

CITY BITE

THE STATE OF AFFAIRS

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INSIDE POLITICS

WHICH WAY WITH KENYAN FOREIGN POLICY



Italy's Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni meets with President of Kenya William Ruto inside the Madama Palace (Senate) as Italy hosts the Italy-Africa summit in Rome, Italy January 29, 2024. | Photo Courtesy

A few days ago, the Kenyan Government seemingly shifted its relation with a new focus on the African Italian Pact. WFP and Kenya Government relationship with a meeting between President William Ruto, Cabinet Secretary National Treasury Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u and Executive Director Cindy McCain on the sidelines of the Italy-Africa Summit have elicited mixed reactions with Pundits reading a double standard by Kenyan Head of State. In attendance was Kenya First Lady H.E Rachel Ruto who met Valerie Guarnieri, Assistant Executive Director WFP at Rome HQ.



Kenya's First Lady H.E Rachel Ruto who meets Valerie Guarnieri, Assistant Executive Director WFP at Rome HQ. | Photo Courtesy

As Lauren Landis, Rep & Country Director, Kenya met Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Climate Change Miss Soipan Tuyaa, back here in Nairobi to agree on how WFP and the ministry will work together to support resilience including collaborating on innovative climate finance instruments to enable investment in enhancing food security and climate resilience in Kenya.

Other issues that were discussed included the forthcoming IDA21

Replenishment Summit to be hosted by Kenya this year.

The sudden change of Alignment is what is brewing jitters amongst Kenyans, with the majority failing to understand which way is the country headed in terms of Diplomatic Engagements.



Kenya's C.S for Treasury Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u (Left), President William Ruto (Centre) & E.D For World Food Programme Cindy McCain (Left) meet in the sidelines of Italy-Africa summit | Photo Courtesy

Upon its independence in 1963, Kenya assumed control and management of its Foreign Policy setting the pace for active participation in regional and international affairs. Since then, Kenya's conduct of diplomacy has progressively evolved driven and guided primarily by the quest to promote and protect its national interests. Like other countries, the Foreign Policy orientation of Kenya has been determined by the realities both at the domestic and external environment

The establishment of this policy has seen Kenya as a pro Asian state especially during the Tenure of Former President Uhuru Kenyatta where much of the Government Loan was obtained with several Trade Pacts in Place. This however has recently changed with the current regime shifting its focus to the western Front specifically making stronger ties with United States where we have seen high end delegation visit the country including the latest being the CIA. Interestingly the Kenyan Government has even removed Visa Restrictions for Non Residents something that has brought heated conversation on the consequences the country could face with such regulations.

INSIDE POLITICS

RUTHLESS PURGE OR DISGUISED SURRENDER?



Kisumu County Senatorial hopeful for 2027 Sammy Odoro | Photo Courtesy

Kisumu County senatorial aspirant for 2027 Samuel Odoro has been making furtive moves to 'clean his house', City Bite has been told.

Last week, rumors from the fifth estate filled the air that Sammy 001-as he's known by many-, had gone out on a limb, following a 'fall-out' with his key sellers, some of whom have to this minute picked an online battle with him.

However, key figures from his inner circle have now come out guns blazing, to defend their leader, who according to the information at our disposal has been sick, and had to undergo a surgery mid last week.

Via a social media post, one former promoter now a critic of the U.S based businessman complained about a failure by Mr. Odoro to pay them their weekly perks, regardless of their hardwork in promoting the ideals of the young politician, a revelation that stirred mixed reactions from both followers and critics of Sammy 001. For instance, a group of slapdash social media scribes battled with Mr. Sammy's accuser, calling out his greed and avarice.

"Your presence in team Sammy

was monetary motivated. Where's your loyalty?," one user responded to his post.

In an effort to establish the truth, City Bite reporters reached out to Mr. Odoro, who said that he felt underappreciated by the accused. However, a response from another insider was the complete opposite of Odoro's words, "Sammy told us to take a break. He cited a need to re-strategize. He also told us that he was sick. That is the truth, the rest are just malevolent propaganda." Proud Monkey tells us.



Gordon Odera (Standing) is Sammy's supporter turn critic | Photo Courtesy

Nonetheless, we took a further step to find a reaction from Mr. Odoro himself, who despite a tight schedule gave us an audience. "It's true that I have been sick and about to take on a surgery this week. I cannot comment on such trivial rumors from attention seekers. I instructed my loyal soldiers to take a break and those who listen have followed that. Any talks are neither sanctioned by me, nor true of my stand point. Nothing else to say."

Even though he was reticent in his response, information from reliable sources have indicated that the Survea's second most influential personality in Kisumu is cleaning his house, in a ruthless purge to either partially or completely

overhaul his team.

"Sammy is an astute planner. In his calculations, he pays meticulous attention to detail. When he's quiet, he's not weak and when he's talking, he's not doing so to be heard no. He is calculating. Let those charlatans make noise. They are exposing themselves. We now know, with concern



Hunington Oguk is a representative of Sammy 001 | Photo Courtesy

their real intentions. The journey must continue, regardless of who leaves and who sticks. Politics is loyalty and loyalty is earned not paid for." via a conniving smile, he concludes.

It is to be noted that as city politics gain heat, there's a growing consensus that Sammy will be among the firebrand politicians who will, with the right support system shape the political sphere in Kisumu. However, conversations are being had on his connection with the community as most of his work are done by emissaries, a fact that makes it an imperative to have a genuine and trustworthy team.

INSIDE POLITICS

THE NEED FOR CULTURAL SHIFT TOWARDS DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION



The UN Website; The universal symbol of Gender Equality

Let's face it: the world is a wonderfully diverse place. With different backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives, we bring unique ideas to the table. That's why diversity and inclusion are like the dynamic duo of success. By embracing diversity, we not only tap into a wellspring of innovation but also foster a sense of belonging for everyone involved. It's a win-win.

Ah, women leaders, the hidden superpower in driving change! While women continue to shatter glass ceilings, their influence goes beyond just breaking barriers. Research shows that women leaders have a knack for empathy, collaboration, and nurturing talent. With these superpowers, they can play a pivotal role in transforming organizational cultures to be more diverse and inclusive. Talk about leading by example, they bring their own set of experiences and insights to the table, and we're not just talking about multitasking like pros. Their unique perspective allows them to see opportunities, challenges, and solutions that others may miss. By harnessing this perspective, women leaders can champion diversity and inclusion initiatives in ways that resonate with people from different backgrounds. They have this incredible ability to mold organizational culture like clay. By embodying inclusive leadership qualities, they set the tone for those

around them. Whether it's fostering an environment of mutual respect, encouraging diverse voices to be heard, or promoting work-life balance (because let's be honest, we all need that), women leaders can create a ripple effect that permeates the entire organization.

Ah, gender bias, the ultimate party pooper. Unfortunately, women leaders often face bias and stereotypes that question their abilities. But fear not, for women leaders can rise above these challenges by showcasing their talents, asserting themselves, and challenging the status quo. It might take some extra effort, but hey, nothing worth fighting for comes easy! In male-dominated work environments, women leaders may feel like unicorns in a sea of horses. Yet, they can tackle this challenge head-on by building strong networks, finding allies, and amplifying their voices. By forging connections and supporting other women, they can create a more inclusive environment that opens doors for all genders and breaks down those pesky barriers.

We've all heard the saying "walk a mile in someone else's shoes." Well, as leaders, it's important to lace up those empathetic sneakers. Women leaders can foster inclusive leadership by building awareness of different perspectives, actively seeking diverse viewpoints, and putting themselves in others' shoes. By doing so, they create a safe space where everyone feels valued and understood. Communication is the glue that holds teams together, and collaboration is the secret sauce for innovation. Women leaders can foster inclusivity by encouraging open dialogue, creating platforms for sharing ideas, and promoting a culture of collaboration. When everyone's voice is heard and respected, magic happens – and by magic, we mean groundbreaking ideas and thriving teams!

With women leaders at the helm, driving cultural shifts towards diversity and inclusion is not just necessary but also downright empowering. So let's raise a metaphorical glass to their invaluable contributions and the positive changes they inspire! Leading with inclusivity means going beyond mere lip service. Women leaders have the power to shape the culture of their organizations by embodying the values of diversity and inclusion in their actions and decisions. They can foster an environment where everyone feels safe, respected, and valued, regardless of their background or identity. Whether it's promoting open communication, encouraging collaboration, or actively seeking out diverse perspectives, leading by example is key to driving cultural shifts towards a more inclusive workplace.

In conclusion, women leaders are architects of cultural change, translating commitment to diversity into actionable policies. Through mentorship and advocacy, they not only break gender barriers but also champion inclusivity for all dimensions. By setting measurable goals, they ensure continuous progress, shaping workplaces where diversity thrives. Recognizing and empowering women leaders is pivotal for creating an inclusive future.

INSIDE POLITICS

OPINION: RUTH ODINGA'S GUBERNATORIAL AMBITIONS SHOULD WORRY ORON AND HIS ILK



Kisumu County Women Representative Dr. Ruth Odinga | Photo Courtesy

Analogous to Mathematical matrices, it takes a methodology to reach a solution to political matrices. In Kisumu County, politics is an ironclad part of day to day living, with the process of solving various matrices for the next general election already taking shape. Different candidates eyeing different positions have started to emerge, with the plum gubernatorial seat the most contested one so far.

Heavyweights like Senator Prof. Tom Odhiambo Ojienda, Kisumu Central's Dr. Joshua Odongo Oron and Nyakach's Aduma Kowuor have all registered their interests in replacing two term Prof. Anyang' Nyong'o who will possibly retire from elective politics in 2027, thanks to a constitutional term limit for Governors.

While far reaching rumors have hinted that Nyong'o's Deputy Governor Matthews Owili is also hoping to replace his boss, it is the reports of the probable entrance of former Deputy Governor Dr. Ruth Odinga Busia, that seem to pose a threat to the ambitions of the other potential successors of the one time Seme Constituency Parliamentarian.

First, Ruth is a lifelong politician,

who was born a blue blood. Secondly, she has the competitive advantage by the virtue of being female, which could be an adventurous choice for the people of Kisumu County, following the remarkable work done by Gladys Wanga of Homabay County, who will from now on, act as a model for future women governors in Nyanza region. Finally, the ongoing rouble rousing by her male counterparts, have recently been reported to irritate those in situ at Orange House.



Incumbent Kisumu Central MP. Dr. Joshua Oron | Photo Courtesy

For instance, in late 2023, when Mr. Odinga paid a working visit to Kisumu, he categorically warned Aduma Kowuor to focus on serving his constituents, lest he -Mr. Odinga- ensures he never set foot at Kisumu City Hall as governor in his entire political career. This was the clearest of manifestations that the ODM boss is not comfortable with pre-mature political innuendos. While this neither mean nor confirm that he will not necessarily support any one of them, it tells the story of just how much truculent the politics surrounding the said seat has become, that to them, service to the people has become a second tier priority, below their own

political interests and ambitions.

Ergo, Ruth Odinga's entrance provides a neutral alternative to the categories of people who; 1. feel like the time is ripe for Kisumu County to have a female governor and 2. real politics is beyond truculence and campaign seasons should be separated from the season for serving the people.



Aduma Kowuoris the MP for Nyakach and a 2027 Kisumu gubernatorial hopeful | Photo Courtesy

As a bonus, Nyakamami's past experience as a Deputy Governor gives her the right networks and a plausible resumé to be considered the best candidate for that position with her pedigree an insignificantly significant factor that could sway votes her way in 2027.

INSIDE POLITICS

A WIND OF HOPE BLOWS ACROSS KISUMU



Nashon Angudha is the Patron and The Founder of Liz Foundation | Photo Courtesy

A wind of hope is blowing across Kisumu County. A new baby is shining light in the paths of young people, who's dreams were about to fade in the face of pecuniary vulnerabilities. Throughout the last and this week, Liz Foundation and it's sponsors saw to it that a number of young girls have smoothly transitioned to Secondary schools despite the not so strong financial muscles of their respective backgrounds.

Through their maiden project, dubbed 'Wings to the Future', the organization that's only in it's salad stages issued on 23rd January 2024, full scholarship cheques to the top performing -in 2023 KCPE- but needy girl in each of the five wards in Nyakach Constituency.

"On 23rd January, we provided full scholarships for young girls. By full scholarship, we mean taking care of everything required to support their education. From school uniforms to sanitary towels, bedding to pocket monies, our organization is trying to ensure that these children complete this level of education smoothly, without any impediments," a source tells City Bite. "But that is not all," she said. "On tenth February, our patron, Mr. Nashon Angudha will

preside over the launch of bursaries for those in the tertiary learning institutions. Unlike the secondary level ones, this will be a partial scholarship that will boost those already in the Universities, colleges and TVET institutions with the necessary carrot to aid their education," she said. "We are thankful for Nashon and his team, because education is the hallmark of thriving societies," she said. "We must take responsibility for the education of those behind us. We must protect them and nurture them into responsible people. That, to me is the only way



Liz Foundation staff during induction on December 27th | Photo Courtesy

out of many unnecessary things like poverty," via a vaunted smile, she concludes.

Since It's founding last year, this is neither it's first major outreach project nor the only way of empowering young people. For instance, in December last year, the organization opened opportunities for empowerment through employment. Some youths, those in the fifth estate, have also been given the platform to hone their skills as promoters of the brand that is Liz Foundation and it's sponsors.

In a conversation with our interviewers, handlers at the

organization reveal that they pursue objectives, that touch on diverse thematic areas. "We empower widows by offering incentives for businesses. We promote proper primary health care and we support the education of young people." a source tells us.



Liz Foundation Headquarters in Nyakach Constituency | Photo Courtesy

For it's founders, more is yet to come. These are just the first steps in a good direction. "We are looking forward to a great initiative. We will empower more people, and support communities not only in the grassroots of Nyakach but also -in the long run,- widen our scope." A source is quoted.

INSIDE POLITICS

SIAYA COUNTY CIDP; A PAPER TIGER OR A ROAD MAP TO A LASTING LEGACY ?



Siaya Governor James Orenge with former UNCTAD Secretary General Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi during the launch of the County Integrated Development Plan at JOOUST on January 30, 2024. | Photo Courtesy

his team, for drafting such a pedant document," a policy analyst tells us. "I have gone through parts of it and I feel like it was done by experts," he said. "However, I have my reservations not only on some of it's key tenets, but also because -I am afraid to say- it could end up ineffectual," looking sullen, he said. "Since this administration rose to the ranks of power, the county has been in limbo," he said, with a sleazy smile. "I am not going to cast aspersions but if underlying issues like rampant corruption

Orenge's manifesto. Which of his first 100 day promises saw the light of the day? Where is good governance? Is fighting his Deputy an example of what good governance should look like? Siaya is known for intelligence, and he should not mock our sargacity with a document before getting sobber for example," he said. "As community leaders, supporting development initiatives in Siaya is our role. But we must be pragmatic in our approaches to that. We must put the Governor to task. This is not politics, it's constructive criticism." He concludes.

The recently launched Siaya County 2023-2027 CIDP could be nothing but a paper tiger, City Bite has been told. According to experts, there are little details that have been overlooked by the current administration that no written policy can bridge.



Siaya County UDA aspirant Mr. Maurice Orondo | Photo Courtesy

According to it's content, the ksh. 200 billion CIDP 'will largely focus on achieving industrialization by transforming the region's economic structure of subsistence farming to Agricultural led industrialization.' Per the document, this is to be achieved by mechanization of agriculture, the improvement of extension services and inclusion of the youth in the Agricultural sector.

are not properly addressed, this will simply be a blueprint to seriate graft scandals," he beams.



One time estranged Siaya County Deputy Governor William Oduol. | Photo Courtesy

On the day of it's launch, Siaya County boss encouraged all stakeholders in the agricultural sector to have a conversation on the implementation of the development plan.

If meticulously executed, this could be a game-changer for Mr. Orenge, who for a very long time has been under fire for what both those in the fifth estate and his adversaries describe as a glaring incompetence and deliberate mismanagement of the county resources, with the missappropriation of funds at the heart of it all.

As views continue to trickle in, an ambivalent mood engulfs the viewpoints of many people in Siaya, some of whom believe that Mr. Orenge is capable of turning his fortunes around while some have termed his efforts a jaunt to nowhere.

However, as experts begin to converse, a number have opined that the CIDP is a good step, but that will lead no where for as long as the underlying administrative issues in Siaya County remain unresolved.

"The county has been a mess," UDA Chairperson aspirant for Siaya County Mr. Maurice Orondo tells us. "We have seen the CIDP and from afar, it glitters. However, this is a roadmap to an abyss of scandals. The first CIDP was

"Allow me laud James Orenge and

THE CRITICAL EYE

LARRY MADOWO WAS RIGHT! WHERE'S YOUR STANCE MR. PRESIDENT ?



By Odima Osure; Writer

Via a post on his X account, CNN international correspondent Larry Madowo on Monday sparked a mouth wagging debate in the social media platform, after he pejoratively talked of President William Ruto's participation in the Italy-Africa summit.

In the post, the former NTV journalist illustrates, through a labelled photograph the differences in the body languages and the positioning of the A.U Commission chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat, A.U Chairperson Azali Assoumani and president William Ruto, who in a past interview said the two -CPAU and AUC Chairperson- were by default the de jure spokespersons of Africa.

"President William Ruto said he + other African leaders would not be summoned by 1 country. The African Union would represent them going forward," Madowo wrote. "He's standing just steps away from both the AU chair & the AU Commission chair in Italy while other East African presidents skipped," he concludes.

while this is not the first time the president goes back on his word, the response to this post

was glaringly ambivalent, with a number of internet users, among them high ranking employees of the government coming out guns blazing to defend the president.

However, The Critical Eye believes there is a glimmer of truth to Madowo's cry for honesty. Since his ascension to power, there is a glaring trend of discrepancies between William Ruto's words and actions, both of which acutely contradict each other.

For instance, the cost of living has gone almost twice as high as it was in the former administration regardless of lowering it being a pedestal campaign chip in 2022. Increased taxes continue to threaten the sustainability of



African leaders during the Italy-Africa summit | Photo Courtesy

small and medium enterprises, regardless of the promise that this government, would build the nation around the same, among many other short term promises yet to come true despite their projected time guidelines elapsing. Another case in point is the issue of LGBTQ+, which the commander in chief once rubbed off as a trivial issue, became only glorified during the first months of his presidency, after the Supreme Court ruling that allowed the rainbow community to register

lobby groups to represent their interests. This regardless of being a necessary step towards an inclusive society, it exposes Kenya's top man as one without a substantive stand point in Africa's international political economy.

You only need to look at the missing East African Heads of state at the Italy-Africa summit to tell there is an air of negativity towards the one state summons. What then in the first place is the role of African diplomats if from time to time presidents of their respective countries are to



Moussa Faki Mahamat is the current chairperson for A.U Commission | Photo Courtesy

be summoned like errand boys?

Since when did the A.U and it's organs become so emasculated that political leaders attend in person meetings at the edict of other states? Better still, let's be real; where is your stance Mr. President?

Odima Osure is a Writer.

C.S.O SPACES

INCLUSION OF HEALTH AGENDA AT COP28, A BLESSING IN DISGUISE



By Daisy Bartlett; Trilingual Consultant on Women's Health and Climate Resilience | Photo Courtesy

At the recent COP28, health was placed on the agenda for the first time. This decision opens up avenues for addressing crucial intersections within gender, climate and health. Initiatives in this realm, such as sustainable menstruation practices, have the potential to yield direct and long-term benefits, for women and the planet.

First and foremost, research has shown that educating girls is a powerful solution to combating the current climate crisis. Coupled with family planning, the infamous Project Drawdown research suggests it could potentially avoid nearly 85 gigatons of carbon emissions by 2050. Among various gender-related challenges, menstruation emerges as a significant barrier hindering access to education: In Kenya, the Ministry of Education estimates that girls lose an average of four school days per month, partly due to the limited access to menstrual products.

Secondly, many women remain unaware of the detrimental impact traditional menstrual products such as sanitary pads and tampons, mainly composed of plastic containing a number of toxic chemical ingredients, have on both their health and the environment. A woman with access to disposable sanitary pads may use as many as 11,400 in her lifetime; each pad contains approximately 2,4g of plastic and

and takes 500 to 800 years to decompose. This waste puts pressure on sanitation systems affecting both the environment and local communities. Sanitation systems clogged by sanitary waste have for example been leading to the failure of various climate focused biogas projects carried out across schools in Kenya.

What's more, past studies reveal that in rural Kenya, 2 out of 3 pad users rely on receiving pads from sexual partners. This practice not only contributes significantly to gender inequity, but in turn contributes to an increase in sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies.

Despite every month, 1.8 billion people across the world menstruating, the topic was only put on the World Health Organization's agenda in 2022



A lady carrying disposable sanitary towel | Photo Courtesy

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Despite every month, 1.8 billion people across the world menstruating, the topic was only put on the World Health Organization's agenda in 2022. These issues have prompted social entrepreneurs worldwide to offer sustainable

solutions that empower all those who menstruate.

Key sustainable products available on the market today include reusable menstrual pads, menstrual underwear, and menstrual cups. The good news is these solutions are gradually becoming more affordable and accessible both globally and in Kenya.

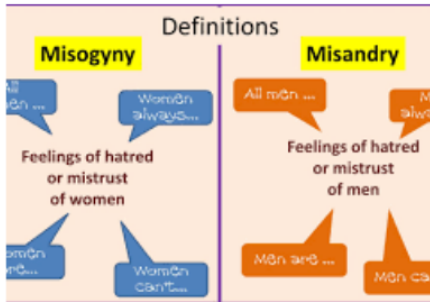
Many programs exist today teaching young women and girls to stitch their own pads. There is an influx of 'period pants' and reusable pad providers. Menstrual cups are also gaining popularity as a preferred choice for many young girls in areas with limited access to latrines as they can be worn for up to twelve hours and reduce the risk of leakage. Tragically, in September 2019, a 14-year-old Kenyan schoolgirl took her own life after enduring excessive period shaming by a teacher for staining her uniform. It is important to note that cultural challenges do exist, and these different products require support and education for proper use and cleaning.

Despite higher upfront costs, reusable pads and underwear have many benefits, including contributing to the overall comfort and confidence of girls during their menstrual cycles, as well as being more cost efficient in the long term. Some reusable pads and menstrual underwear can be used for up to two years, while cups, made of silicone, can last up to ten, removing a monthly financial burden.

The potential of this topic extends beyond the UN Sustainable Development Goals, particularly as the Global Menstrual Hygiene Management Market is anticipated to reach USD 38.10 Billion by 2029. Collaborative efforts between businesses and the public sector to educate and provide affordable options are essential, serving as a key driver in breaking barriers and paving the way for a more sustainable future.

C.S.O SPACES

LET'S CONSIDER THAT GENDER BASED MURDER IS A DOUBLE EDGED SWORD



Misandry & Misogyny are risk factors in the anti-gender related killings campaigns | Photo Courtesy

Recently there is a lot going on in the country especially with murders happening across. While much of the conversation is dwelling on the gender matrix, there is need to look at the issue from a comprehensive angle but first understanding the root causes without being partial.

One of the eye catching conversations over the social media has been whether it is appropriate to address women's deaths as femicide and men deaths as just normal death or tackling the issue of abuse of human right to live without involving gen

Femicide refers to the intentional killing of women and girls due to their gender. It is a specific form of gender-based violence that highlights the unique vulnerabilities and risks faced by women and girls in society. So the question is, are the women and girls who have been murdered be a result of them being women? Or could there be underlying factors that lead to their death that are not gender related? And when that happens how do we call that and how do we address it? Do we then go ahead and make a conclusion that all these deaths are femicide and not a gross violation against humanity?

In my opinion using femicide to describe atrocities against women may create a false dichotomy between men and women's deaths, suggesting that men's deaths are not worthy of the same level of concern or attention, which can lead to unhelpful focus on gender differences rather than on the broader issues of violence, poverty, and social inequalities that contribute to higher mortality rates for both men and women. Nonetheless femicide campaign detracts from the need to address the broader issues of gender-based violence and discrimination that affect both men and women in society and only focuses on one angle.



Kenyan Women recently thronged the streets of Nairobi in an anti-femicide campaign | Photo Courtesy

Someone else might also have an opinion that when men are murdered it's Misandry or toxic masculinity which refers to the dislike or prejudice against men, while toxic masculinity is the harmful consequences of traditional masculine gender roles. One example of misandry is the prevalence of negative stereotypes about men, such as the idea that all men are violent or irresponsible. These stereotypes can lead to men being unfairly treated or even murdered, as some

individuals may believe that men deserve such treatment based on these false assumptions. This means that if we approach the issue from this angle of thinking then we are very likely to miss the point.

Against all odds, when one's right to life is abused we should call it murder and should address the matter collectively as a society without being gender biased.

There is a thin line between Misogyny, Femicide and Misandry that have led to a negative campaign strategy towards loss of life. There is need to address murder as murder and not align it to specific gender, let us develop an outstanding approach to equally outline these challenges we face, otherwise we might just end up widening the gender disparity matrix and solving nothing at all. When women are murdered there are men who are concerned about it, when men are killed, there are women who get disturbed. Moreover they also have families that are affected too. Whether man or woman, none of them deserve to die so let's stop the femicide campaign, let's stop the Misandry campaign and tackle the matter with a new strategy, unless we want to keep failing over and over.

BUSINESS

DOLLAR BILLION BUSINESSES ARE HINGED ON RESILIENCE & PERSISTENCE NOT LUCK



By Phelix Agiye Odoyo | Photo Courtesy

From afar, running a business looks so simple. Just sit in a shop and wait for customers right? Or advertise on t.v and wait for clients to call or maybe, share your business cards and wait for a need to arise right? Well, from an insider perspective, business is one of the most pedant field of ventures, in which the faint-hearted do not, under any circumstances thrive.

In my experience, many people look at business in terms of profits and losses. They look at profit margins, and assume, "this must be a thriving business," or "Is this business really sustainable?". This to me is a mindset that any new business person must retire, before investing the colossal amounts of money involved in running a start-up, not only because it narrows an investors thought process, but also demurs consistency, an important facet of astute businessmen.

While the idea of profits in millions could be a euphoric fantasy, notable magnates like Elon Musk will tell you that getting to that point is not through a straight or a short path, but a gruelling adventure checkered with challenges, some of which are so intricate to the extent that if not handled properly, could be a death

sentence to the business.

"Most business set-ups do not die because of murder, but because of suicide," is Marvin Liao's favorite punchline. Liao, is a Silicone Valley start up coach with an experience spanning for slightly above two decades. In his experience, failure to take note of all the details from the start of a business venture, could be self destructive to an enterprise in the long run and interestingly according to his logic, this is the major cause of death to many set ups, hence suicide.

In other words, businessmen are



Elon Musk is World's Richest man | Photo Courtesy

solely responsible for the growth or downfall of their businesses, depending on how much focus they give to both the external and internal factors influencing the business.

However, there is a self-subbotage trend among many entrepreneurs, that comes in the form and style of giving up at the first sight of a challenge, such as slow profit and or the failure to support the business through external investments.

For instance, a month or two old set up could struggle to

generate enough income to self-sustain. This requires external investments to bridge the gap. Either, failure to do a background feasibility study on the nature of the business could spell doom to such a set-up, which is always almost dead on arrival while sometimes, suicide in business terms could mean either an overdependence or overexpectation on the income generated by the business.

To Warren Buffet, business is like a tree. For someone to sit under a shade, someone has to plant a tree a long time ago. This means, for one to build a generational wealth, they have to care for it like a tree. At the salad age, seedlings



Marvin Liao is a start-up coach at Silicone Valley | Photo Courtesy

are to be watered on a daily basis. Same applies to a young business. Give it time, water it through external investments, limit spending and use it's profits to grow it. Focus on the future and not the prevailing difficulties, -like an abrupt change in climatic conditions could threaten the development of a seedling, but we don't uproot it anyways.

Phelix Agiye Odoyo is an Entrepreneur and business coach

CLIMATE CHANGE

THE SILENT CRY OF KENYA'S DEFORESTED FORESTS



By Viola Adhiambo; Climate & Development Specialist.

The dense forests of Kenya, once alive with the songs of birds and the rustling of leaves, now stand in haunting silence. The relentless deforestation in Kenya has led to the decimation of its forests, leaving behind a desolate landscape that cries out for restoration.

The destruction of Kenya's forests has resulted in ecological perplexity. The intricate balance of flora and fauna has been disrupted, leading to the loss of biodiversity and the depletion of vital resources. The once vibrant ecosystems have been reduced to mere remnants of their former glory, struggling to survive in the wake of human intervention.

Amidst the silence, there are moments of bustiness in the remaining fragments of Kenya's forests. The resilience of nature is evident in the sporadic bursts of life that emerge from the barren earth. New saplings defiantly push through the soil, clinging to the hope of reviving the once lush greenery that adorned the landscape.

The relentless expansion of human settlements and the demand for agricultural land have left a deep imprint on Kenya's forests. The unrelenting pursuit of economic growth has led to the widespread

clearing of trees, further exacerbating the plight of the already fragile ecosystems.

The silent cry of Kenya's deforested forests calls for urgent action. The restoration of these vital ecosystems is paramount to ensure the survival of indigenous species and the preservation of essential resources.



Life in Mau Forest is reported to be drying up due to deforestation | Photo Courtesy

The adoption of sustainable practices, such as reforestation efforts and the promotion of eco-friendly alternatives, is crucial in mitigating the impact of deforestation. By embracing sustainable practices, we can work towards restoring the life and vitality that once thrived within Kenya's forests.

The deforested forests of Kenya serve as a poignant metaphor, reminding us of the delicate balance between human progress and environmental preservation. Just as the silent woods yearn for the whispers of life, we too must heed the call for conservation and strive to breathe new life into the ailing ecosystems.



Deforestation is the cutting of trees without planting new ones. Charcoal burning is a major contributor to this | photo courtesy

In conclusion, the silent cry of Kenya's deforested forests echoes the urgent need for concerted efforts to reverse the damage caused by deforestation. By embracing sustainable practices and raising awareness, we can work towards nurturing the resurgence of life within these once-vibrant ecosystems. The haunting silence can be transformed into a symphony of renewal, offering hope for the preservation of Kenya's natural heritage.

EDUCATION

ENHANCING EDUCATION TRANSITION ZIZI AFRIQUE FOUNDATION AND MINISTRY OF EDUCATION'S COLLABORATIVE FORUM



Kakai Wasilwa during the maiden Zizi Afrique-MOE Collaborative Forum/ Photo Courtesy

The Zizi Afrique Foundation, working in partnership with the Ministry of Education, orchestrated a forum aimed at bolstering community initiatives that support the implementation of 100% Primary-Secondary school transition policies.

Through sustained community engagement, their objective is to raise awareness regarding the importance of education, ensure the accurate registration of birth certificates in NEMIS, and strategize mop-up activities.

In Nairobi's Dagoretti area, the Sub-County director of education, Mr. Rafael Musyoki, Monday disclosed that 627 learners have yet to transition, and plans for mop-up activities are already underway to enroll all eligible students.

A recent report highlighted that 130,000 students nationwide have not yet enrolled in form one. Addressing concerns about teachers withholding result slips due to outstanding school fees, Mr. Musyoki emphasized that such documents rightfully belong to the students.

Deputy County Commissioner Jerald Ratemo issued a stern warning to negligent parents and pledged collaboration with Ocs to hold them accountable for their lack of involvement.

He instructed chiefs to ensure that 2023 KCSE learners who are still at home report to his office for school admission. Furthermore, a transition follow-up committee, led by Kakai Wasilwa, has been established to oversee transition activities.

Wasilwa expressed the committee's intention to foster collaboration among stakeholders and bridge existing gaps between schools and communities. Initiatives will include teachers attending community barasas, while Chiefs will participate in PTAs to enhance collaboration.

"This initiative aims to test the potential for driving change by focusing on policy enforcement and accountability, rather than plugging gaps. This will be achieved through: Generating evidence on the drivers and barriers to implementing Kenya's existing 100% transition policy and community accountability," he said.

"The committee is also keen on Co-creating with the Ministry of Education and stakeholders and testing a community accountability intervention that tests identified successful drivers of 100% transition." Wasilwa explained.

Kakai Wasilwa also noted that Dagoretti might be one of the sub counties in Kenya to achieve 100% transition.

Mr. John Theuri, chairman of KESSHA in Dagoretti sub-county, outlined plans for learner retention following reports of high dropout rates post-mop-up activities.

Meanwhile, Education Cabinet Secretary Ezekiel Machogu in his latest comment on the 100 per cent Primary to Secondary School transition noted that up to 70 per cent of Form Ones across the country have reported to their institutions.

He further assured that the ministry will ensure the more than 1.4 million learners who sat the 2023 KCPE exam join the schools they were placed in.

"The Ministry is so far impressed by the ongoing exercise with more than 70 per cent of all those placed in secondary school having already reported," he said.

Machogu spoke on Wednesday when he presided over the award of 1,000 scholarships by the KCB Foundation to learners set to join secondary schools.

The CS said the ministry will work with the Ministry of Interior and National Administration to comb all homes to realise the 100 per cent transition into secondary schools.

He also challenged partners and well-wishers to come on board and aid the smooth transition of learners from primary to secondary school nationwide.

"I wish to encourage other partners in education to step in and provide scholarships to our needy learners to ensure we achieve the 100 per cent transition policy and leave no one child behind in our education system," he said.

Machogu spoke on January 17, 2024 when he presided over the award of 1,000 scholarships by the KCB Foundation to learners set to join secondary schools.

Report By Joel Masibo

HEALTH

ALL THE POWER OF EVERY ONE



By Emmanuel Otieno Obwanga | Photo Courtesy

The fight against Malaria disease is beyond one individual. As the saying goes zero Malaria starts with me, Zero Malaria Starts with You and Zero Malaria Starts with all of us" is already an indication that there is need for combined efforts of each and every person on the globe. For example in the past women have been in the forefront in advocating for Malaria Prevention and Elimination simply because Malaria highly affects Pregnant women, Children under the age of 5 years and those with weak immune system/those whose immune system have been compromised. This might have created a perception and impression that the fight towards reducing Malaria is a woman only responsibility while the rest can just sit and watch, a perception I would easily throw into the waters.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the malaria burden in Lake endemic regions is expected to decrease by 40% by 2023, compared to 2019 levels. This is based on the WHO's Global Technical Strategy for Malaria 2016-2030, which aims to reduce malaria cases and deaths by 90% by 2030. This is just a projection and a forecast that something positive might happen. However the possibility of such happenings depends on the Power of Every ONE, which means, every single person counts and all of us matters. There is so much power in inclusivity of everyone, from Women, Men to people living with disability. From

children to the aged.

From religious leaders, Politicians, to every comedian. What if each morning every child sings a Zero Malaria Anthem, All media, print and Social media reports on the victory against Stephensi and Every ONE increasing their efforts by investing in malaria control and elimination efforts?, particularly in low-income countries where the disease is most prevalent.

Photographic illustration of the power of everyone | Photo Courtesy



An Graphic with a congratulatory message for Kenya after joining the Zero Malaria Campaign | Photo Courtesy

What if we all work together by leveraging the strengths of all stakeholders, by refusing to fight but stopping every single mosquito bite? I am very sure such possibilities will create a significant progress towards malaria elimination and improve the lives of millions of people around the world.

That's the power of every ONE,
We join hands we end Malaria!



THE DIPLOMAT

WORLD REACTS TO ICJ INTERIM RULING ON SOUTH AFRICA VS ISRAEL GENOCIDE CASE



Judges of the ICJ in the court during a past hearing | Photo Courtesy

Leaders from all over the world have across the week reacted to the watershed interim ruling by the UN's apex court ICJ on the South Africa genocide case against Israel. In the ruling, the International Court of Justice ordered the state of Israel to take measures to avert a potential genocide, citing the existence of plausible grounds to investigate state on the same.

South Africa had accused Israel of through their actions in Gaza violating the Genocide Convention, allegations that the respondent vehemently denied. During the ruling, the court gave six orders to Israel, four of which were decided by a vote which ended in a 15 pros and 2 dissenters ; Judge ad hoc Barak of Israel and Julia Sebutinde of Uganda who eerily went out on a limb by dissenting on the other two orders.

Since the provisional ruling, leaders and internet users from all over the world have shared their two cents on the same, with Sebutinde taking the flak from many social media users.

For instance, in response to the ruling, controversial American influencer and the dive show host Jackson Hinkle posted on X " JUDGE JULIA SEBUTINDE is an EVIL GENOCIDE SUPPORTER!." Hinkle is a pro-Palestine commentator who espouse that Palestine has what he

calls the right to defend her sovereignty. For a long time, Hinkle has maintained a stand point that the state of Israel and her allies are terrorists, who should be charged and convicted in the ICC.

Former U.K leader of opposition Jeremy Corbyn wrote a statement in support of the ruling. Via the statement, the Islington North MP said; "Today's verdict from the ICJ is a vital step towards justice for the Palestinian people. South Africa's case was thorough and devastating, laying out what Palestinians have been telling us for months; that Israel's relentless



Judge Julia Sebutinde went out on a limb by dissenting on all the six orders given to Israel by the ICJ | Photo Courtesy

bombardment is a war on the totality of the people of Gaza," he said in the statement, that opines that Israel has 'caused enormous levels of death, destruction and displacement.'

As Israel's accuser, South Africa, through her foreign ministry said: "Today marks a decisive victory for the international rule of law and a significant milestone in the search for justice for the Palestinian people. There is no credible basis for Israel to continue to claim that its military actions are in full compliance with international law, including the Genocide Convention, having regard to the Court's ruling.

"South Africa sincerely hopes that Israel will not act to frustrate the

application of this order, as it has publicly threatened to do, but that it will instead act to comply with it fully, as it is bound to do."

On the other hand Israel's PM Benjamin Netanyahu said "Israel's commitment to international law is unwavering. Equally unwavering is our sacred commitment to continue to defend our country and defend our people. Like every country, Israel has an inherent right to defend itself.

"The vile attempt to deny Israel this fundamental right is blatant discrimination against the Jewish state, and it was justly rejected. The charge of genocide levelled against Israel is not only false, it's outrageous, and decent people everywhere should reject it." While to Palestine, the ICJ judges assessed the facts and the law, they ruled in favour of humanity and international law.

Other notable reactions were Hossein Amir of Iran, to whom "the authorities of the fake Israeli regime must be brought to justice immediately for committing genocide and unprecedented war crimes. Reed Brody, Agness Callamard of Amnesty international, Itamer Ben of Israeli national security who simply wrote "Hague Shmaue" on X, appearing to mock the ruling.

SPORTS

FOOTBALL'S CRAZIEST WEEK ?



Senegal attacker Sadio Mané | Photo Courtesy

Football's 'scriptwriters' did not get a thing wrong this week, as fanatics were put on the edge of the table with crazy turn of events, not only in the ongoing African Cup of Nations Tournament but also in the premier league and la liga.

To begin with, it was not business as usual for African football giants as defending champions for AFCON Senegal succumbed to a late penalty and an eventual knocking out through penalty shoot-outs after the usual FIFA match 90 minutes and the 30 minute extra-time elapsed at a 1-1 scoreline in the round of 16 match between The Lions of Teranga and host nation Cote d'Ivoire.

Peculiarly, Ivory Coast only qualified for the knock out stage as one of the four best third placed teams while Senegal topped their group C table with a clean slate, after registering three victories out of three matches in which they scored a total of eight goals but conceded only one.

Cameroon, a team represented by Manchester United's Andre Onana - who eerily started their round of 16 match against Nigeria from the bench- was also knocked out via a match that was blatantly dominated by the Super Eagles, led from the front by Napoli prodigy Victor Osimhen.

By far, the most notable departure

was Morocco. For a team widely expected to reach the advanced stages of the tournament- probably a semi-final- or even win it, the Atlas Lions were upset by South Africa's Bafana Bafana, who earlier on took the flak after a lacklustre start to the tournament and ended their group E campaign with only four points at the second position. Egypt, another football heavyweight was also knocked out by D.R Congo, a nation that in competition terms can be referred to as an underdog, with



Liverpool's Jürgen Klopp | Photo Courtesy

Namibia, Guinea, Mauritania and Burkina Faso all parking their bags.

Overseas, Jürgen Klopp stirred mixed reactions after dropping a bombshell on his departure from Liverpool at the end of the current season. After over 8 years of service to the scousers, the German football tactician leaves a legacy of milestones at the Merseyside, after building a team that won the club it's first top flight title in over three decades.

First, a Champions League trophy in the 2018/2019 season. Then, an English Premier League title in the following season with additional FA, Carabao, Club World Cup, Community Shield and UEFA Super Cup trophies in between.

Elsewhere, Barcelona fans were left cracking their knuckles after head coach Xavi Hernandez announced his decision to quit his position in the approaching summer holidays. This was after a disparaging defeat to 14th placed Villarreal in the Copa del Rey cup competition.



Barcelona lifted the La Liga Trophy for the 22/23 Campaign | Photo Courtesy

Xavi, enjoyed a successful la liga campaign last season, winning the league trophy ahead of their arch rivals Real Madrid, who in the current season are authoritatively ahead of them with a ten point gap.

PERSON OF THE WEEK

EDWARD ONYANGO-BOB C.E.O



Kisumu Central MP Aspirant Edward Onyango is City Bite's person of the week |Photo Courtesy

"In a world where you can be many things, be kind." Those were the words he poured to my ears on the first day we met. To him, kindness is the pedestal upon which socially thriving societies rest. A generous man, Edward Onyango is City Bite's person of this week, in the wake of his little acts of random kindness, throughout the last seven days, that continue to make positive impact across communities in Kisumu.

To begin with, in the periphery of the week erstwhile, a medical camp, sponsored by the Kakwacha chain of restaurants C.E.O benefitted a significant number of residents of the Kisumu City county, after free malaria tests were conducted and treatment done to those found positive. This comes in the backdrop of a reported upsurge in malaria cases and malaria related deaths among children, with experts citing an increase in the population of Malaria spreading vector, the female anopheles mosquito in Kisumu.

Additionally, free eye check ups were done, and reading glasses offered to those with age-related hyperopia at a subsidised ksh. 150 price. This, to many was a little act of random kindness, that impacted the community in many unforgettable

ways "My team and I had a productive interaction at Kaloleni Shaurimoyo ward where we kick-started free medical camp, today, where we expressed our commitment to collaborate with health stakeholders and partners who share our goal of stabilising our health gains and ensuring the less privileged access health care through our free medical camp, development and recovery of Kisumu Central," Bob stated, via his official facebook page. To him, the achievement of a healthy society requires multisectorial collaboration, which involves



Youths display a banner of Edward Onyango medical camp in Kibuye market. | Photo Courtesy

health workers, the political class, the fourth and the fifth estate and even the common man.

With this initiative, the late mama Grace Onyango's grandson adds to the many efforts by different stakeholders to promote healthy living in Kisumu. However, the key contrast between the Kibuye Market Medical camp and others is the fact that it was targeted to address an emerging challenge -the outbreak of Malaria- with the extra focus on

hypertropia standing out as an idiosyncratic area that was earlier overlooked by many organizers of activities with similar objectives.

"We are happy about this," a smiling resident tells us. "We do not believe in the spirit of lining up for hand outs. The money we get from politicians go to food and other things, but then, what happens after that? We need,



An elderly resident is served during the Bob C.E.O Medical camp | Photo Courtesy

instead leaders that can leave a mark, through such initiatives as this one. Today, I have been tested for malaria, and received a dose of antibiotics. I wish to thank my incoming MP for such noble initiative," he said.

It is to be understood that regardless of it being the outstanding community impact activity this week, Bob C.E.O is widely known for long-standing philanthropy and is considered an epitome of transformational leadership even as he lines up to succeed incumbent Kisumu Central MP Dr. Joshua Oron.

NOTABLE QUOTES

THE VIEW POINT



JÜRGEN KLOPP ”

I will leave the club at the end of the season. I can understand that that’s a shock for a lot of people in this moment, when you hear it for the first time, but obviously I can explain it – or at least try to explain it. I love absolutely everything about this club, I love everything about the city, I love everything about our supporters, I love the team, I love the staff. I love everything. But that I still take this decision shows you that I am convinced it is the one I have to take.



RIGATHI GACHAGUA ”

We must tackle the threats of a rising wage bill. Corruption is a threat to both levels of government let us work collectively to put in place control measures to monetize the use of public funds for procurement and expenditure to be within the law



ESTHER PASSARIS ”

You must have a really boring life if the best thing you have done in a long time was booing me.



AHMEDNASSIR ABDULLAHUI ”

THE IRREDUCIBLE MINIMUM for judicial reforms: CJ KOOME must go (grossly incompetent in all conceivable parameters...no leadership skill...ZERO understanding of the law...ZERO..ZERO!) and URGENT reconstitution of the Supreme Court..at least 4 judges must retire in public interest



XAVI HERNANDEZ ”

I want to announce that on June 30 I will no longer continue as the coach at Barça. I think the situation needs to change course, and as a culer, I cannot allow the current situation.



H.E WILLIAM RUTO

We are keen on exploring partnerships that will help accelerate the realisation of our development agenda. The Italy-Africa Summit presents a good opportunity to forge strategic collaborations with development partners on critical areas like food security, vocational training, energy and infrastructure development.

Arrived in Rome for the Italy-Africa Summit.



NDINDI NYORO | PHOTO COURTESY

My father was living in Kiandutu in Thika which is like Kondele. On visiting my father’s house, I could see everything happening outside, not through a glass window, but because there were so many openings in the walls.

GALLERY

PHOTOS OF THE WEEK



Ndindi Nyoro is gifted a goat in Kisumu |Photo Courtesy



Sen. Gloria Orwoba poses for photo with Fred Obachi Machoka Photo Courtesy



Kenyan women during an anti-femicide protest in Nairobi| Photo Courtesy



C.S Mosese Kuria hangs on President Ruto's vehicle during a public rally | Photo Courtesy



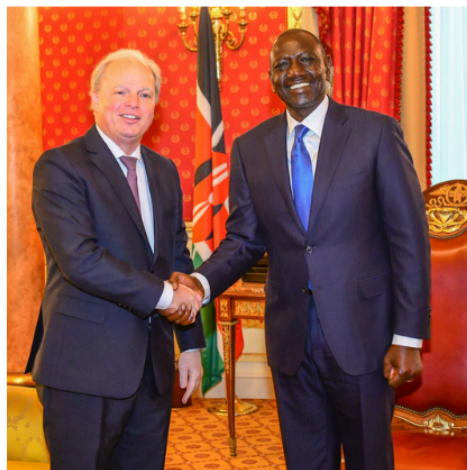
President Ruto is escorted to board a flight to Rome-Italy by D.P Rigathi Gachagua |Photo Courtesy



A beneficiary is attended to during Bob CEO medical camp in Kibuye market| Photo Courtesy



Franck Kessie celebrates after scoring a late penalty vs Senegal to send the game to extra time in the AFCON Round of 16 .| Photo Courtesy



President Ruto meets senior MD at World Bank in the sidelines of Italy-Africa summit.| Photo Courtesy



Man United's Kobbie Mainoo celebrates his first senior goal with teammate Alejandro Garnacho | Photo Courtesy

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