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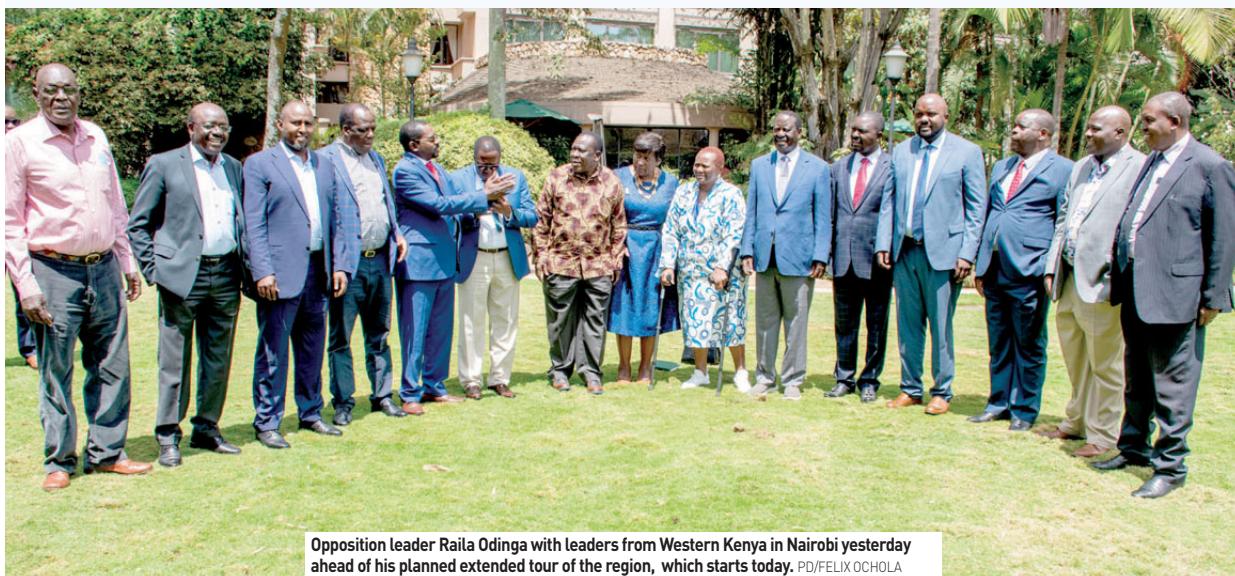


## Here cometh Rachel Ruto, the politician

**PG 6** Wife of Deputy President has shaken off her laid back mien and thrown herself deep into the murky world of Kenya's politics

# Raila Western tour big test for Azimio

**Taking charge:** Opposition leader expected to confront sibling rivalry between ODM and new party DAP-K, which threatens to divide one of his traditional strongholds **PG 4**



Opposition leader Raila Odinga with leaders from Western Kenya in Nairobi yesterday ahead of his planned extended tour of the region, which starts today. PD/FELIX OCHOLA



**News Beat PG 2**

**Uproar after goons attack journalists**



**PG 5**

**Shock of fertiliser money given to Security**

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**Let's not take democratic space for granted**



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**Devolved units spent 26pc of Coronavirus funds kitty**

WEATHER TODAY

|         |     |       |     |
|---------|-----|-------|-----|
| Nairobi | 29° | Nyeri | 27° |
| Mombasa | 32° | Kitui | 33° |
| Kisumu  | 29° | Wajir | 38° |

## Lobby group calls on media to address sexual harassment

by Irene Githinji  
@PeopleDailyKe

Media houses were yesterday urged to address rising cases of sexual harassment and endeavour to be safe nets for young women joining the industry.

ICT Chief Administrative Secretary (CAS), Nadia Ahmed Abdallah has said it is unfortunate sexual harassment has been a big challenge for women in media and considered a key factor to more of them leading the newsrooms.

She termed it as disheartening studies showing Kenyan media is leading in sexual harassment in Africa.

"Studies showing that the Kenyan media is leading in sexual harassment cases in Africa are disheartening. Women in media continue to suffer in silence leading to low performance or with time, leave the media industry," said Abdallah.

She made the remarks during the 40th anniversary celebrations for Association of Media Women in Kenya (AMWIK), during which the 2021-2016 Strategic Plan and reviewed Constitution was launched.

CAS lauded AMWIK for its work in women participation in the media industry through training and capacity development and pushing more representation in decision-making.

Although there has been progress in top managers representation, she said that statistics show that most of them are still men at 65 per cent while women at 35 per cent.

She said lack of solid, practical and effective gender responsive initiatives; women

are a disadvantaged gender and continue to suffer in silence leading to low performance.

"Low performance hampers the place of women in decision making. We congratulate the women who have been part of building the media organizations. Despite advancements, women remain underrepresented in decision making places, they have been neglected," she said.

She however said that the country is making progress in addressing cases of violation among women and girls towards achieving gender equality and empowerment.

CAS said women protection is critical especially now the country is headed towards General Election and more of them have offered to vie for various positions.

Women in News (WIN) Africa Director Jane Godia, said media organizations should take practical steps to change the sexual harassment scenario that has been previously reported.

She said the newsroom is no longer a "boys club" but should be an inclusive and professional area where women can also thrive.

"We need to call out sexual harassment and protect young women journalists coming into the profession and those already in the newsroom. A study we undertook previously showed that at least 70 per cent of women in newsrooms have faced physical or verbal abuse from senior supervisors," she said.

Out of 70 per cent, she said that only 29 per cent are reported, a situation attributed to fear of reprisal, victimization or worse still, losing the job.

**CAS ministry of ICT Nadia Ahmed (left) with Executive Director AMWIK Judy Kaberia (right) during the launch of the association's constitution at the 40th anniversary celebrations in Nairobi, yesterday** PD/NJENGA KUNGU



## Women say no to insults

Women in Nairobi yesterday during a protest against insults directed at Mama Ngina Kenyatta, in a video clip by a Kenyan based in the US. They demand an apology to the former First Lady. PD/PHILIP KAMAKYA

## Uproar after goons attack scribes at Azimio meeting

Round of condemnation after journalists attached to national newspapers are assaulted at ODM offices

by People Team  
@PeopleDailyKe

A group of local journalists were yesterday assaulted by goons purporting to be security officers during a meeting called by the Azimio La Umoja Presidential candidate Raila Odinga at the Chungwa House in Nairobi.

Moses Nyamori of Standard newspaper and his counterpart Luke Awich of The Star publication were roughed up in the melee.

The goons demanded that the two journalists get out of the venue where they were listening to the speakers at the function attended by ODM chief Raila Odinga.

Despite the duo identifying themselves as journalists, the uniformed security team insisted they leave the spot to "allow space for dignitaries to breathe fresh air".

It was at this point that the two of the security officials roughed them up before frog-marching Nyamori out of the premises. They tore his shirt and suit in the ensuing melee. Some of the party officials later intervened but the matter took an ugly turn when the two again confronted the two journalists and crashed Awich's phone in the process.

One of them threatened to beat the journalists after the function forcing Nyamori to seek refuge in ODM chairman John Mbadi's car.

The party through its Secretary for Political Affairs Opiyo Wandayi later apologised for the incident and promised to escalate the matter within the ranks of the outfit.

"We apologise profusely as a party and we have to escalate the matter through our internal systems," said Wandayi, who is also the Ugunga MP.

The incident comes barely a week after

### GOON ATTACKS

Group of local journalists were yesterday assaulted by goons purporting to be security officers during a meeting called by the Azimio La Umoja Presidential candidate Raila Odinga

the two journalists in their respective publications wrote a story on ODM's plans to issue direct tickets to some aspirants. The story triggered uproar within the party with aspirants protesting the scheme would essentially deny them an opportunity to participate in the primaries. The two senior reporters were assaulted as ODM leader Raila Odinga made his speech when he received Kajidio Governor Joseph ole Lenku, who defected from Jubilee Party to ODM.

"It can never be a coincidence that we were attacked. The goons picked on the two of us. Since it is the two of us who did the story on ODM plan to issue direct tickets and the elections board was so mad that they even made phone calls terming them us absolute idiots," Nyamori narrated to People Daily newspaper as he recorded a statement at Parliament Police Station.

### Picked them out

On his part, Awich, who is The Star Parliamentary reporter said that the attack on him and his colleague was suspect because they picked on them from a pool of journalists who had gathered to cover the event.

The Media Council of Kenya (MCK) condemned the violence against journalists and lack of investigations on such brutal acts calling on the Inspector General of Police Hillary Mutambai to arrest the perpetrators.

"The two journalists were singled out days after stories published under their bylines on March 22 attracted verbal attacks and threats from specific party officials who had been quoted in the story,"

MCK CEO David Omwoyo said in a press statement.

"Profiling of journalists by leaders and supporters of political parties goes against Articles 34 and 35 of the Constitution on freedom of media and access to information," Omwoyo added.

The Council called on the ODM leadership led by its leader Raila Odinga who was hosting an event to disown such acts of violence against the media and commit to non-interference in the work of media workers in all its activities henceforth. In addition, the Council calls on the Independent Electoral Boundaries Commission (IEBC) and the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties to take stern action against parties and aspirants that condone all forms of violence and especially violence against the media.

"While the work of the media is subject to scrutiny and feedback, any complaints on the violation of the Code of Conduct for the Practice of Journalism in Kenya should be reported to the Media Complaints Commission which is legally mandated to adjudicate on the same," the statement read in part.

The Kenya Union of Journalists (KUJ) has also condemned the primitive acts insisting that they should not be condoned in a civilised society.

"We condemn the attacks, which left Standard reporter Moses Nyamori injured and we demand that the hooligans who believe that assaulting journalists is the only way to express their misguided frustrations are identified and handed over to police by the conveners of today's news event immediately," KUJ Secretary General Eric Oduor said in a hard-hitting statement.

"We call upon police to investigate the attacks on the journalists and the culprits prosecuted without further delay," Oduor added.

As the country prepares for General Election slated for August 9, the union said politicians must guarantee journalists their safety when they are invited for press conferences

# Albright: Mentor and trailblazer in diplomacy world

The first woman to serve as US Secretary of State, dies of cancer at 84 as global community eulogises her

■ Washington, Thursday

Tributes flooded in to Madeleine Albright, the first woman to hold the position of US secretary of State, who has died at the age of 84. The cause was cancer, Albright's family said in a statement on Wednesday.

Albright was a central figure in President Bill Clinton's administration, first serving as US ambassador to the United Nations before becoming the nation's top diplomat in his second term.

She championed the expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), pushed for the alliance to intervene in the Balkans to stop genocide and ethnic cleansing, sought to reduce the spread of nuclear weapons, and championed human rights and democracy across the globe.

President Joe Biden paid tribute to Albright in a lengthy statement Wednesday, calling her a "force" and saying working with her during the 1990s while he was on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee was among the highlights of his Senate career.

"When I think of Madeleine, I will always remember her fervent faith that America is the indispensable nation," said Biden, who ordered flags at the White House and all federal buildings to be flown at half-staff in Albright's honor.

## Passionate force

"Few leaders have been so perfectly suited for the times in which they served," Clinton said in a statement.

"As a child in war-torn Europe, Albright and her family were twice forced to flee their home. When the end of the Cold War ushered in a new era of global interdependence, she became America's voice at the United Nations, then took the helm at the State Department, where she was a passionate force for freedom, democracy, and human rights."

In a past interview, she "spent the entire conversation talking about how Ukraine had to be defended and that we had put a lot of those who said we had made a mistake to expand NATO -- she said (Russia's)

not going after NATO yet," Clinton said.

"She just wanted to support whatever we could do to back Ukraine. And that's all she wanted to talk about. She was happy. She was upbeat," he added. "And she didn't want to venture into her health challenges. She said, 'I'm being treated, I'm doing the best I can. The main thing we can all do now is to think about the world we want to leave for our children.'

Albright was a face of US foreign policy in the decade between the end of the Cold War and the war on terror triggered by the September 11, 2001, attacks - an era heralded by President George H.W. Bush as a "new world order."

The US, particularly in Iraq and the Balkans, built international coalitions and occasionally intervened militarily to roll back autocratic regimes, and Albright -- a self-identified "pragmatic idealist" who coined the term "assertive multilateralism" to describe the Clinton administration's foreign policy, drew from her experience growing up in a family that fled the Nazis and communists in mid-20th century Europe to shape her worldview.

She saw the US as the "indispensable nation" when it came to using diplomacy backed by the use of force to defend democratic values around the world.

"We stand tall and we see further than other countries into the future, and we see the danger here to all of us," she said in 1998. "I know that the American men and women in uniform are always prepared to sacrifice for freedom, democracy and the American way of life."

Perhaps most notable were her efforts to bring about an end to violence in the Balkans, and she was crucial in pushing Clinton to intervene in Kosovo in 1999 to prevent a genocide against ethnic Muslims by former Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic. She was haunted by the earlier failure of the Clinton administration to end the genocide in Bosnia.

## Heated criticism

The breakup of communist Yugoslavia into several independent states, including Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia, in the 1990s generated savage bloodshed unseen on the continent since World War II. The term "ethnic cleansing" became synonymous with Bosnia, where Serb forces loyal to Milosevic tried to carve out a separate state by forcing out the non-Serb

relating to bribery of witness in the Deputy President William Ruto and Broadcaster Joshua Sang Post-Election Violence case.

Yesterday, the defense claimed that the witness had inconsistencies in his testimony in the Ruto and Gicheru's case.

The defense said the witness in his testimony on Tuesday claimed that he was in Gicheru's house, yet in his 2014 interview with the investigators, he said did not know how the inside of Gicheru's house looked like.



Madeleine Albright succumbed to cancer on Wednesday.  
COURTESY

## MORE ON ALBRIGHT

- Born Marie Jana Korbelova, the daughter of a Czechoslovakian diplomat, in Prague in 1937, Albright escaped then-Czechoslovakia with her family 10 days after the Nazi invasion.

- Her experience growing up in communist Yugoslavia and then fleeing to the US made her a lifelong opponent of totalitarianism and fascism.

- She was raised Roman Catholic, though she later converted to Episcopalian, and learned later in life about her family's Jewish heritage.

## civilian population.

The Clinton administration did not intervene until the massacre at Srebrenica in 1995, when Serbs killed 8,000 Muslim men and boys, which led to the US-brokered Dayton Peace Plan. But when Milosevic then tried to move his ethno-nationalist plan to Kosovo, the Clinton administration gathered a coalition to stop him doing there what he had gotten away with in Bosnia.

Albright accused Milosevic of creating "a horror of biblical proportions" in his "desire to exterminate a group of people" -- Kosovo's Muslim majority. She came under heated criticism in Washington at the time, with some calling the NATO airstrikes "Albright's War" while others accused her of misjudging Milosevic's resolve. To that end, Albright said in 1999, "I take full responsibility along with my colleagues for believing that it was essential for us not to stand by and watch what Milosevic was planning to do," adding that "we cannot watch crimes against humanity."

Ultimately, the US-led coalition did stop Serbian aggression, and Kosovo declared independence in 2008.

The effort contrasted with the Clinton administration's opposition to international action to stop the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. At the time that Albright was representing the US at the United Nations, the Clinton administration, haunted by the military fiasco in Somalia a year earlier, argued for withdrawing the majority of UN troops from the country in the early days of the genocide.

The ensuing planned slaughter of primarily ethnic Tutsis, as well as some moderate Hutus by Hutu extremists, would leave at least 800,000 dead.

Years later, Albright would call it her "greatest regret from that time."

Late in Clinton's second term, Albright also participated in unsuccessful talks to foster peace between the Israelis and Palestinians, which were followed by a second explosion of violence in the region. She was also part of the effort to coax North Korea to abandon its nuclear program by engaging with Kim Jong Il, an effort that was abandoned by George W. Bush.

Albright's tenure as secretary of State also saw the al-Qaeda bombings of US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, which killed 224 people. She called the attack the "toughest day" of her tenure but would reject criticism that it should have prompted tougher US action against the terror group that would later carry out the 9/11 terror attacks.

## Viable options

"It would have been very hard, pre-9/11, to have persuaded anybody that an invasion of Afghanistan was appropriate," Albright told the 9/11 Commission in 2004. "I think it did take the megashock, unfortunately, of 9/11, to make people understand the considerable threat."

When pressed by the commission about the argument that the Clinton administration lacked actionable intelligence, Albright said "we used every single tool we had in terms of trying to figure out what the right targets would be and how to go about dealing with what we knew."

But she also expressed frustration about the reluctance to push ahead with military force against al Qaeda and Osama bin Laden.

"From my perspective, the Pentagon did not come forward with viable options in response to what the president was asking for," Albright said.

—Agencies

# Gicheru lawyers portray last prosecution witness as a liar

■ by Bernice Mbugua  
@BerniceMuhindi

Lawyers representing Paul Gicheru at The Hague yesterday tried to portray the last prosecution witness as a liar.

The trial chamber heard that the eighth and last witness of the prosecution lied ever meeting lawyer Paul Gicheru and even being given Sh 2 million to withdraw as an International Criminal Court (ICC) witness. Gicheru is facing eight counts

"On Tuesday during his testimony, the witness had claimed that Gicheru had promised to pay him, Sh10 million, six acres of land and a developed plot in a location only identified as 4 in court, to withdraw as an ICC witness.

## Viable options

"I was to be paid the money in installments and in cash, I was instructed not to deposit it in any bank account so that ICC could not investigate it," he told the court.

The witness said he was however paid Sh2 million out of the Sh10 million Gicheru had promised.

He explained how he went to Gicheru's office and was compelled to write a 'resignation letter from ICC.'

The prosecution closed its case yesterday after eight witnesses testified in the case.

The trial chamber Judge said matter will continue on 25 April with the defense taking its chance to defense Gicheru.



## Governor aspirant dismisses Malalah-Khalwale alliance

■ by Dennis Lumiti  
@PeopleDailyKe

Kakamega governor aspirant Fernandes Barasa has dismissed a newfound union between Senator Cleophas Malalah and his predecessor Boni Khalwale as a "stillbirth".

Barasa, who is touted as a frontrunner for the seat, said he was not scared of facing Malalah at the ballot come August 9.

He said he enjoyed massive goodwill and support across the county due to his development record.

Speaking in Ikolomani when he held public meetings yesterday, the former KETRACO boss said the resi-

dents were keen on electing a manager and not a politician.

"Governor Wycliffe Oparanya has done a lot for the county in the last 10 years. Residents are not ready to elect someone who would backpedal all these gains," said Barasa.

He added: "Many mega projects initiated by Oparanya are incomplete and thus need a seasoned manager to supervise them to conclusion. Our people know what and who they want as their next governor."

He said Malalah should be ready for political Waterloo that befell Khalwale after he declined to retain his Senate seat in 2017 and sought to challenge Oparanya.

# Rattled by DAP, Raila moves to quell rivalries

He is also expected to 'lure' back his former bigwigs in Western region who had decamped from his party

■ by PD Reporter  
@PeopleDailyKe

Azimio La Umoja presidential aspirant Raila Odinga is from today expected to camp in Western Kenya in a bid to contain simmering sibling rivalry between two key members of his nascent coalition.

Raila is expected to quell the apparent bad blood between the Development Action Party (DAP)-Kenya associated with Defence Cabinet Secretary Eugene Wamalwa and his Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) that are currently embroiled in a superiority contest.

For the past month, the fast-growing Wamalwa-led party has caused discomfort among ODM heavyweights in the region that has been Raila's political bastion in previous elections, as it made inroads and received high-profile defectors from the Orange party.

Sources say that besides moving to defuse the apparent tension between ODM and DAP-K, the former Prime Minister is also scheduled to "lure" back some of his former bigwigs who had decamped to Wamalwa's party.

Raila is today scheduled to begin a five-day tour of the region with the first stop in Teso North and Teso South in Busia county, before moving to Kakamega the following day in a tour described by ODM leaders as meant to "reclaim the region that has been taken over by DAP-Kenya".

Opposition leader's allies claim that DAP-K, which had been touted as the former premier's secret project to tame Moses Wetangula's Ford Kenya and Musalia Mudavadi's Amani National Congress, has turned out to be a thorn in the flesh for ODM.

"DAP-K people have not been sincere in their entry into Western. They have a secret

agenda to dislodge ODM from the region, and we are aware of that scheme," said Budalang'i MP Raphael Wanjala.

Raila's tour is also aimed at neutralising gains made by Deputy President William Ruto's Kenya Kwanza Alliance that seems to have taken advantage of the infighting between ODM and DAP-K.

Ruto has made several trips to Western region, with his merger with Mudavadi and Wetangula strengthening his hopes of winning more votes in a region with more than 2.2 million votes up for grabs in the August 9 polls.

Kakamega has the largest share at 743,736 voters, Bungoma 559,850, Busia 351,048 and Vihiga 272,409. Trans Nzoia, located in the Rift Valley but with a big Luhya population, has 339,622 votes.

Tomorrow, Raila will kick off his tour in Butere where he is expected to receive area MP Tindi Mwala who has joined the Orange party before moving to the neighbouring Khwiser constituency to welcome local legislature Christopher Aseka to ODM.

On the same day, he will make stopovers at Shibili, Shianda and Matungu where he will officially receive MP Peter Nabulindo, culminating in a major rally at Mumias town.

### Massive support

The following day, the ODM leader is expected to spend the day in Shibusi and Musoli in Ikolomani and Navakholo, where he is set to receive local MP Emmanuel Wangwe, also the National Assembly Majority Whip.

On Monday, Raila will be in Likuyani, Pan Paper and Lumakanda in Bungoma and later in Malaga and Kambiri in Kakamega.

ODM leader is scheduled to wind up his tour of the region on Tuesday with a meeting with leaders of affiliate parties under Azimio.

Within the last two months, DAP-K, which is one of the several affiliate Azimio parties supporting Raila's presidential bid, has been making inroads in Bungoma, Ka-

## Kioni rubbishes ruling on defectors

■ by Alvin Mwangi  
@PeopleDailyKe

Jubilee party Secretary-General Jeremiah Kioni has dismissed a ruling by National Assembly Speaker Justin Muturi that defecting MPs should retain seats.

Kioni (pictured) instead insisted that the party will continue with its onslaught against those who have left.

Kioni, who spoke while receiving new members at the party headquarters in Nairobi yesterday, said the ruling by Justice Joel Ngugi that Speakers should not declare seats of Ward Reps, who switched parties vacant was not applicable to parties.



"Our Speaker appears not to understand what the ruling by Ngugi meant. He did not issue any orders restricting parties to do away with errand members. As the SG of this party, I want to make it very clear that we will not accommodate these members. We are a clean party and we want

tidiness," he maintained.

On Wednesday, Muturi ruled out declaring vacant seats of MPs who have ditched their sponsor parties.

Muturi said the ruling was clear on what should be done.

In his ruling, Justice Ngugi directed the Speakers of the Senate, National Assembly, and counties not to declare seats held by leaders who have since ditched or resigned from political parties that sponsored them to office.

Last week, Jubilee initiated a process to kick out over 100 rebel lawmakers who have defected to Deputy President William Ruto's United Democratic Alliance.



**ODM chief Raila Odinga when he met Western Kenya leaders in Nairobi yesterday ahead of his planned tour of the region beginning today.**

PD/FELIX OCHOLA

Kakamega, Busia, Vihiga and Trans Nzoia, to the chagrin of ODM supremos led by Kakamega Governor Wycliffe Oparanya.

Oparanya, the ODM deputy leader, has been Raila's pointman in Western and calling the shots alongside Cotu Secretary General Francis Atwoli.

DAP-K's aggressiveness in the five counties that make Western has led to a contest of superiority between Oparanya and Wamalwa, with the former accusing the CS of allegedly being determined to dislodge ODM from a region where it has enjoyed massive support in the past, including in the 2013 and 2017 elections.

"Whereas we welcome everyone on board in Azimio, there must be some respect. Some of these parties cropping up must show ODM respect because it has been there and would survive the test of time to remain in existence," says Oparanya.

Recent claims by Oparanya that the Raila tour in Western is an ODM affair have also fuelled tension with DAP-K allies now alleging a scheme to cannibalise it in the region.

But while downplaying the issue, DAP secretary general Eselfi Simiyu told their ODM partners not to panic since "both of us are simply enhancing Raila's chances of winning".

"We are not undermining anybody nor are we competing against them. Our main goal is to look for votes for Baba, so let us stop these other side shows," Simiyu told People Daily.

Although DAP-K supports Raila's presidential bid, it attracted the eye of ODM leaders when it started opening offices in areas perceived to be the latter's strongholds, thus sparking tension within the

nascent coalition.

The opening of offices within ODM strongholds has been accompanied by defection of high-profile elected personalities to the party, among them Kakamega deputy governor Philip Kitima and Nominated Senator Naomi Shiyonga.

### Persuade individuals

DAP-K has also attracted former Amani National Congress (ANC) leaders who had initially toyed with the idea of joining ODM after ditching the Mudavadi-led party. These include former National Assembly Speaker Kenneth Marende, Lugari MP Ayub Savula, Nabulindo, Teso South MP Oku Kaunya and Vihiga Senator George Khaniri.

During his tour, sources intimated to People Daily that Raila would persuade individuals such as Kaunya, Wangwe, Mwale and Nabulindo to reconsider their decision to dump ODM.

Wamalwa's party also bagged former Rift Valley Regional Coordinator George Natembaya to the consternation of ODM that had expected to have him on board to update their profile.

However, Dr Simiyu defends the decision to go for high-profile politicians, particularly those from Kakamega, claiming that it was aimed at stopping them from moving to Kenya Kwanza Alliance.

After attracting high-profile names, DAP-K recently put up a notice inviting eligible candidates interested in vying on its ticket to submit their applications. The only position it will not be fielding a candidate in is the presidency.

Simiyu said parties under Azimio have no formal agreement on how to handle elections or field candidates.

# Fertiliser cash 'taken to security kitty'

Sh5.7 billion allocated in Supplementary Budget to assist farmers diverted, House committee told

■ by Anthony Mwangi  
@PeopleDailyKe

There was outrage in Parliament yesterday following revelations that Sh5.7 billion set aside for purchase of fertiliser had been diverted to the security docket.

The revelation was made at a meeting between National Assembly Agriculture Committee and Agriculture Chief Administrative Secretary Lawrence Omuhaka.

The committee's chairman, Silas Tiren, shocked the meeting when he revealed that the billions, which had been allocated for purchase of assorted fertiliser in the Supplementary Budget, had been mysteriously diverted to the Interior Ministry docket.

Tiren pointed an accusing finger at the Treasury, blaming it for diverting the entire amount that was meant to cushion farmers from high prices of the product.

"I was shocked to learn that the Treasury has removed the money that the committee approved for purchase of fertiliser. I have raised the matter with the Speaker and hope it will be addressed before the Tuesday sitting," Tiren said.

Tiren, who is also the Moiben MP, said despite reallocating the budgetary requests for the Ministry of Agriculture to secure the Sh5.734 billion subsidy, the Treasury went ahead to divert the money to the Security docket.

"The committee had allocated Sh5.7 billion for fertiliser subsidy. But to our dismay, no single shilling has been allocated in the Supplementary Budget," said Tiren.

#### Caught by surprise

The revelations appeared to catch the CAS by surprise, saying his ministry was all along expecting Parliament to approve the Sh5.7 billion in the Supplementary Budget to cushion vulnerable farmers ahead of the long-rains planting season.

"We are at a loss; we have no money to purchase fertiliser even as the long rains approach," visibly shocked Omuhaka told the MPs, saying he would take up the matter with his Cabinet Secretary, Peter Munya, to intervene and revert the money.

"We are learning of the new development from you. I will immediately contact the Cabinet Secretary. I know he will raise the matter with the Cabinet or even the President," Omuhaka told members

The committee accused the Treasury and the Budget and Appropriations Committee (BAC) of scheming to remove the entire budget for fertiliser subsidy.

"We are asking the President to intervene and order the release of the subsidy budget. Farmers are very desperate yet the government is quiet on the issue," Tiren said.

He said the committee was mobilising other MPs to protest the move by Treasury.

"We will paralyse the Supplementary Budget on Tuesday if nothing happens to reinstate the entire amount between now and then," warned Tiren.

The Sh5.7 billion was estimated to offer subsidies on 114,000 tonnes of various types of fertilisers to 910,000 farmers.

#### Plea to the President

The lawmakers asked President Uhuru Kenyatta to intervene and order the reinstatement of the money in the Supplementary Budget, which comes up for the Third Reading on Tuesday next week.

They warned that they would stop debate on the Sh138 billion mini-budget if the subsidy vote is not reinstated.

Omuhaka said Sh31.85 billion would be required to subsidise the price of fertiliser, adding that the amount could procure 574,766 tonnes of the commodity.

The MPs, on their part, asked the President to order Treasury to invoke Article 223 of the Constitution that allows withdrawal of funds from the Consolidated Fund before seeking Parliament's approval.

"Food security is more important than gun security. Unless the government is planning to build more mortuaries, a hungry person has nothing to lose," said Kabu-chai MP Majimbo Kalasinga.

Omuhaka told the committee that vulnerable small-scale farmers are being supported with subsidies through the E-Voucher system to cushion them from high prices.

"We want all MPs who represent farmers to come out in their true colours on Tuesday and make a decision on the Supplementary Budget. Fertilisers are key to food security. If the prices have doubled, the cost of importing maize will triple," Tiren said.



Agriculture Chief Administrative Secretary Lawrence Omuhaka.  
PD/FILE

#### ALARM OVER DIVERTED CASH

● Agriculture CAS Lawrence Omuhaka: "Sh31.85 billion would be required to subsidise the price of fertiliser. The cash could procure 574,766 tonnes of fertiliser".

● House Agriculture Committee Chairman Silas Tiren: Fertilisers are key to food security. If the prices have doubled, the cost of importing maize will triple.

● Fafi MP Abdikadir Osman: Even the money set aside to cushion livestock farmers has been removed from the mini-budget.

committee approved to support livestock farmers has been removed from the Supplementary Budget," Abdikadir lamented.

Machakos County Woman Representative Joyce Kamene said she was shocked the ministry had not come up with any solution even after the money was diverted.

"Instead of coming up with a solution, the ministry is telling us that they are not aware. Where do we go now?" Kamene wondered. She added: "Whatever we requested to be put in the Supplementary Budget to subsidise fertilisers was removed. The Speaker has deferred the debate on the Supplementary Budget to next week, Tuesday, but no solution seems to be forthcoming."

Kamene wondered why the Treasury subsidised fuel to a tune of Sh12 billion every month, but could not subsidise the cost of fertiliser. But Omuhaka said his ministry was looking at containing the spiralling prices of animal feeds.

Kalasinga said the committee was concerned that the government, which is the last resort of farmers, was not supporting them, as demonstrated by the Ministry of Agriculture debacle.

"We are now in the planting season; what is the ministry doing to make sure farmers benefit from the subsidy, now that you are here, CAS?" posed Tiren.

#### Livestock money removed

Fafi MP Abdikadir Osman claimed that even the money set aside to cushion livestock farmers has been removed from the mini-budget.

"We, members, whose people survive on livestock, are surprised that the money the

## Expired vaccines will be destroyed safely, says Covid taskforce leader

■ by George Kebaso

All the expired AstraZeneca vaccine doses will be destroyed under the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommended incineration recommendations.

Speaking yesterday, Dr Willis Akhwale (right), the Covid-19 national vaccine deployment task force chairman, confirmed that 843,000 doses will be burnt completely under the guidelines also adopted by the National Environment Management Authority (Nema).

The destruction will be conducted only in certified centres with incinerators, he said.

"We have already alerted the Covax Facility of the ex-



piries," he said, adding that the government has also embarked on a mop-up of all the expired drugs.

On Wednesday, the Health Ministry revealed that the doses had expired, adding that one million Johnson and Johnson vaccine jabs could also expire in the next three weeks if not utilised.

Akhwale said Kenya has a good waste management policy, particularly for health products and technologies.

"We have other commodities beyond vaccines that we have previously incinerated — drugs, surgical wastes, and pharmaceuticals. Kenyans should rest assured that these commodities will be disposed off as per the international codes," he added.

Following the outbreak of Covid-19, Nema developed guidelines for sustainable management of waste and, in particular, biomedical waste.

Nema boss Mamo Boru Mamo also gave an assurance on safe disposal of the doses.

Meanwhile, about 87,000 tonnes of personal protective equipment (PPE) procured between March 2020 and November 2021 are suspected to have ended up as waste.

**Laura**  
LA SANTA COLOMBIANA

A POWERFUL TELENOVELA BASED ON THE LIFE AND TIMES OF LAURA MONTOYA, AN EDUCATOR AND CATHOLIC MISSIONARY, FROM HER BIRTH TO HER YOUTH.

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# Ruto's wife steps to the plate in State House bid vote-hunt

Deputy President's spouse unleashes her hitherto unknown side, passionately appeals to the electorate

■ by Jeremiah Kiplang'at  
@djere\_kiplangat

Deputy President William Ruto's wife, Rachel, has shaken off her laid back mien and thrown herself deep into the murky world of politics, as she seeks to prop up her husband's presidential bid in the August election.

Rachel has not been known for any fervent political declarations or associations before, instead adopting a low profile in the previous three General Elections her husband has been prominently involved in. But on Wednesday, she displayed her hitherto unknown side, passionately beseeching Kenyans to support Ruto's presidential bid, saying he was the best the country could have.

Speaking at Emali in Makueni county, Rachel asked the residents to support the her husband, saying he means well for the country. "I know the Deputy President, his heart is for the good of all Kenyans. When God blesses him, he will do many things because he denies himself (many things) for others to get," she said.

The DP, who is the UDA party leader, is locked in a fierce presidential contest with Azimio La Umoja leader Raila Odinga as both seek to succeed outgoing President Uhuru Kenyatta.

Ruto heads the Kenya Kwanza Alliance that also has Amani National Congress leader Musalia Mudavadi and Ford Kenya's Moses Wetangula, among others.

Ruto has fallen out with the President, who is now leading campaigns against him within the Azimio movement that has picked Raila as its flag-bearer.

## Best option

Donning the trademark yellow dress associated with her husband's party, Rachel projected Ruto as the best option among those who have declared interest to succeed Uhuru. The DP has often come under accusations over his contributions to churches, with Raila and recently the President, questioning the source of the millions of shillings he has been donating to religious institutions. During the Sagana III meeting in Nyeri last month that brought together Mt Kenya leaders and



William Ruto's wife, Rachel when she addressed Kamba women leaders and residents at Emali, Makueni County. DPPS

## IN TRACES OF...

● **Rachel Ruto, 54, is following in the footsteps of other senior women leaders including Raila's wife, Ida, who has played a key role in the Azimio candidate's political life.**

● **Mama Ngina Kenyatta recently broke her silence on succession politics, beseeching Kenyans to follow the President's advice on who should succeed him.**

opinion shapers, the President accused church leaders of receiving proceeds of corruption, including money meant for construction of the controversial Arroll and Kimwarer dams. He indirectly implied the money could have been stolen from the collapsed projects in Elgeyo Marakwet.

"Even church leaders should stop telling lies to our people. Let us tell the truth. You are being given Sh3 billion meant for Kimwarer and Arroll dams meant for the children of God, then you come to mislead us," the President said.

While defending her husband, Rachel said the DP will not stop giving because he will be "blessed" for doing so. She stressed that nothing will stop him from giving.

"People should not be worried about his contributions. Atapeana, atapeana, atapeana, atapeana hadi hatakuwa nayo (he will give until he will not have anything left to give). The Bible says the hand that gives will be blessed," she said.

Since the DP was elected in 2013, Rachel has focused more on social programmes aimed at improving the lives of women and has avoided dragging politics into them.

She has also been the force behind regular prayer meetings held at their Karen home where senior church figures are often hosted. As she steps away from her comfort zone, however, she is expected to focus on mobilising women, especially

the thousands who have subscribed to the Joyful Women Organisation, the self-help group she has been a patron since the first term of the Jubilee administration.

## Active members

On its website, the organisation says it has more than 100,000 active members who have been placed in 6,000 groups. It has a revolving fund of Sh1.2 billion.

As a new entrant into the political arena where optics is everything, Rachel appears to have learned quickly the little tricks politicians employ to showcase support as she asked those present in Makueni to raise their hands to confirm if indeed they will vote for Ruto.

Also, like her husband who is fond of identifying allies by their names during his rallies, Rachel did the same during the function as she appreciated those who accompanied her including Makueni Deputy Governor Adelina Mwau, who recently joined UDA.

Her readiness to stand by the DP, who she has been married to for more than 30 years and have been blessed with six children, was affirmed when she accompanied him to the UDA National Delegates Conference in Kasarani last week.

She brought her two daughters, June and Charlene alongside her, walking the DP to the podium to formally accept nomination to be UDA's flag bearer.



# DPP appoints 200 officers to probe poll offences

■ by Zadock Angira  
@PeopleDailyKe

Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions has appointed 200 specialised prosecutors and 129 court stations across the country to expedite prosecution of electoral offences.

To further enhance the ODPP's capacity to handle such offences, Hate Speech and Electoral Justice Division has also been established.

Chief Justice Martha Koome has also appointed 119 special magistrates to handle such election-related matters.

"Historically, elections in Kenya often trigger an upsurge of hate speech, ethnic contempt, sexual and gender-based violence, incitement to violence and loss of property, voter bribery among other electoral malpractices," DPP Noordin Haji said.

Haji (pictured) was speaking during the validation workshop on the ODPP compendium on Electoral Justice by the criminal justice actors yesterday.

"We have also institutionalised the Election Preparedness Committee, specifically tasked with coordination, research, data-collection, and analysis of all election-related matters," Haji added.

Criminal justice actors have come up with policies and guidelines geared towards effective prevention, investigation and prosecution of election-related offences. It aims at providing tools for efficient and effective prosecution of election and related offences.

Haji said it was important that the officials remain vigilant and proactive to ensure that they detect and prevent election-related malpractices and offences.

# Kikuyu elders to take unknown action against Kuria over 'hate' remarks

■ by PD Team  
@PeopleDailyKe

Kikuyu Council of Elders from Gatundu South in Kiambu county has vowed to take unspecified disciplinary action against area MP Moses Kuria over his "wayward behaviour and lack of respect."

Council members disassociated themselves from Kuria's allegations of an alleged 'binding oath' taken in the 60's, which they termed as backward and misleading, saying he will face a disciplinary committee for flouting

values of the Kikuyu community over his "distasteful but also primitive utterances."

Terming the MP's recent public outbursts as an embarrassment, the elders, who spoke to journalists in Gatundu town yesterday, expressed concern that the lawmaker has lost decorum, regretting that his behaviour further taints the image of the council for which he is a member.

"If unchecked, Kuria's unbridled tongue and frequent use of vulgar and hateful language might disunite the country. We are summoning him to appear before the



council before we take disciplinary action against him," said Kimani Gichuru, council chairman for Ki-amworia Location.

Gichuru also urged the National Cohesion and Integration Commission to take legal action against Kuria.

Separately, Maendeleo ya Wanawake Organisation (MYWO) has called on politicians to henceforth desist from insulting women while on their campaign trail.

MYWO National Chairperson, Rahab Muui condemned what she termed as disrespect for women and was specifically concerned about

some politicians hurling insults at Mama Ngina. "As women and mothers, we are tired. It cannot be business as usual when insults are hurled at Mama Ngina, she said yesterday at MYWO offices.

Muiu said MYWO will present a memo to President Uhuru Kenyatta, Deputy President William Ruto, Interior Cabinet Secretary Dr Fred Matiang'i and Chief Justice Martha Koome to demand for action on such acts of disrespect.

Reporting by Oliver Musembi, Irene Githinji and Mathews Ndung'u

EQUITY GROUP HOLDINGS PLC AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND OTHER DISCLOSURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2021

|  | EQUITY BANK (KENYA) LIMITED              |  |  | EQUITY GROUP HOLDINGS PLC                |  |  | OTHER DISCLOSURES |           | EQUITY BANK (KENYA) LIMITED              |  | EQUITY GROUP HOLDINGS PLC                |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|-------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  | BANK                                     |  | COMPANY                                  |  | GROUP                                    |  |                   |           | BANK                                     |  | COMPANY                                  |  | GROUP                                    |  |
|  | 31st Dec 2020<br>Shs. '000'<br>(Audited) | 31st Dec 2021<br>Shs. '000'<br>(Audited) | 31st Dec 2020<br>Shs. '000'<br>(Audited) | 31st Dec 2021<br>Shs. '000'<br>(Audited) | 31st Dec 2020<br>Shs. '000'<br>(Audited) | 31st Dec 2021<br>Shs. '000'<br>(Audited) |                   |           | 31st Dec 2020<br>Shs. '000'<br>(Audited) | 31st Dec 2021<br>Shs. '000'<br>(Audited) | 31st Dec 2020<br>Shs. '000'<br>(Audited) | 31st Dec 2021<br>Shs. '000'<br>(Audited) | 31st Dec 2020<br>Shs. '000'<br>(Audited) | 31st Dec 2021<br>Shs. '000'<br>(Audited) |
| <b>STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT</b>                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>A. ASSETS</b>   |  |  |  |  |  |  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Cash [both local & foreign]                                     | 13,027,022                               | 13,433,637                               | 8,818,038                                | 11,102,776                               | 44,484,008                               | 62,747,113                               |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Balances due from Central Bank of Kenya                         | 16,633,521                               | 13,723,722                               |  |  | 16,633,521                               | 13,723,722                               |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. Kenya Government and other securities held for dealing purposes | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss          | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. Investment securities:  | <b>195,157,006</b>                       | <b>339,082,615</b>                       |  |  | <b>217,407,885</b>                       | <b>394,101,448</b>                       |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Held to maturity:   | <b>13,390,327</b>                        | <b>12,605,835</b>                        |  |  | <b>15,842,417</b>                        | <b>13,707,113</b>                        |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. Kenya Government securities                                     | 13,390,327                               | 12,605,835                               |  |  | 13,390,327                               | 12,605,835                               |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. Other securities  | -  | -  | -  | -  | 2,452,000                                | 1,011,778                                |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Available for sale:   | <b>181,766,679</b>                       | <b>326,476,780</b>                       |  |  | <b>201,545,448</b>                       | <b>380,394,358</b>                       |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. Kenya Government securities                                     | 142,290,072                              | 215,880,077                              |  |  | 142,290,318                              | 215,880,077                              |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. Other securities  | 19,476,607                               | 110,596,703                              |  |  | 39,256,150                               | 164,514,258                              |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. Deposits and balances due from local banking institutions       | 9,516,400                                | 10,579,240                               |  |  | 29,543,160                               | 71,016,771                               |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7. Deposits and balances due from banking institutions             | 80,808,444                               | 71,642,727                               |  |  | 156,432,181                              | 95,293,948                               |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8. Tax recoverable   | -  | 239,076                                  | 54,326                                   | -  | 279,439                                  | 562,166                                  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9. Loans and advances to customers [net]                           | 313,065,151                              | 381,742,909                              |  |  | 477,847,189                              | 587,775,071                              |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10. Balances due from group companies                              | 652,737                                  | 607,160                                  |  |  |  |  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11. Investments in associates                                      | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12. Investments in subsidiary companies                            | -  | -  | 80,451,544                               | 81,234,820                               | -  | -  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13. Investments in joint ventures                                  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14. Prepaid expenses   | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15. Property and equipment   | 5,334,684                                | 4,446,229                                | 11,814                                   | 10,473                                   | 5,575,912                                | 5,580,558                                |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16. Prepaid lease rentals  | -  | -  | -  | -  | 15,903,898                               | 15,199,977                               |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17. Intangible assets  | 6,496,942                                | 8,533,952                                | -  | -  | 9,621,193                                | 10,738,263                               |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 18. Deferred tax asset   | 11,268,837                               | 12,878,475                               | 90,055                                   | 113,318                                  | 13,206,930                               | 14,939,828                               |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 19. Retirement benefit asset                                       | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20. Other assets   | 15,689,023                               | 20,505,150                               | 550,967                                  | 7,308,054                                | 28,157,999                               | 33,234,957                               |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>21. TOTAL ASSETS</b>  | <b>667,649,767</b>                       | <b>877,414,892</b>                       | <b>89,976,744</b>                        | <b>99,769,441</b>                        | <b>1,015,093,315</b>                     | <b>1,304,913,824</b>                     |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>B. LIABILITIES</b>  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 22. Balances due to Central Bank of Kenya                          | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 23. Customer deposits  | 420,236,822                              | 449,671,798                              |  |  | 740,800,779                              | 958,977,000                              |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 24. Deposits and balances due to local banking institutions        | 603,550                                  | -  |  |  |  |  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 25. Deposits and balances due to foreign banking                   | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 26. Other money market deposits                                    | 5,674,800                                | 3,751,309                                | -  | -  | 9,927,450                                | 4,427,745                                |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 27. Borrowed funds   | 64,279,082                               | 95,333,081                               | 10,937,529                               | 11,461,062                               | 87,220,864                               | 123,912,325                              |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 28. Balances due to group companies                                | 153,152                                  | 12,397                                   | -  | -  | 62,504                                   | 1,640,859                                | 925,351           |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 29. Tax payable  | 720,990                                  | -  | 7,000,000                                | -  | -  | -  | 1,338,555         | 970,766   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 30. Dividends payable  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | 2,404,916         | 1,268,608 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 31. Deferred tax liability   | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | 11,321,024        | 7,022,843 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 32. Retirement benefit liability                                   | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | 6,464,433         | -         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 33. Other liabilities  | 13,376,223                               | 16,465,530                               | 440,830                                  | 1,346,771                                | 311,199,092                              | 38,240,659                               |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>34. TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>                                       | <b>580,952,347</b>                       | <b>771,015,271</b>                       | <b>11,378,359</b>                        | <b>12,870,337</b>                        | <b>876,452,515</b>                       | <b>1,128,722,454</b>                     |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>C. SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS</b>                                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 35. Paid up / assigned capital                                     | 30,000,000                               | 30,000,000                               | 1,886,837                                | 1,886,837                                | 1,886,837                                | 1,886,837                                |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 36. Share premium / discount                                       | 9,944,132                                | 9,944,132                                | 15,325,264                               | 15,325,264                               | 15,325,264                               | 15,325,264                               |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 37. Revaluation reserve  | 5,160,545                                | (322,075)                                | -  | -  | 4,378,592                                | (6,316,207)                              |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 38. Retained earnings / accumulated losses                         | 41,572,743                               | 66,757,564                               | 61,386,284                               | 58,365,979                               | 118,765,898                              | 146,780,570                              | 576,960           | 171,039   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 39. Statutory loan loss reserve                                    | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -                 | -         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 40. Other reserves   | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -                 | -         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 41. Proposed dividends   | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | 11,321,024        | -         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 42. Non-controlling interests                                      | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | 6,464,433         | -         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>43. TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS</b>                               | <b>86,697,420</b>                        | <b>106,399,621</b>                       | <b>78,598,385</b>                        | <b>86,899,104</b>                        | <b>138,640,800</b>                       | <b>176,191,370</b>                       |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>44. TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS</b>               | <b>667,649,767</b>                       | <b>877,414,892</b>                       | <b>89,976,744</b>                        | <b>99,769,441</b>                        | <b>1,015,093,315</b>                     | <b>1,304,913,824</b>                     |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>                           |  |  |  |  |  |  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>1. INTEREST INCOME</b>  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.1 Loans and advances   | 34,069,068                               | 40,042,329                               | -  | -  | 52,033,992                               | 63,816,320                               |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.2 Government securities  | 19,086,538                               | 26,027,769                               | -  | -  | 20,936,048                               | 29,453,698                               |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.3 Deposits and placements with banking institutions              | 247,435                                  | 450,346                                  | 422,924                                  | 603,150                                  | 548,485                                  | 868,056                                  | -                 | -         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.4 Other interest income  | 246,308                                  | 133,216                                  | -  | -  | 246,308                                  | 206,956                                  | -                 | -         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>1.5 Total interest income</b>                                   | <b>53,649,065</b>                        | <b>66,653,660</b>                        | <b>422,924</b>                           | <b>603,150</b>                           | <b>73,764,833</b>                        | <b>94,345,030</b>                        |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>2. INTEREST EXPENSES</b>  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.1 Customer deposits  | 10,602,273                               | 13,367,359                               | -  | -  | 13,717,169                               | 17,877,502                               |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.2 Deposits and placements from banking institutions              | 69,538                                   | 142,019                                  | -  | -  | 1,324,940                                | 1,547,215                                |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.3 Other interest expenses  | 2,956,656                                | 3,721,930                                | 12,529                                   | 570,062                                  | 3,573,913                                | 6,109,339                                |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>2.4 Total interest expenses</b>                                 | <b>13,628,467</b>                        | <b>17,231,308</b>                        | <b>12,529</b>                            | <b>570,062</b>                           | <b>18,616,042</b>                        | <b>25,534,056</b>                        |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>3. NET INTEREST INCOME</b>                                      | <b>40,020,598</b>                        | <b>49,422,352</b>                        | <b>410,395</b>                           | <b>33,088</b>                            | <b>55,148,791</b>                        | <b>68,801,974</b>                        |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>4. NON-INTEREST INCOME</b>                                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.1 Fees and commissions income on loans & advances                | 5,770,609                                | 6,766,149                                | -  | -  | 6,619,616                                | 7,743,510                                |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.2 Other fees and commissions income                              | 8,384,805                                | 8,959,322                                | -  | -  | 6,210,439                                | 8,186,655                                |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.3 Foreign exchange trading income                                | 3,690,302                                | 3,810,531                                | -  | -  | 6,210,112                                | -  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.4 Dividend income  | -  | -  | 606,800                                  | 8,703,347                                | -  | -  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.5 Other income   | 5,932,193                                | 3,337,767                                | 10,046                                   | 197,023                                  | 9,626,039                                | 7,043,811                                |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>4.6 Total non-interest income</b>                               | <b>23,777,709</b>                        | <b>22,873,769</b>                        | <b>616,844</b>                           | <b>8,606,324</b>                         | <b>38,508,081</b>                        | <b>44,575,415</b>                        |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>5. TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>                                   | <b>63,798,507</b>                        | <b>72,296,121</b>                        | <b>1,027,241</b>                         | <b>8,639,412</b>                         | <b>93,656,872</b>                        | <b>113,386,389</b>                       |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>6. OPERATING EXPENSES</b>                                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6.1 Loan loss provision  | 23,357,937                               | 2,359,783                                | -  | [1,168,1                                 | 26,431,273                               | 5,844,707                                |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6.2 Staff costs  | 9,694,384                                | 11,094,447                               | 28,328                                   | 10,204                                   | 15,418,429                               | 19,108,213                               |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6.3 Directors' emoluments  | -  | -  | 24,906                                   | 35,515                                   | 123,778                                  | 181,817                                  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6.4 Rental charges   | 212,461                                  | 285,475                                  | 3,530                                    | 1,174                                    | 377,478                                  | 460,985                                  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6.5 Depreciation on property and equipment                         | 2,897,288                                | 2,684,601                                | 1,797                                    | 1,797                                    | 5,349,609                                | 5,240,378                                |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6.6 Amortisation charges   | 1,014,002                                | 971,519                                  | -  | -  | 1,251,548                                | 1,987,182                                |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6.7 Other operating expenses                                       | 12                                       |  |  |  |  |  |                   |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |

# Is Gideon Uhuru's new 'Mr Fix It' in 2022 Azimio power deal?

Should he play his cards well, Baringo Senator likely to land bigger things if Azimio forms government

by Jeremiah Kiplangat  
@jere\_kiplangat

Baringo Senator Gideon Moi has positioned himself for a prominent role in the national political scene after dropping his interest in the county seat he has occupied for close to 10 years.

With the hunger for Baringo political affairs waning, the Kanu leader has trained his eyes on bigger things that could - should the Azimio La Umoja coalition headed by former Prime Minister come with the next government if he plays his cards well.

So far, he has placed himself within One Kenya Alliance that brings together Wiper leader Kalonzo Musyoka, Martha Karua (Narc-K) and Cyrus Jirongo (UDP).

OKA has entered into a pre-election deal with Azimio La Umoja movement led by President Uhuru Kenyatta and Raila, which will see the alliance fully supporting the latter's presidential bid.

In OKA, Gideon has emerged as the face of tough choices and when Kalonzo, the de-facto leader of the alliance, appeared uncertain of what he wanted before the Azimio deal, the Kanu boss came out strongly against any attempts to scuttle their coalition, making it clear they would not negotiate with Kenya Kwanza Alliance led by Deputy President William Ruto.

## Strongly considered

His decisiveness appears to have nudged him ahead of the pack in the quest for Raila's running-mate within OKA with rumours swirling around he could be among those strongly considered for the position.

Yesterday, Kanu Secretary General Nick Salat did not rule out the possibility of Gideon becoming Raila's running-mate, saying they will take with both hands the position if they were offered although he said there was nothing on the table yet.

"We would welcome if chairman (Gideon) was offered the running mate position in Azimio but you have seen Kalonzo has said he is also interested if he was to be picked. Karua's supporters are equally asking for the same," Salat told *People Daily*.



Baringo Senator and Kanu chairman Gideon Moi. PD/FILE

Raila and Uhuru are said to be hunting for a running-mate, who could boost the former's candidature without causing unease within the young coalition.

Claims also abound that Gideon delivered Kalonzo to Azimio after weeks marred by indecision, threats and lukewarm attitude towards Azimio but Salat played down the Baringo senator's role.

"It was teamwork. It was not done by a single person," Salat said.

## Growing influence

The claims were given credence when Gideon appeared prominently during President Uhuru's visit to Kalonzo at his home in Karen, Nairobi last Friday, fur-

## WHAT HIS CRITICS SAY

● As he focuses on national politics, Baringo Senator Gideon Moi has come under criticism for failing to push the government to act on the rising insecurity in his county.

● Dozens of people have been killed by bandits in the volatile Kerio Valley belt.

## Oguna: State spends Sh1.2b on hunger-stricken Kenyans

The government has spent Sh1.2 billion to cushion people faced with starvation in 23 Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) counties.

Government Spokesperson Col (Rtd) Cyrus Ongura said the funds were disbursed through the cash transfer programme to vulnerable people between December 2021 and February 2022.

"During the same period, the government disbursed Sh680 million, while a similar amount was released between January and February," said Ongura when he paid a courtesy call on the Makueni County Commissioner Gilbert Kitiyo in his Wote office Wednesday.

While reiterating that nobody

will die of hunger in the affected counties, Ongura (pictured) further said the government was prepared to provide relief food to all Kenyans faced with starvation until the rains sets in.

"The government's promise is that no Kenyan will die of hunger. We will continue giving relief food until the onset of rains to enable people start their farming activities," said Ongura.

He noted that 2.8 million people are faced with starvation in Tana River, Makueni, Kitui, Garissa, Marsabit, Samburu, Turkana, Laikipia, West Pokot, Kajiado, Embu, Isiolo and Wajir counties.

Other affected counties include



Mandera, Tharaka Nithi, Meru, Taita Taveta, Kilifi, Kwale, Machakos, Baringo, Narok and Nyeri.

Speaking at Matiliku in Nzaui sub-county during the distribution of relief food, Ongura disclosed that the county had received 2,100 bags of rice, 3,120 bags of beans and

90 cartons of canned beef meat to be distributed to the local needy persons. In Nzaui, 2,893 people are targeted to benefit from 200 bags of rice, 360 bags of beans and 10 cartons of canned beef meat.

Kitiyo said the relief food is meant for the most vulnerable including the elderly and people living with disability.

Consequently, Kitiyo disclosed that they had already vetted the residents with a view to identifying deserving beneficiaries. "It would amount to a curse for the rich to receive relief food at the expense of the very vulnerable in the society," said Kitiyo.

-KNA

## Riders in city motorist attack detained for five more days

by Nancy Gitonga  
@PeopleDailyKe

Boda boda rider Zachariah Obadiyah (pictured) and 16 others accused of ghastly sexual attack on a foreign diplomat along Wangari Maathai Road will spend five more days in police cells.

Milmiani Court magistrates Robert Shikwe and Robinson Ondieki granted the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) a request to continue holding the suspects to enable him peruse the file and decide whether to charge them or not in relation to a possible robbery with violence charge, alongside other gender-related offences.

"I agree with the prosecution to have the suspects detained for more time as it is crucial to accord the DPP time to go through the file," Ondieki said.

Suspects were arraigned before the two separate magistrates, who allowed the State's application and detained the suspects until Monday 28 at 9am. Obadiyah and his co-accused were remanded at the Gigiri Police Station.

In his application, the DPP informed the court that investigations into the matter were complete and the file had been forwarded to his office yesterday morning for action.



## BRIEFLY

### Police probe death of warden

Police in Kisumu are investigating circumstances surrounding the death of a warden attached to Kodia Maximum Prison. Fred Oganyo, 37, was on duty on Wednesday night when he reportedly shot himself. The incident, according to officers probing the matter, occurred at 9.30pm on Wednesday. Oganyo was with his two colleagues with whom they had been assigned to man the facility's main entrance. It was not immediately established why Oganyo committed suicide, as sources within the family said he had no prior domestic quarrel with any of them. However, Kisumu Police Commander Alphonse Peter said preliminary findings showed that the officer was stressed.

-Viola Kosome



# HELP ME FIND MY FAMILY

Lost/Missing children ask – are you my family?

The children are currently under the care of CWSK Places of Safety across the Country



Name: Grace Nangila  
Age: Approx. 1 year  
Rescued on: 5/11/2021  
Rescued at: Bungoma County



Name: Baby Alpha  
Age: 3 weeks old  
Rescued on: 20/09/2021  
Rescued at: Isiolo County



Name: Baby Zawadi  
Age: 1 month old  
Rescued on: 30/7/2021  
Rescued at: Isiolo County



Name: Baby Blessing  
Age: 2 yrs.  
Date of rescue: 02/09/2019  
Rescued from: Kisii Town-Main Market



Name: Baby Joel Guda  
Age: 3yrs  
Date of rescue: 29/10/2018  
Rescued from: Homa Bay- Prison Farm



Name: Baby Gift  
Age: Approx. 6 weeks  
Date of Rescue: 10/12/2021  
Rescued from: RAM Hospital Kisii County.



Name: Baby Rita  
Age: 6 days' old  
Rescued on: 26/11/2021  
Rescued at: Murang'a Level 5 Hospital



Name: Mercy Adriambo  
Age: 14 yrs.  
Date of rescue: 31/10/2016  
Rescued: Kisii Town



Name: Steward Francis  
Age: 12 yrs.  
Date of rescued: 30/7/2013  
Rescued from: Kisii Referral Hospital



Name: Naomi Nanjala  
Age: 16 yrs.  
Date of rescue: 27/11/2015  
Rescued from: Kisii Town



Name: Melvin Melva  
Age: 13 yrs.  
Date of rescue: 10/7/2014  
Rescued from: Nairobi-Mathare North Area 1



Name: Baby Jayden  
Sex:Male  
D.O.B: 12/02/2022  
Current age: 1 Month-10 days  
Date of Rescue: 10/3/2022  
Place of rescue:Kangundo Level 4 hospital



Name: Baby Irene Atieno  
Age: Syrs.  
Date of rescue: 1/11/2018  
Place of Rescue: Mathare-Nairobi



Name: Mercy Wangeci  
Age: Syrs.  
Date of rescue: 1/11/2018  
Rescued from: Nairobi-Mathare



Name of the child: Baby David Baraka  
Age at rescue: 2 weeks  
Rescued from: Ukunda Tukutane  
Date of rescue: 11/03/2021



Name: Emmanuel Bright  
Age: 3 months  
Rescued on: 6/11/2021  
Rescued at: Lunga Lunga Police Station



Name: Vera Achting  
Age: 9 yrs.  
Date of rescue: 09/11/2018  
Rescued from: Kisii Town



Name: Clara Aminga  
Age: 7 yrs.  
Date of rescue: 04/11/2015  
Rescued from: Kisii Teaching Referral Hospital



Name: Siringi and Sela Jelia  
Age: 7 yrs., 2 yrs.  
Date of rescue: 03/02/2022  
Rescued from: Omososa Gesima Sub-Location Borabu Sub-County Nyansiongo ward



Name: Shelly Mueni  
Age: 4 yrs.  
Date of rescue: 31/05/2019  
Rescued from: Kisii Town



Name: Pascal Wafula  
Age: 2 years  
Rescues on: 12th April 2020  
Rescued at: Marchai Central Sub location Busaba Village - Busia County



Name: Ombati Seme  
Age: 10 yrs.  
Date of rescue: 14/11/2018  
Rescued from: Nairobi-Kambi Moyo slum



Name: Martha Wafula  
Age: 3 years  
Rescued on: 11th September 2019  
Rescued at: Busia Market



Name: Baby Alpha  
Age: 1 year  
Rescued on: 7/5/2021  
Rescued at: Mama Lucy Hospital



Name: Tyson Moi  
Age: 13 yrs.  
Date of rescue: 13/6/2018  
Rescued from: Begusoro Kisii Central Sub-County



Name of children : Evette Sudi and Mike Sudi  
Age: 11 Years  
Date of rescue: 14/01/2020  
Rescued from: Kisii Gesomi South



Name of the child: Baby Neema  
Age at rescue: Approx. 20 days  
Rescued from: Murang'a level 5 hospital  
Date of rescue: 28/2/2022



Name of the child: Baby Rita Zawadi  
Age at rescue: 1 day old  
Rescued from: Msambweni Hospital  
Date of rescue: 12/10/2017



Name: Baby Angel  
Age: 2 months  
Rescued on: 7/5/2021  
Rescued at: Mama Lucy Hospital



Name: Baby Faith Nangila  
Age: 12 months  
Rescued on: 17/7/2021  
Rescued at: Namsisi Primary School, Bungoma



Name of the child: Baby Lewis  
Age at rescue: Approx. 3 months  
Rescued from: Murang'a level 5 hospital  
Date of rescue: 1/12/2021



Name of the Child: Baby Shammah  
Age at rescue: 1 Year  
Rescued from: Near Ruiru Sub-County  
Date of Rescue: 13/11/2020



Name of the Child: Judy Patience  
Age at rescue: 1 Year  
Place of rescue : Nanyuki Township  
Date of Rescue:12/12/2013



Name of the child:Baby Alpha Kipkemboi  
Age at rescue: 3 years  
Rescued from: Ruiru Town outside Kiongo Apartments  
Date of rescue: 19/04/2021



Name of the child: Baby Amanda  
Age at rescue: 1 Month  
Rescued from: Dumbsite, Kahawa West  
Date of rescue: 14/02/2019



Name of the child: Baby Billy  
Age at rescue: 1 Year  
Rescued from: Happy Kids Care, Gitathu 45  
Date of rescue: 13/09/2019



Name of the child: Baby Clement  
Age at rescue: 1 Month  
Rescued from: Kasarani Children's  
Date of rescue: 01/02/2019



Name of the child: Elle Esperanza  
Age at rescue: 1 Month  
Rescued from: Light Industries at Karicoboni Estate  
Date of rescue: 09/03/2021



Name of the child: Isaiah  
Age at rescue: 1 day  
Rescued from: Maij Mazuri  
Date of rescue: 13/03/2019



Name of the child: Baby Joyce Hope  
Age at rescue: 1 day  
Rescued from: Drive-Inn, Nairobi  
Date of rescue: 09/06/2020



Name of the child: Baby Kathleen  
Age at rescue: 3 days  
Rescued from: St Augustine, Gitathu  
Date of rescue: 07/12/2018



Name of the child: Baby Naomi  
Age at rescue: 2 days  
Rescued from: Clay Works, Ruiru  
Date of rescue: 28/12/2020



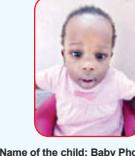
Name of the child: Baby Nathan  
Age at rescue: 10 Days  
Rescued from: Mugure-Bababodog  
Date of rescue: 30/12/2019



Name of the child: Baby Paul  
Age at rescue: 2 Weeks  
Rescued from: KNH-Ward  
Date of rescue: 14/04/2021



Name of the child: Baby Penny  
Age at rescue: 1 Day  
Rescued from: Mathare Area 1-Dumpsite  
Date of rescue: 10/05/2020



Name of the child: Baby Phoebe  
Age at rescue: 11 Days  
Rescued from: Mukuru Kayaba Slums  
Date of rescue: 28/04/2021



Name of the child: Baby Ruth Anne  
Age at rescue: 6 Weeks  
Rescued from: KNH  
Date of rescue: 28/04/2021



Name of the child: Baby Emmanuel Bahati  
Age at rescue: 11 Days  
Rescued from: Mwiki-Obama Road  
Date of rescue: 28/08/2020



Name of the child: Baby Gift Kimongo  
Age at rescue: 10 Days  
Rescued from: Tawa-Makueni County  
Date of rescue: 09/03/2021



Name of the child: Baby Joy Natasha Saumu  
Age at rescue: 5 Days  
Rescued from: Makindu Sub-County Hospital  
Date of rescue: 29/04/2021



Name of the child: Baby Murangari Kathure  
Age at rescue: 2 Years  
Rescued from : Bura Waso  
Date of rescue: 26/01/2022



Name of the child: Baby John Gate  
Age at rescue: 8 Months  
Rescued from: Mukuyu Village Lubago Sub-Location  
Date of rescue: 19/12/2021



Name of the child: Baby Prince Chesikali  
Age at rescue: 3 Days  
Rescued from: Chesikali Area  
Date of rescue: 19/01/2022



Name of the child: Baby Zion Mateo  
Age at rescue: 2 Years  
Rescued from: Butere  
Date of rescue: 28/07/2021



Name of the child: Baby Jayden Ezra  
Age at rescue: 7 Months  
Rescued from: Mumius  
Date of rescue: 23/07/2021



Name of the child: Baby Emmanuel a.k.a Bright  
Age at rescue: 3 Months  
Rescued from: Lunga Lunga Health Centre  
Date of rescue: 06/11/2021



Name of the child: Baby Faith Mwendwa  
Age at rescue: 1 Month  
Rescued from: Pumwani Maternity Hospital-NBU  
Date of rescue: 26/01/2022



Name of the child: Baby Police A.K.A Mary  
Age at rescue: 1 Month  
Rescued from: Eastleigh Section 3  
Date of rescue: 26/01/2022



Name of the child: Baby Brian 3  
Age at rescue: 3 years  
Rescued from: Nguluni, Matungulu-Machakos County Near Nguluni Power Station  
Date of rescue: 26/01/2022



Name of the child: Baby Milliam Wambui  
Age at rescue: 1 Month  
Rescued from: Nguluni, Matungulu-Machakos County Near Nguluni Power Station  
Date of rescue: 26/01/2022



Name of the child: Baby Miracle Bahati  
Age at rescue: 7 Days  
Rescued from: Garbage Pit, Makindu Location-Chief's Office  
Date of rescue: 03/02/2022



Name: Baby Esther  
Age: 3 ½ yrs.  
Rescued on: 9/07/2018  
Rescued from: Obwari Village  
Date of rescue: Kisii-Marani – Obwari Village

# P EDITORIAL

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## Let's all celebrate women in media

The place of women journalists in the country's media scene cannot be gainsaid. However, the journey has not always been rosy. The male dominated industry has not been kind to the womenfolk and it has taken years of hard work and dedication for them to get where they are.

Today, we celebrate a milestone in the industry where women are almost matching men with some having risen through the ranks to head the biggest media houses in the region.

All this would not have been possible had the pioneers of the Association of Media Women in Kenya (Amwik) not sat and decided to push for the cause of women in journalism. The association, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year, has every reason to be proud.

One of the reasons the association was formed was to recognise, support and protect the role of female journalists by amplifying their voices in a male-dominated media field. Currently, Amwik boasts about 300 women in media who seek to give visibility to various issues affecting the female gender.

For four decades, Amwik has been working to promote women participation in decision-making in the media, which, by all means, is no mean feat. Although there has been progress on the male-to-female ratio in the media industry's decision-making table, there is still a lot of ground to be covered. Statistics currently indicate that most top media managers are male, estimated at 65 per cent and the remaining 35 per cent are women.

There is a need to stay on top by re-inventing the media for the sake of the future and streamlining internal procedures to build a strong foundation on which young people joining the field can stand on.

Amwik should also focus on strengthening gender and governance, human rights, Gender Based Violence (GBV) sexual harassment and sexual reproductive rights reporting, among other roles.

A rich history spanning 40 years is worth celebration but it is important to support women in the media by continuing to champion a female-friendly environment.

As we celebrate women, we condemn the attack on journalists by Orange Democratic Movement goons. The thugs at Chungwa House descended on two journalists going about their work for what they said were negative stories published by their media houses. The brazen attack was an assault on media freedom and should be condemned by all. We challenge the police to move quickly and arrest those involved.

### THOUGHT OF THE DAY

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

**Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely**

## QUOTED TODAY



**Profiling of journalists by leaders and supporters of political parties, goes against Article 34 and 35 of the Constitution on freedom of media and access to information. Those involved in the attack of journalists should be arrested.**

MCK CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DAVID OMWOYO



**My most concern is the level of cheating in exams in this country. I appeal to the students, there is no reason for cheating because the government has provided an opportunity for all, regardless of what you get.**

KUCCPS BOSS MERCY WAHOME



**Studies showing that Kenyan media is leading in sexual harassment cases in Africa are disheartening. Women in media continue to suffer in silence leading to low performance or with time, leave the media industry.**

ICT CAS NADIA AHMED ABDALLAH



## Let's not take democratic space for granted

This nation's politics have changed, they would be unrecognisable compared to mere 30 years ago. With less than five months to the elections, it is now clear who the main contenders for the position of the Head of State are and the political battle of being spoilt for choices will shift to the other levels of power.

Even more significant is the change in the democratic space that the previous struggles for freedom have created. The pains of the 1980s and 1990s were not in vain. We are a long way from the 1970s when thoughts in one's mind would be considered treasonable.

Those were the days when a citizen would most likely face a death sentence were they to imagine anything untoward regarding the Head of State. Kenyans fought against it gallantly, many losing their lives and limbs in the process.

In a recent address, former Prime Minister Raila Odinga referred to those days when he said the tears he wipes from time to time in public, is the price he continues to pay for his role in the struggle of those days. Possessing literature that was considered subversive, uttering words that could be considered offensive and keeping company of people that were considered enemies of the government, would lead one to untold consequences.

But we have moved on. On the public squares across this country today, one will find all manner of people making statements that a few years ago would have sent them to maximum security prisons.

In downtown Nairobi, there are no shortage



LEVI OBONYO

**We are a long way from the 1970s when thoughts in one's mind would be considered treasonable**

of wanna-be standing comedians purportedly revealing to their listeners secrets of leaders, after which they ask to be paid for the entertainment. It is the kind of freedom that one only dreams of in the rest of East Africa. And we were there not too long ago. Yet these freedoms must be safeguarded for the gains can be easily reversed particularly with power in the hands of wrong people.

This culture of freedom is not yet sufficiently entrenched to withstand onslaught from would be dictators, with enough money to buy off parliament. It is indeed a work in progress.

Which brings me to the campaigns going on and the now famed indecisiveness of the leader of Wiper Party. He was initially a presidential contender, moved on to lead a still born coalition and eventually threw in his towel with the Azimio crowd. But not too long ago, he was reported to first be demanding to be made the deputy president, and secondly to be preparing a team that he would use to impeach the same president

he wanted to depose.

A President would want a loyal deputy for a start, but secondly, for the country, it would be important to have some stability in government. Why would a ticket that from the word go is not interested in providing stability in government be elected?

It is the kind of statement that if made in the days of the previous regimes, then the speaker would head straight to jail rather than to the comfort of his home. Presidency wanted unquestionable loyalty.

Kenya has lived through days of a presidency where the President and his deputy have not been reading from the same script, a situation which, given a choice, one would not want to repeat. Why would anybody want this repeated?

Yet this could also be indicative of the future governments in Kenya, one in which the political class is selfishly squabbling, unconcerned with the needs of the country. For the benefit of the people, the country would need a strong civil service ring-fenced from political interference and which could run public services as the politicians squabbled.

One could think of the recent case in Germany where it took several months to form a government as politicians negotiated. The civil service, built with sufficient resilience, continued to provide services to the people uninterrupted. That should be the future we are looking at.

— The writer is the dean, School of Communication, Daystar University

SEND YOUR OPED TO: peoplespeak@mediamax.co.ke

# Why Kenyans will still elect leaders without integrity

Have you ever asked yourself why Kenyans would still consider voting corrupt leaders into public office despite having an alternative choice of those with integrity? This question made me interview a few of my friends to find out why, how and under what circumstances, in a country or society characterised by high demand for accountability, would one consider voting for a corrupt leader. In my quest to understand the underlying factors that, despite the Kenyan society being aware, would still consider a corrupt leader, I stumbled upon various reasons that may or may not make sense in the ideal world, but practically, considering that every individual has a right to his/her opinion it is worth noting down.

Come 9th August 2022, Kenyan voters will willingly elect corrupt leaders into public office no matter the circumstances. Why would they do that? First, the political elite have segregated voters into tribes, sub tribes, clans and where this form of segregation does not exist, the stereotype will come in handy. The stereotypes include class, lifestyle, gender, economic power or even education standards. These criteria have been used around the world to ensure that corrupt leaders are recycled back into the system.



MICHAEL OCHULA

## Dramatic rise in ethnic politics and voter ethnicisation have taken voters away from reality

From my observation and the answers of the respondents, the influence of group identity on its own people and political interferences always worsen the political realignment because in such kind of setting the winner always comes from one of the dominant group. The idea of electing leaders from small tribes dominating the system is near to zero while their counterparts will have the muscle to jungle from one place to infinite using the dominant group as a collateral security.

Many voters will choose to elect corrupt politicians because they have promises of rewards in terms of appointments to plum jobs, tender awards and other privileges after the leaders get an elective post. Many would rather vote for candidates of their tribe no matter how devilish they are. Voters in the rural areas lack accurate and credible information regarding the leaders in the contest and the effect they have to a common citizen and thus would not hesitate to vote out of ignorance. In addition, most politicians threaten

their voters, whom in-turn give in to their demands due to death threats or fear of isolation, many of these Kenyans are beneficiaries of bureaucracy that exists at the upper offices of the government and therefore, have no other option than re-electing the same leaders and many of the dominant groups would vote their corrupt leaders because they have been promised to get good roads, bursaries, hospitals and schools once elected.

The other point to note is that the corrupt are always consciously tolerated by voters. Although not always observed, corruption in Kenya has been a propelling blade to a political ladder. Many of the businessmen or public officials who have been accused, arraigned in court or went through a trial in an anti-corruption court, have all at one-time secured elective posts from their electorates and more so if you come from a dominant group, your ticket is fully booked since the tribe act as collateral.

The dramatic rise in ethnic politics

and voter ethnicisation have taken voters away from reality. The economic development has taken a U-turn, inflation has increased in double figures, the prices of commodities especially basic commodities have increased almost thrice the same price in the beginning of 2022, and the dream of owning a home or purchase of luxury items like cars will be impossible in near future with introduction of unnecessary taxes every day. The magnitude of the identified effects of increased ethnicisation on corruption, job preferences and unequal distribution of resources are generally large. To a very large extent, since independence, our increased corruption among the legislators from the dominant party or group has been on the rise.

With all these factors intertwined, the wish of voters punishing corrupt politicians at the ballot remains futile at the present and near future since the system that protects the cartels, political corruption and the judiciary in our country still exist. The lack of awareness of exactly what the voters should do to corrupt leaders remains a hindering factor in trying to ensure Kenya grow both economically and politically.

— The writer is a governance expert based in Nairobi

## ODDLY ENOUGH



### Venice hotels arming guests with 'toy' guns to ward off seagulls

Hotels in Venice, Italy, announced guests are being armed against aggressive seagulls with an unusual form of protection: water guns. The AVA, the hotelier's association for the city of Venice, said guests are being given orange water guns to ward off the city's seagulls, which are known to aggressively go after food and anything else they see as edible. "They really work, they're also colored orange, which those birds don't like," Paolo Lorenzoni, director of the historic Gritti Hotel near the Grand Canal, told ANSA. He said the birds are already learning to avoid anyone brandishing a water gun. "As soon as they see the pistols, they fly away," he said. "You don't even need to use them, you just need to keep them on the table."

— Agencies

# Invest heavily in fight against tuberculosis, SUDs



CAROLINE KAHIU

## Stigma and fear around the diseases continues to hamper the public health response

Every March 24, we mark World Tuberculosis (TB) Day — a day set aside to educate the public about the impact of the disease and raise awareness on the challenges that hinder progress towards its elimination. TB is the leading cause of death from a single agent worldwide. For the first time in over a decade, TB deaths increased in 2020.

One potential explanation is the continued transmission of TB among high risk populations such as people with substance use disorders. This is because alcohol and drugs can damage a person's body and weaken defenses against illnesses. Those with SUDs may also find it difficult to access healthcare or take their medication regularly. This means that they pose an increased risk of passing infectious TB on to others and/or drug resistant TB.

People with alcohol abuse problems are less likely to adhere to a treatment plan, have regular healthy meals and may spend time in places where it is easier for TB to spread, such as crowded or poorly ventilated places. TB medication can also lead to side effects such as liver toxicity, which is particularly dangerous for people drinking alcohol.

On the other hand, passive and ac-

tive exposure to cigarette smoke are both associated with an increased risk of infection and development of active tuberculosis. Cigarettes and tobacco products play in the pathogenesis of TB resulting to a reduced immune system and increasing susceptibility to infection. Tobacco use has also been associated with abandonment of tuberculosis treatment that might be related to the psychosocial aspects of smoking and the lower socioeconomic status of the affected population.

Epidemiological data suggests that there is a relationship between tuberculosis and illicit drug use and is increasing leading to a public health problem. The presence of illicit drug use amongst those infected with TB in families and communities is a crucial factor in maintaining the chain of tuberculosis transmission. This is promoted by a number of factors: the risky lifestyles, the accumulation and isolation of people indoors for the consumption of illicit

drugs, the sharing of syringes and other drug paraphernalia, and the spread of communicable diseases such as HIV and Hepatitis C.

Unfortunately, stigma and fear around substance use disorders (SUDs) and TB continues to hamper the public health response. TB stigma just like SUDs has more significant impact on women and less-educated community members, given that these groups are often at higher risk for health disparities. TB and SUDs stigma may, therefore, worsen pre-existing gender- and class-based health disparities.

It is clear substance use disorders have a negative impact on tuberculosis risk and treatment outcomes. Therefore, in populations at high risk for SUDs, it is important to evaluate this condition, integrate prevention and management of SUDs in the TB care protocols, as well as to monitor treatment adherence in order to avoid default and to follow patients closely to identify adverse events.

This year's World TB day theme is "Invest in TB. Save Lives" conveys the urgent need to invest in resources to ramp up the fight against TB and achieve the commitments to end TB made across the world. Government, media and communities have an important role in preventing and stopping TB and SUDs. Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for individuals of all ages and calling for prevention and treatment of SUDs and illnesses will go a long way in eliminating TB. Also, nicotine withdrawal has been strongly associated with successful completion of treatment for latent tuberculosis.

We all need to be intentional and thoughtful when communicating and show support around those with TB and SUDs. What will work is building trust in reliable health services, showing empathy for those affected, understanding the diseases and adopting affective practical measures so that people can help keep themselves and their loved ones safe. Everyone has a role to play in ending TB and SUDs—individuals, communities, businesses, governments and societies.

— The writer is substance use prevention advocate

### Man uses same lottery numbers to win Sh550m

An unidentified Australian has won \$5.5 million playing the Oz Lotto after he used the same numbers he has been using for 30 years. "I've played the same number for 30 years and never won anything," the man told lottery officials. The man bought the winning 12-game entry from a newsagency store and said he was overwhelmed by winning and had to leave his office at work to compose himself. "I just need to take a breath. It's been such an emotional day. I've laughed, cried, yelled, spoken to my family, who were just as excited as me. This is amazing!" he said. The man said he won't stop working, but a weight has been lifted from his shoulders.

— Agencies

## #TWEETS TO THE EDITOR



### Why Janet Mbugua declined Kuria's offer

**@abuga\_makori:** Janet Mbugua is far above ethnic jingoism. She can't relate with those who perpetuate this primitive practice that is loved by Moses Kuria. For the respect to President Uhuru and Kiambu people, she declined to dine with merchants of hate speech.

### So Azimio has less thieves than UDA?

**@ItsMutai:** So Martha Karua has done an audit of thieves in both Tanga Tanga and Azimio, and made the correct conclusion that there are more thieves in Tanga Tanga than Azimio La Umoja, and joined the latter?

### Only Mudavadi can best deputise Ruto

**@Silvia\_Wangeci:** Musalia Mudavadi is the number 1 best choice for Deputy President. He has the care and compassion to be a voice for the common mwananchi in our country. #RutoMusalia

/// @PeopleDailyKe /// People Daily



**TRUTHIS:** Only God comes to the need of those who submit to His will.

**BALLOT 2022**

FOR MORE NEWS VISIT: www.pd.co.ke / www.epaper.pd.co.ke

## Governor candidate Otuoma picks deputy after clan input

by Hillary Mageka  
@hillarymageka

Busia governor candidate Paul Otuoma has named former Teso North MP Arthur Odera as his running-mate.

Otuoma is making a second stab at the seat he lost to outgoing governor Sospeter Ojaamong' in 2017 after running as an Independent candidate.

Governor Ojaamong garnered 92,358 votes against Otuoma's 63,752 votes to win ODM nominations in April 2017. In the General Election, the former lawmaker gave Ojaamong a run for his money, garnering 125,905 votes

against Ojaamong's 135,153 votes.

This year, Otuoma will bat it out with Nambale MP Sakwa Bunyasi (ANC), Busia Woman Rep Florence Mutua and Deputy Governor Moses Mulomi for the coveted ODM ticket.

Others in the race are former Agricultural Finance Corporation managing director Lucas Mesa and Michael Oloo. Otuoma argues that his decision to pick Odera, who hails from the larger Teso clan signifies efforts to unite all communities in Busia County.

On his part, Odera says the Teso community has agreed to back Otuoma to succeed Governor Ojaamong.

## Kinyanjui banks on key projects for re-election

by Noah Cheploen  
@cheplenooh

Nakuru Governor Lee Kinyanjui (right) has urged locals to vote well in the forthcoming General Election to secure their future.

The first-term governor said the electorate should consider development as a priority when choosing the next leaders.

He expressed confidence that he would be re-elected, owing to his development record and prudent utilisation of funds.

He said he had initiated several flagship projects since 2017.

"We have more than 20 initiatives that have cost us between



Sh150 million and Sh900 million," he said, adding, "show me one governor who has done the kind of work we have done in Nakuru and its 11 sub-counties".

The key projects include construction of a new county headquarters which started last year. "Our headquarters was opened by our first President Jomo Ke-

nyatta in 1971 but we are now building a new one to improve service delivery," he said.

### Medical project

The governor added: "We have a Sh700 million medical project at the Nakuru Level 5 Hospital which is near completion".

Nakuru was conferred city status by President Uhuru Kenyatta in a colourful ceremony last December. Kinyanjui made the remarks during a fundraiser for the burial of former Mayor Samuel Kibowen Towett.

He is battling for the seat with Senator Susan Kihika (UDA).

# Will Nyoro ride Kiambu tide against Uhuru foes?

Being the sole Jubilee aspirant for county's top seat, he currently enjoys pride of place

by Eric Wainaina  
@EWainaina

Governor James Nyoro might have an easy ride for the Jubilee ticket following a well-oiled campaign by President Uhuru Kenyatta to rejuvenate the party for the August 9 polls.

His competitors — ex-governors William Kabogo and Ferdinand Waititu, Senator Kimani Wamatangi, Thika MP Patrick Wainaina and Gaturu South MP Moses Kuria — are coalescing around Kenya Kwanza camp of Deputy President William Ruto.

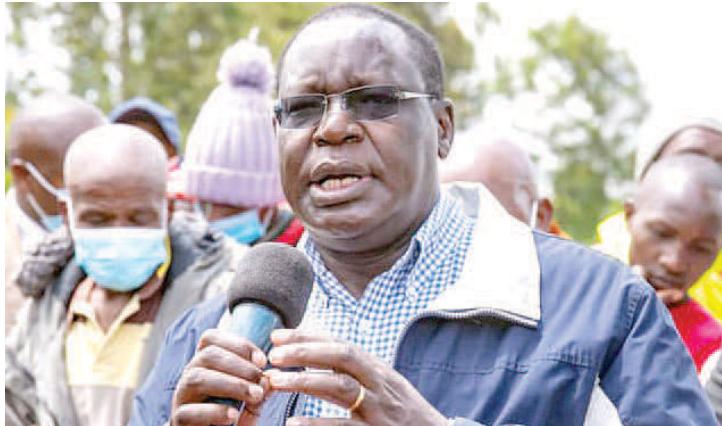
Kabogo is in his Tujibebe Party, an affiliate of United Democratic Alliance (UDA), while Waititu (who was impeached), Wamatangi and Wainaina are seeking the UDA flag. Kuria is on his Chama Cha Kazi party.

### Space and attention

Being the only aspirant currently seeking the Jubilee ticket, Nyoro is enjoying space and attention from party heavyweights leading the ongoing campaigns in Mt Kenya region.

Analysts argue that by joining Ruto's camp, Kabogo, Waititu, Wamatangi, Kuria and Wainaina have put themselves on a collision course with Uhuru, who is determined to ensure Jubilee — which recently mandated him to continue being its leader after retirement — wins most seats, particularly in central Kenya.

"Nyoro will have an advantage since he is the only Azimio candidate in Kiambu. Kenya Kwanza candidates will be on a warpath against the President, who will not want to be upstaged in his home county. Uhuru might use his financial and political might against these candidates. Note also that the President has deep networks in Kiambu county and he



**Governor James Nyoro:**  
"We shall not discriminate against anybody; but don't come here to insult the President".  
PD/FILE

### ULL BEFORE THE STORM?

● Political scientist Peter Ng'ethe: Kenya Kwanza candidates will be on a warpath against the President, who will not want to be upstaged in his home county.

● Vice-chairman David Murathe: Once the party is done with the ongoing revamp, its leadership led by Uhuru will target the rebels.

could call them to action," political scientist Peter Ng'ethe says.

But Nyoro's position as the country's sole aspirant in the President's corner could be short-lived. Reportedly, some State and party officials spearheading Jubilee's revival are courting Wainana, a move which could complicate things for Nyoro.

But yesterday, the MP maintained he was still in UDA. He quipped: "Today (Thursday), at about 10:30am, everything is green and yellow and so even nature says it is UDA. That is where we are. We are having nominations between 9th and 16th April. Once we get the date, I am asking the people of Kiambu to come out in large numbers to nominate Wainana wa Jungle for governor under UDA in the main polls."

Uhuru is promising aspirants under Jubilee various desirables, among them funds for their campaigns and access to party privileges, as well as his political clout.

The President is expected to lead a massive campaign for the party's candidates — leading a deliberately harsh onslaught on those opposed to Azimio la Umoja coalition.

Jubilee secretary general Jeremiah Kioni has trained his guns on

Wamatangi. Besides sacking him as Senate Majority Whip and chairman of the lucrative Transport committee, Kioni accuses Wamatangi of electoral fraud saying he is registered in two political parties.

"After going to UDA, we told him to leave the party's office (Whip). But he wrote tous an eight-page letter saying he is still a member of Jubilee. This political commandment is what we don't want. Wamatangi is said to have registered as a Jubilee member using his national identification card while in UDA he used his passport. That is fraud and can lead to him being disqualified from any political office in Kenya," Kioni said.

### Target the rebels

Vice-chairman David Murathe says that once the party is done with the ongoing revamp, its leadership led by Uhuru will target the rebels.

Nyoro, Jubilee's sole candidate for Kiambu governor seat to date, says: "If you come to ask for votes in Kiambu, do it with decorum and respect to the local leaders. Whether you are from Kiambu or from without. We shall not discriminate against anybody; but don't come here to insult the President".



Contestants Grita Muthoni and George Wajackoyah

## Flair and pomp from little-known aspirants in presidential contest

by Noah Cheploen and Brian Malila

Just five months to Election Day, little-known aspirants are spicing up the presidential campaigns with radical proposals, dismissing the notion that it will be a two-horse race.

While the run-up to the August 9 poll has been dominated by the two leading contenders: Deputy President William Ruto and opposition chief Raila Odinga, other aspirants are also fighting for space.

Take the two latest entrants — Grita Muthoni, a mother of three, and Joe Mwaniki Nyaga, son of late cabinet minister Joe Nyanga. The two are promising transformative leadership.

"Kenyans are exhausted, tired and depressed by the current options on the table," Muthoni said during a rally to announce her bid.

"They have been bombarded with negative information daily, with none of the political actors presenting clear solutions to the nation's problems", she added.

Asked about the two main horses already in the race, Ms Grita caused laughter when she replied that this is the time for leaders and not horses: "With your support, I intend to move Kenyans from 'Human Wrongs' to 'Human Rights'".

The psychology graduate of University of East London and trader with international and local experience says Kenya has enough resources to pay its debts. Muthoni was born in Nyahururu, Nyandarua County.

Meanwhile, Joe Nyaga says he is acting on a wish of his father who, he adds, was preparing for a presidential bid in 2022, before he died.

He says it is his democratic right to vie for the presidency although he is from a minority tribe, Mbeere.

### Mt Kenya issue

The 44-year old political science graduate adds that Mt Kenya region has been subjected to confusion.

"Why is the region not keen on fielding a presidential candidate yet it has the highest number of voters? It seems there is plan to take these votes to a specific area," he said.

Then there is lawyer George Wajackoyah, who has pledged to legalise bhang (marijuana). Last month, Wajackoyah said his government would reduce the official working days by one, noting that weekends would start on Friday. This would enable Muslims to attend Friday prayers uninterrupted. Wajackoyah is also crusading for introduction of the death penalty for people guilty of corruption.



Lawyer Kipkoech Ng'etich votes in Nakuru during recent LSK elections. PD/ROY LUMBE

## IEBC rejects 'none of the above' vote

Electoral body says Kenyan laws do not recognise the pick as a mode of voting

by Roy Lumbe  
@PeopleDailyKe

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) has opposed a petition in court by a voter seeking the introduction of 'none of the above' (NOTA) option on ballot papers in the August polls.

Citizen Boniface Mwai had filed a petition before a Nakuru High Court, arguing that Kenyans needed another option for wider choice.

In the petition where IEBC is listed as a respondent, Mwai, says the prospect will allow voters who do not have faith in candidates to exercise their democratic right by registering that none of the contestants was worth their votes.

### Strange concept

However, the IEBC in its submissions yesterday through advocate Kipkoech Ng'etich opposed the petition saying NOTA suggestion was a violation of the Constitution.

Ng'etich, noted Kenyan laws do not recognise 'NOTA' as a mode of voting.

"The petitioner has not stated which provision of the Constitution allows that the right not to vote for any candidate demands one to cast a vote against all the candidates. The prayers are not founded on any law in Kenya," said Kipkoech.

Kipkoech argued that the move was a strange concept in Kenya's jurisdiction saying for the same to be applied, it should be founded on legislation which squarely lies with Parliament.

"Kenyan provisions have no scope for negative voting. We

submit that the Election Act and the Constitution do not envisage that a voter has any right to cast a negative vote, if he does not like any of the candidates," he said.

He wants the court to declare the petition a nonstarter, saying it is an abuse of the court process and a move to interfere with the conduct of the August, General-Election.

"There are no formal procedures in place that would address situations where the 'none of the above' receives plurality of the votes, and so winning the elections.

### Legal consequence

"In other countries that have a 'none of the above' option, India for example, in the event of NOTA wins, the candidate or party polling the next highest number of votes would be allowed to take office regardless. Clearly, this renders the option meaningless, as NOTA win would indicate that more voters actively rejected all the available candidates than endorsed any one of them," said Ng'etich.

The advocate added that NOTA has no legal consequence and there shall be no motivation for the voters to travel to the polling booth and reject all the candidates.

The case will be heard on June 23 before Justice Hillary Chemitei.

### IN IEBC CASE

- The Constitution of Kenya, does not order that all citizens must vote, but gives every eligible adult to vote and those who do not wish to participate have the right to refrain.

- Voting 'none of the above' is essentially abstaining from voting which is available in the current setting.

## Presidential hopeful promises to resuscitate Kenya economy

by Mathew Ndung'u  
@PeopleDailyKe

Presidential hopeful Jeremiah Mwaniki Nyagah, son of the late Cooperative Minister Joe Nyagah, says he will turn around economic challenges troubling Kenya in various sectors.

The 44-year-old promises that if he wins the August polls, his government will also restore the glory of farmers across the country in a bid to fulfill the dream that his father had before he died.

Mwaniki (pictured), who will be vying as an independent candidate who joined political heavyweights in the State House race, regretted that the country is grappling with serious economic challenges, most of which can be sorted out with simple policy and amendments to our laws. "Our dairy farmers are crying every day, we no longer see good returns of our coffee and tea as we used to in the former years. These challenges require



good policies which I will prioritise in my first days at State House. We must restore the dignity of farming by making farmers enjoy quality returns," he said at a forum in Embu town.

The hopeful president told off politicians who have been hoodwinking Mt Kenya region with fake promises. "I joined the race to not only protect the vote-rich region's interest but also give hope to all Kenyans in the wake of economic turmoil precipitated by Covid-19," he says.

### BRIEFLY

## Waithaka wants a chance to complete his stalled projects

Former Nyandarua Governor Daniel Waithaka Mwangi yesterday claimed that projects he started have been abandoned by the current regime. Declaring his intention to recapture the governor seat on a DP ticket, he promised to resume making Early Childhood Development education free, "if elected governor." He said by making ECD education free, the parents will be relieved of the burden of paying fees at that level of education. "I was the first governor and I want to be third governor of Nyandarua so that I can complete the projects I had started and which have been abandoned," he said in a press briefing at Ol Kalou town.

—David Macharia

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# Terror suspect abducted upon release from prison

Former school teacher accosted by unknown people after completing his prison sentence at Shimo la Tewa

■ by Sophie Njoka  
@PeopleDailyKe

Four days after abduction shortly after release from Shimo La Tewa Prison following an acquittal, terror suspect Amani Mohammed Mwafajo can still not be traced.

The Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) said they detectives are the abduction of the suspect by unknown people on Monday.

Mwafajo's abduction brings to at least four, the number of terror suspects who have disappeared immediately after leaving prison either after serving their full sentences or being acquitted.

The Bamburi sub-county police Commander Juma Rondo told *People Daily* the matter was reported to the police and is under investigation.

Mwafajo, 34, former Tawheed Secondary School teacher had just been released from Shimo La Tewa GK Prison where he has been serving time since 2016 for alleged terrorism. He was cornered by six men in a white Probox.

The abductors isolated him from the rest of the passengers in a matatu he had boarded opposite Shimo La Tewa Prison before being bundling him into the vehicle, which then sped off immediately, according to eyewitnesses.

A black Toyota Land Cruiser approached the matatu from Mtwapa direction and blocked it, before the Probox



**Terror suspect Amani Mohammed Mwafajo at his house before arrest. PD/**

pulled over. The sister, who witnessed the abduction, said the men looked like police officers.

On Thursday last week, Kwale senior resident magistrate Joe Omidio acquitted the terror suspect for lack of sufficient evidence. "The accused person is acquitted of all the offences, he is charged with from count one to 10, the accused shall be set to liberty forthwith unless he is otherwise lawfully detained," ruled Omidio.

Mwafajo had been remanded at the correction facility since 2016, after the prosecution in its application successfully applied to have him denied bond, citing various reasons including being a flight risk, and likely interference of State witnesses who were his students.

On Monday, he was released from the

facility's solitary confinement, Block E, where he had been held for the last six years. His freedom was however short lived. "Around six men surrounded the Nissan matatu and ordered everyone to remain seated. They then enquired where Mwafajo was seated and told him to cooperate and get out of the matatu. He was hesitant but he was forcefully removed as we watched helplessly," said Ramla.

The Probox then sped off towards Mombasa after the heavily armed men warned her against raising any alarm. On October 8, 2020, Liban Abdillahi Omar who had been on a seven-year trial over the Westgate Mall attack, was also abducted the same day he was acquitted. Family members said he was abducted by gunmen believed to be police officers who were driving in a black Subaru Forester.

On October 28 last year, terror convict Eligma Bwire Olifacha was abducted the same day he finished his term and released from the Kamiti Maximum Prison. Bwire is the self-confessed terrorist who was behind the October 24, 2011 terror attack at Kaka bus stage along Racecourse Road, Nairobi. Bwire, also known as Seif Deen Mohamed aka Japhar aka Japhel Okuku, is still missing amid reports that even after serving his jail term, he was never rehabilitated.

Police claimed they had received reports Bwire promised his former friends serving various charges on terrorism at Kamiti Maximum Prison that he would stage an attack to free them immediately after being released. Police say they suspect he rejoined a terror cell, which he was in contact with while at Kamiti Prison. His lawyer, Prof Hassan Nandwa was also abducted and was found dumped in Mwingi, Kitui county, 11 days later.

## KUCCPS boss Wahome lauds teachers for guiding students in career choices

■ by Noah Chepleon  
@PeopleDailyKe

Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Service (KUCCPS) Chief Executive Officer Mercy Wahome yesterday lauded secondary school teachers for helping students make informed career choices.

Speaking when she opened Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) exam container at the Nakuru East morning, Dr Wahome said students were making proper

and timely decisions of the courses they want to pursue after school.

"So far we are happy with the response that the career guidance teachers are doing and I am glad to say that this time we're seeing applications for artisans...these are students who feel that they may not get the As and Bs to go university," she said.

"It also shows a positive attitude towards the Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) courses," said Wahome.

"I am happy to see these applications even before the students sit for their exams and my appeal is for the teachers



to continue uploading the applications on our portal," she stated.

She blamed 'wrong' attitude for the declining numbers of students pursuing

courses such as agriculture. "Generally, our children don't want to 'soil' their hands and that boils down to wrong attitude," she said.

You find those students who pick agriculture as an examination subject in Form Four tend to do very well but they are few... but when it comes to career, we still have a lot to encourage students to do courses that are aligned to the Big 4 Agenda," Wahome said. The Big 4 Agenda is President Uhuru Kenyatta's development blueprint and legacy goals. It includes: food security, affordable housing, and manufacturing and affordable health care.

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# Businesshub

## Devolved units spent 26pc of Coronavirus funds kitty

Civil society lobby says counties only spent Sh3.1b out of Sh13.1b allocated by national government to mitigate against the pandemic shocks

by Noel Wandera  
[@NoelWandera](#)

A new report by a lobby tracking Covid-19 funds estimates that County governments have only spent Sh3.1 billion out of the Sh13.1 billion allocated by the national government for mitigation measures against the pandemic.

Follow the money (FTM), an Africa-wide civil society that has been tracking down usage of the funds in seven African countries attributed the low absorption rate - 26 per cent - to lack of a plan to spend the money and late disbursement of the funds from the central government.

The report was done between January and February 2020, covering Nairobi, Mombasa, Kisumu, Uasin Gishu, Kiambu and Turkana counties.

Counties access their money from the county revenue fund account through quarterly requisition, a process Josephine Nyamai, the FTM budget coordinator said was tedious and delayed funds disbursement.

### Back and forth

"The requisition is a process that requires many actors, and has a lot of back and forth. When you look at the Controller of Budget report, she notes that most counties did not have a plan to spend that money. When it comes to the closing of the financial year and the money is not spent, it is returned to the National Treasury," said Nyamai.

The central government was already hard pressed financially with the problem intensifying in March 2020, when the first case of Covid-19 pandemic was reported, leading to revenue intensive mitigation measures. Counties depend for resources from the national government's equitable



**Covid-19: Lobby says the Sh13 billion allocation was meant for among other uses, buying 300 beds and ventilators, as well as construction of oxygen plants.** PD/FILE

### ABSORPTION RATE

- Follow the money, an Africa-wide civil society lobby that has been tracking down usage of the funds in seven countries on the continent.
- It attributed the low absorption rate to lack of a plan to spend the money and late disbursement of the funds.

share contributions, conditional grants and from their own source revenue.

Nyamai said the Sh13 billion allocation was meant for among other uses, buying 300 beds and ventilators, as well as construction of oxygen plants. Only Kisumu county has set up an Oxygen Plant at the county referral hospital.

Weighing in, Evelyn Mathai, FTM's coordinator for Nairobi, East and Central Africa hub said the counties were setting unrealistic budget targets and over-relying on conditional grants, which she said was not sustainable.

"A sector like health, we have so many conditional grants that make a huge percentage of the revenue available for public health so we also need to put in measures to ensure sustainability because once these donors stop, what happens," she

said. Mathai said there was resistance in disclosure of vital information, like verifying the number of beds, leading them to believe it was a smoke-screen to conceal corruption.

"We wanted to see things like increased bed capacity but even that was difficult, unless you go physically to check and for them to gain you access to those facilities to count, it was impossible," she added.

"Why do you think counties are not availing information to be audited and yet it's a requirement by the office of the controller of budgets to ensure the money was used wisely. But they are ignoring and there is no repercussions."

There is a reason because without those documents, you cannot be able to evaluate how absorption of those funds is happening and also how expenditure is taking place. So they are hiding something," she said, "she said and singled out Nairobi and Bomet counties as the most notorious.

### Documented reports

The research by FTM has been released amidst documented reports of misuse of \$7.8 million (over Sh890 million) meant to buy Covid-19 medical supplies through the Kenya Medical Supplies Authority.

## UN appeals for Sh16b to feed hungry Kenyans

by Nicholas Waitathu  
[@PeopleDailyKe](#)

United Nations and other humanitarian agencies are mobilising \$139.5 million (Sh15.95 billion) to feed 3.1 million Kenyans facing hunger in the country. The resources being sought under the Kenya Drought Flash Appeal programme launched in Sep-

tember 2021 is currently 11 per cent achieved even as the situation continues to worsen.

According to the United Kingdom-based humanitarian agency, Oxfam International, the drought situation in the Horn of Africa is worse compared to other years, likely to escalate further if the long rains fail.

Oxfam Kenya Country

director John Kitui said community livelihoods in 23 Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) counties have completely collapsed with no agriculture activities taking place and farmers have equally lost livestock. The UN at the same time is further mobilising \$6 billion (Sh686.4 billion) to feed millions people grappling with acute hun-

ger in Ethiopia, Somalia and Southern Sudan.

"Communities in the ASAL region are facing a dire situation. The situation is worse in the sense that it is affecting three other countries - Ethiopia, Somalia and Southern Sudan," Dr Kitui added. No communities can migrate to the other locality as the situation is the same," he said.

JOSEPHINE NYAMAI

**“The requisition is a process that requires many actors, and has a lot of back and forth”**

## NCBA reaps benefits of merger in double profits

by Herald Aloo  
[@PeopleDailyKe](#)

NCBA Group has started reaping the gains of post-merger with net profit more than doubling to hit Sh10.22 billion for the year ending December 2021, representing 124 per cent increase from Sh4.6 billion registered in 2020.

The lender attributed the profit growth to strong operational performance, recording Sh2.7 billion growth in operating income and significant decline in loan impairment charges of Sh7.7 billion at the back of its successful NIC Group Plc and CBA Bank merger in 2019.

"While there is still much more to do, it is clear that our merger is paying dividends. The results are a reflection that we are delivering on our strategy despite the headwinds introduced by Covid-19," Group Managing Director John Gachora (pictured) said.

Shareholders have also not been behind with the board proposing a total dividend of Sh3 per share for the year 2021, which is part of the interim dividend of Sh0.75 per share, following the strong performance.

The closing date for the determination of entitlement to dividend is slated for April 13, 2022, the group said in a statement. During the period under review, the company's total assets surged by 12 per cent year on year to Sh591.1 billion from Sh528 billion recorded in the previous financial year.

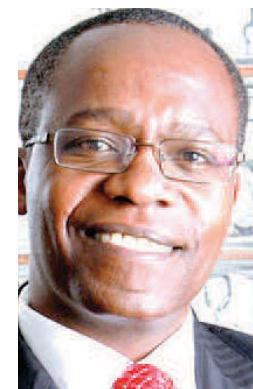
This is the second time the group is announcing its full financial year results, attracting 11 per cent increase in customer deposits to Sh470 billion from Sh422 billion in 2020.

### Banking channels

As the lender finalised the post-merger consolidation of its mobile banking channels, NCBA supported its customers by disbursing total digital loans of Sh584 billion, by 35 per cent increase from the previous Sh432 billion.

"This exercise was intended to deliver merger cost synergies and to provide a unified platform from which to elevate customer experiences," the group stated.

Gachora, however, noted that the massive closure of businesses due to Covid dealt a huge blow to the company's Stawi, a digital credit product designed for the micro, small and medium enterprises



(MSMEs) as credit uptake downsized in 2020/21.

It reported a cost to income ratio of 42.2 per cent, a flat rate in the same period last year and operating profit before loan loss provisions of Sh28.4 billion, 6 per cent up year on year. The lender's loan impairment charges fell to Sh12.7 billion, 38 percent drop during the assessment period attributed to loan repayments during the post-lockdown economic activities.

### Digitisation disruption

However, non-performing loans coverage ratio surged to 73.6 per cent, from 60.9 per cent witnessed previously.

The company is targeting to open additional 12-15 branches this year despite digitisation disruption that has seen most banks move away from the traditional banking systems.

This will be in addition to 13 branches opened in 2021 across Mombasa Nyeri, Karatina, Embu, Naivasha, Ngong, Ruiru, Kakamega, Bungoma, Kiambu, and Kericho.

In terms of regions, the lender's Tanzania subsidiary performed poorly, recording a loss of Sh940 million in 2021.

Uganda's two-year lockdown that interrupted the country's cash-based economy left the bank with Sh765 million loss. The lender is, however, focusing on its strategic initiatives anchored on customer experience, retail banking, deepened market leadership in corporate banking and asset finance, enable digital transformation, and environmental protection.

It has signed various partnerships to strengthen its asset finance, bolster property businesses, facilitating customer deposits and providing support to SMEs. These include Isuzu, DT Dobie, Toyota, Simba Corp, and CMC Motors, among others.



## KenTrade seeks House sanction on crucial bill

by Steve Umidha  
@UmidhaSteve

Trade and cross-border facilitation agency, Kenya Trade Network Agency (KenTrade), is seeking Parliament's sanction for the passage of a crucial Bill – which if endorsed, will see the agency operate autonomously without exchequer's funding.

Mugambi Imanyara, the agency's chairman said full implementation of the National Electronic Single Window System Bill, 2021, would also help curb fraud and exploitation in the logistics coordination system often faced by importers and exporters using the platform.

"We are still at the benchmarking stages of this Bill, upon which lawful procedures will be followed to have it debated on the floor of the Parliament. Engagements on the same are already underway, so hopefully in the next one and a half months it should be ready for tabling," he said during a media briefing.

The Bill seeks to, among other issues, simplify and synchronise processing of data, enable the standardisation of documents and single decision-making for customs release and clearance as well as facilitate electronic transactions in trade as well as reduce legal and operational barriers to electronic transactions.

### Lodge documents

The system shall serve as a single entry point and platform for any person involved in trade and transport to lodge documents electronically including import or export documents for processing and approval and facilitate the electronic payment for fees and levies, due to the government, on goods imported or exported for transactions submitted through the System," reads in part the provision in the Bill.

KenTrade runs the online cargo clearing system (logistics coordination platform) which provides information to all the players on the real-time location of their cargo while on transit. The agency is also introducing more online platforms to reduce paperwork, including an upgrade of its Trade Facilitation Platform (TFP) program expected to go live by the end of the month.

Through its logistics directory platform for instance, the directory lists all players in the logistics sector, detailing products and services, as well as prices where applicable and their contacts – but certain traders are exploiting the existing gaps, according to the firm's chief executive Amos Wangara.

## Ukraine crisis: Kenya seeks alternate sources of wheat

Kenya imported about 2.4 million tonnes of wheat in 2021 to supplement domestic production, the grain milling industry has said.

Paoma Fernandes (picture), CEO of the Cereal Miller Association told Xinhua that local farmers were only able to produce 100,000 tonnes of the grain last year.

"We will continue to rely on imports as farmers cannot meet local consumption needs," Fernandes said on the sidelines of a multi-stakeholder workshop on the fortification of wheat and maize flour in Kenya.

Fernandes said that the bulk of the East African nation's grain imports in 2021 came from Russia and Ukraine. "Due to the current conflict between Russia and Ukraine, im-



ports from the region will be severely affected this year," she added.

She observed that Kenya is seeking for alternative sources of wheat in order to make up for the shortfall of imports from the Black Sea region that is expected in 2022.

The grain milling industry said demand for wheat consumption has been on the increase due to changing diets caused by urbanisation as well as raising household incomes. –Xinhua

## Meat lovers in Kisii face tough times as butchers hike prices

by Robert Ochoro  
@PeopleDailyKe

Kisii County Butcheries Association has increased prices of meat to consumers, citing low supply of cows, goats and high transport cost to abattoirs and butcheries. Mwembe Branch Association chairman, Richard Nyakundi said the high population in the county has forced farmers to rear few animals and spare the rest of their land for maize, cash and horticultural crops.

He said there are few cows and goats in the area leading a jump in the cost of cows and goats, adding they are now forced to get the animals from as far as Transmara East and West sub-counties in Narok county.

Nyakundi added that the dry spell and the cost of dairy feeds and lack of grazing land have also forced the farmers to increase the prices of the animals from between Sh40,000 to Sh60,000, saying this has compelled butchery operators to increase the prices of goat meat and beef.

"We are selling a kilo of beef and goat meat at Sh500 and Sh600 respectively from Sh400 and Sh500 effective this



Lovers of Nyama Choma in Kisii County forced to spend more on delicacy. FILE

month" he told Business Hub yesterday, adding the price of liver is now Sh700 up from Sh600 a kilo. Nyakundi said the cost of driving and transporting the animals has also increased, adding that drivers of cows are charging Sh500 per cow up from Sh300 last month.

He said butchery operators were also forced to buy cows in groups and hire a vehicle to transport them to slaughter houses at exorbitant prices, which, he noted, reduced their profit margins.

"I urge our customers to bear with us. The increment of the prices was inevitable. The conditions are beyond our control" Nyakundi, who operates butchery at Mwembe estate said.

## Budget chief picks out 22 counties over high wage bill

The devolved units spent over Sh90b of Sh159.5b allocated to them on wages and benefits in first half of current fiscal year

by Jacktone Lawi  
@PeopleDailyKe

Despite steps taken to boost development and spur economic growth in county governments, the devolved units continue to frustrate the efforts by prioritising recurrent expenditure over development.

Controller of Budget (CoB) Margaret Nyakang'o has said in a new report that some 22 counties spent a whopping Sh90.73 billion of the Sh159.52 billion allocated to them on wages and benefits in the first half of current fiscal year.

From the 47 devolved units 22 county governments were above the allowable limit of 35 per cent of budget allocation for wages and benefits.

### Total expenditure

The counties include Nairobi, Machakos, Nandi, Meru, Kisii, Embu, Nyamira, Kisumu, Nyeri, Taita/Taveta, Homa Bay, Bungoma, Tharaka-Nithi, Bomet, Elgeyo/Marakwet, Wajir, Kiambu, Kitui, Vihiga, Mandera, Garissa and Kirinyaga.

According to the report, spending in 2021/22 period compared to Sh78.85 billion in a similar period during the financial year 2020/21. The increase accounted for 56.9 per cent of the total expenditure and 35 per cent of the first half proportional revenue of Sh258.83 billion.

On the other hand, the devolved units spent a mere Sh25.93 billion on development projects, representing an absorption rate of 13.5 per cent of the county governments' cumulative annual development expenditure budget of Sh192.29 billion.

### Expenditure

#### Revenue

According to Controller of Budget Margaret Nyakang'o, the low performance of own-source revenue collections in various counties should be addressed to avoid hidden budget deficits and reduce pending bills at year-end

#### Strategies

Counties should review the revenue targets to realistic amounts during the supplementary budget process. Further, they should develop and implement strategies to mobilise their own-source revenue

#### Report

The report titled County Governments Budget Implementation Review Report for the first half of financial year 2021/22, seeks to provide information on the status of budget implementation during the first half of the fiscal year by county governments



This is representing a drop in absorption rate of 13.7 per cent, reported in a similar period of the 2020/21 first half when development expenditure was Sh25.19 billion.

Public Finance Management (County Governments) Regulations, 2015 sets a limit of the county government's expenditure on wages and benefits at 35 per cent of the county's total revenue.

"Section 107(2) (b) of the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act, 2012, provides that over the medium term, a minimum of thirty per cent of the County Government's budget shall be spent on development programmes," the CoB report reads in part.

The growth in recurrent expenditure comes despite the counties failing to meet their revenue generation targets.

During the first half of the budget year the county governments generated a to-

tal of Sh14.06 billion, falling short of the Sh57.80 billion target leveraged on them.

This represented a 24.3 per cent collection against an expected performance of 50 per cent of the annual target in the first half of financial year 2021/22.

In the first half of financial year 2021/22, the total county governments' budgets approved by the County Assemblies amounted to Sh517.65 billion comprising Sh192.29 billion (37.1 per cent) allocated to development expenditure and Sh325.37 billion (62.9 per cent) for recurrent expenditure.

**35pc**

Limit of county governments' budget allocation allowed to be used for wages and benefits.

#### Revenue collection

Nyakang'o said in the report that due to the under-performance of own-source revenue collection, some planned activities may not be implemented during the financial year as budgets will not be fully financed.

# Safaricom stock banks on Ethiopia

Citi says Ethiopia's political situation and mobile money licence to drive telcos' stock price

by John Otini  
@PeopleDailyKe

Analysts have put Safaricom stock on a neutral rating following headwinds that include regulatory risk and delayed Ethiopia licence for M-Pesa.

Cytonn analyst Anne Wacera says the telco is up against a slew of challenges that may affect its performance.

"They have a lot of things going against them at the moment, especially the delays in M-Pesa licence in Ethiopia, meaning they will take even longer to set up the infrastructure," said Ms Wacera.

CitiBank also assigned a neutral rating for the company's stock, capping its upside potential at 15 per cent on delayed mobile money licence in Ethiopia, and the issue of mobile money licence is the fuel that will determine the stock price of East Africa's most valuable firm in.

Currently, Safaricom is pushing for Communication Authority (CA) decision to cut the rate that telcos charge each other for interconnecting customers from Sh0.99 to Sh0.12, be declared invalid and set aside.

Safaricom is also under immense pressure to cut money transfer fees from the public. Reports show that Treasury is also pushing for reduction in mobile money fees given that M-Pesa handles an estimated 40 per cent of Kenya's gross domestic product (GDP).

## Mobile money licence

In a research paper, the bank says that the success of Safaricom in Ethiopia will be largely driven by how quickly the mobile money licence is issued, given the time it takes to roll out the infrastructure.

"As we update our estimates based on guidance and current situation, we continue to believe mobile money license is important for Safaricom to generate positive return on this venture," CitiBanksaid.

Ethiopia suspended bids for a second telecommunication licence that was to include mobile money, stalling Safaricom's hopes to launch M-Pesa in the country.

The Ethiopian Communication Authority (ECA) said through a notice dated December 22 that it had cancelled the plan to offer the new telecoms licence following requests from interested parties.

Ethiotel, the local player has the advantage because it had already launched mobile money services last year and reported more than 6 million users mid last year.

CitiBank's perspective is important because Safaricom stock is largely driven by foreign investors who rely on international institutions to make in-

vestments in the local market. According to Citi, the only advantage Safaricom could have in the landscape is mobile money, and hence it has a bearing on its success in Ethiopia given the huge capital it is about deploy.

CitiBank estimated that the Safaricom Ethiopia operations will need investment of about Sh400 billion to roll out its infrastructure. "Currently we assume operations will be financed by USD debt with a low cost of debt around 6 percent. However, given the risk profile of these operations and inflation in Ethiopia, we believe the cost of debt (both foreign and local) to be much higher," CitiBank said.

## Pressing regulator

The US lender believes that an improvement in the political environment in Ethiopia and the issue of mobile money licence is the fuel that will determine the stock price of East Africa's most valuable firm in.

Currently, Safaricom is pushing for Communication Authority (CA) decision to cut the rate that telcos charge each other for interconnecting customers from Sh0.99 to Sh0.12, be declared invalid and set aside.

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## IMPORTANT STOCK

It is worth noting that Kenya is a free market and Safaricom has a right to set prices and that the Treasury can only give suggestions.

Price changes in the Safaricom stock has a huge bearing on the performance of the entire NSE but improvements in the banking sector stocks should help to assuage the risk.

## NAIROBI SECURITIES EXCHANGE

| HIGH   | LOW    | SECTOR                            | VWAP PRICES | PREVIOUS | TOTAL SHARES |
|--------|--------|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------|--------------|
| 15.00  | 10.00  | Eagads Ltd Ord 1.25               | 12.95       |          |              |
| 420.00 | 360.00 | Kakuzi Plc Ord 5.00               | 415.00      |          |              |
| 101.00 | 80.00  | Kapchorwa Tea Kenya Plc Ord 5.00  | 99.75       | 99.75    | 300          |
| 350.00 | 280.00 | The Limuru Tea Co. Plc Ord 20.00  | 320.00      |          |              |
| 22.00  | 18.75  | Sasini Plc Ord 1.00               | 18.35       | 19.05    | 1,100        |
| 154.75 | 125.00 | Williamson Tea Kenya Plc Ord 5.00 | 135.00      | 135.00   | 400          |

## AUTOMOBILES & ACCESSORIES

| HIGH  | LOW   | Car & General (K) Ltd Ord 5.00 | VWAP  | PREVIOUS | TOTAL SHARES |
|-------|-------|--------------------------------|-------|----------|--------------|
| 76.00 | 20.00 |                                | 76.00 | 100      |              |

## BANKING

| HIGH   | LOW    | ABSA Bank Kenya Plc Ord 0.50                | VWAP   | PREVIOUS  | TOTAL SHARES |
|--------|--------|---|--------|-----------|--------------|
| 12.95  | 11.30  |   | 12.35  | 2,445,800 |              |
| 30.00  | 26.50  | BK Group Plc Ord 0.80                       | 29.80  |           |              |
| 60.00  | 54.25  | Diamond Trust Bank Kenya Ltd Ord 4.00       | 57.00  | 57.00     | 16,300       |
| 53.00  | 49.55  | Equity Group Holdings Plc Ord 0.50          | 51.50  | 51.00     | 171,200      |
| 3.60   | 2.80   | HF Group Plc Ord 5.00                       | 3.30   | 3.20      | 2,500        |
| 22.00  | 20.30  | I&M Group Plc Ord 1.00                      | 21.45  | 21.00     | 6,800        |
| 46.00  | 43.60  | KCB Group Plc Ord 1.00                      | 44.15  | 44.20     | 921,100      |
| 26.50  | 23.00  | NBCA Group Plc Ord 5.00                     | 25.50  | 25.10     | 571,900      |
| 96.00  | 95.00  | Stanbic Holdings Plc Ord 5.00               | 104.25 | 100.25    | 3,500        |
| 144.00 | 130.75 | Standard Chartered Bank Kenya Ltd Ord 5.00  | 142.00 | 141.25    | 297,500      |
| 14.00  | 12.70  | The Co-operative Bank of Kenya Ltd Ord 1.00 | 12.95  | 12.95     | 87,800       |

## COMMERCIAL AND SERVICES

| HIGH  | LOW   | Deacons (East Africa) Plc Ord 2.50     | VWAP  | PREVIOUS | TOTAL SHARES |
|-------|-------|--|-------|----------|--------------|
| 5.10  | 0.45  |  | 0.45  |          |              |
| 0.98  | 0.84  | Eveready East Africa Plc Ord 1.00      | 0.85  | 0.88     | 60,900       |
| 4.30  | 3.80  | Express Kenya Plc Ord 5.00             | 3.95  |          |              |
| 0.00  | 0.00  | Homeboy Entertainment Plc 0.50         | 4.66  |          |              |
| 9.50  | 0.80  | Kenya Airways Ltd Ord 1.00             | 3.83  |          |              |
| 3.90  | 3.60  | Longhorn Publishers Plc Ord 1.00       | 3.60  | 3.60     | 100          |
| 5.10  | 4.20  | Nairobi Business Ventures Ltd Ord 0.50 | 4.82  | 4.70     | 23,100       |
| 21.80 | 18.70 | Nation Media Group Plc Ord 2.50        | 20.00 | 20.30    | 74,900       |
| 2.70  | 2.40  | Sameer Africa Plc Ord 5.00             | 2.51  | 2.65     | 5,200        |
| 16.40 | 11.90 | Standard Group Plc Ord 5.00            | 12.20 | 12.20    | 1,000        |
| 13.00 | 11.60 | TPL Eastern Africa Ltd Ord 1.00        | 11.75 |          |              |
| 0.22  | 0.19  | Uchumi Supermarket Plc Ord 5.00        | 0.21  | 0.20     | 28,600       |
| 4.37  | 3.90  | WPP Scangroup Plc Ord 1.00             | 4.01  | 4.04     | 69,000       |

## CONSTRUCTION & ALLIED

| HIGH  | LOW   | ARM Cement Plc Ord 1.00             | VWAP  | PREVIOUS | TOTAL SHARES |
|-------|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|----------|--------------|
| 8.35  | 2.40  |                                     | 5.55  |          |              |
| 37.50 | 35.80 | Bamburi Cement Ltd Ord 5.00         | 36.00 | 35.50    | 25,500       |
| 39.55 | 34.00 | Crown Paints Kenya Plc Ord 5.00     | 36.05 | 36.00    | 10,400       |
| 1.21  | 1.06  | E.A.Cables Ltd Ord 0.50             | 1.19  | 1.20     | 2,900        |
| 7.10  | 6.30  | EA.Portland Cement Co. Ltd Ord 5.00 | 6.90  | 6.34     | 100          |

## ENERGY & PETROLEUM

| HIGH  | LOW   | KenGen Co. Plc Ord 2.50                    | VWAP  | PREVIOUS | TOTAL SHARES |
|-------|-------|--|-------|----------|--------------|
| 1.70  | 1.49  | Kenya Power & Lighting Co Plc Ord 2.50     | 1.50  | 1.51     | 380,100      |
| 5.50  | 4.10  | Kenya Power & Lighting Plc 4% Pref 20.00   | 4.11  |          |              |
| 6.00  | 6.00  | Kenya Power & Lighting Plc 7% Pref 20.00   | 6.00  |          |              |
| 24.00 | 23.00 | TotalEnergies Marketing Kenya Plc Ord 5.00 | 23.50 | 23.05    | 11,900       |
| 6.70  | 5.50  | Umembe Ltd Ord 0.50                        | 6.70  | 6.20     | 200          |

## INSURANCE

| HIGH   | LOW    | Briton Holdings Plc Ord 0.10                | VWAP   | PREVIOUS | TOTAL SHARES |
|--------|--------|---|--------|----------|--------------|
| 7.10   | 6.84   |   | 6.84   |          |              |
| 2.74   | 1.98   | CIC Insurance Group Ltd Ord 1.00            | 2.00   | 2.04     | 93,490       |
| 280.00 | 272.00 | Jubilee Holdings Ltd Ord 5.00               | 274.75 | 274.00   | 8,000        |
| 2.30   | 2.20   | Kenya Re Insurance Corporation Ltd Ord 2.50 | 2.24   | 2.25     | 50,700       |
| 7.18   | 6.30   | Liberty Kenya Holdings Ltd Ord 1.00         | 6.34   | 5.80     | 700          |
| 13.55  | 11.00  | Sanlam Kenya Plc Ord 0.05                   | 11.40  | 11.00    | 200          |

## INVESTMENT

| HIGH   | LOW    | Centum Investment Co Plc Ord 0.50     | VWAP   | PREVIOUS | TOTAL SHARES |
|--------|--------|---------------------------------------|--------|----------|--------------|
| 14.40  | 11.70  | Home Africa Ltd Ord 1.00              | 12.00  | 12.30    | 98,300       |
| 0.39   | 0.34   | Kurweito Ventures Ltd Ord 100.00      | 0.36   | 0.38     | 89,000       |
| 150.00 | 150.00 | Olympia Capital Holdings Ltd Ord 5.00 | 150.00 |          |              |
| 2.25   | 1.70   | Trans-Century Group Plc Ord 0.50      | 2.23   |          |              |
| 1.28   | 1.00   | Ungia Group Ltd Ord 0.05              | 1.09   | 1.09     | 44,100       |

## INVESTMENT SERVICES

| HIGH | LOW  | Nairobi Securities Exchange Plc Ord 4.00 | VWAP | PREVIOUS | TOTAL SHARES |
|------|------|--|------|----------|--------------|
| 7.90 | 6.90 |  | 7.64 | 7.56     | 10,900       |

## MANUFACTURING & ALLIED

| HIGH  | LOW   | B.O.C Kenya Plc Ord 500                      | VWAP   | PREVIOUS | TOTAL SHARES |
|-------|-------|--|--------|----------|--------------|
| 51.00 | 42.00 | British American Tobacco Kenya Plc Ord 10.00 | 490.00 | 499.00   | 3,400        |
| 13.20 | 10.00 | Carbacid Investments Plc Ord 1.00            | 11.35  | 11.20    | 32,200       |
| 19.00 | 14.65 | East African Breweries Plc Ord 2.00          | 149.00 | 148.50   | 409,900      |
| 1.45  | 1.10  | Flame Tree Group Holdings Ltd Ord 0.825se    | 1.20   | 1.24     | 2,500        |
| 14.00 | 10.40 | Friendly Orchards Ltd Ord 5.00               | 10.40  |          |              |
| 0.70  | 0.25  | Wellies Sugar Co. Ltd Ord 2.00               | 0.27   |          |              |
| 36.40 | 26.10 | Ungia Group Ltd Ord 0.05                     | 27.00  |          |              |

## TELECOMMUNICATION

| HIGH | LOW  | ILAM FAHARI II-REIT Ord 20.00 | VWAP | PREVIOUS | TOTAL SHARES |
|------|------|-------------------------------|------|----------|--------------|
| 7.48 | 5.80 |                               | 5.88 | 6.00     | 17,200       |

## REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST

| HIGH    | LOW     | ABSA New Gold ETF | VWAP  | PREVIOUS | TOTAL SHARES |
|---------|---------|-------------------|-------|----------|--------------|
| 2075.00 | 1780.00 |                   | 2128i | 2035.00  |              |

## NSE ALL SHARE INDEX: DOWN 0.75 points to close at 159.36

NSE 20-SHARE INDEX: UP 1.95 points to close at 1860.75

NSE 25-SHARE INDEX: UP 1.61 points to close at 3621.88

## Market Watch

## MARKET WATCH

### TREASURY BONDS ISSUE

Central Bank of Kenya

RESULTS OF 21, 24 & 26 DAYS TREASURY BILLS ISSUE NO. 2450/91, 2423/182 & 2375/264 DATED 29/11/2021

|                                 | 91 DAYS  | 182 DAYS  | 364 DAYS  | TOTAL     |
|---------------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Offer amount (Kshs. M)          | 4,000.00 | 10,000.00 | 10,000.00 | 24,000.00 |
| Bids Received (Kshs. M)         | 3,936.46 | 2,528.43  | 9,034.51  | 15,491.61 |
| Performance Rate (%)            | 3.93%    | 2.52%     | 9.03%     | 6.45%     |
| Total Amount Accepted (Kshs. M) | 3,936.28 | 2,528.19  | 6,547.11  | 13,003.59 |
| Of which: Competitive bids      | 3,936.21 | 2,528.03  | 6,003.13  | 12,467.35 |
| Bid-to-Cover Ratio              | 1.0      |           |           |           |



# World News

## Zimbabwe polls: New party, same dirty tricks fear

Competing parties hope the upcoming by-elections will lay ground for 2023 but in very different ways

Zimbabwe's opposition leader, Nelson Chamisa, may have formed a brand new political party but he is still facing the same old problems which some had hoped would end with the 2017 ousting of the country's long-time leader, Robert Mugabe.

In the build-up to Saturday's by-elections for about 10 percent of Zimbabwe's parliamentary seats, the Citizens Coalition for Change party (CCC) says it has faced an onslaught. Some of its rallies have been banned by police, its meetings disrupted and at least 37 of its supporters arrested, party spokesperson Fadzayi Mahere told the BBC. Analysts see this poll as a test-run for general elections next year.

In a village in lower Gweru, central Zim-

babwe, Caiphas Ncube buried his son at the beginning of the month, after he was killed in political violence. An internal police memo seen by the AFP news agency identified some of the attackers as members of the ruling Zanu-PF party.

Mboneni Ncube had been stabbed by a spear on his way to a CCC rally in Kwekwe, according to police. Five people have been charged with murder and public violence. His father, who is elderly and on crutches, had asked people not to wear party colours at the funeral, fearing for his own safety but many still wanted to show their support.

"There is only one thing that I want in my life now - to know who killed my son. I want to look into their eyes, and ask them what he ever did to them to deserve that," Ncube told the BBC shortly after the burial. Zanu-PF has denied being involved in the attack, instead blaming internal wrangles within the opposition party.

Over the last 32 years almost all of Zimbabwe's elections have been plagued by

### ZIMBABWE POLL VIOLENCE

- Zimbabwe's opposition leader, Nelson Chamisa, may have formed a brand new political party

- Citizens Coalition for Change party (CCC) says it has faced an onslaught

- Five people have been charged with murder and public violence

- CCC official and parliamentary candidate Tendai Biti said he had still not received the final voters' roll which will be used on Saturday

allegations of irregularities, rigging and violence.

Just days before the vote, senior CCC official and parliamentary candidate Tendai Biti said he had still not received the final voters' roll which will be used on Saturday. He called for the state Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC) to be disbanded. The ZEC says all candidates have been given copies of the roll.

Serious irregularities in the national voters' roll have been found, according to a network of Zimbabwe activists.

Team Pachedu says it has discovered that the names of at least 165,000 people have been moved to different wards and constituencies without notification, leading to confusion and some people having to travel long distances to vote.

"Who is doing this and who is responsible for this editing and for what reason?" said Tafadzwa Sambiri, a coordinator at Team Pachedu. "There might be more because we haven't finished analysing the roll," he told the BBC.

The group also alleges some people living at the same address are now registered to vote in different constituencies.

In addition about 40,000 have been removed from the roll without due process, while one residential address belonging to a politician in the resort town of Victoria Falls registered 46 people, it says.

The ZEC has denied allegations of manipulation and says the voters roll is being constantly updated. These by-elections are one of the largest held in the country and carry high stakes for the opposition.

- BBC

## Sudanese protest on

A man waves a national flag near burning tyres as Sudanese demonstrators take to the streets of the capital Khartoum to protest last year's military coup which deepened the country's political yesterday. The demonstrations were the latest since an October military coup led by army chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan that impeded Sudan's transition to civilian rule. - AFP



## NATO, G7, EU crisis meeting amid Ukraine war

■ Brussels, Thursday

Western leaders have gathered in Brussels for the NATO summit, where the transatlantic defence alliance's leaders will agree to ramp up military pressure on Europe's eastern flank.

The back-to-back emergency meetings of NATO, the Group of Seven and the European Union are taking place on Thursday to draw up plans to ramp up pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin, as Russia's invasion of

Ukraine enters a second month.

Joe Biden, the president of the US, is expected to attend all three meetings.

The US leader arrived in the European diplomatic capital late on Wednesday, and is expected to push allies to enact new sanctions on Russia, which has already seen its economy crippled by a steady stream of bans, boycotts and penalties over the last four weeks.

While the West has been largely unified in confronting Russia after it

invaded Ukraine, that unity will likely be tested as the costs of war chip at the global economy.

"What we would like to hear is that the resolve and unity that we've seen for the past month will endure for as long as it takes," Biden's national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, told reporters on Air Force One en route to Brussels. The energy crisis exacerbated by the war will be a particularly hot topic at the European Council summit.

- Xinhua



CAIPHAS NCUBE

**There is only one thing that I want in my life now - to know who killed my son**

## BRIEFLY

### Imran Khan vows to stay put in Pakistan

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan says he will not resign, rejecting opposition calls for him to step down ahead of a no-confidence move against him in his toughest challenge since coming to power in 2018. Pakistan's parliament will convene on Friday to start proceedings for a no-confidence motion. It could take several days before an actual vote to decide if Khan will be removed. The bid for a vote of no confidence has raised the risk of constitutional, administrative and economic crises amid a pending IMF review on the next tranche of a \$6bn rescue package. The IMF review was scheduled for this week but has yet to happen.

- Xinhua



### Female Somali MP dies in bomb attack

At least 15 people, including a female member of the Somali federal parliament, were killed in two suicide bombings in Beledweyne town in central Somalia. Prime Minister Mohamed Hussein Roble has termed the killing of Amina Mohamed Abdi "an assassination". Other victims included former MP Hassan Dhuuhul and Somali soldiers. Local media reports suggest the death toll could be higher. The Somali National TV has tweeted pictures of the victims killed in the attack. The suicide bombings in Beledweyne occurred hours after al-Qaeda allied militants killed at least eight people, including five foreign nationals, in an assault on the Halane Camp, a fortified airport complex that houses UN offices and foreign missions.

- BBC

### Jordan king in talks with African leaders

King Abdullah II of Jordan on Wednesday held separate meetings with Rwanda's President Paul Kagame, President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) Felix Tshisekedi, and Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi in Jordan's coastal city Aqaba. The meetings were held ahead of the Aqaba Process round scheduled for Thursday, which will cover East Africa for the fifth time, according to a statement by the Royal Hashemite Court. During the meetings they looked into bilateral ties and means to bolster cooperation in the political, defense, economic, tourism and trade spheres. Discussions also covered upholding regional and international counter-terrorism efforts.

- Xinhua

# Clique & Clicks ▶ Get Spotted



Robert Minangoy and Serge Noukoue of the French Embassy in Kenya.



Alliance Francaise director Charles Courdent dances with his spouse Maria Courdent.



Congo Ambassador to Kenya Tadumi Onookoko.



Writer Alain Mabankou with France Ambassador to Kenya Aline Kuster-Manager.



Let's get down: Bilende Musica Du Congo drops a few numbers for the guests.

## CONGOLESE SWING

■ by John Ochieng

Congolese nationals living in Kenya recently congregated at the Alliance Francaise to celebrate their culture. In an event graced by the ambassador of Congo to Kenya Tadumi Onookoko and his France counterpart Aline Kuster-Manager, guests were treated to a fashion show followed by a thrilling performance by Congolese rhumba group Bilende Musica. There was also a display of artwork by Warembo Wasanii made from recycled waste products. Also in attendance was renowned novelist and writer Alain Mabankou.

PD/JOHN OCHIENG



Esther Matungi, Gedeon Baleke and Christelle Mbasha.

## Dust, flare and leisure

■ by Barry Silah

Not even the sunny conditions and dust on the tracks could deter motorcross enthusiasts from enjoying fun moments, as the action returned at the Jamhuri Racetrack at the weekend. Running under the theme "Celebration of Women in Motocross" there was buzz at the venue with good food,

D/PHILIP KAMAKYA

great music and a bevy of spectators to add onto the vibe. The East Africa Motor Sports Club (EAMSC) also feted winners in different classes. Among those present were EAMSC chairman Mutahi Wariithi and club officials Ivy Chege, Eva Kiplangat and Flora Mutahi.



Triumphant MX 65 riders Oge Ng'ong'a, Lewis Ogoonyi and Thuku Waweru.



MX65 winners Emany Mugo, Zawadi Nyachae and Storm Ogwipit.



Nandi Kiplangat in MX2 hits top gear.



EAMSC officials Ivy Chege, Eva Kiplangat and Flora Mutahi.



Edwin Ng'onga with his wife Talash Ng'ong'a.

# SHORT BUT VIRAL

The high internet penetration in Kenya has had short video platforms jostling for space, as content creators maximise on their revenue creation opportunities, writes **Adalla Allan**



**W**ith online content creation taking over the entertainment sector by storm, short video content have also won many netizens' hearts as evidenced by the rising numbers of short video content platforms in Kenya. The number of content creators has likewise been on the rise during this era when any online user can produce content from anywhere, provided they have a good smartphone.

The platforms have become a river in which money flows, creating job opportunities for thousands of content creators, who have in turn become influencers and internet sensations. Talk of positivity! According to a 2021 report by DataReportal, there were 21.75 million internet users in Kenya, with an internet penetration rate of 40 per cent. Year 2021 was a great period for the short video content creators, but industry players say 2022 is going to be even greater.

Just recently, YouTube introduced 'YouTube Shorts', the company's new short-form video experience for creating short, catchy videos using mobile

devices. This was to catch up with the heavy competition from more popular short video content platforms such as TikTok, Instagram Reels, Vskit, among others.

During its launch in Kenya in July 2021, YouTube Shorts global product manager Todd Sherman said the platform had surpassed the global 6.5 billion-mark worth of daily views. With Shorts being a new way to watch and create on YouTube, the company has been looking at various ways to monetise it and reward creators for their content, including the recently announced YouTube Shorts Fund, a US\$100 million [Sh10 billion] fund distributed throughout 2021-2022.

"Creators can receive up to US\$10,000 [Sh1.1 million] based on viewership and engagement of their Shorts content. To qualify, channels must meet the minimum eligibility requirements refreshed each month to give other creators the opportunity to receive a reward for their creative and unique Shorts," he said.

#### More entrants

In the same year, giant telecom Safaricom came up with Baze, a subscription-based mobile-first, Video On Demand (VOD) service that offers a wide selection of local and regional short-form videos in comedy, drama, faith, music, sports, lifestyle, and wildlife.

Baze lead innovator Fawzia Ali says the platform is placing the entertainment Kenyans want at their fingertips, while being amongst the first platforms to provide local content creators with an additional platform to share their stories and earn through it.

"We started the project in August 2020. We have a cross-functional team of over 25 people who have been contributing to content operations, product development, customer experience, platform management, legal, brand experience, public relations, marketing and communication. Additionally, content aggregators are key as they acquire the content and deliver it to the platform," she tells *Spice*.

She adds that Safaricom has had a strategy to deliver video content to its customers for a few years, informed by its customers' changing behaviour. "More time is spent on mobile phones. Short-form content becomes key as consumers are on a commute or taking a break. This is key as it gives our customers a reason to use our mobile data and the fixed network," she says.

With copyright issues plaguing YouTube and its community for years now, most content creators have been in low spirits since they never earn whenever their content faces copyright strikes. Numerous local artistes have found themselves among the victims and confusion over how copyright claims work exactly. However, Baze has looked into such grievances by setting up strict measures for

the content creators including providing copies of licenses to show that it has obtained the requisite licenses to the content including the rights to distribute.

"The creators also provide a copy of Content Service Provider License from Communication Authority of Kenya (CAK), content rating approval from Kenya Films Board, certificate of incorporation and documents evidencing the company's obligations to pay tax in its jurisdiction," says Fawzia.

She adds, "The content creators will earn 60 per cent of the revenue earned based on the watch time of their content. Further to provide a platform for content creators to engage, learn and be inspired, we launched the Baze Content Garage, a platform that allows for knowledge sharing and conversation on all matters of content. The engagements take place monthly on our Safaricom social media channels."

#### The celebrity culture

Vskit, one of the most popular short video apps in the country and the continent, has experienced tremendous growth since its inception in 2018, with more than 30 million active users in Africa currently. David Mwawasi, the app's marketing manager says its reception in Kenya was special, owing to the allure of fame and celebrity culture that is now within the reach of anyone with a talent to showcase and smartphone to shoot.

"Kenya has a vibrant local pop culture and a big number of youths who are eager to showcase the Kenyan unique culture. Short videos provide the perfect medium of expression for the Kenyan youth and even some 'senior citizens' to communicate and share this culture with each other and the rest of the world," he appends.

With the surge in short video platforms, David says that what makes Vskit stand out is having an intense focus on content localisation. "We pride ourselves on having built a community relationship that promotes a feedback loop between creator and consumer, which is an integral part of our iterative growth process and helps us provide culturally relevant content that is tapped into the ever-evolving local mainstream zeitgeist," he says.

He adds: "The opportunities within Vskit are endless, but the one that our content creators find the most value from is utilising Vskit to increase their visibility and gain access to corporate advertisers who are seeking such content creators to provide professionally generated content apropos to their young demographic."

Boomplay's Camilla Owora says short video content platforms have played a big part in their audio content by promoting the music they have on their platforms. In 2021, Boomplay recorded a milestone figure of 65 million songs, 5.6 million artistes and 60 million active users by October.

She says, "As Boomplay, we often synergise with influencers who curate content for some of our artiste promotions. The emergence of short videos as a form of content promotion rose significantly during the Covid-19 pandemic. Most content creators used the platforms to get creative when lockdown measures were imposed around the globe. We have to be cognizant of the fact that the human attention span is eight seconds; so being able to capture the audience's attention within that time frame is key."

"Secondly, the cost of data in Kenya is still at an all-time high, so many internet users want to consume the content quickly, as opposed to spending a lot of time online. It is also a fun and interactive way of engaging with audiences, with the ability to curate content that is diverse."



Michael Aldridge



Camilla Owora



David Mwawasi

Camilla opines that the short video content industry will thrive more than it is now as there has been a lot of appreciation for homegrown content. However, she believes that there are a lot of opportunities for it to grow even further.

#### **Creation spaces**

The content creation in Kenya has also received a boost from diverse organisations with the most recent one being Kofisi, a media centre in Westlands, Nairobi. It has a broadcast and podcasting studio to cater for Nairobi's content creators, media businesses and influencers.

"When we first opened Kofisi Riverside and Kofisi Karen, everyone loved the interior design and our members used our spaces for filming because they made great backdrops for TV interviews and headshots. Our spaces are visually unique and spacious, able to accommodate crews of all sizes. Inquiries started coming in from influencers, broadcasters and



Fawziah Ali

content creators, looking to book our spaces to make their own visually engaging content," says Michael Aldridge, Kofisi co-founder and CEO.

In terms of specialist services for content creation, the digital age has ushered in the acceleration of digital content creation in an unprecedented way. This has forced companies to rethink how they market their goods and services to their target market.

"Increasingly, firms are using content creators and social media influencers to inform potential and existing customers about their products and services. With this in mind, Kofisi created a 'media space' dedicated to content creation in the heart of Nairobi, with two fully equipped podcast and TV studios that allows content creators and businesses to produce functional, consumer-driven and diverse content," asserts Michael.

He adds that during the pandemic, the demand for digital and online content increased

exponentially with podcasting, blogging, vlogging, YouTubing and short video content creation becoming an essential and cost-effective marketing tool for most businesses. He says the reach via these means outstrips other forms of communication.

"Whether you're working as part of a marketing group or as an individual, creating unique, engaging content is essential to building and sustaining any business, and the ecosystem of tech to support content creation has never been larger. Even as individuals, the arrival of smartphones allows everyone to make their own content. You can create reels and be a TV producer, take photos and call yourself a photographer, you can be a music producer, start a blog and be a writer or record a podcast from your phone. As technology becomes more advanced, the industry is only going to get more sophisticated with more people wanting to get on board and we want to be there to support that," he says in conclusion.

## **Musicians unite to put Turkana on map**

Five Kenyan artists have joined hands to curate a musical journey through the astounding culture and landscape of Turkana. Dubbed 'Turkana Sessions' the project brings together musicians Jackson Nakawa, Mourine Apuu, Jackson Ekori and Elizabeth Korikel from Turkana, and Eddie Grey (pictured) from Nairobi, in an exploration of the region's musical heritage fused with soulful guitar rhythms for a sound that is rich, authentic and captivating. This, they say is to "Show what is possible when we look to our traditional art forms and showcase them with high production values." Turkana Sessions is the third project from The Artists Xchange—a companion project of the feature documentary Turkana: Races for Resources that will be released in 2023.



## **Demand for live music informs Shazam revamp**

Shazam, one of the world's most popular and highly rated music apps, has launched a suite of concert features, making it easy for users to explore upcoming live music shows and increase exposure for artistes. Users can now find concert information and tickets on sale for upcoming shows nearby, and also launch an artiste page to explore dates, times and locations of upcoming live shows, view additional tour information, share show details, and add events to their calendar. "With the reemergence of live music, we're excited to give Shazam users access to concerts and bring even more discoverability to artistes," says Apple Music and Beats vice president Oliver Schusser. The new features leverage concert information from Bandsintown, an event recommendation and artiste discovery platform serving over 68 million music fans and 500,000 artistes, managers, labels and booking agents. "As live music returns, we're on a mission to help artists get more visibility for their shows. Pent up demand from fans eager to go back to concerts is being met by an unprecedented level of live shows from artistes on tour," said Bandsintown managing partner Fabrice Sergent.

## **Music sector players urged to apply for grants**

All eligible and registered African festivals, live music venues, companies and institutions operating within the African music sector can now apply for grants from the Music In Africa Live (MIAL) programme. Launched in 2020 as a three-year initiative to support the African music ecosystem during the Covid-19 pandemic, MIAL was pioneered by the Music In Africa Foundation (MIAF) in partnership with the German Federal Foreign Office, Siemens Stiftung and Goethe-Institut. More than 30 grants will be awarded in the third iteration of MIAL for projects that fall within the showcase, capacity building, and music advocacy grant types. Applications for this final MIAL open call, which can be made on [www.musicinafrica.net/mial](http://musicinafrica.net/mial), will close at midnight on April 30, 2022.



# Boma ► Home of Property & Leisure

# Election uncertainty slows down property investment

Regions considered poll violence hotspots are recording slowed trade in land and property trade as people rush to dispose land in fear of the outcome of the upcoming General Elections

by Peter Leshan  
@PeopleDailyKE

**A**nxiety over the outcome of the August General Election has slowed down investments in property in the country, according to land speculators, lawyers in land conveyancing and builders.

Land buyers and developers are scaling down their operations in towns considered as political hotspots where violence has previously occurred since the introduction of plural politics in the country in 1992.

In most of these hotbeds, people are rushing to sell their land, which are sadly fetching poor prices as demand for land plummets, stakeholders in the land sector observe.

In these areas, properties, including commercial and business premises ready for occupation are lying idle as owners prefer letting them after the polls.

Narok County, Turbo and Eldoret in Uasin Gishu County, Eldama Ravine in Baringo County, rural Nakuru, Kapenguria in West Pokot County, some areas of Trans Nzoia County, Mt Elgon in Bungoma County, Lamu County, Turkana County, Kapsabet and Nandi Hills in Nandi County are some of the areas where development in transactions have slowed down, they say.

#### Stagnant since January

Ernest Tormoi, a land valuer in Moi's Bridge and in Makutano area in Uasin Gishu and West Pokot counties respectively, says development in the areas have stagnated since January as developers, mostly non natives have adopted a wait and see attitude. "Although stagnation can partly be blamed on the shrinking country's economy, a big part of it lies with the outcome of the elections. Nobody wants to risk," he says.

He adds that traders are not keen on



stocking their business outlets, because of what he calls 'the fear of the unknown'.

Edward Kaluma, a medium trader in Mpeketoni area of Lamu County says people in the area are apprehensive about what will happen in the area, which less than 10 years ago experienced attacks that claimed lives and livelihoods.

"We are now living one day at a time. Businesses aren't expanding, because of among other issues, the anxiety of the General Election," says Kaluma.

In Narok County, which according to a World Bank assessment report was the second preferred place to invest in the world after a town in China in 2009, a plot measuring 100 feet by 100 feet within the township that has for the last 15 years been fast growing albeit haphazardly, has shrunk by half, from Sh40 million three months ago, to about Sh20 million today. "Heightened political tension is responsible for the slow down. People are lying low, fearing that lives after the election may be unpleasant. Hopefully, as we expect, if elections peter out peacefully, prices of property will rise," says Henry Nyema of Boma Property Valuers Limited.

He also says people are not spending on long-term investments, such as

**Narok town is touted as one of the most preferred places to invest in real estate.** PD/PETER LESHAN

**KALUMA**  
**We are now living one day at a time. Businesses aren't expanding, because of among other issues, election anxiety.**

property development, a sign that they are keeping their money for a rainy day.

#### Covid-19 effects

Prices of plots within the town are falling every day as we approach the general election. Those outside the town have fallen by more than half. The weakening of the shilling is exacerbating the problem," he says.

Demand for land in areas bordering Masai Mara National Reserve for development of tourist facilities, he says, has also gone down.

The drop in demand comes as the real estate development was still emerging from the disruptive effects of Covid-19, which among others saw prices tumble.

Ochiango Onduso, of Ochiango Onduso and Company Advocates, says that the company, which handles about 90 per cent of land conveyance, has in the last three months seen business activities drop, adding that his inquiry has shown that willing buyers have suspended business until after the elections in August. "Most of our clients are from areas outside the locality, such as Nakuru and Nairobi counties. They know the history of this place concerning electoral and ethnic violence and can't now plan for their businesses until after the elections," he says.

Until December last year, he adds his firm used to execute an average of 50 land deals every day, but that has dropped to an average of seven and that activities at the local Land Registry have also slowed down. "The office used to process more than 100 title deeds after transactions are approved by the land control board meetings, but since the election fever started biting, they have reduced to a trickle," says Onduso.

He says despite the town operating on a 24-hour economy, still, demand for land for setting up facilities to offer such services is dropping, four months to the August 9 General Election.

"Every election year, people cut back on budgets. Matters are made worse by the fact that the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, which disrupted the local economy are still being felt," he adds.

Despite previous boom in estate development, there are many unoccupied residential and business premises, because of among others, hard economic times and the fact that demand has dropped since coronavirus pandemic disruption.

The boom started in 2008 when former Narok Teachers Training College was turned into Narok University College, a constituent college of Moi University and later a fully fledged university—Maasai Mara University.

Later, Maasai Mara Technical University was established, heightening the craze for development.

Developers went on a building spree hoping to cash in on lack of accommodation for students, lecturers and the support staff.

The advent of counties also led to a rush for land as landowners developed them to accommodate the staff and politicians.

The establishment of the two universities and the county further led to establishment of hotels within the town. Four of them have acquired five-star status.

Apart from accommodation and food, they now host regional and East African Community workshops.

#### Property lying idle

Because almost every investor constructed accommodation and commercial premises, hoping to get a slice of money from the establishment of universities and the county government, most of them are lying idle.

Investors who borrowed loans to build these houses are finding it difficult to service them and are faced by the painful fact that cheap rental houses are found outside the town, such as Ololulung'a, Mulot and even in the adjacent Bomet town in Bomet County, which are linked with well tarmac road to Narok, the county headquarters.

Some workers who own homes commute every day to Narok from Nairobi and Nakuru, thanks to good roads, to avoid the high cost of living, which includes high prices of food and fuel.

Stephen ole Lila, a land speculator, says there are many vacant houses owing to low demand. He blames it on greed by owners who hike rent. "High rents have made people and investors shy away. Investors want an environment where they can pay rent and still remain with money to keep their business going and meeting other obligations," he says.

Among houses lying unoccupied are one to three-bedroom units, which targeted lectures, senior county officers and students from rich backgrounds, he says, adding that most lectures and county government staff are living in their houses while most students went for the so called bedsitters, which accommodates two to four.

## THELOUNGE

**Lawrence Aura** is an artisan in the woody grass furnishings and arts at Vision Bamboo Primary Processing Unit

by William Murigi  
@williammurig1

**W**hy did you choose to use bamboo for your work and not other solid woods? I realised there is a lot of potential in the bamboo sector. I have a lot of passion for bamboo too. The best thing about bamboo is that it is a woody grass and not a tree, it is tough, grows faster than other solid woods and has different cellular structure. This makes its products strong and unique. The raw materials are also readily available.

#### Where do you source your raw materials from?

I get the raw materials through the support of International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (INBAR) an intergovernmental organisation registered with the United Nations that promotes the growing of bamboo and rattan for economic and environmental gains in partnership with Eco Green Kenya. We have also managed to sensitise the entire community at large here in Busia and other parts of Kenya on the importance of bamboo, and supporting them with seedlings to be planted for some years now, so we also get raw materials from our farmers.

#### What is the future of bamboo in the construction industry?

The future looks bright. Bamboo is going to be the perfect natural building material. This will be possible, because the green building standards of today are taking bamboo construction to the next level.

Bamboo as a building material is stronger than steel, more robust than concrete and more flexible than wood so most developers are willing to start incorporating it in projects. It's also one of the most sustainable building materials available today.

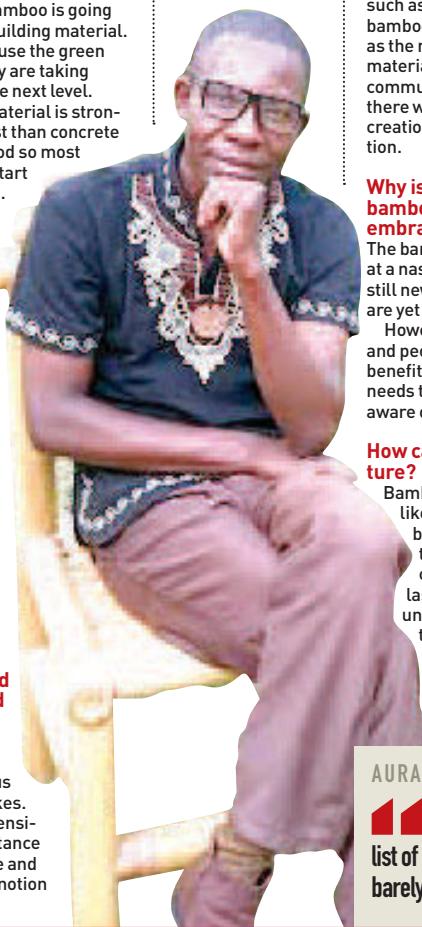
The world bamboo market is also growing, because of the increasing demand for sustainable products in Europe and the United States. According to INBAR, the global bamboo economy is now valued at US\$60 billion (\$6.8 trillion) and is a potential income generator for rural communities. This is why they are committed to ensure bamboo complete value chain is in place.

#### What are some of the challenges you have faced along the way and how have you managed to deal with them?

The biggest challenge is the outdated belief that bamboo attracts dangerous wild animals, such as snakes. However, we continue to sensitize Kenyans on the importance of bamboo, and as they see and feel bamboo products the notion

# How I convert bamboo into elegant furniture pieces

Lawrence Aura, PD/  
MILLIAM MURIGI



changes and response from the customers is positive as well.

#### Are there opportunities that are yet to be tapped on matters bamboo?

Bamboo has an impressive list of over 2,000 uses and we have barely scratched the surface. With depleting natural resources and changing policy scenarios, such as the ban on single-use plastic, bamboo is increasingly being looked upon as the most preferred alternative wood material. If the government supports our communities to venture into this sector, there will be bigger opportunities for job creation, which will lead to poverty reduction.

#### Why is it that despite the benefits the bamboo possesses, people are yet to embrace it?

The bamboo industry in the country is still at a nascent stage. Bamboo products are still new in the Kenyan market and many are yet to discover them.

However, slowly things are changing and people have started appreciating the benefits of the woody grass. But a lot more needs to be done to ensure people are aware of these products.

#### How can one care for bamboo furniture?

Bamboo furniture can be taken care of like any other wood furniture although before making any bamboo products, the material needs to go through chemical treatment to enable it last longer than even normal solid untreated woods. They can last more than 30 years, depending on the species of bamboo used, but not less than 15 years.

#### AURA

**Bamboo has an impressive list of over 2,000 uses and we have barely scratched the surface.**

## DÉCOR WITH BY BETTY MUINDI @BettyMuindi

### Ingenious ways to turn old kitchen utensils into stylish home décor

Have you ever had the desire to declutter your kitchen drawers and shelves in your home and throw away all the unnecessary stuff you've accumulated over the years, but you are hesitant, hoping that they may one day come in handy? Well, if you can't let your things go or simply don't want to, there are ways to stylishly reuse them for another purpose, giving your home an artistic, rustic, even vintage vibe



#### 1. Fruit bowl

Make a unique fruit bowl out of unused cutlery and it will serve as a great centerpiece on your kitchen table. You will need super glue, lots of old spoons and forks, and some pliers to give your bowl the desired shape. Visit online platforms for tutorials on how to go about it.

#### 2. Lamp

You can transform an old kitchen colander, also known as a food strainer into a cool lamp shade. Other than that, your tea or coffee serve as lamp stands by drilling holes on the bottom sides of each cup, combine them using a glue or adhesive, and put the lamp on top.

#### 3. Hooks

Take some old metal forks and make pretty-looking and unique wall hooks out of them. Using a hammer and some pliers, you can bend the forks to create almost any shape. And don't forget to drill a pilot hole for the screw.

#### 4. Hanger

You can turn an old or extra wooden chapati/rolling pin into a farmhouse inspired dish cloth holder. You can hang it inside your cabinet door or on the outside under the sink cabinet to give your kitchen a lovely rustic look. This is one of the simplest, but stylish projects for repurposing those rolling pins and you can add as many as you need.



## BRIEF BY MATHEW NDUNG'U @PeopleDailyKE

### Real estate firm unveils third project of 1,200 affordable houses in Tatu City

Unity Homes, an affordable housing developer, has announced that it will accelerate the development of more affordable houses by launching its third project at Tatu City, of 1,200 apartments.

Phase One of the project, which began this month consists of 600, one-bedroom apartments at the prestigious mixed-use development.

Unity Homes Executive Director Jason Horsey stated that the new project is part of its ongoing commitment to continue supporting the government's Big Four affordable housing agenda.

"With a monthly payment of US\$1,300 (\$148,200), we have tried to make it more affordable, therefore, increasing the amount of people who now have the opportunity to invest in a home in an amazing environment," said Horsey.

Flexible three-year payment plans are being offered and the developer is collaborating with commercial banks to offer low-

interest mortgages at 11.9 per cent for Kenya shilling mortgages and 8.5 percent for US dollar mortgages.

The latest project is part of the company's expansion strategy, with ongoing projects of over 2,000 apartments being built at Tatu City, the 5,000-acre Special Economic Zone on Nairobi's doorstep.

"One of Unity Homes' key value propositions is the quality of the home that we provide. We take it extremely personally to ensure we exceed our clients' expectations every time. We have up to 28 separate quality checklists for each unit that is handed over," added Horsey.

The latest project is also part of an ongoing effort by stakeholders to address Kenya's housing shortage, which currently stands at over two million homes and is growing at a rate of approximately 200,000 per year, necessitating the entry of more players into the affordable housing market.

# You ► It's all about Life & Style

# Breadcrumbs, dating red flag to be wary of

Does your partner lead you on by dropping small morsels of interest, but pursues you a little more attentively if they sense you are ready to throw in the towel?

■ by Harriet James  
@harriet86jim

**W**hen Sara Kimani met her match on Tinder in 2019, she thought that she had finally said goodbye to her days of loneliness. Her boyfriend had this charm and would always check on her. But after one month of dating, things began to take a different turn.

"He started having irregular communication habits. We would be in contact for one day and then he would spend weeks without talking to me or even responding to my messages. We would make plans and he would never show up or would cancel them last minute. When I said I wanted to quit, he started talking to me nicely making me warm up to him again. He always likes my posts though, on social media and usually leaves a comment. His behaviour has left me confused," she narrates.

From the dating scene that gave us ghosting, comes another one — breadcrumbing. Many people are familiar with ghosting — when someone cuts off all communication without explanation.

Relationship expert Allan Lawrence says breadcrumbing is when someone leads you on by dropping morsels of interest

such as occasional phone calls, messages, social media interaction or even date plans, all the tiny nitty gritties that suggest you are in a relationship just to keep you, but will never commit.

"Breadcrumbers never make effort to get to know you as a person. They are more interested in sex though," he says.

Despite the fact that the problem might be their lack of interest and communication, breadcrumbers might blame it on you and make it look like it's their victim's fault. This pick up and drip down tendency, Allan says, makes the victims feel confused knocking their self-confidence.

#### Warning signs

The breadcrumber finds ways to convince the partner that the relationship will be better once they sense that the partner is tired of the relationship, but it won't. This too is what Sara has experienced every time she has desired to quit the relationship.

"Whenever I tell him that I'm tired of the relationship, he comes over to my house and becomes really sweet to me. He cooks dinner, entices me to have sex with him and at that moment, it feels like we are back together, only for him to revert to the same behaviour a week later," Sarah says.

While some people do this unconsciously, Allan says a person with narcissistic tendencies would do this to gain control



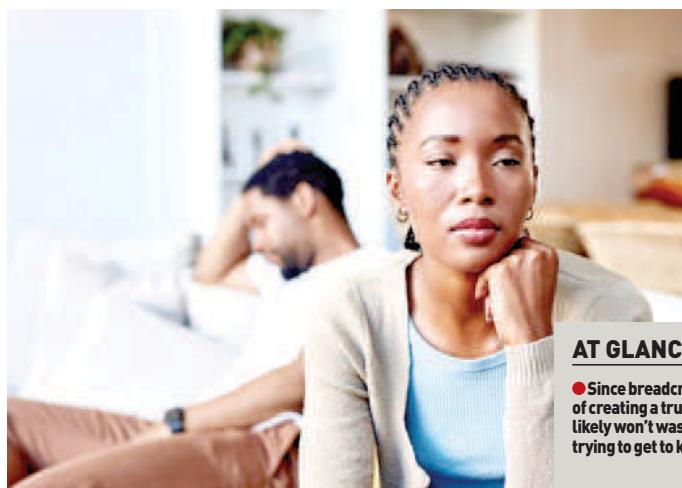
ALLAN

**If you are the one who is normally led, then it's time you take the lead**



RIGAN

**If you are the one who is normally led, then it's time you take the lead**



#### AT GLANCE

Since breadcrumbers have no intention of creating a true lasting connection, they likely won't waste their energy genuinely trying to get to know you.

over the victim. Breadcrumbing is a sign of emotional abuse, since it involves manipulation.

"Breadcrumbers might even mention their shared interest or experience to reinforce a sense of connection. They keep the messages superficial and generic instead of offering concrete details or showing interest on your daily actions. Some are crazy enough to like or even respond to your posts on social media, but will never respond to the messages you sent them," he observes.

Allan shares how such a person might interestingly start responding whenever the other partner begins losing interest. "They do this to reinforce the original attraction and give you a sense of false hope. Before long, they go back to their usual behaviour and you get back to begging for their attention," he says.

While being led on like this is never a nice feeling, what's worse is that one ends up feeling not valued. "Women, in particular, end up making excuses for the breadcrumber or hope that one day the partner will change and love them back, but it won't happen. Accepting such treatments results in poor self-esteem and emotional fatigue for the victim," says Elmard Rigan, a counselling psychologist.

Once this behaviour has been established between the two people, it becomes perpetuated as long as the victim allows it to continue. Breadcrumbers do this to get some attention from others. It boosts their self-esteem to have people follow them for bread crumbs. "These people might not even be aware of the harm they are causing. They might do it whenever they are down because their brain gives them a nice chemical pick-me-up when they connect with you, even if the interaction is brief. Some also do this because they fear commitment," says Rigan.

#### Way forward

While it is difficult for victims to accept that things are never going to change, Allan gives suggestions on how you can avoid or come out of such relationships.

First, if one keeps following you online, but doesn't show up when you make plans, ensure that you openly let them know how the situation is affecting you. Also, change how the communication is going by taking charge of the situation. "If you are the one who normally follows their lead, then it's time you take the lead and show them how you want things done. If they text at night, turn off the phone and respond when you feel like. If they only called when they want a hook up, make sure you stop that. Also, let them know that it's not okay whenever they cancel plans," he says.

Allan says the victim needs to love themselves more and validate themselves in the mirror till they are not needy in a relationship. "Have a plan and stick to it. Have relationship goals and communicate them. Let it be known plainly," he says in conclusion.

- They may share some small things about their life to pull you in and make you feel a little bit closer, but they don't get too deep with you or open up as much as you do.

- They make spur of the moment plans, usually surrounding sex.

## BRIEFLY

### Tell tale signs you are being manipulated

It's normal and expected that every couple will face conflict and have arguments, but what happens when this conflict takes a darker turn? Emotional manipulation is a form of emotional abuse, which can have serious consequences. Here are signs to look out for.

#### Manipulators use insecurities

**against you:** Emotional manipulators may use your insecurities, flaws, and fears against you to bring you down. For example, they may bring up insecurities when you are already feeling down, or point out your flaws in front of others. Or, it may take the form of a backhanded compliment. If your partner says, 'Oh I like your outfit today. You don't look as chunky as usual' you likely wouldn't take it as a genuine compliment. You would feel hurt and very insulted.

**Recruiting others:** In an effort to manipulate and control you even more, the abuser might recruit others to help out in their pursuits. They might go to your parents or best friends to get them to persuade you to do what they want you to do. For example, you may tell your partner you want to break up, but they might attempt to persuade your family and friends to convince you to stay.

**Guilt as a tactic:** Emotional manipulators may use guilt against you to get what they want. For example, they may consistently remind you of past wrongdoings you have done, or of nice things that they have done for you so you feel a sense of obligation to them.

**Passive aggression:** When someone is being passive-aggressive, they will indirectly express their negative thoughts or feelings. For example, your partner might use sarcastic humour, give you the silent treatment, or refuse to have a constructive conversation about your conflict. Finding ways to express frustration or dissatisfaction without actually voicing any issues can keep the other party feeling unsure, anxious and on edge, which is key to manipulation as a whole.

**Moving goalposts:** With this tactic, the abuser will intentionally make it hard to please them by changing their requests and desires often. By continuously shifting the expectations of what's necessary to keep them satisfied, someone engaging in emotional manipulation is able to keep their target invested in keeping them happy for fear of losing the relationship.

**Mirroring or matching:** Many of us prefer dating someone who has the same or similar interests and hobbies. But when your partner's behaviour seems forced or disingenuous for the sake of matching your own, that's manipulation. This can make it hard to leave your partner, since they make you feel so seen and understood in a way you haven't been in the past. It also makes it difficult to see the manipulation that's happening behind the scenes.

insider.com

- Being in a relationship is not supposed to make you feel bad about yourself, insecure, or worry if you are enough. If this is a new feeling for you in relationships, you may want to consider if you are feeling this way because you are being breadcrumb.



5.00 Inuka  
 5.30 Wake Up, Shape Up!  
 6.00 K24 This Morning  
 9.55 Wisdom Moments  
 10.05 Inuka  
 11.00 Daily Brief  
 1.00 K24 News Cut  
 1.30 Jungu La Spoti  
 2.00 Save A Life- Rpt  
 3.00 Ubongo Kids  
 3.30 Akili & Me  
 4.00 K24 Mashinani  
 4.30 BBC MitiKasi Leo  
 4.45 Akili & Me  
 5.00 Beatbox  
 6.00 Laura  
 7.00 K24 Saa Moja  
 7.30 Boomerang  
 8.00 Kilimo Na Biashara  
 8.30 Inside Serie A  
 9.00 The Loop  
 10.00 Unplugged  
 11.00 PI Preview Show  
 11.30 Movie  
 01:30 Al Jazeera



5.00 Ime Ria Rucini  
 6.00 Rikiratha- Live  
 10.00 Riugu Mix- Rpt  
 10.30 Satai  
 11.00 Kurekereria Kodi- Live  
 1.00 Mohoro Gitau- Live  
 1.30 Thiririka  
 3.00 Kiengi Live- Rpt  
 4.00 Ririmbuwa- Live  
 6.00 Maisha Bure- Rpt  
 6.30 Wendo Wa Githagathago  
 7.00 Kameme Maturaini- Live  
 7.30 Save A Life  
 8.00 Mbugi Matu- Rpt  
 9.00 Mutamburuko Wa  
 Mohoro- Live  
 10.00 Kigoco- Live  
 1.00 DW



12.00 Football Review- Rpt  
 6.00 Morning Express  
 08.00 Life N' Style  
 12.00 Documentary  
 4.00 Mbii-Ya-ktn  
 5.00 Baseline  
 6.00 Losing Heaven  
 7.00 KTN Leo  
 7.30 Just Kidding  
 8.00 Food Detectives  
 8.30 New Beginnings  
 9.00 KTN Friday Briefing  
 10.20 Movie

# TIME OUT!



5.00pm BEATBOX



## ::IN THEATRES NOW::

ANGA DIAMOND PLAZA: 19.00, 22.00,  
 10.00, 13.00: **THE KASHMIR FILES**

ANGA SKY PANARI

14:40: **THE KASHMIR FILES**

WESTGATE CINEMA: 17.25, 20.45, 17.50,  
 10.50, 14.10, 17.30, 20.50, 10.45, 14.05:

**THE KASHMIR FILES**

ANGA DIAMOND PLAZA

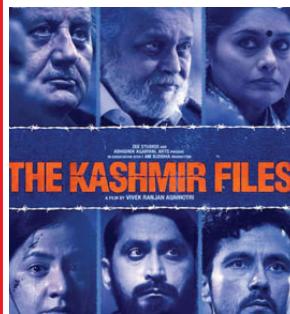
14:10: **TURNING RED 3D**

ANGA DIAMOND PLAZA: 11.00, 13.05,

16.10, 18.40, 21.45: **THE BATMAN**

ANGA SKY PANARI

10.08, 18.15, 21.20: **THE BATMAN**



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

## SUDOKU

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| 4 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 5 |
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The aim is to fill the grid so that each row, column and every 3x3 shaded box contains only one of the digits 1-9. You need to reason out where to place the missing numbers by using the numbers given in the grid and a process of elimination. It is a game of logic not mathematical ability.

## LIFE'S LIKE THAT! | BY TUM



5.00 BBC  
 5.30 Gear Up  
 6.00 Good Morning Kenya  
 9.00 Lay'd Back  
 9.30 Classic Tales  
 10.00 Dally and Pals  
 10.30 Mtaani  
 11.00 Beautiful Ceci  
 12.00 Afrusion  
 1.00 Lunch Time News  
 1.30 Business Defined  
 2.00 Kwa Raha Zangu  
 2.30 Ukombo Wa Kisilamu  
 4.00 Club 1  
 6.30 The Great Debaters  
 7.00 Taarifa  
 7.30 Attitude  
 8.00 First Lady  
 9.00 Channel 1 News  
 10.00 Top Mashariki  
 11.00 CCTV News  
 12.00 Lay'd Back BBC

## HOROSCOPES



**ARIES (MAR. 21-APRIL 20)**  
 Job changes are in order. Go for interviews or send out resumes. You could expand your circle of friends if you get involved in unusual activities.

**Taurus (Apr. 21-May 21)**  
 You can buy or sell if you're so inclined. You will feel tired and rundown if you have allowed yourself to get into a financial mess.

**GEMINI (MAY 22-JUNE 21)**  
 You need to concentrate on solving existing problems. Chances are they are jealous. You will find that unfinished projects at home will be most satisfying.

**CANCER (JUNE 22-JULY 22)**  
 Old friends may not like your choices. You can make some favorable changes to your looks. Try to curb your bad habits.

**LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 23)**  
 You can mix business with pleasure to get favorable results. Positive changes regarding your personal status are evident.

**VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 23)**  
 You will feel compelled to do some traveling. You will be up and down emotionally. You can make life easier for an older member of your family.

**LIBRA (SEPT. 24-OCT. 23)**

You must not make unnecessary changes today. Be careful not to let friends or peers make you look bad. You would be best to work late in order to avoid such disharmony.

**SCORPIO (OCT. 24-NOV. 22)**  
 Use your obvious talent to work with detail and you can come up with something great.

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23-DEC. 21)**

You can persuade even the toughest opponents to think your way. Keep your thoughts and opinions to yourself and you won't get dragged into an unsavory debate.

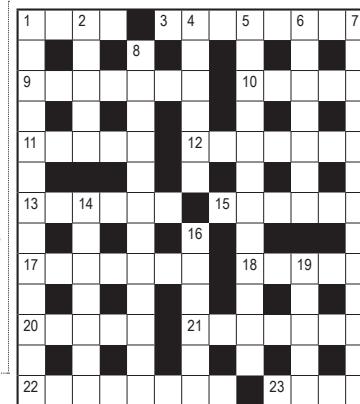
**CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 20)**  
 Compromising could be on the agenda today. Spend time with youngsters today. Set your goals and stick to your guns.

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 21-FEB. 19)**

You may not be that popular at home but you should be able to shine at social gatherings. You can't lock your partner up if you keep restricting their freedom you may be left out in the cold.

**PISCES (FEB. 20-MAR. 20)**

Sudden changes concerning coworkers may surprise you. Do not let them in on your plans if you want things to run smoothly.



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

| ACROSS       | DOWN         |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Tapers    | 1. Tactic    |
| 7. Predator  | 2. Pricey    |
| 8. Chi       | 3. Spout     |
| 9. Clouds    | 4. Messing   |
| 10. Quit     | 5. Daquiri   |
| 11. Coily    | 6. Polish    |
| 13. Insight  | 12. Landfill |
| 15. Mcnroe   | 14. Hopetful |
| 17. Lifts    | 16. Chirps   |
| 21. Tiff     | 18. Fasnia   |
| 22. Ethics   | 19. Stupid   |
| 23. Cap      | 20. Three    |
| 24. Applause |              |
| 25. Errand   |              |

- ACROSS**
1. Pottery material (4)
  3. Low spirits (8)
  9. Efficiency (7)
  10. Piece of paper (5)
  11. Scoundrel (5)
  12. Urgent (7)
  13. Write a music score (6)
  15. Jostle (6)
  17. Coiffure (7)
- DOWN**
1. Army unit (5)
  20. Up to the time when (5)
  21. Workshop or studio (7)
  22. All people (8)
  23. Long-running dispute (4)
  4. Gas we breathe (6)
  5. Tricky elements; obstacles (12)
  6. Least attractive (7)
  7. Easily angered (5-8)
  8. Nationally (12)
  14. Spiky weed (7)
  16. Reach (6)
  19. Small fruit used for oil (5)



# R eport

stop Sport shop...

Junior Golfer Jesse Waithaka tees off during the inaugural Safaricom Golf Series launch at Golf Park last month.  
PD/ EDWIN OTIENO

## Nyanza Club hosts Safaricom series

Nine-hole course attracts a field of 240 amateur and junior players as Limuru hosts Johnnie Walker Series

by Edwin Otieno  
@PeopleDailyKe

Kisumu's nine-hole Nyanza Golf Club will play host to the fourth leg of the Safaricom Golf Tour on Saturday where a large field of 140 amateur players and 100 junior golfers have confirmed participation.

The day-long event will feature corporate and junior tournaments on both Saturday and Sunday as well as a caddies' contest on Monday.

"We have realised that most of our caddies are very skilful and they only need an opportunity to play. We believe that our caddies can be the best golfers in the country as has been proven by the likes of former caddie David Wakhu, one of the most renown Kenyan pros. This is why we have decided to have a caddies'

tournament on some of our tours to give them an opportunity to showcase their skills," said Peter Ndegwa, CEO Safaricom.

The fourth leg in Kisumu will also involve a golf outreach programme to introduce the game to the local youth. Dubbed Golf Mtaani, the outreach programme is scheduled for Lolwe Grounds on Saturday from 11am to 4pm.

The 14-leg amateur series will culminate with the grand finale at Vipingo Ridge Golf Resort in August where winners from each event will converge to determine the overall champions.

Safaricom has invested Sh100 million in the inaugural tour, which aims to tap, nurture and grow talent among young golfers across the country. The company has also partnered with the Junior Golf Foundation to support them with training of coaches, local golf tours and nationwide golf development.

Meanwhile, Limuru Country Club will tomorrow play host to the ongoing Johnnie Walker Golf Series, in what will be the twelfth leg of the series dubbed 'Road to Gleneagles.'

Over 150 golfers are expected to grace the event at the par 72 golf course, playing in the competition's four-ball Stableford format. Action is expected to start at 0700 hrs.

The top three winning teams will book their slots to play in the com-

petition's Eagles Round where they will aim to make the cut to play in the Series' Grand Finale to battle it out for the ultimate prize – a fully paid trip to the iconic Gleneagles Golf Course in Scotland.

So far, a total of 33 teams have qualified to play in the semi-finals set to be held at Muthaiga Golf Club in May.

The Limuru event follows the eleventh leg of the series played at Nyali Golf Club this past weekend. The event saw the team of Christine Ockotch, Florence Karimi, Martin Ombara and Mbura Kariuki, score a combined score of 131 points to be crowned the overall winners, ahead of the team of Jon Stokes, Pauline Gachhihi, Mary Kandu, and Petronilah Kalee who managed a combined 128 points on count-back, beating the team of Joyce Masai, Alice Wahome, Martin Wahome and Lumate Muchai who also scored 128 points to seal the second runners-up position.

Speaking during the tournament, KBL's Coast Region Sales Representative Leah Mwanzia, said: "We are delighted to be at this stage of the competition as it means that we are edging closer to our ultimate destination - Gleneagles. We head towards the semi-finals at Muthaiga Golf Club in May and later on play at the Grand Finale at the iconic Gleneagles Golf Course in Scotland."

## GOLF DRAWS

**Vet Lab:** Tomorrow, Sponsored by TRV Group and Purshottam Developers Ltd / Magic Dash Apartments, 1st Tee 6:40 K. Reddy, S. Gadiraju, R. Reddy, Jun Seo; 6:50 P. Matu, J. Kisolo, F. Ogutu; 7:00 P. Gow, A. Unia, Ano; 7:30 W. Burugu, C. Smith, M. Kihara, I. Makokha; 7:40 J. Kirui, P. Karingu, J. Njeru, F. Muthiani; 7:50 G. Karuga, S. Orinda, C. Wambasi, A. Mugisha; 8:00 H. Tank, D. Kavia, David Evans, S. D'souza; 8:10 J. Kanja, E. Mugisha, W. Okello, A. Ladar; 8:20 J. Osoro, K. Ondiek, K. Oba, R. B. Shah; 8:30 BSN Cheruvot, M. N. Kanyi, Ano; 11:20 Jacob's Finals; 11:30 J. G. Chege, Rohit Shah, K. Gretton, G. Sehmi; 11:40 H. M. Obino, S. Tarmohammed, Ano; 11:50 Irene Kinyanjui x4; 12:00 T. Thana-walla, E. Wangui, D. Mukabi; 12:10 Jayesh Chavda x4; 12:20 J. Wokabi, G. Waiganjo, C. Gachie, W. Munene; 12:30 Brian Akun x4; 12:40 Sponsor x4; 12:50 Bhavik Shah, Deep Shah, Keval Shah, N. Savla; 1:30 S. Atsiaya, T. Kauria, Ano. 10th Tee: 7:30 M. Chavda, J. Mwangi, N. Wahu, Njenga Kimani; 7:40 F. Frimpong, V. Tank, F. Nurani, J. Kosgei; 7:50 K. Joshi, Kiunjuri Mathu, Ano; 8:00 P. Kavia, I. Samani, F. Musila; 8:10 Karoki Mathu, Mathu Kiuri, Ano; 8:20 H. Manyara, S. Hoare, M. Gutundu, F. Mugo; 11:30 P. Kanari, P. N. Muiruri, C. Kamari, L. Munyuu; 12:10 Roy Bore, Col. Kirumba, N. Simwa, Ano; 12:20

D. Nyakangó, U. Raikundalia, Hiren Joshi, M. Nyakangó; 12:30 E. Njuki, A. Kariuki, R. Ndei; 1:00 Chirag Shah, Nakul Shah, N. Kriplani, Kishan Shah; 1:10 Ogjen Plakovic, Ano, Ano.

**Railway:** Tomorrow, Popular Four-Ball Golf Day, 7:20 G Moturi, G Orora, M Gikonyo, Ano; 7:30 M Chirchir, G Yego, B Mugisha, D Kinuthia; 8:10 S.H.O Onyango, T Osoro, R Ormwansa; 8:20 J.W Kung'u, N Meely, L Kinyori; 8:30 B. Kinyanjui, F.K Muha, Paul Njuguna, Ano; 11:00 W Wilis, P Kisingu, Ano, Ano; 11:10 P.J.G Karanja, J Gachoya, Ano, Ano; 11:20 P Mong'ony, P Kabirau, Ano, Ano; 11:30 O Obiero, O Chacha, F Mutharia, Ano; 11:40 E Manywanda, J Marucha, C Kositany, W Onyino; 11:50 N Njuguna, M Mello, F Mwanzi, K D Mbata; 12:00 S Tuwei, B Gikonyo, L K Rono, Ano; 12:10 Dr Gachuno, V Ongera, A Kihara, Ano; 12:20 O Ndegwa, L.K Njagi, J Kehara, R Mwangi; 12:30 J Nangah, A Ndegwa, J Makau, Ano; 12:40 M. Kiplagat, D Muthusi, K Saiti, Joseph Gathumbi; 12:50 N Njuguna, Ano, Ano, Ano; 1:00 S Karanja, Ano, Ano, Ano; 1:10 Fn Kung'u, P Wahome, M Nderi; 1:20 P Wainaina, 13:20 T Ruhui, G K. Maina, N Gichihu, G Kamau; 1:30 J Kinyua, F Ombura, S Patel, Ano.

**Kiambu:** Tomorrow, MEMORABLE DÉCOR & EVENTS – 2ND LADIES MEDAL;

6:46 F Gichomo, FN Ndegwu, M Gachugi, BS Shah; 6:54 J Njogu(lg), J Mwaura(lg), M Mwaura, M Mbugua; 7:02 P Njuguna(lg), S Njoroge(lg), J Muchai, S Kiarie; 7:10 M Karanj(lg), D Njoroge(lg), M Mburi(l), D Muthua; 7:18 P Nganga, A Mukui, K Mbugua, M Kariuki(lg); 7:26 G Njoroge(lg), P Wai-haro, MK Njuguna, J Kiman(lg); 7:34 L Gichimbiri(l), J Ciano(lg), M Maina(lg), J Maina(lg); 7:42 F Mwangi(lg), D Kiyo(lg), P Gitukul(lg), J Mburi; 7:50 BK Kibuki, J Muchigi, J Kiman, J Kimo-tho; 7:58 Dr P Gichira, J Biriri, Eng. Owiti, JN Kithinu; 8:06 T Mwangi(lg), S Mbugua, S Wainaina, A Njoroge(lg); 8:14 H Mugure(l), MDE, MDE, MDE; 8:22 G Chege, D Kamwarol(jrl), J Cegel(lg), S Njengal(lg); 8:30 R Ngui, J Mwangi(lg), E Ngure(lg), B Ndichulu(lg); 8:38 R Mbithi, H Arungal(lg), N Kiatul(lg), K Chebil(lg); 8:46 H Muhi(l), RW Mbogo(lg), S Warui, GK Muiruri; 8:54 B Kungul(l), M Muthoni(lg), C Kiman, P Ndegwall(l); 9:02 S Macharia, G Kibell(l), M Kimerial(l), Hon. Njakwe; 9:10 L Wainaina(l), A Njengal(l), L Njuguna(l), V Pandyal(lg), P.M. 10:54 S Konyar(l), W Murage, N Gachoka, M Thiga; 11:02 C Gathumbi(lg) x 4; 11:10 A Ngumbal(l), P Odimal(lg), A Waiganjo(lg), M Mwai(l); 11:18 W Karumell(l), P Mbugua(l), F Kiman(lg), C Njoroge(lg); 11:26 Memo-rable DÉCOR & Events x 4; 11:34 J Kangethe, J Kiae, J Kahari, A Ngunu; 11:42 J Kimani(l), W Njenga(lg), W Kamau(lg), S Ndemi(lg); 11:50 Memorable Décor & Events x 4; 11:58 Sponsors Guest x 4; 12:06 Captain's Time; 12:14 S Wanjal(l), F Limol(lg), J Waver(l), D Nyaga; 12:22 M Karago, D Maina, J Ndegwa, B Kamau(lg); 12:30 M Mel(lg), G Muiuri, N Mwangi, G Warukira; 12:38 M Mungai(l), J Thongor, SN Kiaro, T Kihara; 12:46 J Wanjirol(l), D Mwaura, JT Maina, J Kiman(lg); 12:54 M Nene, C Gitahi, D Mwaura, S Muriu; 1:02 E Kabug(l), G Githerer(l), R Chutha, C Waweru; 1:10 GW Kuria, D Wahome(lg), J Mugane(lg), J Kamaugl; 1:18 L Njue, D Ndirangu, M Nyaga, N Kimondo; 1:26 J Kithinu, F Nyaga, P Kahuo, S Thambi; 1:34 Sponsor Guest x 4. NOTE: "PLAYER'S TO OBSERVE DRAW TIME"

**Royal:** Tomorrow, Wanabima 2022 Golf Day; Sponsored By Mi-n Insurance, Kenya Re, Aar Insurance, Reinsurance Solutions, Uap Old Mutual, Aar Healthcare, Waica Re, First Assurance, Smart International Applications, Ze-Pre, Continental Reinsurance, & Aig; First Tee AM; 7:04 K. Samira, J. Kingola, Ano, Ano; 7:12 B. Kiraithie, K. Nyangaga, John Odhambo, A. Ogola; 7:20 B. Okeyo, E. Obuya, E. Etemesi, S. Parmar; 7:28 Njeri Onyango, C. Murgor, S. Shah, R. Patel; 7:36 C. Onyancha, K. Isika, F. Maina, R. Emmah; 7:44 N. Malaki, V. Odendo, A. Asol, C. Omondi; 7:52 P.E.,

8:00 M. Mburu, T. Gitonga, Ano, Ano; 8:08 C. Opati, C. Cherono, Ano, Ano; 8:16 W. Wanjaiya, K. Wanderi, R. Juma, N. Njeri; 8:24 S. Njiru, T. Nyaga, F. Nyenjeri, J. Kagicha; 8:32 J. Michoma, T. Tugee, S. Lugala, S. Bwika; 8:40 C. Mburugu, C. Kadikirinyi, M. Aloo, C. Agengo; First Tee PM; 11:36 F.W Maina, M. Mukiria, E. Njau, Ano; 11:44 Joe Onsando X4; 11:52 S. Maina, J. Juma, A. Njoroge, E. Ma-de; 12:00 H. Gatiramu, M. Ngengi, T. Owino, G. Kimani; 12:08 A. Maingi, N. Ndegwa, Ano, Ano; 12:16 B. Mwaura, O. Koitaba, J. Wachira, S. Babra; 12:24 R. Marisir, R. Gitahi, J. Karubiu, J. Nyagah; 12:32 E. Rugo, G. Kuria, C. Kariuki, J. Y Lee; 12:40 Captain X4; 12:48 Waica Re X4; 12:56 G. Makori, P. Musimba, S. Otieno, W. Mastaram; 13:04 R. Kitur, M. Abid, Ano, Ano; 13:12 L. Ireri, J. Kamau, B. Koyier, Enk, Ano; 13:20 P. Sankei, J. Mugane E. Odhambo, Tan-nahill Team, 13:36 P.E; Tenth Tee AM; 7:04 J. Marucha, W. Moturi, N. Korir, H. Manyara; 7:12 S. Gioko, G. Kamande, C. Kamande, A. Samira; 7:20 P.E.; 7:28 K. Kilonzo, Z. Gathuya, R. Njoroge, Ano; 7:36 P.E; 7:44 T. Ndivo, G. Rono, G. Karuri, J. Kariuki; 7:52 G. Weru, J. Si-tonik, T. Shivo, Ano; 8:00 T. Muchina, C. Mudhune, E. Mokua, C. Barasa; 8:08 S. Lakhani, D. Modi, B. Gathani, Ano; 8:16 J. Sagoo, Col. V. Kangeethie, B. Simbi, A. Mwonga; 8:24 S. Lokonyo, D. Mwangi,

# Chipu head coach Olago names Barthes U20 Trophy squad

by Alex Njue  
@PeopleDailyKe

Head Coach Curtis Olago (pictured) has named a 37-man training squad as the Kenya U20 national team, Chipu, prepares for its Rugby Africa U20 Barthes Trophy title defence in Nairobi next month. The squad includes several returning players from last year's squad including John Baraka, Cornelius Mokoro, Tyson Juma Maina, Anderson Oduor and Wilhite Mususi.

Strathmore Leos quartet Anthony Dimba, Stanislaus Shikholi, Joseph Ayiro, Raymond Chacha, Sigalagala's Mathias Osimbo, MMUST's Paywick Munoko, Eldoret's Laban Kipsang, Daystar's quartet Augustine Owino, Meshack Ochieng, Randy Odhiambo, Emmanuel Opondo makes to the list. Others players named include Quins half back Lucky Ishimwe, Kenya Cup finalists Tony Oketch, Roy Mulie, Persian Kolian and Tyson Maina all from Menengai Oilers.

The event has attracted eight teams namely Uganda, Senegal, Tunisia, Zimbabwe, Ivory Coast, Namibia, Zambia and Kenya up from only three sides in last year.

Kenya Rugby Union (KRU) Chairman Oduor Gangla announced that the 2022 Barthes U20 Trophy will be held in Nairobi from April 9 to 17 during the official launch of the Rugby Africa 2022 competition calendar in Kampala, Uganda.

"This is a major step forward for U20 rugby in Africa and as the Kenya Rugby Union, we are honored and humbled to have the opportunity to host this event. It is the first time we are hosting a unified competition for this age group," Gangla said.

"Preparations are going on and we are looking forward to a very competitive event where the young players come out and showcase their talent and ability." Kenya are the current champions, having first won it in 2019 with a 21-18 win over Namibia at the KCB Sports Club in Ruaraka, Nairobi before defeating Madagascar 21-20 in last year's decider at the Nyayo Stadium, Nairobi.

The Barthes U20 Trophy is the Rugby Africa U20 championship.

Teams compete on an annual basis and the winners of the competition earn the right to represent the continent at the World Rugby Junior Trophy.



## BRIEFLY

### Mombasa to host 2022 Junior Chess contest next weekend

**CHESS:** Candidate master and KCB's Benjamin Magana has been spearheading training of juniors who are set to participate in the Kenya National Junior Chess Championship in Mombasa next weekend. The national competition will be held at Kadija Secondary School from the first to the sixth of April 2022. Winners from each category in the tournament from under 8 to under 18 both boys and girls will form the Kenyan junior team that will be representing the country in the Africa Youth Chess Championship slated for June 2022 in Lusaka, Zambia.

Magana has been using his vast experience in the game and knowledge to prepare them. The coach exuded confidence that his team is ready for the championship. Additionally, he said through the training, he is also staying in shape as a player. He has been tutoring other juniors in Kitale, Transnia County qualifiers who are also going to participate in this year's fete. Magana who plays for KCB Chess Club is also preparing for the Kenya National Chess League which continues in May after its resumption following the Covid-19 hiatus. -Gibo Zachary

### ABSA kicks off fruit tree planting campaign in schools countrywide

**GOLF:** Absa Bank Kenya has kicked off a campaign to plant over 3000 fruit trees in several primary schools across the country through the Birdies for Good initiative. The initiative follows an impressive performance by both local and international pro golfers who registered a score of 1524 birdies in the just-ended Magical Kenya Open tournament. Absa Bank Kenya will thus fulfil its commitment to plant and nurture two fruit trees for every birdie made during this year's tournament through this initiative. Each fruit tree is estimated to cost KES1, 200 to plant and grow. The Absa's Birdies for



Good initiative is part of the company's larger commitment to plant 10 million trees over the next five years.

-Webster Nyandika

### Bangladesh cricketers get bonus after triumph over South Africa

**CRICKET:** Bangladesh's cricket board announced Thursday a bonus of \$350,000 for the national team as the prime minister led congratulations on the side's historic series win in South Africa. Bangladesh defeated hosts South Africa by nine wickets at Centurion Park on Wednesday to win a three-match series 2-1. The victory consolidates their position at the top of the ICC ODI super league table, putting them in strong contention to qualify for the 2023 World Cup. Bangladesh's first ODI series win against a major nation was splashed across almost every national newspaper, with the Dhaka Tribune running the headline: "This series win in a previously unconquered land should be recognised as Bangladesh's best success in ODI history," veteran cricket writer Utpal Shuvro wrote in the mass-circulation daily Prothom Alo. India took 26 years to register their first ODI series win in South Africa. -AFP



World beater evidently changing from tracks to road races as 5000m champion goes into her third participation half marathon.

by Kiprono Ericson  
@PeopleDailyKe

Reigning 5000m champion Hellen Obiri will lead a galaxy of Kenyan stars to the 16th edition of the N Kolay Istanbul Half Marathon in Turkey on Sunday. She will be one of the five women who feature personal bests of sub-67:00.

Obiri finished second in last month's Ras Al Khaimah Half Marathon in the United Arab Emirates after clocking a personal best time of 64:22, an overall improvement, behind race winner Ethiopia's Girmaawit Gebru. With this personal best Obiri is now the fifth fastest half marathon runner of all time.

"I am so happy to be returning to Istanbul. I ran my half marathon debut in this race last year and I hope I can improve both my position and my time on this occasion," Obiri said. During the 2021 edition, world marathon champion Ruth Chepngetich won the race in a world record time of 64:02 (mixed gender), a time that was later lowered by Ethiopia's Yalemzerf Yehualaw, who clocked 63:44 before her compatriot Letesenbet Gidey

further set a new record of 62:52.

Yalemzerf emerged second during the race clocking 64:40, while Obiri was third after timing 64:51. Kibiwott Kandie won in the men's category clocking 59:35 ahead of his compatriots Geoffrey Kamworor (59:38) and Roncer Kipkorir (59:46). She has gained quite some experience in half-marathon running since her debut.

The 32-year-old, who now focuses on road running, won the Great North Run in Newcastle last September with 67:42. She will face a stiff challenge from Ethiopians Tsehay Gemechu who won last year's Copenhagen Half Marathon with a strong PB of 65:08. The 23-year-old has an impressive half-marathon record with four wins out of five races.

Hawi Feysa was runners-up behind Tsehay Gemechu in Copenhagen in September, when she clocked 65:41 in her debut half marathon. Nigisti Haftu and Bekelech Gudeta are the other two Ethiopians who will try to challenge Obiri.

While Haftu has a PB of 66:17 Gudeta ran a personal record of 66:54 when she was seventh at the N Kolay Istanbul Half Marathon a year ago. In the men's category, Rodgers Kwelemoi and Daniel Mateiko will headline the start list, the duo is among the ten fastest half marathon runners of all times.

Kwemoi who was making a debut in the 21km race in the Ras Al Khaimah half marathon in the United Arab Emirates last month came second in 58:30 as Uganda's Jacob Kiplimo emerged victorious in 57:56 as Mateiko on the other hand came a distant sixth in 58:45.

Kwemoi is the second-fastest athlete at the moment with a personal best of 59:16. He ran this time in his debut half marathon in Valencia last year.

Mateiko achieved a breakthrough in 2021. First, he broke the one-hour barrier in Copenhagen with 59:25, then he improved by almost a full minute to 58:26 when he was third in Valencia.

## Gambia, Eswatini and South Sudan claim preliminary wins

■ Johannesburg, Thursday  
@PeopleDailyKe

The Gambia, Eswatini and South Sudan all claimed a first leg advantage as qualification for next year's Africa Cup of Nations began with a series of preliminary ties among the continent's lowest ranked sides.

Looking to build on their impressive run to the quarter-finals in this year's Nations Cup in Cameroon, Steve Trawally scored the only goal as Gambia beat Chad 1-0.

The game, played at the Ahmadou

Ahidjo stadium in the Cameroonian capital Yaounde, was technically a home match for Chad, who have been barred from hosting games due to inadequate facilities.

The return leg will be played in Morocco because The Gambia have received a similar ban.

Somalia's home leg against Eswatini was also played overseas, in Tanzania. Goals from Bonginkosi Dlamini, Fanelo Mamba and Gamedze Sandile gave Eswatini a sizeable 3-0 advantage over the Ocean Stars heading into the return. There were

also plenty of goals in the match between South Sudan and Djibouti.

Played in the Egyptian city of Alexandria, due to a lack of suitable facilities in Djibouti, it was South Sudan who claimed a 4-2 victory - with all six goals coming in the second half.

Elsewhere, there was a goalless draw between Seychelles and Lesotho while Sao Tome and Principe face Mauritius on Thursday.

Botswana have already progressed to the next round of qualifying after Eritrea withdrew. ■BBC



Musa Barrow of The Gambia in action during a past international match.  
PD/FILE



## All set for Lioness Rally on Sunday

Inaugural event attracts 10 female drivers to battle it out for top honors at Kasarani

■ by Amos Abuga  
@PeopleDailyKe

A total of 10 all-female crews will be battling it out for the top prize during the inaugural rally competition dubbed 'Lioness Rally' happens at Kasarani on Sunday.

The disclosure was made yesterday by Lisa Christoffersen, the brainchild of the 'Lioness Rally' who further revealed that it has taken over nine months to actualize the plan that will see motorsport in Kenya chart a new path.

"Lionesses as a group begun to coalesce during the rally in Naivasha nine months ago. Suddenly we realized that there was a group of ladies jumping up and down," Lisa explained of how the idea was born during a media briefing at Kasarani yesterday.

Lisa, who will be navigated by Lilian Onduko, an investment professional, has Danish roots and has been living in Kenya since 1988 says women's motorsport in the country has had a limited focus with rally

drivers competing intermittently in events.

"Kenyan women have had little access to motorsport, nor indeed featured often in its history," she said. A rally driver herself, Lisa was inspired by her father who was a safari rally driver in Tanzania. The idea for an all-female crew rally has been in the pipeline for a while but gathered pace in 2021.

Reconnaissance, scrutineering and Recce will be setting the mood for Sunday with the drivers and navigators set to undergo the safety procedure and inspection on Saturday before the ladies will take part in a tree planting exercise where over 1000 trees will be planted.

Jennifer Malik, despite not possessing a wealth of experience in motorsport is looking forward to a perfect debut on Sunday. The sister of Kakamega County senator Cleophas Malala will be navigated by Qui Muigai.

"This will be a milestone for female motorsport, we can't wait for the entertainment and the show that



will be on offer on Sunday. I want to thank all the sponsors for coming on board to walk with us," said Malik.

Pauline Shegu, a media personality and who has been behind the wheel for more than a decade too can't wait for action on Sunday.

"I am delighted for the child that will be born on Sunday, to get here it has taken a lot of sacrifices," said Shegu who made history in 2011 finishing eighth in the Group N category at the Safari Rally.

Shegu will be navigated by Michelle Chao Mtwanguo, the vice-chair of the Lioness Rally Club who is a geospatial engineer by profession.

Meanwhile, Kenya Breweries Limited (KBL) has pledged to sponsor this first ever all-female rally event.

Speaking on the sponsorship Whitecap Marketing Manager Catherine Ndung'u underscored KBL support for the women rally and agenda on sensitization of gender sensitivity in Motorsports.

**Lioness All Women Rally drivers and navigators pose for a group photo yesterday at the Moi International Sports Center (MISC), Rally Track, Nairobi. INSET: Lioness All Women Rally Club Founder Lisa Christoffersen (R) briefs journalists during the official launch yesterday. PD/RODERS NDEGWA**

**Okutoyi, MacRae feted with monthly awards as LG renews partnership with SJAK**

■ by Webster Nyandika  
@PeopleDailyKe

LG Electronics East Africa has announced a new one-year sponsorship deal for the Sports Personality of the Month Award (SPOM) through to December 2022.

The renewal comes as LG and Sports Journalists Association of Kenya (SJAK) celebrated seven years since the giant electronics appliance first partnered with the sports scribes body in 2015.

During the launch ceremony held yesterday at LG's Brand shop in Nairobi, tennis sensation Angela Okutoyi was named the January winner while rally driver MacRae Kimathi was feted as February finest.

Okutoyi speaking in a recorded video from Morocco said: "January was such a good month for Kenyan Tennis and myself after I won a match at the Australian Grand Slam. We have come from far and I am proud to have lifted the Kenyan flag on high."

MacRae on his part said: "The award goes a long way in motivating young and upcoming sports personalities to realize their potential in sport. It also fuels one's passion to give more to the

sport." "I now feel motivated ahead of my busy calendar starting with Croatia Rally where I will compete in the Junior WRC, Pearl of Uganda, ARC Equator Rally and round up with the WRC Safari Rally," MacRae, who was flanked by his dad Phineas, a retired Rally driver said.

Speaking while awarding the winners, LG Marketing Director, Changhyun Kim, said the partnership has over the years boosted players' morale and maintained interest in sports across the country.

"We are grateful to have had the opportunity to support SJAK and top tier sports personalities over the last seven years. Within this period, we managed to reward many of the said personalities and empower them in their journey to the top," the LG boss said.

"This year, we think it is wise that we expand this support to sports enthusiasts in our communities and institutions of learning as a way to support and inspire upcoming sports giants across diverse disciplines. We are investing at least Ksh.6.6 million and banking on your support to achieve this at least every quarter," Kim announced.



Rally driver McRae Kimathi after being named the LG sports personality of the month of February at LG showroom in Westlands yesterday. PD/WEBSTER NYANDIKA

Friday, March 25, 2022

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### AFRICAN WORLD CUP PLAY-OFFS SCHEDULE:

#### Friday:

- DR Congo vs Morocco 6pm
- Mali vs Tunisia 8pm
- Cameroon vs Algeria 8pm
- Egypt vs Senegal 10.30pm
- Ghana vs Nigeria 10.30pm

#### Tuesday:

- Nigeria vs Ghana 8pm
- Senegal vs Egypt 8pm
- Algeria vs Cameroon 10.30pm
- Morocco vs DR Congo 10.30pm
- Tunisia vs Mali 10.30pm

Note: Five aggregate winners qualify for 2022 World Cup in Qatar from Nov 21 to Dec 18

Egypt's forward Mohamed Salah (R) falls after being fouled by Senegal's defender Abdou Diallo during their Africa Cup of Nations (CAN) 2021 final match at Stade d'Olembé in Yaoundé on February 6, 2022. AFP



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# Will it be payback time?

**Salah vows revenge as Egypt and Senegal fight for crucial Qatar World Cup place**

Johannesburg, Thursday

@PeopleDailyKe

Egypt captain Mohamed Salah has vowed to avenge an Africa Cup of Nations final loss last month to Sadio Mane-inspired Senegal when they clash again on Friday in a 2022 World Cup play-off.

Failure in the continental final was particularly bitter for prolific Liverpool scorer Salah as he was also part of the Egyptian team that lost the 2017 Cup of Nations final against Cameroon.

Liverpool teammate Mane played a pivotal role in the first Cup of Nations triumph of Senegal -- atoning for a penalty miss in regular time by converting the spot-kick that won the shoot-out. Egypt host the first leg on Friday and Senegal have home advantage next Tuesday with the aggregate winners filling one of five places reserved for Africa at the 32-nation finals in Qatar.

Here, AFP Sport looks ahead to the five first legs with Cameroon seeking a record-extending eighth appearance by an African nation at the World Cup and Mali hoping to reach the finals for the first time.

#### Egypt v Senegal

Senegal coach Aliou Cisse says the Cup of Nations triumph is history and all that matters is securing a second straight World Cup appear-

ance. "Winning the Cup of Nations is not an end in itself because we share a common goal of playing at the World Cup again," he told reporters.

With a 'spine' comprising Chelsea goalkeeper Edouard Mendy, Napoli centre-back Kalidou Koulibaly, PSG midfielder Idrissa Gueye and Mane, Senegal are well equipped to succeed.

Egypt welcome back star goalkeeper Mohamed el Shenawy, who missed the Cup of Nations final through injury, but they were the second best side in the African title decider and start as underdogs.

The Egyptian media reported Egypt captain Mohamed Salah telling his teammates after the penalty shoot-out defeat in Cameroon that "we meet them (Senegal) again next month and inshallah (God willing) we will take revenge".

#### Ghana v Nigeria

Nigeria are favoured, but tradition suggests a close affair with each nation winning twice in previous World Cup qualifiers and four other meetings drawn.

Both fared poorly at the Cup of Nations with Ghana shock first-round casualties after losing to minnows Comoros and Nigeria making a timid last-16 departure against Tunisia.

Nigeria boast a stronger squad than they had in Cameroon with forwards Emmanuel Dennis, Odion Ighalo and Victor Osimhen now available, but injured midfielder Wilfred Ndidi misses out.

Ghana fired Serb coach Milovan Rajevac after the Cup of Nations debacle and brought in Otto Addo with former Newcastle and Brighton boss Chris Hughton lending assistance.

#### Cameroon v Algeria

Hosts Cameroon fired Portuguese Toni Conceicao after finishing third at the Cup of Nations and hired legend Rigobert Song on the orders of President Paul Biya.

Song has chosen most of the team eliminated by Egypt in the semi-finals and there will be much interest in how he treats Bayern Munich forward Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting.

Choupo-Moting was furious at the not making the starting line-up against the Pharaohs and teaming up with captain and leading Cup of Nations scorer Vincent Aboubakar and Karl Toko Ekambi.

Algeria suffered a disastrous Cup of Nations title defence, going out after the first round, and coach Djamel Belmadi has dumped 11 of the squad he took to Cameroon in January.

#### DR Congo v Morocco

The Democratic Republic of Congo are alone among the 10 contenders in not having the benefit of match practice at the Cup of Nations they came third in a qualifying group and missed out.

It could be advantageous, though, as Morocco will not have recent footage of the Leopards, whose only previous World Cup appearance was in 1974 when the country was called Zaire.

However, it is no secret that Dieumerci Mbokani is the man Morocco must shackle after the 36-year-old scored four goals in qualifiers having been recalled after several years in the wilderness.

Cup of Nations quarter-finalists Morocco boast a star full-back in Ashraf Hakimi, but Chelsea winger Hakim Ziyech will be absent

### WORLD CUP: QUALIFIED TEAMS



#### ZONE ASIA

Qatar - Host country

Iran South Korea

#### ZONE EUROPE

|         |             |
|---------|-------------|
| Germany | England     |
| Belgium | Croatia     |
| Denmark | Spain       |
| France  | Netherlands |
| Serbia  | Switzerland |

#### ZONE SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina Brazil

Source: Fifa

AFP

due to a fall-out with coach Vahid Halilhodzic.

#### Mali v Tunisia

Mali and Tunisia met at the Cup of Nations in Cameroon and a tale of two penalties ended with the Eagles from west Africa winning 1-0 after Ibrahima Kone scored and Wahbi Khazri missed.

More close encounters are likely with Mali hoping to create history, and deny Tunisia a sixth World Cup appearance.

A boost for Mali is the belated decision of France-born Everton midfielder Abdoulaye Doucoure to represent the country of his parents.

Tunisia, who fell to Burkina Faso in the Cup of Nations quarter-finals, have recalled forward Taha Yassine Benrahi after he completed a six-month doping ban.

-AFP

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