**History of Amos Wako**

**F**ull Name: Amos Shitswila Wako  
 Date of Birth: July 31, 1945  
 Place of Birth: Lurambi, Kakamega County, Kenya  
 Profession: Lawyer, Politician, Diplomat

### Early Life and Education

Amos Wako was born in Lurambi, Western Kenya, in what was then the Kenya Colony. He attended local schools before progressing to Alliance High School, one of Kenya's most prestigious institutions. His academic brilliance led him to the University of Dar es Salaam, where he studied law and became active in pan-African debates and student politics.

He later obtained a Master of Laws (LL.M) from Harvard University, USA, solidifying his legal foundation and international exposure.

### Legal Career

Wako began his professional life as a legal scholar and practitioner. He served as an advocate of the High Court of Kenya and became involved in legal reforms. He quickly rose through the ranks and became a prominent figure in regional and international legal circles.

He served as:

* President of the African Bar Association
* Member of the United Nations Human Rights Committee (1987–1992)

### Attorney General of Kenya (1991–2011)

Amos Wako was appointed as Kenya’s Attorney General in 1991, at a time of significant political transition, as the country was reintroducing multi-party democracy.

He went on to serve 20 years—the longest-serving Attorney General in Kenya’s history—under Presidents Daniel arap Moi and Mwai Kibaki. His tenure was marked by both criticism and praise:

#### Achievements:

* Oversaw major constitutional and legal reforms, especially during the early 2000s.
* Played a role in the transition to Kenya’s 2010 Constitution, a landmark achievement in the country's democratic development.
* Provided legal continuity during a turbulent period in Kenyan politics.

### Senator for Busia County (2013–2022)

After leaving the Attorney General's office, Wako joined elective politics. He successfully ran for the Busia County Senate seat under the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) in 2013.

As Senator, he focused on devolution, legal frameworks for counties, and defending constitutionalism.

### Personal Life

Wako is known for his calm demeanor, deep legal intellect, and reserved nature. Despite controversies, he has retained respect across political divides for his experience and understanding of Kenya’s legal system.

### Legacy

Amos Wako's career reflects the complexity of Kenya's legal and political transitions. From shaping legal thought in post-independence Africa to playing a central role in constitutional reform, Wako has remained a central—if often polarizing—figure in Kenya’s modern history.