a source of the 13 permanent rivers, which have made the park their home. As a result, there is a mosaic of different habitats, such as the savannah, sparse and thick bushes, dense riverine forests of Doum and Raffia palm, which gives the area a coastal vibe. This diversity also makes it one of the most diverse parks in Africa.

### Born Free film

The roads inside the park were being refurbished to make it easier for guests access the various attractions, as well as have comfortable game drives.

The park sits on an 870 square kilometre area and borders Bisanadi National Reserve to the North East and Koru National Park to the South East.

The history of this park greatly intertwines with the story of conservationists George and Joy Adamson who became famous for the movie and best seller book *Born Free*. The

**Their necks are the most powerful and maneuverable weapon they have in their body.**

—Njuguna

book was based on a true story of Elsa the Lioness, an orphaned lioness cub that was adopted by the Adamsons and later released into the wild. "In the 1920s, the George's parents desired to relocate to South Africa from India and continue to farm coffee. They could only do that through the sea in a ship, and when they had a break in Mombasa, George loved the beach and convinced his parents to settle in Kenya. They obliged and would later on stay in Lamu then relocated to Lake Naivasha where they became coffee farmers mostly in Kabete and Kiambu regions," narrated Grace Leonard, the camp's General Manager, of how the conservationists settled in Kenya one evening by a fire.

According to the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), the park was opened in 1968, however, at the time there were many attacks from poachers and bandits. So greatly was the park affected that in the 1980's it was deemed unsafe and the lack of wildlife almost led the government to degazette the park and turn it into a rice plantation. The government later responded decisively and drove out the poachers and restored security.

Elsa Kopje lodge situated in the heart of the park and takes after the name of this famous lioness, a photo of George with Elsa, taken in 1958, hangs in the main area for guests to see. The lodge has been credited for being instrumental in saving the park when the park had little guests coming in. The lodge is built on Mughwango Hill, which is where the word kopje comes from and blends into the rocky crags of the kopje (small hill), and is built above George Adamson's original campsite where he looked after the orphaned lions. The lodge was opened in 1999 and takes advantage of the stunning views and the natural



The reticulated giraffes at the park.



Hippos along Tana River.

### HOW TO GET THERE

● Mughwango Airstrip (private airstrip) is a 5 min drive from the lodge; Kinna Airstrip is a 45 min drive from the lodge. Both are a 1hr flight from Wilson Airport.

● There is a once daily scheduled Air Kenya flight departing Nairobi Wilson Airport to Kinna airstrip

● Private Charters from anywhere into Mughwango Airstrip

● A helicopter pad is a one-minute drive from the lodge

● Road transfer in Elewana vehicles to and from any of Elewana's other Northern properties or Nanyuki (travel times are between three and a half hours and eight hours)

One of the Elsa Kopje Lodge's rooms overlooking the wilderness. PD/HARRIET JAMES



Moses Njuguna, tour guide.

curves, rocks and the trees on the hillside.

"The lodge was opened by the late Richard Leakey and Virginia McKenna of the Born Free Foundation. In a normal hotel, you'll expect to find standard rooms to look the same in terms of size and design, but here they are built uniquely around the hills incorporating the natural features of the hillside," explains Grace.

Apart from KWS cottages and campsites, other investors also have lodges as the demand by travellers to explore the park increases. "We've noticed the number of Kenyans visiting the park has gone up. Looking at the period before the Covid-19 pandemic and now, I think the Ministry of Tourism has taken the initiative to advertise the park to the surrounding community and to Kenyans as a whole. Most local tourists ask to visit the rhino sanctuary and Tana River bridge built in the early 90s. They also want to see Elsa's grave, as well as the Mwariama tree, the baobab tree where freedom fighters used to hide in the late 1950s," she explains in ending.

### BRIEFLY

WITH HENRY WAHINYA @ PeopleDailyKE

## High cost of fuel will disrupt international travel- IATA

The airline industry is set to lose US\$11.6 billion (Sh1.3 trillion) this year owing to the high cost of fuel, which will disrupt international travel.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) Director General, Willie Walsh said in the latest report by the association the loss will be incurred due to the recent rise in cost of fuel estimated at US\$78 (Sh8,900) per barrel and fuel accounting for 20 per cent of costs.

"As of March 4, jet fuel was trading at over US\$140 (Sh16,000) per barrel. Absorbing such a massive hit on costs

just as the industry is struggling to cut losses as it emerges from the two-year Covid-19 crisis is a huge challenge," said Walsh adding:

"If the jet fuel price stays that high, then over time, it is reasonable to expect that it will be reflected in airline yields."

Global jet fuel prices have surged to near 14-year highs in line with crude oil's surge on supply shortfall worries, slamming air carriers and travellers with steep cost increases just as air travel was starting to recover from Covid-19 restrictions.

Oil prices have soared to their highest since 2008 as supplies lag recovering global demand and as the US weighs banning Russian oil imports following Moscow's invasion of Ukraine.

Go travel agent official, Kibe Mwaninko says it is not going to be easy travelling by air unless it is necessary.

"With the inflation across countries, most people have shallower pockets, less disposable income," kibe says.

She said more travellers would limit their plans to "necessary" travel and said restrictions related to the pandemic - with many places still requiring

negative Covid-19 tests - added to uncertainties for those travelling.

Global airline capacity dipped by 0.1 per cent this week to 82 million seats, and remains 23 per cent below the corresponding week in pre-pandemic 2019, according to aviation data firm OAG.

"The recovery in air travel continued in January, despite hitting a speed bump called Omicron. Strengthened border controls did not stop the spread of the variant," he said.

He continued, "But where population immunity was strong, the public

health systems were not overwhelmed. Many governments are now adjusting Covid-19 policies to align with those for other endemic viruses. This includes lifting travel restrictions that have had such a devastating impact on lives, economies and the freedom to travel."

January figures do not include any impact from the Russia-Ukraine conflict which began at the end of February.

The resulting sanctions and airspace closures are expected to have a negative impact on travel, primarily among neighbouring countries.



# Travel Wise ▶ Get set... go!

## TRAVEL NEWS

WITH HARRIET JAMES  
 @peopledailyke

### Angama founder Nicky Fitzgerald retires

After an adventure-filled career spanning 40 years, the founder and CEO of Angama Mara, one of the most exclusive safari lodges in the Mara ecosystem Nicky Fitzgerald has handed over management of the resort to co-founder Steve Mitchell, who has been the Chief Finance Officer of the establishment. Nicky said that she was confident that Angama's future was in better hands having worked together for 15 years with Mitchell.

"We share the same values and ethics. He was my choice as a successor and is the driving force behind Angama's new project in Amboseli National Park. I am confident that Angama's future is in the best hands with him at the helm and I look forward to supporting him as an advisor, while continuing to serve on the board as a shareholder in the business," she said.

For four decades, Nicky has been at the forefront of over 60 high-end hotels, restaurants and safari lodges and prior to Angama, she played a leading role in developing two major brands: Halcyon Hotels in South Africa's Western Cape and &Beyond (formerly CC Africa), establishing, operating and marketing household names, such as Blues Restaurant, Bay Hotel in Camps Bay, Phinda in South Africa, Sossusvlei in Namibia, Sandibe in Botswana, Matetsi in Zimbabwe, and Tanzania's Ngorongoro Crater Lodge and Mnemba Island. Over the course of her career, she has shaped how to find and care for luxury adventure travellers across the African continent and in India's heartland. "When Steve and I first welcomed guests at the Armon Hotel, South Africa in July of 1982, little did I know of the wonderful journey that lay ahead. Looking after guests, sharing stories, and working alongside many remarkable people has been the adventure of a lifetime. If the truth be told, I've been trying to retire for years, but the time is now right and I will leave an Angama team that has never been stronger, and a robust business with exciting opportunities on the horizon. I am looking forward to spending more time with my beloved grandchildren and my family and friends," said Nicky.

"I'm most grateful for all that Nicky has invested into Angama and the foundation she has laid as an operator, marketer and leader. She leaves behind enormous shoes to fill — for different shaped feet — and I am excited to take up the mantle with Angama's people-first approach to hospitality, and to lead the team as we write the next chapter in Angama's story," said Mitchell accepting his appointment.



MAIN: Mama Ashanti restaurant in Westlands. RIGHT: Fried goat meat served with lots of fried onion. BELOW: Chicken Egusi served with Eba. BOTTOM: Fried plantains looking all welcoming. PD/FAITH KYOUMUKAMA



## Nigerian dishes that will blow your taste buds

From egusi and eba, jollof rice and pounded yams to pepper soup and goat stew, this eatery in Westlands offers dishes for foodies who are curious about West African food or who simply want a break from the usual meals

by Faith Kyoumukama  
 @martkinel

I love West African music and over the years, their food has won me over. I'll tell you why, it's flavourful, well seasoned and spicy. As I have mentioned countless times before, Okra to me tastes like worry and regret, but it's only West Africans that can make it taste like a luxurious soup of a kind. Foodies! Constant West African foodie escapades have earned me a new name, and today you can address me as Ayomide.

I recently visited Mama Ashanti restaurant, located at Muthangari Gardens in Westlands just to satisfy my monthly craving. The name of the restaurant is derived from a tribe in Ghana, the Ashanti Kingdom. The owner says he first opened a branch in neighbouring Uganda at a place known as Nakasero and this year marks nine years since they started operations in Nairobi.

### Home food

I like the idea of having, such a restaurant in Nairobi, not only does it give Kenyans a new experience with food culture, but also, it is a much needed fulfillment to the craving of West Africans in the area for a taste of home food. Sometimes you just get homesick, and eating authentic food just like it is back home is a problem solver.

The menu at Mama Ashanti is impressive with a wide range of grills, starters, soups, and meals, but even so, I still know the exact dish I want to order, like I wrote earlier, it's a craving that has lasted a month now.

At this restaurant, the pepper soup is a real favourite for many, this is a soup made with a baby goat, a lot of chilli and apparently, is a great remedy for hangovers, I have had about six food lovers, who reign



**▶ This particular dish is nutty meaty and fully embodied with seafood flavour**

praises on this particular soup. I have been to this restaurant twice, but I had never had the pepper soup and well once the bowl descended on our table I couldn't help, but hurriedly dig in, I even forgot to take a picture. It tastes as good as it looks!

I ordered a plate of Egusi and Eba while my date, indecisively went for the fried goat served with plantain. My date was thoroughly experiencing foodemia, (a foodie dilemma) she believes I make the right choices when it comes to food (which I do) so she wants to follow suit, but I give her the next best preference, which is the fried goat. Jollof rice would also be an option, but it's one of those recipes you can easily execute at home. In this case, my argument is dining out is about experimenting and eating things we can't cook at home.

### Extra plate

Anyway, let's get right to the mains. As I write this article I'm on a salivating mode trying to relive the moments and the spark of joyous taste that aroused my palette, it really is mouth-watering goodness. Egusi is dried melon seeds that can be consumed whole or ground to thicken, I can bet that 80 per cent of West African chefs agree that it can't be substituted. This particular dish is nutty meaty and fully embodied with seafood flavour. The buttery deep red palm oil coats every cluster of the egusi and the swirls of spinach, that way, it makes the chicken become consumed in full flavour. Eba is made of dried and grated cassava, also known as Garri, giving it a grainier texture than the usual fufu. My date has a bit of the Eba on my plate and says it's blunt, but I would like to describe it as slightly tart with a sour taste, perfect combo with the Egusi. The fried goat was also amazing. We actually ended up ordering an extra plate, the fact that they only use onions makes it taste even better.

In case you want a full on West African experience you might want to indulge in their drinks, such as the Nigerian zobo drink and Chapman cocktail, palm wine and tamarind.



# People Plus ► Tell your Story

## How cleaning became my main venture

What started as a side hustle for **Vincy Wairimu** is now her core business that is her source of joy and pride

■ **William Muriu**  
@millymur1

Cleaning is an invisible necessity, a service many take for granted. Those were Vincy Wairimu Ndia's words as we settled for an interview at her home where she works from. Vincy is the chief executive officer of Vin Josh Sparkle Cleaning, a company located in Kasarani, Nairobi county that offers cleaning and fumigation services.

"Growing up, I loved cleanliness and order. I couldn't stand a dirty or untidy place. However, I realised way later that though cleaning was a necessity not all people were comfortable doing it," she starts.

### No job

However, despite the discovery, Wairimu never considered cleaning as a business she could venture into. Actually, she used to take up cleaning jobs for others only when she was financially challenged. That is why she forged a successful career as a secretary for a Nairobi-based company.

However, the advent of COVID-19 changed everything. Wairimu lost her job and she needed another source of income to sustain her family. Looking around she realised that getting a new job wasn't going to be easy. She eventually decided to try her hand in business.

"At first I didn't know what kind of a business I wanted to venture into. One day, as I was doing house chores, an idea of starting a cleaning business crossed my mind. I decided to give it a try but as a side hustle because cleaning is a necessity that will never get old or expire at any given time," she explains.

After some research and seeing how lucrative the business was, she decided to make everything official. She registered her company and from her savings and a top-up loan, she bought her

first cleaning machine and other required equipment. She then waited for clients to call.

### Marketing plan

"The first few months were tough. After buying the equipment, I sat down and waited for clients to call. Who does that? I never got a single client. Actually nobody knew if my business existed. That experience made me feel like giving up, but things started changing when I started marketing my services on social media platforms."

Her first client came knocking six months later and from then she has never looked back. She has built her reputation and rapport as a genuine and reliable service provider and her client-

tele base keeps growing every day. This has forced her also to expand her team. Today, she is managing a team of three. As the CEO, she is responsible for marketing, operations as well as customer relations.

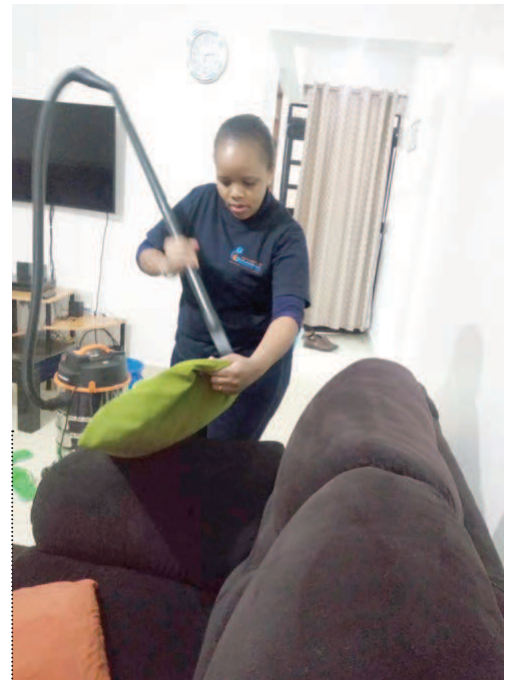
"I have learned that branding and marketing are very important aspects for every business. They sell you out and give you a professional look. Marketing is like a savings plan, you keep on saving not knowing whether you will get your money. I have seen and witnessed the fruits of consistency in marketing," she adds.

### Keeping time

According to her, her entrepreneurship journey has had its fair share of challenges, tears, sweat, and happy moments. The main challenge is access to finances for expansion or growth. For these, she advises other start-ups to always open an account and create a good rapport with the bank or the person assigned to you and you will see change.

Another challenge, she says, is getting people to trust your brand because most clients try to compare you with other established brands. Getting employees who are willing to do the work thoroughly, wholeheartedly, and are timekeepers is another obstacle she had to overcome. To solve this she is available to oversee every project.

"My life as an entrepreneur has taught me a lot of things. Today I am a holder of a higher diploma in character development. These streets have shown me dust. I have learned to be more patient, take each day at a time and to accept that I am wrong, and work on improving to satisfy my clients. In short, it has made me a better person, made me value and keep time (I was not good at this) and business is something I will not give up on."



**Vincy Wairimu, the chief executive officer of Vin Josh Sparkle Cleaning, cleans a couch in a client's house. BE-LOW: Vincy cleans a car. PD/MILLIAM MURIGI**

### AT A GLANCE

● She is a journalist by profession. She holds a diploma in Journalism from Kenya Institute of Media and Technology.

● She is a mother of three.

● She spends her free time shooting videos and photos. In her own words she says, "I have videography and photography skills and when not held up on weekends I take photos and videos."

● She likes travelling and dancing.

● Her role model in cleaning business is Parapet Company. She loves how they started small and have really grown and spread even into other countries. She wants to get to their level.

### Legacy

"One should also not forget to pray because prayers open doors of favour, gives you grace during the dry seasons and peace during the happy days. Once you do all that and believe in yourself and then give your best and do what you do like there is no tomorrow you will eventually emerge victorious."

Her future plans are to put her business out there in a professional way, create a brand that can serve both the high end and middle-income clients without compromising on quality, and improve her marketing strategies so as to reach as many people as possible as well as to team up with great minded people, network and impact lives. And what keeps her going even when things get tough?

She says that "I remind myself that this is a legacy I would want to leave to my kids and I have to work hard for it to stand and benefit them in the future. I want to inspire people afraid of starting up a business with fear that it may fail and encourage others that you can start small and grow big."





## MANUSCRIPTS

By Manuel Ntwayi

### Hasira za dimba

Juzi nikiwa kwa mat kuna mraia walikuwa wanapiga story, na juu maskio haina pazia, ikabidi nikuwe mpenzi msikilizaji. Kuna mwenye alikuwa anasema vile wasee huwa experts in almost everything. Ikifika ni siasa, yeye ndio kusema, mambo ya Corona anajua zaidi ya scientists na sasa mambo ya Ukraine, utapata msela bado ako na bites zingine serious utaeza dhania ako mboka huko Kyiv. Ukicheki poa, kuna was- ee in real life wako hivyo hata kwa mabeste zako bado huwezi kosa.

Pale base kwa Ras pia kuna machizi design hiyo na sasa juu after Man United wamepigwa na Atletico Madrid kwa dimba za Champions League, tulipeleka hio topic hapo. Of course mbogi ya Magwaya ilikuwa imekula ndimu, but sasa si lazima banter ichapwe. Ikawa jamaa wetu ashaanza maneno ati kuna noma pale Old Trafford na ndio maana Pogba alienda kunyolewa ati ndio hiyo mkosi itoke team.

But kumbe vile tunaenda ku- piga raia banter, Kamah juu huwa fan wa Manjesta, akawa anazidi kukula garnaba na ni wale wasee wakianza kujam, wanatetemeka. Badala jamaa ajiongelee, akawa ni kujam tu. Kiasi Jemo akaongeza banter ati hata CR7 amezeka na alikuwa ameficha miaka, ati anafaa kuwa na miaka ingine kinde on tops ya chenye anasemaga kwa gazeti. Kiasi tukaskia ngumi ya uso pwaa! Na Jemo yuko chini, kumbe hivyo Kamah aliamua kureact maneno ilipozidi unga!

By Rodgers Ndegwa

## SHENGPEDIA

**1** Kijanamo - One Origin - Nax Vegas  
Example - Kusurivie ii Kenya, lazima ukuwe na idhaa zaidi ya kijanamo.

**2** Kunywaku - To drink Origin - Mwhoko  
Example - Ukupiga tindi lazima ukumbuke kunywaku waba ndiyo usizime.

## URADI By Nafsi Huru

Leo tuko na ROBERT WESLEY, baz- engu ametambulika kwa mboka ya graphic design na videography na bado anapiga side hustle ya kund- onyo ktadi za maboy

**Ilukuaje ukaamulia hii mboka?**  
Nikiwa pikini raimaa nilipenda sana mambo za art and design. Kuingia seko, love iki grow zaidi kunyuria shule nikapiga daro mambo za graphic design nikijifunza videography mwenyewe, ju nilipenda kukemba music videos na mamovie nikaingia YouTube university matu- torial na ndio huyo mimi kwa indus- try. Though naendelea kusharpen skills nikilearn pia kwa wenzangu.

**Achievements ni gani toka uanze?**  
Kama graphic designer nimecha-

pia works macorporate; kujenga billboards na ads za gazeti na pia kuwork na wanasaa wabwaku kama Sauti Sol, Sharama, Elani na Rong Rende ni vibe kuruka. Kama videographer, nilishinda Director of the Year award kwa Unkut Hiphop Awards 2020.

**Challenges nazo ni gani?**  
Equipment ni expensive, so kuupgrade skill inachukua time na pia issue ya delayed payments na clients hushuk- ishia serious.

**Unaoovercome aje hizo challenges?**

Mara nyingi kama videographer inabaki tu kuhire equipment kit- ambo mukuchu itoshe ya kujishikika.

**Social media imeimpact aje mboka yako?**  
Through social media ndio kazi zangu na jina zangu zimewe- za kutem-

bea huko njei. It's easy to market and push your art through social media. Nowadays, social sites kama YouTube hukanja wasee for content.

**Unapataga aje clients sana sana?**  
Ninety nine per cent of my clients wanatoka social media wakiona kazi zangu. I pay online adverts for marketing my job na kazi mzuri hu- juza bila kutoa jasho.

**Advise kwa msee aspiring to be like you?**  
It took me 10 years kufika pahali nimefika. So, naeza sema patience is vital kwa this art of graphics and videography. Progress is a slow process na the more unawork on it, the more unakua better kwa skills zako.

# Tribe43 The Sheng Republic

@tribe43shengmag f TRIBE 43- Sheng Republik

MULIKWA WITH MWANGI ALBERTO



## Bei ya bidhaa inaumiza mraia

**K**una joto nifla ina- gonga earth kama nonsense ii gethaa! Unatembea kiasi unaskia ni kama mwili imewashwa nare. Scientists wanadai global warming na climate change is real, na eti tutazidi kuexperience such devastating changes kwa nature yetu, hadi ile time sisi kama wanadamu tutachange the practices zenye zinaleta izi manoma. Greenhouse emissions zinaleta ngori sana kwa en- vironment na hizo ni some of the things tutahave kulive nazo, until we change.

So, tukideal na hii joto ya Jah sun, kuna joto jingine imetugonga kama Wakenya, na kuihepa ni task ingine hard. Bei ya basic commodi- ties imeskyrocket design ingine wazim, na imekuwa ngumu kwa ordinary wa- nanchi kuafford keroma. Sio unga, sukari, mafuta ya ku- kaanga na bidhaa zengine ze- nye tunatumia daily, prices zimeshoot alarmingly. Majuzi tumekiche pia bei ya ngata ikirise na shil- lingi ngovo kwa kila litre. Na what this means kwetu mraia odi ni eti bei ya basic commodities, including maferare, itazidi kupanda,

making hii life even harder than iko saa hii. Cha kustaa- jabisha ni vile gova imere- lax tu ikicheki raiya tuki- umia. Especially now venye political temperatures zimepanda pia, no one re- ally kwa hio polical class anafikiria how ordinary citi- zens wanasurvive amidst izi high prices za bidhaa.

Hii ni kama kuadd salt kwa injury, especially owing to the fact that kuna some sections of the country zimekuwa na drought for a long time. Livelihood ya population ya izi area, in- cluding livestock farming na ukulima, zimeangamizwa na hii drought, alafu ikuwe ata zile bidhaa very basic kwao hawawezi ata fika bei. It's such a sorry state of af- fairs manze. So, tunaomba tu gava ishughulikie hii riba, juu as a matter of fact, wa- nanchi wanaumia viserious!

## TAMBULIKA

By Nafsi Huru

### ULRYKAH BENARD

Ulrykah Benard ni ryambess jamo tofauti sana design alijengangwa talanta massive tu na Sir Jah. Mkenya anabeba bendera husuko Washington DC Otetoo with pride na mizuka imeenda shule proper utatii. Ulrykah alizaliwa Kanairo akakula mbuku Moi Girls Isinya na after kunyuria masomo akasepa US. Kitu haku- sare manyu ni love for music after kugrow akikemba maR&B old na lost school na genres zengine fyam zenye zilichangia kushape her style of music ambayo ni fu- sion flani amazing. Amemaster art yasake vile inafaa na lyricism iko on steroids, juu kila doba utaskia wealth of experience kwa delivery. Analeta bilingual diversity akugusia hadi mambo revolutionary kama doba yake Black Lives Matter dedicated to George Floyd yenye ni hip-hop mbwaya sana alafu kuna Insecure, reggae imeenda shule. Recent project ni col- labo more faya wamechwado na Katapilla inajiita Lay It On Me. Ako na mzuka ingine bado na Labalaa na bado cyper mwendaa serious yenye amezoa zote ziko pon de corner loading. Kama hujam- kemba bado, ruka mneti fatilia huu msupa ujue ma- superstar



## TOKAJIKONI

By Nafsi Huru



1. Kuky- Mi Sijali
2. Matyme - Brand UB
3. Tsunami - Khaligraph Jones ft Scar
4. Katikati - Nafsi Huru
5. That's Not Me - Wakuu
6. Ready For Em - Vioxi Dede ft LaBalaa & Ordinareh Bingwa
7. Rebel Soul - Jublak
8. Niko Better - Sir Owi
9. Choki - APACHE GVNG
10. Binadamu - Odi Wa Muranga

KUKY





- 5.00 Inuka
- 5.30 Wake Up, Shape Up!
- 6.00 K24 This Morning
- 9.55 Wisdom Moments
- 10.05 Inuka
- 1.00 K24 News Cut
- 1.30 Jungu La Spoti
- 2.00 Animated Movie
- 3.30 Akili & Me
- 4.00 K24 Mashinani
- 4.30 Brewster The Rooster
- 5.00 Beatbox
- 6.00 Love & Wealth
- 7.00 K24 Saa Moja
- 7.30 Boomerang
- 8.00 Made In Cartagena
- 9.00 K24 Evening Edition
- 10.00 Riddim Vybes
- 12.00 Al Jazeera



- 5.00 Ime Rila Ruciini
- 6.00 Rikiritha- Live
- 10.00 Riigu Mix- Rpt
- 10.30 Satai
- 11.00 Kurekereria Kodir- Live
- 1.00 Mohoro Gitau-Live
- 1.30 Thiririka
- 3.00 Wendo Muroge- Rpt
- 3.30 Thandi Cia Wendo- Rpt
- 4.00 Ririmbuka -Live
- 6.00 Maisha Bure- Rpt
- 6.30 Wendo Wa
- Githagathago
- 7.00 Kameme Maturaini-Live
- 7.30 Njungwa Ya Muthee Kihenjo
- 8.30 Maisha Bure
- 9.00 Mutamburuko Wa Mohoro-Live
- 10.00 Thenema
- 11.30 Ririmbuka
- 12.30 DW



- 6.00 Morning-Express
- 8.00 Life-N-Style
- 9.00 Life N' Style
- 10.00 Losing-Heaven:
- 12.00 The-Property-Show-Rpt:
- 1.00 Mbiu-Ya-Ktn
- 4.00 News Highlights
- 4.30 Dinofroz
- 5.00 Maisha-Mzuqa
- 6.00 Losing-Heaven
- 7.00 KTN-Leo
- 7.30 Jamani
- 8.00 The-Entrepreneur
- 9.00 KTN
- 11.30 The-Diary

# TIME OUT!



10.00PM RIDDIM VYBES



::IN THEATRES NOW::

ANGA DIAMOND PLAZA  
15:00, 16:50: **TURNING RED 3D**  
ANGA SKY PANARI: 14:05: **TURNING RED 3D**  
WESTGATE CINEMA: 11:00, 13:00, 15:00,  
17:00: **TURNING RED 3D**  
ANGA DIAMOND PLAZA  
11:10, 09:48, 14:20, 17:30, 18:40, 20:40,  
21:45: **THE BATMAN**  
ANGA SKY PANARI  
10:35, 18:15, 20:40: **THE BATMAN**  
WESTGATE CINEMA  
17:35, 20:50, 11:10, 14:30, 17:45, 21:00,  
10:50, 14:20: **THE BATMAN**



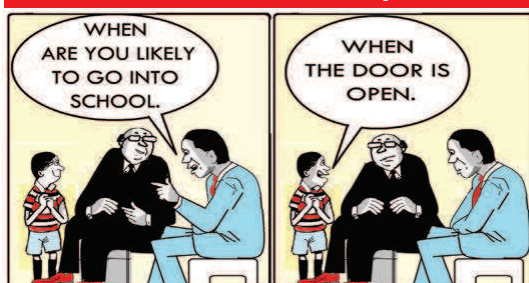
	6	9				5	
4				8	9		6
1			4	2		9	
	2		6		8		5
7		1		9		6	3
6		4			8		9
		8		1	2		4
3			9	5			8
	4					5	1

## SUDOKU

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

The aim is to fill the grid so that each row, column and every 3x3 shaded box contains only one of the digits 1-9. You need to reason out where to place the missing numbers by using the numbers given in the grid and a process of elimination. It is a game of logic not mathematical ability.

## LIFE'S LIKE THAT! | BY TUM



- 5:00 BBC
- 5:30 Gear Up
- 6:00 Good Morning Kenya
- 9:00 Lay'd Back
- 10:00 Raggs
- 11:00 Sprou
- 12:00 Worship
- Experience
- 1:00 News Desk
- 1:30 Business Defined
- 2:00 Kendi Imani
- 2:30 Daytime Movie
- 3:00 Jesus Son Of God
- 5:30 Club 1
- 6:30 The Great Debaters
- 7:00 Taarifa
- 7:30 Road to Success
- 8:00 Charging Currents
- 8:30 Magical Scene
- 9:00 KBC Channel 1
- News
- 10:30 Feature
- 11:00 GGTN
- 12:00 Lay'd Back
- 12:30 BBC



- 5.00 Password Plus
- 6.00 Am Live
- 8.00 Better Living
- 9.00 On The Wings Of Love
- 10.00 Wild Skin
- 11.00 NTV Today
- 1.00 NTV at 1
- 1.30 NTV Sasa
- 3.00 China Wings
- 3.30 Gina D's Kids Club
- 4.00 NTV At 4
- 4.15 Password
- 5.00 The Beat
- 6.00 Be Careful With My Heart
- 7.00 NTV Jioni
- 7.30 Wicked Edition
- 8.00 Wild Skin
- 9.00 NTV Tonight
- 10.00 Road To Russia
- 11.00 The Beat
- 12.00 CNN

## HOROSCOPES



**ARIES (MAR. 21- APRIL 20)**  
Social events will be favorable. Your mate may not be too sure about your intentions. Help children with important projects.

**TAURUS (APR. 21- MAY 21)**  
You don't want to give anyone fuel for the fire. You might find that delays will cause setbacks and upset. You may want to try your hand at a little creative writing.

**GEMINI (MAY 22-JUNE 21)**  
Lack of cash might be partly to blame for the problems at home. You should be trying to clear up legal contracts that have been pending.

**CANCER (JUNE 22-JULY 22)**  
You haven't been totally honest with yourself and it's time to review your motives. You're in the mood to spend money.

**LEO (JULY 23-AUG 22)**  
You can make excellent career moves if you are open to the opportunities that exist. You will learn valuable information if you travel today.

**VIRGO (AUG. 23- SEPT. 23)**  
Disputes may start because of a lack of honesty. You may have more people on your domestic scene than anticipated. You may find that your plans will cost a little more than you had expected.

**LIBRA (SEPT. 24-OCT. 23)**  
Don't bother complaining, do the work yourself. Compromise if you have to, to avoid verbal battles. Put your emotional energy into passion not anxiety.

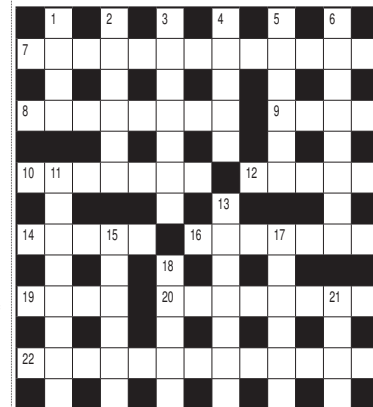
**SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)**  
Real estate ventures will be to your advantage. Be careful not to get involved in other people's personal affairs.

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23-DEC. 21)**  
False information from someone trying to start problems is likely. Your creative ideas will be put to good use if you dig in and do things around the house that will make your family happy.

**CAPRICORN (DEC 22- JAN. 20)**  
You need to take a break with the ones you love. Anger might lead to carelessness and minor injuries. Do your own thing.

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 21-FEB. 19)**  
You could have a tendency to spend too much on your home or entertainment. You may find that getting together with colleagues after hours will be worthwhile.

**PISCES (FEB. 20-MAR. 20)**  
You will have splendid suggestions for fund raising events. You need to make changes that will raise your self esteem, such as a new hairstyle or a new image. Take action.



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

### ACROSS

- 1. Assume
- 5. Bye
- 7. Annul
- 8. African
- 9. Enact
- 10. Probably
- 12. Assail
- 14. Shades
- 17. Clarinet
- 18. Avers
- 20. Weighty
- 21. Loads
- 22. Dye
- 23. Aspire

### DOWN

- 2. Safaris
- 3. Mechanic
- 4. Ante
- 5. Bloated
- 6. Empties
- 7. Ankle
- 11. Sheries
- 12. Ashamed
- 17. Steeple
- 15. Elector
- 16. Slows
- 19. Seam

### ACROSS

- 7. 25th anniversary celebration (6,7)
- 8. Great difficulty (8)
- 9. Document of ownership (4)
- 10. Act of finding water (7)
- 12. Pinch; squeeze (5)
- 14. Financial resources (5)
- 16. Nasal cavities (7)
- 19. Edible fruit (4)

- 20. Deceptive (8)
- 22. Temperature at which water turns to ice (8,5)

### DOWN

- 1. Entry document (4)
- 2. Avoids (6)
- 3. Sharp no (anag) (7)
- 4. Young dog (5)

- 5. Glass opening in a wall (6)
- 6. Grow like a plant (8)
- 11. Ruler (8)
- 13. Small community (7)
- 15. Quantity (6)
- 17. Eventual outcome (6)
- 18. Fairy (5)
- 21. Smallest pig of the litter (4)



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 NAIROBI. Tel: 0722 711 150  
 Email: admin@nextgen.co.ke, allan@nextgen.co.ke

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
 Under instructions received from our principals, we shall by Public Auction sell the under mentioned goods on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2022.  
**DISTRESS FOR RENT: LANDLORD VS HASSAN LODGE AT PANGANI AUCTION CENTER Time 10:00 a.m.**  
 Microwave, woofers, PS, Samsung TFT Monitor, TVS, printer, water meter, telephone heads, cooker, heater, cabinet, reception seat, coffee tables, weighing scale, stool, tv stand, plastic chairs, drawers, reception desk, cutlens, beds, gas, fridges, mattress.  
**CONDITION FOR SALE**  
 Cash at the fall of the hammer.

**Icon Auctioneers**  
 Auctioneers, Repossessors, Debt Recovery Consultants, Investigators, Court Process Server  
 Tambo Co-op House, Moi Avenue, P.O. Box 40781-00100, Cell: 0722 488 446, 0715 400 971  
 Email: iconauctions@gmail.com

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
 Duly instructed by our principals, in exercise of their statutory powers, we shall sell by public auction the under mentioned goods on 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 at 10:30 am or thereafter at Pangani Auction Centre.  
**1. DISTRESS FOR RENT LANDLORD VS. BELTED HOLDINGS LTD**  
 Water dispenser, 20-ltrs jerrican, 16 office leather chairs, 3 metallic office chairs, wooden office desk with 3 shelves, wooden office drawer with 3 shelves, laser d t printer, Sony black TV 21", portable office desk, 4 computers, 4 CPUs, 3 keyboards, 2 computer backup battery, 1 WIFI router, 1 ZUKU decoder, computer cables, internet switch, 3 white drawers, paper punch, 4 computer stands, dismantled office desk.  
**2. DISTRESS FOR RENT LANDLORD VS. CARE RECOVERIES LTD**  
 5 HP computers, 15 chairs, 5 computer desks, 1 office chair, wooden side board, wooden server 1 server rack, AVS, consumer unit, paper punch, stapler, HP printer.  
**CONDITIONS OF SALE**  
 Cash at the fall of the hammer.

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FORM PLUPA/DC3 (r. 3/3)(k)  
**THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (No. 13 of 2019)**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE OF USER/EXTENSION OF USER/ DENIFICATION OF USE /EXTENSION OF LEASE/RENEWAL OF LEASE**  
 The registered owners of plot No. Kutusi/ Mijini/82(A) located off Kutusi-Kagio G73 Road, proposes to change User from Agricultural to Residential Multi-dwelling (flats), subject to approval by County Government of Kirinyaga. Individuals, institutions, members of the public etc. with comments and or objections to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:  
**The County Executive Committee Member**  
 County Government of Kirinyaga  
 P.O. Box 260-10304  
 Kutusi  
 Name of the Registered Planner: John M. Maina Reg. No PP0163

**JOGEDAH AUCTIONEERING SERVICES**  
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**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
 Under the instructions received from our principals, we shall sell the under mentioned motor vehicle by **PUBLIC AUCTION ON FRIDAY 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2022 AT FLAMINGO AUCTION CENTRE - NAKURU AT 10:00A.M**  
**FINANCIER -VS- MARTIN MURITHI WAMBURA**  
 Motor Vehicle Reg. No. KCU 346G ISUZU NQR.  
**CONDITIONS OF SALE**  
 Cash at the fall of the hammer.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (NO. 13 OF 2019)**  
**CHANGE OF USER**  
 The registered owner of Land Parcel No. Mweiga/Thungare Block 1/Kamiru/1078 located at Kamiru area off Nyeri-Nanyuki Road, proposes to change its use from Agricultural to Residential (Multi-dwelling), subject to consideration and approval by the County Government of Nyeri. Any individual(s), institution(s) and/or organization(s) with any comments, submissions and/or objections on the application should forward them in writing within fourteen (14) days, from the date of this publication to:  
**The County Executive Committee Member**  
 Lands, Housing, Physical Planning and Urban Development, Nyeri County, P.O. Box 1112-10100, Nyeri.

**PHILLIPS INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS**  
 AUCTIONEERS, OFFICIAL COURT BROKERS & BAILIFFS  
 Head Office: Kileleshwa Kondora Road off Gichugu Road P.O. Box 76840-00200 Nairobi  
 Cell: 0722 929 479 / 0718 084 252. Hot Line: 0722 929 462. Email: info@phillipsinternational.co.ke

**HUGE ASSORTMENT OF PUB & RESTAURANT ITEMS FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION**  
 Duly instructed by our Principals, the LANDLORDS, we shall sell by public auction, the under mentioned GOODS on: **FRIDAY 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2022 AT OUR OFFICES SITUATED WITHIN KILELESHWA ALONG KANDARA ROAD - OPPOSITE WHITESTAR RESTAURANT - NAIROBI COUNTY - STARTING AT 11:00 A.M**

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- POWR BACK UPS
- ASSORTED RESTAURANT & BAR CHAIRS
- LEATHER SOFA SEATS
- STAINLESS STEEL TABLES
- ASSORTED DINING TABLES
- ASSORTED SETS OF BENCHES AND SEATS
- SAFE, METAL RACKS
- UNDER COUNTER FRIDGES
- KEG CYLINDERS, TOT MACHINES
- HUGE ASSORTMENT OF UTENSILS & CUTLERY
- ASSORTED BOTTLE COOLERS
- BOXES WITH WINE GLASSES & PLATES
- EMPTY CRATES OF BEER & SODAS
- BOXES WITH ELECTRIC BULBS
- METALLIC FLOWER POTS WITH HANDLES
- MANY OTHER ITEMS

**CONDITIONS OF SALE:**  
 1. Viewing to be done at OUR OFFICES SITUATED AT KILELESHWA, KANDARA RD - OPPOSITE WHITE STAR RESTAURANT - NAIROBI to verify the details, as these are not warranted by the Auctioneer or our principals.  
 2. Interested bidders are required to pay a refundable deposit of Ksh.100,000.00 to obtain a bidding number.  
 3. Successful bidders will be required to pay for the items through DIRECT DEPOSIT INTO THE PROVIDED BANK ACCOUNT to be provided at the site.  
 4. Sale is subject to reasonable reserve prices.





# Sport

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FORMULA 1



**Verstappen is the man to beat, says Sebastian Vettel-Pg30**



## Kang'elemuge, Adanya triumph in Teso League

**FOOTBALL:** Kang'elemuge and Adanya Football Clubs registered victories in the Football Kenya Federation Teso North Sub Branch League that entered its second week last weekend. Kang'elemuge ensured maximum points after beating arch-rivals Katakwa 1-0 with Martin Ekasiba scoring the lone goal of the match that was attended by FKF Teso North Sub County chairman, Victor Ochakala at Okuleu Primary School. They beat Kakurikit 1-0 in the first match. Adanya also bounced back to trounce Koruruma 3-1 at Adanya Primary School grounds to win back their confidence after losing their first match to Kabkara FC. Festus Ipomai, Stephen Juma and Nelson Etyang netted for the winners with the losers who saw their unbeaten record shattered, netting their consolation goal through Ronald Nekera. Kabkara won their second match in a row after beating hosts Aboloi 3-0 at Aboloi Primary School to maintain a clean sheet in the league.

-Fredrick Likuyani

## Kobayashi eyes gold medal in 2030 after Beijing's blow

**WINTER OLYMPICS:** Seiya Kobayashi returned from Beijing 2022 in disappointment but as the only luger in Japan's largest overseas Winter Olympic delegation, he has his sights set on a medal in future Games. "I am not satisfied with my performance in Beijing," said the 20-year-old, who finished a distant 34th place in the men's individual

race in his first Winter Olympics. I was too nervous and made too many mistakes." Kobayashi grew in Izuna Machi, Nagano. Like most children in Nagano, the 1998 Winter Olympics host city, he liked skiing and snowboarding. But when he was in fifth grade at primary school, he found the luge a more attractive sport.

-XINHUA

## Muranga's Seal pained by Caretaker Committee lash

**FOOTBALL:** Murang'a Seal FC has publicly denounced the FKF Caretaker Committee's decision to dock them six points, and four goals in one match. In a letter sent to Murang'a Seal on Monday, March 14, 2022, the FKF Caretaker Committee docked the team, six points, and four goals, on two accounts, for violation of two rules under the 2019 FKF Rules and



Regulations Governing Kenyan Football. The committee said their decision was made after reviewing the match officials' report of the abandoned 2021/2022 FKF National Super League Match No. 091, between Zoo FC and Murang'a Seal FC, which was scheduled to be played on Sunday, January 09, 2022.

-Gibo Zachary

## Olympian Chelimo opts to train in Kenya over US

by Emmanuel Masinde  
@PeopleDailyKe

Kenya born America Olympian Paul Chelimo is back in the country for training as he prepares to compete at the World Championships in Eugene, Oregon, United States of America (USA) in July this year.

The 2016 Olympic 5000m silver medalist Chelimo said it is good to train at his ancestral soil because it has the perfect weather conditions to train at ahead of a world event.

"I'm here to train and prepare for the forthcoming championships which will take place in Eugene Oregon. As you know currently in America, there is a very cold spring, one is not able to train in such conditions and remember this is home and the home of champions," Chelimo said.

Chelimo, who played football in high school before he turned to athletics, reminisces about how good he was in football as a defensive midfielder in both Simotwo High School and Cheyemit Boys football teams in

Elgeyo Marakwet county.

He said that playing in that roming position made him realized that he can be a good runner.

"I'm one of the all-successful athletes, who come from Elgeyo Marakwet. People could not believe I will run, I was a football player, a midfielder to be precise, which really increased my endurance. It has been a journey," Chelimo said.

In 2010 he got a scholarship to study in America and later he acquired US citizenship as he joined the USA army. He added that training in Kenya is really important at this point mainly for buildup.

"My main goal is to perform in Eugene. Being in my country (USA), and I consider it to be my home ground, I should be able to perform very well"

He said that in freezing condition, trainings are not as responsive as they would here in Kenya where the weather is relatively warm. I am in Kenya for buildup and when I return to the US, I will mainly work on my speed.



Western Bulls (centre) Reinhard Ashioya in action against Kisumu at the Bull Ring arena. PHOTO/ALEX NJUE

## Enterprise Cup returns

Kenyas oldest Rugby title was halted two years ago due to Covid-19 pandemic

by Alex Njue  
@PeopleDailyKe

Enterprise Cup defending champions Kabras Sugar will be hoping to successfully retain their title when they begin their title defense on Saturday with a match against Mean Machine.

Last edition's runners up Impala will on the other hand be meeting Menengai Oilers at the Impala grounds.

After failing to take place in the last two years owing to the Covid 19 pandemic disruptions, Enterprise Cup, which is Kenya's oldest Rugby competition will

feature nine Kenya cup sides when the knockouts start with a round of 16 this Saturday.

Six fixtures will be played in Nairobi while Kakamega and Nakuru will host a fixture each in honor of the 92-year-old competition that had the first cup donated by HMS Enterprise sailors in 1928. This year's event will give the rugby enthusiasts three weeks of fifteens aside, an action expected to end on April 9th.

Among the confirmed matches, Ngong road will be a busy place with two matches played on pitches separated by a chainlink fence. On one side at the Impala Club the Sarries will play Oilers while at Rugby Football Union of East Africa (RFUEA) grounds, a Ngong road derby pitting Homeboyz and Quins will be unleashed.

Nakuru City will host a single fixture to renew rivalry between Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology

### Enterprise Cup Round of 16, Saturday 19 March 2022

Kabras Sugar	v Mean Machine
Nondescripts	v Western Bulls
Harlequin	v Homeboyz
Mwamba	v Kisumu
Impala S.	v Menengai Oilers
Topfry Nakuru	v Masinde Muliro
KCB	v Strathmore Leos
Blak Blad	v Mombasa

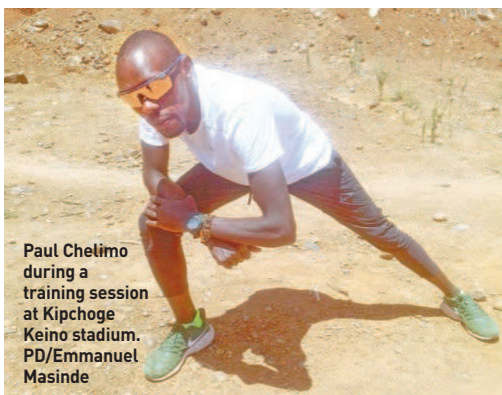
### Mwamba Cup Round of 16, Saturday 19 March 2022

Kabras Sugar	v Menengai Oilers
Mwamba	v Shamas
Topfry Nakuru	v Northern Suburbs
Harlequin	v Adm. Police
Strathmore	v Nondescripts
Impala	v Kiambu
Homeboyz	v USIU Martials
KCB	v Daystar Falcons

(MMUST) and Nakuru TopFry Club after the students claimed first scalp against Wanyore in a Kenya Cup league match (13-8) at the same grounds last month.

Another thriller will be staged by KCB against Strathmore Leos at the KCB Sports Club. Last weekend the Leos lost to the Bankers by 52-22 to finish fourth in the Kenya cup league after the hosts claimed the third position. Strathmore earned three sin bins in that match to throw away a 19-7 lead to end up trailing the hosts 35-19 at half time and eventually lost by a clear 30 points gap.

Meanwhile, Mwamba Cup round of 16 is also set to kick off this Saturday with exciting fixtures that will feature the second teams in the Kenya Cup side, championships and nationwide teams. Despite the competitiveness of the league, the just ended Kenya Cup title rivalry will be spewed over to the Mwamba Cup where the second side of Kabras is set to kick off campaign against Menengai Oilers II at the ASK Show grounds.



Paul Chelimo during a training session at Kipchoge Keino stadium. PD/Emmanuel Masinde



# Vihiga Queens pip Thika at home, reserve Premier League supremacy

by **Gibo Zachary**  
@PeopleDailyKe

Player of the moment Faith Ongachi teamed up with Janet Moraa yesterday to steer Vihiga Queens to a priceless 1-0 win over defending champions and title rivals Thika Queens at Thika Stadium. The win saw them completing the Women Premier League's first leg unbeaten.

Ongachi, who came in from the bench to score a hat trick and contributed one assist in Vihiga's 5-2 thumping of Kangemi Ladies last Saturday, was at it again, this time providing Moraa - who also scored and provided an assist against Kangemi - with a pass to score the all-important goal with nine minutes to go.

Vihiga were the dominant side in the

entire match with 61 per cent ball possession, seven shots (one on target), four corners, 13 free kicks and six offside, but their imposing dominance was put to immense test from Thika's battling 39 per cent possession, six shots (zero on target), four corners, six free kicks, and one offside, before finally breaking the deadlock in the 81st minute.

The results saw Vihiga stretch their dominance and an unbeaten run in the local league to 47 matches, and 11 in the current season, to remain perched top of the FKF Women Premier League table standings with 31 points from ten wins and one draw.

"We thank God for the three points away against defending champions Thika Queens. As I said early, it's one of

the games that we needed to collect the three points, and we're glad to have won. We're good to go because the win opens the gap wider for us as we still fight on for the title," Vihiga Queens' coach Boniface Nymunyamu said after the match.

Thika, on the other hand, dropped to fourth on the log with 20 points from six wins, two draws, and three defeats.

At the ASK Grounds Kitale, hosts Trans Nzoia Falcons maintained their home unbeaten record by beating visiting Kisumu All-Starlets 3-1. Live wire Elizabeth Nafula scored a brace in the 18th and 37th minutes with Martha Karani adding a third in the 70th minute while Cynthia Anyango got a consolation for the All-Starlets.



Vihiga Queens' Janet Moraa (left) defends the ball from Wincate Kinyua of Thika Queens during their Women Premier League match played at Thika Stadium, yesterday.  
PHOTO RODGERS NDEGWA

# Talanta stun Sofapaka

Debutants come from behind to beat former champions as Bidco, Sharks share spoils

by **Barry Sila**  
@PeopleDailyKe

Talanta FC left it late to win their eighth match of the campaign after a 2-1 victory over visiting Sofapaka FC at the Kasarani Annex on Wednesday.

The win maintains Ken Kenyatta's charges in ninth position with 31 points from 23 matches played in the Premier League this season.

Luis Masika's goal after in stoppage time got the Communications Authority of Kenya (CK) sponsored team through the line. Prior to yesterday's match, Kenyatta's men had gone four matches without a win with three losses and a draw. The win will cushion the veteran tactician who has been under-fire and bolster the newcomers position in the league.

## Dire straits

Sofapaka on their part are in dire straits with no win in their past five matches and are now struggling at the thirteenth place with 27 points. The 2008 champions goal came in the 16th minute courtesy of Joe Waithira but that was not to be enough to save them the blushes.

Coach Ken Odhiambo is now under pressure to get results, especially after three draws and two losses to his name. Prior to this match, Sofapaka had tied twice in a row against former champions Gor Mahia and AFC Leopards in what worried Odhiambo with his side having only scored 19 times and conceded 20.

Meanwhile, at the Thika Stadium, hosts Bidco United

came from behind to force a 1-1 draw with Kariobangi Sharks in a drab match. The slum boys had opened their account in the 62nd minute through Julius Masaba's fine finish. Bidco restored parity in the 77th minute following an own goal courtesy of the Sharks goalkeeper Brandon Obiero's error.

The first half was even but clear-cut chances went begging. In the end, with the shared spoils, both coaches took the results on the chin as they planned for improvement amidst complaints of dipped performance and injuries.

Host Coach Anthony Akhulia stated that a draw was a plus even though they dominated the match against a resolute Sharks side.

"In the first half, we had this game but my forward line was goal-shy and that cost us several chances. Overall, I am not happy with our performance though I can attribute it to fatigue and injuries. We will take the draw because against a good side like Sharks it is definitely a plus. We made some changes in the second half bringing in Batts Awita and Nelson Chieta which gave us life and earned us a goal. The game was intense and so we had to make early changes. Anyway, the two week-break will be good for the boys to relax a bit," he said.



Roy Okal of Sofapaka heads the ball under pressure from Talanta's Barack Odhiambo (left) and Michael Jairo yesterday at Kasarani Stadium. PD/PHILIP KAMAKYA

## ATHLETICS

# Marathoner Kirui heads to Eldoret after recovery

Los Angeles Marathon champion Weldon Kirui is among elite athletes set to battle it out for honors at the fourth edition of Eldoret City Marathon to be held on April 10. The Bomet based athlete has been nursing injuries since last year which had temporarily forced him out of competition. "I have fully recovered and I'm intensifying my training ahead of the marathon. I will try my best to lower my course record as I use it as a stepping-stone to competitive international races," Kirui told People Sport. Kirui has a personal best of 2:09:06 which he set at the Eindhoven Marathon in the Netherlands and is ranked as the 46th fastest marathoner in the world. He has also been



the champion at the AFC San Diego Half Marathon in California and the Krems Half Marathon in Austria where he set his personal record at a time of 61:10.

- Kiprono Ericson

## FOOTBALL

# Kisumu All-Starlets dust off their boots

Kisumu All-Starlets FC is making a recovery from its league's first leg poor performance with their priority this time round being to turn around its season in the second leg campaign. Starlets were ripped apart in the league's first leg. They lost eight matches and only managed to win three in the 11 matches.

Team manager Beryl Oketch, while admitting that the team underperformed in the first stanza, said that her team was battered but it is not out adding that they will not give up the fight as they seek to recover from the slump.

Oketch said that going into the new season, they had high hopes of staging a masterful performance, having set and targeted at least more points than they got.

- Gibo Zachary





# Verstappen is the man to beat...

... says Sebastian Vettel as he warns Hamilton, saying the Redbull driver will thrive as defending F1 champion

London, Wednesday  
@PeopleDailyKe

Sebastian Vettel has warned Lewis Hamilton that he expects Max Verstappen to flourish as Formula One's defending world champion.

Hamilton and Red Bull driver Verstappen are set to renew their rivalry when the season fires up in Bahrain on Sunday.

Verstappen 24, will line up on the grid as the reigning champion for the first time in his career after he beat Hamilton at last December's hotly-disputed finale in Abu Dhabi.

And Vettel, who won four consecutive titles with Red Bull between 2010 and 2013, expects Verstappen to move to another level with title number one under his belt.

'From what I remember, it is a boost,' said Vettel, 34, ahead of his second campaign as an Aston Martin driver.

'It takes a lot of weight off your shoulders and it is a great feeling to start the season as a world champion.'

'You have the number one on your car, which is a privilege and we would all like to be in that position.'

'I didn't see it as an extra burden, but a boost, and Max will probably feel the same.'

Verstappen joins Hamilton, Vettel and Fernando Alonso as the fourth world champion on this season's 20-man grid.

Alonso successfully defended the maiden title he won with Renault in 2005. And the

Spaniard was in agreement with Vettel.

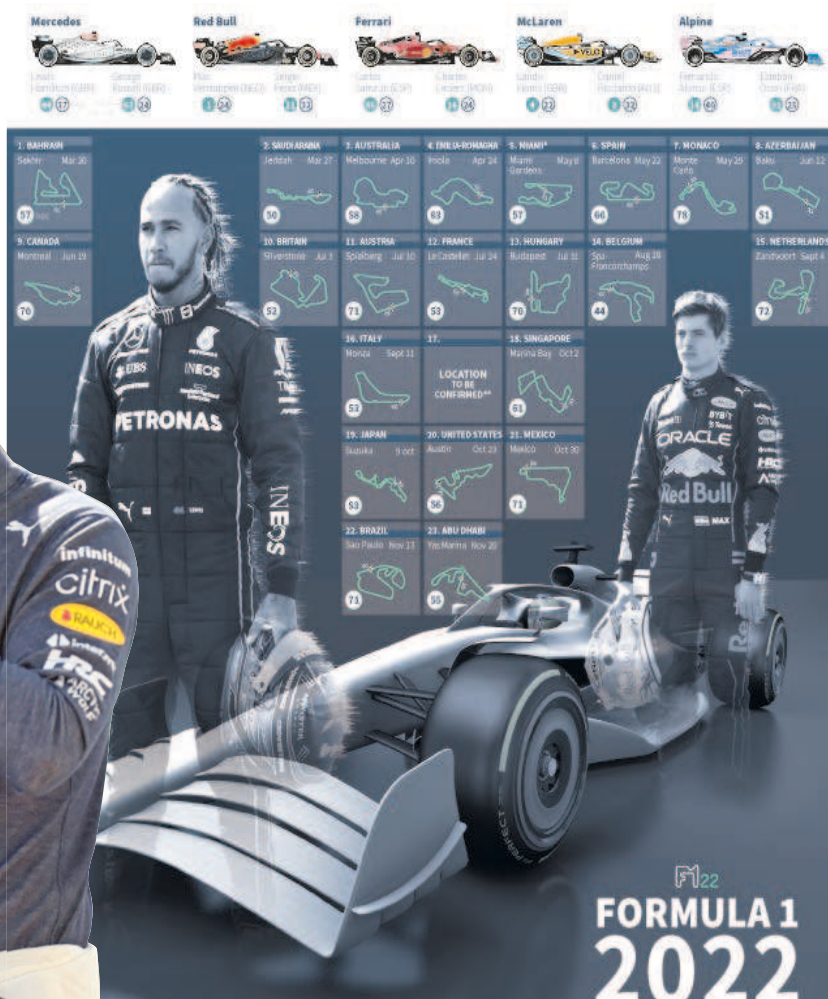
'You start the season with less pressure because you have already accomplished one of your dreams,' said Alonso, 40.

'From now on, it is more fun and you go into the races knowing that you have already won the world championship once.'

'Of course, you always try to fight for the second title, but if anything there will be less pressure on Max.'

Mercedes might have won the past eight constructors' championships - a record-breaking run in F1 - but the Silver Arrows have been unsettled by the sport's greatest revamp of its technical rules in a generation.

Speaking after last week's final test in Bah-



rain, Hamilton said he feared his struggling Mercedes machine would not allow him to fight for victory. In contrast, Verstappen's Red Bull team appear in good shape.

'We learnt a lot at testing in Barcelona and Bahrain and I'm very excited to turn our attention to racing now,' said Verstappen.

'Everything is so new so there are a lot of unknowns heading into the first race of the season and I'm looking forward

to seeing where we are compared to the rest of the grid come qualifying on Saturday.'

'The car looks good and as a team we are in a good place.'

Meanwhile, McLaren have confirmed that Daniel Ricciardo will be fit to take part in Sunday's race following his positive Covid-19 test.

Ricciardo was sidelined for the duration of the Bahrain test, but McLaren say the Australian 'has been feeling better each day' and has 'returned a number of negative tests'. -DailyMail

## BRIEFLY

### Motorcycle-mad Indonesia hosts its first Grand Prix in 25 years

**JAKARTA:** Indonesia hosts its first motorcycle grand prix in 25 years on Sunday, confident that concerns surrounding the new track will be forgotten once racing begins in front of a sell-out crowd. The archipelago nation of 270 million people is motorbike mad many get around on two wheels and there is a palpable sense of excitement at the prospect of world-class racing returning. Even President Joko Widodo is a fan and tried out the Mandalika International Street Circuit when he



officially opened it in November, having a go on a custom-made green Kawasaki bike. Sunday's race is the second stop on the 2022 MotoGP calendar after the opening race in Qatar two weeks ago, won by Enea Bastianini of Italy. -AFP

### Haaland to earn over Sh75m-a-week if he joins Man City

**MANCHESTER:** Manchester City are ready to make Erling Haaland the highest-paid player in England, should he join from Borussia Dortmund. As Sportsmail revealed last week, the champions are frontrunners in the race for the 21-year-old star forward. Personal terms have been discussed and it can now be disclosed that Haaland would become the Premier League's top earner, with a salary in excess of £500,000 a week. The staggering sum would push the Norway strik-



er beyond the likes of Cristiano Ronaldo and City's Kevin De Bruyne, who both pocket about £385,000 a week. -AFP

### Players should not be banned from events because of politics: Simon

**PARIS:** Players should not be penalised because of the 'decisions of an authoritarian leadership', the head of the Women's Tennis Association says. Steve Simon says he 'feels very strongly' that players from Russia and Belarus should be able to continue to compete on tour. They are not currently allowed to play under their country's name or flag, or play in any team competitions. 'You never know what the future may bring,' Simon told BBC Sport. 'But I can tell you that we have never banned athletes from participating on



our tour as the result of political positions their leadership may take. 'So it would take something very, very significant for that to change, but again we don't know where this is going.' -AFP





**Name:** Max Emilian Verstappen  
**Age:** 24 years  
**Nick name:** Mad Max  
**Nationality:** Belgian, Dutch  
**Sport:** Formula One  
**Entries:** 141 (141 starts)  
**Pole positions:** 13  
**Team:** Red Bull Racing  
**Accolades:** Formula One World Championship (1), Race wins (20), Podium finishes (60).  
**Hails from:** Hasselt, Belgium



## Barcelona eye Europa League quarters as West Ham welcome Sevilla to London

■ Paris, Wednesday  
 @PeopleDailyKe

Barcelona and tournament specialists Sevilla are hoping to secure spots in the quarter-finals of the Europa League this week with three Spanish teams still in a competition dominated by La Liga clubs in recent years.

A rejuvenated Barca head to Istanbul for the second leg of their last-16 tie against Galatasaray on a 10-game unbeaten run that has propelled them back up to third in La Liga and seen them emerge as one of the favourites to win the Europa League.

"The fans are enjoying themselves when they come to the stadium, and so are we out on the pitch," said Gerard Pique, who played his 600th game for Barcelona in Sunday's 4-0 defeat of Osasuna.

"The results are coming back and

we hope to keep this going through to the end of the season," the veteran centre-back told the club's website.

However, Xavi Hernandez's side were held 0-0 at home by a struggling Galatasaray in the first leg of their Europa League tie last week so still have work to do to reach the quarter-finals.

Meanwhile Sevilla are in London to play West Ham United with a 1-0 lead from the first leg given to them

by Munir El Haddadi's goal.

Six draws in their last eight league games have effectively ended their domestic title hopes, leaving Julen Lopetegui's charges 10 points adrift of leaders Real Madrid.

But they remain on course for more success in the Europa League as they look to win a trophy they have already lifted a record six times, all since 2006.

Sevilla also have the incentive of trying to reach a final that will be played in their own stadium, the Ramon Sanchez Pizjuan, on May 18.

They left the injured Marcos Acuna out of their squad for the journey to the United Kingdom to face a West Ham side who see the Europa League as their best chance of a first major trophy in over four decades.

"We need to score and I hope, on Thursday, in front of a full stadium, we show our quality and make the most of the opportunity," said Hammers midfielder Tomas Soucek.

West Ham are the sole English representative still in the Europa League, while Manuel Pellegrini's Real Betis are the third Spanish side as they head to Germany to play Eintracht Frankfurt bidding to overturn a 2-1 deficit.

-AFP

### SELECTED FIXTURES:

R S. Belgrade	vs Rangers (0-3)
Monaco	vs Braga (0-2)
B. Leverkusen	vs Atalanta (2-3)
Galatasaray	vs Barcelona (1-1)
E. Frankfurt	vs Real Betis (2-1)
Lyon	vs Porto (1-0)
West Ham	vs Sevilla (0-1)

### Europa Conference League last 16, second legs

Basel	vs Marseille (1-2)
Rennes	vs Leicester City (0-2)
FC Copenhagen	vs PSV (4-4)
AZ Alkmaar	vs Bodo/Glimt (1-2)
Gent	vs PAOK (0-1)
Roma	vs Vitesse Arnhem (1-0)
LASK	vs Slavia Prague (1-4)
Feyenoord	vs P. Belgrade (5-2)

## Newcastle boss Eddie Howe monitoring Saudi situation

**FOOTBALL:** Newcastle manager Eddie Howe admitted Wednesday he had to have a grasp of global issues even though he feels uncomfortable straying from football as he was questioned about the club's Saudi-led ownership. Howe was criticised for not commenting on Saudi Arabia's decision to execute 81 men in one day after his side's 1-0 defeat by Chelsea at the weekend. A Saudi-backed consortium bought Newcastle in October, with Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund -- of which Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman is chairman

-- owning an 80 percent stake in the club. The takeover was rubber-stamped by the Premier League after it received legally binding assurances the Saudi state would not control Newcastle. But Amnesty raised concerns over the purchase, saying it was an attempt to "sportswash" the Gulf kingdom's human rights record. Newcastle's relationship with Saudi Arabia is back in the spotlight after Chelsea owner Roman Abramovich was sanctioned by the British government as part of its response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

-AFP

## Kyrie Irving casts spell over Orlando Magic with record 60

**NBA:** Kyrie Irving scored a career-high 60 points in a dazzling display as the Brooklyn Nets stretched their NBA winning streak with a 150-108 thrashing of the Orlando Magic on Tuesday. Nets star Irving who had bagged 50 points last week in a victory over Charlotte delivered another performance for the ages against an outclassed Magic at Orlando's Amway Center. Irving's tour de force surpassed his previous career best of 57 points, set in 2015 while playing for the Cleveland Cavaliers in a victory over the San Antonio Spurs. "I felt good," Irving said after his epic display. "It really is a testament to the way we've been gelling as a team us just giving each other confidence and doing the right things. "When you can get 60 in the flow of the game and it doesn't seem forced, and you're not putting up a few too many



bad shots, and you come to the bench and guys are supporting you, telling you to go after the record that makes the basketball worth it." The 29-year-old Australian-born seven-time All-Star made 20-of-31 from the field, making eight of 12 attempts from outside the arc.

-AFP



## Handball federation launches national coaches program in Nairobi

**HANDBALL:** The Handball Federation of Kenya has launched a project for the development of the National Sports System at Strathmore University and International Handball Federation (IHF) appointed lecturer Zoltan Marczinka from Hungary is currently in the country to conduct the IHF Level C coaching course. The Project sponsored by the Olympic Solidarity program through the National Olympic Committee of Kenya, has seen a total of 28 coaches with level C coaching courses from Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia and Rwanda.

The program becomes the first of its kind to be held in the region and is scheduled to run for eight days with an aim to help develop a comparatively uniform coaching system for handball in the country. "This marks the start of new levels of handball coaching in the country. This training is very important for the development of the game in the country. We are aiming to harmonize the coaching system and structures in the country to play the same handball.

-Webster Nyandika



# Why always us?

Man United are dumped out of the Champions League by Atletico Madrid as Lodi's header seals their last-16 fate

■ Manchester, Wednesday  
@PeopleDailyKe

Played 15, won two, drawn four, lost nine. That is Manchester United's record in Champions League knock-out games, dating back to defeat in the final in 2011. What it is not, is the form of a club that would place itself among Europe's elite. Atletico Madrid are just the latest to learn how far United have fallen in that time. Bayern Munich, Real Madrid, Sevilla, Barcelona, all have eliminated them across the last decade. Their only wins beyond the group stage have come against perennial underachievers in this competition, Paris St Germain, and Olympiacos.

Yet judging by the speed at which the ground emptied, and the missiles that

rained unacceptably down on Atletico Madrid manager Diego Simeone and referee Slavko Vincic, defeat never gets any easier, or hurts any less.

United did not play badly, but Atletico Madrid did a number on them. They played on the counter, got the goal, then dug in for the remaining 49 minutes. They are so good at it. The best, really. Jan Oblak, their goalkeeper who has been unexpectedly inconsistent this season, was exceptional. So too the defenders guarding him.

On the touchline, Simeone kicked every ball - clear mostly. Presuming Chelsea hold on day night, the first club to the Champions League and, troublingly, no-

in Lille on Wednesday will be English fall in

body will be surprised.

## Wild shot wide

They had their chances. Jadon Sancho was put in by Diogo Dalot in the second-half but lashed a wild shot wide. There was a set piece ball on a plate for Cristiano Ronaldo but he had checked his

run after charging straight into the back of Harry Maguire's head. No prizes for guessing who came off second best there. Ronaldo felt his teeth, gingerly.

But Madrid were outstanding, repelling crosses, corners, a wall of pale blue - that will have gone down well with the locals - marshalled by the excellent Jose Maria Gimenez at the heart of defence. Koke, too, was a wonderful midfield linkman. On nights like this, Atletico look so smart, their organisation, their game intelligence, so impressive.

If not always admirable. There were plenty of delays, plenty of agonising injuries followed by miraculous recoveries once precious time had been taken out of the game. And Vincic bought it all. Atletico's antics demand a strong official - Mark Clattenburg had arguably his finest game in charge of them and that other notorious amateur dramatics society, Bayern Munich - and the Slovenian is not that.

He's another over-promoted referee, coincidentally from the same country that provides the current president of UEFA, Aleksander Ceferin. Every time an Atletico man fell, Vincic rushed to the emergency like a first responder.

But that's not why United lost. They lost because they played into Atletico's hands, caught on the counter-attack and then unable to take the chances to get back in the game. And they were sloppy, too.

Late on, too many crosses failed to make it past the head of the first man. The better team won; the better team for knock-out football in Europe, at least.

So this is it for United, for now. Out of Europe, out of the FA Cup, their remaining battle is for a place in the top four and they are increasingly losing that to a much-improved Arsenal.

Ironically, that is the club United most resemble - Arsene Wenger's Arsenal, who by the end so often fell at the first knock-out round in the Champions League, or came up short and ended up in UEFA's second tier competition.

-AFP

## MATCH FACTS

**Manchester United:** De Gea, Dalot, Varane, Maguire (Mata 84), Telles, McTominay (Matic 67), Fred (Cavani 75), Fernandes (Pogba 67), Elanga (Rashford 67), Ronaldo, Sancho.

**Subs not used:** Lindelof, Bailly, Jones, Lingard, Henderson, Heaton, Wan-Bissaka.

**Goals:** None, **Booked:** Dalot

**Atletico Madrid:** Oblak, Savic, Gimenez, Reinildo, Herrera, Llorente, Koke (Kondogbia 80), De Paul, Lodi, Griezmann (Correa 90+3), Felix (Felipe 90).

**Subs not used:** Lecomte, Suarez, Hermoso, Serrano, Rebanal, Vela, Martin, Gonzalez, Silva.

**Goals:** Lodi 41, **Booked:** De Paul, Herrera

Manchester United's French midfielder Paul Pogba gestures during their UEFA Champions League round of 16 second leg match against Atletico Madrid at Old Trafford stadium in Manchester, England on Tuesday night. AFP

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## Benfica stun Ajax to reach Champions League quarters

■ Amsterdam, Wednesday  
@PeopleDailyKe

Darwin Nunez headed home in the 77th minute as Benfica stunned Ajax to reach the Champions League quarter-finals on Tuesday, winning the second leg of their last-16 tie 1-0 in Amsterdam to advance 3-2 on aggregate.

The Portuguese side had not managed a single attempt on target until Uruguayan striker Nunez beat goalkeeper Andre Onana to Alex Grimaldo's free-kick and headed in to silence the Johan Cruyff Arena. Ajax, who had dominated the first half, could not recover from that blow and

go out while two-time European Cup winners Benfica look forward to Friday's draw for the quarter-finals.

Having sent Barcelona packing in the group stage, they will now appear in the last eight for the first time since 2016.

"We are among the eight best teams in Europe. The team worked so hard to achieve this against really difficult opponents," said Benfica coach Nelson Verissimo.

Ajax's star striker, Sebastien Haller, had been hoping to score in an eighth consecutive Champions League game this season having netted a remarkable 11 goals in his first seven appearances in the competition.

Yet he was upstaged by the 22-year-old Nunez as Benfica's own prolific forward found the target for the 26th time in all competitions since the start of the campaign.

"We were not good enough in either box. We should have scored but didn't take our chances and then we conceded an avoidable goal," French-born Ivory Coast international Haller told broadcaster Canal Plus.

"It was the perfect game for them. We leave with regrets but unfortunately that is football. The team who dominate do not always win. We just have to learn from our mistakes."

-AFP



Benfica's Darwin Nunez (C-R) scores a header against Ajax Amsterdam's goalkeeper Andre Onana during their UEFA Champions League round of 16 second leg match, in Amsterdam, on Tuesday. AFP