

# CITY BITE

## THE STATE OF AFFAIRS

### SPECIAL FEATURE

....H.E. Olusegun Obasanjo's  
speech during Festac 2022 in  
Zanzibar...

p.1

### ADGI

ADGI Kisumu Chapter to be  
launched in Kisumu during the  
week of the FESTAC Africa

Festival  
p.26

### SPORTS

...Amad Fires Manchester  
United to Wembley  
p.18

### FESTAC

A conversation with FESTAC  
Chairman Eng.Yinka Abioye  
p.20

# FROM THE ARCHIVES

## A MESSAGE FROM H.E CHIEF OLUSEGUN OBASANJO DURING FESTAC AFRICA FESTIVAL 2022

**AN ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY, CHIEF  
OLUSEGUN OBASANJO AT THE OPENING  
CEREMONY OF THE 3RD WORLD BLACK  
AND AFRICAN FESTIVAL OF ARTS AND  
CULTURE, FESTAC 2022 - DESTINATION  
ZANZIBAR.**

Distinguished Ladies and gentlemen, I beg to stand by all existing protocols. This is because given my stature and the collective weights of all others standing on existing protocols there is a likelihood of a collapse which would be unsuitable, undesirable and unsavoury for our purpose, here today. Such a collapse could trigger pandemonium.

Be that as it may, I am very pleased and I feel highly honoured to be invited in multiple capacities to this epochal event as Guest of Honour, Speaker and Inaugural Torch bearer. I am humbled by your kind gesture for which I shall remain eternally grateful.

I heartily congratulate and rejoice with the Organizers, Sponsors, Partners, Collaborators and all who have played a role or another in putting together this event. They are too numerous to mention but I shall specially recognize and acknowledge the Government and good people of Zanzibar under the able leadership of Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi, the 8th President of Zanzibar for being a great Host; The FEST AC Africa chaired by Mr. Yinka Abioye of Inspire Africa Connect; Zanzibar Association of Tour Operators

(ZATO) chaired by Mr. Hassan Ali Mzee; Zanzibar Minister for Tourism, Mr. Simai Mohammed Said; Zanzibar Association for Tourism Investors (ZATI); Zanzibar National Chamber of Commerce (ZNCC); Hotels Association of Zanzibar (HAZ); and last but not the least, AU - ECOSOCC NIGERIA.

I also welcome, most heartily, Tourists and our brothers and sisters in Diaspora from North America, Brazil and the Caribbean as well as other parts of the



*H.E Chief Olusegun Obasanjo; The Fmr. President of Nigeria Photo Courtesy*

As I stand reading this speech at the podium, I am overwhelmed with emotions. Mixed emotions I should say. Mixed emotions of Nostalgia, Grief, Relief and Elation.

Nostalgic feelings because I am reminded of and I reminisced on FEST AC 77 which held in Nigeria. Then, I was the Head of State and Patron, FESTA( 77).

For me, it is a familiar terrain. It's an Island I have been to. It holds good and great memories for me. I, therefore, crave your indulgence to go back, a little, the memory lane.

If then was a more appropriate time, now is the most appropriate time. In all honesty, there is no time left especially in the face a technologically enabled onslaught determined to exterminate our Culture via a very dangerous social media content and campaign. Take a look at our Youths today, they are less proud of their African culture and skin. Need I say more. I hasten to add that regular hosting of events like this and an aggressive technologically backed - up campaigns would help in promoting Black and African Culture and probably redeem some of our straying youths who have been deculturized, out of their own free volition, though.

This exercise back into memory is because some of the things said then still hold true today. They are timeless and relevant even to our cause today. Permit me to utilize three quotes to buttress my point: " Nothing is more appropriate at this time in Black and African history than a re - discovery of those cultural and Spiritual ties which bind together all Black and African peoples of the World over"

- excerpt from my speech at FESTAC 77.

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An excerpt from the speech of Commander (as he was then) O P Fingsi, President of the International

Festival Committee, Organizers of FEST AC 77, readily comes to mind "This is indeed a moment when Black and African peoples must intensify their efforts to posit their true identity in the contemporary World. This festival represents an effort on our collective part to come together as a people so as to set in motion a new cultural awakening and Cultural awareness in the Black African World". Fingsi's speech probably came ahead of its time. There is no better and urgent time than now!

His Excellency, Leopold S Senghor, then President of Senegal reached certain conclusions on FESTAC ('77) that are worthy of attention and consideration even today:



" If we wish, the second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture to be a success, as I do, we should consider its Colloquium as the most important point which should define and illustrate black civilization and above all its Spirit, that is, its Culture, which is today, the most powerful force in the Universal civilization. I am patiently waiting for the outcomes of the Colloquium and roundtables at this Festival. With the calibre of men & women assembled to lead or participate, I have no doubts that Justice would be done to the topics for discussion. However, let state clearly that whatever outcomes we come out with, they should have practical applications and not mere rhetorical or theoretical constructs and concepts as is common to most academic expeditious.

I did note at the 40th anniversary of FESTAC '77, hosted by the University of Lagos but organized by the Centre for Black Culture and Civilization (CBACC), that" if you want to kill any group of people, if you want to destroy them, take away their culture and they would have no identity left".

So much so about Nostalgia.



I am grieved because it has taken close to 45years after the second edition before this third edition came on board. You will recollect that the very first edition was in Dakar, Senegal in 1966. Nigeria was billed to host the second edition in 1970. Nigeria's political instability and civil war didn't permit the hosting until 1977. Let us sympathize and show understanding with Nigeria, it baffled me that no other African country came forward during those turbulent years of Nigeria. Now, let's leave that alone, what excuse or justification do we have for over four decades hiatus!

But for the Grace of God upon me and others of my generation, we wouldn't have witnessed this. As a matter of fact, how many Heads of Governments who witnessed FEST AC 77 are alive today.

The point really is that we should take this event more seriously, have clear hosting timetable and determine intervals just like Nations Cup or the World cup.



*"...The Intra - African Trade Fair Advisory Council has been at the forefront of a campaign to increase trade and commerce among African nation which peaked at 19% in 2015/16 only to drop to 15% in 2018..."*

**H.E OBASANJO**

IN THE YEAR

**1977**

**NIGERIA HOSTED THE SECOND EDITION OF FESTAC FESTIVAL , WHICH IS WIDELY CONSIDERED THE BIGGEST EVER PAN AFRICAN GATHERING AT THE TIME**

IN THE YEAR

**2022**

**THE THIRD WORLD'S BLACK AND AFRICAN FESTIVAL TOOK PLACE IN ZANZIBAR AFTER A 45 YEAR HIATUS**

I am relieved of my griefs by the fact that indeed and at last and to the Glory of God, in my lifetime, it has happened again, the forty - something years hiatus, notwithstanding. Though, late, not too late and certainly not too little after all, to be late is better than never. As the Chair of Intra - African Trade Fair (IATF) Advisory Council, it gladdens my heart and I am highly elated that Trade and Commerce have been creatively infused into the Festival via Business Expos, Investment Forum etc. This is a good and refreshing addition to the idea of the festival and a serious improvement on the ideals of it. For this I commend the organizers for their vision, fore and far Sightedness.

The Intra - African Trade Fair Advisory Council has been at the forefront of a campaign to increase trade and commerce among African nation which peaked at 19% in 2015/16 only to drop to 15% in 2018. Compared to Europe which stands at 65%, this is abysmally low. It is my conviction that the trade and commerce dimensions will aid and boost results in this regard. I also hope that when the scores shall be taken after the whole exercise, the quantum of business deals struck should tower above the 2nd IATF 2021 at Durban, South Africa which exceeded \$36billion dollar mark. It should set a benchmark for IATF 2023 to hold at Abidjan, Cote D'Ivoire. My optimism is anchored on my firm belief that, culture and economic development are not opposed to each other. Culture, if properly harnessed can be a major tool of Economic development.

**Conclusion**

I shall conclude by taking a return to the theme of the festival: Celebrate Your Culture: My Africa! Our Africa! - Network, Explore, Trade and Fun.

Shall I then put it in my own way:

"As you are here, physically or virtually, kindly join me to celebrate our Culture, celebrate us, celebrate with us and in the course of all that, network, explore, engage in trade and commerce and don't forget to have plenty of fun.

Once again, my sincere gratitude and appreciation to you all. God bless you ! God bless Africa



# OPINION

## THE RACE FOR KISUMU 2027 GUBERNATORIAL SEAT AND THE TOP CONTENDERS



**Emmanuel Otieno**



Kisumu county has attracted Various elected Leaders for the top seat with majority angling for new elective positions at the county. The hotly contested seat is the gubernatorial seat pitting the incumbent senator Prof. Tom Ojienda, Deputy Governor Mathews Owili, Nyakach Mp Owuor Aduma, Kisumu Central MP Joshua Oron and the latest entrant being Kisumu women Representative Ruth Odinga. While majority of the people outline the above candidates as the force to reckon with come August 2027, some Pundits have argued that the top seat is likely to attract Kisumu west Mp Rosa Buyu and Seme Mp Dr. James Nyikal who have shown interest but have not openly declared their candidature.

One most prime factor to keep in mind in the gubernatorial race is the clan factor, notably referring to Kano, Seme, Nyakach and Kisumu commonly known as Kisumu West. Statistics have indicated that Kano had already benefitted from the first year of devolution when Jack Ranguma was elected as the Governor, deputised with Ruth Odinga. This was cardinal as devolution was still at the prime age with majority of candidates running for the Senate seat linked to the US upper house interms of seniority.

The clan factor is the biggest catalyst and determinant of who becomes the next governor with analyst arguing that regional balance is likely to be considered with each side of the clan eyeing for the top seat. The matrix indicates that Nyakach is unlikely going to rip big from Gubernatorial race having enjoyed exorbitant priority of having a deputy governor and Senator from the last general election with an added headache of three aspirants; Prof. Tom Ojienda, Mathews Owili and Owuor Aduma who are

The matrix indicates that Nyakach is unlikely going to rip big from Gubernatorial race having enjoyed exorbitant priority of having a deputy governor and Senator from the last general election with an added headache of three aspirants; Prof. Tom Ojienda, Mathews Owili and Owuor Aduma who are eyeing for the top seat. The presence of the three from Nyakach which is viewed as a small clan in the wider Kisumu County, is likely to affect vote distribution with Tom Ojienda's candidature likely to face big hurdles after major fallout with ODM Party and is likely to vie under UDA or run as an independent candidate.

The city Mp, Joshua Oron is among the top candidates if elections were held today due to Kano Clan factor, However he has an headache because most of Kano leaders dumped ODM for UDA, and have already been awarded with plum positions in the UDA government. This will jeopardize his candidacy incase the UDA led faction fields a candidate.

Nonetheless, Kisumu County deputy governor Dr. Mathews Owili candidature is in limbo as majority claims that the second in command has no political aura and his candidature is wimpy. Analysts have argued that he has no central command of votes especially when he is left alone without the support of the current governor Prof. Anyang Nyong'o.

The entry of Kisumu Women Representative, Hon. Ruth Odinga has left her opponents befuddled. However Hon. Ruth Odinga is making inroads due to her exemplary leadership performance through various projects such as providing educational bursaries, Poultry, Business training and, women empowerment funds and also supporting young people to technical trainings at Vocational centres.

This is what majority across the seven subcounties applauds to be giving her visibility and popularity on the ground, coupled with her track record in the Disaster Management Docket under special programmes.

Some political analysts suggest that the ODM party might consider a female candidate for the top seat in a bid to quell the hot contest between Mathews Owili, Aduma Kowuor and Joshua Oron for the ODM nomination ticket. Furthermore sources also indicate that he is most likely to introduce the gender matrix and ensure that women are given more opportunities to lead, a close replica of Homabay County.

Censorious and vituperative analysis have shown that regional balance dictates the following;

Seme as a clan has an opportunity of fielding a candidate for Senate, deputy governor or Women Representative with insiders claiming that the incumbent governor is reconsidering this as he retires from politics.

Nyakach on the other side will be fielding candidates for the position of Governor, senator and Women Representative depending on the realignment factor.

Kano will be going for Governor, Deputy Governor, Senator and Women Representative however that equation depends on the realignment for the deputy governor choice.

Kisumu West will also be fielding candidates for the position of Governor, With the two strong female candidates coming from Kisumu west who are Rosa Buyu and Ruth Odinga. Rosa Buyu who served as Women Representative has an added advantage having left a track record of development during her tenure.

The leaders are leaving nothing to chance. Their charm offensives are beginning in earnest ahead of the next 2027 General Elections with majority making inroads as some are cautious to overspend before the opportune time. It's all a matter of tickle time, whoever plays their cards well will carry the day albeit clear indicates of who to watch.

# INSIDE POLITICS

## STORM IN PARADISE?



Emmanuel Otieno Obwanga.

The supremacy battle and tussle between incumbent governors and their deputies is increasingly raising eyebrows. The latest being that of Kisii Governor H.E Simba Arati and his deputy Robert Monda who was impeached by the MCAs ,a decision which was upheld by the Senate. This happened on March 14th, 2024.

Having been accused of abuse of office, gross misconduct and gross violation of the Constitution and law ,the second in command at the county ended his tenure and the long tussle prematurely with the senate declaring him guilty of the four counts .He was charged of four charges by Kisii MCAs,a decision which was upheld by the Senate making him the first deputy governor to be impeached since the onset of devolution and the second deputy governor whose case is presided over by the Senate after Siaya's Deputy Governor William Oduol.

During the voting ,39 Senators voted yes for the first two charges while three opposed as one abstained while 35 Senators voted in favour of the third charge as seven dissented and one abstained. His exit was based on the fourth charge where 32 senators voted as one senator abstained.

Similar conflicts have been witnessed between Siaya Governor, James Orenge and his Deputy William Oduol, Meru's governor Kawira Mwangaza and her Deputy Isaac Mutuma who has been accused on appointing his husband ,Meru first gentleman Murega Baichu on a senior position something considered a violation of county laws (county Government act) with additional accusations of making irregular appointments. Majority leader Evans Mawira tabled an impeachment motion at Meru county assembly and was supported by 59 out of 69 MCAs, while 10 members were absent during the voting on Wednesday, October 25 ,2023. This marked Kawira's second impeachment by Meru county assembly ,a decision which was thwarted by the Senate.

Article 96(1) of the Constitution gives the senate the responsibility of representing the counties and to protect their interests and their governments, exercises its oversight mandate and examine whether the impeachment was procedural or not before giving a report.

Another tussle has pitted Kericho governor Eric Mutai and his deputy Fred Kirui, Trans Nzoia governor George Ntembeya and his deputy Philomena Kapkory and Machakos governor ,Wavinya Ndeti and her Deputy Francis Mwangangi.

With devolution barely 13 years ,the feuds between the two seats has led to stalled development at the grassroots with increasing number of stalled projects and continuous adverse opinion from different counties by the Office of the Auditor general.

The fights have largely given room for looting of public resource with minimal indicators of adequate accountability mechanism. This trend is worrying as pundits say that the 2010 constitution created the two positions for the cordial working relations and not for driving selfish political interest at the expense of the public. These wrangles have been attributed to alleged suspicions, sabotage, corruption , political mischiefs and party loyalty.

Similarly there have been averment disregard of pre-election deals and MoUs ,which includes sharing of appointments, clan interests and resource sharing being the major catalysts for the interminable and the incessant power struggles between the governors and their deputies.

If the push and pull continues then we should be ready to expect less development and less accountability of public resources. We could be seeing this as a temporary foothold but the consequences are beyond our imagination.

Author is the Project Lead-Digital Health at Kenya Malaria Youth Corps/Member of Transform Health, Health Data Governance Working Group/Co-Founder CITYBITE MAGAZINE/Vice-chair AFTWOB



## AFRICA CAN BE SELF RELIANT

Africa is blessed with so much resources. If we pay pedant attention to how we use the resources and kibosh chronic corruption, a decent chance is there that the dream of having a United States of Africa at the helm of the world Order is achievable.

VIOLA ADHIAMBO



## RE-SHAPING POLITICS IN SIIAYA

With our people increasingly warming up to UDA, it is evident that Siaya County has embraced a new paradigm of politics plinthed on the tenets of multiparty democracy. As the grass root elections edge closer, we urge JODALA to register en masse as UDA Members by dialing \*509#

MAURICE ORONDO



## WORK HARDER

The only way out of poverty is to work harder. If your hard is not bringing results, go an extra mile harder and if it still doesn't work, go an extra mile harder. Keep pushing and don't give up on your dreams or ambitions. The universe is watching so don't fret

BENSON NJUGUNA

# SOCIALS

## HOT ON X

### IN MEMORY OF RITA TININA; A TRAILBLAZING JOURNALIST



The journalism fraternity in Kenya is mourning the loss of a true icon, Rita Tinina. She was a shining example of both humility and brilliance. My heartfelt condolences go out to her loved ones and colleagues during this challenging time. May her outstanding contributions to the industry forever serve as a source of inspiration and guidance to all.

### HON. KIMANI ICHUNG'WAH



I am who I am because I stood on her shoulders while at NTV. My T9. Go well my darling. Rita Tinina, the hand that held mine and never let go. I am broken....Rest mami.

### RT. HON. RAILA ODINGA



I am who I am because I stood on her shoulders while at NTV. My T9. Go well my darling. Rita Tinina, the hand that held mine and never let go. I am broken....Rest mami.

### LINDA OGUTTU



My sincere condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of Rita Tinina - a pioneer and a trailblazer in TV journalism.

Rest In Peace, Rita.

### H.E WILLIAM RUTO



Rita Tinina was a distinguished journalist who told the stories of our lives with objectivity, passion, and empathy borne out of her trademark humility.

My deepest sympathies to her family, friends and workmates.

### KIPCHUMBA MURKOMEN



My deepest condolences to the family, friends and workmates of Rita Tinina.

She was a journalist of high esteem; she told the stories of our nation with utmost grit and passion.

May her Soul Rest in Eternal Peace.

### H.E. RIGATHI GACHAGUA



Rest in Peace my good friend Rita Tinina. We had our times in KIMC. We had good ones in KTN.

### EMMANUEL TALAM



I have learnt with profound shock the passing on of veteran TV journalist, Rita Tinina.

Rita was an accomplished journalist who not only mastered the art of story telling but also connected with her audience with ease and authority.

Her contribution to Kenya's media industry was outstanding. In Rita, Kenya has lost a seasoned media professional who was a role model to upcoming female journalists.

My heart goes out to her family friends and the entire media fraternity. May her soul Rest in Eternal Peace.

### H.E WAVINYA NDETI



I am still in shock following the demise of my lovely friend and colleague Rita Tinina. She did her work diligently and was a very friendly soul who will be missed by many. Rest in peace Rita.

### INSPEKTA MWALA

# YOUTH AFFAIRS

## A WEEK-LONG NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY BECKONS YOUTHS IN AFIKA



FESTAC YOUTH AMBASSADOR KELVIN NYAMACHE | Photo Courtesy

The revived World's Black and African Festival will base its continuity on the youth, Eng. Yinka Abioye most recently told City Bite Magazine. Traditionally, young people hold the key to the future of any given nation, plan, philosophy, entity or initiative. It is however upon those who wield the instruments of success in the various fields to show them the path, to futures of their desires; a basic principle for the Festac Festival and its promoters.

Since its founding, the festival not only brings together Afrikans but also provides a hub for constructive linkages between youths and youths, youths and mentors, mentors and mentors and mentors and mentors of mentors.

As the 2024 edition of the festival approaches, the youths have been implored by those with rich experiences with the festival to grab the opportunity of meeting maestros of the game in their respective fields of interest. Sitting at the board is Kelvin Nyamache, the face of the festival among the young nation.

For a very long time, Nyamache has valorously displayed his eternal penchant for an idyllic world where the youth, regardless of their backgrounds access equal opportunities to tools of success.

An emerging leader, his flair in public speaking sets him apart from many while many a young people have had a lesson or two to learn from his sagacious inspirational speeches and rigorous

mentorship programs.

Such underscores the importance of Festac to the youth. It gives opportunities for promising young people to hone their skills in their fields of specialization and bridges such gaps that might separate them from their would be masters.

As the 2024 festival approaches, youths in Kenya, East Afrika and the greater Afrika should therefore seize the opportunity to connect with experts from all over the world and to expose their idiosyncratic skills that could change their lives in varied ways.



When curtains will rise for the first time on May 20th, among others, Adoyo will entertain international guests, Kelvin will be there to inspire young people who look up to him, Osure will be there to script events as they unfold and Emmanuel will be there to take notes of the key moments of the festival. Such is what the future of Afrika requires and such is what the future holds for Afrika.

If Wallace was there at FeSTAC 77, so should Kelvin proudly testify, fifty or so years from now that "I was there in Festac 24, and I am proud of what it made me." Such should apply to Adoyo, Onyango, Okonkwo, a certain Zouma in South Afrika and many others from different parts of the continent.

The shifting dynamics of development and Afrika's political economy can only be furthered by young minds, but only if, they acquire the wisdom from the right people. Such, is why this festival is an imperative for the visionary young minds who believe in the beauty of Afrika, its potential and the future of pan -africanism.

At best, the 2024 festival shall produce another future lureate.



### GENDER Based Violence affects young people the most.

As an age old menace, young people are more vulnerable to gender based violence than anyone else. According to assorted research findings, children raised in broken families, chaotic environments and related circumstances are susceptible to the ICD classified mental disorders and related challenges. Additionally, in the contemporary world, many young people battle many intrapersonal challenges that reduces the quality of their inter-personal relationships. Some of them, due to lack of sufficient guidance therefore grow into chaotic adults. This amplifies the importance of the quest to purple the world by organizers of Festac Festival and explain why Kenyan and African Youths must seize the opportunity it presents to contribute positively to the fight against GBV.

ODIMA OSURE: WRITER



### FESTAC IS A BUDDING PLATFORM FOR YOUTH LEADERS & PROFESSIONALS.

Youths hold the keys to the future of Africa. During the week-long Kisumu Festival, trade fairs and such conversations that prioritize the future of Africa will be held. These discussions will not only act as platforms through which young leaders learn to express themselves but also linkages between them and experienced people. From industrialists to tech giants, engineers to doctors to politicians and to award winning film stars, Festac will play host to mentors from all walks of life, underlining the importance of the festival to young people.

# INSIDE POLITICS

## U. S ELECTIONS *Opinion*



Peter Wandera

The wind has blown and the anus of the hen has been exposed, it's now official that Donald Trump and Joe Biden will be on the ballot. Joe Biden being on the ballot is not news as compared to Donald Trump, to whom the gods have finally smiled, after the Supreme Court gave him the green light to contest for the party primaries. For the former President, it has been a grueling experience after facing the uphill task of defending his candidature. Colorado's top court had earlier barred him from appearing on the ballot because of Jan. 6 insurrection. they accused him of supporting the attack on the US Capitol in an attempt to subvert the 2020 presidential election which saw Biden win. The decision by the Supreme Court breathed life into Trump's campaign camp and sent the states of Colorado, Maine, and Illinois back to the drawing board since these states were at the forefront of ensuring that Trump does not appear on the ballot.

With the cases behind him, he also faced an onslaught from Nickey Haley in the Republican primaries. However, Trump has made the republican party his footstool and "bedroom" and whatever he says in the party becomes law. He calls the shots because of a legion of supporters who are vicious and loyal to his course and those opposed to him find it hard since he is also a bully and ready to rain on his opponent's parade through orthodox means and thus Trump was too much for Haley.

On the other hand, it was a smooth ride for Biden in the democratic party primaries after the states of Washington, Mississippi, and Georgia rubber-stamped his nomination. Biden and Trump will officially be nominated by their respective party's conventions in August and July.

Having secured their respective party nominations, the dice have been cast for the impending titanic battle pitting these two political juggernauts. It will be the first rematch election in over 70 years and if Trump triumphs then this will be the second time in history for a president to serve two nonconsecutive terms, the first one being Grover Cleveland. It's not going to be a walk in the park for team Trump though since the odds are against him as things stand. By refusing and insisting that he did not lose the 2020 elections, Trump is shooting himself in the foot.

Trump has also bitten more than he can chew by his continued dalliance with Russia and spitting NATO. This will prove disastrous in the long run.

Trump's financial war chest is also a disadvantage as compared to Joe Biden. He also needs to put his house, and the republican party in order. There is a coterie of influential figures in the party who have stated that they won't back his bid led by his former vice president Mike Pence.

Biden on the other hand is the oldest president in the history of the United States. This comes with a myriad of challenges. There are those who feel that he is not fit to serve. However, his ratings have soured up after the heart-to-heart State of the Union address.



Erstwhile U.S President Donald Trump [Courtesy]



Incumbent U.S President Joe Biden [Courtesy]

However these two contenders are undesirable by the majority of the electorate. They leave a very sour taste in their mouths and so they may abstain from voting. All in all, the election is here with us and both Trump and Biden are on the cusp of history. If Trump wins, he will be the second man to serve two non-consecutive terms. If Biden wins then he will be the oldest serving president in history.

The author holds a Bachelors degree in History and International Relations



"When the U.S. Supreme Court ruled last week that Colorado could not keep Donald Trump off its presidential primary ballot, it proved at least one thing: The court can decide a case both quickly and with a keen eye to the political calendar."

KATE SHAW; NEW YORK TIMES

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# THE CRITICAL EYE

## AFRICA AFRIKA!

### Festac rekindles the flames of black excellence



**Odima Osure; Writer.**

When I first introduced myself to Professor Anyang' Nyong'o, it felt like a muse, not because I am the type to fret at the presence of greatness, but because I was facing history. Seated directly opposite me was Amb. Dr. Wallace Williams, a product of Festac 77', the yet to be outdone magnamopus of the festival. In the room was Eng. Yinka Abioye, the man who led the revival of the Festival after a four decade hiatus. Present was Grace Mumo, the award winning woman in tech, and the Chief Executive of the festival. His Royal Highness Keith Brown, the man who is uniting Afrikans in the diaspora was also in the room. At the meeting was Patrick O bath, Genrose Minani of East Afrikan Community, Akech Obat Masira of Misango Arts Ensemble and the meteoric Kelvin Nyamache. An air of excellence filled the room, as the future of Afrika was being discussed!.

Conversations were dotted by the history of the continent, as dignitaries linked the past, the present and the future. Stories were told, of how Afrika's oldest festival came to be. Stories of how Wole Soyinka, Wallace Williams, Olusegun Obasanjo and other giants were made by the famous Festac 77'. The stories were not only educative, but also entertaining. However, it was at the mention of a certain Festac town, that I had an epiphany of my potential contribution towards a greater future for Afrika. I looked at myself in the image of Wole Soyinka, Wallace Williams and Olusegun Obasanjo, who took part in the festival at their salad ages.

"I am in my mid twenties and I am here, seated in the midst of those trusted with the future of Afrika. What can stop me from being that future?," I murmured to myself. "If Wallace is here, then fifty years

from now, Osure should be telling the world that 'I was there in Festac 24'. If a Festac village still exists in Nigeria, then Kisumu should host a Festac Market or something, that will live to forever tell the story of the fifth world's black and Afrikan festival," I told myself.

Such is the role of Festac. To nurture, to mentor and to secure a better future for Afrika. Passing on knowledge from experienced generations of Lureates, diplomats, engineers, chief executive officers, politicians and businessmen to the emerging ones like Osure, Nyamache, Emanuel and others blends such traditional values that the continent once pedestalized and the gardaually changing belief systems in a manner that maintains the authenticity of Afrikan cultural diversity.

Who will follow the footprints of Wole Soyinka if nobody tells his story? Who will teach young ladies how to be the Grace Mumos of the future? Who will nurture future diplomats, that will speak on behalf of the Afrikan continent like Dr. Wallace? It is only Grace Mumo who can tell her story in the best possible way. It is only Amb. Wallace, who can tell the story of how Festac made him a giant. It is only Eng. Yinka Abioye who can pass on his rich experience to a younger generation of Engineers who look upto him and it is only Soyinka who can best give his testimony with Festac and how young writers can lead the shifting paradigm in the realm of writing.

This therefore accentuates the importance of the festival to the future of Afrika. It kindles, rekindles and rekindles the flames of black excellence, through linking the past, the present and the future. It imbues the spirit of pan-afrikanism with soul and provides a base for the immortalization of the legacies of afrocentric trailblazers and those who break glass ceilings in their own right ways.

Festac revitalizes the principles of afrocentricity and assesses the whys behind our choice to go with the c instead of the k in Afrika. The hows behind our gradual economic growth and the whos behind our future as a continent. It gives opportunities for the giants of Afrika like professor PLO Lumumba, to share pieces of their sargacity with those yearning to make

positive contributions to the growth trajectory of the continent.



*A Young Wallace Williams during Festac Africa Festival 1977*



*Prof. PLO Lumumba will be a key note speaker during the FESTAC 24 FESTIVAL*

For instance, for the 2024 Festac Festival, the theme is Sustainable Growth Trajectory for Afrika through Culture, Trade and Tourism. Growth, in this context refers to the holistic progress and development in the continent through concerted efforts and interplay of ideas. This growth, in the context of Festac is not premised upon the buzzwords of development models, but on the idea that Afrikan youths, are capable of invention and discovery. It's based on the idea that Afrika can write its own story and it is based on the idea that Afrika can rely on itself.

# C.S.O SPACES

## TO KILL A TIGER: A MUST-WATCH STORY OF COURAGE AND FEMINISM



Daisy Bartlett

Can you imagine being forced to marry your rapist? That would have been the case for young Kiran had things not been 'complicated' by the fact she was raped by not one but three boys. The Oscar nominated documentary 'To Kill a Tiger' is now on Netflix and shines light on some disturbing local customs and 'common' opinions when it comes to 'women's responsibility' when men 'behave badly'.

The brave thirteen year old girl, gang-raped by three of her community members, is considered to be 'stained' by her neighbours. The usual custom would be to not report the case to the police but to handle it 'internally' by the girl marrying her rapist to avoid 'tension' so the villagers can 'continue to live together in unity'. As a local village woman explains 'She can't marry another man now. She has to marry him.'. To which a representative from the Srijan foundation responds with the danger of this local custom: 'Whenever a boy is attracted to a girl, he will rape her to marry her.'.

As with most cases like this, the blame is first put on the victim for 'being out too late' and on the father for letting her stay out that late, even though she was at a family wedding. The female Defence Attorney shares: 'You are also to blame. Why were you with those boys after midnight,



Courtesy

you cannot forget that you are a girl.' What may be most painful to hear and leaves you wanting to scream is when this albeit educated woman shares 'You cannot even trust your own son here.'.

The other 'character' who will have you punching at your screen is the Ward member who is 'the voice of the village' yet doesn't see 'what's in it for him' when asked to be a witness at the court. Despite Kiran being 'Beat up so badly she had a lot of internal injuries' he uses the age old argument that 'a boy will only be naughty when a girl encourages him'.

The documentary truly paints the situation from both Kiran and her father Ranjit's perspective, who despite threats, pressure from local villagers and leaders, and a truly useless police investigator, supported by the amazing members of the Srijan Foundation fight on.

The reason sharing - and watching - a story like this is important, is that it encourages others to seek justice. Following Kiran's victory the 'number of victims coming forward in the area has doubled.' Rape is the most highly under reported crime in Kenya. It is estimated that only 5% of women in Kenya will report it, with reasons ranging from: fear of shame, fear of retaliation, fear of not being believed, disbelief in the justice system or other cultural or religious customs. Even with the law (technically) on the victim's side, it takes strength to report a crime and even more so to pursue it the way Kiran's family did when it feels like society is against you.

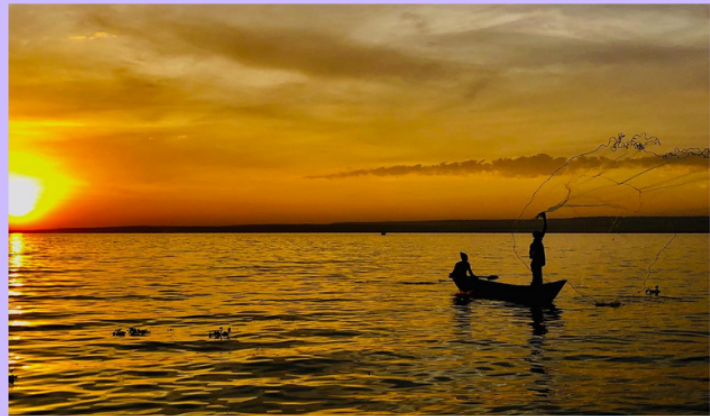


Courtesy

This article is inspired by the Netflix film To Kill a Tiger

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MAGAZINE

# PHOTOGRAPHY BY HILLARY



# C.S.O SPACES

## THE GREAT DAUGHTER ORGANIZATION



Sheryl Rose is the Executive Director of the Great Daughter Organization

The Great Daughter Organization is plinthead on the immortal penchant for addressing the challenges facing young and vulnerable women and girls the world over, City Bite has been informed.

According to the executive director, the organization's inception was premised on such pillars that abet gender equality and the fight on all forms of discrimination against women. This was, to her in response to pervasive inequalities and discriminatory practices that disenfranchise young girls and women in different realms of life including and in varied ways including by limiting their access to education, health-care, economic opportunities and inclusion in decision making processes.

Additionally, the quest to address gender based violence, which is contemporarily ubiquitous is not only a pivotal precept of the Great Daughter Organization but also underscores the importance of such movements. "Physical, sexual and psychological abuse are a ubiquitous impediment for women empowerment," Sheryl tells City Bite Magazine. "Our organization is driven by the commitment to combat all forms of Gender Based Violence. We are creating idyllic environments for young women and girls to thrive," she said. "We also recognize the transformative power of empowerment agency in young women and young girls," she stated. "This is why we are providing them with education, skills, resources and opportunities in order to make them agents of positive change in their respective communities," she said.

"Our approach to achieving our objectives is holistic, and to this extent we also incorporate programs that touch on health and general well being," Sheryl stated. "The well being of young women and girls in particular is a contententatious grey area," she stated. "We create awareness on maternal health, sexual and reproductive health rights and access to health-care services," Sheryl told City Bite. "An ironclad part of our vision is the quest to improve health outcomes, reduce maternal mortality rates and promote general welfare of the girl-child."

To those in situ at the organization, Climate change is also a contententatious issue that women could play an instrumental role in addressing. This ergo accentuates the GREDA's engagement in climate action initiatives.



Members of The Great Daughter Organization

"Our engagement are on climate change impacts that disproportionately affect vulnerable communities," said Sheryl. "Through advocating for climate justice, promoting sustainable practices and building community resilience, GREDA champions a more sustainable and equitable world for future generations. In the long run, we aim at making meaningful lasting impact on a global scale. We collaborate with diverse stakeholders, foster partnerships and advocate for policy changes that promote gender equality, human rights and social justice on a global scale."

in the contemporary world, every day that comes bears its own new challenges. Therefore there's a need for continuous invention of solutions to the modern and rapidly evolving problems.

The Great Daughter is a quintessential modern day problem solver to those challenges that face the global community, which is rapidly becoming a simulation of a gigundo village.

As we close our conversation, Sheryl implores stakeholders and well wishers and everybody else to join hands with her organization and to support the journey towards an idyllic world.

"As a young organization, we face a plethora of challenges," said Rose. "Some related to resources, some related to other factors including but not limited to mentors and moral support," she stated. "We therefore call upon all stakeholders, -and when I say stakeholders I mean everyone else because to empower a lady is to empower a community-, to support our movement in any possible way they can."



# BUSINESS

## DUNGA HILL CAMP TO HOST FESTAC FESTIVAL TRADE FAIRS, OTHER CONVERSATIONS ON DECOLONIZING AFRICAN BUSINESSES

Decade old Beach resort Dunga Hill Camp will be a nestle for weeklong conversations on the future of African business, City Bite Magazine has been told.

In a conversation with our journalists, a usually reticent proprietor Jagpal Sandhu and silver tongued festival curator Dave Ojay loquaciously highlight the pivotal role the resort will play during the week of Festac Africa Festival, a gate keeping event for the future of Africa. They also elaborated the role that they play in promoting young talents in the city of Kisumu and beyond while Lake Victoria activist Ojay emphasized the need to protect the lake.

### 1. Promotion of talents

"From the beginning, our passion has been to create a platform for young and talented artists to expose themselves," Sandhu, otherwise known as J.P stated. "This way, they gain experience, they learn, they grow, and they develop their skills in art," he said. "Mainly we focus on performance arts including but not limited to music, dance, drama, comedy, rap and poetry. In western Kenya, there's a lot of talent and there are many young people who are passionate about the aforementioned arts, but opportunities in Kisumu are quite limited and they ergo travel to Nairobi in hunt for pastures new," he stated. "This underscores the importance of the platforms we provide. By nurturing and retaining them, more people will begin to appreciate local talent. For instance, such talents as Apesi Mnyama Mkali have performed on our stage."

### 2. The Go-To Host for major and International Festivals

Asked whether the resort was competent enough to host an event as big as the forthcoming Festac Africa Festival, Dave Ojay, the festival curator elaborated



*DUNGA HILL CAMP*

their past success stories with respect to hosting major and international festivals. "We have in the past, regularly hosted some of the biggest festivals in the city of Kisumu, like NAAM festival," Ojay said. "Some of these are held annually, planned and curated by ourselves, in our quest to promote talents," he said. "We have hosted some of the biggest artists, thanks to our proper working relationship with the French embassy," he said. "Kaa La Moto, Ukoo Flani Mau Mau, and other artists of high calibre have been hosted on this stage," he stated. "Dunga Hill Camp and high profile festivals are cut from the same cloth," Dave stated. "We are also privileged to have a very good relationship with the French Embassy and Alliance Francaise," he said. "Whenever we have such festivals, we hold partner to partner consultations and try to bring in maestros from different parts of Africa."

### 3. Role in Festac Africa Festival

According to J.P, Hill Camp is an official partner to FESTAC and a co-host of the Festival. On the 19th of May, the resort will play host to the opening ceremony. "As an event to be attended by guests from all over the world, we will ensure that the opening ceremony is very spectacular and performances from high end artists will grace the occasion," he said. "We will bring artists from Nairobi, but for now, I won't go into specifics of that," he added. "Flags of the different countries will be raised, and we will beautify the surrounding," he said. "From 20th, this

place will be a beehive of activities. Different artists will perform in the evenings but during the day, we will provide a base for workshops and dialogues that touch on a variety of thematic areas including climate change, environmental advocacy and business fairs," he stated.

### 4. Why Hill Camp?

"Hill Camp is readily set and can host thousands of people," JP said. "Additionally, we are perched on the shores of the Lake and are the face of Kisumu's uniquely beautiful terrain," he told us. "We need people to feel that beauty, we need them to feel the breeze of Lake Victoria," JP said. "It goes without mentioning the amazing sunset here at the beach, which is definitely an attraction that people from all over the world need to come and see," he said. "We also have instruments for artists, the stage is well set up and we are a ready venue, even if the festival was to begin now," he said. "We are also passionate to host such events. Arts and culture is very much within the purview of our operation," he said. "

### 5. What to Expect

Apart from mentioning that East Africa's biggest artists will attend the festival, both JP and Dave remained reticent of further details. However, when Dave was asked some of the artists that he independently would want to see at the festival, he was ambitious with his wishes. "We are in communication with the French embassy and we are going to table our humble but ambitious request to them," Ojay said. "We will request them to bring us a very big artist from West Africa like Tahaï Diarra, Youssou N'Dour or any other," he stated. "From our experience with Hosig for the Tripartite festival, NAAM Festival among others, we are confident that Festac will attract high profile artists," he continued. "But that's not all. I expect an edutainment forum, characterized by meaningful cultural display," he stated. "I am also an activist for conservation of Lake Victoria," he stated. "I expect East African leaders to sit together and hold

meaningful conversations on the conservation and a better future for Lake Victoria. This lake is a symbol of unity for the East African countries. We want leaders to converse on how to decolonize the lake, how to secure a better future for it and how to protect life in it. The lake also is a source of employment to fishermen, those who work in beach resorts and other such people who work in related fields whose survival depends on the life of the lake," Ojay said. " We also want the festival to leave behind a lasting legacy, like Meshack Oire erected the Mbut Lolwe sculpture which was launched by H.E Governor Anyang' Nyong'o."

### 6. Parting Shot

As we wrap up our conversation, Ojay gave his parting shot, in which he rallied Africa and African leaders and youths to take the the festival seriously.

"What Festac does is a blend of education and entertainment with a touch of meaningful cultural display as I mentioned before, " he stated. "It is what I call edutainment. As such, I implore everyone to come here, attend the festival and interact with those with experience in the various fields. Come and have experiences that make us appreciate nature, " he said. "Let us rekindle conversations on pan-Africanism," he said. "Festac gives an indiscriminate platform for inter-personal conversations," he said. "There will be neither castes nor titles during the week, just Africans trying to find afrocentric solutions to African problems," he said.

MAY 2024

## 20th-26th THE WEEK OF FESTAC FESTIVAL

IN GALLERY



A mural of Festac Africa Festival at Dunga Hill Camp



An aesthetic sunset view at Dunga Hill Camp



A live band performance at Dunga Hill Camp



Dunga hill-camp customers at the resort



An evening view of a fisherman's boat at Dunga Hill camp

# CLIMATE CHANGE

## BORNEO'S CARBON CONUNDRUM:



Viola Adhiambo.

### The UN Probes a Controversial Climate Strategy

In the dense rainforests of Malaysian Borneo, a complex environmental drama is playing out, drawing the attention of the United Nations. At the heart of this drama is a controversial forest carbon agreement, part of a global effort to combat climate change through forest conservation. This agreement, however, has become a flashpoint for debate, raising critical questions about its real-world implications for both the environment and the indigenous populations who call these forests home.

The agreement in question is part of the United Nations' REDD+ program, which stands for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation. REDD+ aims to create a financial value for the carbon stored in forests, offering incentives for developing countries to reduce emissions from forested lands and invest in low-carbon paths to sustainable development. The program is predicated on the notion that by preserving forests, we can significantly reduce the carbon emissions that are driving climate change.

However, the implementation of such agreements has been fraught with controversy. Critics argue that they can lead to 'carbon colonialism,' where developed nations offset their emissions by buying carbon credits from less developed nations, without making substantive changes to their own carbon-intensive lifestyles. This practice raises ethical questions about the responsibility for climate change and who should bear the burden of addressing it.

In these communities have stewarded their forest homes for generations, developing a deep understanding of and respect for these ecosystems. Malaysian Borneo, these concerns are amplified by

There is a fear that carbon agreements could undermine their rights and lead to their displacement, as land is commodified in the name of conservation.

The UN probe into this agreement is therefore critical. It seeks to assess whether these carbon trading mechanisms are being implemented with transparency and fairness and whether they truly serve the dual purposes of environmental protection and social justice. The investigation will examine how the agreement was reached, who stands to benefit from it, and whether it respects the rights and livelihoods of local communities.

Environmentalists are watching closely, concerned that without robust safeguards, such agreements could do more harm than good. They warn of 'greenwashing,' where projects are presented as environmentally friendly without delivering tangible benefits. They also caution against land grabs disguised as conservation efforts, which could further marginalize vulnerable populations.

Proponents of the agreement argue that it represents a pragmatic approach to environmental conservation. By monetizing forest carbon, they say, Malaysia can generate revenue to fund conservation efforts while also promoting economic development. They point out that without financial incentives, countries facing economic pressures may resort to deforestation as a means of generating income.

The outcome of the UN's investigation will have far-reaching implications. It will inform global policy on forest conservation and carbon trading and could either validate or challenge the REDD+ program as a tool in the fight against climate change.

Moreover, it will send a message about how the international community values forests—not just as carbon sinks but as complex ecosystems that are home to diverse species and human cultures.



Malaysian Borneo rainforest [Credits; Mike Prince]

As this investigation unfolds, it serves as a reminder that our efforts to address climate change must be holistic, taking into account not only environmental but also social dimensions. The forests of Malaysian Borneo are more than just carbon stores; they are living landscapes where human and non-human life coexist. The challenge lies in finding ways to honor and preserve this coexistence while taking meaningful action against climate change.



The UN probe into this agreement is therefore critical. It seeks to assess whether these carbon trading mechanisms are being implemented with transparency and fairness and whether they truly serve the dual purposes of environmental protection and social justice.



# HEALTH

## NURTURING CARE FRAMEWORK



Winnie Olando

“If we change the beginning of the story we change the whole story”

Nurturing care framework is important because the period from pregnancy to 3 years of age is when children are most susceptible to environment influences. This period lays the foundation for health, well-being, learning and productivity throughout a person’s life and it also has an impact to the next generation.

Sustainable development goals(SDGs) have embraced young children’s development as key transformation that’s the world seeks to achieve in vision 2030.Early childhood development is embedded in the SGDs like hunger,health,education and justice that targets malnutrition, child mortality and early learning and violence for improving the agenda for early childhood development.

The biggest threats to early childhood development are extreme poverty, insecurity, gender inequities, violence, environmental toxins and poor mental health-all these affect both primary and secondary caregivers and reduce their capacity to protect, support and promote young children’s development.

For children to develop their full potential, nurturing care framework provides a road map for action that has 5 components namely health, proper nutrition, safety and security, responsive caregiving and opportunities for early learning. Nurturing care is majorly about children and their families and other caregivers and places where they interact.

Enabling environment like policies, programs and services are important to give families, parents and caregivers the knowledge and resources to provide nurturing care for young children. Community participation is also important as a key part of this environment. Children need good care and their survival through childhood depends on adults who notice when they are hungry or sick and are able to meet their needs. Good care for children begins with caregiver’s own mental, physical, social and emotional health. It means keeping children from harm and giving them love, attention and many opportunities to develop and learn. During pregnancy and from birth children build ties to special adults and look to them to learn important skills and what they learn from these relationships helps prepare them for life

In Kisumu county UNICEF and other partners like KMET, CRS and ADS Nyanza are implementing nurturing care activities in various sectors. There is a curriculum already developed and implemented for health care workers, community health promoters and other sectors to help caregivers change behavior in terms of child care and help improve brain development by using play and communication strategies.

In the next article we will address components of nurturing care in detail.



## PARENTING KEY IN MENTAL WELLBEING OF CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS

In the quest for a mentally healthy world, it is imperative to pay rapt attention to the style of parenting that we give to our children.

There are three styles of parenting that impact the socialisation of a child and influence his or her general personality and social inclination.

Basing my examples on ICD 10, a child raised by an authoritarian parent is highly likely to develop avoidant or fearful disorder while a child raised under cosset parenting is highly likely to be narcissistic.

Likewise, when a parent has chronic histrionic tendencies, a high likelihood is there for the child to suffer from the same during his or her adulthood.

It is therefore imperative for stakeholders to train young parents on the principles of proper parenting, as a way to fight the meteorically increasing mental ill health among young people.

**BENSON NJUGUNA IS A MENTAL HEALTH EXPERT.**

## NOT YET TIME FOR ELECTION RELATED SURVEYS



2024 is basically two years since the last general election and three years to the next. Unfortunately or fortunately,some research firm have prematurely kick-started poll related surveys, which could distract the public from holding those they elected accountable.

This should be kiboshed, not because it is wrong but because there are many survey variables that those who conduct the opinion polls can focus on.

Such questions that touch on voter satisfactory, the state of the nation, state of counties, health matters among others should be prioritized at this salad stage of the new electoral cycle.

To ignore all the grey areas regarding development in favor of election related surveys is to denigrate the same people who not only take part in the polls but also line up in the scorching sun, to vote the

Leaders that sanction the surveys. It is disrespectful and it must be completely retired.

The country is facing so many challenges. Let us ask questions about taxation, the trajectory of development, the ailing relationships between many county leaders, health and well being of the people, policy gaps and constitution, disease prevalence , voter satisfaction et cetera.

**AUTHOR IS A DATA ANALYST AT SURVEA 13.**



# THE DIPLOMAT

## AFRICA'S STEWARDSHIP OF GLOBAL ECONOMICS THROUGH CLIMATE LEADERSHIP



Meshack Nzioka

The Nairobi Declaration came forth as a pact of new resolution on Africa's stance on Climate Change while taking a sneaky position to agitate for new financial order – to offset “odious debts and onerous barriers”. Who owes whom in the new order? The world owes Africa. The new regime calls for collective responsibility, and a sensitive capitalism where damages are paid for and considered in the book of accounts. Before the Paris Climate Agreement, the old model operated in a system of voluntarism and climate action was considered to be an altruistic act based on the wishes of the companies as bound in their CSR. Now, the new requirements call for a shift to Environmental Social Governance as an obligation for all companies to account: hence the age of carbon credits, carbon taxes and market economic obligations.

So what does the book of accounts look like: Africa produces only 3.8% of the current carbon level – yet distinctively pays off for the climate crisis in the climate disasters arising from global-warming. Scientists have established that there is a 66% chance that the 1.5 °C of warming cap by 2025 as established by Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is less likely met. The implications are that Africa and majority of Global South may experience a 3 degrees to 4 degrees temperature rise.

The balance of trade in this new arena gives Africa a comparative advantage. In the Ricardian theory of comparative advantage, which was lauded by Paul Samuelson in the History of Economics Analysis, as the most beautiful idea in economics, places the power in the hands of the producers – in the age of green industrialization, Africa's position in the international trade and economics cannot be gainsaid. It is apparent that the balance of trade has to be based on

the source of energy for all export products. To do this, there is need to review metrics of economic evaluation from the rigid orthodoxy in economics – hence, the shift from sole unilateral actors to multilateral approach in defining the new standards of what constitutes the balance of trade.

### How the West Can Gain From the Ricardian Model: In the Age of Climate Economics

The West and the Global North has been at the frontier of economic and industrial growth in the world, and has a unique opportunity to be responsible actors in embracing climate economics. That way, climate change will cease to be a CSR or special interest activity that depends on altruistic wishes or burdens the citizens of developed nations through increase in government commitments to offset carbon emissions. Often, this leads to discontent in the international politics with aggression and climate donor fatigue setting whenever climate change financial commitments are brought up. Thus, Nairobi Declaration called forth for the Global North to agree that we are in this together – and that climate change is a real economic issue that everyone is a core player. The Nairobi Declaration as such makes the West a core player in participating in climate economics while shaping the future of green economies.

So let's talk Ricardian, and how the West can make use of the unique comparative advantage as drivers of industry to advance a more global democratic capitalism. The moral hazard of being bailed out, or passing the burden to the markets through quantitative easing by Bretton Woods Institutions' – the World Bank and IMF – via 'economic cooperation' while defending the established economies may not work.

Thus, let's trade with caution and responsibly even as some quarters call for Africa to tread carefully on its bold declaration on reviewing financial architecture from the terms of Bretton Woods's institution to Nairobi Declaration aspirations.

The demands being, give us the 100 billion directly through multilateral banks such as African Development

Bank, and make it all transparent by eliminating the use of high interest rates loans, often termed concessional while denying the power to consent of minority economies, and who are held on reductive interest rates against an infinite nonstandard global rate. For what is to be made if Europe pays 4 percent, and Africa pays 10 percent and if she dares complain, the interest is reduced to 8 percent – and she is told that she has been financed by the 2 percent decrease. In this game, the holders of capital have really played the Global South a bad number – it is a bad bargain.

Let's flip the coin, says African leaders in the Nairobi Declaration. It proceeds as something like this:

How do our global real capital economies look like? On the credit side is carbon fuels and the associated carbon, on the debit side is the climate-based capitals including green energy and the vast forests. Thus, now in the mix of international trade shifts the conversation to consider the real assets, which Africa Climate Summit conversations drive at. In the Nairobi declaration it became apparent that the Congo Forest is the bank of Africa, which is the asset of Africa's climate capital an asset with inexhaustible value for carbon sequestering. The carbon sinks, like other capital resources, has to be factored in as a core resource that has market impact and that can be leveraged on in the age of climate conscious economic era.

It is apparent that the current environmental costs and regime is a result of the excess consumption of fossil fuels; and now the inclination to green energy calls for a shift to optimize on green energy capitals. As such, the Global North can use two approaches in catching up to this new reality: either through foreign direct investments approach or through trade-off system by investing in energy efficiency programs that offset local i.e. African carbon energy dependency and thereby create an intermittent transfer. Notably, the first one is a long-term model and more sustainable; the second one is useful for the medium term as a bargaining chip – no less useful than carbon taxes or other mitigation strategies within the global climate economy.

# EDUCATION

## FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS

### *What is following instructions?*



**Ms Odhiambo Ruth**

Following instructions is a part of everyday life. It is the child's ability to act on requests by others. Following instructions requires the child to attend to detail in spoken language, to sequence the information in the appropriate steps and to seek clarification if they have trouble remembering or recalling the information.

At home, parents ask their children to do things around the house (e.g. "Put the cup on the table") and at school teachers ask their students to follow commands within the classroom (e.g. "Go to your bag and get your lunch") and within academic tasks (e.g. "Copy the spelling words on the board, then put each of them into a sentence"). When children engage with their peers, they often give each other instructions in play (e.g. "Can you put the doll in the bed?" or "Let's make the train go to the station, then get all the people").

### *Why is the ability to following instructions important?*

It is important for children to be able to follow instructions so that they can function effectively across different environments (e.g. home, kindergarten/school, when at the park or visiting a friend's house). If a child struggles with following instructions this impacts on their ability to reach the desired 'purpose' or 'outcome' and thus complete tasks effectively.

### *What are the building blocks necessary to develop following instructions?*

- Hearing
- Receptive (understanding) language: Comprehension of language, especially concepts and vocabulary.
- Attention and concentration: Sustained effort, doing activities without distraction and being able to hold that effort long enough to get the task done.
- Working memory: The ability to temporarily retain and manipulate information involved in language comprehension, reasoning, and learning new information and to update this information as change occurs.
- 1 - 2 years of age: Can follow simple 1 step instructions (e.g. "Give the cup to mum").
- 2 - 3 years of age: Can follow 2 part commands (e.g. "Go to your room and get your jacket").
- 3 - 4 years of age: Can follow 3 part instructions (e.g. "Point to the cat, dog and monkey").

### *How can you can tell if my child has problems with following instructions?*

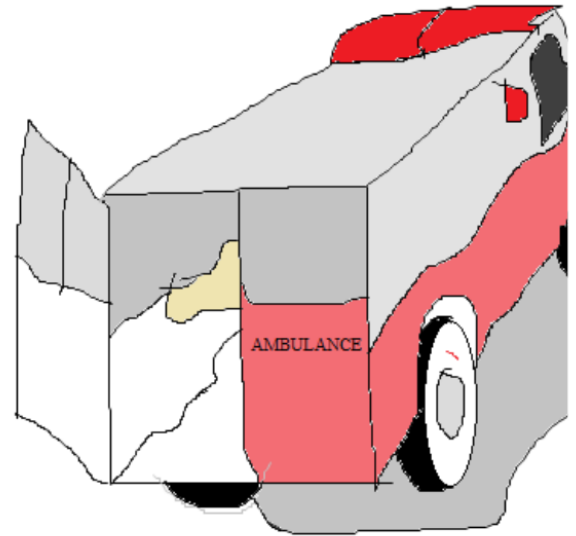
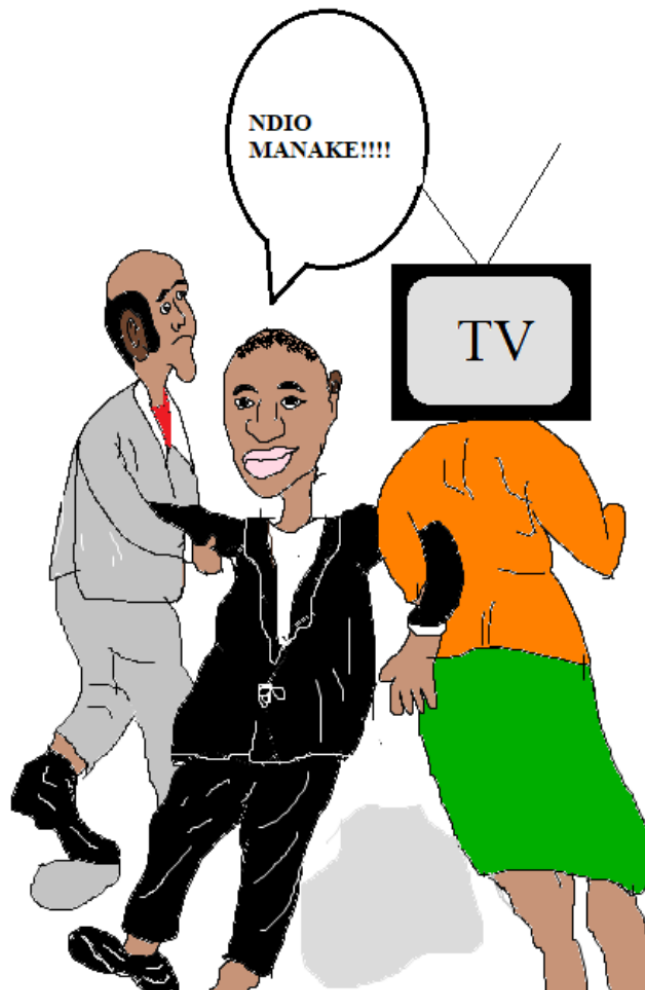
- If a child has difficulties with following instructions they might:
- Need instructions to be presented in a short and simple manner.
- Struggle with following longer instructions and commands need to be repeated.
- Fail to follow instructions accurately and often misinterprets information.
- Appears to be distracted or non-compliant.
- Look at you blankly when you give them an instruction.
- Avoid carrying out instructions by talking about something else to distract the person.
- Look to peers to work out what they need to do.
- ***What other problems can occur when a child has difficulties with following instructions?***

When a child has following instruction difficulties, they might also have difficulties with:

- Behaviour: The actions of a person, usually in relation to their environment (e.g. a child may refuse to listen to instructions and/or engage in another activity of their choosing).
- Completing academic work (e.g. the child may misinterpret or fail to comprehend verbal or written instructions for classroom activities and are therefore unable to complete work and fail to meet the task requirements).
- Planning and sequencing: The sequential multi-step task/activity performance to achieve a well-defined result.

***Ms Odhiambo Ruth is a teacher at Fairmont International Schools; Kisii***

**City  
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MAGAZINE**



@ATHUR



The canard understands that an unnamed member of county assembly in Kisumu Central Constituency has been accused of squandering funds meant for the construction of a public health facility. According to sources in the know, the MCA used his powers to sway the tender to the direction of a shell company, which the canard has since been told belongs to him. The project has reportedly stalled for over three years and uncertainty still looms large on whether it will be completed or not.

thecanard

### JÜRGEN KLOPP HANDED 'DREAM FAREWELL'

On Sunday, it was expected that Manchester United would welcome a miserable defeat at Old Trafford, given the lacklustre performances they've registered since the season began.

Liverpool on the other hand was expected to annihilate the red devils, who seemed to fret at the beginning of the match. It is to be understood that the former has enjoyed a remarkable season, with the intention of handing Jürgen Klopp a proper farewell in the summer, through doing the coveted quadruple.

It was however drama after drama following a tenth minute opener from Scott McTominay and a two minute comeback by Liverpool followed by a late equalizer by an unlikely late equalizer from Antony, to send the game into extra time.

At extra time, Bruno Fernandes played CB, Antony LB but somehow, United came back from Elliot's winner to emerge victorious, thanks to Amad's goal in the final seconds of the game! What a farewell for Klopp's journey with F.A!

# MOST HISTORIC HEALING SERVICE THAT TOOK PLACE IN MENENGAI 6 GROUNDS NAKURU .

MALACHI

## 4:5

SEE, I WILL SEND THE PROPHET ELIJAH TO YOU BEFORE THAT GREAT AND DREADFUL DAY OF THE LORD COMES.



By Emmanuel Otieno

Dated 16th and 17th March ,the whole of Nakuru City came to a standstill with specific stop overs between ,Gilgil,KFA and around Merika hotel.Amidst much anticipated most Historic Mega Healing Service that was conducted by THE TWO MIGHTIEST PROPHETS OF THE LORD,there were provisionnoun preparations to welcome the MEN OF GOD at the center of the City.Areas around the CBD come to a standstill when a mammoth crowd flooded the city to usher them in,baulking the traffic system and daily activities of the residents.

It all started with sweet succession sound emanating from the worship to the powerful celebrations of what GOD has done in the past ,like Raising Cripples,Opening Blind Eyes ,Healing HIV/AIDs,Healing Cancer and Creating new Uterus and also to acknowledge the enormous power GOD has bestowed upon THE TWO MIGHTIEST PROPHETS OF THE LORD.

Saturday 16th of March marked the beginning of the most Historic Healings that shock the whole City and the world extending to Sunday 17 th March 2024 .

Even before they could say a word of Prayer , Cripples had began to walk ,Blind eyes could now see and even deaf eyes popped open.This came after a major announcement made through Jesus is LORD radio that THE TWO MIGHTIEST PROPHETS would walk with GOD in Menengai Grounds and Miracles and wonders would break out in uncontrollable manner.

This clearly indicated the power bestowed upon them by GOD HIMSELF.

ImmediatelyTHE TWO MIGHTIEST PROPHETS made a prayer,it was now out of hand.More Cripples stood up,more blind eyes opened ,more deaf ears popped open .All this was happening openly at the glare of Cameras and National Television such as K24 and other media houses like crown TV openly bearing witness to the most astonishing wonder working blood OF JESUS CHRIST.

Guest from other countries could see the difference, our own Mp Hon.Peter Salaysa was amongst the guest who saw what GOD did in Mengai,nobody could deny the authority bestowed on the messengers.

REPENT AND PREPARE THE WAY! THE MESSIAH IS COMING



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# 2024



**FESTAC  
AFRICA  
FESTIVAL**



## ENG. YINKA ABIOYE

### JANUARY

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MAY; THE MONTH OF FESTAC

### SEPTEMBER

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### DECEMBER

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# SPORTS

## REPRIEVE FOR ERIK TEN HAG AND HIS BOYS AS AMAD DIALLO DELIVERS A DRAMATIC ELEVENTH HOUR VICTORY

On Sunday, Manchester United triumphed over fierce rivals Liverpool, thanks to a clinical far post finish by Amad Diallo in the dying minutes of the F.A cup quarter finals match.

Before the game, the scourers were widely expected to register an authoritative victory over a relatively struggling Manchester United team, with some pundits predicting a one sided game with resulting scorelines as huge as 5-0 in favor of Liverpool.

It was however ten minutes into the game when United kiboshed the bloviation, thanks to a low effort goal from Scott McTominay. Luckily for Liverpool, United, not so much, a two minute come-back restored the confidence among scourers, who had hoped to secure a place in the F.A Cup semi-finals and to a decent extent, their dreams were almost coming true until an 87th minute equalizer from Brazilian dancer Antony dos Santos silenced the away end, in an increasingly ill motivated match.

As the game went to extra time, Liverpool's hopes were rekindled by a tidy finish from youngster Harvey Elliot. Minutes into the second half of extra time, Marcus Rashford, who had before extra-time missed a sitter equalized for the red devils. As the game edged into injury time, it was becoming increasingly apparent that the game would be decided by a penalty shootout until a 122nd clinical finish by Ivorian youngster Amad Diallo, who earlier sparked controversy after deleting his



[PHOTO COURTESY]

social media handles. It was alleged that Amad, 21, was unhappy with his limited playing time at Old Trafford. With his goal, having played for the first time in a United shirt since at least two years prior Amad not only quieted the overzealous beavers but also potentially restored confidence in him among fans and Erik ten Hag.



[PHOTO COURTESY]



■ **TALANTA Hall of Fame is a major Performance Indicator for our rapidly modernizing sports.**

This week, the late Kelvin Kiptum became the first ever inductee to the Talanta Hall of Fame. Traditionally, Hall of fame inductions are for trailblazing sports personalities, whose achievements in the world of Sports go beyond any form of imitation or valuation.

In Kenya, whereas we have many such sports people from both the past and present, there were erstwhile no such channels for immortalizing their legacies, and keeping their achievements fresh in our minds as a way to motivate young and talented athletes, footballers, volleyballers and the ilk.

This therefore accentuates the new-found efforts of the Ministry of Youth Affairs, Creative Economy and Sports to modernize sports and athletics in the country.

Sports are not only a major pillar of Kenya's diplomacy but also a key contributor to our foreign policy, thanks to proper performances by our athletes in the sectarian international stages.

We have read about Kipchoge Keinos of the past and witnessed the eras of Eliud Kipchoge, Julius Yego, Ferdinand Omanyala, Faith Kipyegon, the late Agnes Tirop, Samwel Wanjiru, Dennis Oliech, Michael Olunga, Victor Wanyama and many more others. For raising Kenya's flag high, their legacies deserve to eternally stay with us.

It is therefore hope-inspiring for emerging sports people to have a ministry that acknowledges, protects and preserves the legacies of our athletes.

**ODIMA OSURE HOLDS A BACHELORS DEGREE IN HISTORY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**



### MOYASA C.S ON X

Special applause to Emily Ngii (walk), Mary Moraa (400m), Beatrice Chepkoech (3000m) and Aron Cheminingwa (800m) for bagging gold medals at the ongoing Africa Games in Accra, Ghana. We congratulate the rest of #TeamKenya for the sterling performance all round. Hongera!

#AfricanGames2023  
#ParisOlympics  
#Paris2024

**H. E ABABU NAMWAMBA**



# FESTAC AFRICA FESTIVAL

## A QUICK CONFAB WITH FESTAC CHAIRMAN ENG. YINKA ABIOYE

### YINKA ABIOYE

took place in Senegal and was hosted by President Leopold Sedar Senghor in the year 1966. After that, it was poised to take place in Nigeria, but thanks to a protracted civil war, it took eleven years to host the second Festac Africa Festival which happened in the year 1977.

The 77' Festival is historically considered the biggest ever World's Black and African Festival. At the time, it was also the biggest ever pan african gathering to be held, with nine heads of states and 16, 000 people taking part in it. An entire village accomodating over 4,000 people was established.



### Q. What motivated Festac Renaissance ?

First of all, among us are people who took part in the Festac 77' like Amb. Wallace Williams. Such people have witnessed the beauty of togetherness and the greatness that can be achieved when people come together. It is also obvious for me and corporates like me that without integration, there's no understanding and without understanding communities are fragile, which could jeopardize the progress of the continent.

Festac also promotes intracontinental tourism, which could boost peace and strengthen multilateral ties. For instance, prior to COVID-19 and it's ravaging effects, we used to hold bi-lateral festivals. These were done in the interest of reviving pan-africanism. Through the festivals, good relationships were established between participating countries, underscored by the cultural nicknames like Niger for Nigeria, Mzansi for South Africa, Asanti for Ghana and Arambi for Kenya. However, the bilateral festivals were limiting as some states felt sidelined. We therefore went back to the drawing board and decided to revive the festival, and in 2022, Zanzibar hosted the third World's Black and African Festival.

"FESTAC Festival was founded by our fore fathers to prepare the continent for the post colonial era," City Bite Magazine has most recently been told by Festival Chairman Eng. Yinka Abioye.

Mr. Abioye is a chemical engineer who specialize on oil, gas, pharmaceuticals and photocatalysis. He boasts rich experience in said fields, having worked in different continenta including Europe, Africa, America and Asia.

It also goes without mentioning that he is a stalwart pan-Africanist whose penchant for seeing thriving societies in Africa has kept in the business of overseeing the revival of FESTAC Africa, after a forty-five year old hiatus. Through out the conversation, Eng. Yinka maintained a high level of equanimity as he responded to our interviewers' questions which touched on the origin, the history, the status and the trajectory of Africa's oldest festival.

### Q. Can you give a brief history of Festac?

FESTAC was the brainchild of Africa's founding fathers, who saw a need to prepare Africans for the post colonial era, through the futherance and preservation of African art and culture. It was planned to rotate around the continent biennially. The first World's Black and African Festival

### Q. What happened during the 45 years hiatus?

As an international event, the planning of the festival depends on a lot of factors. One such pedestal factor is finances. In the past, the festival was state funded. Being the greatest festival ever, Nigeria spent a colossal amount of money on the planning of FESTAC 77. However, after the event, the pressure to keep up with the same became insurmountable. Additionally, distractions such as seriate unrests led people to forget the festival.



**Q. What will you do differently to ensure continuity for the Festival ?**

The first step we are taking is consistency. In 1966, the festival took place in April while in 1977, it took place in January. When we revived it, we decided to make it a week-long rather than a month-long event. We also settled on May, which is Africa month and picked the week of 25th May because that particular date is Africa day.

Additionally, we are making the Festival a holistic platform, that incorporates intra-african trade and tourism and travel. Unlike in the past, where most of us took part as spectators, we have also incorporated programs that can benefit young children. We want children to start learning and experiencing the tenets of pan-africanism early enough so they mature appreciating the beauty in our continent's cultural diversity.



**Q. Who are some of the 77' Festac Festival participants who will attend the 2024 festival?**

To begin with, Amb. Dr. Wallace Williams will be there as a proof that Festac 77 was a big and historical event. As we speak, we are in communication with many of them but we expect at least five to be there. It is important they come because they will act as an evidence to many young people that through Festac, they can mature into successful and instrumental people in the society.



**Q. Has the political class shown goodwill?**

Yes. The goodwill is there from all corners. Professor Anyang' Nyong'o to begin with has tremendously supported us and pledged to continue supporting us until the last minute.



**Q. A closing remark?**

Festac Africa Festival can and will only get better. As we move closer to the festival, we implore all Africans within and beyond borders to join us as we revitalise the values that our founding fathers held so dear for the continent.

When we talk Festac, we are talking about the future of Africa, her people and her diverse cultures. We will engage youths in meaningful conversations that inform a better future for an independent and thriving continent.



**FESTAC  
AFRICA  
RENAISSANCE**





# EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP

## P.L.O LUMUMBA'S PASSION FOR THE SOUL OF AFRIKA ELEVATES MY SPIRIT!

### A veritable son of Afrika!

Professor P.L.O Lumumba's passion for Afrika and her people transcends all forms of limitations -imaginary or visible-. In 2018, when he was locked out of Zambia, I was flummoxed as a whirlwind of questions criss-crossed my mind. "What on earth did the witty professor do to them?" I asked myself. "Did they harm our son before sending him back?" It struck me. "Why did they block his public lecture?" I helplessly asked me. Then, I took the initiative of doing my homework-to dig information-. It would then dawn on me, that at the time, he was to give a speech touching on the then growing Chinese influence in Afrika; a contententatious topic for Zambia, a nation who's balls were allegedly in the palms of the belt and road initiative.

PLO, a free spirited silver tongued pan - african champion, vehemently has, for the longest time I can remember disagreed with the idea that Afrika's modernization is pedestalled on good relationships with, if not obedience to certain states. To him, Afrika's underlying but untapped potential intimidates many players in the international political economy, a base for their arm chair philanthropy and the too good to be true efforts to support Afrika's 'developing 'or third-world countries.

Who came up with the criteria for separating third world countries from world powers in the first place? Why is it that whenever third world, underdeveloped, poverty, hunger, disaster and words in that clalibre get mentioned, Afrika or an Afrikan Country is next in the sequence of thought? Why is it that we indoctrinate our children into exotic belief systems while looking down upon our own! Why do we have to name young boys after exotic footballers when we have our own icons like Dennis Oliech, Sadio Mane, Thomas Partey, Jordan Ayew, Didier Drogba and the others. Why do we pedestalize exotic music, when amapiano, afrojamrock, bongo, lingala and rhumba exist among us! Including others, these questions form the bases of argument for Professor PLO Lumumba's public lectures, debates and such conversations



where the past, the present, the future and the trajectory of mother Afrika are being discussed.

"I am not Afrikan because I was born in Afrika, but because Afrika was born in me," once said the man himself, in a statement that accentuates his ardor for Afrika and the positive progress of the continent. He has shared stages with many an Afrikan giant, but his message to the continent remains consistent: 'We can rely on our own resources. We can build our economy without the trap-like loans from International financial institutions and we can modernize Afrika in our own unique ways.'

Through his many books, Lumumba speaks with the soul of Afrika and cries for her people, some of whom languish in hopelessness due to the shackles of neocolonialism. During his tenure as the director for Kenya Anti -Corruption Commission, Prof. Lumumba begag his work on a high note, seeing the resignations of high ranking public servants in the wake of watertight investigations on their dirty dealings.

Despite an unceremonial end to his promising tenure at the anti-corruption body, his fight on graft has withstood the test of time and at any given opportunity, he has never failed to remind the people that the fight on corruption is not just for those employed in the relevant dockets but our inherrent responsibility.

Due to his eloquence and immaculate understanding of the queen's language, he has given many public lectures and key note speeches across universities in Afrika, in a bid to prepare the next generation of leaders to be the concierge of a future where Afrika is independent. A future where Afrikans understand the true potential of the continent and a future where Afrika is led by those who know the value of africanism.

"Third World is a state of the mind and until we change our attitude as Afrikans, if there is a fourth, fifth and even sixth world, we will be in it," opines him, to illustrate how a failure to explore our underlying potential could push the continent deeper into the webs of poverty, underdevelopment, debt traps, chronic corruption, disease and others.

Securing continuity for Afrika is imperative in our quest for stable political economy and that's why Prof. Lumumba plays a pivotal role in the Festac Africa Festival, as it's co-patron. The festival, not only brings Afrikans together but also acts as a medium through which emerging leaders are nurtured and the concepts of pan-africanism and afrocentricism are passed on across generations.

Talent nurturing, business and trade fairs among other such discussions that imbues with hope the soul of the continent form the basis of the World's black and Afrikan festival, which's 5th edition will take place in the city of Kisumu, the city at the feet of the Lake.

As the patron, PLO will be among the key note speakers, during the May festival, which will take place between the 20th and the 26th of what Eng. Yinka Abioye otherwise calls 'The Afrika month'

Noteworthy also is the fact that in the long-run, PLO's key role is to provide FESTAC and the board with such linkages that will ensure it's continuity

# WOMEN & LEADERSHIP

## ANALYZING PRESIDENT RUTO'S COMMITMENT TO WOMEN RUNNING MATES:

### MATES:

### Implications for Gender Equality and Affirmative Action



Carol Nyagaki

In a recent announcement, President William Ruto reaffirmed his commitment to upholding the two-thirds gender rule within his United Democratic Alliance (UDA) party and across the Kenya Kwanza government. Speaking at the launch of the Women Governors Caucus G7 Strategy in Nairobi, Ruto emphasized the importance of gender inclusion in leadership roles and outlined radical strategies aimed at achieving this constitutional mandate. Assessing President William Ruto's latest remarks on women running mates and their bearing on the 2/3 gender rule and affirmative action requires careful consideration of the context, sincerity, and potential impact of his statements.

Ruto's assertion comes at a crucial time when discussions surrounding gender parity and affirmative action are at the forefront of national discourse. The two-thirds gender rule, enshrined in the Kenyan constitution, seeks to ensure that no gender occupies more than two-thirds of elective or appointive positions in public service. However, its implementation has faced significant challenges over the years, prompting calls for greater political will and commitment from leaders.



By publicly pledging to prioritize the implementation of the two-thirds gender rule within his party and government, Ruto is sending a strong message of support for gender equality and women's empowerment. His acknowledgment of the need for radical strategies underscores the urgency and seriousness with which his administration intends to address gender imbalances in leadership.

Furthermore, Ruto's emphasis on showcasing his pledge by leading from the front reflects a recognition of his role as a key influencer in shaping political discourse and action. As a prominent political figure, his commitment to gender inclusivity sets an important precedent for other leaders and parties to follow suit.

However, while Ruto's remarks are commendable, they must be met with concrete actions and policies to translate rhetoric into reality. Tangible steps, such as implementing gender quotas, promoting women's participation in decision-making processes, and addressing structural barriers to women's advancement, are essential to achieving meaningful progress towards gender equality.

Merely stating commitment to gender inclusivity is insufficient without tangible steps to dismantle barriers to women's political participation.

Moreover, scrutiny of Ruto's track record and the consistency of his actions will be crucial in assessing the sincerity of his commitment to gender inclusivity. Political expediency and lip service must not overshadow genuine efforts to address deep-seated gender disparities in Kenyan society.

In conclusion, President William Ruto's latest remarks on women running mates and the two-thirds gender rule represent a positive step towards advancing gender equality and affirmative action in Kenya. However, their impact will ultimately depend on the concrete measures taken to ensure the meaningful participation of women in leadership and decision-making processes. As the nation moves forward, it is imperative for leaders across the political spectrum to uphold their commitment to gender inclusivity and strive for a more equitable and representative society.



...By publicly pledging to prioritize the implementation of the two-thirds gender rule within his party and government, Ruto is sending a strong message of support for gender equality and women's empowerment... ”

Carol

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Some people dream of success, while other people get up every morning and make it happen.

ABALA WANGA



I've written for The Telegraph about why we need to change the Equality Act to resolve the uncertainties in the transgender debate: it's how we safeguard children, protect women and restore truth and fairness.



SUELLA BRAVERMAN



Dear President Vladimir Putin .. Congratulations on your overwhelming victory in Russia Presidential Elections.. As a Russophile, I take pride in your leadership. The Christian World is looking forward to your leadership



DONALD B. KIPKORIR

# OF IMPORTANCE...



## THE Pristine Adoyo will showcase her flair during Festac week

Kisumu's freshest harpist Adoyo Afrique will be showcasing her flair during the week of Festac Africa Festival in the city of Kisumu, the city at the feet of the lake.

At her tender age, Adoyo's immense talent has seen her perform in many stages in different parts of Africa, thanks to her high level of discipline and mellifluous voice.

Ergo, she not only presents a meteoric talent but also a model upon which younger harpists should base their work ethic.

According to murmurs from those in the know, some masters of the harp have hinted that she holds the key to the future of the instrument.

As such, as an aspiring younger harpist, do not miss the opportunity to take lessons from a fellow young harpist while as a fanatic, do not squander this rare chance to surrender to the tunes of her melody.

Don't complain you weren't put in the know! DON'T REGRET not seeing her do her thing!

Daisy Bartlett is a Writer for CITY BITE MAGAZINE



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## REGIONAL Integration a key thematic area for FESTAC!

Inter-country interactions are a major tenet of integration. The interplay of diverse cultures boosts understanding between communities from different parts of the world; a proof that Festac Africa is an ironclad part of the future of Africa's intracontinental diplomacy.

The beauty of Africa lies not in the idiosyncrasy of particular countries, but in the similarities of our cultures, languages, belief systems and OUR UNITING FACTOR; the skin tone.

When we come together, our concerted efforts awake the spirits of africanism, that informed the struggle for liberation by our founding fathers.

Awakening the African Lion, like Rt. Hon. PM Raila Odinga puts it can best be achieved through integration; a core value of Festac Africa. Join us in May, let us put both our hands and brains together, and let's tell the world the beautiful story of mother Africa.

Patrick Obath is a FESTAC Africa Festival Co-Patron



## KENYANS mourn a man they loved to hate

On the 16th of March, Kenyans were bewildered by the news of the tragic death of tik-tok rising star Brian Chira- may he shine in his path-. According to reports, the cause of his death was a hit and run accident.

As a tik-toker, Chira was known for producing controversial videos, that spurred mixed reactions among online users but mostly on the wrong side of conversations.

His peculiar style of introducing himself was his trademark, while his feminine traits led some to misunderstand him deeply. However, post the news of his demise, all Kenyans have continued to express their sympathy to his friends and family while some continue to cast aspersions on what might've been the actual cause of his death.

City Bite Magazine condoles with his friends, family and fans for their despondence.



## FESTAC FESTIVAL 2024 THEME SONG

# MAMA AFRICA BY SWAGGER DON

# NOTABLE QUOTES

## THE VIEW POINT



**RACHEL TABITHA** ”

It is Vital for the ruling party of the Day to do their research, intensively & extensively before attending Media Interviews, otherwise it is absurd on how they're complaining like flower girls! Keep up Edwin Sifuna



**H.E PAUL KAGAME**”

I respect Raila Odinga I respect his struggles he did a good job of that, [and had] full grasp of it. We will give him our support and wish him well.



**NARENDRA MODI** ”

Tamil Nadu is going to surprise everyone with the results. Our Party is emerging as a very strong force across the state. The people are in no mood to support the DMK any longer.

Here are some more glimpses from Coimbatore



**MIGUNA MIGUNA**”

The choice between Joe Biden and Donald Trump is like choosing between Hitler and Mussolini; or in the African context, between Bokassa and Mobutu! It's not a choice. It's an outrage!



**GRETA THUNBERG** ”

Week 291. Today for the fifth day in a row, young people blocked entrances to the Swedish parliament to draw attention to the climate crisis and all those suffering from it today. Today it is also the fifth anniversary of the first global climate strike, when we filled the streets in our millions and struck for climate justice. We are not going anywhere. This fight has only just begun.



**DR. WALLACE WILLIAMS** ”

FESTAC promotes the values that Afrika should base it's development trajectory. We want our young people to grow up with the spirit of pan-africanism.



**H.E WILLIAM RUTO**”

In my journey of friendship and politics with the Tunai family, I can attest that Kokoo Annah Tikui Noolparakuo was a caring, responsible and generous mother.

We celebrate the glorious life that she led and the cherishable memories that she leaves with us. Our prayers are with the family at this sad time.

In Lolgorian, bade farewell to Kokoo Annah, mother of former Narok Governor Samuel Ole Tunai.



**ROY KEANE** ”

Liverpool controlled the game, but they were so sloppy with their passing. We've been so critical of Manchester United this season but Old Trafford is bouncing. An incredible game.



# GALLERY



Diogo Dalot poses with his family after Manchester United's dramatic win over Liverpool in the F.A Cup quarter finals| Photo Courtesy



KDF officers offer water and medical supplies to a local community in Marsabit County| Photo Courtesy



Mercy Masai posts a picture to wish Dennis Itumbi a happy Birthday| Photo Courtesy



A young General Olusegun Obasanjo| Photo Courtesy



Joe Biden and Barack Obama reunite to mark St. Patrick's Day|Photo Courtesy



Mercy Masai attends the Thanksgiving memorial service for P.S for Tourism Mr. John Ololutaa | Photo Courtesy



Oprah Winfrey's latest photo that has got fans talking. | Photo Courtesy



U.S Ambassador to Kenya Meg Whitman visits Gearbox Europlacer workshop | Photo Courtesy



Gov. Joho donates food stuff to Kisauni residents in the spirit of Ramadan | Photo Courtesy

# A.D.G.I

## AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT GOALS INITIATIVE KISUMU CHAPTER TO BE LAUNCHED DURING FESTAC FESTIVAL



"The United Nations is aiding and abetting wars in Afrika to plunder our resources under dubious flags and vehicles," City Bite Magazine has been told.

Via a telephone conversation, pan-african champion Brig. Gen. Amb. Dr. Wallace Williams decries what he calls draconian policies and initiatives set by the so called world powers to continue keeping Afrika underdeveloped and her people poor. He goes ahead to underscore his roadmap to absolute liberation of Afrika, via a certain Afrikan Development Goals Initiative, which is an afrocentric solution to Afrikan problems.

### Q. What is A.D. G.I ?

ADGI is an abbreviation for AFRIKAN DEVELOPMENT GOALS INITIATIVE. As the names suggest, Professor Lumumba and I conceptualised this idea to address development gaps in Afrika, through Afrikan means and perspectives. We want a future where Afrikan problems are addressed with Afrikan solutions. This is the only through way to absolute decolonization of Afrika. As such, the conversation surrounding ADGI is to counter the idea that Afrika has to depend on the goodwill of certain developed countries and policies set by those who don't understand our intracontinental affairs and challenges. How can you come up with an agenda that postpones the development in Afrika when we have

challenges that require our immediate attention? What are UNSDGs meant to achieve for our continent in the first place? Who will be here in 2063 to witness the so called 'Africa Development Agenda 2063 which is spearheaded by the UN? The solutions are needed here and now. Postponing solutions are a strategy they use to blind Afrikans as they exploit our rich resources. This is all ADGI is about. We want to bridge these gaps now. The time is now for Afrika and I implore all Afrikan leaders to join the movement.



### Q. Why is A.D.G.I Important?

Agenda 2063 is hogwash. It's premises are unrealistic for Afrika. The continent needs real development goals that will ensure steady continuous growth and development. Why postpone development to 2023 when you can do it now? We need to set annual goals. United Nations Sustainable Goals are also another cash cow for the UN. They paper tigers that they use to milk Afrika dry of her resources.

We need to set continental goals that champion immediate solution to immediate challenges facing our people. For instance Afrikan Development Goal for 2025 is Food Security for all. In 2026, the development goal will be health, to touch on health infrastructure and equipment. Successively, infrastructure will be the next ADG for 2027 while Central Currency, which will be the first step towards a united continent will form Afrikan Development Goal 2028. We must take the bulls by it's horns. We cannot wait for mercies from other countries for us to develop. We must approach our quest to self reliance with a sense of urgency.



## Q. WHAT WAS THE MOTIVATION BEHIND A.D.G.I?

ADGI was founded myself in partnership with Prof. P.L.O Lumumba. First of all, both of us are pan-afrikanists. Secondly, Afrika's underdevelopment is deliberately curated by Europeans. And I will give you an assignment to go and read Walter Rodney's "How Europe Underdeveloped Africa." They come up with development initiatives that enslave Afrikans to fantasies. This is because they want the continent to continue selling its resources cheaply. Our continent no longer align with UNSDGs. We should be the key shareholders of our resources. They mentally enslave our people and leaders. They sell us a future that never comes. We want the continent get rid of GMOs which are dangerous to our health and well-being. GMOs are a part of a larger conspiracy to depopulate Afrika, so that they can continue to plunder our resources through the United Nations. We must not give our land to foreigners.



## Q. HOW DO WE INVOLVE YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE CONVERSATION?

ADGI was founded for young people. The future of Afrika is in the hands of young people. This is why I am rallying young people to set up chapters across the continent. Young people must evangelize the gospel of pan-afrikanism. During the week of FESTAC Festival, we are going to launch The first Chapter in Kenya. I implore young people to join the movement because it will be a water-shed moment for youths in the City of Kisumu and Afrika at large. Our goal is not to give handouts no! We want to give youths the platforms where they get seriously engaged in such conversations that pedestalized the welfare and the future of the continent.

No movement has achieved its target without revolution. And for this case we are not talking about guns and bullets. We are talking about revolutionary ideas. We want our young people to design and set up African social media platforms, we want pan- african media channels and we want afrocentric devices.

If you visit a Western Country as an Afrikan leader, your Hotel Room is bugged to dig dirt on you, as a way to hold you hostage. This can be solved by Afrikan devices. We must set our leaders free from the shackles of colonial masters who still feel entitled to our resources.



## Q. CAN AFRIKA SURVIVE WITHOUT LOANS FROM INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS?

YES of course. If you do a genuine evaluation of Afrika's resources, we are World's richest continent. However, we have been conditioned to believe that we are chronically poor. The international media focus on the negativities in the continent. This is the first mentality we must come together and change. The International institutions steal our resources, use them to make money and lend us that money for colossal interest rates.

African Union has an obligation to protect Afrikans and decolonize their minds. The A.U must shield the continent from debt traps through advocating for our the protection of our resources. China for example puts trade deals against Afrika's resources, something that they themselves cannot accept.

This must be stopped. If only we could localise our resources, if only we could use them to only benefit our continent, then we could be way ahead of the so called developed countries

# 2024



## JANUARY

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