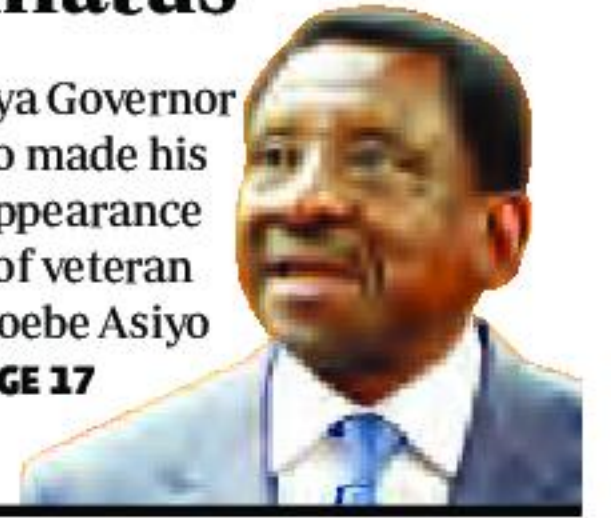




RETURN Siaya Governor James Orengo made his first public appearance at the burial of veteran politician Phoebe Asiyo yesterday. **PAGE 17**



House of disgrace

AT IT AGAIN Parliament has refused to change even after the Gen Z stormed it—and against all odds. In JM Coetzee’s novel *Disgrace*, David Lurie best describes this attitude: “I am not prepared to be reformed. I want to go on being myself”. MPs have refused to shed their rent-seeking tag. Committees meant to interrogate excesses of power continue being laundromats—sanitising scandals in exchange for tenders, kickbacks and political favours. The Sh31.6 billion Bomas of Kenya facelift, shrouded in secrecy is the latest flashpoint. MPs are accused of shielding the powerful from tough questions—some allegedly for as little as Sh10,000 in toilet-handshake deals. **PAGES 4 & 5**

SH10,000

AMOUNT MPs took to shoot down a report that had indicted the who’s who in the sugar importation saga.

BOMAS

PROBE into the demolition of Bomas of Kenya and the ongoing project is the latest that has cast aspersions on the conduct of MPs.



When a nation loses faith in its justice system, mobs take over

SPECIAL REPORT As Kenya’s justice system buckles under weight of corruption, delays and public mistrust, the streets have turned into brutal courtrooms—and mobs into executioners. **PAGE 6**

Raila pledges Ruto support beyond 2027

NATIONAL PAGE 10



Lion Hill Centre takes top honours at national music festivals in Meru

► Centre's Taarab verse warns of dangers lurking online and how society can avoid the pitfalls.

► But the college had to overcome several odds to perform at the biggest stage.

PHARES MUTEMBEI, MERU

Lion Hill Vocational Centre emerged top during the Kenya Music National Festivals with its Taarab composition titled 'madhara ya mitandao' (negative effects of internet).

The verse from the Nakuru-based college resonated with this year's theme of "Enhancing the Creative Economy through Artistic Expression for Sustainable Development".

It addressed cybercrime and social media, a category sponsored by the Communications Authority of Kenya. However, the students beat all odds to emerge on top. The journey to the national competition, sponsored by Equity Bank, was an uphill battle for Lion Hill Vocational Centre, a small institution from Nakuru.

A primary concern was lack of appropriate performance attire, according to one of the students, Hannah Njoroge. The group's performance was led by Melvin Wanjera. "We don't have matching costumes (dera). Everyone has their own attire," said Njoroge, highlighting the reality of their limited resources.

The team performed in their everyday clothes, a contrast to the often elaborately costumed competitors, yet their authentic presentation underscored the festival's theme of accessible artistic expression.

Musical instrumentation also posed a considerable obstacle. Njoroge revealed that the school was unable to afford essential equipment like a piano or proper seats.

Their innovative, albeit challenging, solution involved utilising a borrowed small Bluetooth speaker to provide the necessary backing tracks for their performance.

"We used a small speaker that we borrowed from another team," Njoroge explained, emphasising their reliance on makeshift arrangements.

This ingenuity in overcoming resource limitations directly reflects the spirit of the creative economy. Despite the shortcomings, the students' dedication to their craft was unwavering.

Secondly, the group had no dedicated trainer. It was upon themselves to perfect their act. "We just trained ourselves," Njoroge stated, detailing how

they independently rehearsed to achieve the desired flow and rhythm.

But the students saw the challenge as an opportunity for self-driven initiative to develop their artistic skills, a vital component of a thriving creative sector.

Thirdly, the group faced logistical challenges, as travelling from Nakuru to the national venue was another significant hurdle. However, the college stepped in to help them travel to Meru.

This crucial support from their principal ensured the team's basic needs were met, allowing them to focus on their performance and the impactful message of their piece.

Lion Hill's "Madhara ya Mitandaoni" was one of three entries in the Taarab category for Vocational Training Centres. The Taarab category saw diverse entries across different educational tiers.

In the Choral Music, Taarab Music for National Polytechnics and Technical and Vocational Colleges section, Kirua Technical Training presented a piece composed by Jeffrey Liwasa.

The piece warned bloggers against content that could "demolish and burn the country", saying such bloggers should face the full wrath of the law for cybercrime and cyber malpractice.

They were joined by Meru National Polytechnic and Eldoret Polytechnic in this category.

Meanwhile, the Taarab - Music for Teachers Training Colleges category featured several thought-provoking compositions.

Egoji Teachers College presented "Basi (Bus)", a Taarab piece encouraging participation in the CBC (Competency-Based Curriculum) journey, emphasising love for Kenya and the continuous acquisition of knowledge.

This category is sponsored by the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD). Asumbi Teachers College from Homabay offered "Picha Yetu", celebrating Kenya's beauty and resilience in overcoming challenges through unity.

Shanzu Teachers College performed "Boma Letu", a call to protect Kenya and uphold peace. Kenya Coast National Polytechnic contributed "Amani", a patriotic piece questioning individual commitment to national peace.

Thogoto Teachers Training College also tackled the critical theme of cybercrime and social media with their Taarab titled "Simu Janja" (Smart Phone).

Finally, Machakos Teachers Training College addressed the issue of gossip with their song "Umbea".

The festival's focus on the creative economy and digital literacy was further bolstered by key partnerships. pmutembei@standardmedia.co.ke



Nakuru's Lion Hills Vocational Centre with their powerful Tarab composition, "Madhara ya Mitandaoni" (Dangers of Online Platforms) at Kenya National Music Festivals in Meru County, yesterday. [Phares Mutembei, Standard]



National Polytechnic (Coast) at the music festivals. [Phares Mutembei, Standard]



Shanzu TTC performs at the festivals. [Phares Mutembei, Standard]



Asumbi TTC presents their dance at the national music festivals in Meru yesterday. [Phares Mutembei, Standard]

“

We used a small speaker that we borrowed from another team..."

Hannah Njoroge,
Student

Residents protest culture ouster as Omani artefacts dominate museum space



A section of Lamu Museum. [Marufu Mohamed, Standard]

► Local artefacts replaced by Omani exhibits, leading to public outrage.

► Incomplete renovations hinder display of Kenya's rich coastal heritage.

PATRICK BEJA, LAMU

The removal of artefacts belonging to Lamu's native communities from a local museum has sparked public outcry among residents, cultural enthusiasts, conservators, curators and archivists.

Artefacts from the Giriama, Pokomo and Orma tribes have been taken off display and replaced with exhibits showcasing Omani culture.

This change comes at a time when indigenous communities along the Coast are calling for the return of antiques sold abroad.

For the past two years, exhibitions at the Lamu Museum have been limited to the first floor due to the deteriorated condition of the ground floor. The lower level suffers from inadequate lighting and incomplete renovations, making it unfit for public exhibition.

Meanwhile, the first floor, now reserved for Omani heritage, is well-lit and airy, benefiting from natural light and a sea breeze. All local artefacts have been removed from this space.

Residents describe the current state as a clear neglect of local cul-

tural heritage, accusing authorities of favouring foreign narratives and attempting to "Arabize" the history of the Lamu Archipelago.

Though Kenyan artefacts were meant to be displayed on the ground floor, the unfinished renovations have made it impossible to properly showcase them. The museum reopened early last year, with only the Omani-funded first floor fully operational.

The renovation project, worth Sh30 million, was financed by the National Records and Archive Authority (NRAA) of Oman. It was part of a cultural exchange initiative aimed at highlighting shared heritage between Kenya and Oman.

However, the inclusion of a large portrait of the Sultan of Oman next to Kenya's presidential portrait at the entrance has further raised concerns.

Many residents view it as symbolic of growing foreign dominance over

local heritage spaces.

Adding to the tension is the long-standing issue of two ceremonial siwa horns, one brass and one ivory, that were taken to Nairobi for an exhibition seven years ago.

Though they were returned, only casts of the original artefacts remain in Lamu, leading to frustration among locals.

The siwa, a pair of traditional whistle-blowing horns, is a highly valued cultural artefact in Sub-Saharan Africa, and its absence has sparked renewed calls for cultural restitution.

Cultural enthusiasts say the once-vibrant displays of the Bajuni, Boni, Pokomo, Orma, and Mijikenda communities have vanished. Notably, the popular Bwanaharusi exhibit, a traditional Swahili wedding showcase, is no longer on display.

Visitors to the revamped museum today find the Lamu replica of the mtepe dhow, a traditional boat built without nails, tucked away in a corner. In contrast, a large model of an Omani ship dominates the maritime gallery.

Currently, seven permanent Omani-themed exhibitions occupy the entire first floor of the building. These include: "Oman through the Ages," "Oman Marine Heritage: The People and Community," "Omani Maritime Heritage," "Sultans of the Al Busaidi Dynasty in East Africa," "Sultan Qaboos bin Said (1390-1441 AH/1970-2020 AD)," "Modern Oman," and "Oman Presence in East Africa."

The project began after a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was

signed between the Cabinet Secretary for Sports, Culture and the Arts, Dr Hassan Wario, and the Government of Oman. The agreement allowed Oman to establish a permanent cultural exhibition at the museum.

Athman Hussein, a recently retired assistant director at the National Museums of Kenya (NMK) in charge of the Coast region, said the project was intended to rehabilitate the entire building while showcasing both Kenyan and Omani culture.

"The project cost Sh30 million and the contractor was chosen by Oman," he said. "It was agreed that NMK would exhibit on the ground floor while Oman took the first floor."

However, Hussein confirmed that only the first floor was completed.

"Funds ran out before the ground floor could be refurbished. This has not been well received by Lamu residents, who feel the museum now gives preference to foreign culture."

The project also involved training NMK staff and working collaboratively with Omani experts. Oman is also expected to rehabilitate the Siyu Heritage Site in Lamu East sub-county.

In 2021, curator Mohammed Mwenje said the Lamu Museum had not been renovated since the 1980s.

It had suffered extensive damage, prompting the need for structural repairs, ceiling replacements, and modernised exhibition space.

Now, locals want the Ministry of Heritage and the Arts to step in and complete the unfinished renovations so that Kenyan artefacts can once again be displayed and appreciated.

Walid Ahmed, co-founder of Save Lamu, expressed his frustration at the unfinished ground floor. "We feel there is a plot to erase Lamu's heritage and identity from public memory. The preference for foreign culture amounts to neglect and must be addressed urgently," he said.

He urged the national government to allocate funds not only to finish the museum but also to restore other heritage sites across the Coast.

Lawyer and Lamu resident Yusuf Aboubakar called on local MPs to lobby for funds to complete the project.

"This squarely falls under the national government. Our MPs must ensure NMK receives the necessary funding to safeguard our heritage," he said.

The situation has sparked an online uproar, with many Kenyans questioning why local heritage is being sidelined in a space meant to preserve it.

Syombua Kibue asked, "Wasn't it during the East African slave trade, under Omani rule, that our ancestors were kidnapped and sold to Arabia? How can those responsible now be allowed to brand our museums?"

Stephen Henighan added, "Even as a first-time tourist in Kenya, I was shocked by the heavy Omani presence at both the Lamu Museum and Fort Jesus in Mombasa."

Ibn Battuta commented, "Long story short — Oman removed African artefacts and replaced them with their own."

Angie Njagi wrote, "They erased our history and auctioned off our cultural platform to the highest bidder. Hate is not strong enough."

Rita Biamah wondered, "Do we need to crowdfund to restore our culture?"

Njau Godfrey said the national government has failed local cultures. "But where is the county government in all this? Culture is a devolved function."

Others, like Kim Mbali and Kellian King, warned of cultural colonisation and foreign influence.

Alvin Kahama lamented, "Kenya's foreign policy is: come with money, and we'll say yes to anything." Newsdesk@standardmedia.com



MORE STORIES

Speaker accused of silencing UDA critics in the august House.

PAGE 7



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF TRANS NZOIA COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

P.O BOX 4221-30200, KITALE

SHORTLIST

We refer to the advertised vacancies below that appeared in the daily print media of 22nd May, 2025. We are pleased to invite shortlisted candidates for interviews on the dates and time indicated against their names.

No.	Cadre	No. Required	Advert No.
	Chairperson of the County Audit Committee	1	TCPSB/EX/1/2025
	Member of the County Audit Committee	3	TCPSB/EX/2/2025

Detailed Shortlist is available on our website: <https://www.cpsbtranszoia.co.ke/shortlisted-docs>.

Note: All candidates are required to bring with them the following documents on the day of interview:

- Original National Identity Card or Passport;
- Original academic and professional certificates;
- Original Membership certificate from relevant professional bodies;
- Original VALID clearance certificates from: KRA, HELB, EACC and C.I.D; and
- Any other relevant documents and testimonials;

Interviews will be held at the County Public Service Board offices located next to Kenya Red Cross near St. Anthony Boys High School -Kitale starting at 9.00 am, on 26th August 2025.

Trans Nzoia County Public Service Board
P.O. Box 4210-30200
Kitale



We feel there is a plot to erase Lamu's heritage and identity from public memory. The preference for foreign culture amounts to neglect and must be addressed urgently.

Walid Ahmed, Co-founder, Save Lamu

Mob rule: Inside growing wave of public lynchings and instant street justice

► Over 130 mob justice cases were reported in June amid frustration and weak policing.

► Mobs unleash deadly fury on suspects as justice system loses public trust and credibility.

HUDSON GUMBIHI, NAIROBI

Charles Onyango, alias Kwa, was suspected of being behind a series of killings in Gem. On Thursday, a crowd confronted and lynched him in Kisumu. That same day, three suspected motorcycle thieves were beaten to death in Lugari, Kakamega County.

These incidents are the latest in a worrying trend of mob justice, where members of the public take the law into their own hands to punish individuals linked to crime.

The three in Lugari were reportedly involved in the theft of a motorbike two days earlier, after luring the owner, who was later found dead. They were cornered by an angry mob at Makutano market, beaten to death and their bodies set ablaze.

Such incidents have become increasingly common across the country, with mobs attacking individuals caught or even suspected of engaging in crime.

Mob injustice refers to the act of a crowd taking the law into their own hands by punishing an alleged offender, often without following due legal process or allowing for a fair trial.

Ordinarily, the law requires that a suspect be presented in court within 24 hours and be granted bond or bail under reasonable terms. They are also entitled to humane treatment and access to legal or family support.

However, mob justice is taking root with police often appearing helpless, either overwhelmed by the crowds or unable to rescue the victims on time.

Police records show that at least four cases of mob injustice are reported daily in Kenya despite the practice being illegal and considered a serious offense. Article 50(2)(a) of the Constitution states that every person is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

In June 2025, The Standard documented close to 130 cases of mob justice reported at various police stations across the country. In many of these incidents, victims either died on the spot, succumbed to injuries in hospital, or were left permanently maimed.

The majority of the victims, mostly young people in their prime, were attacked over allegations of stealing farm produce, poultry, livestock, motorbikes, defilement, or breaking

into homes and shops. The trend continued in July and has persisted this month, with the most recent case being the lynching of three suspects in Lugari.

In June, most of the cases occurred in Kakamega, Bungoma, Trans Nzoia, Kisumu, Busia and Siaya counties, areas where mobs have increasingly taken the law into their own hands, delivering what they call 'instant justice'. This disturbing pattern risks degenerating into lawlessness, as more communities begin to view such actions as normal form of punishment.

Experts attribute the growing wave of mob justice to several underlying factors among them; widespread public frustration, a rise in extra-judicial killings, loss of confidence in institutions, entrenched corruption, slow judicial processes, lenient sentencing, and a general lack of public awareness about how policing, prosecution and trial works.

"Mob injustice is the mirror-image of a society in distress, but it can never be a solution. It is a symptom, not a cure. And like any symptom, it can be treated; not with silence or indifference, but with a bold and united resolve to restore law, order and the dignity of due process," says Dr Elijah Kirimi, a lecturer and consultant in psychology and criminology.

He adds that mob justice is the tragic outcome of a system that has failed to provide meaningful avenues

for justice, where emotional outbursts are mistaken for justice. "The mob, desperate for resolution and visibility, finds a target to punish, not because guilt is proven, but because the system has failed them too many times," Kirimi explains.

"And underpinning all this is the fundamental attribution error; the psychological bias where people hastily conclude guilt based on behaviour alone, disregarding context, motive, or circumstance," he adds.

Dr John Onyango Omboto, a criminologist says the public needs to understand how the justice system works.

He believes many citizens misunderstand key justice processes such as community probation, the power of mercy, parole, bonds and cash bail.

He says there's a pressing need to educate the public on why courts may release suspects when evidence is insufficient or witnesses fail to testify, why lenient sentences are sometimes applied and that suspects are legally entitled to bond or bail.

"But beyond that, there is widespread lawlessness in society. We lack role models and there's a prevailing perception that everyone, from the bottom to the top, is a thief. People are turning to mob justice because they've lost faith in the police, who are often bribed and when cases go to court, many suspects end up walking free," says Dr Omboto, an expert in crime, criminal justice and offender rehabilitation who lectures at Kenyatta University.

June 11, 2025, recorded the highest number of mob justice cases across several counties, including Nairobi, Kitui, Trans Nzoia, Bungoma, Kakamega, Bomet, Mombasa, Isiolo, and Machakos.

In Nairobi's Tassia Estate, a man estimated to be about 30-years-old was beaten to death and his body set on fire after allegedly attempting to steal a motorbike in the Makuti area.

In Siaya County, Henry Oswago, a suspected motorcycle thief was cornered in Bondo town after stealing the motorbike that had been parked outside Maranda High School where sporting activities were taking place.

Boda Boda operators pursued him up to Bondo town where he was seriously beaten he succumbed to the injuries.

Some six mob injustices incidences were reported on June 8 in Makuani, Vihiga, Siaya, Nairobi, Kirinyaga and Siaya counties. At Kathuma area in Makuani, a man only identified as Wafula was lynched after he was allegedly found trying an Airtel network booster while in Lusiola, within Vihiga County, 42-year-old Elly Abwao was beaten after being found with a



Residents view the body of a suspected motorbike thief lynched at Kibuye Market, Kisumu, after allegedly attempting to steal a motorcycle on June 25, 2016. [File]

bunch of bananas suspected to have been stolen from a local farm.

In Kitui, 30-year-old Joshua Syoki Kisaingu was severely beaten by locals at Kithyoko Market for allegedly poisoning his sister's children, seven-year-old Samson Kisaingu and two-year-old Faith Mutheu.

It is alleged that Syoki served the children poisoned food. Both were rushed to Kithyoko Health Centre for first aid. While the boy survived, the girl was transferred to Mwingi Hospital for specialized treatment but later died. On the same day, 24-year-old Nick Wekesa Juma was admitted to Kijana Wamalwa County Hospital in Trans Nzoia in critical condition after being beaten by an angry mob that pursued him to the Chisare area. He was accused of stealing a motorbike in Kitale town.

In Bungoma County, 37-year-old James Obeke Boit died at Mt Elgon Hospital after villagers in Kamuneru village descended on him with kicks and blows. He was allegedly caught stealing potatoes from a local farm.

In Matungu, Kakamega County, an unidentified man was severely beaten by a mob at Longanyiro after he was found in possession of a goat suspected to have been stolen.

In Bomet County, police rescued Fancy Chepkoech and Boniface Ngetich from a mob baying for their blood. The two were cornered in Saruchat village while attempting to transport a stolen cow in a Toyota Probox driven by Gideon Kimutai Too, alias Elkana.

In Mombasa County, an unidentified man was lynched at Kwahola, Changamwe. He had reportedly scaled a perimeter wall and entered a

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Mob justice is not justice. It is chaos, cruelty and collective punishment. It violates the Constitution and the rule of law and often targets innocent people.”

Hussein Khalid, Vocal Africa CEO

“

People are turning to mob justice because they've lost faith in the police, who are often bribed and when cases go to court, many suspects end up walking free.”

Dr John Omboto, Lecturer KU



This man was pulled from a motorbike by Peris Wambui near the Mombasa Road bypass after robbing her of Sh50,000 meant for cement in 2018. Construction workers intervened, beating him before police on patrol rescued him. [Jenipher Wachie, Standard]

house, prompting the owner to raise the alarm. He was found with kitchen utensils.

In Isiolo County, 18-year-old Evans Mutwiri was left nursing serious injuries in hospital after he was allegedly caught stealing a TV set, woofer system and a chicken from a home-stead in Kulamawe area.

Meanwhile, a 19-year-old boy was bludgeoned to death in Kantafu, Machakos County. It was said the suspect in company of accomplices who managed to escape, was found removing windows from a house still under construction.

Amid the lawlessness police officers are often helpless or overwhelmed by the angry mobs. Victims lucky to be rescued are normally taken to hospital with mobs being warned to desist from taking the law into their own hands.

Despite police warnings, mob injustice persists with those involved justifying their actions while maintaining they have lost trust in police and courts for freeing suspects, some who return to haunt them.

VOCAL Africa has raised the alarm over the rising cases of mob injustice across the country, terming the trend not just a sign of public frustration but a painful indictment of Kenya's ailing criminal justice system.

"At the heart of this crisis is a widespread and growing lack of faith in the police service," said the organisation's Chief Executive Officer Hussein Khalid.

"The latest report by the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission,

which once again ranked the police as the most corrupt institution in the country, confirms what Kenyans have long known, that justice is for sale. Those without money or connections are left to the mercy of the streets."

Khalid noted that when police officers demand bribes instead of filing reports, when suspects buy their way out of custody, and when investigations conveniently disappear or stall, the public is pushed to dangerous extremes.

"But no amount of frustration justifies extra-judicial killings. Mob justice is not justice. It is chaos, cruelty and collective punishment. It violates the Constitution and the rule of law and often targets innocent people," he added.

On June 1, 2025, students at Luma-kanda Boys High School in Kakamega County attacked 25-year-old Francis Musongo after allegedly catching him stealing from their dormitories. In Kwale, villagers in Timboni, Kinango, descended on Ramah Mudzo, accused of raiding a chicken pen with accomplices who fled.

The next day, two men, Joseph Chumba and Silas Amwayi, were beaten in Lorian village, Uasin Gishu, after allegedly being found selling stolen goods. In Nairobi's Huruma estate on June 3, boda boda riders beat two men accused of stealing a motorcycle in Eastleigh.

June 4 saw five cases reported in Migori, Bomet, Nandi and Kisumu. In Migori town, Salim Samuel was rescued by police after allegedly at-

tempting to steal a parked motorbike. In Chebirbelek, Bomet, Vincent Bett and Emmanuel Kemboi were accused of stealing a motorcycle and were attacked by villagers who later stormed the chief's office where they had sought refuge.

In Bungoma's Kamukunywa, a man identified only as Joseph was nearly lynched over a suspected stolen cow. That same night, a man in Ntamaru, Migori, was beaten to death after a foiled robbery at the home of Jessica Muruga, where the intruders molested her.

In Nandi's Chesumei, Jonah Kiprugut and David Tarus were injured while allegedly slaughtering a stolen cow. In Kisumu's Kadiang'a village, Vincent Onyango Oguko was killed after attempting to break into a home.

On June 5, six more cases were recorded. In Baharini, Lamu County, Kevin Odongo was beaten after snatching a phone from a woman escorting her child to school. In Embu, two men were attacked after allegedly stealing flour.

In Tana River, Abdi Kasim Mohamed was left unconscious after being caught slaughtering a stolen sheep. At Mtwapa Bridge, Kilifi, a suspected motorbike thief was cornered and beaten. In Bomet's Sotik town, Davis Too was attacked after swindling an M-Pesa agent. And in Bungoma, a man named Musa was nearly killed on suspicion of theft.

In tomorrow's paper, find out what police say about the disturbing trend.

PERSPECTIVE

Experts: Broken justice system fuelling violence

► Experts urge public education to counter rising mob justice cases.

► Police visibility must also improve, not as a show of force but as a sign of protection.

HUDSON GUMBIHI, NAIROBI

Experts who spoke to The Standard agree on the urgent need to restore public confidence in the criminal justice system, whose reputation has been tainted by entrenched corruption.

According to Dr Elijah Kirimi, a lecturer and consultant in psychology and criminology, the fight against mob justice begins with public enlightenment.

He says citizens must be empowered with knowledge about human rights, lawful avenues for redress, and the moral dangers of vigilante action.

"Schools, religious institutions, media platforms and communal gatherings must become agents of civic reawakening, reminding citizens that true justice is never impulsive; it is measured, evidence-based and accountable," says Dr Kirimi.

Equally critical is restoring trust in formal justice systems. Dr Kirimi notes that when courts are slow, corrupt, or inaccessible, mob violence thrives, but when justice is swift, impartial and visible, public confidence in institutions is restored.

Police visibility must also improve, not as a show of force but as a sign of protection and partnership.

Strengthening community-police relations is key to bridging the historical mistrust that often fuels mob actions.

Proactive intervention is essential. Dr Kirimi emphasizes that community elders, chiefs and local opinion

leaders should be trained not only in conflict resolution but also in detecting early signs of mob escalation.

"Their voice, when backed by authority and trust, can defuse a crowd before it explodes," he says while emphasising the need to establish emergency response hotlines to facilitate swift law enforcement deployment when a situation begins to boil.

"And we cannot ignore the structural factors that create the breeding ground for such violence. Where there is injustice and hopelessness, the temptation for mob action is greatest. Finally, in our digital age, where rumours travel faster than facts, social media must be both a tool and a solution," adds Dr Kirimi.

Community policing

Dr Kirimi thinks mob injustice is a potent cocktail of psychological distortions, ignited by pain, inflamed by injustice, and legitimised by a crowd seeking catharsis rather than truth.

"In its wake, it leaves broken lives, fractured communities, and a weakened society where the rule of law is diminished," he says.

Criminal lawyer Ndegwa Njiru says mob justice is a tangled and multi-faceted issue authorities seem unbothered to address.

He says public trust in justice institutions has eroded, despite the Constitution requiring all, including the President, to uphold the rule of law.

"Mob injustice is a reflection of what is currently happening in the country; people are angry, extra-judicial killings are now too common, and institutions that were to address societal challenges have lost independence," he notes.

According to Ndegwa, there is need to engage the public in civic education for them to understand that a person is presumed innocent until proven guilty by a competent court of law.

hgumbihi@standardmedia.co.ke



Lawlessness persists openly, even in the presence of police. While some suspects are rescued, others face mob justice or get a chance to explain. This photo taken in Kakamega offers a glimpse into today's troubled society. [Duncan Ocholla, Standard]

Parliament cited for rent seeking in the name of oversight duties

► Committees are being accused of being laundromats for business people and Cabinet.

► So bad is the situation that it plays out in front of media some times even on live TV.

JOSPAT THIONG'O, NAIROBI

The National Assembly and Senate's oversight roles are once again under sharp scrutiny over their failure to check the excesses of government, instead appearing to defend entities and individuals accused of flouting the law—sometimes, allegedly, for a fee.

This failure was demonstrated last Thursday in the National Assembly's Committee on Wildlife and Tourism, where the Cabinet Secretary for Tourism and Wildlife, Rebecca Miano, appeared to enjoy protection from the committee chairperson, who shielded her from answering tough questions.

The committee's treatment of the CS has validated claims that MPs are on a rent-seeking mission, and in return, are shielding witnesses—particularly state officers—from essential scrutiny.

At the heart of the matter before the committee, chaired by MP Kareke Mbiuki, was the ongoing Sh31.6 billion “questionable” refurbishment of the Bomas of Kenya, allegedly carried out without parliamentary approval.

The committee sought to know from the CS who authorised the demolition and reconstruction of the national landmark without Parliament's endorsement, terming the process opaque.

Lugari MP Innocent Mugabe sparked debate over the Bomas renovation when he demanded to know why the government had been secretive about the ongoing works. The committee consequently sought to understand why Parliament had been bypassed.

“Can the CS give full information on the issue of Bomas and the works going on? As a committee we are in the dark. We need to get proper facts on the funding model of the projects and everything related to it...,” stated Mugabe.

Before he could finish his question, Mbiuki interjected: “Wewe hukuona Kenya Gazette? Iliota Bomas of Kenya kutoka Culture sasa iko Tourism.” (Didn't you see the Kenya Gazette notice that transferred the Bomas of Kenya from the State Department of Culture to the Ministry of Tourism?)

Mugabe continued: “Having Bomas change from being under the Depart-

ment of Culture to Tourism does not change anything... There are ongoing works there, but as the oversight committee, we do not know what is happening. There are so many questions surrounding the issue of Bomas and it should not be taken lightly,” he added.

Mbiuki interjected again: “Madam, just note, what you can be able to respond to, you can respond. You can also respond in generality, and what you can be able to give in-depth, you can still do that. But it is a question of just getting a feeling of the members of some of the issues which later on or now we can have a discussion.”

Ijaara MP Abdi Ali expressed concern that the oversight committee was in the dark and questioned who gave the green light for the Bomas facelift. He warned that, if left unchecked, the outcome would be chaotic—akin to the Sh3 billion KICC project.

“You know this is not the first time such a thing has happened. Before her (the CS), we know what has happened in the past with KICC. It was an inter-ministerial undertaking, but we don't know how the project was procured. We later had contractors who came before this committee expressing their concern, and that is why we don't want a repeat of the same thing that we underwent two years ago,” he remarked.

“Remember, the ongoing construction at Bomas is being handled by the Ministry of Defence, and it is the same people that handled the project. So, we want to know the process—whether the tender was advertised, whether there was pre-qualification, whether it was a direct tender—so that the committee can properly carry out its oversight role,” he reiterated.

The committee chair then questioned why the CS had distanced herself from engaging with Parliament on tourism-related matters.

“Please, CS, tell us what is happening. Your people are only keen on engaging us during the budget process, but during implementation they ignore us. We only see projects being launched at high-profile events where the president is involved, and we are left in the dark,” he said.

CS Miano, seemingly heeding the chairperson's advice, opted to respond broadly to the members' concerns. She revealed that the project's financing had been transferred from the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage to the Ministry of Tourism via an executive order.

“We have taken note of the members' concerns, the expectation for information, and we will go back and prepare for both the Tourism Promotion Fund



MPs listen to the 2025 Budget reading on June 12, 2025 at Parliament. [Elvis Ogina, Standard]

and Bomas of Kenya, which has now been domiciled in our ministry, and we are in the process of the handover,” she submitted.

Kisii Senator Richard Onyonka has claimed that Parliament has abdicated its oversight role over the Executive, alleging that MPs have been compromised and are now “part of the largesse.”

“They (MPs) cannot be able to oversight. Why? Because they are part of the take. How do you oversight somebody who has given you money not to oversight? That was most probably done a year ago... Whatever you see happening in terms of the Bomas of Kenya project, there was no due diligence. No one has asked who owns that title now. Sometimes we hear it is a private company that has taken over Bomas,” he told The Saturday Standard.

He added: “Kenyans are on their own. There's nobody watching and monitoring what's going on. What is happening is that these individuals are basically sharing the loot. If you are not going to be part of that, they demonise you.”

Mukurweini MP John Kaguchia expressed similar sentiments, stating that rent-seeking among legislators had damaged the House's reputation. “MPs are bidding to the Executive for pay and favours. The more they shield witnesses from

questions, the more they are paid. The favours include tenders, employment of their family members, and such,” stated Kaguchia.

Last week, Onyonka walked out of a Senate Finance Committee meeting where Treasury Cabinet Secretary John Mbadi had appeared to answer questions about the government's continued borrowing.

The session quickly became heated after Onyonka accused Senator Tabitha Mutinda and the committee chairperson of acting as proxies for CS Mbadi.

“Madam Tabitha, stop defending the CS. Honourable John can defend himself... let me say my case... this is the problem with us. Stop stopping me from doing my job. Allow me to make my case!” he exclaimed, before walking out of the meeting.

Moments earlier, he had dismissed a report tabled by Mbadi as “irrelevant”, prompting a rebuttal from Senator Mutinda:

“Point of order Mr Chairman, you know you (Onyonka) just can't come on record and say a report is irrelevant when we asked the minister to appear so we can interrogate the report... I'm not defending the CS... you just walked in, you should look at the report that the minister has presented...,” she remarked.

Onyonka later responded: “Our job is to oversight the executive, and in that case, the CEO is the Cabinet Secretary... The reason why the Presidency is able to borrow money without consultation with the National Assembly and the Senate is because there was an amendment to the PFM Act. Money was supposed to go to specific projects. They no longer do that. The money being borrowed now is for recurrent expenditure, and the committee is not interrogating the minister for that, yet we have billions of shillings being stolen.”

Parliament has in recent years faced persistent questions about its integrity, particularly in relation to probes into scandals where millions

were allegedly looted—often with claims of rent-seeking emerging.

One notable case involved the Senate's 2023 probe into the Shakahola massacre. The ad hoc committee chaired by Danson Mungatana came under fire after revelations that the committee had travelled to Mavueni, Kilifi, at the cleric Pastor Ezekiel Odera's expense.

Mungatana defended the trip, stating they lacked funds at the time: “We did not have time, that is why the team was ready to travel and come and make the claims later. We did not have the Clerk for the reason that at the time of going we did not have the funds, but we made sure that everything that we observed was captured because I gave the report,” he explained.

He added that, having already been granted an extension, the committee could not request another due to budgetary constraints, forcing them to fast-track their investigation.

“The national forensic laboratory that is under DCI has been frustrated beyond even performance by the very people who are sponsoring negative articles because they know the bombshell we are going to lay in this House, but tell the Executive arm of government that we will expose them for who they are, because they failed the people of Kenya, and it doesn't matter if you send the government Whip here,” Mungatana said.

Speaker Amason Kingi ruled that the matter be handled administratively, noting that measures had already been instituted.

In 2018, bribery allegations also rocked the House during debate on a report about contaminated sugar imports. The joint departmental committees recommended the investigation and prosecution of 14 companies, including millers and importers. However, the report was shot down.

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AT A GLANCE

- A section of MPs have been accused of shielding witnesses from hard questions during committee proceedings.
- The Sh31.6 billion renovations of Bomas are being supervised by the Ministry of Defense, albeit without Parliamentary approval.
- Questions now linger on who gave the go ahead for its renovation even as the National Assembly demands details on the project's funding model, procurement process and the various contractual agreements.

Speaker accused of silencing UDA critics in House

- ▶ Wetang'ula is alleged to have forsaken his role as a neutral arbiter and undermined Parliament's independence.
- ▶ His involvement in campaigning for President Ruto's re-election has attracted the wrath of some leaders.

NDUNGU GACHANE, NAIROBI

National Assembly Speaker Moses Wetang'ula wears controversy like his Sunday best suit. He has faced a barrage of accusations over the manner he has conducted himself by locking out voices critical of the government during debates and engaging in party politics at the behest of the ruling coalition, Kenya Kwanza.

His critics accuse him of abandoning his role of an independent arbiter and compromising the independence

of Parliament to becoming the ruling United Democratic Alliance (UDA) party mouthpiece.

His partiality and involvement in campaigning for President William Ruto's re-election has attracted the wrath of some elected leaders.

This week, Senate's ruling party's chief whip Bonny Khalwale accused Wetang'ula of violating chapter 6 of the Constitution on the leadership and integrity that outlines the ethical standards of State officers and which ensures that leaders are competent, impartial, honest, selfless, and accountable.

According to Khalwale, Wetang'ula has vacated the responsibility of the Speaker and has reduced himself as an agent of the ruling party.

"The responsibility of the Speaker should not be vacated at any given time. The Speaker of the National Assembly is participating in empowerment functions where they dish money from the public coffers behaving like an agent of UDA. Nowhere in the history of Republic of Kenya has



National Assembly Speaker Moses Wetang'ula. [Elvis Ogina, Standard]

the Speaker ever done that."

"The loud consultations are the right thing, it confirms that this is a House of debate and people can't agree on everything. It is a matter that touches on Chapter 6 of the Constitution and the ethics and integrity act," he said.

The Senator on Thursday tabled evidence of what he claimed was incriminating Wetang'ula's conduct of reducing himself to be UDA's agent.

But as Khalwale was putting up a case against Wetang'ula's neutrality, the Speaker was in Kiambu where he was spreading the two-term gospel urging the residents of Kikuyu Con-

stituency to vote for Ruto for a second term.

"You voted Ruto and made him the President. You have contributed to the formation of this government, you can't give birth to child and then you throw her, let nobody lie to you that you are not in government," Wetang'ula said in reference to Gachagua's opposition politics in Mt Kenya against Ruto's administration.

Despite claims of reducing himself to be Ruto's appendage, Wetang'ula went to an extent of delivering greetings from the President as he asked the residents to vote for him for a 'two-term' a political sloganeering

that has been coined to counter Gachagua's Wantam (one-term) political clarion call.

Wetang'ula's style of leadership has also been under sharp focus from his predecessors, current serving MPs, lawyers and political analysts who accuse of breaching the principles of impartiality and reducing the National Assembly as an extension of the Executive.

His predecessor, Justin Muturi, slammed Wetang'ula, accusing him of destroying the feasibility of impartiality of the Speaker maintaining that he should always keep his personal opinion.

"The Speaker remains neutral, he listens. If you start issuing your opinion publicly while serving as the Speaker there will be other members with divergent opinion and you will not sit well with them," Muturi said.

Even MPs serving under Wetang'ula in the National Assembly have expressed concerns over the Speaker's conduct accusing him of having a cake and eating it.

Mukurweini MP John Kaguchia claimed Wetang'ula has offended the Constitution by failing to drop the position of a party leader of Ford Kenya.

"His continued engagements in active politics is wrong. His role as the party leader and the Speaker is against the role and this has compromised his position as a neutral arbiter. It is unfortunate that the law no longer matters in this country."

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NURU ya LUGHA



RadioMaisha



KILA JUMAMOSI
6AM-11AM

NA VICTOR MULAMA

Amref aircraft Black Box found as families mourn crash victims

▶ Black Box retrieved to aid probe into fatal Amref plane crash that left six dead.

▶ Grieving families seek answers after tragic Mwhiko aircraft accident.

FRED KAGONYE, NAIROBI

Aircraft investigators from the Ministry of Transport have confirmed the recovery of the black box from the ill-fated Amref aircraft that crashed in Kiambu's, Mwhiko estate.

Speaking at the crash site, Aircraft Accident Investigations Director Fred Kabunge said the flight data recorder was among parts of the wreckage first collected by police officers who responded to the scene. The device had been kept at a nearby police post.

"We have managed to recover the recorders which will aid us in the conduct of the investigation," Kabunge said. He added that the black box will be shipped abroad, likely to the US, Canada or France, for downloading, examination and analysis.

"The recorders are very critical for us as we conduct the investigation," he emphasized.

Kabunge's team spent most of the day collecting debris as they worked to reconstruct the plane's final moments. He, however, raised concerns over crime scene contamination, noting that members of the public had been allowed access. Despite this, he assured Kenyans that the investigation would proceed effectively.

A preliminary report is expected within 14 days, while a full report will be released in a year. If the investigation is not complete by then, an interim statement will be issued.

According to Amref CEO Stephen Gitau, the aircraft was headed to Hargeisa, Somalia, to evacuate a patient. After the crash, alternative



The wreckage of the Amref plane is examined by the Aircraft Accident Investigations team in Mwhiko, Kiambu County, yesterday. [Edward Kiplimo, Standard]

arrangements were made to rescue the patient.

Among the victims was 13-year-old Yvonne Nasimiyu, who was at home preparing lunch when the plane came down. Her mother, Mercy Nafula, a single mother of three and a mitumba seller, said she had sent her daughter home to cook rice and potatoes.

"She (Nasimiyu) had asked me for money to get lunch. I told her to go home and get money to buy potatoes that she was to prepare together with rice," Nafula said tearfully.

She was later informed by phone that a plane had crashed into their plot and her daughter was among those killed. "The person who saw her last said that she was killed while peeling the potatoes at the door to our house," she added. Nafula is now appealing for help to bury her daughter and rebuild her business, which was destroyed in the crash.

Rahab Wamuyu also received tragic news while at work, her husband,

AT A GLANCE

- Cessna 5Y-FDM crashed in Mwhiko, Kiambu daily@standard.com
- A captain, first officer, doctor and nurse from Amref died
- Two members of public a man and a 13-year-old girl died
- Black box of the plane has been recovered
- Amref says the plane had undergone necessary inspections
- Amref says the captain and first officer were well trained to fly the plane

James Gitau, was killed while resting at home.

Gitau, a bodaboda rider, had been recuperating from a motorcycle accident sustained in December 2024. He had broken his leg and was waiting to fully recover before resuming work. His passenger was also injured, and the motorcycle remains at a local police station.

The couple had moved into the house only three months ago. "I was

called and told that there was an aircraft accident where I live. On my way home, I saw some ambulances heading there," said Wamuyu. "When I got here I was told that he had died and his body had been moved." The crash left both Nafula's and Wamuyu's homes in ruins, now cordoned off as part of an active investigation.

The pilot of the aircraft, Captain Eric Munuve, had worked at Amref for six years and was recently promoted to fly the Cessna 5Y-FDM. After his promotion, he celebrated the achievement on LinkedIn. His family declined to speak to the media.

Another victim was Amref nurse Judy Omusula, eulogized by friends as a joyful, kind, and outgoing professional. Her LinkedIn profile shows she held a Master's degree in nursing and had worked at MP Shah and Aga Khan hospitals before joining Amref in 2016.

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MOMBASA

Lawyer links Sh9b fraud scheme to late tycoon TSS estate

A lawyer, Lucy Momanyi, has told a Mombasa court how her law firm and forged signature were used in a scheme to defraud the late Mombasa tycoon Tahir Sheikh Said (TSS) of Sh9 billion.

Testifying before Mombasa Chief Magistrate Alex Ituri, Momanyi said a Nairobi-based lawyer prepared fake documents using her name and firm to facilitate the illegal transfer of shares from the late tycoon to his wife, Ishra Tahir Sheikh Said.

Momanyi claimed that one of the accused, Victor Arara Were, who served as company secretary at TSS Group, colluded with others to strip the businessman of ownership and control of his businesses, which include interests in fish processing, real estate, transport, and maize milling across Mombasa, Nairobi and Lamu.

Were is jointly charged with Aweys Ahmed Mohamed, Zein Ahmed Mohamed, James Mwangi Muturi, and Zahir Abbas Khaku. Four were former employees of TSS Group, while Were was company secretary.

The accused are alleged to have conspired between 2011 and 2015 to defraud TSS of \$8.7 million (Sh1.5 billion) by filing a false share transfer and change of directorship at Juja Coffee Exporters, claiming TSS had voluntarily ceded his shares. They also allegedly forged a guarantee and indemnity document to secure a Sh1.53 billion loan from Kenya Commercial Bank.

Momanyi testified that Were privately confessed to her that her firm's name had been fraudulently used in the share transfer. She secretly recorded the conversation, reported it to the police and handed the evidence to TSS's son.

"I gave my phone to TSS's son and later recorded a statement with the Directorate of Criminal Investigations," she said, adding that the voice recording, admitted in court, was played during her testimony.

Investigating officer Julius Musoga confirmed that some family members were suspected in the fraud but were never charged. "Yes, one of TSS's daughters was culpable, but I was overruled by my superiors," Musoga said, admitting the case had internal family involvement.

Musoga, who took over investigations after the death of original lead investigator Tom Juma, also admitted that the late tycoon's wife, though mentioned in the case, was not interrogated due to her lack of cooperation. [Willis Okech]



Mombasa lawyer Lucy Momanyi. [File, Standard]

KISUMU

21 perish, dozens hurt in Kisumu horror bus crash

Grief engulfed Kisumu following a fatal road accident that claimed 21 lives and left several others with serious injuries.

The tragedy occurred when a school bus ferrying villagers lost control and overturned at the infamous Coptic Roundabout black spot.

According to witnesses, some victims succumbed to their injuries while awaiting help, trapped under the wreckage of the overturned bus.

At the scene of the accident, scattered personal items and pools of blood painted a picture of agony and loss.

According to Nyanza Region Traffic Enforcement Officer Peter Maina, the 21 victims, 10 wom-

en, 1 girl, and 10 men, were travelling to Nyakach in Kisumu County from Kakamega aboard a hired school bus belonging to AIC Naki Secondary School. "It's a very sad evening for us. We have lost 21 people, 10 women, 1 girl, and 10 men," said Maina. The police boss also confirmed that 20 other passengers sustained critical injuries and were rushed to nearby hospitals. "We have five in critical condition and 15 others with varying degrees of injuries," he stated.

The injured were taken to Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital, where they are receiving treatment. The bodies of the deceased were also moved to the morgue at the same facil-

ity. The wreckage of the ill-fated school bus was towed to Kondele Police Station.

The cause of the accident is yet to be established, but police have launched investigations into the incident. "We heard a loud screech and a huge bang. The passengers were crying and trapped inside the overturned bus," said Joram Owino, a witness.

Kisumu Governor Anyang' Nyong'o described the loss of lives as devastating.

Meanwhile, at Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital (JOOTRH), health workers rushed to attend to the survivors as they administered emergency treatment. [Clinton Ambujo]

Promises galore as Ruto, Raila bid to strengthen union



President William Ruto with ODM leader Raila Odinga at the funeral service of Phoebe Asiyo in Homa Bay County, yesterday. [Michael Mute, Standard]

▶ The President unveiled a new package of benefits for the Nyanza region and pledged to complete several road projects.

▶ The Head of State said that, in honour of the late Karachuonyo MP, Phoebe Asiyo, he would implement the Nadco report to realise the two-thirds gender rule.

JAMES OMORO AND RODGERS OTISO, HOMA BAY

President William Ruto intensified his bid to entrench his support in the country yesterday with a wave of promises to achieve the two-thirds gender rule, transform Nyanza's economy, and compensate victims of the country's political upheavals.

The President rallied support for their union with ODM leader Raila Odinga and claimed they have put the country on the right path to success.

Ruto unleashed a fresh bag of goodies to the Nyanza region and promised to complete various road projects.

For a duo keen to pacify support across the country, the burial of the late Karachuonyo MP Phoebe Asiyo in Homa Bay County, yesterday, provided a platform to drum up support for the National Dialogue Committee (Nadco) report.

The President stated that in honour of the late MP, his administration will ensure that they achieve the two-thirds gender rule through the implementation of the Nadco report.

"My administration is going to implement the one-third gender rule, and affirmative action will be applied in certain circumstances," Ruto said.

The gender rule requires that each position in the public sector is occupied by not more than two-thirds of a particular gender.

Female leaders in Kenya have been complaining about gender imbalance in various job opportunities in the country.

The President promised to implement the ten-point agenda, which is part of the memorandum of understanding (MoU) he signed with Raila during the formation of the broad-based government.

Ruto said Kenya Kwanza and ODM MPs are

going to meet next week to plan modalities of making legislation for the implementation of the agenda.

"Our MPs are going to have a parliamentary group meeting to plan how they will make legislation for augmenting the implementation of the ten-point agenda," Ruto said.

Ruto argued that the MoU he signed with Raila must be implemented to the letter.

"Raila and I have agreed that the MoU we signed is implemented to the letter. We want to ensure proper implementation of the Nadco report, enhancing devolution and other resolutions," Ruto said.

Raila rallied his support base to continue backing the President and his regime, and claimed that he has no apology for his decision to collaborate with Ruto.

He defended his decision that Kenya risked plunging into anarchy, hence he had to shelve his political interests for the sake of peace and unity.

Raila hit back at his critics who blame him for abdicating his roles as an opposition leader.

"I don't owe anybody apology for working with President Ruto. The people who are complaining of our co-operation do not understand the history of Africa. I did not want Kenya to plunge into anarchy like Somalia, Sudan, Libya and other African countries," Raila said.

Raila expressed commitment that his ODM party will work with the government until 2027.

"We must work and till 2027 for the development of our country. When that time comes, we will talk again on the way forward," Raila said.

He told residents to shun government critics for the sake of Kenya's development.

"People need shelter, food and other basic items in order to live. But we cannot achieve this in a chaotic situation," Odinga said.

ODM National Chairperson Gladys Wanga said some leaders were criticising the broad-based government because of jealousy with ODM.

"They want us to leave the government so that they can replace us," Wanga said.

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi said the broad-based government will unite Kenyans.

"We must all work together to promote unity in our country," Mudavadi said.



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF HOMA BAY DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE & ECONOMIC PLANNING



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PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE HOMA BAY COUNTY ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (CADP) FOR FY 2026/27

In accordance with Article 220(2) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 and Section 126 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012, the County Government of Homa Bay is preparing its Annual Development Plan (ADP) for the Financial Year 2026/27. Resounding our commitment to good governance and accountability, the county recognizes the role of the public in development and policy planning, as provided for under Articles 1, 69, and 201 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 and Section 207 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012. Consequently, the County Treasury of Homa Bay invites the general public, stakeholders, persons with disabilities, youths, civil society organizations, and interested groups to participate in the planned consultative forums on the C-ADP for FY 2026/27 scheduled from 19th to 21st August 2025 as detailed in the table below.

Besides, written memoranda/proposals on development priorities, financing, and strategies can be submitted through email address finance@homabay.co.ke, hand delivered to Ward or Sub-County Administrators, or mailed via P. O. Box 469-40300 Homa Bay, not later than 21st August 2025.

Schedule and Venues for Public Consultative Forums on the CADP FY 2026/27

SUB-COUNTIES	WARDS	VENUES	DATES	TIME
RACHUONYO EAST	Kojwach	Oriwo Chief's Camp	19/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Kokwanyo Kakelo	MCA's Office	19/8/2025	14:00-16:00
	Kabondo East	Oriang Primary	20/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Kabondo West	MCA's Office - Ramula	20/8/2025	14:00-16:00
RACHUONYO SOUTH	South Kasipul	Ward Admin's Office	19/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	West Kasipul	MCA's Office	19/8/2025	14:00-16:00
	West Kamagak	Rawinji Chief's Camp	20/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	East Kamagak	Chief Camp's Hall	20/8/2025	14:00-16:00
	Central Kasipul	Kosele Hall	21/8/2025	11:00-13:00
RACHUONYO NORTH	Kanyaluo	Ayler Chief's Camp	19/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Kendu Bay Town	Alaw Rachuonyo Hall	20/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Wang'chieng	Rakwaro Chief's Camp	20/8/2025	14:00-16:00
	Central Karachuonyo	Ward Admin's Office - Nyakongo	19/8/2025	14:00-16:00
RACHUONYO WEST	West Karachuonyo	MCA's Office - Nyangwete	19/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Kibiri	Ward Admin's Office - Nyaola	19/8/2025	14:00-16:00
	North Karachuonyo	Ward Admin's Office - Kookoth Primary	20/8/2025	11:00-13:00
HOMA BAY TOWN	Homa Bay East	Imbo Polytechnic	19/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Homa Bay Central	Sero VTC	19/8/2025	14:00-16:00
	Arujo	Ward Admin's Office - Junction Kodoyo	20/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Homa Bay West	Olodo Chief's Camp	20/8/2025	14:00-16:00
RANGWE	East Gem	Ward Admin's Office - Namba Nyokal	19/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	West Gem	Ward Admin's Office - Randung	19/8/2025	14:00-16:00
	Kochia	Nyagoro Chief's Camp	20/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Kagan	Youth Empowerment Centre	20/8/2025	14:00-16:00
NDHIWA	Kanyamwa Kosewe	Ndhiwa Social Hall	20/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Kabuoch North	Ward Admin's Office - Sikwadi	21/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Kwabwai	CDF Hall - Ratanga	19/8/2025	10:00-12:00
	Kabuoch South/Pala	Ward Admin's Office - Pala	21/8/2025	14:00-16:00
	Kanyamwa Kologil	Kagong Health Centre	20/8/2025	14:00-16:00
	Kanyadoto	Ward Admin's Office - Nguku	19/8/2025	12:00-14:00
	Kanyikela	Ongaro Centre	19/8/2025	14:00-16:00
SUBA NORTH	Lambwe	DO's Compound - Lambwe	19/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Gembe	Kitare Centre	19/8/2025	14:00-16:00
	Kasungu	Sub-County Hall Mbita	20/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Rusinga	Ice Campus Compound	20/8/2025	14:00-16:00
SUBA WEST	Mfangano Island	Sub County Office - Sena	19/8/2025	11:00-13:00
SUBA SOUTH	Gwassil South	Magunga Catholic Church Ground	19/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Gwassil North	Kwethumb Hall	19/8/2025	14:00-16:00
	Ruma Kaksingri East	Onyvera Resource Centre	20/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Kaksingri West	Ward Admin's Office - Chief's Camp	20/8/2025	14:00-16:00
MUNICIPALITIES	Ndhiwa Municipality	Ndhiwa Municipal's Office	19/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Homa Bay Municipality	Homa Bay Municipal's Office	19/8/2025	14:00-16:00
	Kendu Bay Municipality	Kendu Municipal's Office	20/8/2025	11:00-13:00
	Oyugis Municipality	Oyugis Municipal's Office	20/8/2025	14:00-16:00
	Mbita Municipality	Mbita Municipal's Office	21/8/2025	11:00-13:00

HON. SOLOMON OBIERO,
CECM FOR FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING,
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF HOMA BAY

40 hospitals, 8 doctors, 4 clinicians suspended in SHA graft crackdown

► The Health ministry has revealed four main ways in which hospitals were defrauding the Social Health Authority.

► Some care providers inflated claims, charging for procedures they never performed.

RYAN KERUBO

The Ministry of Health has suspended 40 health facilities, eight doctors and four clinicians from accessing services under the Social Health Authority (SHA) for allegedly engaging in fraudulent activities.

In a statement issued in Nairobi on Thursday, the Ministry said the suspensions, effective immediately, follow a comprehensive digital audit and forensic review of suspicious claims lodged over the past two months.

“These facilities and professionals have engaged in corruption and theft of public resources. We will surcharge them to recover any money already paid on the basis of these fraudulent claims,” the statement read.

The list of suspended facilities has been published in the Kenya Gazette and includes hospitals in Nairobi, Homa Bay, Bungoma, Mandera, Kakamega, Busia, Kilifi, Wajir, Kajiado and Kirinyaga counties.

The Ministry noted that the audit exposed four main ways in which hospitals were defrauding SHA. These included upcoding, where facilities claimed payment for costlier procedures than those actually performed.

A hospital in Nairobi was said to have billed Sh201,600 for a transurethral resection of a bladder tumour



A hospital in Nairobi reportedly billed the Social Health Authority Sh201,600 for a procedure but carried one costing Sh89,600. [Courtesy]

despite only carrying out a prostatectomy costing Sh89,600.

Others were falsifying medical records, like a facility in Bungoma that submitted claims for a patient who was, according to records, admitted to another hospital at the same time. Some hospitals, particularly in Nairobi and Homa Bay, were found to be converting outpatients into inpatients or exaggerating simple outpatient visits into extended hospital stays to claim more money.

In Mandera, four facilities were discovered colluding to lodge duplicate claims for the same patient, effectively creating ‘ghost patients’ to siphon funds from the scheme.

“These activities undermine public trust in our health system and threaten the feasibility of the Social Health Authority,” the statement said.

Eight doctors linked to facilities in Nairobi, Bungoma and Kilifi, and four clinicians from Nairobi and Homa Bay, have been found to be directly involved in the schemes.

The Ministry has revoked their access to SHA and Digital Health Authority platforms, and notified the Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Council (KMPDC) and the Clinical Officers Council (COC) for immediate disciplinary action, which could lead to licence cancellation.

“No medical procedure can be performed and paid for by SHA unless the relevant healthcare professional receives a one-time password authorising that procedure. Any provider whose details are used to defraud SHA will be held personally liable,” the statement added.

The Directorate of Criminal Investigations will also receive the full list of implicated facilities and professionals for possible prosecution.

The crackdown follows President William Ruto’s recent warning that the fraudulent activities seen under the defunct National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) will not be tolerated in the SHA era.

“If you made money under NHIF, you better look for another business. You cannot do those things you used to do,” the statement warned.

The Ministry also cautioned patients against sharing their SHA one-time passwords (OTPs) or identification details with anyone, noting that some level 2 and 3 facilities have been using them to process fake claims. Plans are underway to roll out biometric verification at these lower-level facilities to curb abuse.

25
MILLION

NUMBER of Kenyans registered under SHA. The Health Ministry has cautioned patients against sharing their SHA one-time passwords (OTPs) or identification details with anyone, noting that some level 2 and 3 facilities have been using them to process fake claims

NAKURU

Team to probe cases of child sex exploitation

The Nakuru County Government has formed a committee to investigate cases of child sexual exploitation, following a recent exposé by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

Speaking in Nakuru, Governor Susan Kihika said exploitation of minors is a crime that will not be tolerated.

The seven-member committee will be chaired by Roselyn Mungai, who is the County Executive Committee Member for Health. Members include Zipporah Ngugi, Gladys Kamuren, Joyce Ncece, Stella Mwaura, Maureen Litunda, and Elizabeth Kiptoo.

The committee, according to the governor, will work with national government officials and start its work in Maai Mahiu.

The committee, she said, will visit Maai Mahiu and, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, gather detailed information on child exploitation, identify the root causes of the practice, engage stakeholders on sustainable solutions, and submit a report in September.

The committee, she said, will carry out investigations in Kikopey, Salga, and Total and other centres along the northern corridor.

Kihika called for accountability at all levels, adding that the ongoing investigations must lead to the prosecution of individuals involved. The Governor said they are aware some arrests have been made.

“We must understand how the situation arose and identify the enablers. As a woman, a mother, and the Governor of Nakuru County, I affirm that exploitation — especially of children — is a crime that will not be tolerated, excused, or ignored under my leadership,” she said.

County commissioner Lyford Kibaara confirmed the DCI is yet to confirm the speculations that those interviewed on the BBC documentary were promised some money that they never received.

[Julius Chepkwony and Ann Njeri]

HOMA BAY

End of an era as celebrated icon Phoebe Asiyo is laid to rest

She was an icon to behold. A trailblazer who inspired lives and rolled out the carpet so that others could walk. A heroine deserving a State burial.

Those were some of the moving tributes for the late Karachuonyo MP Phoebe Asiyo as thousands of mourners converged at Wii Kondiek village in Homa Bay to witness her last send-off.

Emotions laced with pride of her achievement filled the air as friends, family and the political class recounted her monstrous contribution to women’s empowerment and push for equality.

In her prime, she was among the few women who dared to dream and challenged a status quo that had been

dominated by men in a fragile political environment.

President William Ruto, alongside Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi, ODM leader Raila Odinga, and a host of national and county leaders, led the country in paying tribute to the late veteran politician.

The sheer number of attendees—ranging from locals to dignitaries, and Kenyans who journeyed from as far as Migori, Kisumu, Nairobi, and even abroad — spoke volumes about the indelible mark she left on countless lives.

“Today, we honour this heroic woman with a national tribute,” said President Ruto. “We do this not because I was asked to, but because Mama Asiyo earned her place as a national hero.

Her work laid the foundation for women leadership in our country.”

Asiyo, passed away on July 17 in North Carolina, US, at the age of 93. She was honoured with a State funeral in recognition of her historic contribution to women’s leadership, human rights, and democracy in Kenya.

The President announced that Wikondiek Secondary School would be renamed Mama Phoebe Asiyo Secondary School, marking the first of several tributes. He also agreed with Raila’s proposal to erect a national monument in Nairobi in her honour, saying Asiyo deserves a place of pride both at home and in the capital.

Former Prime Minister Raila Odinga, visibly emotional, reflected on his

personal relationship with Asiyo and her pivotal role in Kenya’s political history.

“Phoebe was like my elder sister. She stood by me during difficult moments. She was a force in Parliament, a champion for women, a mentor, and a symbol of dignity,” Raila said. “This State burial honours her as the hero she was and I ask the President to follow this with a national monument for Mama Asiyo.”

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi described Asiyo as a visionary leader who elevated national discourse.

“Phoebe Asiyo and Grace Ogot were a dynamic duo in Parliament — compassionate, humorous, and razor-sharp. Their contributions shaped the

soul of our nation,” said Mudavadi.

Siaya Governor James Orengo used the occasion to urge the government to properly honour Kenya’s past heroes.

“We remember our heroes at their funerals,” said Orengo. “We must do better — Mama Asiyo, Tom Mboya they all deserve their rightful place in Kenya’s history.”

Governor Gladys Wanga, visibly moved, praised Asiyo’s pioneering role in women’s empowerment in Homa Bay and across the nation.

“It is because of Mama Asiyo that we, the women of Homa Bay, are in leadership. She broke the glass ceiling. Our county has achieved 50-50 gender parity in top leadership,” Wanga said.

[Rogers Otiso and James Omoro]

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The Saturday Standard

EDITORIAL

Shame of children being exploited as authorities watch

Recent revelations of child sexual exploitation from Mai Mahiu are nothing short of a national disgrace.

In a town nestled on the busy Northern Corridor, where truck engines roar and commerce flows, a horrifying parallel economy thrives in silence: the sexual exploitation of children.

The BBC Africa Eye investigation has pulled back the curtain on what many already suspected but chose to ignore. Children, some as young as 13, are being trafficked, manipulated and abused under the noses of truckers, residents and authorities.

The image of a woman, Nyambura, laughing as she brags about luring girls with sweets, will remain etched in our collective conscience.

She calls child prostitution a "cash crop" and describes how she hides underage girls during the day and sneaks them out at night for clients, mostly truckers. It's a business, one that thrives on secrecy, silence, and the vulnerability of girls who have nowhere to run.

What is more chilling is the Ministry of Gender, Culture and Children Services' own admission that the police were handed evidence in March this year. That is five months ago and not a single arrest has been made.

How many more girls have been trafficked, raped, or irreparably damaged in that time? How many perpetrators have continued to exploit children with full knowledge that Kenya's justice system will look the other way?

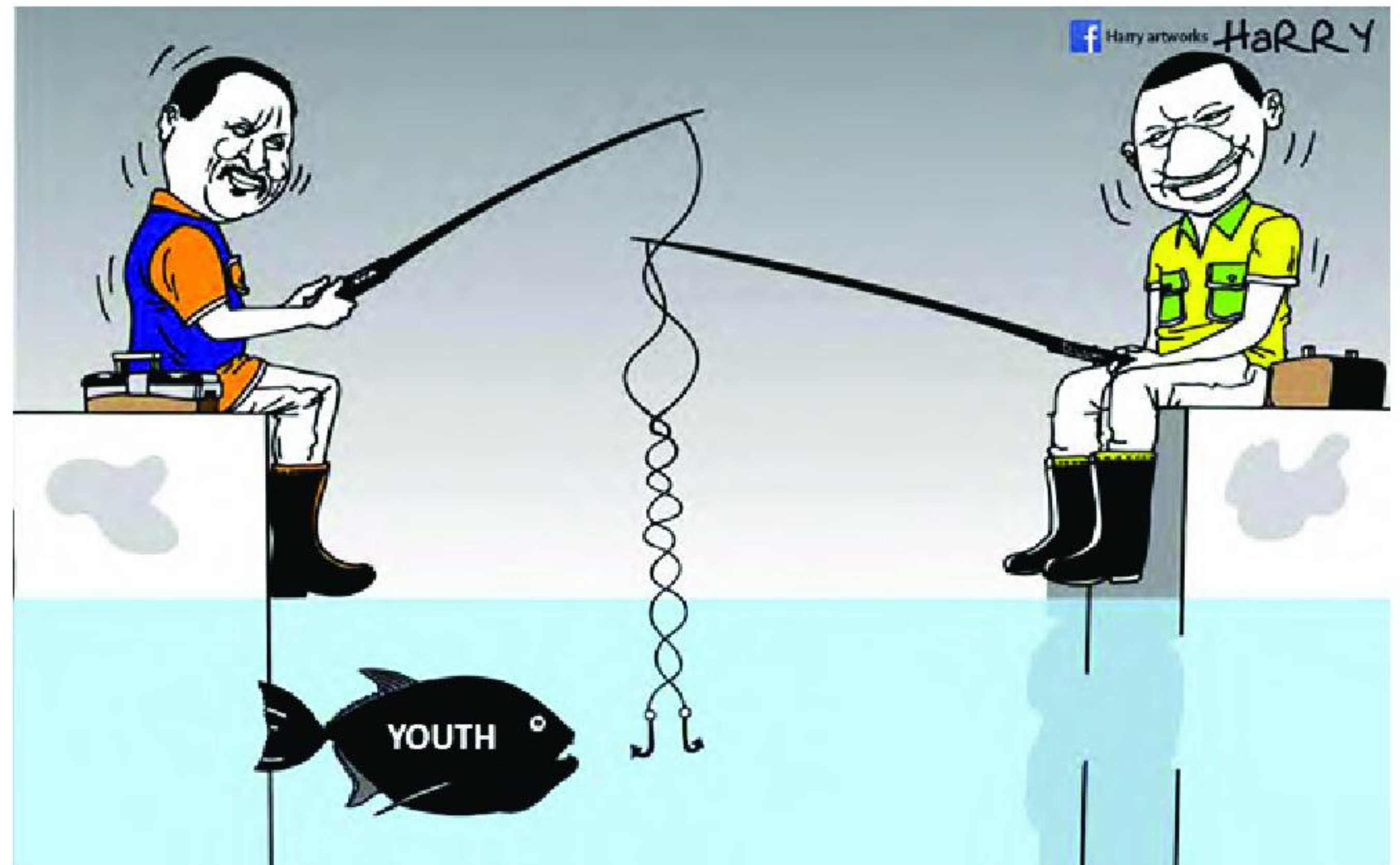
Let's be clear: this is not just a lapse in policing. It is systemic rot. The corridors that link Kenya to Rwanda, Uganda, and the DRC are not just channels of trade, they are highways of horror for trafficked girls.

In Mai Mahiu and other transit towns like Salga, Mlolongo and Mtito Andei, the same story repeats itself. Truckers, many of whom are fathers and husbands fuel a sex economy that preys on children. Lodging operators provide the hideouts. "Madams" do the recruiting.

And the government, while issuing statement after statement, fails to act. We applaud the Gender Cabinet Secretary for her strong words and for outlining the government's plans: multi-agency surveillance, cybercrime crackdowns, rehabilitation centres, and partnerships with INTERPOL. But words without action are meaningless.

As long as the traffickers walk free, the victims will remain invisible. The government must investigate this ring and punish heavily all those involved in trafficking the children.

The communities near such hideouts must also expose such activities promptly. The residents must not ignore such activities, seeing that they do not affect them directly. Children should always be protected from traffickers, which calls for alertness from the authorities and all Kenyans.



FACE FACTS

How least celebrated heroes like Kennedy Odede make life better



KAMOTHO WAIGANJO

This week I was fortunate to attend a United Nations event feting one of Kenya's least celebrated heroes. Kennedy Odede was this year's recipient of the UN Nelson Mandela Human Rights Prize. This prize, established by the UN in 2014, recognises exceptional individuals who have dedicated their lives to the service of humanity, much like Mandela. In a country that lionises politicians, TV evangelists and conmen, (and sometimes the three exist in one person), Kennedy Odede may not be known to many. But those who live in Kibera and other informal settlements will know Kennedy and SHOFKO, the Shining Hope for Communities organisation.

Kennedy started his life in Kibera slums having left his birthplace of Rarieda to escape brutal poverty. In Kibera he traversed between the slum and the odd physical jobs, slept hungry, went through the humiliation and all the tribulations that accompany poverty. By this 10th birthday, Kennedy was a street child, voiceless and hopeless. He scavenged from garbage bins and stole food for survival.

He walked Nairobi's cold streets, ignored by us, like we routinely do all those that appear to the more privileged among us as vermin, never recognising that but for grace and the accident of birth, we would be in

their shoes. Kennedy tells of the turning point in his life when, desperate from hunger, he stole some fruit in one of the Nairobi markets. As a mob set on him, he knew his life was over, but a kind stranger saved his life. That moment sparked a glimmer of hope when he realised that an individual could change lives and people's destinies.

Therein was born the future Mandela Prize laureate. Where many in and outside Kibera focused on helplessness and hopelessness he saw resilience. He saw the value of the human person and the heights that could be reached if people worked together. One day, from his meagre savings, he bought a soccer ball, having noted that football was something that united people in Kibera. That ball became a tool for bringing people together, creating a sense of community and shared purpose.

After the games, Kennedy and his neighbours would sit together, discussing the challenges they faced and brainstorming solutions in a trusted environment. In 2004, together in community with others, he founded SHOFKO and the small acorn seed grew into a mighty oak. Eventually, the football team became a small savings sacco, which eventually graduated into empowerment forums, schools and community centres. Right now, SHOFKO operates in 35 of Kenya's 47 counties, and has served more than 4 million people.

It provides education and training facilities for thousands of underprivileged students. Many are adolescent girls who face daunting challenges in informal settlements, including early teen pregnancy, sexual violence and delinquency. According to verifiable reports, 75 per cent of their stu-

dents are admitted to universities. SHOFKO provides shelters for those running from cruelty at home.

It enables members to save and invest and so carries out business training and capacity building. The SHOFKO Urban Network (SUN) is the community organising arm through which the organisation facilitates groups and peer to peer savings networks to create entrepreneurial investment funds and micro life insurance.

At a macro level SUN mobilises large scale advocacy efforts and provides access to SHOFKO's essential services. Kenya could learn from SUN's cross-ethnic democratic processes including elections, leadership development and commitment to community ethos. The Odede who once lived hungry and hopeless, and in the margins is now an international celebrity in his own words "no longer in the margins but in the map".

But Kennedy has never forgotten where he came from and is one of the few Kenyans who can walk through Kibera at night without fear. This for him is home, the place he lived for more than 23 years. As we celebrate this shujaa, the lesson for many of us who came from poverty is to use our resources and capacities to make the world better for those that we left behind.

At a macro level, SHOFKO says within the stories of hopelessness that define the Kenya of today, thousands of uncelebrated and unknown individuals are facilitating change, which gives one hope for Kenya. Viva Kennedy Odede and the SHOFKO team!

-The writer is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya

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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The right to be heard will always be at the core of Kenya's growth



IRUNGU HOUGHTON

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL KENYA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND WRITES IN HIS PERSONAL CAPACITY.

As we mark the third anniversary of the 2022 General Election today, Kenya's governance occurs as fragile and rudderless.

Citizens have perfected mass strategies to cancel misgovernance yet grapple for ways of connecting and charting a way past their disappointment with the current leadership.

Navigating the current turbulence will require new state systems to listen and interact with public concerns. A new opportunity has emerged in the Public Participation Bill (2025) currently before the National Assembly.

Some 13 years ago, I joined 50 Kenyans to reflect on the future of Kenya 50 years after independence. I argued then, and it remains true. The right to speak, be heard, and see actions taken in line with what matters to us has always driven Kenya's freedom movements. From the 1920s to today, it remains central to the crisis we face.

Politics has always been about competing ideas. Citizens usually respond in three ways: they complain quietly, they disrupt to be heard, or when they trust the system they engage constructively, shape policy and offer oversight. Without inclusive, real-time and responsive systems, leaders remain powerless to shift widespread public frustration.

Despite Article 1 of our Constitution, public participation in Kenya has weakened over the past decade. When citizens stormed Parliament for 9 minutes last year, it was less of a surprise than a loud sign of deep public mistrust. The protest wasn't just about the

unpopular Finance Bill. It reflected a profound frustration with a leadership that had chosen to ignore their constitutional duty to listen to the public. With two years left to the next General Election, the Kenya Kwanza administration is not out of the raging storm yet.

This week, the Justice, Human Rights and Constitutional Affairs State Department in the Office of the Attorney General launched consultations on the Public Participation Bill (2025).

Designed well, the Bill may offer a timely opportunity to institutionalise inclusive, transparent and accountable public engagement so necessary now, to rebuild trust. The Bill seeks to establish a minimum legal framework for public participation, vest oversight in a Public Participation Register and County Directors and create standards for public participation plans, reports, and feedback mechanisms. It will require state agencies to inform, engage and listen to the views of all stakeholders and especially women, youth, persons with disabilities, minorities, and marginalised groups.

It encourages not just physical meetings but online submissions through a diverse range of social media platforms and applications. Public authorities will be legally required to provide civic education, publish proposals, report on participation outcomes, and demonstrate how public input was used. There will be fines for non-compliance and dispute resolution mechanisms.

The bill could consciously adopt the language of co-creation not merely

consultation. It is not information that is missing today, but co-ownership. The bill must frame its intent within the constitutional framework of protecting the freedom of expression, assembly, and association during participation processes.

Early and continuous engagement, not just consultation at the end of decision-making is crucial. There must be more clarity around the use of artificial intelligence and open-source technology. Gen Z activist and coder Rose Njeri, who was wrongfully arrested in May, needs to be at the centre of designing this bill. She and many others like her might share how natural language processing tools capable of translating complex "policy-ese" in simple documents, chatbots that answer questions 24/7, how to reach and educate millions of young people, analyse thousands of public feedback submissions and create mass feedback loops. Sounds familiar?

Despite the absence of nane nane public protests yesterday, HMS Kenya remains in its greatest governance storm to date. Violins on the upper deck may have prevented the captain from hearing the approaching iceberg but it didn't protect the Titanic from an epic end.

The great fault-line is not the lack of information or even citizen's trust in the state. It is the absence of a multi-layered state with modern capacities to interact with its citizens. We squander the promise of this bill and a new sunrise at our peril.

-irungu.houghton@amnesty.or.ke



KEN OPALO

We should design a 21st century Kenyan education system

Education serves multiple functions. The first and most important function of education is to mold responsible members of society.

Societal harmony is paramount and achievable through deliberate investments in formation through the education system. Second, education serves to impart specific skills required in the labour market.

Third, education can be used as a means of screening types of people - persevering through the education system to completion may signal patience and grit. Finally, education ought to teach students how to learn. Among other things, to live a full life is to forever remain open to learning new things.

Given these multiple functions of education, the design of an education system speaks volumes about a society's values and aspirations. If you want to know if a country prizes national cohesion and equal opportunity, look at the education system. If you want to assess the commitment to human capital development for the labour force, look at the curriculum.

With this in mind, it is worth asking: if one looked at our education system and the curriculum, what would they learn about our national values and aspirations?

Unfortunately, such an exercise would expose uncomfortable facts about us as a people. First off, we have given in to inequality. Our public education system is not designed to be a conduit for cultivating shared national values and cohesion.

The rich, including those who design the system, do not send their children to public schools. They send them to private schools whose main selling point is that they teach foreign curriculums.

The effect is that future Kenyan elites barely get taught their own history, and if they do it is often in the worst possible manner and from a foreign perspective.

Overall, public schools are not designed to produce excellence. Classes are overcrowded. Teachers are overworked and not properly incentivised. The curriculum is jumbled, and keeps morphing depending on the mood of senior officials at the Ministry of Education. Total failure is not aberration, but something structurally baked into the education system.

The saddest thing about our current situation is that we can do much better. We can design an education system that, despite our level of income, can give future generations a fair shot at prosperity. All that this requires is for us to step back and abandon the sunk cost fallacy.

The basic fact of the matter is that we erred a great deal in the design and implementation of the most recent curriculum reforms. The whole effort was driven by naive copying from foreigners and a fair amount of grifting by senior government officials. It is high time we accepted that and scrapped the whole thing.

Let us start afresh. All it should take is the president getting a small team of volunteers who are education experts, together with major stakeholders in the sector, and designing a new curriculum that can easily be grafted onto the system that we are familiar with. Again, it is not too late to do right by our future generations.

-The writer is a professor at Georgetown University

Wanga has a full plate, and folks are talking



MARK OLOO

In just three days, my home county of Homa Bay will be hosting the 2025 Devolution Conference.

It may look like a political stunt but holding such an event in a 'rising' county like ours is a good way to celebrate devolved power. President William Ruto, ODM chief Raila Odinga and the 47 governors will address this annual stock-taking meeting themed 'devolution as a catalyst for equity and inclusion.'

For the record, Homa Bay has hosted prime events in recent months. There was an investment conference in February last year graced by Dr Ruto. Then came Madaraka Day last June, not to mention cultural festivals and spirited sports tournaments.

It confirms that this lakeside county is now a destination ripe for investments, national dis-

course and cultural tourism. Yet it hasn't always been this way. Between 2013 and 2022, Homa Bay was a laughing stock in Kenya's devolution script.

Ghost projects, cronyism, sycophancy and dancing at rallies were the norm. The leadership was disconnected from the people. At one point, a top official accused of ineptitude sarcastically asked residents if they expected him to 'milk cows in every home' to prove he was working.

In another chilling case, a story is told of how top officials 'launched' a water project in Suba with much fanfare, only for locals to discover that the tap, photographed gushing freshwater, was actually fed by a bowser hidden in a nearby thicket. It was a movie with a script and full cast.

Since 2022, however, a glimmer of hope has returned under Governor Gladys Wanga and her deputy Oyugi Magwangwa.

That is why hosting the 2025 devolution forum is a moment to dream big. I speak here not just for myself but for the many patriotic 'Omabei' men and women.

You can take someone out of the village, but you can't take the village out of them. The villager in me dreams of a perfect county, with

paved roads and well-lit alleys in Mirogi, Ori, Kadel, Kosele and every other town, much like what was done in Kakamega by Wycliffe Oparanya.

Small projects with bigger impact on production. Solar lamps in markets, equipped health facilities and all-weather roads. Atieno, the Wanjiku of Homa Bay, must be supported to overcome her struggles.

Based on household consumption and access to food and water, the county's poverty rate is 45.6 per cent. It's a sobering reminder that more must be done!

Speaking of roads, I often spend nights in Ndihiwa town whenever it rains because the road to my home in Pala Koguta is impassable. Last paved during MP Orwa Ojode's time, the 20km county-managed route is now a cautionary tale. Traders stranded, commuters frustrated and the local economy crippled a decade into devolution. Are we children of a lesser god?

Homa Bay, like many counties, must boldly confront the ghosts of graft. An EACC report released Tuesday names it among counties plagued by bribery. Corruption is a serious calamity. With MPs approving Sh405 billion as equitable share, the 47 devolved units must spend prudently.

Governor Wanga has done well. Avid critics like Odoyo Owidi will agree. We've seen changes in ECD, reforms in revenue collection, youth empowerment, fish processing, construction of stadia and others. But she could have done way better had it not for the demands of national politics.

For the ODM chairperson, 2027 is lofty. As the General Election approaches, she faces what political scientists call leadership overstretch. She will spread herself too thin and lose focus on Homa Bay's affairs where our real interests lie. Distraction is an enemy of progress.

Skeptics 'kwa ground' say they would rather have a quiet but results-driven county than one chasing national spotlight while its in-tray overflows with unresolved issues. There is an innocent call. They want their governor more grounded at home.

Let's hope Ms Wanga will defy looming high-stakes political distractions. She is, first, our governor before other ambitions. But if she can multi-task and still deliver on her pledges, then it's worth a stab. God-speed.

-The writer is a communications practitioner. X:@markoloo

MEASURABLE GROWTH

Why Gen Z must demand a reset from sloganeering to Vision 2050



GACHARA KAMANGA

GOVERNANCE EXPERT AND A STATISTICIAN



Without rigorous evaluations and reporting, feel-good stories about development mean very little.

When President Mwai Kibaki took office in 2003, he launched the Economic Recovery Strategy (ERS), shifting national focus from poverty alleviation to wealth creation.

I was privileged to contribute to this shift, working with the Ministry of Planning to establish a Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate. That ERS laid the groundwork for the more ambitious Kenya Vision 2030, a holistic development plan I helped shape.

Today, we stand at another critical juncture. It is time for us to refocus fully on Vision 2030. Gen Z must embrace it as a northern star to guide their lobbying and agitation. They deserve results, as articulated in Vision 2030, not just empty promises.

Kenya's youth must insist on more than political slogans and glossy manifestos. They must demand bold strategies, transformative policies, and measurable outcomes in every sector. From agriculture and healthcare to trade, tourism, education, and governance. Most importantly, they must know how these outcomes will be achieved and how progress will be measured and reported.

Vision 2030 must engender a culture of results. Development isn't about abstract hopes. It's about outcomes that improve lives: better health, more food security, reduced poverty, and increased employment. If you can't measure it, you can't improve it. Take food poverty. In 2014, 30.7 per cent of Kenyan households reported lacking food or money to buy food. By 2022, this dropped slightly to 28.8 per cent. That's still

unacceptably high. Nearly one in three households. We must aim to reduce that figure to below 10 per cent by 2030, with milestone targets set for every five years. At the county level, similar plans should be in place.

But none of these targets matter if they're not matched by serious, transparent budgeting. Sadly, most County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) and even some national-level strategies are not tightly linked to their budgets. Too often, we see loosely defined outputs with no connection to real outcomes. This must change. Between 2004 and 2010, I had the privilege of working on multi-million-dollar programmes under the USAID-PEPFAR initiative in Kenya and Uganda. Each funded activity had to prove its contribution to specific outcomes. Budgets were clear, rational, and tied to strategic goals. That's the level of rigour Kenya needs in national and county budgets. We also need a new conversation about revenue. Counties have become overly dependent on national allocations, while local revenue collection remains uncreative.

We must foster Public-Private Partnerships that allow citizens, from wealthy investors to smallholder farmers, to own shares in development ventures. For example, a national coffee aggregation and marketing initiative could free farmers from intermediaries and boost their earnings, just as Tanzania's late President Magufuli did with cashew farmers. Procurement reform is non-negotiable. In the US, contracting officers are personally liable for malpractices

in procurement. We need similar accountability here. Those who sign contracts must be held responsible when things go wrong. Until that happens, billions will keep leaking through inflated, politicised projects.

Finally, a proper development plan must include Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL). Every five-year development plan should come with a robust MEL framework, not just for formality, but to drive real learning and accountability. Regular data reviews, stakeholder reflection sessions, mid-term reviews, and end-term evaluations must become the norm. Right now, many of these MEL plans are very weak on measures of real change or outcomes, no analyses of change, and no learning loops.

When you hear people say, "devolution has done well," ask: based on what evidence? Is teen pregnancy falling? Is food poverty declining? Are incomes rising? Are public expenditures tied to real change?

Gen Z, this is your future. Visioning should not be implemented solely by bureaucrats behind closed doors. It should be co-implemented by young people, professionals, farmers, entrepreneurs, and citizens across every sector. Visioning is not a luxury. It's a necessity. And results-based governance is not a Western idea. It's a global best practice. If we want Kenya to leap forward, we must make results the language of development. It's time to ask: what is our collective vision for Kenya in 2050? And what are we doing today to build it?

Join the discussion on twitter
@standardKenya

Our youth should be empowered from bottom up



JOHN ODERO

Next week on August 12 will be the International Youth Day, a moment of reflection when the world acknowledges the vital role young people play as agents of change.

Across Kenya and much of Africa, a generation is stepping forward, clear in its demands, bold in its vision, and determined to shape the future on its own terms.

Young people are organising in their communities, building businesses, conducting leadership and governance forums, and creating pathways for their peers. They bring with them energy, clarity, and a deep understanding of their challenges. For too long, youth development efforts have struggled to reach those furthest from formal opportunity. Too many programmes are designed in boardrooms, far from the informal settlements, rural wards, and border counties where unmet need is greatest. This distance, in geography and in lived experience, is a key reason why so many initiatives fail to resonate.

While all youth face barriers to opportunity, these systems are especially exclusionary for young women, refugees, and persons with disabilities. The very structures that leave youth behind are often harsher for those navigating compounding forms of marginalisation.

Without deliberate inclusion and leadership from these communities, development efforts risk deepening inequality. That is why it is critical to build with, not just around, their lived experience, ensuring that programmes reflect their realities, aspirations, and the wisdom they already hold.

Their new call for 'nothing for us, without us' offers a path forward. It reminds us that lasting solutions come not from delivering services to youth, but from building power with them. Across Kenya, this is already happening. Young people are organising peace dialogues in historically divided counties.

They are facilitating community forums, launching cooperatives, and building networks of peer support and economic inclusion. These efforts often begin with few resources but grow quickly, because they are grounded in trust, relevance, and the urgency of lived experience. Take, for example, the Youth Voice Empowerment (YVE) initiative led by the Shinning Hope for Communities (Shofco) in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation, which has established youth-led platforms in hundreds of informal settlements and underserved counties.

Through YVE, youth are participating in community decisions, shaping agendas, influencing policy, and opening pathways for livelihoods and leadership where few existed before. We have seen how peer-led design, consistent community feedback, and embedded local governance create systems that are responsive and resilient. Our young people are the drivers of their own development. Their work doesn't wait for formal invitations. It grows from need, connection, and courage.

This kind of bottom-up infrastructure is being recognised as essential. Mastercard Foundation's commitment to enabling 30 million young people across Africa access dignified work is grounded in a growing recognition that systems like Shofco built with, by, and for youth offer the most scalable and impactful path forward. The path ahead requires more than goodwill. It calls for real shifts in how programmes are conceived, funded, and measured. It means recognising that the most sustainable outcomes are often those built from the bottom up. This International Youth Day is a moment. We can feel the change stirring.

-The writer is Programme Director at Shofco

Demanding ecological justice is a form of worship



LYNET OTIENO

In the beginning, God created everything, plus man, who was then entrusted with stewardship of creation. This took six days, the Bible says. In Islam, the Qur'an talks of similar actions by Allah.

Meanwhile, in many congregations that we frequent for spiritual nourishment, especially in Africa, faith leaders preach principles of stewardship, mercy, and love. In the African context, the spirit of ubuntu says "I am because we are".

Our spiritual leaders, even the traditional, are tasked with shepherding hearts and communities to ensure justice that uplifts and sustains God's creation. At this time when the earth suffers human-induced disasters and disruptions, faith leaders must use the pulpits and altars to encourage worship, not just for prosperity, or

the place prepared in heaven for those who triumph against sin, but also ensure faith acts as the catalyst of positive change on environmental stewardship. As a matter of fact, environmental stewardship is a form of worship, with returns. Prof Wangari Maathai put it thus: "If you suffocate the earth, the earth will suffocate you."

In Ghana, Archbishop John Bonaventure Kwofie has been vocal and led environmental prayer walks to oppose illegal mining, and keeps championing responsible use of God-given resources. In Kenya, the Anglican Church is working towards increasing the country's forest cover by 10 per cent, while Hindu Council of Kenya, (Africa) have championed environmental audits and plastic reductions. It is evident that environmental stewardship cannot remain theoretical in places of worship, because they are directly linked to food security, health, and how communities live with climatic shocks. African countries bear the debt burdens, uncontrolled extraction of the continent's critical minerals, which are exported in

raw form, only to be sold back more expensively. The bilateral institutions and countries lending Africa have sometimes done so with little transparency, and in some cases tight conditions, making it impossible for the debts to directly improve people's lives.

According to the Business Insider Africa, countries that owed IMF the most as at June 2025 were Egypt (\$8.06 billion), Kenya at \$3.02 billion, Angola with \$2.75 billion, Ghana with \$2.45 billion, Ivory Coast with \$2.56 billion, to mention but a few. What part of this money directly benefits the people? How can the borrowing stop? Locally, borrowing attracts theft. But the people still pay. A 2022-2024 research by the AACC in Ghana, Tanzania, Zambia, Burundi, and Sierra Leone shows the consequences of irresponsible borrowing, particularly from opaque sources. Faith leaders must speak to power locally and globally, holding them accountable for fair resource governance, equitable borrowing, and just taxation. Their trust and reach to the grassroots and existing political and other

power is a moral capital to tackle problems such as these.

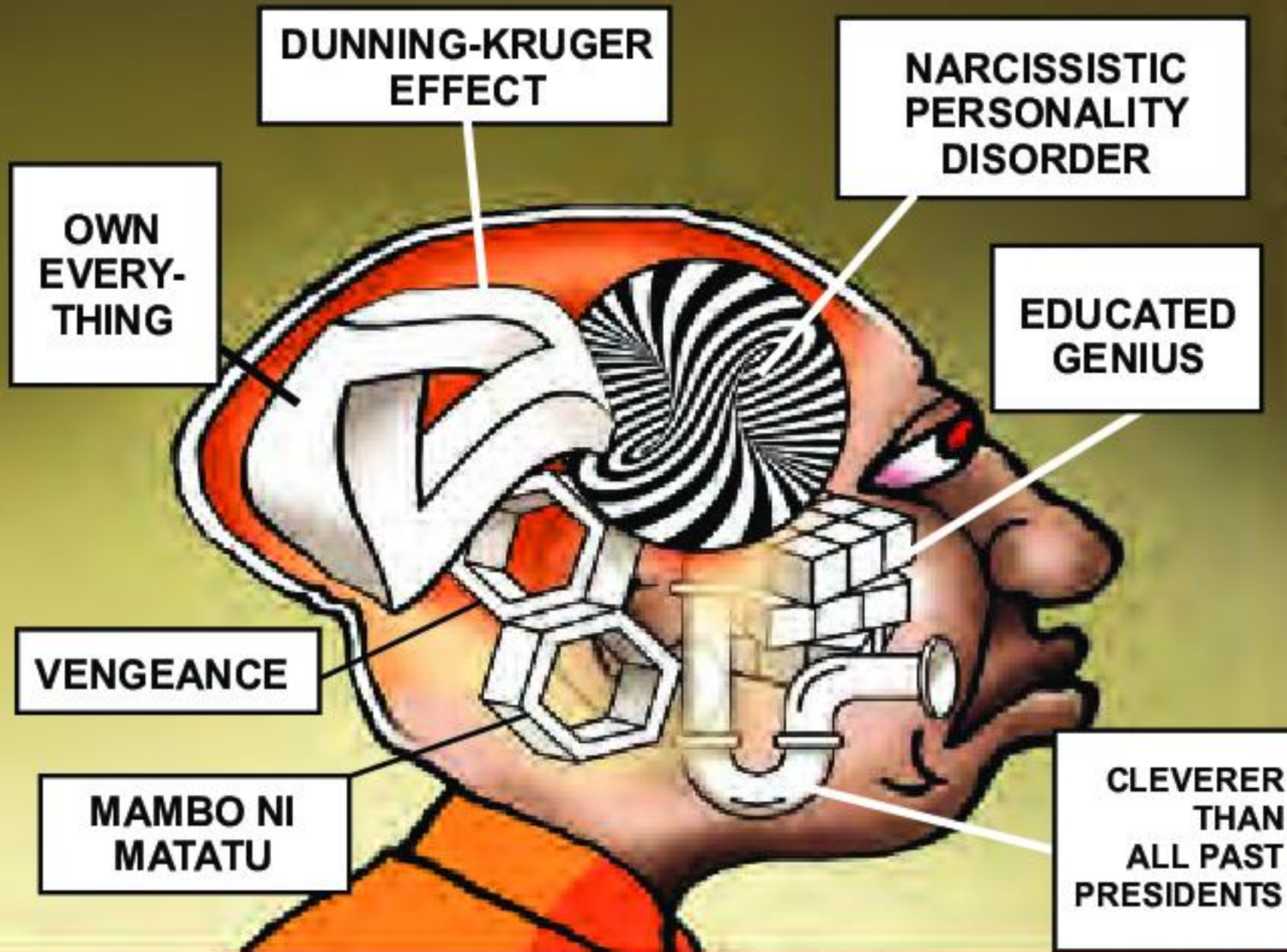
However, they must be creative, and have inclusive curricula and interfaith cooperation. They also need to collaborate with other entities. For instance, the Green Anglicans movement works with UNEP's Faith for Earth coalition through an eco-theology curricula, tree-blessing ceremonies, and theological training across 12 African nations. The Lutheran World Federation's "faith-based roadmap for climate justice" has young ambassadors engaged in mangrove restoration.

This is a conversation worth having now because of the calamities Africa faces despite contributing less than 4 per cent of global carbon emissions and the reduced political space to address this issue. Faith actors are not only part of the very communities that are most affected but also often the first responders in cases of climate disasters. Their involvement in the push for a better Africa is therefore more than crucial.

-The writer is a Contributing Editor at Mongabay.

Into the Brain of DR RUTO

Neuroscientist, Prof (Ret). Dunk Tiyiza Ph.D, has studied hominoid encephalons for centuries. He maps out these complex cranium lobes.



Nagasaki 80

The Hiroshima bombing has for decades eclipsed its twin nuclear victim of Nagasaki which was annihilated today, 80 years ago. The city wasn't the primary target. Kokura*, north of it, was "carefully" chosen for max effect.

- 1. Kokura** escapes due to bad weather. Clouds and smoke obscure aiming point.
- 2. Secondary Target, Nagasaki,** is selected.
- 3. Moments from Vaporization** ... Japanese authorities dismiss the B-29s as reconnaissance missions.
- 4. Detonation:** 11.02 August 9, 1945, 1,800 ft above the doomed city.

Fact: Immediate loss of lives: 64,000. More die later from radiation and burns.

*now Kitakyushu. This artist has visited the neighbouring Fukuoka and Hiroshima ground-zero.



Nairobi, Saturday August 9, 2025
malum cerebrum



International Day of World's Indigenous People

Raising awareness and protecting the rights of the world's indigenous populations.



Quantum Leap

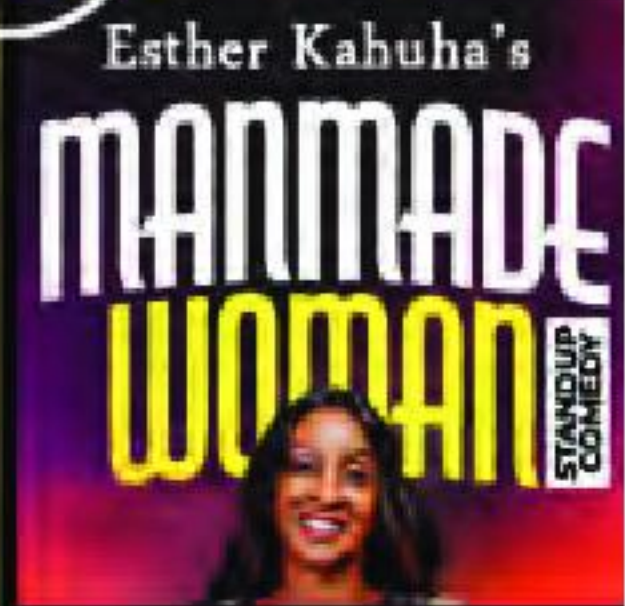
That's what Kenya needs; a redeemer, not the thieving, dynastic products of Kanu who are both in government and opposition. The Kenyan sociopolitical landscape is hostile to GenZ leadership, but the youth can choose and support a clean individual. That's only when Kenya can achieve an 'Obama' moment.



Maddo's Beefs!

- **ELEMENTS IN THE ELECTORAL AGENCY** ALLEGEDLY BLOCKED RUEBEN KIGAME IN 2022 ON FILMSY GROUNDS WHEN REALIZATION SUNK IN THAT HE WOULD GARNER A LARGE CHUNK OF CHURCH FOLLOWERS AND DENY ONE OF THE TWO LEADING CANDIDATES THE MANIPULABLE 50+1. WELL, HE'S BACK AND THE 'THREAT' HASN'T SHIFTED. JUST LIKE IN THE KANU ERA, FINDING NO SMUDGES IN ONE'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CHRONICLES, THE TAX WEAPON IS UNLEASHED.
- **THE CHAOS AT E-CITIZEN** IS A DIRECT RESULT OF LEADERS COMING INTO POWER AND IMMEDIATELY TAKING OVER SERVICE SYSTEMS SET UP BY THEIR PREDECESSORS WHOSE TIME TO EAT IS OVER. KENYA WILL ONLY PROSPER IF THE PROVIDER IS AN ENTITY AND NOT A POLITCALLY CONNECTED PRIVATE COMPANY.

■ kelemba@gmail.com ■ facebook: itsamaddmaddworld ■ X: @itsamaddworld ■ Instagram/Threads: imaddogram



Kenya National Theatre
Main Auditorium
Tomorrow Sunday at 3&6.30PM
Directed by Dennis Ndenga
Produced by Makena Kahuha
Tickets: patatix.africa
Info: 0115 789847



The loss of Motoring Pundit **Big Boy Trev** is sad. Kenya has lost an authority. That knowledgeable and likeable personality will never grace our screens again. Motor on above, my county mate.

Chan tourney offers Ruto respite from e-Citizen heist, other mega scandals



PATRICK MUINDE
DEVELOPMENT ECONOMIST



Chan comes at a time when top political leaders of the three host nations, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, are suffering from public distrust for gross violations of human rights, especially against their opponents...



President William Ruto follows the Kenya v DR Congo match at Kasarani Stadium on August 3, 2025. [Stafford Ondego, Standard]

Unlike his other unsubstantiated self-appropriated successes against his predecessors, President William Ruto rightfully earns the bragging rights for pulling through hosting rights for major continental sporting events into Kenyan soil. The thrilling exploits of the national team, Harambee Stars, at the Moi International Sports Centre, Kasarani, is a welcome distraction from the annoying e-citizen and other mega scandals unravelling from the Auditor-General's reports.

Whether Harambee Stars will make it to the finals or not, the African Nations Championship (Chan) offers Kenyans, and the East Africa region in general, a rare opportunity to enjoy a moment of nationhood and entertainment. This comes at a time when top political leaders of the three host nations, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, are suffering from public distrust for gross violations of human rights, especially against their opponents or critiques.

This week, despite scares that football fans may take the 'Wantam' crusade to Kasarani, to embarrass the Kenya Kwanza administration, Kenyans have proved that they are resilient and could exercise restrained at opportune moments to showcase the best of our country. Political foes and citizens alike have shared a platform to cheer the national team.

This re-affirms the well acknowledged and documented power of sports to unify people, cultures and ideas for the long-term good of a society. For example, it is well accepted that

one of the genius of Nelson Mandela was to exploit the Rugby World Cup of 1995 to heal the wounds of apartheid and bring a divided country together. In his book, "Invictus: Nelson Mandela and the Game That Made a Nation", John Carlin explores how Madiba rallied a divided and wounded country in supporting their rugby national team, the Springboks.

On June 24, 1995, South Africa won that World Cup at Ellis Park, Johannesburg, against their formidable opponents, the New Zealand. This was not just a win, but a moment that turned hearts away from the pain of years of the atrocities of apartheid.

In a speech delivered at a conference on May 4, 2010, in Dubai, former United Nations Secretary-General, the late Kofi Annan, asserted that sports can help nations and the world at large not only to address the challenges of prejudice, heal divisions and champion tolerance, but also to drive growth and development.

According to Annan, in addition to bringing huge economic benefits to local communities, sports also bring about social change, shape societies and the world for good.

He admitted that as a Secretary-General of the UN, they often held some jealousy on the power and universality of sports. For instance, at a time when the UN had a membership of 192 members, FIFA had subscriptions of 208 member states.

In separate article posted on February 8, 2018, Mark Ein, the founder and CEO of Venture House refers to sports as better placed to deliver the theme

for the World Economic Forum of January 2018, on creating a shared future in a fractured world. Ein opined that in stadiums or fields where we play and exercise together, offer the most powerful platforms to unite us as a people, regardless of our beliefs.

However, beyond the joy and excitement that comes with hosting major regional or international sporting events, economists have no consensus as to whether the host country benefits or loses overall. For example, outside the fields, how does the East Africa co-host economies of the Chan 2024 benefit?

In an article published in the International Journal of Advances in Engineering and Management on February 2025, Adam Popek, examines the long-term benefits of large sports events like Olympics or FIFA World cup to host nations. These long term benefits includes increased sports participation, infrastructure development, economic investments in sports and cultivation of local talents.

Other studies have highlighted attraction of tourists and development of the hospitality sub-sector, initiation of important infrastructure projects and showcasing a country and her cities. This is arguably true for countries like South Africa, that not only did significant improvements of her sporting facilities, but also enhanced their public transport system in the run-up to the 2010 FIFA World Cup.

The 2008 Beijing Olympics also led to major improvements of public transport systems not only in Beijing city, but for other cities of China. However,

for other economists, the huge costs on the investments necessary to host such events more outweighs the benefits that they produce. This is because sports infrastructure are quite expensive, their maintenance costs high, they take-up high value real estate and lack adequate post-event uses to cover the maintenance costs.

Often, host countries, especially developing ones end up diverting public investments from more inclusive growth programmes or leave the government with huge debts. A good case in point here is the Sh44.7 billion loan facility that Kenyans will have to pay for the Talanta Stadium long after Chan and African Cup of Nations 2027. Quantified into their resultant opportunity costs of public spending, economists argue that overall, the host country is left worse-off, even for advanced economies.

From the foregoing evidence, one may then wonder how economic history will judge President Ruto's legacy for pulling a feat that the former President Daniel Moi could not pull in 1996 and Uhuru Kenyatta in 2018. Either former President Mwai Kibaki shied away from attempting it all together or relied on his economic mind to keep off such enormous sporting investments.

While it is too early to evaluate what the hosting of these major regional football tournaments will cost and the resultant benefits for the East Africa Community (EAC) economies, three factors will be defining, especially for Kenya.

First, the bragging rights for the leaders of the region have been earned for their keeps. They have done what their predecessors could not achieve and placed the EAC as a football powerhouse that the rest of the continent will have to content with in the coming years. If the three co-host sustain the momentum and successfully host African Cup of Nations in 2027, then we must remove our hats in their honour.

Second is whether the three or either of the presidents of the co-host nations shall be able to exploit the unifying power of the game to heal internal conflicts at home and mend trade rivalry among the EAC member states. To realise long-term economic benefits for individual countries and collectively for the region, the public goodwill demonstrated in our stadiums will need to permeate into boardrooms where the future of the region is discussed and analysed.

Finally, and especially for Kenya, given the unravelling levels of plunder in almost all the public projects or programmes of the last three years, any economic rents padded into the infrastructure developments will be a sure deal breaker. Driven by the urgency of the projects in line with strict timelines provided for hosting rights, the renovations and procurement of the contractors have been done outside public scrutiny.

So far, the cost of the Talanta Sports City project, including potential conflict of interest in the acquisition of the land on where it sits, has opened a lid that this would be one of the most expensive sporting facility in the world. The odds are that wheeler dealers will be walking away with billions by the time we are done with the tournaments. We can only hope that future public audits shall not unravel the horrors that we have to endure from the ongoing scandals.

The Standard Counties

Business. Kenya pushes for ban on toxic pesticides. Page 22



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TAITA TAVETA

Public CS Ruku: 23 counties hit by drought, famine

At least 23 counties are currently facing famine and severe drought that are expected to affect sectors such as education, health and agriculture.

Public Service, Human Capital Development and Special Programmes Cabinet Secretary Geoffrey Ruku said the affected counties are in arid and semi-arid areas.

However, Ruku said there was enough relief food in the Strategic Food Reserve and that no one would die of starvation. He did not, however, reveal how many Kenyans are affected.

Ruku said the government has scaled up relief distribution in drought-stricken areas, adding that relief supplies would be enhanced next week under the social programme.

The CS assurance comes at a time when Taita Taveta leaders are advocating for the implementation of a school feeding programme to cushion families hit by famine.

"There is no cause for alarm. We have enough food in the strategic reserves for 23 counties facing hunger and drought, and no one will sleep hungry or die of hunger," said Ruku.

Taita Taveta County is facing an extreme, prolonged drought that has affected the socio-economic status of the local economy, which entirely depends on rain-fed agriculture.

Yesterday, Ruku distributed 300 bags of rice and 260 bags of beans to hundreds of famine-stricken residents in Mwatate Sub-County.

Present were MPs Peter Shake (Mwatate), Rindikari Mghambi (Buuri), Gitonga Murungara (Tharaka), County Commissioner Josephine Onunga and several MCAs in the region.

Onunga admitted that the drought had devastating effects on the education and ranching sectors, adding that the region has not harvested food crops in six seasons.

Shake and Rong'e Ward Representative Dorcus Mlughu said that school-going children were collapsing in schools due to hunger pangs.

The MP said that the famine has exacerbated the high dropout rate, low enrolment rate and poor performance in national examinations.

"Human-wildlife conflicts have increased as marauding elephants and lions break out of Tsavo to raid people's settlement areas in search of water and food," said Shake.

[Renson Mnyamwezi]

Petition filed seeking to declare Kemsas CEO unfit to hold office

► The Petitioners seek to nullify Dr Waqo's appointment claiming he participated in the 2022 polls while still holding a senior role at the Ministry of Health.

► They claim he offered himself for election as MP in Marsabit County without relinquishing his civil service job.

NANCY GITONGA, NAIROBI

Nakuru-based doctor Magare-Gikenyi and two others have filed a petition in court seeking to nullify the appointment of Waqo Dulacha Ejersa as chief executive officer of Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (Kemsas).

In the suit filed at the Employment and Labour Relations Court, Dr Magare, activist Dishon Mogire and Philemon Nyakundi want the court to find that Waqo's appointment is null and void, alleging that he violated the Constitution by participating in the 2022 General Election as a candidate while still holding a senior role at the Ministry of Health.

According to the petitioners, it is an undisputed fact that Waqo, having been appointed at the Ministry of Health in 1996, failed to resign as required by the Constitution and the law.

He offered himself for election as MP in Marsabit County in the 2022 General Election without relinquishing his public service post.

"He was a civil servant. He contested for an MP seat in Saku Constituency under Jubilee Party (formerly TNA) without resigning as required by law," says Dr. Magare.

"That alone disqualifies him from any future appointment in public service. It's not a technicality, it's a constitutional breach."

The petitioners allege that not only was this a violation of the Constitution, but it was also a deliberate deception and abuse of office.

The petition cites Article 99(2) of the Constitution, which states that a public officer must resign at least six months before a general election if they intend to run for office.

Gazette Notice No. 7995, dated June 30, 2022, listed Waqo as a candidate, yet there is no public record or evidence of his resignation.

"He flouted the law, lost the election, and went back to the Ministry of Health through the backdoor," says petitioner Magare.

"Now he's been handed the top job at Kemsas, how can we speak of integrity in public service?"

Waqo garnered 6,441 votes, coming in second to Col (Rtd) Rasso Dido Ali, and, according to court documents, "quietly or otherwise resumed his duties at the Ministry of Health" after the electoral defeat. Just weeks later, he was appointed CEO of Kemsas, a move the petitioners say is riddled with procedural and legal irregularities.

"This is a textbook case of constitutional viola-



Kemsas Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Waqo Dulacha Ejersa. [Boniface Okendo, Standard]

1996

WHEN Waqo Dulacha Ejersa was appointed to the Ministry of Health, he was alleged to have vied for a parliamentary seat in 2022 while holding a senior role in the ministry.

tion and institutional failure," states Nyakundi, the third petitioner.

"Kemsas, the Ministry of Health, the Public Service Commission, all these bodies failed in their due diligence."

Further, the petition reveals that Waqo was later "rewarded" through elevation to the rank of Senior Deputy Director of Medical Services in August 2024 and ultimately appointed CEO of Kemsas by the Board, despite earlier Cabinet-level efforts to appoint another candidate.

Documents attached to the petition show that following an interview conducted on June 28, 2024, the Kemsas board shortlisted

three candidates, Andrew Mutava Mulwa, Waqo Dulacha Ejersa, and Hussein Adan Mohammed.

The then Cabinet Secretary for Health, Susan Nakhumicha, endorsed Dr Mulwa and formally sought concurrence from the Head of Public Service on July 9, 2024, citing satisfaction with the process.

However, following the abrupt dissolution of the Cabinet on July 11, 2024, the Kemsas board is said to have ignored the Cabinet Secretary's nominee and instead appointed Waqo through a letter dated July 23, 2024. The petitioners argue this action was illegal.

"This amounted to a usurpation of the CS's powers," the petitioners argue. "The board acted ultra vires its mandate and knowingly appointed an individual lacking in personal integrity as defined under Chapter Six of the Constitution."

The lawsuit lists 11 respondents, including Waqo, Kemsas the Ministry of Health, the Public Service Commission, the EACC, and the Attorney General.

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) has also been named as an interested party for having cleared Waqo to run in 2022 without ensuring compliance with Article 99. The petition is pending hearing.

newsdesk@standardmedia.co.ke

READING THE TIMES

Want students to learn language? Revive the lost art of letter writing



EGARA KABAJI



Writing letters sharpens grammar and vocabulary. It encourages critical thinking and emotional intelligence and teaches structure, clarity, and empathy. And yes, it is deeply enjoyable.

Prof Kabaji is a writer, educationist, and researcher based at Masinde Muliro University. He is also the Vice President of the Pan African Writers Association and the Chancellor of Mt Kigali University, Rwanda.

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I was recently shocked to learn that a friend's daughter had been beaten black and blue by her teachers in a secondary school for being found in possession of a love letter to a boyfriend! How have things changed so drastically in our schools, where an innocent act of letter writing has been criminalised? I read the letter. The imagery was vivid, the command of language superb. As a teacher of English, I would score it ninety-eight per cent. What, then, is not happening in our schools?

As a student at Chavakali High School in the 1980s, I witnessed the golden age of handwritten letters. Those fragile sheets of paper carried more than just ink; they bore emotion, humour, wisdom, longing, and sometimes heartbreak. Letter writing was deeply embedded in our school culture. It nurtured not only communication but also patience, creativity, and human connection.

Fridays were sacred at Chavakali. That was the day we congregated to await the distribution of letters. The prefect in charge would climb atop an elevated table and read out the names of the lucky recipients. If your name was called regularly, you became an instant celebrity. You walked with a certain gait, classmates watching you with admiration, some envious, others curious. Was it a girl from Bunyore? Lugulu? Butere Girls School?

Not everyone was lucky. I remember one classmate whose name was never read out. Not once. Every week, his face betrayed the same quiet longing. Then one Friday, something changed. His name rang out across the crowd, and we erupted in applause. It felt like he had won a medal. But curiosity got the better of us. Who had written to him? We speculated wildly. Was it a secret admirer, a budding romance, or a girl from far away? The truth stunned us.

He had written the letter to himself, sneaked out of school, and posted it. Desperate to belong, he orchestrated his own moment of glory. We, the senior students, were initially furious. This was blasphemy! But in the end, we found it clever and amusing. We demanded compensation: three loaves of bread. He obliged. We kept his secret from the Form Ones, who would have mocked him mercilessly.

That comical episode speaks volumes about the place of letters in our emotional and intellectual growth. Letter writing was more than an activity. It was a rite of passage. Through it, we honed grammar and mastered sentence structure. We learned to be articulate, to reflect, and to be human. Today, that culture has been deliberately buried by teachers and parents alike.

In many schools, students are not allowed to write letters to one another. Teachers, fearing moral decline or dis-



daily@standard.com

Writing letters can improve a learners language. [File, Standard]

traction, have banned what was once a healthy and educational exercise. The result? A generation of students who may know how to type but struggle to express themselves thoughtfully and beautifully.

We must bring back letter writing in our schools, not as a nostalgic indulgence, but as a deliberate pedagogical strategy. Writing letters sharpens grammar and vocabulary. It encourages critical thinking and emotional intelligence and teaches structure, clarity, and empathy. And yes, it is deeply enjoyable.

More than that, letter writing is a creative form of expression. Literature is replete with epistolary works. Mariama Bâ's *So Long a Letter* is a seminal text, exploring the layered emotions of womanhood, loss, and friendship through correspondence. In Kenya, Barack Wandera's *Dear Anita* offers a similar intimacy. From the West, Alice Walker's *The Colour Purple* is another striking example. These are not just letters; they are literature.

Through such writing, students can begin to see the letter not merely as a message, but as a creative form. There is also an economic opportunity hiding in plain sight. If letter writing were revived in schools, the Postal Corporation of Kenya could rise from its slumber. Imagine a scenario where schools across the country encouraged weekly or monthly exchanges of letters. Imagine inter-school pen pals, national competitions, and creative writing workshops. Imagine schools working with post offices to send and receive these letters, complete with stamps, postmarks, and delivery schedules.

This would reignite interest in writing. It would also revive a struggling parastatal. The Postal Corporation could rebrand itself as an educational partner and create school-friendly letter-writing kits, provide stationery, and reward the best letters at the county and national levels.

But that would require vision. It would require a partnership between the Ministry of Education and the Postal Corporation. Sadly, these two institutions operate in silos. The tragedy is not that we lack resources. It is that we lack imagination.

We spend billions on infrastructure and technology, yet overlook the simplest and most effective tools for learning. In our race toward digital supremacy, we have discarded practices that ground us in thought, discipline, and authenticity. A handwritten letter slows you down. It forces you to think and demands clarity. And yes, it leaves a mark, not just on paper, but on the soul.

I suggest we bring back letter writing in our language programme. Schools should designate specific days for letter writing and encourage students to correspond under guided supervision, with clear boundaries. Teachers need to learn how to mentor, not police. Future generations will thank us.

In an age of instant messaging, TikTok videos, and fleeting trends, the handwritten letter may seem quaint, like a relic. But it is precisely this "slowness" that makes it powerful. It is criminal to deny our children the chance to write again and learn the language of thought, reflection, and human connection.

HISTORY

Ibadan carries a history unruffled by tech, the city that remembers

Driven by a desire to explore Nigeria's literary history beyond Lagos, I travelled to Ibadan, once the country's foremost university town. Located in Oyo State, it was home to Nigeria's first university, established in 1948.

Ibadan is steeped in cultural heritage. It was here that the Mbari Club flourished in the 1960s and 70s—a hub where luminaries like Chinua Achebe, Wole Soyinka, JP Clark, and South Africa's Es'kia Mphahlele gathered to debate and create.

The city once hosted the West African offices of Oxford University Press and Heinemann.

Books were more than commodities in Ibadan—they were cultural currency. Bookshops served as intellectual salons, spaces of encounter and exchange. Among the places I visited, the University of Ibadan Bookshop stood out. I lingered longest there, captivated by its eclectic shelves—novels, journals, pamphlets, monographs—offered with little fanfare but profound significance.

In an age of digitised publishing, this analogue space felt radical. Walking through its aisles was to trace a history of African thought, written and produced on its own terms. Despite flood damage in 2019 that destroyed valuable stock and equipment, the bookshop endures, defiantly. Its ageing walls hold decades of African storytelling, theory and critical discourse. Staff members are visibly proud and eager to help.

As a scholar of African literature, I see bookshops like this not just as retail spaces but as hybrid cultural ecosystems—part library, part archive, part community hub. They offer a snapshot of Nigeria as a print nation. The abundance of journals across disciplines reflects an exuberant literary culture.

This rich, local discourse—grounded in language and lived experience—contrasts with African literary criticism often shaped by the global North. As scholars like Ato Quayson and Grace Musila have argued, digital platforms tend to marginalise African knowledge.

Thus, the erosion of these physical spaces isn't just nostalgic—it signals epistemic loss.

Before leaving, we climbed Bower's Tower. From its summit, Ibadan's red roofs and ancient hills unfurled—a city of layered ideas and enduring memory. Though Lagos and Abuja may now dominate Nigeria's literary map, Ibadan still matters. It is a city that archives, resists forgetting, and continues to nurture knowledge.

—The Conversation

Spare a thought for that writer with a dream and not much else



HENRY MUNENE



It is unrealistic to expect publishers – already stretched thin – to comb through hundreds of unsolicited manuscripts in search of the next literary icon.

Munene is an editorial and publishing consultant
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Most Kenyans I've met seem to harbour fond memories of their high school days – especially the set books they studied for their final-year exams. Whether at the local pub, in Parliament, in courtrooms or other public spaces, we often light up when an opportunity arises to relive the events or quote the fictional characters we encountered during our initiation into literary appreciation.

I am no exception. Many years later, I still find myself and my agemates likening people in our lives to those memorable characters from back in the day.

It was in high school that I first encountered George Orwell's work. It so happened that the Swahili translation of *Animal Farm* – Shambala Wanyama, translated by Fortunatus Kawagere – was on our set book list. The translation stirred such interest in me that I sought out the English version.

That thirst for more led me to another Orwellian gem, 1984. However, it is the much less-spoken-about *Keep the Aspidistra Flying* that remains, in my view, Orwell's finest work.

Keep the Aspidistra Flying tells the story of Gordon Comstock, a struggling writer and author of *Mice*, a collection of poetry he himself dismisses as "a sneaky little foolscap octavo".

Comstock quits his well-paying advertising job to volunteer at a small bookshop that also stocks his book. Full of hope, he eagerly takes up the role, imagining he'll witness his little book flying off the shelves.

So he waits. Every day. But buyers walk in, grab books about dog food or some other middle-class consumerist subject, and leave. Poor Comstock! He shows up at literary events only to find they were cancelled, and no one bothered to inform him. He attributes this disregard to his perpetual state of poverty. At 29, he describes himself as "already moth-eaten".

The book icily but subtly satirises England's middle-class routines and

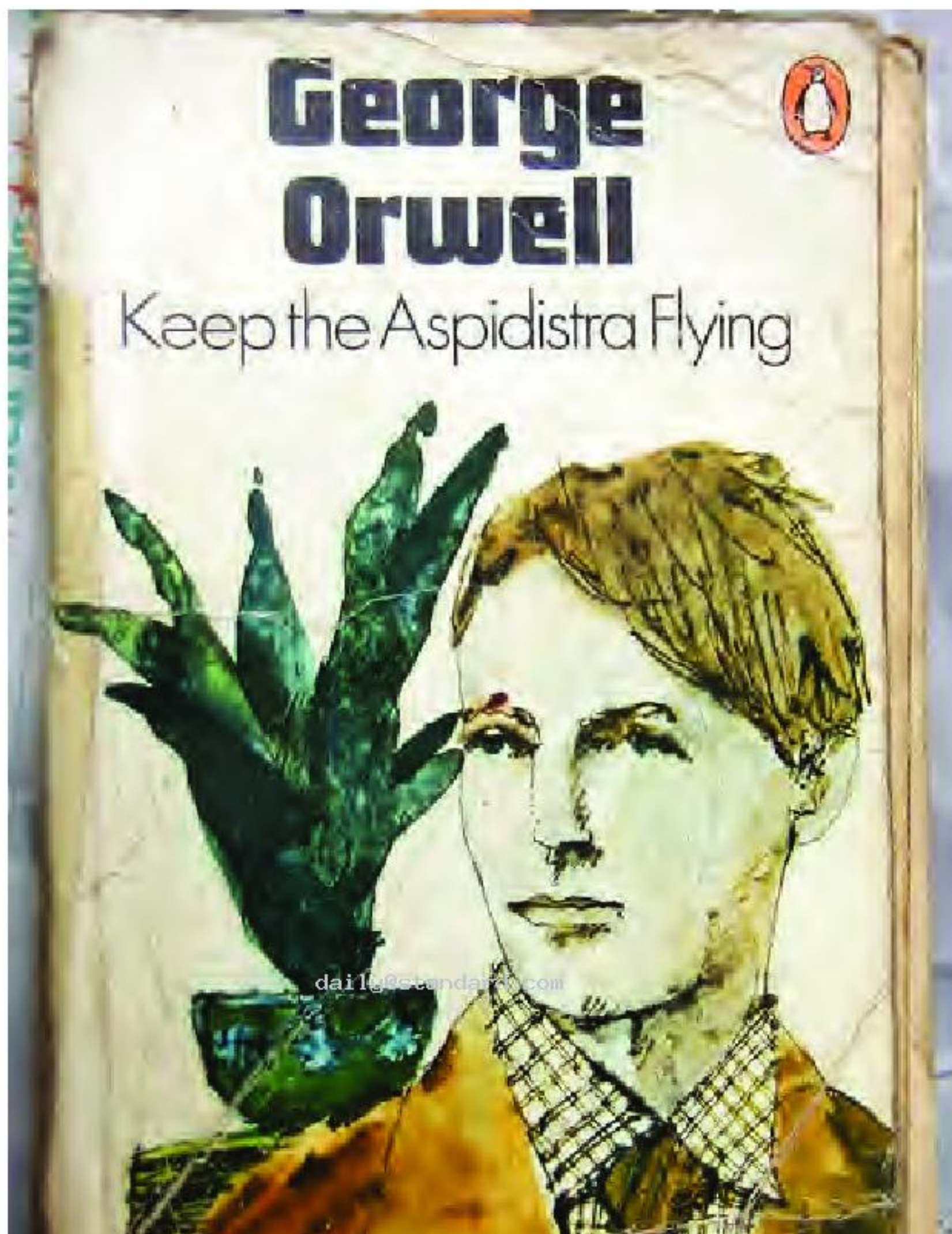


image-conscious mannerisms – especially the near-ritualistic placement of the aspidistra flower on window sills as a totem of social progress. But more profoundly, the novel is a semi-autobiographical portrayal of the absurdities faced by talented writers who are aware of their potential but remain largely unrecognised.

Here, we must spare a thought for that young Kenyan – or East African – who is immensely talented but has no idea where to begin their writing

journey. Like Comstock before them, they may be brimming with ideas but blocked by a lack of access, mentorship or even encouragement.

Yes, there are major publishing houses that evaluate synopses, queries, publishing proposals and manuscripts from upcoming writers. But to be fair, with the rollout of new curricula across the region, it is unrealistic to expect publishers – already stretched thin – to comb through hundreds of unsolicited manuscripts in search of the next liter-

ary icon while still converting curriculum designs into useful coursebooks. True, they can outsource this task, but even then, a discerning in-house eye is needed to guide the process.

To their credit, we have seen some impressive local works in recent years, alongside self-published books – especially where authors have engaged professional editors rather than relying entirely on basic tools like ChatGPT, which can produce eerily mechanical prose.

Still, one of the major setbacks to literary development is the scarcity of literary agents. These agents, often working on commission, help link writers to publishers and negotiate fair publishing deals and royalty rates. While many agents abroad would be open to reviewing Kenyan scripts, connecting our writers with them requires intentional interventions.

And this responsibility cannot rest solely on the government. Private companies, through sustainability programmes, NGOs and philanthropic foundations working with industry players could do a lot: especially to ensure that writing residencies, literary prizes, grants and other incentives that stimulate creativity are well within reach. They need not fund these; they could just organise workshops to link carefully picked budding writers with the tools they need to excel in a competitive global literary village.

Universities could also collaborate in setting up writing residences for budding authors. A shining example is the Kenya Publishers Association, which partners with Sarit Centre and Text Book Centre not only to host the annual Nairobi International Book Fair but also to sponsor the Jomo Kenyatta Prize for Literature and the Wahome Mutahi Prize for Literature. These efforts have been instrumental in nurturing Kenyan talent for close to a quarter of a century.

Other literary festivals and awards have sprung up in recent years, a trend that should be encouraged further. And these don't need to remain at the national level.

Imagine a climate action agency collaborating with publishers or county governments to organise essay competitions that raise conservation awareness while nurturing young writers. We need to spare a thought for that young Kenyan who risks walking the same path as Gordon Comstock.

Lack of access to journals for writers is a huge hindrance

In the heart of East Africa's literary landscape, a quiet crisis simmers—one that doesn't make headlines but chips away at the dreams of aspiring writers. For those with the gift of words, access to platforms that might carry their stories to the world remains elusive. International journals often welcome submissions and even offer payment, but for many East African writers, a host of barriers—lack of access, exposure, or guidance—keeps these outlets just out of reach.

It's not only a question of knowing where to submit, but of understanding what these journals are looking for. Following them closely, reading widely, interpreting editorial tastes—these are the kinds of literary literacy that

demand both time and resources. Resources many cannot afford.

And so the stories sit in notebooks, in phones, in the hearts of people waiting for the right moment—a moment that never comes.

Perhaps the time has come to invest in a new kind of infrastructure: more literary journals rooted in Africa, edited and run by Africans, open to the lived realities and rhythms of the continent. Journals that not only validate local voices, but also enrich the global literary conversation with new cadence, new memory, and new myth.

Imagine a child in a rural school opening a library shelf and seeing a journal published in Nairobi or Kampala, and thinking: one day, my

name could be in here. That spark may be all it takes. Change can also begin closer to home. Instead of the usual birthday treat—processed sweets or plastic toys—what if we gave children a book? A collection of African poems. A storybook written in their mother tongue. And if your neighbour's child recites lines from a song or spins stories with unusual flair, what harm in a word of encouragement? Sometimes, one compliment is all a writer needs to keep going.

Of course, history reminds us that literary brilliance often emerges in adversity. Great works have been scribbled on prison walls and smuggled from exile, carved into toilet paper in dark cells. Peace and solitude may

shape the finest prose, but hardship has also hardened ink into permanence.

Yet for most would-be writers, the daily grind of survival keeps creativity on the back burner. Writing becomes a luxury—postponed, neglected, forgotten.

It brings to mind Black Wadsworth, a character in V.S. Naipaul's *Miguel Street*, who watches bees for hours, convinced it marks him as a deep thinker. His dream is to write the longest poem in the world. But in the end, he admits, he was never really a writer at all.

The difference between Black Wadsworth and the child in that rural school? The latter might yet be a writer—if only someone lights the way.

[Henry Munene]



Scan here to give us feedback on these stories and more.

Smart Harvest

NUMBER OF THE WEEK

Sh822m

FARMERS' earnings last week at the Mombasa Tea Auction, where 3,496,847 kg of tea was sold.



Shift to compost revives small farmers' fortunes

One farmer is leading the way in teaching others the making of organic fertiliser from scratch.

By Brian Kisanji
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For smallholder farmers, generating meaningful returns from agriculture can be challenging, particularly in the face of the growing impacts

of climate change.

This calls for the adoption of climate-smart farming techniques to make agriculture more sustainable and resilient.

Vihiga County, which is largely agricultural and dominated by smallholder farmers who rely on their farms for both food and income, is one of the areas in need of these climate-smart solutions.

As land sizes continue to shrink and the cost of farm inputs rises, the use of organic manure is emerging as a sustainable alternative to synthetic fertilisers.

Experts are now advising farmers to embrace organic fertilisers—particularly those made from livestock manure—as a more accessible and cost-effective solution.

One farmer's plot in the Majengo area has now become a model farm, attracting other smallholder farmers eager to learn how to maximise productivity through mixed farming.

Francis Ominde has transformed his half-acre farm into a thriving model of sustainable agriculture using organic fertilisers derived from pig and cow manure mixed with plant residues.

"I relied heavily on synthetic fertilisers for over a decade, but I made the switch last year when I started keeping pigs and cows," says Ominde.

Ominde, a governance expert turned



Francis Ominde shows a heap of freshly made organic fertiliser on his farm at Majengo, Vihiga County. Inset: Ominde inspects his vegetable garden. [Brian Kisanji, Standard]

pumpkin leaves.

With an initial investment of Sh10,000, Ominde now earns regular income while also giving surplus produce to visiting farmers who come to learn from his techniques.

"The market for African leafy vegetables is massive. I sell to local vendors who supply major towns. But my main goal

isn't just profit; it's teaching other farmers how to benefit from small pieces of land," he says.

Ominde walked us through his compost-making process, which has become a daily routine on his farm.

With close to 100 pigs and several cows, he collects droppings from the pigsty and cow byres and feeds them into a biogas digester. The digester produces clean cooking gas for his home.

"After the gas is extracted, the fun part begins," he says with a smile. "I use the remains as manure on my farm."

The digester residue is then transferred into a compost pit, where he adds dry leaves, crop residues, and kitchen waste. To accelerate decomposition, he introduces microbes by adding topsoil

or previously matured compost.

"Every morning before feeding the animals, I collect the fresh waste. Composting is now part of my daily schedule," says Ominde.

He maintains compost quality by turning the pile weekly to allow aeration, control heat, and prevent foul smell.

He also manages moisture levels, sprinkling water when too dry, and adding dry matter like sawdust when too wet. After two to three months, the compost matures into dark, crumbly, and earthy-smelling material ready for use on his farm.

Ominde says the benefits of using manure are clear: healthier crops, improved soil moisture retention, and

steadily increasing yields.

"Organic farming significantly improves soil fertility by increasing levels of calcium, magnesium, potassium, and pH," he explains.

"In conventional farming, you have to buy those nutrients, something that's not sustainable."

His farm has now become a model training site for other farmers in the region. Currently, over 50 farmers in Vihiga have adopted composting and manure use after learning from him.

"I voluntarily give one or two sacks of ready compost to farmers around me to help them revive their soils," Ominde says.

His next plan is to begin selling the excess compost at affordable rates.

While a 90kg bag of well-composed manure can go for as much as Sh1,000 in the market, Ominde offers a full truckload for just Sh5,000.

"But selling is not my main goal. I want to share knowledge with every willing farmer," he emphasises.

Vihiga County currently lacks a full agricultural training institution, making resourceful farmers like Ominde crucial in promoting climate-smart farming practices.

Henry Kivai, a budding farmer learning from Ominde, says the absence of such institutions has left many farmers stranded, especially since agriculture is a devolved function.

"We are forced to learn from other successful farmers like Ominde, since accessing formal training means going as far as Bukura Agricultural Training College in Kakamega or Nandi," says Kivai. Experts agree that what Ominde is doing is a textbook example of smart farming techniques that smallholder farmers should embrace.

"Properly managed manure improves soil structure, boosts water retention, and supplies essential nutrients—cutting the need for synthetic inputs," says Caleb Amendi, an agricultural expert.

Amendi argues that manure use is a climate-smart farming practice as it promotes carbon sequestration by increasing organic matter in the soil and reduces greenhouse gas emissions associated with chemical fertilisers.

50

THE number of farmers under the guidance of Ominde who have adopted composting and manure use.

Key steps

- Ominde maintains compost quality by turning the pile weekly to allow aeration, control heat, and prevent foul smell.
- He also manages moisture levels, sprinkling water when too dry, and adding dry matter like sawdust when too wet.
- After two to three months, the compost matures into dark, crumbly, and earthy-smelling material ready for use on his farm.
- Sh2500- Current cost of 50kg chemical fertilizers from a government warehouse.
- 15-18 bags - Average yield by Ominde on his half-acre farm.

Vaccination best defence against fowl pox disease

Research shows zero cases of the disease in areas where farmers carry out routine vaccinations.



By Dr Watson Messo
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Fowl pox is a disease of birds caused by a virus called Poxviridae.

The disease is a major concern globally, with indigenously (*kienjeji*) breeds the most affected locally because they are non-vaccinated.

The disease rarely affects broilers and is common during the rainy season when flies and the insect population are high.

Biting or sucking insects spread the fowl pox virus directly through contact with infected birds through broken skin, oral or respiratory routes.

While fowl pox is a disease of chickens, turkeys, pheasants and even ducks, it can also infect the wild bird population.



It is an old disease seen on growing birds and characterised by the appearance of warts or blisters on the skin surfaces of the head, wattles, comb and can spread to the skin covering of the back and the legs.

The disease that affects the outer surfaces of the chicken is known as cutaneous fowl pox and will heal on its own without any treatment.

Infected birds recover within two weeks without any intervention. The other form will cause similar lesions but on the mucosal (inner) surfaces of the buccal cavity, respiratory linings and in rare cases, affect internal organs such as



There is no known treatment against fowl pox disease, and affected birds tend to recover on their own if there are no secondary bacterial infections.

the liver and kidneys.

The diphtheritic type may cause mortality of up to 50 per cent or more if the birds do not recover fully in two weeks.

Affected birds completely go off-feed, waste away, and eventually die. Farmers complain of poor growth rates, and if it affects birds in lay, there will be a drop in egg production.

Having an attentive worker on a farm is important. In all production systems, workers may detect signs and symptoms of a disease when birds suddenly lose interest in feed and water intake.

Birds become restless due to intense insect bites on the exposed skin on the

backs, head, and legs. Birds will also stagnate in their growth profile; they change in appearance with noticeable swellings in the eyes.

Unfortunately, most workers will rely on mortality as a key indicator of the bird's health. In case of fowl pox, mortality is seldom an issue, and in any case, a dead bird is often a sign that you are too late to intervene.

If you can watch and keep track of the earlier-mentioned traits accurately, you might be able to take actions that will prevent birds from dying.

Monitoring and keeping track of the daily mortality can warn you or your veterinarian in case of infection.

There is no known treatment against fowl pox disease, and affected birds tend to recover on their own if there are no secondary bacterial infections.

In 30 per cent of the clinical cases, there may be complications with bacterial infection; if this happens, a vet can resolve it through topical antibiotic treatment.

Any antibiotic application will need veterinary advice. Alternatively, you can spray the affected wounds with iodine or neomycin spray.

To control the disease, one must vaccinate the birds at 5-8 weeks using live vaccines applied through a wing web stab.

Vaccine manufacturers first introduced fowl pox vaccines in 1926, and the good news is that where farmers religiously vaccinate their flocks, no fowl pox has occurred.

Recently, pharmaceutical companies have developed vaccines that hatcheries can give on day one as an injection that provides lifelong immunity to the birds.

Immunisation takes place 7-10 days post vaccination. Please remember that immunisation is the best remedy for fowl pox control.

It is also important to thoroughly keep chicken houses clean and disinfected at the end of the cycle and burn any leftover poultry dust and feathers.

Finally, ensure you buy your replacement flocks from hatcheries that routinely vaccinate their breeders against this condition.

Control measures included quarantine, movement control, disinfection, good disposal of carcasses and pest and insect control strategies.

[Dr Messo is the company veterinarian, Kenchic; watsonmesso@yahoo.com]

Mwea rice farmers grapple with apple snail invasion

Rice farmers in the Mwea Irrigation Scheme, Kirinyaga County, Kenya's rice production hub, have been struggling with golden apple snails (*Pomacea canaliculata*) devastating crops since 2018.

Despite government promises through the Ministry of Agriculture for a lasting solution, the pests threaten rice yields critical to national food security.

Joseph Kamau, a Tebere Section Four farmer, said government-supplied pesticides have failed.

"We need a more effective pesticide," he urged.

Drying farms to starve snails, as suggested, is ineffective, as irrigation resumes for planting, creating breeding grounds. "The cycle persists," Kamau noted.

Peter Njogu from Wamumu reported the snails' rapid spread, destroying rice despite chemical sprays.

"We've tried everything, even hand-picking snails and eggs, but it's an uphill task," Kamau added.

Farmers hired workers and used tobacco products, yet the pests proliferate despite government-recommended chemicals.

In 2023, the government launched Biograde 330 SL to curb the infestation, but farmers like Stanley Irungu say it's ineffective.

"We adopted Biograde fully, but we're back to square one," Irungu said.

Desperate, some farmers now buy unregistered, potentially dangerous chemicals from Uganda to protect nursery crops, risking health and environmental harm.

Kirinyaga County Deputy Speaker Jinaro Njamumo, also Mutithi Ward MCA, warned of rising cancer cases linked to harmful pesticides and dam-

age to irrigation canals.

"Avoid unverified chemicals and exploitative brokers," he cautioned, noting high cancer rates tied to pesticide use. "Farmers must not be experimental objects," he added.

The snail invasion threatens Mwea's rice output, with losses up to 14 per cent. Farmers urge the government to research sustainable solutions, like biological controls, to eradicate the pests and protect livelihoods.

The apple snail, introduced to Africa through contaminated planting materials, causes yield losses of up to 14 per cent and net income reductions of 60 per cent in moderately infested areas, with severe cases seeing 50-80 per cent crop damage.

If unchecked, the pest could spread to other rice-growing regions like Ahero, potentially causing

regional losses of \$67-116 million (Sh8.66 billion to Sh14.99 billion) annually.

Farmers are calling for urgent government action, including rigorous research into sustainable solutions like biological controls—such as introducing ducks, which have proven effective in Asia by feeding on snails without harming rice—and stricter quarantine measures to prevent further spread through machinery and seeds.

The Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) and CABI recommend integrated pest management, combining physical removal, cultural practices, and farmer training.

With Mwea's rice critical to Kenya's economy, immediate action is essential to protect farmers and ensure food security.

[Jane Mugambi]

The Standard Weekend in Business



NUMBER OF
THE WEEK

SH100B
EXPECTED proceeds by the government from the sale of Kenya Pipeline Company in a bid to bolster the national budget.



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Kenya urges uniform Comesa ban on hazardous pesticides

► Agriculture CS Mutahi Kagwe tells high-profile ministerial meeting lack of uniformity is compromising regional food security.

► He calls for harmonisation of chemical safety standards and the enforcement of collective prohibitions.

IRENE GITHINJI, NAIROBI

Kenya is now calling for a regional crackdown on hazardous pesticides within the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (Comesa) bloc.

Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe has warned that the continued use of chemicals banned in some member states is compromising food safety, public health, and the integrity of regional agricultural trade.

The CS made the remarks during the 9th Joint Comesa ministerial meeting on agriculture, natural resources and environment in Lusaka on Friday. At the same time, Kagwe called for the immediate harmonisation of chemical safety standards and the enforcement of collective prohibitions on dangerous substances across all member states.

"The current situation where a pesticide banned in one country continues to be used next door completely undermines our collective sanitary and phytosanitary efforts. We are exposing our farmers, our consumers, and our markets to unnecessary and unacceptable risk," said the CS. According to Kagwe, effective regional food safety cannot be achieved without a common regulatory approach.

"Lack of consistency allows unscrupulous traders to exploit gaps in enforcement, contributing to widespread contamination and



Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe (right) during the 9th joint Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa ministerial meeting on agriculture, natural resources, and environment in Lusaka on Friday. [Courtesy]

the erosion of consumer trust in local and regional food systems," he told the meeting.

The CS said countries should not allow fragmented policies to stand in the way of the people's safety, emphasising the urgency of harmonising chemical standards in the region.

He also declared Kenya's readiness to support regional reforms, calling for bold leadership to

77

THE number of products that the Kenyan government banned from the market in crackdown on harmful pesticides in June.

transform Comesa from a "talk shop" into a functional platform for economic development, agricultural resilience, and food independence.

Other proposals from Kenya during the meeting included the sharing of agricultural technologies such as livestock vaccines, the development of protocols for cross-border trade in certified seeds, and digital innovations for agricultural planning.

But the strongest message remained clear: the time to act on hazardous agrochemicals is now.

"Let this meeting be remembered not for what we discussed, but for what we dared to do," Kagwe stated. In June, the government announced a crackdown in the country on harmful pesticides, withdrawing 77 products from the market and restricting the use of 202 more in a move aimed at safeguarding public health, food safety, and the environment.

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CORPORATE

MSMEs to get discount on new fibre connections

Safaricom has announced a 25 per cent discount on all new fibre connections.

The two-month discount, running from August to September, targets Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) located within fibre-ready buildings.

Chief Enterprise Business Officer Frankline Okata made the announcement on Friday in Nairobi during the telco's ongoing Grow with Safaricom Business forums.

"Our commitment at Safaricom Business is to power business growth through products and solutions that matter to entrepreneurs. This offer on fibre to the business will ensure MSMEs have access to the fastest, most reliable internet that matches their ambitions," said Mr Okata.

The forum, under the theme Fuelling Financial Growth through Innovation, brought together entrepreneurs from Nairobi's MSME sector.

MSMEs employ more than 80 per cent of the working population. Yet, nearly half of these businesses do not survive past their third year.

The Grow with Safaricom Business forum is designed to equip them with tools and knowledge to digitise operations, improve customer experience and scale their ventures.

Since its inception in March 2024, the forum has reached over 1,000 businesses in the Coast, Nairobi, Greater Western, Rift and Mt. Kenya regions.

Through the series, businesses exchange ideas on how they can leverage digital technologies to enhance their market reach, streamline operations, and create a strong brand presence online.

[Clare Ochieng]

COURTS

TikToker charged for extorting Sh0.5m from Co-op Bank official



Joseph Gitonga Kihanya when he appeared City Court Magistrate Grace Ouko in Nairobi yesterday. [Collins Kweyu, Standard]

A TikTok and street activist, Joseph Gitonga Kihanya, alias Gitonga Archives, was yesterday charged at a Nairobi court over allegations of extorting Sh500,000 from a Co-operative Bank employee.

Appearing before City Court Magistrate Grace Ouko, Kihanya denied the charge of demanding property with menaces, contrary to Section 302 of the Penal Code, levelled against him by the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP).

Kihanya is accused of demanding money from Amos Hunja Mwangi by threatening to tarnish the bank's reputation on social media platforms.

The court was informed that the accused had been posting defamatory content against Co-oper-

ative Bank of Kenya on his TikTok and other social media accounts. According to the charge sheet, between July 20 and July 27, 2025, within Nairobi County, Kihanya, jointly with another person not before the court, allegedly demanded money from Hunja with the intent to steal. The prosecution said Kihanya had posted claims on his TikTok account alleging that Sh1.6 billion had been stolen from client accounts at the bank. He is alleged to have contacted the complainant, Hunja, demanding payment in exchange for pulling down the post and stopping further defamatory content on the bank.

"Mr Kihanya told me plainly that if I didn't pay him Sh500,000, he would continue pushing the story online and drag the Co-operative Bank's

name through the mud," said Hunja in his statement to police. The case was first reported under OB 49/27/07/2025 at Central Police Station, Nairobi. According to a police report forwarded to the DPP, Kihanya was arrested without a warrant on July 30, 2025, and later released on a police cash bail of Sh20,000 to allow for further investigations and compilation of the case file.

After pleading not guilty, Kihanya, through his lawyers Joshua Nyamori and Black Omanga, was granted Kihanya cash bail of Sh50,000 and issued a gag order prohibiting him from publishing any defamatory statements about Co-operative Bank or its staff on any social media platforms while the case is ongoing. [Nancy Gitonga]



Tops & Flops

SAMEER	8.74	12.55	43.59%
OLYMPIA	4.48	5.40	20.54%
EVEREADY	0.94	1.06	12.77%
EAAGADS	12.50	14.00	12.00%
ORCHARDS	67.50	74.00	9.63%
STANDARD GROUP	6.52	5.94	-8.90%
KAKUZI	439.00	410.00	-6.61%
LIBERTY	10.70	10.00	-6.54%
BRITAM	8.46	8.00	-5.44%
NBV	1.80	1.72	-4.44%



Nairobi Securities Exchange | Main Investment Market



52WK HIGH	52WK LOW	AGRICULTURAL	VWAP	PREVIOUS PRICE	VOLUME
14.50	10.00	Eaagads Ltd Ord 1.25 SME	14.00	13.45	13,707
440.00	240.00	Kakuzi Plc Ord.5.00	410.00	439.00	174
350.00	81.00	Kapchorua Tea Kenya Plc Ord 5.00SME	317.75	316.50	309
430.00	320.00	The Limuru Tea Co. Plc Ord 10.00SME		310.00	-
32.60	13.60	Sasini Plc Ord 1.00	15.95	16.30	61,839
289.00	120.00	Williamson Tea Kenya Plc Ord 5.00	244.75	235.00	647
AUTOMOBILES & ACCESSORIES					
49.00	18.50	Car & General (K) Ltd Ord 5.00	24.60	23.75	173
BANKING					
20.00	10.00	ABSA Bank Kenya Plc Ord 0.50	19.85	19.70	728,470
38.00	26.50	BK Group Plc Ord 0.80	35.95	35.45	10,371
85.00	43.05	Diamond Trust Bank Kenya Ltd Ord 4.00	79.50	77.75	45,942
52.50	33.70	Equity Group Holdings Plc Ord 0.50	52.50	52.00	834,962
9.74	2.80	HF Group Plc Ord 5.00	7.30	7.38	380,949
39.00	15.80	I&M Group Plc Ord 1.00	37.30	36.75	15,333
48.50	15.00	KCB Group Plc Ord 1.00	48.35	48.05	153,659
67.00	28.50	NCBA Group Plc Ord 5.00	66.25	65.00	164,360
180.00	90.00	Stanbic Holdings Plc ord.5.00	180.75	180.00	17,435
322.00	134.00	Standard Chartered Bank Kenya Ltd Ord 5.00	321.00	319.00	18,750
18.35	10.10	The Co-operative Bank of Kenya Ltd Ord 1.00	16.95	16.80	288,246
COMMERCIAL AND SERVICES					
0.45	0.45	Deacons (East Africa) Plc Ord 2.50		0.45	-
1.88	0.59	Eveready East Africa Ltd Ord.1.00SME	1.06	1.04	245,441
5.40	2.70	Express Kenya Plc Ord 5.00	4.32	4.40	442
4.66	4.66	Homeboyz Entertainment Plc 0.50SME		4.66	-
9.18	3.83	Kenya Airways Ltd Ord 1.00	4.90	4.91	73,547
3.46	2.00	Longhorn Publishers Plc Ord 1.00	2.75	2.61	77,502
5.00	1.70	Nairobi Business Ventures Plc Ord. 0.50SME	1.72	1.71	352,229
22.40	10.60	Nation Media Group Plc Ord. 2.50	13.70	13.60	12,065
11.95	1.80	Sameer Africa Plc Ord 5.00	12.55	11.80	249,629
10.80	4.50	Standard Group Plc Ord 5.00	5.94	5.96	919
18.70	10.85	TPS Eastern Africa Ltd Ord 1.00	14.10	14.50	745
0.41	0.16	Uchumi Supermarket Plc Ord 5.00	0.31	0.29	573,729
3.95	1.80	WPP Scangroup Plc Ord 1.00	2.73	2.61	4,241
CONSTRUCTION & ALLIED					
5.55	5.55	ARM Cement Plc Ord 1.00		5.55	-
84.00	21.30	Bamburi Cement Plc Ord 5.00		54.00	-
47.00	29.00	Crown Paints Kenya Plc Ord 5.00	43.75	43.70	391
3.27	0.72	E.A.Cables Ltd Ord 0.50		1.71	-
55.75	4.38	E.A.Portland Cement Co. Ltd Ord 5.00	48.55	47.65	19,703
ENERGY & PETROLEUM					
7.52	1.94	KenGen Co. Plc Ord. 2.50	7.44	7.42	304,013
12.40	1.30	Kenya Power & Lighting Co Plc Ord 2.50	11.30	11.40	403,572
4.20	4.00	Kenya Power & Lighting Plc 4% Pref 20.00		4.10	-
6.00	6.00	Kenya Power & Lighting Plc 7% Pref 20.00		6.00	-
28.00	14.55	TotalEnergies Marketing Kenya Plc Ord 5.00	26.95	26.90	3,530
24.75	6.30	Umeme Ltd Ord 0.50	9.46	9.48	204,231
INSURANCE					
8.98	4.01	Britam Holdings Plc Ord 0.10	8.00	7.62	16,719
3.69	1.60	CIC Insurance Group Plc Ord.1.00	3.42	3.38	370,973
268.25	142.00	Jubilee Holdings Ltd Ord 5.00	260.00	264.50	20,076
2.97	1.05	Kenya Re Insurance Corporation Ltd Ord 2.50	2.25	2.25	611,717
12.20	3.30	Liberty Kenya Holdings Ltd Ord. 1.00	10.00	10.60	124,843
11.00	4.00	Sanlam Kenya Plc Ord 5.00	8.38	8.12	22,526
INVESTMENT					
16.50	7.60	Centum Investment Co Plc Ord 0.50	11.75	11.70	16,673
1.12	0.27	Home Afrika Ltd Ord 1.00	0.65	0.65	66,383
1500.00	1,500.00	Kurwitu Ventures Ltd Ord 100.00SME		1,500.00	-
5.60	1.91	Olympia Capital Holdings Ltd Ord 5.00	5.40	4.98	2,600
1.78	0.29	Trans-Century Plc Ord 0.50		1.12	-
INVESTMENT SERVICES					
10.45	5.22	Nairobi Securities Exchange Plc Ord 4.00	10.35	9.90	29,894
MANUFACTURING & ALLIED					
95.00	65.00	B.O.C Kenya Plc Ord 5.00	89.75	89.50	500
495.00	325.00	British American Tobacco Kenya Plc Ord 10.00	419.00	414.75	22,397
23.90	11.00	Carbacid Investments Plc Ord 1.00	22.60	22.45	1,782
244.00	100.00	East African Breweries Plc Ord 2.00	208.00	209.50	236,724
2.33	0.86	Flame Tree Group Holdings Ltd Ord 0.825	1.27	1.27	10,251
77.00	10.40	Africa Mega Agricornp Plc Ord 5.00SME	74.00	74.00	105
0.27	0.27	Mumias Sugar Co. Ltd Ord 2.00		0.27	-
31.00	12.00	Unga Group Ltd Ord 5.00		20.40	33
6.80	5.90	Shri Krishana Overseas Plc 0.20SME	6.12	6.10	20,975
TELECOMMUNICATION					
27.50	11.50	Safaricom Plc Ord 0.05	26.25	26.40	1,246,372
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST					
20.00	20.00	LAPTRUST IMARA I-REIT Ord.20.00		20.00	-
EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS					
3330.00	1880.00	ABSA New Gold ETF	40901	3985.00	-
761.00	761.00	Satrix MSCI World Feeder ETF	7981	792.00	-

MARKETS

State unveils plan for MSMEs as EAC trade fair set for November

The government will focus on four key areas to spur the growth of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to create jobs.

These are access to finance, market, digital transformation and building resilience against climate change impacts.

Cabinet Secretary for Cooperatives and MSMEs Wycliffe Oparanya said the Kenya Kwanza regime has taken MSMEs as one of the five economic pillars of its Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (Beta).

"We have identified four areas that we need to focus on to see that this sector moves on, and one of the areas is access to finance," said Oparanya during a breakfast meeting on Thursday in Nairobi to unveil the National Organising Committee of the 25th EAC MSME Trade Fair that is scheduled to take place between November 1 and 10 in the capital. "Moreover, access to finance for MSMEs is a responsibility of the government because this particular sector has not been attractive to commercial banks due to the high interest rates. If you subject this sector to commercial banks, then you will be saying this sector will collapse."

Oparanya said his ministry will intervene to ensure there is more allocation of resources through the various agencies in the sector and mitigation by the government to ensure that the interest rates are reasonable to this particular sector. He said he had presented a paper to the Cabinet on MSMEs, and the emphasis was that it is not just brick and mortar that is important, but also a need to focus on MSMEs.

"We can do brick and mortar, build roads, have the best infrastructure, but if we have no focus on MSMEs to create economic activity, jobs for our people, then the street demonstrations will continue on the best roads that we will have built, so this is a critical sector," he said.

The CS said on market access, he said the government would engage East African Community (EAC) member states that still have non-tariff barriers to remove them.

On climate change mitigation, he said green financing is also critical for MSME growth.

"As a ministry, we are going to carry out a survey this year since the last survey was done in 2016 to know where there are MSMEs concentration, and once we know where they are, then that support that I have mentioned through these thematic areas will be possible," he said. Principal Secretary, State Department of MSMEs Susan Mang'eni said Kenya is hosting the regional trade fair for the seventh time since December 2018 in Eldoret, with the majority of the attendees expected to be the youth.

[James Wanzala and Clare Ochieng]

Exchange rates

CURRENCY	EXCHANGE RATE		
JAPANESE YEN (100)	87.7060		
US DOLLAR	129.2392	SWEDISH KRONER	13.4776
STERLING POUND	173.5747	NORWEGIAN KRONER	12.6109
EURO	150.4797	DANISH KRONER	20.1612
SOUTH AFRICAN RAND	7.2879	INDIAN RUPEE	1.4749
KES / UGANDA SHILLING	27.6077	HONGKONG DOLLAR	16.4641
KES / TANZANIA SHILLING	19.2279	SINGAPORE DOLLAR	100.6379
KES / RWANDAN FRANC	11.1533	SAUDI RIYAL	34.4376
KES / BURUNDIAN FRANC	23.0698	CHINESE YUAN	17.9937
AE DIRHAM	35.1858	AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR	84.2446
CANADIAN DOLLAR	94.0092		
SWISS FRANC	160.0386		

SOURCE: COMMERCIAL BANKS

Unit Trusts

MONEY FUNDS	DAILY YIELD	E. A. RATE		
Mayfair Money Market Fund	8.15%	8.49%	Amana Shilling Fund Class C	9.00 9.38
Dry Associates Money Market Fund	9.77%	10.22%	Dry Associates Special High Yield Fund	12.35% 13.59%
Dry Associates Money Market Fund USD	5.06%	5.18%	Sanlam US Dollar Fund	5.33% 5.47%
Sanlam Money Market Fund	9.61%	10.08%	Sanlam Fixed Income Fund	7.54 7.54
African Alliance Money Market Fund	7.56%	7.83%	Sanlam Balanced Fund	25.24 25.24
GenAfrica Money Market Fund	10.82%	11.37%	Zimele Fixed Income Fund	12.02% 12.70%
Mali Fund	9.18%	9.18%	Zimele Balanced Fund	15.8074 15.3470
Stanbic Money Market Fund	6.36%	6.58%	African Alliance Balanced Fund	22.5449 21.2329
Genghis Money Market Fund	8.66%	9.04%	African Alliance Equity Fund	192.5044 180.7821
Madison Money Market Fund	10.23%	10.77%	African Alliance Fixed Income Fund	11.7367 11.3581
Britam Money Market Fund	10.30%	10.84%	African Alliance Enhanced Yield	7.96% 8.26%
Britam Money Market Fund USD	4.56%	4.66%	Stanbic Fixed Income Fund US Dollar	4.73% 4.84%
Kuza Money Market Fund	11.44%	12.12%	Madison Fixed Income Fund	11.72% 12.44%
Kuza Money Market Fund USD	5.58%	5.73%	Madison Wealth Special Fund	11.61% 12.31%
ICEA LION MONEY MARKET FUNDS	8.94%	9.35%	Britam Bond Plus Fund	11.20% 11.85%
Old Mutual Money Market Fund	10.54%	11.04%	Britam Fixed Income Fund USD	6.07% 6.25%
Old Mutual Dollar Money M Fund	4.98%	5.10%	Britam Balanced Fund	162.17 167.42
Enwealth Money Market Fund	10.61%	11.13%	Britam Equity Fund	123.13 127.41
Enwealth Dollar Money Market Fund	4.72%	4.82%	Kuza Fixed Income Fund	11.83% 12.56%
Faulu Money Market Fund	9.74%	10.18%	Kuza Momentum Special Fund	133.24 133.24
Jubilee Money Market Fund	10.49%	11.01%	ICEA LION (KES) FIXED INCOME FUND	117.49 117.49
Jubilee Money Market Fund (USD)	5.11%	5.23%	ICEA LION EQUITY FUND	141.50 141.50
CIC Money Market Fund	8.29%	8.61%	ICEA LION BALANCED FUND	137.46 137.46
OTHER FUNDS				
Mayfair Fixed Income Fund	15.20	15.20	ICEA LION USD FIXED INCOME FUND	104.35 104.35
Amana Balanced Fund	146.4393	146.4393	Enwealth Fixed Income Fund	6.74% 6.96%
			Old Mutual Special Fixed Income	10.72% 11.27%
			Jubilee Fixed Income Fund (KES)	10.96% 11.53%
			CIC Money Market Fund	8.29% 8.61%
			CIC Fixed Income Fund	10.34% 10.84%

NUMBER OF THE DAY
SH104M

INSURANCE: The sector saw Sh104M in turnover (5% of the week's value). Jubilee down 2.62% to Sh260.00 on 118,100 shares valued at Sh49M.



HOROSCOPE



Virgo – Aug 23 - Sep 22
Be especially vigilant if handling money. You can be so passionate about moving forward on a project that you may be tempted to borrow from your future now, which may cause for regret later on.



Libra – Sep 23 - Oct 22
Today, you may find it challenging to pursue your desires directly. Discerning between fact and fancy can be difficult. Finding a middle ground is the key, but can be challenging today when all of the energy you've been feeling seems to evaporate and you feel sluggish.



Scorpio – Oct 23 - Nov 21
If you find yourself questioning your motivation or enthusiasm for a particular endeavor, consider ways to bring more imagination into a project to revitalize it. Aim for moderation today, as errors tend to happen when we go to extremes.



Sagittarius Nov 22-Dec 21
Be on the alert for overindulgence or a tendency to accumulate too much—these things can leave you feeling behind. Ultimately, you'll feel stronger for learning which dreams work for you and which may be undermining you.



Capricorn – Dec 22-Jan 19
Consider that ambiguities in your living situation can leave you feeling uncertain in other areas of your life. If you're feeling without an anchor or game plan, let this feeling redirect and reorient you in useful ways. Getting more acquainted with your needs and wants will help!



Aquarius – Jan 20-Feb 18
You may feel overwhelmed with a recent project or endeavor that you've taken on. Seek healthy escape routes that feed a need for fantasy, adventure, and idealistic thinking. Find alternate sources of enjoyment and inspiration temporarily until you regain your momentum.



Pisces – Feb 19 - Mar 20
Consider that you're more sensitive than usual to the moods of people around you—if you're not aware of this tendency, you can end up taking on emotions that don't entirely belong to you!



Aries – Mar 21 - Apr 19
Aim to get more organized, too, since feeling on top of things helps you out in times like these. Still, you could be feeling pressured by others or pushed into a corner when you're not sure of what you want.



Taurus – Apr 20 - May 20
If you've been working too hard or doing too much for others, you can feel the drain now. It's vital to balance your life by making more time for spiritual, imaginative, and reflective activities. Otherwise, you might lose some of the motivation and spark you've enjoyed recently.



Gemini – May 21 - Jun 21
People may be getting the wrong idea, or your desires are conflicting. Because you're more sensitive today, others' dramas can feel larger than life. Taking a step back from the action is appropriate until you gain some perspective. Don't let a lack of direction leave you behind.



Cancer – Jun 22-Jul 22
If you've been on a different page with a loved one about your goals or if a lack of direction weighs you down, this can be a time to face the issue. You may be flip-flopping between feeling determined and feeling uninspired, but it's temporary.



Leo – Jul 23 - Aug 22
Keep in mind that the lack of a long-term strategy can interfere with your presence of mind, or the opposite—if you're pinning your hopes on something in the distant future, you may be missing current opportunities. Take time to reorient yourself. Cafeastrology.com

CHESS

Easy puzzle

Black mates in 2 moves.



Intermediate puzzle

White mates in 3 moves.



Friday's solution

- Easy:
- 1. Qc4+ Ke3
- 2. Bxh6#

- Intermediate:
- 1. Rxe8+ Kf7
- 2. Rf8+ Nxf8
- 3. Nd8#

SOLVIT

J	E	A	D	23
B	G	C	C	19
F	H	J	H	20
A	F	E	G	21
16	22	25	20	

Difficulty

The letters have a distinct value between 1 and 9. Two of these values and the totals horizontally and vertically have been given. Solve all the values.

Today's Clues

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J
	1		6					

Friday's solution

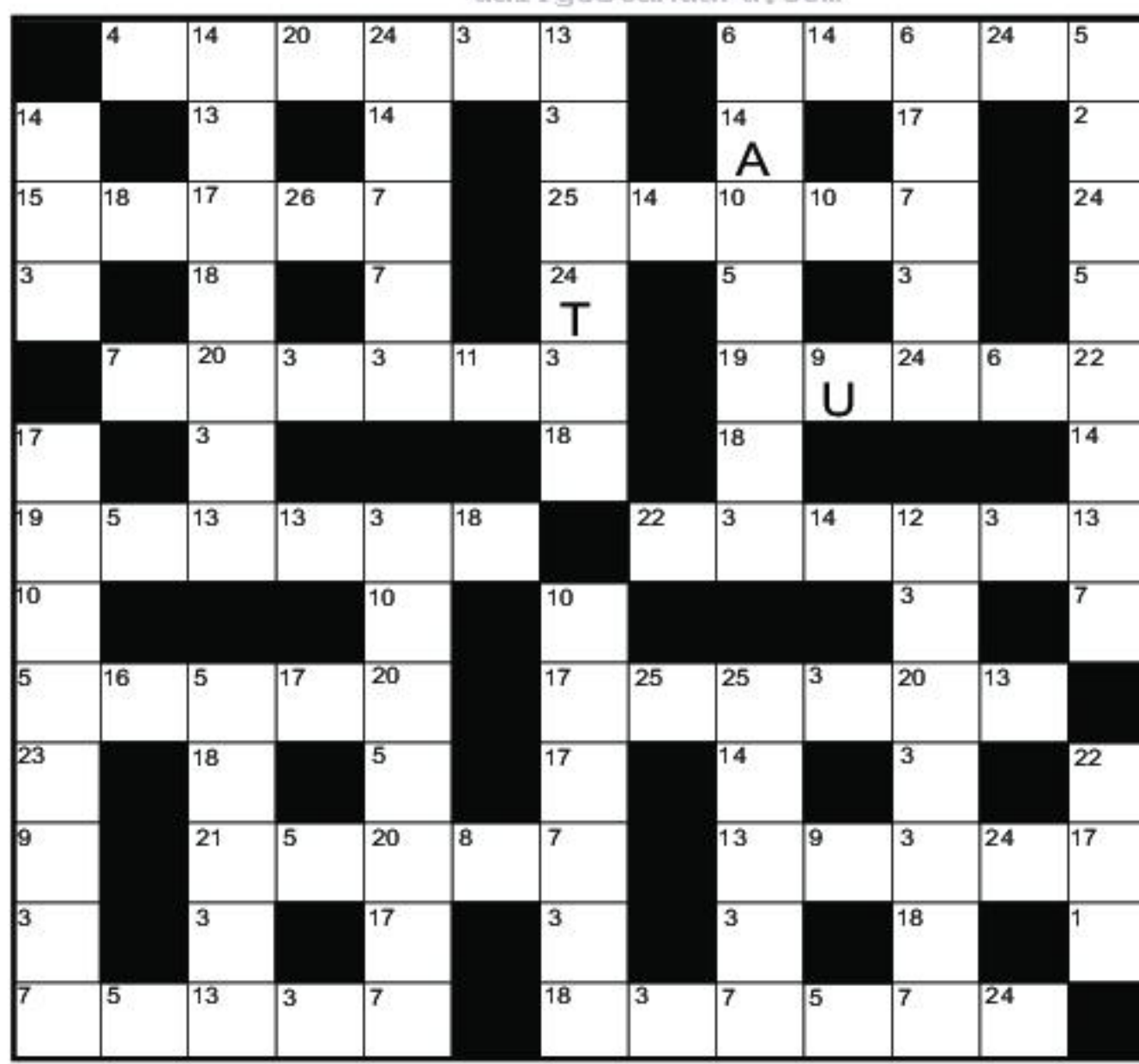
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J
6	4	2	8	1	9	5	7	3

CODEWORD

CLUE
Each letter in this puzzle is represented by a number 1-26.

Crack the code and solve the crossword. Every letter of the alphabet is used at least once.

Three letters are already in place to get you started.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

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

Friday's solution

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

KAKURO

		3	34		28	9
11			4			
4			8	20		
	29					
	6	14				
17						6
3			5			
16			11			

The totals for the rows and columns are given on the left for the rows and above for the columns in the shaded boxes. The single digits which give the totals are used only once e.g. 10 = 1, 2, 3, 4 or 1, 4, 5 or 2, 3, 5 etc but not 2, 2, 6 or 1, 1, 8 or 3, 3, 2

Friday's solution

		30	17	41		
11	1	5	2			
4	5	9	7	8		
8	1	2	5	4		
24	9	7	3			
18	4	3	5			
16	4	3	1	5	2	
15	9	0	2	9	1	

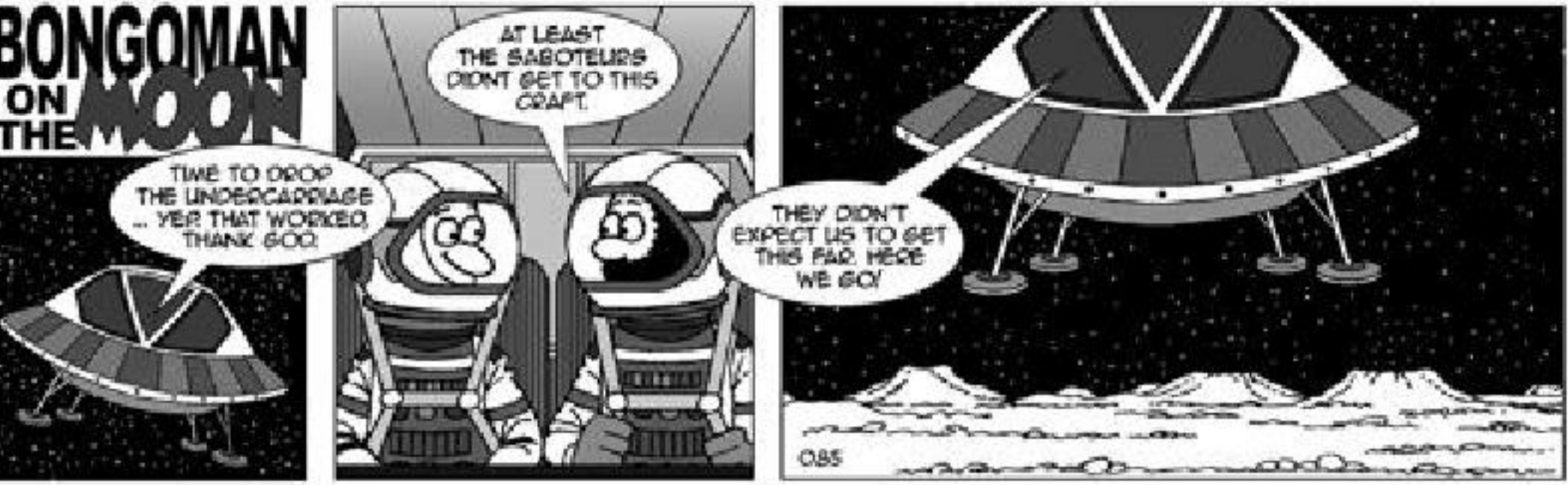
SUDOKU

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

Friday's solution

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

By Kham



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Courage is the most important of all the virtues because without courage, you can't practice any other virtue consistently."
Maya Angelou



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NAIROBI & UPCOUNTRY PERSONAL NOTICES

A9/LOST

LOSS of Greencard Kiambogo/Kiambogo blk 2/ 13513 John Muhindi Kinyanjui

LOSS of Certificate no Nakuru Municipality blk 24 / 498 Maritim Johana Chesimet (Deceased)

LOST title deed Konza North/Konza North Blk 2 (Malili)/837

LOSS of Title Deed: Ngandori/Kirigi/ 2678 of Eunice Ngendo Mbui

LOST title Ngandori/Ngovie/7145 Of Paul Njue Peter Muviyie

LOST title deed Nyeri/Ngaringiro/1595 of Isaac Kingori Mwai

LOST title deed Ngandori/Kiriari/5534 Of Monicah Igandu Kinyua

LOST certificate of title, Kisumu/Nyalenda 'B'/946 for John Odhiambo Onunga

A22/NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT, 2019 EXTENSION OF USER

The registered owner of **KERICHO/CHEBORGE/887** located at **Cheborge area, off Chemosit- Litalin Road, Kericho County**, is proposing to Extend its User to include an ATC Kenya Base Transceiver Station (BTS) subject to approval by the Kericho County Government. Any individual(s), institution(s) or organizations with comments or objections to the development proposal are requested to submit them in writing within 14 days of this notice to:
The County Executive Committee Member, Lands, Housing and Physical Planning, County Government of Kericho, P.O. Box 112-20200, KERICHO.
 Reg. physical Planner: **Wesulya David Zinyi** Reg No. 0200

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (NO 13 OF 2019) EXTENSION OF USER

The owner(s) of Title number **KAJIADO/ELANGATANI/50** located at **LOODOKILAN location in KAJIADO County**, is proposing to Extend its' Use to include a Base Transceiver Station(BTS)-ATC Kenya LTD subject to approval by County Government of Kajiado. Individual(s), Institution(s), Organization(s) etc. with concerns(s) and/or objection to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:
COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER, LANDS, PHYSICAL PLANNING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT, COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KAJIADO P.O BOX 11- 0100, KAJIADO PHYSICAL PLANNER: JAMES GACHANJA RPP NO. 0173

FORM PLUPA/DC/3 (r.3) (3) (x)

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL & LAND USE PLANNING ACT (NO. 13 OF 2019) CHANGE OF USER

The Registered Owner of plot LR. No. **12715/6929** located off **Katani Road** in **Syokimau area** within **Mavoko Sub-County; Machakos County** proposes to Change the User from **Residential to Commercial cum Multi-Dwelling Units (Apartments)** subject to approval by the Machakos County Government. Individuals, Institutions, members of the public etc with comments, and or objections to the development proposal are requested to forward them in writing, within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:
THE CECM; ENERGY, LANDS, HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT, COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF MACHAKOS, P.O BOX 1996- 90100, MACHAKOS.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (NO. 13 OF 2019) NOTIFICATION FOR CHANGE OF USER

The registered owner of **Plot number Loc. 11/ Marag/5101** located in **Kabwe, Murang'a Town** within **Murang'a Municipality**, proposes to change the use of the land from **Agricultural Use to Residential (Multi-Dwelling)** Use subject to the approval by the Murang'a County Government. Individuals and Institutions with any objection(s) to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within 14 days from the date of this notice to:
THE CECM LANDS, PHYSICAL PLANNING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT MURANG'A COUNTY GOVERNMENT P.O. BOX 52-10200, MURANG'A.
 Name of the Registered Planner: **Gitonga Kelvin Ritto, Reg. No. 0270**

FORM PLUPA/DC/3 r.3(3)(x)

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (No. 13 of 2019) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE OF USER

The registered owners of Plot no **Mutira/Kinjogo/2103** located along **C73 road** near **Kimicha Market**, proposes to Change Use from **Agricultural to Light Industrial (LPG packaging & Storage)** Use subject to approval by County Government of Kirinyaga. Plans and attendant briefs are deposited at county's office for inspection. Individuals, institutions, e.t.c. with comments or objections are requested to submit them in writing within 14 days of this notice to:
The County Executive Committee Member Land Housing & Physical Planning County Government of Kirinyaga P.O. Box 260-1030, Kutus.
 Name of the Registered Planner: **John Mwangi Maina** Reg. No PPO163

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (NO. 13 OF 2019) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE OF USER

The registered owner of **Nairobi BLOCK 47/770 (Subplot A)** located along **Dagoretti Road, Karen** Proposes for **Change of use** from **Residential to Cottages** subject to approval by Nairobi City County Government. Individuals, Institutions, Organizations etc. with objections or comments to the proposal are requested to forward the same in writing within 14 days of publication of this notice to:
aily@standard.com
The County Secretary Nairobi City County Government P.O. Box 30075- 00100, Nairobi.

FORM PLUPA/DC/3 r.3(3)(x)

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT NO. 13 OF 2019 NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE OF USER

The registered owner(s) of plot **LR NO. 3219 MWERUA/KAGIO** located in **Mwea West Sub-County; Kirinyaga County** proposes to change the use from **Agricultural Land Use to Commercial Land Use (Shops)** subject to approval by the County Government of Kirinyaga. Organization (s), Institution (s), Individual (s) etc. with comments or objection to the proposal should forward the same in writing within fourteen (14) days from the date of this notice to:
COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER (C.E.C.M), LANDS, PHYSICAL PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KIRINYAGA, P.O BOX 260-1030A, KUTUS.
 Name of the registered physical planner: **Catherine K. Katuma** Reg No. 0254

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT NO 13 OF 2019 EXTENSION OF USER

The owner of parcel **NO: NYANDARUA / OLKALOU CENTRAL/10033** within environs of **Olkalou, Olkalou Sub County, Nyandarua County**, proposes to extend its use from **agricultural to commercial to include petrol station, hotel and accommodation facility** subject to consideration and approval by the county government of Nyandarua. Any individual (s), institution (s) or organization (s) with any comments or objections to the proposal should forward them in writing within 14 days of this notice to:
THE CECM LANDS, PHYSICAL PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYANDARUA P.O. BOX 701-20303, OLKALOU

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL PLANNING AND LAND USE ACT NO. 13 OF 2019 CHANGE OF USER

The registered owner of **Plot No. Dagoretti/ Kinoo/7474** located at **Kinoo** in **Kiambu Sub-County**, is proposing Change of Use of this property from **Agricultural to Residential Multi-Dwelling Units (Flats)** subject to approval by the County Government of Kiambu. Individuals, Institutions and any other interested parties with any material objections to the proposed development are requested to forward them in writing within **Fourteen (14) days** from the date of this notice to:-
County Executive Committee Member (CECM), Land Housing Physical Planning and Urban Development County Government of Kiambu, P.O. Box 2344-00900, Kiambu, RPP: Kelvin Ritto Gitonga; Reg. 0270 DATE: 19th JULY 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL PLANNING LAND USE PLANNING ACT No.13, 2019 CHANGE OF USER

The registered owner(s) of **Eldoret Municipality/ Block20 (Kapoymit) 197** Located along **Malaba-Eldoret Highway** in **Maili Nne** proposes to change the use of their land from **shops and offices to Light Industrial** subject to the approval by the County Government of Uasin Gishu. Individuals, institutions, members of the public etc. With comments and or objection to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within 14 days of the date of this notice to,
The CECM-Land, Housing & Physical Planning, County Government of Uasin Gishu P.O. Box 839-30200 Eldoret Reg. Physical Planner-Newton G. Karuri-0145

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL PLANNING LAND USE PLANNING ACT No.13, 2019 CHANGE OF USER

The registered owner(s) of **Land Parcel NANYUKI MARURA BLOCK 8/3109 (NTURUKUMA)** located off **Nanyuki-Meru Highway** in **Nturukuma Laikipia County** proposes to change the use of land from **Agricultural to Commercial use (Boutique Hotel)** subject to approval by the County Government of Laikipia. Individuals, institutions, members of the public etc. With comments and or objection to the proposal are requested to forward them in writing within 14 days of the date of this notice to:
The CECM-Land, Housing & Physical Planning, County Government of Laikipia P.O Box 1271-10400, Nanyuki. Registered physical planner: Newton Gitonga Karuri RPP 145

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT 2019 CHANGE OF USER

The Registered owner of parcel No. **Ngong/ Ngong/61927** is proposing to Change use of the property from **Agricultural to Residential Development (Flat)** subject to approval by the County Government of Kajiado. Individuals, institutions and organizations with any objection/ comments are required to forward them in writing within fourteen (14) days from the date of this notice to:
THE CECM-IN-CHARGE OF PHYSICAL PLANNING KAJIADO COUNTY GOVERNMENT P.O. BOX 11-0100, KAJIADO.

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE NATIONAL LAND COMMISSION NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ALLOCATE LAND To The General Public and any other interested Parties

Notice is hereby given that at the expiry of **30 days** from the date of publication of this notice, The National Land Commission (NLC), on behalf of the County Government of Meru, intends to regularize tenure of **Meru Municipality Block II /1069 Meru County Measuring 0.0352 Ha** for Commercial use (Subject to terms, Covenants, Conditions and reservations which shall be included in the conveyance documents) in accordance with Section 14 of the Land Act 2012.

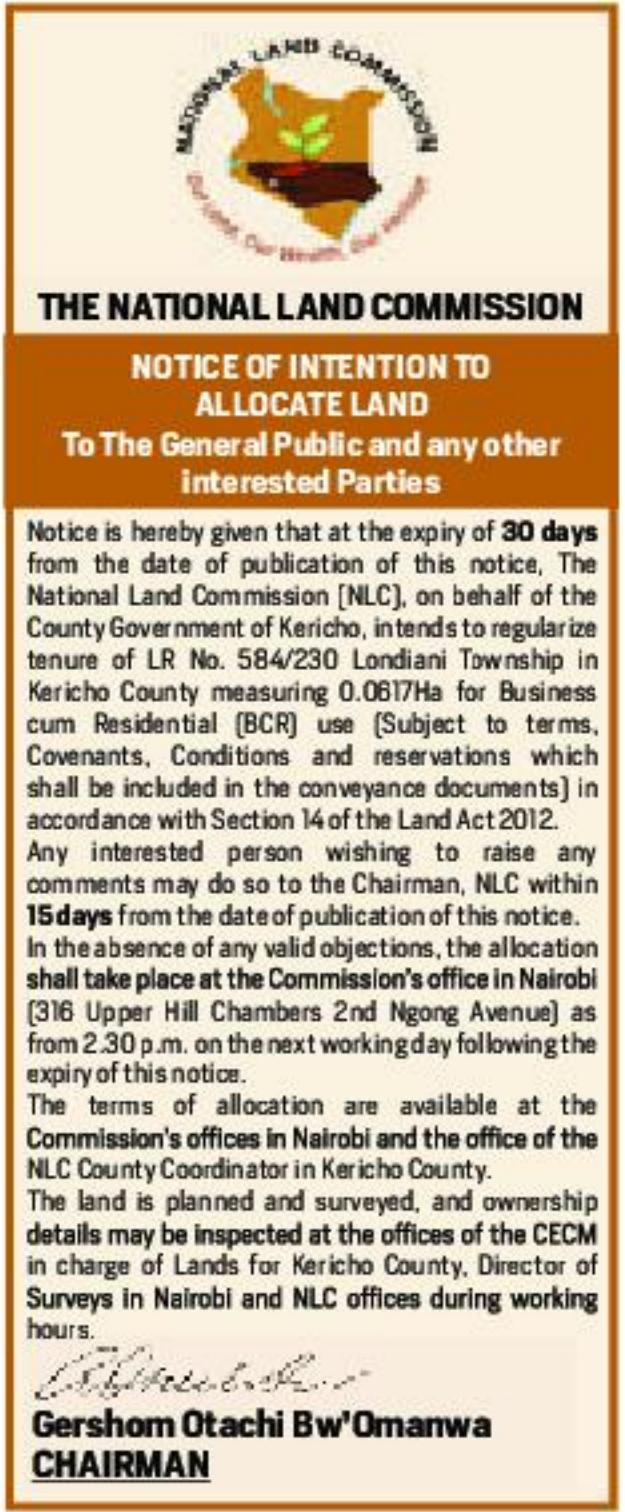
Any interested person wishing to raise any comments may do so to the Chairman, NLC within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice.

In the absence of any valid objections, the allocation shall take place at the Commission's office in **Nairobi (316 Upper Hill Chambers 2nd Ngong Avenue)** as from 2.30 p.m. on the next working day following the expiry of this notice.

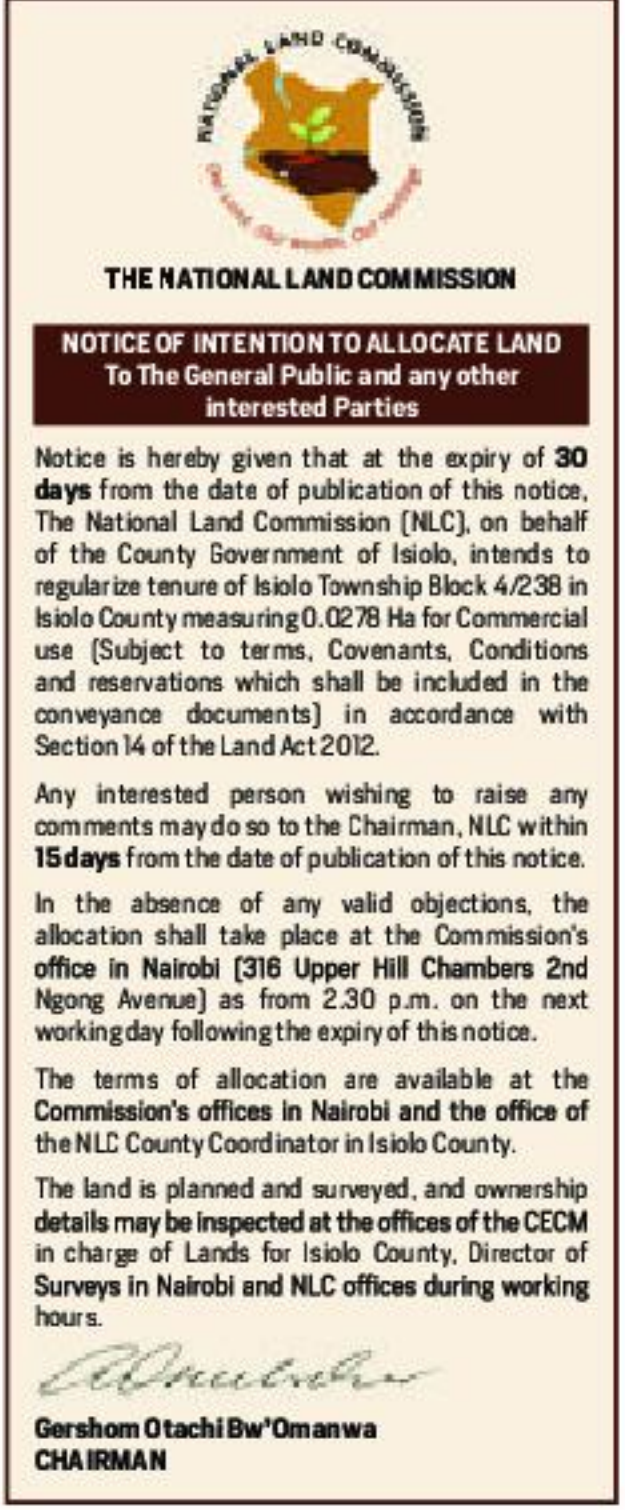
The terms of allocation are available at the Commission's offices in **Nairobi** and the office of the CECM in charge of Lands for **Meru County**, Director of Surveys in **Nairobi** and **NLC offices** during working hours.

The land is planned and surveyed, and ownership details may be inspected at the offices of the CECM in charge of Lands for **Meru County**, Director of Surveys in **Nairobi** and **NLC offices** during working hours.

Gershon Otachi Bw'Omanwa CHAIRMAN



THE NATIONAL LAND COMMISSION
 NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ALLOCATE LAND To The General Public and any other interested Parties
 Notice is hereby given that at the expiry of **30 days** from the date of publication of this notice, The National Land Commission (NLC), on behalf of the County Government of Kericho, intends to regularize tenure of **LR No. 584/230 Londiani Township in Kericho County measuring 0.0617Ha** for Business cum Residential (BCR) use (Subject to terms, Covenants, Conditions and reservations which shall be included in the conveyance documents) in accordance with Section 14 of the Land Act 2012.
 Any interested person wishing to raise any comments may do so to the Chairman, NLC within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice. In the absence of any valid objections, the allocation shall take place at the Commission's office in **Nairobi (316 Upper Hill Chambers 2nd Ngong Avenue)** as from 2.30 p.m. on the next working day following the expiry of this notice.
 The terms of allocation are available at the Commission's offices in **Nairobi** and the office of the NLC County Coordinator in **Kericho County**. The land is planned and surveyed, and ownership details may be inspected at the offices of the CECM in charge of Lands for **Kericho County**, Director of Surveys in **Nairobi** and **NLC offices** during working hours.
Gershon Otachi Bw'Omanwa CHAIRMAN



THE NATIONAL LAND COMMISSION
 NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ALLOCATE LAND To The General Public and any other interested Parties
 Notice is hereby given that at the expiry of **30 days** from the date of publication of this notice, The National Land Commission (NLC), on behalf of the County Government of Isiolo, intends to regularize tenure of **Isiolo Township Block 4/238 in Isiolo County measuring 0.0278 Ha** for Commercial use (Subject to terms, Covenants, Conditions and reservations which shall be included in the conveyance documents) in accordance with Section 14 of the Land Act 2012.
 Any interested person wishing to raise any comments may do so to the Chairman, NLC within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice.
 In the absence of any valid objections, the allocation shall take place at the Commission's office in **Nairobi (316 Upper Hill Chambers 2nd Ngong Avenue)** as from 2.30 p.m. on the next working day following the expiry of this notice.
 The terms of allocation are available at the Commission's offices in **Nairobi** and the office of the NLC County Coordinator in **Isiolo County**. The land is planned and surveyed, and ownership details may be inspected at the offices of the CECM in charge of Lands for **Isiolo County**, Director of Surveys in **Nairobi** and **NLC offices** during working hours.
Gershon Otachi Bw'Omanwa CHAIRMAN

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL PLANNING & LAND USE PLANNING ACT (NO 13 OF 2019) CHANGE OF USE

The owner of the **Plot no. 29 phase 1** (Kiandegwa Investment) located in Kiganjo Thika Sub County proposes for a **change of user from Agricultural to Residential Multi-Dwelling (Flat)** subject to approval by Kiambu County Government. Individuals, Organizations and Institutions with objection(s) or comments are requested to forward them in writing within 14 days of this notice to:

CECM LANDS, HOUSING, PHYSICAL PLANNING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT
COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KIAMBU
 P. O. Box 2344-00900, KIAMBU.
 Planner ONESMUS MUSYOKI R.P.P 0229

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL & LAND USE PLANNING ACT (No.13 of 2019) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE OF USER

Notice is hereby given that the registered owner of **Land Ref No. 195/134** located at Karen off Dagoretti Road, Nairobi County, proposes to change user from **Residential Single Dwelling to Residential Multi-dwelling (Townhouses)** subject to approval by Nairobi City County. Individuals, Institutions, Members of the public etc. with objections or comments to the proposal should serve notice of such in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:

CECM - LANDS, HOUSING, PHYSICAL PLANNING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT,
NAIROBI CITY COUNTY GOVERNMENT
 P.O BOX 30075-00100,
 NAIROBI, KENYA.
 PHYSICAL PLANNER: JOHN T. MBAU RPP NO. 0284

PUBLIC NOTICE

PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT No 13 (2019) NOTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE OF USER

Notice is hereby given that the registered owner of **Land Ref No. 195/136** located at Karen off Dagoretti Road, Nairobi County, proposes to change user from **Residential Single Dwelling to Residential Multi-dwelling (Townhouses)** subject to approval by Nairobi City County. Individuals, Institutions, Members of the public etc. with objections or comments to the proposal should serve notice of such in writing within fourteen (14) days of this notice to:

CECM - LANDS, HOUSING, PHYSICAL PLANNING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT,
NAIROBI CITY COUNTY GOVERNMENT
 P.O BOX 30075-00100,
 NAIROBI, KENYA.
 PHYSICAL PLANNER: JOHN T. MBAU RPP NO. 0284

MUTRIX AUCTIONEERS

AUCTIONEERS, COURT BROKERS, COURT BAILIFFS, OFFICIAL BROKERS, REPOSSESSORS AND INVESTIGATORS

WAMI HOUSE, 2ND FLOOR ROOM 202, JOGOO ROAD, OPPOSITE, KCB BUILDING.
 CELL: 0721306885/0721609983/0722960735

PUBLIC NOTICE

Duly instructed by the Chief Magistrate's courts, the advocates of the claimants, we shall sell by public auction the undermentioned motor vehicle on **Monday 18th AUGUST, 2025** starting **11:00HRS** at our Head Office; Wami House, 2nd Floor, Room 202, Jogoo Lane-off Jogoo Road, Opp. KCB Bldg.

MACHAKOS LAW COURTS CASE NO. MCC/254 OF 2020
MBITHI KILONZI -VS- SAMUEL KALOKI MUENDO

1) Registration Number: KCC138X(Nissan Caravan)

SALE CONDITIONS

- Interested bidders can view the said vehicle during the working hours
- Cash at the fall of the hammer to the highest bidder (...at a reserved price...)

UPSCALE AUCTIONEERS

Trishuli Towers Third Floor Room 18
 P.O. Box 1847-00100 Nairobi-Kenya
 Cell: 0712 343861 / 0721 442919
 Email: upscaleauctioneers@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our principals, the **FINANCIERS**, we shall sell the under mentioned motor vehicle on **Tuesday, 19th August 2025 at 11.30am.**

NO.	REG. NO.	MAKE	COLOUR	STORAGE YARD
1	KCC 959A	TOYOTA RAV 4	BLACK	PURPLE ROYAL STORAGE YARD
2	KDL 221B	MAZDA ATENZA	BLACK	STARTRUCK YARD - UKUNDA
3	KDG 314P	NISSAN NOTE	PEARL	PURPLE ROYAL STORAGE YARD

CONDITION OF SALE

- The sale is strictly CASH AT THE FALL OF THE HAMMER.
- Sale is subject to reasonable reserve prices.

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 0719 012 558 / 2910 @AdsCentre

EPA Extra Pilgrim AUCTIONEERS

AUCTIONEERS, DEBT COLLECTORS, COMMISSION AGENTS

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our Principal we shall sell by public auction the under mentioned motor vehicle on **18th August 2025 at 10.00AM.**

REG.No.	VEHICLE MODEL	YARD
1. KBT 613Q	SUZU NQR	VALUERS YARD
2. KCN859S	TOYOTA TOWNACE	VALUERS YARD
3. KCG068R	ISUZU NQR	VALUERS YARD

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- Cash at the fall of the hammer.

JESLINK AUCTIONEERS

BEST VALUE FOR YOU

PUBLIC AUCTION! PUBLIC AUCTION!

1) Duly instructed by our principals, we shall sell the under mentioned motor vehicle by public auction.
ON MONDAY 18th AUGUST 2025 AT OUR OFFICE KASARANI EDEN PLAZA 2nd FLOOR AT 11.00 AM

Reg.No.	MAKE/MODEL	Y.O.M	VIEWING LOCATION
KDS 463H	HONDA-N BOX	2017	AUCTION PALACE- EASTERN BY-PASS

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- Cash at the fall of the hammer.
- Bidders to view and verify details on normal working hours with prior arrangement.
- Bidders to pay a refundable deposit of kshs 50,000 to get a bidding number.
- No bidding without a bidding number.

SIRME AGENCIES AUCTIONEERS

Auctioneer, Process Servers, Repossessors, Estate Management, Private Investigators & Debt Collection

LICENSED AUCTIONEER (CLASS A)
 P.O. Box 7614- 00300 Nairobi
 Starhouse Ruitu room 211
 CELL: + 254 705 949 900
 Email: sirmeauctioneers@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our principal the **FINANCIERS**, we shall sell below listed **motor vehicle** by Public Auction on **SATURDAY 16th AUGUST 2025 at RAZOR SHARP YARD, KERICHO TOWN STARTING 10:30 AM**

FINANCIER VS KIPKOECH KORIR ARON

MV REG NO.	MAKE	STORAGE YARD
KDG 442H	MAZDA DEMIO	RAZOR SHARP YARD, KERICHO TOWN

CONDITION OF SALE

Cash at the fall of the hammer

KENWAY HOLLAND AGENCIES AUCTIONEERS

OFFICIAL COURT BROKERS

P.O. BOX 35-01001 MOMBASA
 TEL: 07758034825
 EMAIL: dominic.rugge@phose.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

THE FOLLOWING MOTOR VEHICLE WILL BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION AT TOYAMA MOTORS (K) LTD ON THE **15th AUGUST 2025, AT 11:00 AM.**

REG. NO.	CHASSIS NO.	MODEL
KDR 036W	DA16T - 3920044	SUZUKI CARRY TRACK

TERMS OF SALE

CASH AT THE FALL OF HAMMER

MAMALO AUCTIONEERS

PUBLIC AUCTION

[A Duly instructed by our Principal, the **FINANCIER** we shall sell the under mentioned motor vehicle by public auction on **Monday 18th August 2025 at 10.30AM** at **Breeze Storage Area along Eastern bypass, off Kangundo road.**
Motor Vehicle Registration Number KCG 253M ISUZU NQR.

[B Duly instructed by the Decree Holder we shall sell the under mentioned Motor Vehicle by public auction on **Monday 18th August 2025 at 10.30AM** at **Breeze Storage Area along Eastern bypass, off Kangundo road.**
 UNDER WARRANTS OF ATTACHMENT AND SALE KILUNGU PMCC E200 OF 2024 JUSTUS ASHIDIWA ISADWA-VS-BUDDUL INVESTMENT COMPANY LTD & SALIM GONA.
Motor Vehicle Registration Number KDL 914L MERCEDES ACTROS.
Motor Vehicle Registration Number ZH 1742BHACHU TRAILER.

[C Duly instructed by the Decree Holder we shall sell the under mentioned Motor Vehicle by public auction on **Monday 18th August 2025 at 10.30AM** at **Breeze Storage Area along Eastern bypass, off Kangundo road.**
 UNDER WARRANTS OF ATTACHMENT AND SALE MILIMANI CMCC E411 OF 2024 EDINAH OMENYO KERUBO-VS-SAMMY MOYA NYAKERIGA.
Motor Vehicle Registration Number KBP 273Y MITSUBISHI GALANT.

[D Duly instructed by the Decree Holder we shall sell the under mentioned Motor Vehicle by public auction on **Monday 18th August 2025 at 10.30AM** at **Breeze Storage Area along Eastern bypass, off Kangundo road.**
 UNDER WARRANTS OF ATTACHMENT AND SALE MILIMANI CMCC 7363 OF 2019 EPHANTUS NJIRU-VS-YETU SAVINGS & CREDIT CO-OP SOCIETY, OSUKO SAMSON & MT. KENYA UNIVERSITY.
Motor Vehicle Registration Number KBN 695K DYNA.

[E Duly instructed by the Decree Holder we shall sell the under mentioned Motor Vehicle by public auction on **Monday 18th August 2025 at 10.30AM** at **Breeze Storage Area along Eastern bypass, off Kangundo road.**
 UNDER WARRANTS OF ATTACHMENT AND SALE MILIMANI CMCC E8000 OF 2021 DICKSON NYACHANCHU-VS-GEORGE NYAWAGA & GEORGE MUSYOKA MUTUA.
Motor Vehicle Registration Number KCU 149 A ISUZU NQR.

[F Duly instructed by the Decree Holder we shall sell the under mentioned Motor Vehicle by public auction on **Monday 18th August 2025 at 10.30AM** at **Breeze Storage Area along Eastern bypass, off Kangundo road.**
 UNDER WARRANTS OF ATTACHMENT AND SALE KAJIADO SCC E286 OF 2022 ELIJAH GITIHINI KAMALU-VS-JAMES NGIGI REMBO SHUTTLE SERVICES & MATHEKA KATIO.
Motor Vehicle Registration Number KCY 083K ISUZU NQR.

[G Duly instructed by the Decree Holder we shall sell the under mentioned Motor Vehicle by public auction on **Monday 18th August 2025 at 10.30AM** at **Breeze Storage Area along Eastern bypass, off Kangundo road.**
 UNDER WARRANTS OF ATTACHMENT AND SALE MILIMANI CMCC E473 OF 2022 JUDITH MORAA OGE MBO-VS-MAWILA LTD & BONIFACE KIBE GITAU
Motor Vehicle Registration Number KAU 351P TOYOTA HIACE.

CONDITIONS FOR SALE

All intending purchasers are requested to verify details themselves.
 Viewing can be done through arrangements with ourselves.
 Cash at the fall of the hammer.
 Sale is subject to the reserve price.

Soft Power Auctioneers

Tel: +254 733 424 949
 Cell: +254 722 698 773
 E-Mail: softpowerauctioneers@gmail.com

Rebeiro House
 Luthuli Avenue
 4th floor, Suite 410
 P.O. Box 38199 - 00100

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our Principals, the **FINANCIERS**, we shall sell the undermentioned Motor Vehicle by Public Auction on **Tuesday 19th August 2025, from 11:00am, at Kefa Auto Bazaar Motors, along Embu-Nairobi Highway.**

M.V REG. NO.	BODY TYPE	MODEL/MAKE	STORAGE YARD
KCS 743V	M.BUS/MATATU	TOYOTA HIACE	KEFA AUTO BAZAAR MOTORS

CONDITIONS OF SALE.

- Cash at the fall of the hammer.
- Sale subject to reasonable reserve price

JOGAN DRIES AUCTIONEERS

Licenced Auctioneers, Court Brokers, Bailiffs, Repossessors, Private Investigators
 Debt Collectors, Court Process Server and Commission Agent
 Branch: Neos Plaza, Basement
 Museum Estate Flats No. 5, 1st Gate Nairobi Tel: 0729 687 350 Email : joganservices@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions received from our principals, the landlords, we shall sell the undermentioned motor vehicle and goods in a public Auction on **16th August 2025 at Startruck yard Kiambu Road Starting from 10:30 A.M**

Under Distress for Rent Act Cap 293 Laws of Kenya.
Landlord WAAS Enterprises Ltd-Vs-DALA Lounge & Grill (Ltd) LR NO 209/14520 Nairobi

- Motorvehicle KBC 7170 Toyota Townace
- Motorvehicle KBM 792Y XTRAIL Nissan
- 82 plastic chair, 35 plastic tables, 2 choma jiko, deep freezer small, chips cutter, 2 crates of soda, one gas cylinder, 2 umbrella tables, 4 burner cooker, 4 tea Urn, food warmer
- Landlord-Vs-Paul Kibe Ndichu
 One Samsung color TV (To defray auctioneers and storage charges).

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- Strictly cash at the fall of the hammer.

ICON AUCTIONEERS.

Auctioneers, Repossessors, Debt Recovery Consultants, investigators,
 Court Process server
 Tembo Co-op House, Moi Avenue
 P.O. Box 40781-00100. Cell: 0722 488 446, 0723 113 920
 Email: iconauctions@gmail.com, website: www.iconauctioneers.co.ke

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our principals, in exercise of their statutory powers, we shall sell by public Auction the under mentioned motor vehicle on **16th AUGUST 2025 at 10.30am** or soon thereafter **STARTRUCK CAR YARD, KIAMBURoad.**

- MILIMANI SCC CASE NO. E5950 OF 2024**
RACHEL PASIS KHASABULI -VS- PETER KARIUKI MBUGUA & CO-OP FLEET AFRICA LEASING LIMITED
MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION NO: KDL 205E (ISUZU BUS)

CONDITIONS OF SALE

Cash at the fall of the Hammer.

ANFIELD AUCTIONEERS

P.O. Box 1914-00100 Nairobi | Tel: 0722 622 872 | 0722 891 822 | Email: anfieldauctioneers@gmail.com
 Branch Office: Kilindini Plaza, 1st Floor, Room 15, Mombasa | Tel: 0777 888 418

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions from our Principals, the **Advocates & Landlord**, we shall sell the below motor vehicles and assets as follows: -

- KITUI CMCC CASE NO. 45 OF 2019**
EUNICE PETER -VS- BERNARD GACHANJA MWANGI & 2NK CO-OPERATIVE SAVING AND CREDIT SOCIETY LTD
 M/v KCH 067S Toyota Hiace
 - Sale at Pangani Auction Centre, Murang'a Road on 18/08/2025 at 10:00 am
- MILIMANI CMCC NO. E2657 OF 2024**
NOONGISHU LENDURUMA MOLLEL & SENDUI LEPARAKWO MOLLEL -VS- JOHN PETER KIBICHO & PETER KIMEU ALEX
 M/v KAX 026L Nissan UD bus
 - Sale at Leakey's Storage Ltd, Kitui Rd, Nairobi on 18/08/2025 at 12:30 pm
- LANDLORD -VS- PRIMAX FEEDS LIMITED**
 Six Sorting tables, Signode TTX carton tying machine, Price computing scale
 - Sale at Pangani Auction Centre, Murang'a Road on 18/08/2025 at 10:00 am

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- Cash at the fall of the Hammer.
- Bidders to view and verify details on normal working hours with prior arrangement.
- Sale subject to reasonable reserve price.

BETABASE AUCTIONEERS

Auctioneers, Repossessors, Debt Collectors, Private Investigators,
 Process Servers and Commission Agents

Development House
 2nd Floor Room 211
 Moi Avenue
 P.O. Box 22693-00100
 NAIROBI
 Tel: 0721 959986
 0791315419
 Email: vetelejoel@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Duly instructed by our Principals the **FINANCIERS**, we shall sell the under mentioned motor vehicles by public auction: **ON MONDAY 18th AUGUST 2025 AT OUR OFFICE WHICH IS LOCATED AT DEVELOPMENT HOUSE, 2nd FLOOR RM 211 MOI AVENUE NAIROBI STARTING FROM 10.30 A.M.**

M/V REG NO.	MAKE/MODE	COLOUR
KBY 406Z	NISSAN	WHITE
KBM 049S	TOYOTA	SILVER

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- Sale subject to reasonable reserve price
- All interested purchasers are requested to view on prior arrangements.
- Strictly cash at the fall of the hammer.

ALL ARE WELCOME

MAMUKA AUCTIONEER

Auctioneer, Debt collection, private investigation and process service
 FORMER KENINDIA HOUSE
 ROAD A OFF ENTERPRISE RD
 P.O. BOX 70117-00400
 NAIROBI
 MOBILE: 072696249/073686688
 EMAIL: omdwmauction@gmail.com
 mamukauctioneer@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions from our principals, we shall sell the under-mentioned motor vehicle by public auction on **19th August 2025** at our offices at Former Kenindia House Road A from **11:00 Am.**

REG NO:	MODEL	YOM	VIEWING PLACE
KBW 754T	TOYOTA PROBOX	2006	ACK GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH GROUND NAKURU

CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. All interested buyers are requested to verify the details for themselves.
2. The auctioneer has the right to reject the bid without giving any reason.
3. Cash at the fall of the hammer.
4. Sale is subject to reserve price.

FIRST CHOICE AUCTIONEERS

Auctioneers, Debt Collection/Commission Agent
 Allimex Plaza Suite 407, Mombasa Road
 Tel: 0722358920/0717609773

P.O. Box 1494-00600 Nairobi. Email: kkarago@firstchoiceauctioneers.co.ke

PUBLIC AUCTION

1. Duly instructed by THE SMALL CLAIMS COURT AT MACHAKOS SUIT NO. E620 OF 2023 CATHERINE KOKI NGUI-**vs-** DOMINIC MWENDWA MALOMBE we shall sell the under mentioned motor vehicle by PUBLIC AUCTION on **MONDAY AUGUST 18, 2025** at **10.30 A.M** AT OUR ABOVE MENTIONED OFFICES M/V REG NO KCN 240X TOYOTA HIACE.

2. Duly instructed by THE PRINCIPAL MAGISTRATE'S COURT AT KANDARA SUIT NO. E205 OF 2022 RACHAEL SYKAMUSYOKA-**vs-** MARK ONE EXPRESS LIMITED, PUCHER COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES LIMITED we shall sell the under mentioned motor vehicle by PUBLIC AUCTION on **MONDAY AUGUST 18, 2025** at **10.30 A.M** AT OUR ABOVE MENTIONED OFFICES M/V REG NO KCN 253H TOYOTA HIACE.

3. Duly instructed by THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE'S COURT AT KIKUYU SUIT NO. E199 OF 2024 JOSHUA ODANDE OBEBO-**vs-** TERESIA WANJIRU CHEGE we shall sell the under mentioned motor vehicle by PUBLIC AUCTION on **MONDAY AUGUST 18, 2025** at **10.30 A.M** AT OUR ABOVE MENTIONED OFFICES M/V REG NO KBY 955Z TOYOTA VITZ.

4. **UNDER INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED FROM OUR PRINCIPALS THE CHARGE, IN EXERCISE OF THEIR STATUTORY POWER OF SALE, WE SHALL SELL THE UNDERMENTIONED PROPERTY BY PUBLIC AUCTION ON Tuesday August 26, 2025 AT 11.00 AM AT OUR ABOVE MENTIONED OFFICES**
 All that parcel of land known as L.R NO. NYANDARUA/OL JORO OROK SALIENT/7308 WITHIN NYANDARUA COUNTY. **SITUATION:** The property is situated within Githima Estate, Gatimu ward, about 1.2Kms off Nyahururu - OI Kalao Road. Access to the property from the road is by deviating to the left at Kisima Mixed Secondary School, then proceed towards and past P.A.C.E Ministries - Nyahururu (900 metres), right hand turn (200 metres), left hand turn (85 metres), right hand turn (40 metres) to the third plot on the right. **AREA:** The parcel measures approx. 0.045 Hectares or 0.11 Acres. **SERVICES:** Mains electricity and water services are connected to the property. The immediate access road is murram surfaced connecting to tar macked Nyahururu - OI Kalao Road about 1.2Kms away. **IMPROVEMENTS:** The plot is developed with a 3 bed room bungalow, an ablution block and a semi - permanent poultry house. **TENURE:** Freehold interest. **REGISTERED OWNER:** The property is registered in the name of **JOY LAVENDA GATAKAA GITONGA.**

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- a) All interested bidders are required to view the property/items and verify details for the auctioneer does not warrant these
- b) Sale is subject to reserve price. Bidders to pay a refundable deposit of Ksh5,000.00 for the motor vehicle and Ksh50,000.00 for the land to obtain a bidding number
- c) The declared purchaser of the land must pay a 25% deposit of the bid price either in cash, Bankers cheque, Electronic Transfer or RTGS by close of business on the auction day and the balance paid within 30 days from the auction date to the charge, failure to which any money received including the deposit will be forfeited
- d) Cash at the fall of the hammer for the motor vehicle

ONYX AUCTIONEERS

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

Head Office, Norfolk Towers, Kijabe Street, Off Harry Thuku Road. P.O. BOX 14857-00100 Nairobi.
 Cell- 0104 336 834 /0782 336 834. Email: info@onyxauctions.co.ke / onyxauctioneers20@gmail.com

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instruction received from our principals the Financiers and pursuant to the powers conferred upon them by section 96 of Land Act 2012 and other enabling laws of the Republic of Kenya we shall sell the undermentioned property through Public Auction as indicated below.

1. On **Tuesday 26th August 2025 at 11:00 AM** inside Lengo Storage Yard Narok. All that piece or parcel of land known as L.R.NO.CISMAR/A/OLELESHWA/3051 measuring 0.044 Hectares or 0.109 Acres registered in the name **GODFREY GICUHI GAKUYA P.O Box 907-20500 Narok.** The plot is currently vacant and ripe for developments. It is located within an area identifiable as "Kwa Solpan" within Narok Town in Narok County. It lies approximately 2.6 Kilometres off Narok Sekenani Road. The property location coordinates are **1°11'05.3"S 37°05'19.2"E** or **-1.184806N 37.088867E**

CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. All interested purchasers are requested to view the property and verify the details as these are not guaranteed by the Auctioneers.
2. The sale shall be on "AS-IS-WHERE-IS BASIS."
3. The declared purchaser **MUST** deposit of 25% of the purchase price by close of business on the Auction day and the balance paid within **NINETY (90)** days from the date of auction, failure to which the money received including the deposit will be forfeited.
4. The sale is subject to a reasonable reserve price.

ADDENDUM 1: CORRECTION ON PUBLIC AUCTION DAY.

Reference is made to the advert that appeared on the Standard Newspaper on **Wednesday 6th August 2025.** That under instructions received from our Principle the Financiers, We shall sell by Public Auction all the mentioned motor vehicles on **Wednesday 13th August 2025 from 11.00 Am** at **HAKKI ADONAI STORAGE YARD** and **NOT on Saturday 13th August 2025** as had previously been advertised. Please **NOTE** that the error was on the **DAY** and not the **DATE.** All other details remain as the same. We regret any inconvenience caused.

ALL ARE WELCOME.

NASIOKI AUCTIONEERS

Auctioneers, Court Brokers, Bailiffs, Repossessors & Commission Agents

HEAD OFFICE: INTERLINK BUILDING 2ND FLOOR, KIBUYA LANE P.O BOX 15497 NAKURU
 BRANCHES: NAIROBI, NAROK, NYANDARUA, MOMBASA, ELDORET, BOMET, LABOPHA, MERRU, NYERI, KIAMBU
 Director: 0722 732 265

PUBLIC AUCTION

Under instructions received from our principals, we shall sell the under mentioned M/V's by Public Auction.

ON MONDAY 18TH AUGUST 2025 FROM 10.00AM AT PMA MOTORS CO.LTD MOMBASA.

IN THE MATTER OF REPOSSESSION
PMA MOTORS CO.LTD -VS- DICKSON KIPKORIR M/V REGNO. KDN 652S.

PMA MOTORS CO.LTD -VS- ANGELINA MBOLI M/V REGNO. KDP 745N.

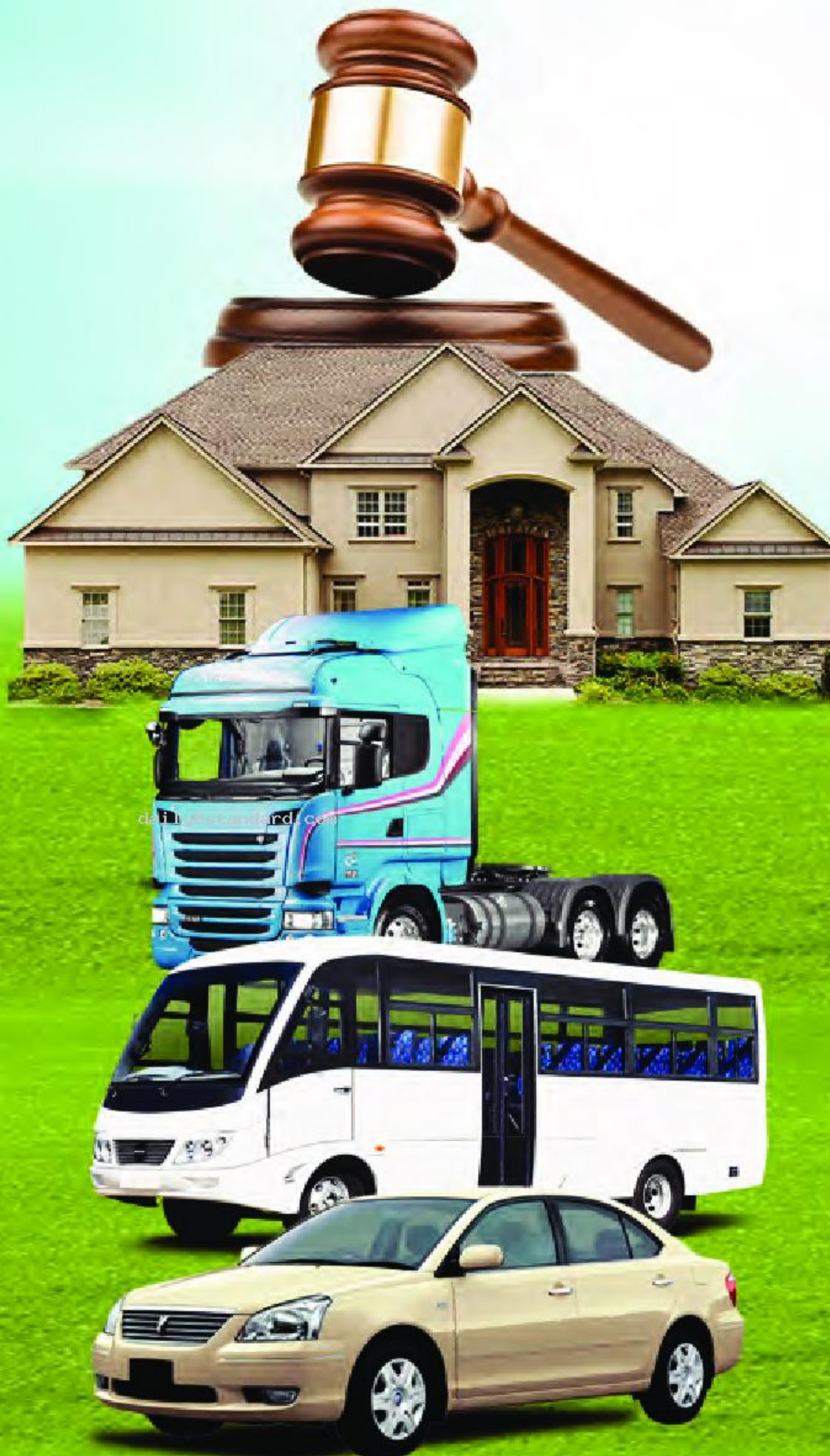
ON MONDAY 18TH AUGUST 2025 FROM 11:30AM at TADASHI MOTORS OPPOSITE UHURU GARDEN -MOI AVENUE MOMBASA.

TADASHI MOTORS (K) LTD -VS-EDDY OYOSI OBALA M/V REGNO. KDS 136J.

CONDITION OF SALE

1. Cash at the fall of the hammer
2. Sale is as it is basis.
3. Sale is subject to a reasonable reserve price.

**Going once..going twice..
 ...GONE!**



KENYA'S BOLD NEWSPAPER

The Standard

AUCTIONS

**To place your notice visit:
 Rolex Building, Moi Avenue Or contact us via:
 ☎ 0719-012555, 0719-012910**

Sports

Chan. Harambee Stars dare to dream as quarters race heats up, Page 32



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WORLD ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS
SEPTEMBER 13- 21, 2025



Will team Kenya to Tokyo Worlds overcome track facilities nightmare?

► The squad will be training in Eldoret until after Chan finals on August 30.

► A number of the athletes selected to represent Kenya train in bases near Eldoret.

to the Paris Olympics sharpened their tactics at the serene Kip Keino High Performance as they drank from legend Kipchoge Keino's pot of wisdom and revelled in fresh food.

Among the stars that trained at Kip Keino High Performance Training Centre in preparation for the last Olympic

Games and also in the team to Tokyo are world silver medallist Emmanuel Wanyonyi, double Olympic champion Beatrice Chebet and Olympic bronze medallist Faith Cherotich.

Athletes such as Wanyonyi, who will be flying Kenyan colours in the 800m race in Tokyo, and 10km world record holder Agnes Ngetich have been spotted recently working on their endurance and speed in Kapsabet and Iten respectively – towns neighbouring Eldoret City.

Sports Principal Secretary Elijah Mwangi said a number of track facilities around Eldoret will be utilised in the preparation for Tokyo25.

Kipchoge Keino Stadium is a construction site, but the ministry assured

TRAINING FACILITIES IN ELDORET

- Moi University Annex
- University of Eldoret
- FACILITIES THAT ARE UNDER CONSTRUCTION**
- Kipchoge Keino
- 64 Stadium
- FACILITIES IN ADJACENT TOWNS**
- Lornah Kiplagat High Altitude (private) – Iten
- Eliud Kipchoge Sports Complex - Kapsabet

the athletics fraternity that track facilities at the University of Eldoret and Moi University will be crucial in the training. Most of them, however, have dirt tracks, which experts say might pose challenges when it rains.

Apart from Kasarani, facilities such as Nyayo National Stadium and Ulinzi Sports Complex have been ideal for sprints and field events training.

Kasarani's track is yet to be installed after the stadium was refurbished for Chan, but the city still boasts of Nyayo and Ulinzi.

The squad to Tokyo will spend a few days in Nairobi, after August 30, before departure to Japan.

According to Mwangi, all support systems for a proper training ahead of the September global show are in place.

"Kipchoge Keino Stadium is still under construction. There are also track facilities at the University of Eldoret and the Moi University School of Law. These facilities will be expanded so that we get more space for training from next year," Mwangi said last month.

The PS went on to say: "Tokyo, here we come, and expect us to win more medals than we did during the last World Championships."

To avert struggles with track facilities outside Nairobi in future, Mwangi said: "President William Ruto is doing all he can to guarantee improved sports infrastructure."

Chairman of the Sports Committee in the National Assembly, Dan Wanyama, said the house will approve financial requests aimed at enabling Team Kenya to prepare well and compete in Tokyo.

srutto@standardmedia.co.ke

SESTEPHEN RUTTO, ELDORET

Before their return to Nairobi after the African Nations Championship (Chan), which will come to a close on August 30 at the Moi Sports Centre Kasarani, Team Kenya to the Tokyo World Championships in September will have to do their speed work outside the capital.

Soon after the national trials for the World Athletics Championships Tokyo 25 (September 13-21), an exercise staged at the Ulinzi Sports Complex in Nairobi late last month, Eldoret was named as the probable training destination for the team.

The decision, as explained by Athletics Kenya (AK) president Jackson Tuwei, was taken after stadiums in and adjacent to Nairobi were reserved for Chan competitions and training.

That meant that until the curtains close on the football bonanza, Kenya's squad to Tokyo will return to the capital.

Moi Sports Centre Kasarani has historically been a favourite pre-departure camp for Team Kenya to international championships.

However, the high-altitude training experience in Eldoret, observers say, will be ideal for the team's preparations, but athletics stars getting ready for a high-stakes contest in Tokyo and their technical teams are confronting the reality of poor facilities outside the capital, Nairobi.

Last year, part of the team



From right; Janeth Chepngetich, Agnes Ngetich, and Beatrice Chebet celebrate winning 10,000m race in positions 1, 2, and 3, respectively, during the World Athletics Championship trials at Ulinzi Complex on July 22. [Stafford Ondego, Standard]

RUGBY

Koyonzo determined to reclaim the rugby 7s East Africa title

Former national and East Africa rugby 7s champions Koyonzo Secondary School are gearing up for battle as they look to reclaim their trophy.

Koyonzo, who had a very successful 2023, winning the national and first East Africa gongs, returns to the regional stage after missing last year's contest.

They qualified for the games after finishing second at the just-concluded National Term Two games. They lost to perennial rivals St Peter's Mumias 14-12 in a scintillating final match played last Friday at the Bull Ring grounds, Kakamega.

Despite not reclaiming the national trophy, Koyonzo coach Eliud Okwemba believes that they are favourites to win the East Africa gong.

"The East Africa challenge will be tough, but we have higher chances of winning the trophy even though we lost in the national final. St Peter's won, but we dominated the game from start to end, and even though the title is up for grabs because there are no defending champions, I believe that it's ours to lose," Okwemba said.

He revealed that they are excited to be back on the bigger stage, having missed last year's games held in Mbale, Uganda.

"2024 was a bad year for us because we went to the nationals as national and defending champions as well as the best team from Western but while there, our starting six players fell sick, and so we could not achieve much with a depleted squad. It was painful to lose all our



Koyonzo and St. Peter's Mumias rugby players in action in Kakamega. [Benjamin Sakwa, Standard]

titles, but we have recovered and are ready to reclaim our lost glory," he added.

However, Koyonzo Stormers face a tough task going against their Kenyan compatriots as well as Ugandans who will be out to wrestle the title from them.

Newly crowned national champions and former East Africa winners St Peter's Mumias Rough Machines, Friends Secondary School Bwake, who lost their national trophy, and Bungoma High, who bagged bronze at the nationals, have also set their eyes on the East Africa gong.

In the absence of last 2024 champions Vihiga High School, who will be battling for the rugby 15s title, Bwake will be looking to upgrade from silver to gold. [Elizabeth Mburugu]

Moi Girls Kamusinga keen to end the year on a high

► Coach Simiyu says his charges are ready to reclaim their lost glory.

► The Kenyans will launch their campaign in Group B.

ELIZABETH MBURUGU

Former East Africa handball champions Moi Girls Kamusinga believe that this is the year they will reclaim their lost glory.

Kamusinga are looking to recapture the Federation of East Africa Secondary Schools Sports Association (FEASSSA) games that begin on Thursday in Kakamega.

The Kenyan girls will be battling 10 other teams for the regional trophy that has eluded them for the past three years. Kamusinga coach Godfrey Simiyu said that his charges are ready for the challenge.

"We have been preparing for this moment, and the girls are ready to ensure that the trophy remains home," Simiyu said.

Kamusinga had a good year, successfully defending their title and doing it for the first time in Mombasa. Despite dominating the nationals for years, Kamusinga had always lost whenever the games were held in Mombasa.

"The girls are in high spirits and motivated by our Term One games success. Winning for the first time in Mombasa has inspired the girls to work harder and yearn for more success. More than ever before, they are determined to excel at the East Africa

EAST AFRICA GIRLS HANDBALL POOLS:

Group A:

- St Joseph's Kitale (Kenya)
- Kibuli Sec (Uganda)
- Dagoretti Mixed (Kenya)
- Doingoya Sec (Tanzania)
- Kawanda Sec (Uganda)

Group B:

- Mbogo High (Uganda)
- Kadika Girls (Kenya)
- Maweni Sec (Tanzania)
- Moi Girls Kamusinga (Kenya)
- Gombe Sec (Uganda)
- ES Nyamgabe (Rwanda)



We must start well because we played the two Ugandan teams last year, they know what to expect from us, and so we just have to be at our best."

Godfrey Simiyu, Moi Girls Kamusinga handball coach



Moi Girls Kamusinga handball player Esther Butali (centre) shoots the ball during their 2023 national games finals match against Dagoretti High School at Hill School, Eldoret. [Peter Ochieng, Standard]

games," Simiyu added.

The Kenyan girls who finished fourth during last year's games held in Mbale, Uganda, will launch their campaign in Group B alongside fellow Kenyans Kadika Girls, who will be making their East Africa debut.

They will face off with Uganda's Mbogo High School who beat them 24-16 in last year's third-place play-offs denying them a podium finish.

The pool also has Tanzania's Maweni Secondary School, Gombe Secondary School from Uganda and Rwanda's ES Nyamgabe.

On the pooling, the experienced tactician said the strategy is to start well and ensure that they secure a

place in the knock-outs.

"We must start well because we played the two Ugandan teams last year, they know what to expect from us, and so we just have to be at our best," said Simiyu.

Simiyu, who led the Kenya Under-19 girls' national team to winning the International Handball Federation (IHF) Zone Five trophy, exuded confidence, saying his charges, who were among the triumphant teams, gained experience that will come in handy at the games.

"Some of my players made it to the national teams and gained exposure during the championship. Both teams won gold, which is a plus and a

morale booster, not just for them but for the entire team," he added.

Kamusinga's Bridgid Barasa and Brenda Amoiti were in the Under-19 team, while Lavendah Babra, Sheila Amoding, Millicent Wanjala and Mariam Yego excelled with the Under-17 team.

Kenya's national finalists St Joseph's Girls High School Kitale and bronze medallists Dagoretti Mixed are in Group A together with Kibuli Secondary School and Kawanda Secondary School from Uganda. The pool also has Tanzania's Doingoya Secondary School.

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Omondi driven by the desire for Chan glory with Harambee Stars

► His great goalkeeping skills are keeping Kenya on course.

► Gor Mahia keeper feels Chan has given him a platform to showcase his talent.

OCHIENG OYUGI, NAIROBI

Gor Mahia custodian Byrne Omondi has been so far outstanding in between the posts since national team Harambee Stars made debut in the eighth edition of the African Nations Championship (Chan) that is ongoing in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

The goalkeeper's hawk-eyed nature and crucial saves have helped to propel the country to the top of Group A with four points.

Kenya initially wore the underdog tag in the deadly group that was christened the Group of Death before the high octane championship kicked off on August 2.

Though he was at fault for Marvin Nabwire's red card in their 1-1 draw against Angola at Kasarani Stadium on Thursday, Omondi, who was among the late calls up in the team, has been a revelation.

He has flexed his muscles as head coach Benni McCarthy's number one pick, neutralising the pool's status quo, and now even batch favourites and double champions Morocco and DR Congo will have to fight hard in order to dislodge Kenya from the top of

the group. Kenya clash with the Atlas Lions in an eagerly awaited encounter at Kasarani tomorrow.

Last Sunday, Omondi was flawless in Kenya's opening fixture against DR Congo, making breathtaking saves in the second half, which many football pundits felt were just enough to bag him the coveted Man Of The Match Award.

"I was all out to guard the solitary goal that we had scored in the first half. I was also motivated by the fans who were fully behind us in the encounter," Omondi said of his clean sheet against the Congolese.

Even though Kenya conceded a goal against Angola in the second match on Thursday, Omondi's outstanding display cannot go unnoticed.

After Nabwire's red card in the 21st minute, the towering custodian redeemed himself with a series of saves that secured Stars a vital point against the Sable Antelopes.

"So far so good, with a win and a draw, we are on course in this tournament. We are optimistic to make it to the next stage of the championship," Omondi said.

Apart from intense goalkeeping training at the camp, Omondi gives credit to some of his right reflexes on the pitch to the Alphonse Omija-led backline, which he termed 'solid'.

"I always ensure I'm in unison with the defenders, this gives me the opportunity to initiate good reflexes when parrying, punching, blocking, catching or diving for the ball," he stated.

Even though the whole of Haram-



Harambee Stars goalkeeper Byrne Omondi during their 2024 Chan Group A match against Angola at Kasarani Stadium on Thursday. [Stafford Ondego, Standard]

PLAYER PROFILE

- **Name:** Byrne Omondi Odhiambo
- **Age:** 28
- **Position:** Goalkeeper
- **Club:** Gor Mahia
- **Previous clubs:** Bandari, Tusker, Posta Rangers, KCB
- **How he describes himself:** Shy, humble and resilient



bee Stars squad is making a debut in Chan, featuring in the tournament for the first time for Omondi is so personal and priceless.

He feels this is a big opportunity for his career to get noticed, as his aim is to proceed to better leagues abroad.

"The championship is helping me to showcase my talents and skills. This is a life-changing moment for me, as right now I have realised I'm becoming a household name in Kenya," he explained.

Omondi also appreciates his call-up to the national team to feature in the continental championship, saying he is not taking that inclusion for granted.

"It's an experience of a lifetime that words cannot describe. There are so many players in Kenya, some even better than me, who could have been picked, so being selected to become part of Harambee Stars is a great honour. This is what is motivating me to give my all in the tournament," he highlighted.

And does he have any plans after Chan?

"Yes, my hope is that I'll do my best in the tournament, get spotted by scouts and proceed to good leagues in Europe, God willing," said Omondi, who recently joined K'Ogalo from Bandari.

Ahead of Harambee Stars third match against Morocco tomorrow, Omondi is again calling upon the fans to turn up in large numbers to give the squad confidence in the crunch fixture.

He feels the team is in order, but a bit of furnishing is needed in all three departments – the defence, midfield and striking force – which will be necessary before they face the Atlas Lions. He also cited the need to accustom themselves to playing under floodlights, saying most of the players in the squad are not used to it.

"We know Morocco and DR Congo are a big threat in our group and in the championship, but playing at home with the full support from our supporters gives us that added advantage in the tournament. We are capable of doing wonders," he said.

"To the fans, come out in large numbers on Sunday."

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ZANZIBAR

Chelle surprised by Chan intensity, urges Nigeria to bounce back

Nigeria head coach Eric Chelle has hailed the exceptional intensity and quality of the 2024 African Nations Championship (Chan) after his side suffered a narrow 1-0 defeat to defending champions Senegal in their Group C opener in Zanzibar on Tuesday.

The result may have been disappointing for Nigeria, who returned to the competition after a four-year absence, but Chelle was quick to underline his admiration for the tournament's high tempo and quality—elements he admitted took him by surprise.

"I am surprised about the intensity," Chelle said, reflecting on a match that showcased the technical levels of both teams.

"There are a lot of good teams and a lot of quality. I think the pitches are very good, allow-

ing for fast-paced and technical football. This would be a great Chan competition."

Nigeria had missed out on the past two editions of the Chan (2020 and 2022) despite previously strong showings in 2014, 2016, and 2018.

Now back in the fold, Chelle's side entered the match with high hopes but fell short against a well-drilled Senegalese team, who scored the decisive goal in the 75th minute.

The coach was forthright in his post-match analysis, describing the goal as "self-inflicted" due to a defensive error and lamenting his side's lack of urgency, especially in the first half.

"Senegal deserved their victory because we just played 20 minutes in the second half," he said.

"During the first half, I didn't recognise my

team. Senegal was more aggressive than us, they put more intensity, and it's very normal for them to go ahead and win."

While acknowledging his team's improved performance in the second half, Chelle stressed that short bursts of quality were not enough to win matches at this level.

"When we started playing, we created chances, kept the ball well, and showed glimpses of our attacking flair," he said.

"But we need to be more ambitious and aggressive, to press higher up the pitch and win the ball back quickly."

The defeat left Nigeria in a precarious position, needing a win in their second group game against Sudan on August 12 to remain in contention for qualification. [Cafonline]



Nigeria coach Eric Chelle. [CAF Media]



Harambee Stars head coach Benni McCarthy reacts during their 2024 African Nations Championship (Chan) Group A match against Angola at Kasarani Stadium on Thursday. [Stafford Ondego, Standard]

Exhausted McCarthy feeling very fortunate

daily@standard.com

▶ The South African tactician was a relieved man after Harambee Stars drew 1-1 with Angola on Thursday night.

▶ Kenya finished the game with 10 men following Marvin Nabwire's red card.

ROBERT ABONG'O, NAIROBI

Apparently exhausted Harambee Stars head coach Benni McCarthy was extremely proud of his players' commitment and grit after they battled to a dramatic 1-1 draw against Angola on Thursday in the African Nations Championship (Chan) 2024.

Despite playing under the lights for more than 70 minutes with 10 men in their second Group A match at the Moi International Sports Centre, Kasarani, Harambee Stars' resilient display earned praise from the former Bafana Bafana man.

Kenya went behind as early as the sixth minute when Beni Jetour's pinpoint cross found an unmarked Jó Paciência in the box, who tapped in from close range to give Pedro Gonçalves' men the lead.

Gor Mahia creative midfielder Austine Odhiambo levelled the score in the 12th minute, converting a pressure penalty awarded after a VAR review. This is after Odhiambo was fouled in the area.

McCarthy, speaking to the media in the mixed zone after the match, expressed optimism about what he saw from his players.

"There's some small mistakes that we need to work on. I'm extremely happy

with the performance. I am happy and proud of the attitude and effort shown by my players and that they gave the fans a point," he said.

Red card and VAR

The former Manchester United first team coach quickly admitted that the early red card changed the course of the game, but believed his team could have secured more than a draw had they finished the game with 11 men.

"We got punished because we got a player sent off, so we played almost 80 minutes with 10 men. The attitude and mentality of the players were incredible. As good as Angola was, I felt it was a missed opportunity for us. With 11 players, we could have gotten more than what we did," McCarthy explained.

The South African tactician also detailed his frustration at the late counter-attack, where substitute Ben Stanley made the wrong decision with the final pass, consequently leading to them conceding on the other end.

"When you work so hard to get yourself in the game. The thought process and that final decision in the last minute, you know, it was a counterattack for us. The right pass for us ends up in the back of the net. We made a wrong decision, and

they went to the other end and scored," he said.

The epic match saw several key Video Assistant Referee (VAR) interventions, including Odhiambo's penalty and a disallowed Angolan goal in the last minute of the game.

McCarthy admitted he initially did not see the foul that led to the spot kick.

"It was two moments that I completely missed. I didn't see the penalty from Austin, because I was more furious about him wanting to take an extra touch inside the box because we work on these things, and the player clipped him. I missed it but VAR saw it. In my head I thought I should go apologise to the player. He got stamped on," McCarthy noted.

On Angola's disallowed goal, McCarthy praised the officiating, saying the player was completely offside, considering the striker was goalside when the cross was played.

"In the game, I thought it was a goal, but when the image came back, I saw it was offside. Whoever was on VAR was 100 per cent spot on with the correct decision. The Angolan player was blocking the defender, which means he was goalside, so he was offside. It would have been a wrong decision that would have cost us three points if the goal was given," he stated.

Despite the mental and physical toll, McCarthy is optimistic about his team's chances heading into their final group match against an experienced Morocco side on Sunday, August 17, at Kasarani.

"I was exhausted. I felt for the players. When you play such a game against a team that knows how to control and move," he said.

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ONE FOR THE TEAM

Nabwire saved us, says Stars captain Omar

Harambee Stars captain Abud Omar had nothing but absolute praise for Marvin Nabwire, after the midfielder sacrificed himself to save their blushes against Angola in the African Nations Championship (Chan) 2024 match.

10-man Kenya on Thursday night held their nerve to force a 1-1 draw against a stubborn 'antelopes' side at the Moi International Sports Centre Kasarani.

Playing at a fully packed Kasarani, Benni McCarthy's men found themselves in early trouble when Angola's Jó Paciência tapped in from close range in the sixth minute following Beni Jetour's cross that left Kenya's defenders flat-footed.

Austine Odhiambo equalised from the penalty spot six minutes later, following a VAR check. Centre referee Sadou Ali Brahamou was summoned to the screen to after Angolan forward Afonso Marques was found culpable of clipping Odhiambo's ankles.

Ten minutes after the crucial VAR decision that went in Kenya's favour, 46,525 passionate fans watched in disbelief as referee Brahamou was called to the pitch side VAR monitor to assess another incident, this time, involving Harambee Stars' defensive line.

After Kenya defenders failed to confidently deal with a loose ball at the edge of the penalty area, coupled by an error from goalkeeper Byrne Omondi, Angola's Alberto Adao looked to capitalise, but Nabwire, the last man, tackled him from behind to prevent an obvious goal scoring opportunity.

The Kenya Police midfielder had been shown a yellow card initially, but the decision was escalated after a thorough VAR review. The referee had no choice but to reverse his initial decision, opting to send Nabwire off for the foul.

A wave of disappointment and frustration filled Kasarani, as Kenyan fans felt the card was harsh and unjustified.

Even though they played for more than 70 minutes with a man less, Kenya captain Omar gave Nabwire his plaudits for preventing what would have been another silly goal conceded.

"I think Nabwire's red card won us this game. If it wasn't for him stopping the Angola guy from scoring, we would have been speaking another language," Omar told the media in the mixed zone.

Omar revealed McCarthy tweaked his tactics slightly at half time, to which the team responded well.

"The coach and technical bench gave us specific instructions on what we needed to do in the second half, and the players gave their all. I am proud of them," he explained.

Kenya face Morocco in a crucial Group A tie at the same venue tomorrow, and Omar believes the team can complete the job against the experienced North Africans.

"All the games, we want to win. Even this game, when we got a red card, we still found areas to try and attack and get a goal. We are showing great character and hope to keep on with the same momentum against Morocco," said the captain. [Robert Abong'o]



Harambee Stars captain Abud Omar (centre) confronts referee Sadou Ali as he sent off Marvin Nabwire (behind him) during their 2024 Chan Group A match against Angola at Kasarani Stadium on Thursday. [Stafford Ondego]

The Saturday Standard

Sports



2024 CHAN
AUGUST 2-30

Harambee Stars dare to dream as 2024 Chan quarters race heats up

► Kenya will face Morocco tomorrow, with the winner guaranteed a quarter-final place.

► McCarthy happy with his charges' character.

WASHINGTON ONYANGO

Harambee Stars moved a step closer to the quarter-finals of the 2024 African Nations Championship (Chan) after battling to a 1-1 draw against Angola on Thursday night, despite playing with 10 men for more than 70 minutes at a packed MISC Kasarani Stadium.

The result kept Benni McCarthy's side unbeaten in the tournament and on top of Group A with four points from two matches.

It also means Kenya's fate is firmly in their hands ahead of their next clash against Morocco tomorrow (3pm), where a win will seal a place in the last eight with a game to spare.

Kenya's night became more difficult in the 21st minute when midfielder Marvin Nabwire was shown a straight red card for a reckless challenge, leaving the team a man down.

Austine Odhiambo scored from the spot in the 12th minute to cancel out Joaquim Paciencia's early seventh minute opener.

"When you work so hard to get yourself in the game, the thought process and that final decision in the last minute matters so much," Harambee Stars coach Benni McCarthy reflected.

"We had a counter-attack, the right pass for us ended up in the back of the net, but we made a wrong decision. They went to the other end and scored."

Angola thought they had scored a

winner late in the match, but the goal was ruled out for offside after a VAR review.

It was not only a sigh of relief for Kenyans but also for the Bafana Bafana legend.

"In the game I thought it was a goal, but when the image came back, I saw it was offside. The Angolan player was blocking the defender, which means he was goal-side, so he was offside. Whoever was on VAR was 100 per cent spot on. It would have been a wrong decision that would have cost us three points if the goal was given," said McCarthy.

Despite playing much of the game with 10 men, McCarthy said he was proud of his players' determination.

"There are some small mistakes we need to work on, but I'm extremely happy with the performance. I'm proud of the attitude and the effort shown by my players and that they gave the fans a point in such a tough match."

The draw means Kenya will go into tomorrow's clash against Morocco knowing that a win will guarantee a place in the quarter-finals with a game to spare.

Morocco, who have played only one match so far, started their campaign with a 2-0 win over Angola. DR Congo also have three points after beating Zambia 2-0 earlier on Thursday at Nyayo Stadium.

For Angola, the draw leaves them with two points from two matches. They now face Zambia in a must-win

2024 CHAN

Group A standings

- Kenya - 4 points (2 matches played)
- Morocco - 3 points (1 match played)
- DR Congo - 3 points (2 matches played)
- Angola - 1 point (2 matches played)
- Zambia - 0 point (1 match played)



encounter to keep their tournament alive.

McCarthy knows tomorrow's game will be tough but believes his team has the spirit to go through.

"We've shown that even with 10 men, we can match some of the best teams. If we stay disciplined and take our chances, we can book our place in the quarter-finals," he said.

In Group B, Tanzania are leading with six points after back-to-back wins against Mauritania (1-0) and Burkina Faso (2-0).

Kenya's fans will be hoping for more magic at Kasarani this weekend — and maybe, just maybe, a ticket to the last eight.

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Harambee Stars midfielder Austine Odhiambo celebrates after scoring against Angola during their 2024 African Nations Championship (Chan) Group A match at Kasarani Stadium on Thursday. *Inset: Harambee Stars fans cheer their team against Angola.* [Stafford Ondego, Standard]



EVE

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Occupation: Makeup Artist
Instagram: @_mwago

Too dark to shine **P.2**

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COVER FEATURE

The hidden cost of being dark-skinned

in Kenya

Post a photo online, walk into certain offices, or dine at particular restaurants and a painful truth becomes apparent: even in a predominantly Black nation, fair skin still opens doors that dark skin does not, writes **Maryann Muganda**



Olave Orawo, Emotional Intelligence Coach and Digital Creator [Courtesy]

On the surface, TikTok offers a joyful scroll, women and men of every complexion dancing, laughing and celebrating life. But beneath this vibrant façade lies a far more troubling reality. In the comment sections, especially those featuring dark-skinned women, cruelty brews. Hidden behind anonymous usernames and emojis, users hurl insults, insisting they'd "look better with fair skin."

Recent studies paint a troubling picture of how deeply rooted this discrimination is. A 2023 Twitter data analysis titled *Framings of colourism among Kenyan Twitter users* analysed 7726 unique posts about colourism from 5,094 accounts over nine months. This study documented widespread discussions about colourism among Kenyan social media users.

This discrimination extends far beyond ordinary citizens. Celebrities, influencers and models are subject to the same prejudice. Oscar-winning actress Lupita Nyong'o has spoken out against it. South Sudanese influencer Imo Unusual, who now lives in Kenya, experiences colourism and xenophobia, the dual challenge of being a dark-skinned woman who dares to speak out.

Women are now resorting to practices reminiscent of the 2000s: bleaching their skin and flocking to *Mikorogo treatments that are currently trending on social media*. Self-proclaimed "TikTok Mikorogo queens" promote the idea that "black doesn't cut it in Kenya," perpetuating the toxic message that success comes only in lighter skin.

Academic studies have long defined colourism as a form of intra-racial discrimination, where darker-skinned individuals are judged more harshly than lighter-skinned peers. A 2017 paper, applying Pierre Bourdieu's concept of symbolic violence, described how Kenyan society attributes positive traits to light skin while associating dark skin with negativity.

Beverly Achieng' Okoth, a registered counselling psychologist, explains this as deep-rooted psychological conditioning: "Our minds have been conditioned to believe that being lighter equates to being loved more. Women are bleaching their skin because they want society to accept them."

This conditioning begins early in life. Psychologist Alinah Kiende Obado compares self-esteem to building a house: brick by brick, from infancy through childhood. "A child learns their worth when their needs are met," she explains. "But then they

meet the outside world, where comparisons begin: 'Your sister is so pretty because she's light-skinned.'"

The scars left by these comparisons are lasting. "In families with mixed complexions, children quickly learn which shades are preferred," Obado adds. "Neighbours often feed the bias, praising lighter-skinned siblings over their darker counterparts."

For emotional intelligence coach and digital creator Olave Orawo, the journey began in primary school. "Growing up, I always heard, you are so dark. Even the people I was being compared to weren't light-skinned; they were just lighter than me."

These constant comparisons had a profound psychological impact. "In my head, I thought I was ugly. I realised that my looks were not something I could rely on, so I invested in other things. I became talented and articulate." She explains.

The discrimination followed her into adulthood. While working promotional gigs in university, she recalls being the only dark-skinned woman among ten. "They'd line us up and pick girls like beans. The supervisors were blunt, the client wanted light skin, a slim waist, someone who could wear a crop top."

At 23, during a television audition, the feedback was brutally honest. "They told me I was a great presenter, but I didn't have the look they were after. They said, 'You're not cut out for TV, maybe you'd do better on radio.'"

For others, the pressure to conform led to dangerous choices. Transformational coach Kush Tracey bleached her skin from 2018 to 2021. "To succeed in the industry, I thought I had to lighten my skin, like the role models I looked up to," she admits.

The cost was steep. Tracey spent over Sh47,000 monthly on glutathione injections, plus additional expenses for accompanying lotions. A box of powder supplements costs Sh15,000 for two weeks, that's Sh30,000 per month. Then the injections cost between Sh45,000 and Sh47,000 for a month's supply.

But the real cost was her health. "I had green veins, white spots, stretch marks, acne and dark circles. I still deal with acne problems today, a consequence I have to live with."

Dr Bernard Gichina, a dermatologist, explains that bleaching products work by reducing or destroying melanocytes, which are the cells that produce skin pigment. The chemicals used include mercury, hydroquinone, potent steroids and glutathione, many of which cause severe health complications.

"People come in with burns, chest infections and gastritis. We've even had deaths from glutathione injections in Kenya," warns Dr Gichina. "Mercury affects higher brain functions, you lose your memory. Hydroquinone can cause cancer, kidney failure and liver problems. I've seen patients with stretch marks on their faces, excessive hair growth, hyper-



tension and fungal infections.”

Discrimination isn't just individual; it's institutional. Orawo explains how, while they are often young, decision-makers in brands and media companies perpetuate older prejudices. “The people giving brand partnerships aren't young. And even if they are young, they have absorbed the anti-dark skin culture they encountered there.”

Media portrayals don't help. As psychologist Okoth notes, “Even in films, roles are reserved for light-skinned people. If you need someone to play a witch, get the darkest person. It's as if the devil is black and Jesus is white.”

Even the widely celebrated notion of “tall, dark and handsome” doesn't extend to women. “Dark-skinned men are idolised,” Orawo says. “But those same men want light-skinned partners and push women to meet these unrealistic standards.”

Some communities feel the sting more acutely. Orawo notes that Luo women often face harsher colourist jokes from their own men. “The call is coming from inside the house,” she says. “If the person who's supposed to protect you is pulling you down, then the rest of the world can do whatever they want to you.”

Tracey's awakening came when she considered having children. “If I marry a dark-skinned man and we have dark children, will that be enough for me? If I don't love my own skin tone, will I be able to love my dark children?”

There is, however, a glimmer of hope. Digital spaces like TikTok, podcasting and other platforms are giving dark-skinned women visibility that traditional media denied them. “Without TikTok, someone like me would never have built up a following on social media. The digital space has given us more room to exist,” says Orawo.

However, the path forward requires conscious effort from multiple fronts. Psychologist Obado emphasises that parents must first address their own biases. “Parents need to confront and heal their own biases,” Obado says. “Affirm your children. Show them that beauty isn't limited to complexion.”

She suggests making practical changes to the language used: “When your child wears makeup, tell them they look ‘fancy’. On normal days, tell them they look ‘beautiful’. Separate the idea of beauty from cosmetics.”

Tracey echoes this sentiment: “Parents need to affirm their children regardless of how they look. If they have dark skin, love them and tell them they're gorgeous. Show them other dark-skinned people doing amazing things.”



In my head, I thought I was ugly. I realised that my looks were not something I could rely on, so I invested in other things. I became talented and articulate.”

LIVING

When one girl rises, she lifts others with her

Through education, empowerment and community engagement, Diana Nayiano Kimojino is creating safe spaces where young women can reclaim their voices, embrace their identities and build brighter futures, writes

Manuel Ntoyai manuel@standard.com

Diana's journey began in a world of both pain and deep love. “Growing up as a Maasai girl meant enduring things you couldn't even speak about,” she says quietly. “I knew I couldn't change the past, but I could do something to change the future.”

Her childhood was defined by silence; it was a cultural expectation that girls should endure hardships without questioning tradition. However, Diana challenged this norm and today, through her foundation, Nailepu, she empowers others to do the same. “I didn't have a safe space growing up. That's why I created one,” she explains.

Recognising the vital role of digital literacy in today's world, the foundation runs computer training programmes for students and out-of-school young people.

These courses aim to bridge the digital divide, boost employability and inspire rural youth to take control of their futures, teaching more than just basic skills. “Technology is the new language of opportunity,” says Diana. “Our community must speak it.”

Alongside tech education, Nailepu runs fashion and design classes that blend modern creativity with cultural heritage.

These programmes enable young people to express themselves artistically while equipping them with the skills needed to achieve financial independence, a goal that was previously out of reach for many.

In many rural areas, periods are still considered taboo and are shrouded in



“Every time a girl speaks up, chooses to go to school, or dares to dream, I know we're doing something right.”

shame and misinformation. This causes girls to miss school and increases drop-out rates.

Recognising this issue, Diana launched the Nailepu Community Health Programme, which trains local health champions to deliver sexual and reproductive health education.

The programme also teaches women and girls how to make reusable sanitary towels, providing a sustainable, dignified and affordable solution.

“We're not just handing out pads,” Diana says. “We're creating knowledge, independence and pride.”

These reusable kits are distributed during school visits, community forums and empowerment events led by the girls themselves. Because the towels are washable and reusable, no girl has to miss school because of her period.

Diana has also harnessed the power of sport as a tool for unity and healing. “Sport is more than just play,” she

explains. “It's therapy. It's connection. It's a way to talk about difficult subjects.”

Sporting events have become safe spaces where mental health, the empowerment of girls and women and cultural identity are openly discussed, while drawing enthusiastic community support.

Although Diana has recently earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Wesleyan University, she attributes her most profound learning to her childhood experiences in Narok. These experiences have shaped her leadership style, making her empathetic, grounded and unapologetically bold.

“As a woman, and especially as a Maasai woman, I know what it feels like to be silenced,” she reflects. “My work is to help others find their voice.”

However, her path is not without obstacles. Challenging generations of cultural expectations is difficult. However, Diana draws strength from her community, her mentors and in particular, the girls who walk through her doors each day.

“I see myself in them,” she says. “Every time a girl speaks up, chooses to go to school, or dares to dream, I know we're doing something right.”

FASHION

Crowning glory

In the ever-evolving world of fashion, hair remains a powerful canvas for self-expression, heritage and bold creativity. For Black women especially, hair is more than style; it's a legacy, writes **Tania Omusale**

From celestial power to geometric elegance, the next style draws the eye with thick braided loops adorned with golden hoops. Gravity-defying and intricately designed, the hairstyle is both rooted in African tradition and charged with contemporary edge. The hoops glint like jewellery suspended in motion, framing a face marked by graphic white eyeliner and sculpted lips.

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These African-inspired hairstyles are meant for grand occasions, photoshoots, or moments where you want to be unforgettable.”

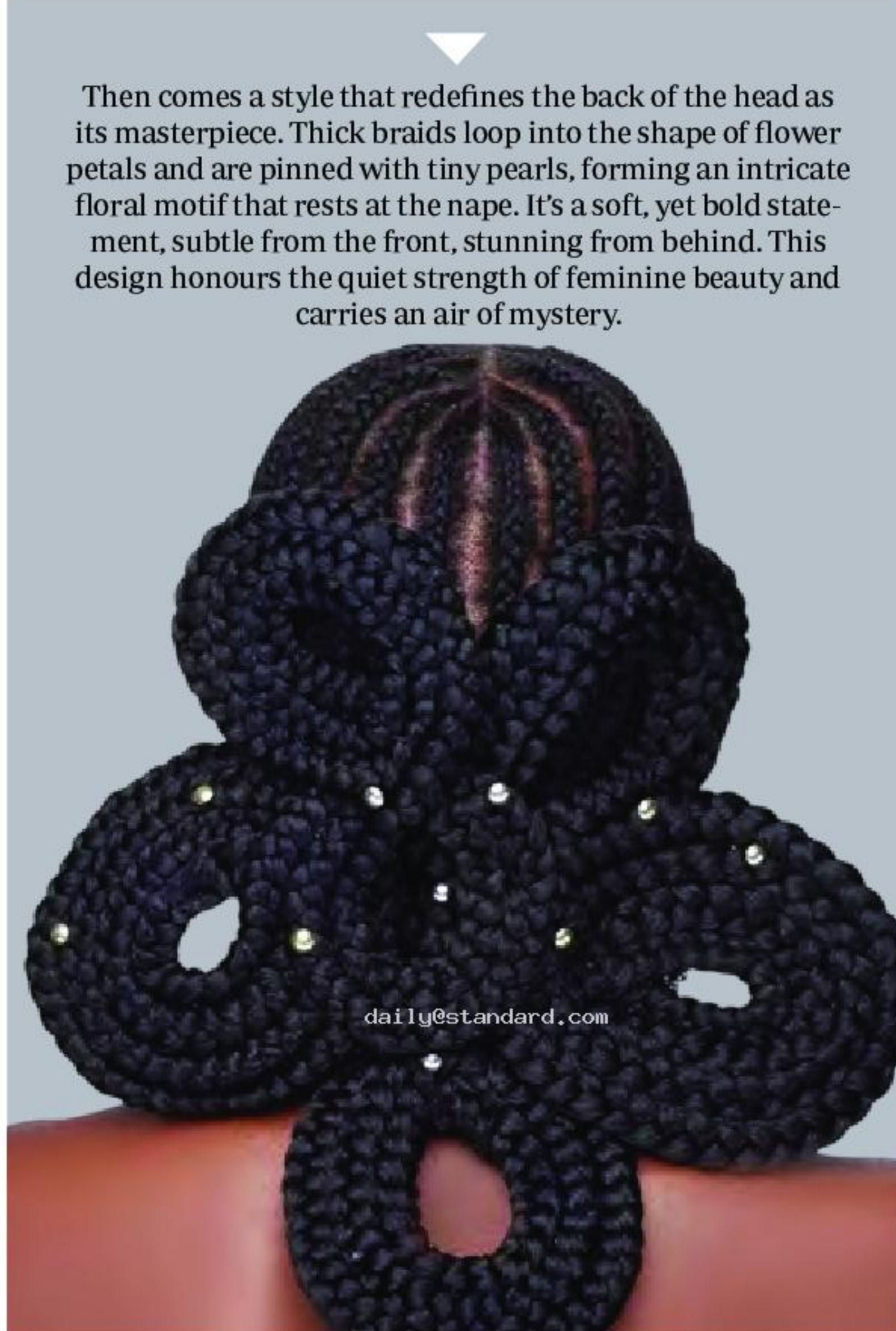


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▼
We begin with a show-stopping look that towers like a crown of solar rays. Sculpted into dramatic, upward spikes. Paired with bold bangles in fiery shades of orange, yellow, black and oversized sunglasses worn as accessories around the neck, this look fuses fashion with fierce individuality.

Shifting into something more futuristic, this style stuns with a spiralled, circular braid sitting tall atop the head like a crown, paired with layered braids that drape across the face like a veil. The craftsmanship is exquisite, and the look is equal parts sculptural and seductive. Gold accessories complete the visual symphony, creating a harmonious balance between heritage and avant-garde expression.



▼
Then comes a style that redefines the back of the head as its masterpiece. Thick braids loop into the shape of flower petals and are pinned with tiny pearls, forming an intricate floral motif that rests at the nape. It's a soft, yet bold statement, subtle from the front, stunning from behind. This design honours the quiet strength of feminine beauty and carries an air of mystery.



►
A towering bun made of thick, coiled braids sits high on the head like a sculpted bouquet, while smaller, rounded braids frame the face in symmetrical beauty. Gold cuffs dot the style with regal detail, emphasising a balance between tradition and grace. This hairstyle is ideal for ceremonial moments, where elegance and cultural pride take centre stage. It's timeless, romantic and deeply intentional.

HAIR

Best products for relaxed 4C hair



Relaxing 4C hair can make it more manageable, but the process comes at a cost.

The chemicals used in relaxing weaken the hair fibre, leaving it more susceptible to dryness, brittleness and breakage, especially at the delicate point where new growth meets the relaxed strands.

To keep your hair healthy and resilient, it's crucial to focus on repair, strengthening and consistent moisture to preserve its elasticity.

Products you need:

Cleansers: It is important to use sulfate-free, fortifying shampoos and conditioners. Products containing keratin, collagen or silk amino acids can help rebuild weakened protein structures. Use clarifying shampoos to remove product build-up without stripping the hair too much.

Conditioners: Intensive protein treatments are vital for relaxed hair and you should treat your hair every 2-4 weeks to help rebuild and strengthen the hair shaft. Follow this with a moisturising deep conditioner to restore elasticity. If you must use conditioner daily, ensure it is lightweight yet hydrating to prevent the hair from becoming weighed down while maintaining softness.

Leave-ins and protectants: A good leave-in conditioner that offers heat protection is essential, especially if you regularly use heated styling tools. Alternatively, serums or lightweight oils can add shine and reduce frizz without leaving a greasy residue. Choose products that provide moisture and barrier repair, such as ceramides and silicones (when used in moderation for heat protection and shine), as well as natural oils.

A consistent routine is as important as product choice for both natural and chemically altered hair. Regular trimming to remove split ends is essential, as is sleeping in a silk or satin scarf or bonnet and minimising excessive heat exposure.

[Esther Muchene]

RELATIONSHIPS

With Chris Hart

Can a marriage thrive **without sharing feelings?**



Hi Chris,
My husband just won't talk about his feelings. He doesn't recognise mine either! It's really getting to me. He's a great husband in every other way, so how can I resolve this issue?

No Feelings

Hi No Feelings!

Some men are brought up to be like that. If that happened to your husband, he'll probably start talking about his feelings eventually. However, he may also have a condition called alexithymia, which would make things more difficult.

People who are deeply alexithymic can't talk about their emotions at all. In fact, they simply don't understand them. Neither their own nor other people's. Severe alexithymics are often unaware that what they're feeling is an emotion. They'll deny being upset when it's quite obvious that they are.

This difficulty is not a mental illness or personality disorder. It's common among people who experienced emotional neglect in childhood, but there's often no obvious cause.

So it's not surprising that your husband is driv-

ing you nuts. But he's not doing it deliberately. He may not even know what you mean by 'emotions'.

He has probably developed a set of responses to social situations that sound normal and empathetic, but you will have noticed that he loses interest too quickly for them to be genuine.

He may also lack imagination or creativity. Conversations with him may therefore feel monotonous and frustrating. They are factual, literal and logical, with few opinions or reflections. He probably doesn't enjoy emotional novels or films either.

Deep alexithymic individuals are usually terrible at romance and intimacy because both require empathy and imagination. Consequently, sex with them never feels like making love. Even though they can learn sexual techniques, their approach is almost always mechanical, impersonal and awkward.

However, the fact that you describe him as a good husband is a good sign. An experienced therapist could help him understand his emotions and become more empathetic. Hearing a therapist explain what's going on can be life-changing for both partners.

All the best,
Chris

“

It's not surprising that your husband is driving you nuts. But he's not doing it deliberately. He may not even know what you mean by 'emotions'

WHAT SHOULD I NEVER COMPROMISE IN LOVE?



Hi Chris,
I expected there to be a lot of compromise in my marriage, so I learned to make concessions. However, I'm starting to feel like I'm giving up too much. Are there any things I should never compromise on?

Too Much?

Hi Too Much?!

Yes, there are! For example, your dreams and your personal rights. You should also feel safe with your husband, so never compromise on any form of abuse, no matter how minor.

You should have an equal say in everything that affects your marriage. Speak up if you feel you don't.

You and your husband will inevitably have different attitudes towards life, but no one has the right to make you compromise your values to fit in with theirs.

Never compromise on honesty and openness because they are essential for a good marriage. Neither of you should keep secrets from each other, and you should both feel able to raise any issue without fear of judgment or criticism. You must also have what-

ever level of personal privacy you need. This could mean having a little private time for yourself, for example, or being able to keep a completely personal journal. Your husband has no right to snoop on your phone!

You have a right to physical and emotional intimacy. Speak up straight away if you're beginning to feel lonely or neglected.

It's important to spend time with your family and friends. Obviously, you shouldn't prioritise them over your husband. But, in turn, he shouldn't try to restrict your access to them. Don't tolerate any controlling or insecure behaviour.

Your husband should support you in achieving your goals and aspirations. If he starts asking you to compromise on those, you'll definitely come to grief sooner or later.

No matter how great it feels to be in a relationship, you mustn't lose sight of what makes each of you special. It was your differences that attracted you to each other in the first place. If you want your marriage to last, you need to stay unique!

All the best, Chris

EATS

Shish kebab mix platter



By Chef Ali Mandhry

Shish kebab is a popular dish consisting of skewered minced beef, lamb or chicken. It is usually charcoal-grilled and served with grilled vegetables and a side dish of your choice.

What you need:

500g minced beef
2 teaspoon cumin
2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon chilli powder
1 egg
1 onion
4 cloves of garlic
1/2 cup of finely chopped coriander
1/2 cup of breadcrumbs

What to do:

Place the onion and garlic in a blender and blend until smooth.

In a bowl, mix the minced beef, cumin, salt, chilli, egg, coriander and breadcrumbs with the puréed onion and garlic and mix thoroughly.

Thread the mixture onto skewers about an inch or two in diameter and cook on a hot grill. Make a mixed platter by serving the kebabs with grilled chicken, mishkaki, fries, shredded lettuce, cucumbers and sliced tomatoes. Serve with chooza or chutney sauce. Enjoy!

Thread the mixture onto skewers about an inch or two in diameter and cook on a hot grill



EVE MONEY

How to confidently ask for a raise and get it

Securing a pay raise can feel like a daunting task, but it's a step that's well within your reach, especially if you know how to approach it strategically, writes **Anjellah Owino**

Finance coach and advisor Margaret Njeri shares how to prepare for, navigate and ultimately get the raise you've earned. From emotional preparation to financial research, you need to approach the conversation with confidence and clarity, ensuring that you're not just asking for more money but advocating for your true value.

The best time to ask, Margaret notes, is after a successful project or performance review, during budgeting season, or just before your contract ends or an appraisal deadline.

You can prepare for the negotiation in two ways: emotionally, by practising affirmations, mock conversations and visualising a confident outcome; and financially, by reviewing your budget, setting goals and seeing how the raise fits in.

Before the conversation, she recommends checking market rates for similar roles on sites like Glassdoor, Fuzu and BrighterMonday. You should also look into trends in your industry and how your company is performing.

"You can highlight results like, 'I increased sales by 18 per cent,' or 'I managed more clients by 20 per cent,'" she explains.

She also suggests speaking to peers, mentors, or coaches if you're dealing with impostor syndrome. Write down your wins and remind yourself that you're not asking for a favour but for fair pay.

During the discussion, frame it as showing your value rather than demanding more. To avoid sounding too forceful, she advises using phrases like "I'd love to work together to find a fair adjustment."

You could also say, "I've been thinking about my growth and the value I bring. Given my recent results in [X, Y, Z], I believe it's a good time to talk about a compensation adjustment."



"If you're told the budget is tight or the timing isn't right, ask about other benefits you could receive for now, like more leave days, flexible hours, a new title, bonuses, training or travel insurance."

If you're told the budget is tight or the timing isn't right, Margaret suggests asking about other benefits you could receive for now, like more leave days, flexible hours, a new title, bonuses, training, or travel insurance. Then agree to revisit the raise in three months, based on performance metrics.

Margaret adds that many people fear asking for a raise because they've been taught to be agreeable, not assertive.

Also, many aren't sure of their market value or don't see the full worth of their work. This holds them back. A strong support system can help you speak up with more confidence.

Once you get the raise, she recommends increasing your savings or investments.

"Also, check your budget and try not to raise your spending. Focus on growing your net worth," she says.

HEALTH



World Breastfeeding Week: A baby's first superpower

In a mother's arms, a child finds more than comfort; they find their first line of defence. Breastfeeding, often called a baby's first vaccine, provides vital antibodies that protect against common childhood illnesses like diarrhoea and pneumonia. It also plays a key role in healthy development, boosting a baby's immune system, brain growth and long-term health.

This simple, powerful act is both deeply personal and universally important. Each year, it's honoured through World Breastfeeding Week. This year's theme, "Prioritise Breastfeeding: Create Sustainable Support Systems", calls on everyone

to commit to creating lasting support structures that empower mothers and give every child the best possible start in life.

Breastfeeding is more than a personal choice; it's a public health priority. Research shows that it significantly reduces the risk of chronic conditions such as obesity and diabetes in children. For mothers, it lowers the chances of certain cancers and heart disease. The benefits are lifelong and mutual.

Kenya has made significant progress over the years. Exclusive breastfeeding rates have jumped from just 13 per cent in 2003 to 60 per cent by 2022, placing the coun-

try ahead of many global counterparts. Yet, despite this progress, recent figures from the Ministry of Health suggest the momentum is slowing.

Between 2014 and 2022, the rate of exclusive breastfeeding fell slightly from 62 per cent to 60 per cent. The proportion of babies breastfed within the first hour after birth also declined, from 63 per cent to 61 per cent.

Even more concerning, bottle-feeding rose from 26 per cent to 34 per cent during the same period, a trend that highlights growing challenges.

These setbacks reflect real barriers:

limited access to breastfeeding information, cultural myths and a lack of workplace policies that support nursing mothers. Many women still struggle to find the time, space and encouragement to breastfeed, especially once they return to work.

Kenya is working to adapt global recommendations to local realities. Health worker training is being expanded, and policies that support mothers, such as paid maternity leave and breastfeeding breaks, are gaining traction. These efforts are part of a broader push to ensure that breastfeeding support is not only available but sustainable.

[Timo Muthuri]

WELLNESS

Unlocking the strength of **your support circle**

For many women, juggling the demands of work, family and societal expectations can feel overwhelming. In those moments, the comfort of a trusted friend, sister or mother becomes essential, writes **Timo Muthuri**



“

Starting a circle is easier than it seems. Begin by inviting friends or colleagues to join you and setting a clear purpose for the group.”

Women's support circles are powerful spaces where women can come together to share, heal and grow.

Whether it's a coffee meetup or a farming collective in a rural area, these groups offer emotional resilience, professional empowerment and personal transformation.

Nancy Ayugi, an office worker from Nairobi, discusses how sisterhood can provide Kenyan women with strength and hope as they navigate life's challenges.

Support circles create a haven for emotional resilience. In our society, stigma often silences conversations about GBV or mental health, leaving women feeling isolated. Nancy joined a women's circle after experiencing isolation due to workplace bias.

"Sharing my fears with other women made me feel seen," she says. These circles echo ancient traditions of women gathering to share wisdom and foster a sense of belonging.

Women can find a non-judgmental space in which to voice their challenges, whether they are grappling with postpartum struggles or societal pressures.

As well as providing emotional support, cir-

cles can promote professional and personal development. Nancy says that the encouragement she received from her circle helped her negotiate a pay rise and overcome her self-doubt.

"They reminded me that my work matters," she says. In Kenya and across Africa, where women often face obstacles to leadership, circles offer mentorship, networking opportunities and accountability.

Rural groups, such as those teaching bee-keeping or farming, empower women economically by enabling them to generate an income from their skills. On a personal level, circles facilitate self-discovery through activities such as expressing gratitude and setting goals.

The heart of a support circle lies in trust and inclusivity. Confidentiality ensures that women can share openly, whether discussing personal dreams or collective challenges. Also, simple rituals, such as starting with a meditation or storytelling session, help create a sacred space.

Nancy's circle, for instance, opens each meeting with a gratitude round to strengthen bonds. In rural areas, groups might incorporate traditional practices, such as community dialogues, to ensure cultural relevance.

By embracing diverse voices, circles amplify women's experiences, fostering healing and

collective action on issues ranging from local problems to supporting small businesses. This inclusivity transforms groups into hubs of change.

Starting a circle is easier than it seems. Begin by inviting friends or colleagues to join you and setting a clear purpose for the group, such as navigating workplace stress or parenting challenges. Nancy started her circle with four colleagues over tea, focusing on career hurdles.

Establish ground rules, such as confidentiality and respect, to foster trust. Community organisations and platforms such as Meetup connect women to local groups, while virtual options such as online forums offer flexibility.

Rural women can join skill-based groups that blend empowerment with practical benefits, such as farming or crafting groups. Using WhatsApp video calls increases accessibility, particularly in remote areas. Alternatively, you could attend a meeting in person, as Nancy did, to experience the connection first-hand. One step can lead to a lifelong sisterhood.

Whether you are healing from trauma, pursuing career goals, or seeking a sense of community, a support circle can provide you with the stability you need. Start with a friend or join a local group. As Nancy learned, "Together, we're unstoppable."

INTIMACY

The art of intimate expression between partners

An ordinary act that you find enjoyable can transform into a form of sexual expression, be it speaking, laughing, or even gazing. According to the Sexual Health Centre, sexual expression encompasses attraction, attitudes, beliefs, desires, behaviours, fantasies, thoughts and roles.

Sociologist Dr. Kiemo Karatu explains that the path to this begins with self-care, noting that being happy with yourself inherently improves self-image, which is at its core. From this foundation, you can then truly understand your sensual individuality and freedom.

Dr. Kiemo suggests that you can safely learn and explore varied expressions with your partner while leaving room for that exploration to evolve. "The human mind is exploratory; it likes adventure. Human beings abhor boredom; therefore, anything that adds spark is welcomed by many," he says.

Speaking of spark, you can express your sensual side through words or actions to impress your partner. Women might move to the rhythm of their desires by learning the choreography to Beyoncé's 'Naughty Girl,' or you and your partner could both come up with dance steps to Tommy Flavour and Ali Kiba's sensual anthem, 'Huku.' All in all, it takes a deliberate effort to enhance sexual experiences.

Other daily habits include speaking about your wants with a certain tone, dressing in ways that make you feel sensual, being playful, admiring your physique in the mirror, flirting with your partner, reading erotic literature and releasing any guilt around intimacy.

Dr. Kiemo explains that intimacy is born out of sexual attraction. However, it can reach a point where it wears down, especially when life's stressors pull partners away from its indulgence. Additionally, other reasons can prevent individuals from expressing their full sensual selves or cause them to feel completely detached from it.

Past trauma can also affect sexual expressions in present relationships, Dr. Kiemo says. In other instances, he adds that a person might hold back sexually if their partner doesn't take them seriously.

Yet, all is not lost. He affirms that partners can reclaim or redefine their sensual selves after a period of repression by consciously freeing themselves from past trauma and embracing sensual activities that they enjoy.

"They can start awakening evolving desires through communication and interest in exploring new opportunities together," he says.

Fantasy also plays a role in self-discovery when communicated, as imagination differs from person to person.

"There has to be some convergence," he advises. "If one person says no to a particular style, the other can respect that while expressing their disappointment." **[Anjellah Owino]**

