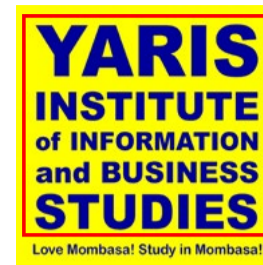




MaDaFu



The Socio-Economic Newspaper with Anything & Everything from Kenya

Issue 075 / APRIL 2026

Complimentary Distribution - Free

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The Great Twin Migration Begins



Wildlife enthusiasts are flocking to Kenya to witness the rare "Twin Migration." For the first time this season, the Great Wildebeest Migration in the Masai Mara has coincided with the arrival of Humpback Whales in Diani. This natural synchrony offers a unique double spectacle of land and sea giants. Conservationists note that while wildebeest numbers remain stable, the humpback whale population in the Indian Ocean has reached its highest level in a decade, marking a significant victory for marine protection efforts.

PHOTO STORY

Rotary club of Kilindini Mombasa in conjunction with Lulu ya Jamii foundation

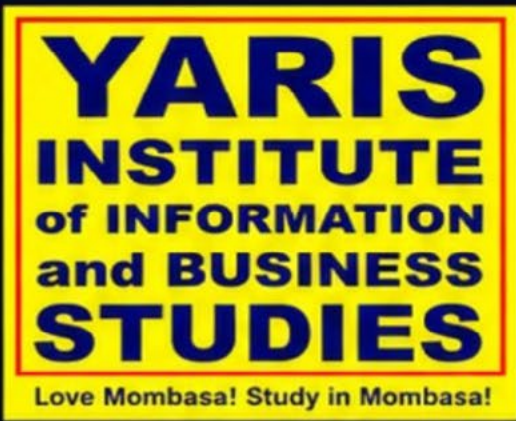


We installed a Solar water Borewell at the Simo la Tewa Prisons community in partnership with Lulu ya Jamii foundation.

Socio-Economics: Kenya's Growth Debate

The 2026 Economic Survey has sparked intense national debate. While the economy grew by 4.6% in 2025—exceeding regional averages—President William Ruto dismissed concerns over "slow" growth, citing foundational reforms in agriculture and housing. Analysts highlight a "brutal split" in the food basket: while dairy prices fell slightly, fish and vegetable prices surged by over 13%. Informal employment remains the backbone of the economy, accounting for over 83% of all jobs, as the private sector struggles to keep pace with government hiring.





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Parenthood Unfiltered

By SAFIA MOHAMED BASHIR

Several times we have heard parents say to their children, “wait until you become a parent” at the moment this remark is usually taken on a light note. However, the weight it carries is not known until it falls onto their own shoulders. Then one realizes what parenting is all about. Similarly, you will never truly understand something, until it happens to you.

Two individuals from different backgrounds, with different values, personalities and lifestyles, come together to build a new life. This journey demands sacrifice, understanding and the willingness to let go of parts of oneself. It is rarely smooth—filled with bumps, twists and turns, portholes and unexpected detours. Sometimes the path is narrow and challenging; at other times, it opens into moments of ease. At its core, it is about learning to live, grow and connect with another human being in all their differences.

Just as the newlyweds begin to settle, another profound change unfolds—one that arrives wrapped in immense happiness, tenderness, love and care. This is now the gamechanger; the biggest and of course the happiest shift in their lives – becoming parents. Some new couples do not get enough time to adjust to one another and now this shift. Nevertheless, it is a blessing and eagerly looked forward to. From the moment they receive the news of the arrival of the newborn to the very end of their own journey; their world gradually begins to revolve around their child/ren. Their thoughts, worries, concerns are now just revolving around being good parents.

Parenthood is a lifelong commitment and responsibility, one that cannot simply be set aside. It is mentally, emotionally and physically demanding, yet it is also the most meaningful role a human being can embrace. It is a blessing wrapped with care, respect and wisdom.

The arrival of the baby is not just the birth of a child—it is the birth of a new father and a new mother. It marks the beginning of parenthood, a journey that brings moments of overwhelming pain, tests of patience and a deep need for love, balance and unity within the family.

At this stage of life, the



parents' likes, dislikes, needs, dreams and career goals are often put on hold. All attention shifts to the newborn baby. Long, restless nights become the norm, filled with worry, care and the gentle fear of handling such a delicate little life. Every need of the child becomes a priority—shopping for essentials, adjusting routines and learning as they grow into new parents. In this process, an even stronger bond is formed between the couple, as their focus aligns completely. Together, they move in the same direction, united by one shared purpose: the well-being of their child.

Parents often believe that as their child grows older, their worries will begin to lessen. Yet, one of life's greatest ironies is that this is rarely the case. As the child grows, so do the responsibilities—and with them, the concerns only deepen. Each stage of growth brings new challenges, new fears and new hopes, making the journey of parenthood an ever-evolving experience of care and worry.

When the child is an infant, he sleeps most of the time, and even that becomes a concern for parents, who say, “When he grows a little, it will be more fun, he will start crawling, start talking.” Then comes the crawling stage—he begins picking things up, throwing them and breaking them and here he has to be under 24/7 CCTV surveillance. In those

moments, they often say he was calmer when he was just a few weeks old. As he enters the toddler stage and begins learning to walk and talk, the challenges increase further. He wants to do many things on his own, driven by curiosity and independence, yet his speech is still developing. His baby language is not always understood, adding another layer of patience and understanding for the parents. Yet, this is only the beginning of a lifelong journey of learning to understand their child/ren. Parents fulfill all their children's needs and wants, often forgoing their own lives and personal desires aside.

As the child grows, schooling begins and with it, new concerns arise. Questions of which school to choose, where it is located and what environment it offers become important decisions for parents. From nursery to primary and later to higher education, each stage in life brings increasing responsibilities. Alongside these decisions come growing expenses and deeper parental involvement, as they strive to ensure the best possible future for their child.

For a mother the emotional connection is deeper and she is more involved in raising the child that, at times the husband's needs may not be fully met. However, he is usually understanding of

the situation and often steps in to help, sharing in the responsibilities with patience and support. Some mothers give up their careers to be full time mothers so that the best attention and care is availed to the baby.

Now life revolves around the child/ren; each one planned well after the other, every day passes with thinking and wanting the best for their children and the next twenty to twenty-five years of their lives go by. After choosing professions, careers and jobs the parents' concern and worries now show on their faces and in the colour of their hair. Hearts heavy filled with the desire of nothing but the best for their children. Finally, it is now the time where it's the children's turn to settle down and start their family. And this circle of life continues.

However, this new AI era is different from 3-4 decades ago, where life was less complex, much slower and more connected. This generation's children are different as well. Before the parents used to make most of the decisions and children used to take their parents' advice – not any more. The tables have turned, now these children are more independent, informed and influenced by the so-called digital world, often making their own decisions from an early age.

We now have new 'AI parents' who give better advice

than human parents. Why? Because this generation does not like sharing, confiding nor informing anything to their parents. Not asking advice from their parents is one thing, even when given, they do not follow. The parent touch is slowly fading; gone is the respect that the parents used to receive, the bare minimal care is not even reciprocated. Friends are given more priority than parents, as this generation spends more time outside the home. Gone are the days when holidays were looked forward to—when families would meet and enjoy meals together. Nowadays, a parent's care and love are often seen as nagging.

No doubt technology has advanced, a lot has changed, nevertheless ethos, ethics and respect should not change.

Dear millennials and gen z's, pause and reflect. In this fast-paced world, technology may guide you, but it can never replace the wisdom that your parents have. Your parents may not always say things the way you want to hear, but their intentions are rooted in care, sacrifice and love for you and they want nothing but the best for you.

Take time to listen—even when you disagree. Ponder, they will never want anything bad for you. Share your thoughts, your struggles, your plans, no one will understand you better than them, because you are from them.

Prioritize your family, not just your social circles. Friends are important, but family is your foundation. The time you spend with your parents today becomes the memories you will hold tomorrow, when they are no more. Then you will be left with nothing but regret, once this time passes, it will not come back.

Show respect not only in words, but in actions. A small gesture, a conversation, a shared meal—these go a long way in keeping relationships strong. You are an example to the following Gen alpha, be a good one, they are growing looking at how you are behaving; have ethics.

You are the greatest treasures of your parents. In many cases, they have nothing and sometimes no one apart from you. Never hurt them, for when they are broken, there is nowhere else they can turn to. The pain they endure cannot always be explained—tears may be seen, but the wounds remain hidden. What they carry in silence is often deeper than what can be expressed in words.

Cherish them today, for time never returns to repeat the love they give and one day their voices will be memories.

Parents are a blessing that never lasts forever.

Thank you & Best Regards,
Safia Mohamed Bashir
0718 853 335
Nairobi

TRAVEL

Will Travel & Tour Companies Survive the Age of AI?

By Lorraine Abreu Mascarenhas

At a time when AI is reshaping the future, one pertinent question lingers in the minds of many travellers. Will travel and tour companies still exist in future? BetterBy Limited, is a vibrant travel advisory company founded by a couple who understands the need to always provide exceptional service.

The team continuously enhances service offerings to suit the needs of its valued clients. If you are looking for the luxury of understanding your needs, professionalism, quick and efficient services, trustworthiness and more, then look no further than BetterBy.

What then is AI? Artificial Intelligence is the ability of systems to analyze & interpret data and perform tasks that would usually be done by human intelligence.

As such AI can 'reason' based on rules and patterns input, it can take action by making recommendations, planning itineraries, comparing flights and fares and even give solutions to problems.

So, in short, if AI can 'think' and 'act', are human travel advisors relevant? Absolutely! Travel Advisors are irreplaceable - Why?

1. Crisis Management You the traveler, know the value of having a Travel Advisor in your corner especially when your flights are disrupted, force majeure situations arise, you encounter a challenge on the ground or an emergency – who is the only one who comes to your rescue? Your travel advisor, not an algorithm.

2. Complex Bookings While AI can build itineraries and book travel, it may not manage putting together complex travel itineraries, book multi country flights, plan out logistics of an entire safari or holiday or handle complex travel needs such

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as medical travel or visa assistance efficiently as your Travel Advisor will.

3. Personal Touch Yes, you like to book online because it seems cheaper, however you also desire that re-assurance from your Travel Advisor who provides all information and requirements needed without any 'hidden' costs.

4. Saves you time and stress You may not necessarily have the time or want the stress of researching and looking at unending options, getting mixed up with internet options and which website is safe to use, before

choosing what best suits you.

As a travel Booker, having a good travel advisor at your beck and call will help you focus on your core task and make you shine in front of your boss

5. Luxury of great service Travelers enjoy the services of travel advisors who understand them, entertain their complex needs, treat them with care and make them feel special – turning trips into memories that last a lifetime.

So what does the future hold for travel advisors? In my opinion, the future isn't about AI replacing advisors,

it's about AI empowering and further growing our businesses.

Adopting a hybrid mode of operations blending the use of AI and other technology coupled with that much needed personal and professional service will enhance the offering to you our valued clients.

Discover the difference, come on board with BetterBy to experience a world of travel and logistics only the best can offer.

Create memories that with last a lifetime.

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PHOTO STORY

GHANA: HE Uhuru Kenyatta arrives in Ghana for the TANA Forum



Former President Uhuru Kenyatta has this evening arrived in Ghana ahead of the high-level Tana Forum on Security in Africa, a key continental platform that brings together African leaders and stakeholders to discuss African-led solutions to peace, governance, and regional security challenges. Upon arrival in Ghana, Kenyatta was received by Colonel (Rtd) Shem Ishmailidza Amadi, Kenya's High Commissioner to Ghana.

Amsons Group at State House



L-R : Amsons Group Chairman Abdallah Munif and the Group Managing Director Edha Nahdi shares a hearty moment with President William Ruto at State House, Nairobi. Amsons Group has extended a KShs 4.5 billion grant to the Government of Kenya for the construction of 10 mother-and-child hospitals in Kenya within the next 3 years to alleviate the plight of more than 1 million underserved women. The ten Level 4 facilities with a 250-bed capacity will be developed in some of the 26 high-burden maternal death counties, including Nairobi.

Coding: The New Mandatory Literacy?



By Jamleck Kibet

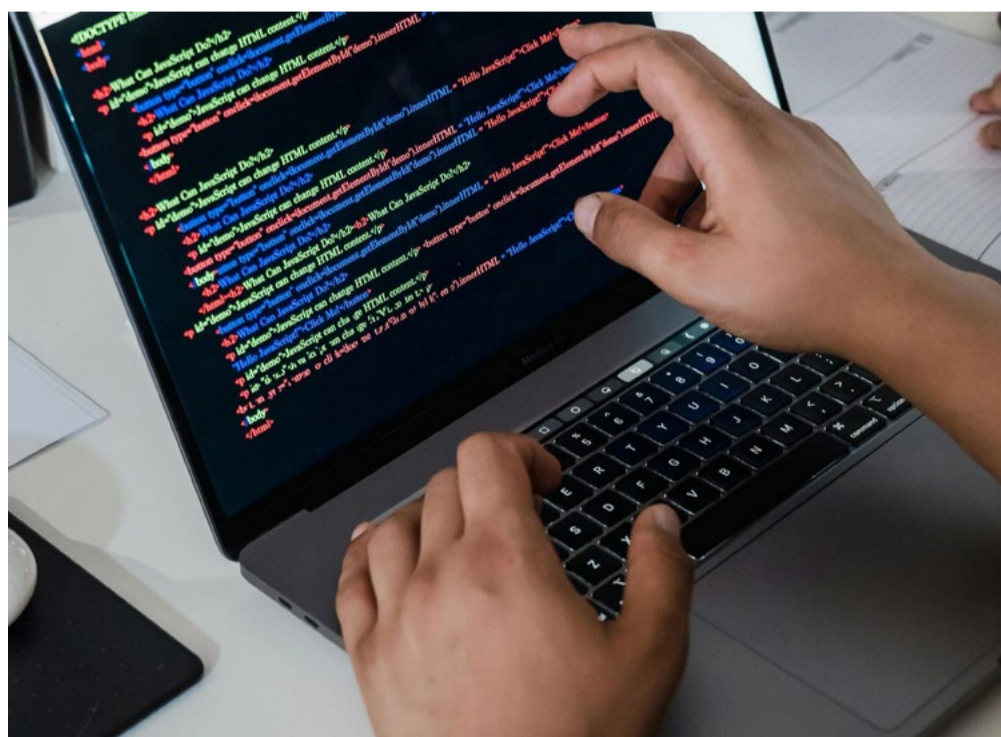
There was a time when knowing how to read and write was a privilege — a skill reserved for the elite, the clergy, and the powerful. Today, we consider literacy a basic human right. Every child, regardless of their background, deserves to learn how to read, write, and communicate.

Now, a growing chorus of educators, tech leaders, and policymakers are asking a bold question: Is coding the new literacy of the 21st century — and if so, should it be taught in every school on the planet?

The World Has Changed — Has Education Kept Up?

Walk into any office, hospital, farm, or marketplace today, and you will find technology at the centre of how things are done. Mpesa transactions, hospital record systems, online marketplaces, government databases — all of these are powered by code. The global economy increasingly rewards those who understand how technology works, not just how to use it.

Yet in Kenya, and across much of Africa, the vast



majority of school children graduate without ever writing a single line of code. They are handed a smartphone-driven world but are never taught the language it speaks. This is the gap that has experts worried.

What Is 'Coding Literacy,' Really?

When advocates talk about coding as a literacy, they are not necessarily saying every child must become a software engineer. Just as learning to write does not make every student a novelist, learning to code does not mean every pupil will build apps for a living.

What coding teaches, at its core, is computational thinking — the ability to break down complex problems, identify patterns, think logically, and create structured solutions. These are skills that are useful in every field, from medicine to agriculture to business. Coding, in this sense, is not

just a technical skill. It is a thinking skill.

The Arguments in Favour

1. The Jobs of Tomorrow Are Already Here

The World Economic Forum estimates that by 2030, over 85 million jobs will be displaced by automation, while 97 million new roles will emerge — most of them requiring digital competencies. In Kenya alone, the tech sector has been growing rapidly, with Nairobi establishing itself as the "Silicon Savannah" of Africa. Demand for developers, data analysts, UI/UX designers, and cybersecurity experts far outstrips supply.

2. It Levels the Playing Field

One of the most powerful arguments for coding in schools is equity. Currently, coding education is largely concentrated in private schools, expensive bootcamps, and urban centres. Children in rural areas or underprivileged communities rarely get access to these skills — and as a result, the wealth and opportunity that comes with them. Making coding part of the national curriculum would give every child — regardless of income, location, or gender — a fair shot at the digital economy.

3. It Builds Problem-Solvers, Not Just Job-Seekers

Kenya suffers not just from unemployment, but from a culture of job-seeking over job-creation. The country needs more entrepreneurs, innovators, and self-starters. Coding equips young people with the ability to build — to create apps, automate processes, start online businesses, and solve local problems with homegrown solutions. Imagine a young person in Mombasa who builds a platform connecting fishermen directly to buyers, cutting out the middleman and increasing profits for both sides. These are not fantasies — they are the kind of innovations that happen when young Africans are equipped with the right tools.

The Arguments Against — and Why They Fall Short

Critics raise valid concerns. Schools are already overwhelmed. Teachers are underpaid and undertrained. Many schools lack electricity, let alone computers. Shouldn't we fix the basics first?

These are fair challenges, but they are arguments for how to implement coding education, not whether to do it. The solution is not to delay — it is to be strategic.

Coding can be introduced in low-tech ways. Concepts like algorithms, sequences, and logic can be taught with

card games, puzzles, and unplugged activities before a single device is introduced. Countries like Rwanda and Ghana have already begun national coding curricula despite infrastructure challenges, using phased approaches and community-based computer labs. Waiting until schools are "ready" is a luxury many children cannot afford. Delay is not caution — it is abandonment.

What Kenya and Africa Must Do

Several steps are critical if coding is to become a genuine educational priority:

- Policy action: The national curriculum must formally include coding from primary school level, not as an optional extra, but as a core subject alongside Mathematics and English.
- Teacher training: You cannot teach what you do not know. Large-scale investment in training teachers — especially in rural and underserved areas — is non-negotiable.
- Public-private partnerships: Technology companies, NGOs, and governments must collaborate. Initiatives like Google's and Microsoft's digital literacy programmes in Africa show what is possible when resources are pooled.
- Local content: Coding should be taught in context. Students should build things that solve problems in their own communities — in their own languages, for their own realities.

The Bottom Line

History will judge our generation by whether we gave the next generation the tools to thrive. A century ago, a child who could not read was locked out of the modern world. Today, a child who cannot code — or at least think computationally — faces a similar disadvantage in an increasingly digital society.

Coding is not a luxury subject. It is not only for the gifted or the privileged. It is for every child who will grow up to live, work, and build a life in the 21st century.

The question is not whether we can afford to teach coding in every school.

The question is: Can we afford not to?

About the Author

Jamleck is a Technical Trainer at Yaris Institute of Information and Business Studies, Mombasa, where he teaches Frontend and Backend Web Development, Python, JavaScript, and Generative AI in Business.

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Phone: +254769047082

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Vitamin K

A Forgotten Name Yet So Vital.

Vitamin K was first identified by the Danish Chemist Henrik Dam, earning him the Nobel prize in 1943 for his discovery of its role as the K-coagulation factor in blood clotting.

Vitamin K is not a single chemical structure but actually refers to a group of fat-soluble vitamins whose two most common forms are K1 (phyloquinone) and K2 (menaquinone).

Dietary sources

K1 is found in plants and this is the principal dietary source of vitamin K accounting for around 90% of total vitamin K intakes. Rich sources include green leafy vegetables such as kale, broccoli and spinach.

K2 is found in animal-based products) e.g. fatty meat and eggs and in fermented foods e.g. cheese and Natto.

Natto is a fermented soy product commonly consumed in Japan and some other parts of Asia and is in fact the richest known dietary source of vitamin K.

Vitamin K's essential role in the body

K vitamins are critical co-



factors for a variety of proteins in the body including those involved in blood clotting, calcium transport as well as insulin regulation, fat deposition, cell proliferation and DNA transcription.

Whilst Vitamin K as K1 is probably best known for its role in the blood-clotting cascade, K2 is best known for its role in regulating calcium transport in the body and bone health. In the K2 form it can be stored in the body's fatty tissues and the liver.

Should I take vitamin K supplements?

Deficiencies of vitamin K are believed to be relatively rare given the abundance of the vitamins in green leafy vegetables although exclusively breast fed infants can be vulnerable.

However, individuals relying on a Western diet may be receiving sub-optimal levels of

K2, with the move away dairy foods, lowered consumption of fatty and organ meats e.g. liver and the general lack of fermented foods.

This potential lack of vitamin K2 is exacerbated by the relatively poor inter-conversion between K1 and K2 in the body. Small amounts of MK-4 can be formed via metabolic conversion of K1 during its absorption in the intestinal mucosa and in other organs but this is estimated to constitute <20% of the body's requirement for K2.

K2 is also produced in the large intestine by gut bacteria, although the contribution of this route to overall daily requirements is at this time unknown.

The US institute of Medicine has recommended a vitamin K intake range of 90-120 micrograms per day while the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has set an

BENEFITS OF VITAMIN K FOODS

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- Ensure Healthy Blood Clotting
- Promote Heart Health
- Improve Insulin Sensitivity
- Boost Brain Function

VITAMIN K

The Essential Vitamin for Clotting, Bones & Beyond

Vitamin K was first identified by the Danish chemist Henrik Dam, earning him the Nobel Prize in 1943 for his discovery of its role as the K-coagulation factor in blood clotting.

Vitamin K is not a single chemical structure but a group of fat-soluble vitamins. The two most common forms are K1 (phyloquinone) and K2 (menaquinone).

DIETARY SOURCES

VITAMIN K1 (PHYLOQUINONE)	VITAMIN K2 (MENAQUINONE)
Found in plants and is the principal dietary source of vitamin K (around 90% of total intake). Rich sources include:	Found in animal-based products and fermented foods. Sources include:
KALE, BROCCOLI, SPINACH	FATTY MEATS, EGGS, CHEESE, NATTO

Natto is a fermented soy product commonly consumed in Japan and some other parts of Asia and is in fact the richest known dietary source of vitamin K.

VITAMIN K'S ESSENTIAL ROLE IN THE BODY

K vitamins are critical co-factors for a variety of proteins in the body including those involved in:

- BLOOD CLOTTING
- CALCIUM TRANSPORT
- INSULIN REGULATION
- NET DEPOSITION
- CELL PROLIFERATION
- DNA TRANSCRIPTION

Vitamin K1 (as K1) is probably best known for its role in the blood-clotting cascade.

Vitamin K2 is best known for its role in regulating calcium transport in the body and bone health. In the K2 form it can be stored in the body's fatty tissues and the liver.

SHOULD I TAKE VITAMIN K SUPPLEMENTS?	VITAMIN K1 IN CLINICAL SETTINGS	FUTURE INTEREST IN VITAMIN K
Deficiencies are rare, but some people may be at risk, especially those on a Western diet low in K2 sources (dairy, organ meats, fermented foods). All-risk groups include: - Exclusively breastfed infants - Malabsorption disorders - Liver disease - Prolonged antibiotic therapy - Low intake of fermented foods or animal fats	The body converts only a small amount of K1 to K2 (<20% of body requirement). Can be given for Warfarin overdose, as a reversal of anticoagulation. Can be given before surgery for patients with liver impairment or vitamin K deficiency to reduce risk of bleeding during surgery.	Emerging research suggests vitamin K may play a role in: - CORONARY DISEASE - OSTEOPOROSIS - THROMBOEMBOLISM - WOMEN'S HEALTH - OUTCOMES IN CRITICAL ILLNESS More evidence-based research is ongoing.

RECOMMENDED INTAKE
Intake of Warfarin (S) (EFA Strong) is for K1 90-120 micrograms/day 70 micrograms/day
No separate intake level established for K2, but it has unique functions and may be under consumed.

Vitamin K is vital for life — supporting clotting, strong bones, and overall health. A balanced diet is key, and in some cases, supplementation may be beneficial.

physiological importance of vitamin K there appears to be value in its supplementation.

VITAMIN K1 IN CLINICAL SETTING.

Treatment and prevention of Vitamin K deficiency bleeding. To prevent hemorrhagic disease of the newborn. In adult with K vitamin K deficiency due to liver disease, malabsorption, or prolonged antibiotic use.

Can be given for Warfarin overdose, as a reversal of anticoagulation.

Can be given before

surgery for patients with liver impairment or vitamin K, to reduce risk of bleeding risk during surgery.

Future interest of Vitamin K.

Future research points of Vitamin K being a potential link if critical illnesses and could be a potential role in coronary diseases, osteoporosis, thromboembolism, women health subject to evidence-based research data.

Arifa Turabali (MKPA, HSM, MPH)

CORPORATE KURUKSHETRA -Soft Skills Sutras - Win the Battle Without War

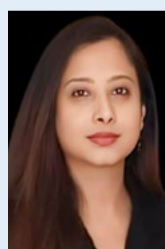
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Within the towering glass walls of SatvaCorp Pvt. Ltd., silent battles unfolded every day. Politics disguised as strategy, jealousy masked as ambition, and competition sharpened like unseen arrows. The corporate world, in its own way, was no less than a Kurukshetra: a battlefield where victories were celebrated



By Arti Kotak

loudly, but inner peace was rarely found.

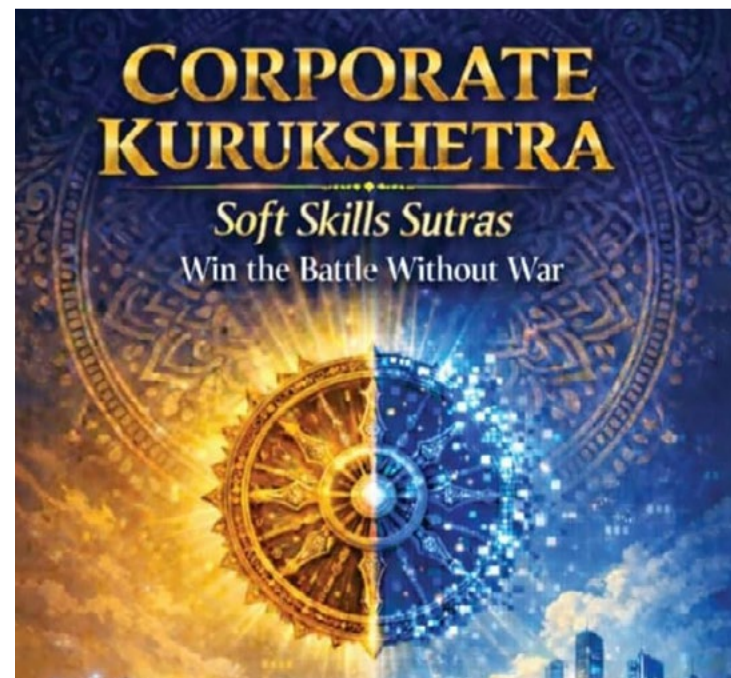
In the midst of this chaos, stood Parth and Falgun, led by the serene genius of Madhav - current CEO of SatvaCorp. United in purpose, they began a remarkable journey - transforming the timeless wisdom of the Bhagvad Gita into a vibrant digital guide, not to fuel conflict, but to awaken inner triumph. These two boys, digitized ancient teachings of Bhagvad Gita into a modern soft-skill system, helping employees fight not with words or ego, but with clarity, calmness, and courage. As the GITA (Global Intelligence Transformation Algorithm) project took shape, they found themselves on a journey that was mysterious, mythological, philosophical, and unexpectedly thrilling - where ancient wisdom met modern

technology. With patience, insight, and quiet determination, they began reshaping SatvaCorp into a conscious, forward-looking workplace - a space where each employee learned to face and conquer both inner and outer battles.

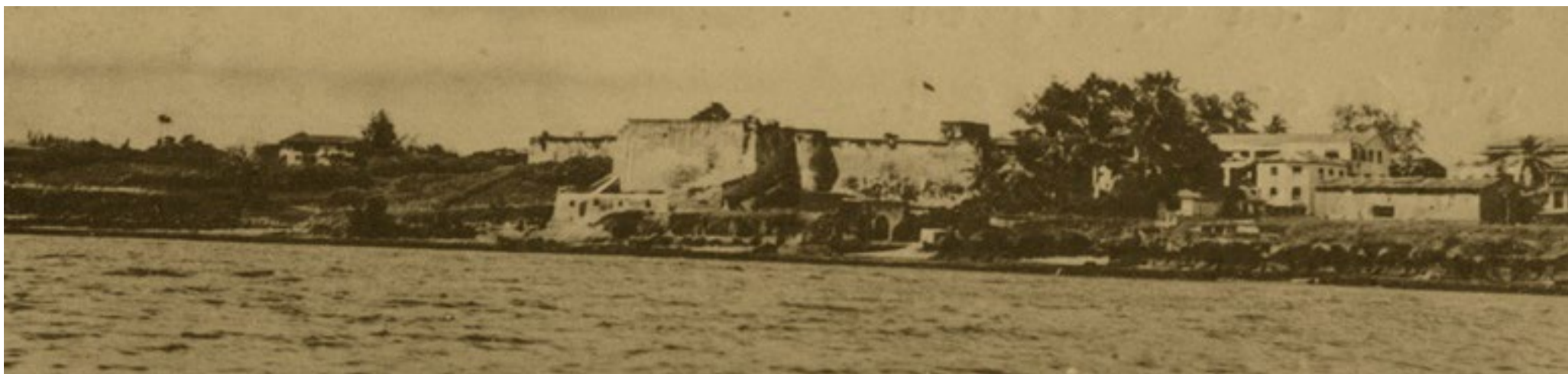
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HISTORY



The Indigeneousity Of The Coast Of Kenya: The Case of Waswahili

BY STAMBULI WA SH. ABDILLAHI NASSIR.

In recent years, historians and other intellectuals have been concentrating much attention to the concept of identity.

This shift is from the mid-1970s to today and has been towards an increasing ethnification of public social realms, a generalized increase in identity politics. Thus, in such a situation there is little room for the hybrid identification discussed and pleaded for by cultural elites. Today, in Kenya, it seems that everyone is trying to claim a right to their own identity. Identity has taken on the status of a sacred object, an ultimate concern.

Hence, my concern with the reality on why it is now clear to me that identity politics is a shifting and complex area of concern to many, though the trick is to rightfully claim the right identity at the right time and with substantive evidence. This article discusses some of the issues associated with this topic on the coast of East Africa and its peoples.

The quotation in the title is a phrase I often heard when studying African Studies (Swahili branch) in the early 1970s. The East Coast was considered to be different from the rest of East Africa otherwise known as 'up-country' because it had a long history and impressive material remains as well as a written language with its own literature. What it did not have, unlike the rest of East Africa, were 'tribes'.



It is my sincere belief that no sane person can ever argue about the issue pertaining to the fact that ever since the most recent discovery of a number of mosques, graves and other artefacts at Ras-Mzimle (currently known as Mama

Ngina Drive), is tantamount to prove that the Waswahili people, and with them their language, lived and grew on the coast of what is now Kenya through many centuries, even longer before most other Kenyans who also

claim indigenoussness had arrived from either southern Sudan, Ethiopia, or Somalia respectively. And, it is thus with history that we must be concerned if we wish to understand the present which is history's newest chapter.

Indeed, it was during the months of June and July 2006 when the author of an article entitled "Ras Serani an historical complex", while working as a research scientist with the Department of Coastal Archaeology of the National Museums of Kenya, carried out

a number of archaeological surveys on the headland of Ras Serani site overlooking the entrance to Mombasa's harbour. This was a part of a proposed masterplan to embellish what is now known as the Mama Ngina Drive area and turn it into a tourist attraction. The main focus of the surveys was on Fort St Joseph, a Portuguese bastion built over 500 years ago and occupying a strategic position on the cliff-top. The ruins were examined in the context of several other historical sites

found in this area.

The renowned author known as Hans-Martin Sommer mentions mention these sites as:

- a) Fort St. Joseph
- b) the site of the chapel 'Nossa Senhora das Mercês'
- c) a well
- d) a staircase
- e) a quarry
- f) a military bunker built during WW II (generator room)

Moreover, Hans-Martin Sommer continues his articulation in the series he

wrote about Mombasa, with an account of excavations on Ras Serani of several buildings and relics, which themselves, he believes, originated at various dates ranging from pre-Vasco da Gama to the Second World War preparations in the 1930s. He even includes some tantalizing hints in his writings about possible connections with a much-rumoured secret passage from Ras Serani to Fort Jesus.

However, it is imperative that we all acknowledge that any people's development is obviously influenced by that of others which, again, is embedded in wider context. In fact, no people or country's history can be written in isolation. Links of interaction connect it with other peoples and civilizations which, again, are tied to others by a net which envelopes the globe. Having stated that, it must now be generally accepted, even by those who strongly oppose the mere acknowledgement of Waswahili as being a people indigenous to the littoral, and that their language has played an important role in the progress of the various areas of East Africa into nationhood.

In fact, as the late Shihabuddin Chiraghdin once wrote "Swahili is definitely an indigenous language of indigenous people of East Africa. It is inextricably bound up with the cultures of its people. Various kinds of evidence illuminate the interwoven nature of this African culture that has owed some of its origins, as other languages and cultures owe their origins to outside sources- Arabic, Persian, or even Chinese and various other cultures to a lesser degree". "In Europe", he goes on, "the Swahili culture and civilization have generally been assumed as Arab. The Portuguese had given no credit to African initiative and they made no mention of the Swahili language. They confused race with religion and referred to the people of the city-states of the East African littoral as 'Moors', and when they realized that among these there were



547.

NATIVE BAZAAR, MOMBASA.



people who were distinctly African in feature, they made the distinction between "Black" and "White" Moors, but Moors the Swahili remained in the eyes of the Portuguese." "When the later colonialists of Europe set foot in East Africa in the 19th century", Shihabuddin Chiraghdin reckons," they persisted in the belief that the Swahili states were Arab colonies and hence their culture and language of Arab origin. Such a belief may have stemmed from the commonly held view that the 'Africans have no history of their own' as exemplified by Coupland, an accredited authority on the history of East Africa. He writes "A new chapter in the history of East Africa began with Dr. David Livingstone. So far, it might be said that Africa proper had no history.... The main body of Africans... For untold centuries sunk in barbarism." Coupled with this belief was the view that slave trade was the principle occupation of the Coast until the British came to establish their hegemony. This is history based on English documents,

history seen through the eyes of Livingstone and Kirk and other "abolitionists". It does not at all give a balanced picture."

Unfortunately, the current views which most of us still hold on to about the Swahili Land today in the 21st century (together with its people and language) are the same that the Europeans taught us in the 19th century, and they result from the particular way in which expanding and colonialist Europe looked at its own history, that of mankind, and that of Swahili Land, in Kenya, and East Africa as a whole. Normally, this view had to justify European expansion. And, as this expansionists' view was wrong, so was this view also false.

European teaching and writing rationalized European rule over non-Europeans, and what most fellow-Africans think or know of the Swahili people and their language, tradition and culture stems from such teaching and writing and is essentially false. Sincerely, every person lives with an amended version of his life story. He rejects

or modifies unpleasant memories, and conflict with others is interpreted in his favour. Nations, and even whole civilizations, behave in the same way. Where nations have come into conflict their versions of history differ. And Europe came into conflict with the peoples of all other continents. What has been taught to Africans is Europe's version of history. And, we as Swahili proper do hereby reject it and want to set the record straight for all.

In fact, contemporary evidence on the same gives a different picture altogether; its sites and Swahili writings not only accredited itself of a historical nature, but literary its writings supply the corrective perception of the same. Shihabuddin goes on to argue that "it is not easy to ascertain how old Swahili is, just as it is not easy to decide the date of birth of many a language, but it certainly is a language of antiquity. It is a language rich in literature, full of idiom and slang. It has no less than fifteen dialects, the most important of which are Kiamu,

Kimvita and Kiunguja. It even has a very poetic, archaic form, Kingovi, which is the parent of all the dialects."

When elaborating on the history of the Swahili as a people vis-à-vis world civilization, Shihabuddin defines it succinctly in these words "going back to the medieval times, Swahili was already in domestic use in the courts of Kilwa by the 14th century, if not earlier. In fact, he goes on to write, the earliest recorded Swahili words are found in Arab reports of the 10th century A.D.

The Swahili littoral was already known and recognized as an area equal in civilization and cultural development to any on the Indian Ocean seaboard, and even beyond. The Chinese were already collecting scraps of information about East Africa by the 12th century and their wares were finding their way into the Swahili states. By the 15th century, Chinese fleets had reached the Coast of (what is now known as) Kenya. And, evidence of this Chinese penetration in the East African market is found in the still-existing Swahili expression of porcelain as "Vyombo vya Sini", meaning wares of China. Furthermore, earlier travellers, Al-Masudi, Al Dimashqi, Al-Idrisi, and Ibn Batuta, were already giving vivid descriptions of the prosperity of this area and had a sprinkling of Swahili names and Swahili words in their writings. Thus, it is my sincere belief that by all existing accounts and evidence then, the Swahili who are of the Muslim faith have been the longest settled group in Kenya.

Waswahili have impacted Kenyan society at the linguistic, political, economic and social levels long before the dawn of both Omani as well as the European colonization. But, on the contrary, their influence by

far outweighs their numerical extent. And, virtually all writings on the history of both Islam and Kenya have treated them either as a historical relic, frozen in time or as a passing phenomenon of no future importance. Subsequently, apart from the historical perspectives given to us by biased historians, we know very little about the state of the Swahili in contemporary Kenya.

This is of necessity to the outcome of a mind-set that treats Swahilis as the invisible part of Kenyan society. So, what kind of people did the so-called European explorers see in these East African city-states they visited? Who were these people they met? And what kinds of societies, economies, cultures, or rather civilization etc, did these people have? Obviously, by the time the Portuguese arrived on our lands during the late 15th century, Waswahili had already been in existence centuries ago and had already converted to Islam per se.

There was also a fruitful merger of cultures, African, Arab and Persian, and if the rulers of the East African city-states felt themselves to be of Arab or Persian descent and manufactured genealogies, some of which were purely legendary, they did so as men of Africa, not of Arabia or Persia. Even then, these rulers bore distinctly un-Arabic but Swahili names. Such names as Muriri wa Bari, the founder of Kilwa, Mwana Mkisi, the onetime Queen of Mombasa, or Fumo Liongo, hero of Pate, or the place names such as Malindi, Manda or Shungwaya, were without doubt Swahili. They would sometimes write in Arabic because that was the language of learning in their city-states just as Latin was the language of learning in Europe and English and French are in modern Africa. It is easy for

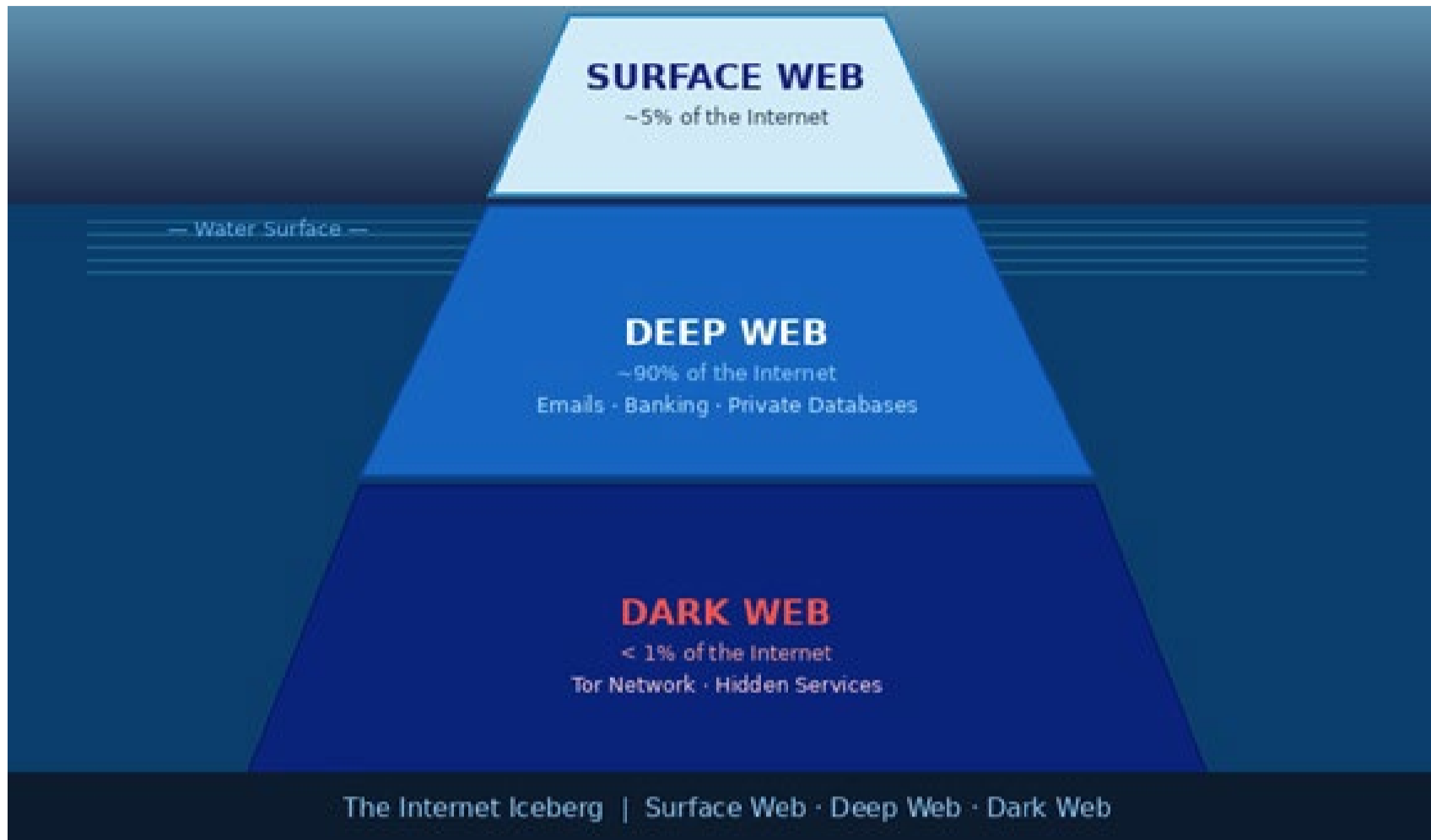
literary Arabs to observe that the style of Arabic they write was definitely "foreign" Arabic. Some words and a system of dating in the "Kilwa Chronicle", for example, could only be known by a Swahili reader.

In brief, as the late Mzee Haydar Kindy (father to Prof. Muhammad Haydar Kindy) put it in his famous book known as "Life and Politics in Mombasa", the Waswahili polity was confederated into the "12 Tribes" (Miji kumi miwili), or Miji Ithnashara formed by the 'Miji mitatu' and 'Miji tisa'. The Three Tribes which were headed by a Tamim (Grand Sheikh) and a Council of Elders (Wazee) are the Wa-Kilindini, Wa-Tangana and Wa-Changamwe. They were allied to the Wa-Digo and Wa-Duruma. Similarly, the Nine Tribes created their own institution headed by a Tamim and a Council of Elders. The Nine Tribes were the Wa-Mvita, Wa-Jomvu (or WaJunda), Wa-Mtwapa (or Mutisafi), Wa-Kilifi, Wa-Pate, Wa-Shaka, WaFaza, Wa-Katwa, and Wa-Gunya (or Wa-Bajuni). The Miji Tisa or Nine Tribes went into alliance respectively with other nearby tribes- the Wa-Giriama, Wa-Rabai, Wa-Chonyi, Wa-Jibana, Wa-Ribe, Wa-Kauma and Wa-Kambe, which together with the Wa-Digo and the Wa-Duruma were known as WaMidzichenda."

And, apart from these mentioned, there are also others known by these names Wa-Vumba who consist of two sub-tribes better known as Ba-Amiri and Ba-Alawi, then there's the Wa-Shirazi where you will also find sub-tribes such as Wa-Chifundi, Wa-Changani, WaMuyani, Wa-Mbayayi, Wa-Kirui, Wa-Uso, Wa-Ulenge, and Wa-Pajinames derived from their early settlement areas.

Please, do not miss the next episode...

INTERNET



“Not everyone on the dark web is a criminal. But ignoring it entirely is a gamble no one can afford.”

people — not to endanger them. But the risks are undeniable. Around 60% of dark web sites are tied to illegal activity. Global cybercrime costs are projected to hit \$10.5 trillion in 2025. In April of that year alone, a single healthcare breach exposed 18 million user credentials on dark web forums.

What You Should Do

You do not need to visit the dark web to be affected by it. Your personal data — email address, phone number, banking credentials — may already be circulating in hidden markets without your knowledge. Strong passwords, two-factor authentication, and careful sharing of personal information are your first defences.

The internet is not the open, knowable space most people imagine. It is an iceberg — and the part we see is just the beginning. The question is not whether what lies beneath affects you. It already does.

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You Have Never Really Seen the Internet

What you browse every day is just the tip. Beneath the surface lies a hidden world — 90% of it invisible, and some of it darker than you can imagine.

Imagine an iceberg floating in the Arctic Ocean. Tourists on a cruise ship photograph what they can see — a majestic white peak, gleaming in the sun. What they cannot see is far more terrifying: a colossal mass lurking beneath the water, ten times the size of what is visible above. The internet works exactly the same way. And most of us are the tourists.

Every Google search, every Instagram scroll, every YouTube binge — all of it takes place on the surface web. It feels boundless. It is not. It accounts for as little as 4% of the entire internet. The other 96% is hidden from your browser, from search engines, and quite possibly from your imagination.

Layer One: The Surface Web — Where We All Live

The surface web is everything Google can find: news articles, social media feeds, shopping sites, Wikipedia, YouTube. It is fast, open, and designed to be seen. It is also — in the grand scheme of the internet — tiny. Think of it as the lobby of an impossibly vast building, with thousands of floors you never knew existed.

Layer Two: The Deep Web — The Hidden Majority

Descend below and you reach the Deep Web — not a place of mystery, but of mundanity. Your email inbox lives here. Your mobile banking app connects to it. Every hospital patient record, every

“The other 96% of the internet is hidden — from your browser, your search engine, and possibly your imagination.”

university research database, every private company intranet — all of it resides in the deep web, locked behind passwords and paywalls.

This layer makes up roughly 90% of the internet. You use

it every single day without realising it. It is not dangerous. It is simply private — and for good reason.

Layer Three: The Dark Web — Where Anonymity Is Everything

Now we descend into genuinely uncharted waters. The Dark Web is a deliberately hidden network, accessible only through a specialised browser called Tor — The Onion Router — originally built by the United States Navy. Tor routes your connection through multiple encrypted layers across the globe, so no single server ever knows both who you are and what you are looking at.

Here, websites do not end in .com or .ke. They end in .onion. They are invisible to Google. And they are not meant for you to find easily.

Not All Darkness Is Evil

Here is what surprises most people: not everyone on the dark web is a criminal. Journalists living under authoritarian regimes use it

to speak to sources without fear of arrest. Whistleblowers use it to expose corruption safely. Privacy advocates use it simply to browse without being tracked. The Tor network was, after all, created to protect

PHOTO STORY

Ithanga



Ahadi Kenya Trust Ceo Stanley Kamau, Assistant County Commissioner Kakuzi - Mitubiri division in Muranga County Hannah Muraya and nominated MCA Sharleen Wambui (in red) distribute handbags to over 150 young mothers and assorted foodstuff at Ithanga division offices in Gatanga constituency on Thursday. Kamau warned parents and local administrators to stop negotiation in cases of defilement that have become rampant in the area but report to police immediately.

Surface Web	~4-10% of the internet — what Google can find
Deep Web	~90% of the internet — private, login-protected content
Dark Web	< 1% — requires Tor; ~2.5 million daily users in 2025
Cybercrime Cost	\$10.5 trillion projected globally in 2025
Dark Web Sites	~60% linked to illegal activity

IPOA Pushes Tech, Intel-Led Policing Ahead of 2027 Polls

The Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) has urged the National Police Service to embrace intelligence-led operations, deploy modern technology and strengthen community policing as Kenya braces for a potentially volatile political season ahead of the 2027 General Election.

During a meeting with the National Assembly Committee on Administration and Internal Security at Sarova Whitesands Hotel in Mombasa, IPOA officials and lawmakers raised concerns over rising political tensions, police accountability, and the delicate balance between enforcing law and safeguarding human rights.

IPOA Commissioner Jackline Mwenesi placed responsibility squarely on the political class warning that leaders must take charge in cooling tensions as the country edges closer to an electioneering period.

"The buck stops with the political class to lower the temperatures," she said, cautioning against unnecessary pressure on the police. "With all honesty, the police are not overwhelmed."

Her remarks came as lawmakers pressed IPOA to explain its response to recent incidents of alleged police misconduct during politically charged events.

Lari MP Hon. Mburu Kahangara cited a widely circulated incident involving the former Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua at ACK Watima in Nyeri, where officers were seen firing at parked vehicles and smashing windscreens.

"This is something already in the public domain," Kahangara said. "Has anything been done to establish the command structure and officers involved? Such actions give a bad name not just to the police but to government as well."

In response, IPOA Chief Executive Officer Elema Halakhe said the authority had launched both monitoring and investigative processes into the incident, but encountered challenges in obtaining accurate deployment records.

"We made significant progress, but we are yet to establish which officers were



deployed," Halakhe said. "The information provided did not match what we found on the ground."

Halakhe noted that IPOA had recommended institutionalising intelligence-led policing to anticipate such incidents, alongside strengthening community policing and enhancing training in crowd management and human rights.

"There is a need for refresher training, especially as we approach 2027. In that incident, the police were least prepared," he said.

Lawmakers repeatedly stressed the need for proactive policing, with Sotik MP Hon. Julius Sigei calling on IPOA to move beyond reactive oversight and anticipate emerging threats.

"I would like to see IPOA being more proactive, looking at possible scenarios and deploying technology accordingly," Sigei said, warning of large-scale unrest similar to past incidents where crowds overwhelmed security agencies.

The discussion also turned to the use of force by police officers, with Committee vice Chairperson and Saku MP Hon. Dido Rasso questioning how IPOA defines "legitimate use of force" in an increasingly charged political environment.

Hon. Rasso warned that Kenya's electoral history suggests heightened tensions in 2027 due to incumbency dynamics, potentially leading to increased protests and police engagement.

"What is your projection based on this history?" he posed, adding that leadership both political and institutional, must take responsibility to prevent chaos.

IPOA officials acknowledged

the concern, revealing that the authority is already modelling election-related scenarios based on past trends to improve preparedness.

"We are studying historical patterns and projecting possible outcomes to better prepare," Halakhe said, adding that police must act decisively where leaders incite disorder.

On technology, both lawmakers and IPOA officials backed the adoption of tools such as drones, body cameras, and CCTV systems to enhance transparency and accountability.

Teso North MP Hon. Oku Kaunya, however, cautioned that drones may not be effective in spontaneous incidents such as sudden attacks by goons.

"In unpredictable situations, by the time you deploy a drone, the damage may already be done," he noted, urging a balanced approach.

IPOA Commissioner Dr Annette Mudola Mbogo clarified that drone deployment would be intelligence-led and primarily used in planned public order situations.

"It will be suitable for monitoring planned events, but less effective in spontaneous incidents," she said, adding that a legal and data protection framework would be required for its use.

The authority also endorsed the use of body cameras and CCTV systems in police stations, noting that technological evidence is harder to manipulate and could strengthen investigations.

Narok West MP Hon. Gabriel Tongoyo, who chairs the committee sought assurance on the rollout of body cameras.

"From where you sit as IPOA, what is your position on the

intended use of body cameras and drones by the police?" Tongoyo posed.

Meanwhile, Homabay Town MP Peter Kaluma raised concerns about balancing oversight with operational efficiency warning that excessive scrutiny could lead to police hesitation during critical moments.

"If you allow police lethargy, we risk losing the state," Kaluma said, referencing past incidents where restraint prevented greater loss of life.

He also questioned the management of compensation for victims of human rights violations, warning against fraudulent claims.

Halakhe confirmed that IPOA has already submitted a verified list of victims to the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights to support compensation processes.

"We are not leading the compensation process, but we have provided verified data on deaths and injuries," he said.

On broader policing challenges, IPOA flagged a persistent gap in the police-to-citizen ratio, noting that Kenya has yet to meet recommended standards.

To bridge the gap, the authority called for enhanced public cooperation and, where necessary, coordinated deployment of other security agencies.

IPOA Commissioner Kenwilliam Nyakomitha also addressed concerns that officers fear accountability mechanisms, clarifying that lawful use of force remains protected.

"If an officer acts within the law, there should be no fear," he said, adding that many cases under investigation involve individual criminal conduct rather than public order policing.

The meeting comes at a time of heightened scrutiny of policing in Kenya, with rising reports of political violence, gender-based killings involving security officers, and public mistrust.

Nakuru Woman Representative Liza Chelule urged IPOA to follow up on cases where police officers allegedly killed their spouses, calling for justice for affected families.

PHOTO STORY

Wajir County World Bank Funded Ablution Blocks Project Complete



Officials from Wajir Water & Sewerage Co. Ltd, (WAJWASCO) led by Deputy Project coordinator Siyad Adow (light blue shirt left) and Wajir County senior security officers led by Wajir County police Commander John Gichohi (carrying swagger stick/in specks) during the inspection of the newly completed 16 ablution blocks in the county police line, Administration Police Camp, Kenya Airport Police and Wajir Referral Hospital whose construction was funded by World Bank through Water and Sanitation Development Project (WSDP) in partnership with WAJWASCO. The blocks to be commissioned soon will see the face out of the unsafe traditional bucket toilets.

Rotary Sunshine Rally Anthem Launch



Kevin Waire aka Wyre (2nd right), the producer of the new official Rotary Sunshine Rally anthem "Kwa Watoto Wote" lead Rotary officials from left Rotary Club of Nairobi Upper Hill District Governor Saad Rahman, Rotary District 9212 District Governor Wairimu Njage, Rotary Club of Ngong Road President Magdalene Mwendu and EALA MP David Ole Sankok in a dance to his song during its official launch by Rotary District 9212 at golden Tulip hotel, Nairobi on Thursday May 7th, 2027. The song celebrates 44 years of sunshine rally of hope, inclusion, and joy for thousands of children across Kenya

SOCIAL MEDIA

Understanding Youth Radicalization

The Role of Social Media and Early Warning Signs for Parents

Radicalization among youth is an increasingly complex challenge shaped by personal, social, and digital influences. It is a gradual process through which a young person adopts extreme beliefs that may promote intolerance, division, or even justify violence. Today, social media has significantly accelerated this process, making it more subtle, accessible, and harder for parents to detect early.

Young people are particularly vulnerable due to ongoing identity formation, curiosity, and emotional development. Social media platforms such as Facebook, TikTok, YouTube, and Telegram expose them to vast streams of information and communities. While beneficial in many ways, these platforms can also host content that subtly introduces extremist narratives. Algorithms reinforce this exposure by continuously suggesting similar content, creating echo chambers that normalize extreme viewpoints.

In the digital age, radicalization often begins innocently. A young person may search for information on identity, religion, politics, or global conflicts. They may then encounter emotionally charged or misleading content framed in simplistic "us versus them" terms. Influencers or anonymous actors may gradually build trust while introducing more extreme ideas. Encrypted or



private groups, especially on platforms like Telegram, can further deepen indoctrination away from public scrutiny.

For parents, recognizing early warning signs is critical. Behavioural changes may include excessive or secretive internet use, particularly at night; sudden shifts in content consumption; or defensiveness when questioned. Youth may withdraw from family, lose interest in usual activities, or develop new, unexplained online associations.

Language and attitude shifts are equally telling. The use of rigid, intolerant, or dehumanizing language, or expressions that justify violence or glorify extremist figures, should raise concern. Emotionally, the young person may display increased anger,

frustration, or a strong sense of grievance and victimhood, often reinforced by online content.

Timely and thoughtful intervention is essential. Parents should avoid confrontation that may lead to further isolation. Instead, they should engage in open, calm, and non-judgmental dialogue, asking questions to understand their child's online experiences. Active guidance of digital behaviour, through setting boundaries, encouraging balanced media use, and promoting critical thinking, is crucial.

Collaboration beyond the home is equally important. Schools, religious institutions, and community leaders can provide support and counter-narratives. Professional counselling may be necessary

in advanced cases. Ultimately, effective response requires not only disrupting harmful influence but addressing the deeper needs for identity, belonging, and purpose that make youth susceptible to radicalization.

Major (Retired) Dr. Mohamed Morowa is a security consultant who has a PhD in Governance, Peace, and Security, an MA in Security Studies and Conflict Resolution, an MBA, a BSc in Computer Science, and a Diploma in Certified Security Management Professional. With over 35 years of extensive experience, he is an expert in this field, yet his rates are budget-friendly. He can be reached on 0722 262639, 0733 215351 or via email at morowa@msn.com.

KARMA



This ancient Indian carving explains KARMA better than modern philosophy ever could. Every knot is connected. Nothing stands alone.

1. Karma is not punishment. It is connection. Every action ties a knot. Every intention strengthens it. You don't escape karma. You move within it.
2. See how every loop touches another? That's life. Your words affect someone. Their reaction affects another. And the cycle continues. Nothing is isolated.
3. At the center stands the

doer.

Not as a victim.
Not as a spectator.
But as the creator of consequence.
You are both the cause and the experiencer.

4. Karma is not revenge. It is balance. Not fear. But law. Just as gravity doesn't choose sides, Karma doesn't miss details.

5. That's why our Rishis taught:
Act with awareness. Speak with dharma. Think with purity. Because every knot you tie... you will one day touch again. Don't be "Scared." Be "Conscious". Today's action is tomorrow's destiny.



MADAFU NEWSPAPER KENYA VALUED OUTLETS:

NAIROBI:

Parklands and Westlands:
Anga Cinema (Diamond Plaza 2)
Ashapura Sweet Mart (Kirima Shopping, 5th Parklands)
Bajrang (Sky Mall)
Bhagwanji Sweet & Farsan (3rd Parklands Kusi Lane)
Kumar Brothers (Diamond Plaza)
Microcity (Sarit Centre)
Onn The Way Supermarket (all branches)
Sona Shoppe (Wesgate Shopping Mall)
Taste of China (3rd Parklands)

Nyali – Chandarana Supermarket
Quickmart Bandari Supermarket
Naivas Likoni Mall Supermarket
Yaris Institute – Haile Selassie Avenue
Mombasa Afrigas – Nyerere Avenue
Hakimi Stationeries – Moi Avenue
AudioAsh Coolers – opp Sapphire Hotel
Various Hospitals & News Vendors
Hand Delivery via Newspaper Vendors

KISUMU:

Western Emporium

INDUSTRIAL AREA:

Bunny Industries Limited (Dakar Road)

LANGATA:

Sona Shoppe (Galleria Shopping Mall)

KAREN:

Sona Shoppe (Karen Crossroads)

NAKURU:

Hyrax General Supplies (Biashara Avenue)
Rani Ramchandani
Rift Agencies Insurance Ltd c/o Purvi

KITALE:

Milli Hardware Ltd Main Road

ELDORET:

Kenya Jalaram Co Ltd – opp CBK

VOI:

Abbas Aluminum Supplies

MOMBASA:

Blue Room Restaurants
Nyali Cinemax
Nyali Centre – DKL
Umoja Rubber Shoes Shops

DIANI:

Palm Beach Hospital
Aasan Solutions Auditors
Moiz Supermarket
Various Restaurants & Hotels
Chandarana Supermarket

MALINDI:

Uzima Training Centre – CBD
Various Hotels & Restaurants

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The Iran War - 2026



The 2026 war between the United States, its allies (notably Israel), and Iran represents the culmination of decades of geopolitical rivalry rooted in ideology, security concerns, and economic interests. Tensions date back to the 1979 Iranian Revolution and earlier Western intervention in Iran's oil sector and governance, including the 1953 coup backed by U.S. and British interests to secure strategic influence over oil resources.

Causes and Strategic Motivations

The immediate trigger of the war was a coordinated U.S.-Israeli military campaign launched on February 28, 2026, targeting Iran's nuclear, missile, and military infrastructure. Official justifications included preventing Iran from developing nuclear weapons and neutralizing its regional influence. However, broader motivations included:

- Maintaining Western dominance in the Middle East
- Securing global energy supply chains
- Limiting Iran's ability to fund proxy groups through oil revenues
- Some analysts argue the war also reflects strategic competition for control over global oil flows and geopolitical influence.

War Tactics and Military Operations

The conflict has been characterized by high-intensity, technology-driven warfare:



By Rishi Arun Parikh

- The U.S. conducted approximately 13,000 precision strikes targeting nuclear facilities, missile systems, and leadership compounds.

- Israel executed over 10,000 strikes, including air raids and targeted assassinations.

- Use of AI-assisted targeting systems and drone warfare has been significant, reflecting a shift toward automated and hybrid warfare.

- Iran has responded with proxy warfare, missile attacks, and hybrid tactics, including cyber and low-level attacks in Europe.

These tactics indicate a transition from conventional war to multi-domain conflict involving cyber, economic, and proxy elements.

Corporate and Economic Interests

The war has had profound economic consequences, revealing strong links between conflict and corporate gain:

- Oil prices surged above \$100 per barrel due to disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz, through which ~20% of global oil flows.

- Major energy firms such as BP reported massive profit increases amid rising fuel prices, highlighting how corporations benefit during instability.

- U.S. corporations across sectors have raised prices or cut forecasts due to increased energy and supply chain costs.

This demonstrates a dual dynamic: economic hardship for

consumers and windfall gains for energy and defense sectors.

Effects on Standards of Living

Globally, the war has triggered:

- Inflation driven by fuel and transport costs
- Reduced trade flows and disrupted supply chains
- Rising food and energy prices, especially in developing economies

In advanced economies, airlines, logistics firms, and manufacturers report declining margins and rising operational costs.

Future Implications

The conflict risks evolving into a prolonged "Cold War-style" standoff characterized by sanctions, blockades, and indirect confrontation.

Potential long-term effects include:

- Fragmentation of global trade systems
- Strengthening of alternative alliances (e.g., Russia benefiting from higher oil revenues)
- Accelerated militarization of AI and drone warfare
- Persistent global economic instability

The Iran war may feel geographically distant, but its ripple effects on Kenya are immediate and significant—primarily through energy, trade, and cost of living.

1. Fuel Prices and Inflation

Kenya imports nearly all of its petroleum, so disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz—through which a large share of global oil passes—directly push up fuel costs. When oil prices rise globally, Kenya pays more for imports, weakening the Kenyan shilling and increasing inflation.

Higher fuel prices cascade through the economy:

- Transport costs rise (public transport, logistics, shipping)
- Food prices increase due to higher distribution costs
- Electricity costs climb where thermal power is used

For ordinary citizens, this translates into a noticeable decline in purchasing power and living standards.

2. Cost of Living and Social Pressure

Kenya is already sensitive to global price shocks. A prolonged war would likely:

- Increase food insecurity, especially in urban low-income households
- Put pressure on government subsidies and fiscal budgets
- Raise the risk of social unrest tied to rising living costs

Even sectors like tourism could be affected if global travel demand slows due to geopolitical instability.

3. Trade and Supply Chain Disruptions

Kenya relies on global shipping

routes connected to the Middle East. Any escalation affecting maritime security increases freight costs and delays.

The port of Port of Mombasa—a key gateway for East and Central Africa—could see:

- Reduced cargo volumes or higher insurance costs
- Delays in imports like machinery, fuel, and consumer goods
- Increased export costs for tea, coffee, and horticulture

This weakens Kenya's competitiveness in global markets.

4. Government Budget Strain

Rising import costs and inflation force the Kenyan government to make difficult choices:

- Increase fuel subsidies (raising public debt)
- Pass costs to consumers (raising inflation further)
- Cut spending in other sectors like infrastructure or social services

This creates a fiscal balancing challenge, especially with existing debt obligations.

5. Opportunities (Limited but Real)

Not all impacts are negative:

- Higher global oil prices may increase interest in alternative energy, where Kenya is strong (geothermal, wind, solar)
- Kenya could position itself as a regional logistics and diplomatic hub if instability persists in the Middle East

6. Security and Geopolitical Alignment

Kenya maintains strategic partnerships with Western nations, including the United States. If the conflict expands, Kenya may face indirect pressure to align diplomatically or support international positions, which could affect foreign aid, trade agreements, or security cooperation.

Bottom Line

For Kenya, the Iran war is primarily an economic shock multiplier rather than a direct military threat. Its biggest effects are:

- Higher fuel and food prices
- Increased cost of living
- Strain on government finances
- Disruptions to trade and supply chains

If the conflict is prolonged, these pressures could slow economic growth and deepen inequality, making domestic economic management more challenging than the war itself.

The Iran war is not solely a military conflict but a complex intersection of security strategy, energy economics, and geopolitical power competition, where both governments and corporations play decisive roles in shaping outcomes and consequences.

Mr. Rishi Arun Parikh
Madafu Newspaper
Editor

FUEL



Inside Kenya's Fuel Pricing Distortions



Fuel pricing in Kenya is regulated by the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA) using a formula that combines global oil costs, import expenses, taxes, and controlled margins. The system is structured but heavily burdened by taxation and external shocks.



By Rishi Arun Parikh

1. Import Pricing vs Global Oil Prices

Kenya imports nearly all refined petroleum via government-to-government (G-to-G) agreements with Middle Eastern suppliers. The base price is the landed cost, which reflects global crude prices, freight, and exchange rates. In 2026, landed petrol costs rose to about KSh107 per litre before local additions.

However, this base price often doubles by the time fuel reaches the pump, showing a significant disconnect between global oil prices and retail prices.

2. Taxes and Levies Breakdown

Taxes are the single largest component of fuel prices in Kenya, accounting for roughly KSh80+ per litre (~40–46%).

Key levies include:

- Excise duty (fixed per litre)
- Value Added Tax (VAT), applied on top of other taxes
- Road Maintenance Levy
- Petroleum Development Levy
- Railway Development Levy
- Import Declaration Fee & Merchant Shipping Levy

These layered taxes create a “tax-on-tax” effect, significantly inflating final prices regardless of global price reductions.

3. Distribution, Margins, and Pricing Formula

After importation, costs increase through:

- Pipeline transport, storage, and losses
 - Wholesale and retail margins (~KSh17 per litre combined)
 - Dealer and logistics costs
- EPRA regulates these margins, but they still materially increase the pump price. Overall, fuel moves from ~KSh107 landed cost to over KSh200 per litre retail.

4. Import Quota and Supply System

Kenya uses a centralized import system (Open Tender System and G-to-G deals) where selected oil marketers import fuel on behalf of the industry. This reduces forex pressure but concentrates supply control among a few firms, limiting competition and price responsiveness.

5. Market Manipulation, Hoarding, and Inefficiencies

Despite regulation, market distortions persist:

- Hoarding before price increases has been observed, leading to artificial shortages
- Oil marketers may delay supply releases to benefit from higher future prices
- Sudden price hikes often trigger panic buying and long queues

These behaviors exploit the lag between global price changes and local price adjustments.

6. Key Insight

Kenya's fuel pricing is less a reflection of global oil prices and more a tax-driven and structurally inflated system, where government revenue needs, import dependence, and limited competition combine to keep prices persistently high.

Policy Brief: Reforming Kenya's Fuel Pricing System for

Stability and Growth

Kenya's fuel pricing framework, regulated by the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority (EPRA), is heavily influenced by global oil markets, exchange rates, and a high domestic tax burden. With fuel costs exceeding KSh200 per litre in recent cycles, the system is amplifying inflation, weakening household purchasing power, and constraining economic growth.

Key Challenges

1. Excessive Taxation

Fuel is subject to multiple levies (VAT, excise duty, Road Maintenance Levy), contributing up to ~45% of pump prices. This creates a compounding “tax-on-tax” structure.

2. Import Dependence & Forex Pressure

Kenya relies entirely on imported petroleum via G-to-G and Open Tender Systems, exposing pricing to exchange rate volatility and geopolitical shocks (e.g., disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz).

3. Market Concentration & Inefficiencies

A limited number of oil marketing companies dominate imports and distribution, reducing competitive pricing dynamics.

4. Market Distortions

Hoarding, delayed supply releases, and speculative behavior occur around pricing cycles, leading to artificial shortages and consumer panic.

Policy Recommendations

- Gradually reduce or

restructure VAT and excise duty to lower the tax burden.

- Eliminate “tax-on-tax” compounding by applying VAT only to the base fuel cost.
- Introduce a flexible tax mechanism that adjusts downward when global prices spike.

2. Redesign Subsidy Mechanisms

· Replace universal fuel subsidies with targeted subsidies for critical sectors (public transport, agriculture, manufacturing).

- Use digital platforms to ensure transparency and prevent leakages.

3. Strengthen Strategic Petroleum Reserves

· Expand national reserves to cushion against global supply shocks and price volatility.

- Use reserves to stabilize domestic prices during crises rather than relying solely on market imports.

4. Enhance Market Competition and Transparency

· Reform the Open Tender System to allow broader participation and reduce concentration.

- Require real-time disclosure of fuel stocks and supply schedules to deter hoarding.

- Strengthen enforcement powers of EPRA to penalize anti-competitive behavior.

5. Accelerate Energy Diversification

· Invest in geothermal, wind, and solar to reduce reliance on imported fuel.

- Electrify public transport systems to lower long-term oil demand.

6. Stabilize Exchange Rate Exposure

· Promote local currency settlement frameworks for oil imports where feasible.

- Strengthen foreign exchange reserves to mitigate currency-driven price spikes.

Strategic Outlook

Without reform, Kenya's fuel pricing system will remain a structural driver of inflation and fiscal strain. However, a coordinated approach—combining tax reform, market transparency, and energy diversification—can significantly stabilize prices, protect consumers, and enhance economic resilience in an era of global energy uncertainty.

Mr. Rishi Arun Parikh
Madafu Newspaper
Editor

Mzima Phase II: A Promise Delayed, A Region Thirsty

By Mwachere Shuma

For more than six decades, millions of residents along Kenya's Coast have depended on a single aging pipeline carrying fresh water from Mzima Springs. Yet, while the springs continue to produce hundreds of millions of litres of clean water every day, the long-planned expansion known as Mzima Phase II remains unbuilt — a symbol of delayed development and unresolved policy choices.

Today, as water shortages persist across Mombasa, Kwale, Kilifi, and Taita Taveta, the question is no longer whether the Coast needs Mzima Phase II — but why it has taken so long.

A Powerful Natural Source, Underused

Hydrological records show that Mzima Springs produces approximately 400 to 440 million litres of fresh water per day, making it one of the most reliable natural freshwater sources in Kenya. The spring's flow is stable year-round and gravity-fed, meaning it requires relatively low energy to transport water to the Coast.

Yet despite this vast natural capacity, less than 10 percent of the available water is currently captured for human use.

Most of the water delivered to the Coast still travels through the original Mzima pipeline — built in the 1950s — a system designed for a much smaller population and a very different economic era.

The Aging Lifeline: Mzima Phase I

The existing Mzima Phase I pipeline supplies water primarily to Mombasa and surrounding areas. When constructed more than 70 years ago, it was considered a major engineering achievement. Today, it is increasingly fragile.

The pipeline was designed to carry about 35 million litres per day, but frequent bursts, corrosion, and infrastructure fatigue have reduced efficiency. In addition, the Coast water system experiences non-revenue water losses estimated between 40 and 55 percent — meaning nearly half of the water produced never reaches paying consumers due to leaks, illegal connections, and metering gaps.



In real terms, this translates to 14 to 19 million litres of water lost daily — enough to supply hundreds of thousands of people.

As the population of the Coast has grown and tourism, port activity, and industry have expanded, the old system has struggled to keep pace. Water rationing, reliance on private water vendors, and chronic shortages have become part of daily life for many residents.

The Vision of Mzima Phase II

Mzima Phase II was conceived as a major expansion to unlock more of the springs' potential and secure the Coast's long-term water future.

Engineering plans proposed:

- Construction of a second bulk pipeline
- Increased abstraction from the springs
- Expansion of delivery capacity to approximately 105 million litres per day

If implemented, Phase II would triple the amount of water supplied from Mzima and significantly reduce shortages

across the region.

For decades, feasibility studies, planning documents, and government announcements have pointed to Phase II as a key solution. Yet construction has never begun.

The Cost of Waiting

The delay has carried real consequences.

Households across the Coast often pay high prices for water from private vendors, especially during supply interruptions. In informal settlements, residents sometimes rely on unsafe water sources, increasing health risks.

For businesses — particularly hotels, restaurants, and industries — unreliable water supply raises operational costs and discourages investment. The tourism sector, a pillar of the Coast economy, depends heavily on stable water access.

Government agencies, meanwhile, spend significant funds on emergency water supply measures, pipeline repairs, and stop-gap solutions. Economists note that over time, the cumulative cost of water shortages may rival or exceed the investment required to

build Phase II.

Why the Project Stalled

Despite its strategic importance, Mzima Phase II has faced repeated delays for a combination of financial, environmental, and institutional reasons.

Financing Challenges

The project's high capital cost discouraged private investors under the proposed Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model. Concerns about revenue reliability — especially given high water losses — made the investment less attractive.

Institutional Complexity

Water governance in Kenya involves both national and county governments. Questions over funding responsibility, infrastructure ownership, and bulk water pricing complicated progress.

Environmental Safeguards

Mzima Springs lies within Tsavo West National Park, and environmental experts have raised concerns about protecting ecosystems and

wildlife dependent on the spring. These concerns led to extended environmental assessments and cautious policy decisions.

Policy Shifts

In recent years, government attention shifted toward alternative projects such as Mwache Dam, Baricho upgrades, and groundwater development. While important, these projects have advanced slowly and have not fully resolved water shortages.

Demand Continues to Rise

The Coast region's population continues to grow rapidly, and urban expansion shows no sign of slowing. The Port of Mombasa, tourism infrastructure, and new industrial developments all require reliable water supply.

Without a major increase in bulk water delivery, experts warn that shortages will persist — and may worsen — even as smaller projects come online.

Mzima Phase II, proponents argue, remains one of the most direct ways to address the structural water deficit.

A Strategic Opportunity

Water experts point to several advantages of reviving Phase II:

- Reliable natural source: Mzima Springs offers consistent, high-quality freshwater.
- Low operating cost: Gravity-fed supply reduces long-term energy expenses compared to pumped systems.
- Public health benefits: Improved water access supports sanitation and disease prevention.
- Economic growth: Stable water supply strengthens tourism, manufacturing, and urban development.
- Climate resilience: Natural spring sources are generally less vulnerable to drought than surface reservoirs.

The Path Forward

Policy analysts suggest that reviving Mzima Phase II would require a revised approach:

- Blended financing using public funds and concessional loans rather than relying solely on private investors
- Reducing system water losses to improve efficiency and financial sustainability
- Clear coordination between national and county governments
- Environmental safeguards to ensure sustainable abstraction
- Transparent implementation timelines and public accountability

Such steps, they argue, could turn decades of planning into tangible progress.

Such steps, they argue, could turn decades of planning into tangible progress.

Such steps, they argue, could turn decades of planning into tangible progress.

A Long Wait for Water Security

For generations, the Coast has watched as vast volumes of fresh water flow from Mzima Springs while communities continue to struggle for reliable supply. The aging Phase I pipeline has served the region for more than half a century, but its limitations are now unmistakable.

The debate over Mzima Phase II is no longer simply about engineering. It is about development, equity, and the right to basic services.

As demand rises and shortages persist, many residents and leaders are asking: how much longer can the Coast afford to wait?

EXPORTS

Kenya's China Tariff Gains Wasted by Weak Exports

EBC Financial Group (EBC) says duty-free access will mean little if Kenya cannot lift exports from USD 196.56 million, expand processed shipments and start narrowing a trade relationship still dominated by USD4.31 billion of Chinese imports.

EBC Financial Group (EBC) views Kenya's China tariff opening as a direct test of whether easier access can arrest a two-year export decline before a wider African rollout reduces any short-term pricing advantage. Official Kenyan trade data puts Kenya's 2024 exports to China at USD196.56 million and imports from China at USD4.31 billion. Kenya says about 98.2% of its products now qualify for zero-duty entry under the Early Harvest Agreement, while China says it is extending zero-tariff treatment across all African countries with diplomatic relations with Beijing from 1 May 2026. Kenya is therefore entering a wider opening from a weak export base rather than from rising momentum.

David Precious, Senior Markets Analyst at EBC Financial Group, said, "Kenya has secured easier access to China, but easier access does not correct a trade relationship that is already moving towards another direction. Exports to China have been falling, imports remain above USD 4.3 billion, and the same tariff opening is being extended more widely across Africa. That leaves Kenya needing more than a headline concession. It needs export growth that is larger, more regular and more heavily weighted towards processed goods."

Kenya Enters the Opening with Exports Already Failing

Kenya's export trend is already moving in the wrong direction. The State Department for Trade says exports to China fell from USD233.84 million in 2022 to USD207.92 million in 2023 and USD196.56 million in 2024, while imports from China stood at USD3.84 billion, USD3.28 billion and USD4.31 billion across the same three years. That leaves the agreement carrying a harder burden than the headline suggests. EBC notes that this does not look like it opens a neutral trade lane, but instead it looks like an attempt to reverse deterioration in a relationship that has continued to tilt towards Chinese goods.

Kenyan officials are already defining the agreement in those terms. The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs (MFA) says the bilateral deficit is estimated



By David Precious, Senior Market Analyst, EBC Financial Group

at more than KES 500 billion, or about USD4 billion, and links the framework to export performance, trade rebalancing and measurable economic outcomes. EBC highlights that market access on paper does not reduce a deficit of that size unless it changes what Kenya sells, how much it sells, and how regularly those shipments reach buyers.

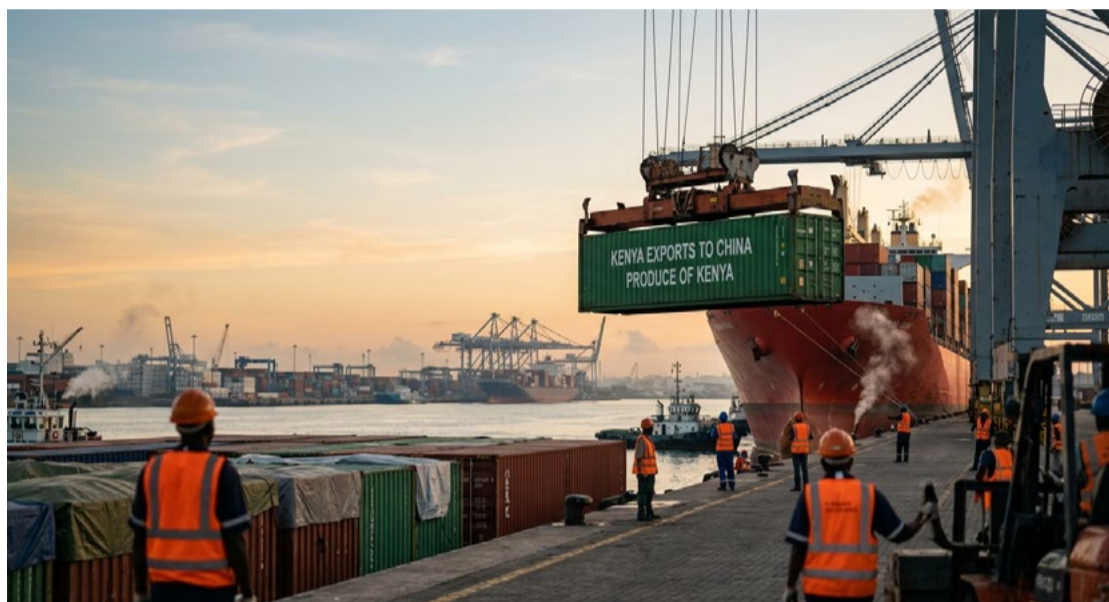
Shared African Access Limits the Value of Tariff Relief on Its Own

China's wider Africa policy changes the commercial meaning of Kenya's deal. The same zero-tariff treatment is being extended across African countries with diplomatic ties to Beijing, and China has also said it plans to widen access for African exports through an upgraded green channel and related measures. Kenya is therefore not receiving a Kenya-only pricing edge into the Chinese market. It is entering a broader African contest in which lower duties apply more widely, which places more weight on quality, standards compliance, delivery reliability, traceability and supply consistency.

That point has a practical consequence where a tariff concession shared across most of Africa offers less commercial separation than a Kenya-only concession would. Kenyan exporters may therefore need to compete through speed, product consistency and execution rather than assume lower duties alone can raise market share. Tariff access improves terms of entry. It does not guarantee that Kenyan goods stand out once rival suppliers receive similar treatment.

Processed Goods Look More Capable of Changing the Numbers than Raw Volume Alone

Kenya's own product mix points to where the more durable opportunity appears to sit. Officials have identified tea, coffee, avocados, macadamia nuts and horticultural products as likely beneficiaries, and the first consignment under the arrangement included fresh avocados, avocado oil, coffee, green beans, hides and skins. Fresh produce may lift shipment counts. Processed goods may



do more. They can retain more income inside Kenya through processing, packaging, storage and freight before the goods leave port, and they are less exposed to the thin margins that usually come with raw volume alone.

Based on that, EBC analysts consider processed agricultural exports to the stronger commercial test. More avocado oil rather than only fresh avocados, more processed coffee rather than only lower-value output, and more export-ready horticulture may give Kenya a better chance of defending margins and keeping more of the value chain at home. Raw volume may raise exports without materially shifting the structure of the relationship, because China would still be supplying a far larger volume of higher-value manufactured goods in the other direction.

Capacity Inside Kenya Now Appears More Important than the Tariff Line Itself

Domestic capacity now carries more weight than the tariff cut itself. MFA links the framework to business-to-business linkages, regulatory efficiency, export readiness, trade logistics, agro-processing, and cold-chain investment. That amounts to an official acknowledgement that lower Chinese duties do not create Kenyan processing lines, working capital, quality-control systems or dependable delivery schedules. The main question is no longer whether access exists but whether Kenyan firms can use it repeatedly

and at scale.

That distinction is commercial, not rhetorical. Kenya may secure early consignments without building a repeatable export pipeline. A broader shift is more likely to depend on whether firms can fill larger orders, meet Chinese standards consistently and deliver on time. Without those capabilities, easier access may improve visibility without materially improving the economics of the relationship.

Deeper Two-way Opening Raises the Pressure on Kenya to Move Faster

China's commerce ministry says the Early Harvest Arrangement provides zero-tariff treatment for Kenyan goods while Kenya further opens its market to Chinese products. That narrows Kenya's room for delay. The country is already running a very wide bilateral deficit, so export gains may need to arrive before deeper two-way opening gives Chinese goods broader reach in a market they already dominate. Timing therefore matters alongside access.

Kenya's International Monetary Fund Backdrop Increases the Value of Every Export Dollar

Kenya's external financing backdrop also raises the value of any export gain. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) says Kenya has formally requested a new IMF-supported programme and that preliminary discussions are

under way. The IMF also says the 2025 Article IV consultation was rescheduled at the authorities' request so programme discussions could take priority. In that setting, stronger exports to China may do more than lift bilateral receipts. They may also add hard-currency inflows at a time when Kenya is still trying to reinforce external buffers and macroeconomic credibility.

"The commercial test is now much narrower and much harder," Precious added. "If Kenya cannot turn this opening into repeat Chinese demand for goods that are processed, standards-compliant and reliable in volume, the agreement may improve access without materially improving the trade balance. If it can, the gains could start to show up not only in export receipts, but in how much value Kenya keeps before those goods leave the country."

The Next Phase is Measurable in the Trade Data

Based on the current situation, a more credible improvement can show up in a steadier export trend after May. A larger share of processed goods in China-bound shipments, stronger investment in agro-processing and cold-chain capacity, and a narrower bilateral gap over time are the indicators that can show whether the agreement changes the structure of the relationship or simply improves the terms of an imbalance that remains wide.

Demand for Used Goods Surges in Kenya: Jiji Data

Jiji has seen a significant rise in demand for pre-owned goods. Search results in Q1 2026 showed a 70% increase in used-item searches versus the same period in 2025. This represents over 14.7 million unique searches in Q1 alone. Thus, reflecting a sustained shift in consumer purchasing behaviour.

This growth outpaces interest in new items, signalling a structural change in how consumers approach value, affordability, and utility in their purchasing decisions.

Across categories such as electronics, vehicles, and home essentials, buyers are increasingly prioritizing functionality and cost-effectiveness. This shift comes amid continued pressure on household budgets. According to the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, inflation has remained between 3-5% through 2025 and into early 2026. Food, transport, and housing have become the primary drivers of household expenditure growth.

The trend also shows a bigger shift toward circular commerce. More people are choosing pre-



MAXIM MAKARCHUK
Chief Operating Officer, Jiji Africa



loved goods as their first option rather than just a backup. This reflects global trends in which affordability and sustainability are becoming increasingly important. According to the World Bank, rising living costs and constrained household incomes across emerging markets are accelerating demand for lower-cost alternatives. Consumers are adjusting their spending behaviour in response to ongoing

economic pressures. Speaking on the findings, Maxim Makarchuk, COO, Jiji Africa, said: "Kenya has historically been a second-hand driven market, with pre-owned goods forming a critical layer of everyday trade. What's emerging now is accelerated growth within this segment, underpinned by a more discerning and economically aware consumer base. At Jiji,

we're making this ecosystem more efficient and accessible. We're connecting buyers and sellers more seamlessly and helping unlock more value from goods already in circulation across the country."

– Maxim Makarchuk, COO, Jiji Africa

In the Cars category, buyers cite affordability and the ability to physically inspect vehicles before purchase as key drivers of confidence in their decision-making.

"I saw the car online, then went to inspect it in person before buying. This allowed me to confirm its condition myself and gave me confidence that I was truly getting value for my money."

– David, buyer on Jiji Kenya

In the Electronics category, buyers highlight cost savings and access to higher specifications as major advantages of buying pre-owned goods online. One buyer, Kimani, noted:

"I found a laptop at almost half the retail price. It was in good condition, and I was able to get

better specifications than I could afford if it was new."

– Kimani, buyer on Jiji Kenya

Increased digital adoption and improved access to online marketplaces are also supporting this shift. Kenya continues to be one of Africa's most advanced digital economies. Many people now use mobile internet to access online platforms. According to the Communications Authority of Kenya, growth in mobile and internet connectivity has significantly expanded access to digital services. This includes e-commerce platforms that allow users to compare prices and make better choices.

Across the platform, categories like electronics, vehicles, and household goods remain very active. This shows the importance of online classifieds in helping people access affordable goods. As economic pressures continue, demand for pre-loved goods is expected to stay strong through 2026.

Jiji continues to focus on improving trust, user experience, and access within the growing circular economy across Africa.

SBM Bank's Nakuru customers dinner



L-R SBM Bank Kenya CEO Bhartesh Shah, Director Consumer Banking Beth Muthui and Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) President's Advisor Nancy Muthoni during a dinner party organized by the bank at Sarova Woodlands for the bank's clients in Nakuru County on Wednesday April 22nd, 2026.

L-R Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) President's Advisor Nancy Muthoni, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Kenya Embassy Economic Counsellor Maram Makhamreh, SBM Bank Kenya CEO Bhartesh Shah and KNCCI Nakuru chapter Chairperson Ruth Ndungu share a light moment during a dinner party organized by the bank at Sarova Woodlands for the bank's clients in Nakuru county on Wednesday April 22nd, 2026.



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SPORT MANIA



APRIL 2026

Alonso named Chelsea's third boss in year

Chelsea have appointed former Liverpool midfielder Xabi Alonso as their manager on a four-year contract, starting in July.

The 44-year-old Spaniard was available after leaving Real Madrid by mutual consent in January, less than eight months into a three-year contract. He previously spent three years in charge of Bayer Leverkusen, leading the German club to their first Bundesliga title in 2024, as well as the German Cup.

Confirmation of Alonso's arrival comes a day after Chelsea lost the FA Cup final to Manchester City.

The Blues hope he will bring stability to the club after they had two permanent managers this season - Enzo Maresca and Liam Rosenior - while Calum McFarlane is in his second spell as interim boss, a role he will continue for their final two Premier League games.

"Chelsea is one of the biggest clubs in world football



and it fills me with immense pride to become manager of this great club," said Alonso.

"From my conversations with the ownership group and sporting leadership, it is clear we share the same ambition. We want to build a team capable of competing consistently at the highest level and fighting for trophies.

"There is great talent in the squad and huge potential at this football club and it will be my great honour to lead it. Now the focus is on hard work, building the right culture and winning trophies."

Alonso spent five years in the Premier League with Liverpool, helping them win the Champions League in

2005, and also played for Real Sociedad, Real Madrid and Bayern Munich.

SBM Bank golf tournament



he overall winner of the SBM Bank sponsored Great Rift Valley Open Golf tournament Medrine Kariuki (left) receives her prize from the bank's Finance General Manager, John Kigathi on Saturday at Great Rift Valley Lodge & Golf Resort. Playing off Handicap 23, Medrine beat 187 golfers to win with 40 points.

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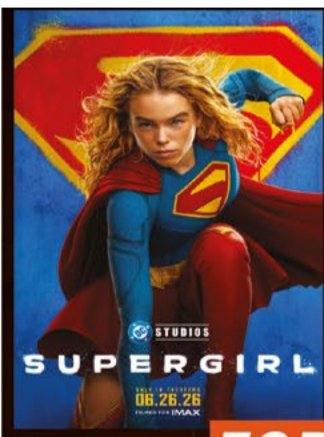
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Thursdays Kusini Tavern Kilifi The Muziki Band	Sundays The New Bigtree Bamburi Beach La Festa with Mombasa Roots Band Safiya Hotel Diani Live Music with Black Pulse Band Moonshine Beach Bar & Night Club Nyali Chillout Sunday with Generation Band			

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SHOWCASE / LIVE ACTS	SHOWCASE / LIVE ACTS	SPORTS	THEATRE	FILM SCREENING
Tuesday 12 05 Kasarani Indoor Arena Africa Forward Le Concert with Youssou N'dour Bien Fally Ipupa Yemi Alade Nomcebo Savara Nandy Jose Chameleone Nesly Vegedream Abigail Chams Coster Ojwang Kader Japonais	Saturday 23 05 Workstyle Africa Waiyaki Way Connection 2.0 - Silent Live Concert Alliance Française, Nairobi Fret Venture Piedmont Plaza Pretty Girls Love Amapiano 3.0 with Belinda Chester South Africa The Carnivore Nairobi Old School	Friday 15 05 RFUEA Grounds Rugby Africa Women's Cup 2026	Saturday 16 05 The Academy of Dance and Arts Karen Murder On The Titanic	Saturday 30 05 Windsor Golf Hotel & Country Club African Movies Under The Stars
Friday 15 05 KODA Kenrail Towers Monaco Lauren Dylan S Muze Club Westlands Angani with Darkfruit IV	Friday 29 05 Muze Club Westlands Good Circle with Mix Master Lenny Tina Ardor Hiribae DJ Okore DJ Revin	ART EVENTS & EXHIBS 15 02 to 30 06 Karen Village Ngong Rd Art Competition 22 to 24 05 Nairobi National Museum The 20th Affordable Art Show	Sunday 24 05 Kenya National Theatre Story Za Thuita	FASHION & BEAUTY Saturday 30 05 Posh Treats Restaurant Lavington Africanfashionfair
Saturday 16 05 SNL Lounge & Gardens Kamiti Rd Samidoh Live Quiver Lounge Kitengela Prince Indah Live Alloy Bar & Lounge Sarit Westlands The Discotheque with Babs Adian Forest Ben	Saturday 30 05 Masshouse Ngong Racecourse Monaco Lauren vs General C'mamane Ngong Racecourse - Waterfront 2 Vibez And Notes Festival	FIGHT NIGHT Friday 15 05 Masshouse Ngong Racecourse Nightmare In Nairobi IV www.whats-on-nairobi.com	SUMMIT Thursday 28 05 USIU Africa Nairobi Startup Summit & Awards	CULTURE 29 to 31 05 Village Market Celebrating Africa
			FAIRS & EXPOS Saturday 20 & 21 05 Kenyatta International Conference Centre (KICC) Gitex Kenya- Africa's Largest Public-Private AI Gathering	CULTURE & NATURE EXPERIENCE Sunday 17 05 African Heritage House Celebrating Africa

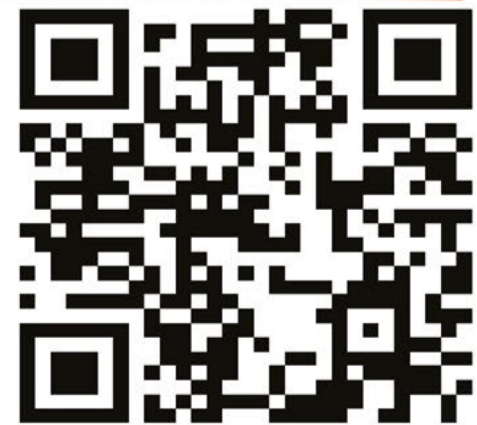


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Skills Gained:

- Computer basics
- Microsoft Office skills
- AI tools productivity
- Digital work skills

WAS: KShs 34,500

NOW: KShs 19,000
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Duration: 2 Months

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2. WEB DEVELOPMENT COMBO (FOCUSED TECH PATH)



Includes:

- Front-End Development
- Back-End Development
- Graphic Design (CorelDraw & Adobe Photoshop)

Skills Gained:

- Build responsive websites
- Design graphics & visual content
- Full-stack web development skills

WAS: KShs 44,000

NOW: KShs 29,000
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Duration: 2.5 – 3 Months

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3. ALL-IN-ONE MASTER COMBO (BEST VALUE)

BEST VALUE!



Skills Gained:

- Complete digital & tech skillset
- Multiple career options
- Freelancing
- Employment readiness

WAS: KShs 75,000

NOW: KShs 49,000
SAVE KShs 26,000!

Duration: 5 – 6 Months

ONLINE & PHYSICAL TRAINING



OUR COURSES

BUSINESS & OFFICE COURSES

1. OFFICE PROFESSIONAL

- Modules:
- Computer Basics & IT Fundamentals
 - Windows Operating System
 - Microsoft Word
 - Microsoft Excel
 - Microsoft Access
 - Microsoft PowerPoint
 - Internet & Email Communication

Duration: 7-8 Weeks Fee: KShs 14,500

2. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- Modules:
- Advanced Microsoft Excel
 - Project Planning & Execution

Duration: 3-4 Weeks Fee: KShs 14,500

TECHNOLOGY COURSES

3. GRAPHIC DESIGN

- Modules:
- Design Principles & Branding
 - CorelDraw
 - Adobe Photoshop
 - Canva
 - UI/UX Basics

Duration: 4-6 Weeks Fee: KShs 18,000

4. FRONT-END DEVELOPMENT

- Modules:
- HTML5
 - CSS3
 - JavaScript
 - React JS
 - Responsive Web Design

Duration: 6-8 Weeks Fee: KShs 22,000

5. BACK-END DEVELOPMENT

- Modules:
- Node.js & Express
 - PHP / Laravel
 - API Development
 - Database Integration

Duration: 6-8 Weeks Fee: KShs 22,000

6. COMPUTER PROGRAMMING / CODING

- Language:
- Python
 - Java
 - Go (Golang)

Duration: 8 Weeks Fee: KShs 35,000

SPECIALIZED COURSES

7. DATABASE TECHNOLOGIES

- Modules:
- MySQL
 - PostgreSQL
 - MongoDB
 - Database Design & Security

Duration: 4-6 Weeks Fee: KShs 18,000

8. MOBILE APP DEVELOPMENT

- Modules:
- React Native
 - Mobile UI/UX Design
 - API Integration
 - App Deployment

Duration: 6-8 Weeks Fee: KShs 22,000

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY

9. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) TOOLS & APPLICATIONS

- Modules:
- ChatGPT, Copilot & Gemini
 - AI for Writing & Coding
 - Canva AI, Midjourney, Dall-E
 - Prompt Engineering
 - AI in Business & Marketing

Duration: 3-4 Weeks Fee: KShs 14,500

ACCOUNTING COURSE

10. COMPUTERIZED ACCOUNTING

- Modules:
- SAGE
 - QuickBooks

Duration: 3-4 Weeks Fee: KShs 12,500

DIGITAL & INTERNET SKILLS

11. WEB & INTERNET SKILLS

- Modules:
- Web Design Basics
 - Online Research
 - Digital Communication
 - Building an Online Presence

Duration: 2-3 Weeks Fee: KShs 6,000

CLASS SCHEDULES (MONDAY – FRIDAY)

PHYSICAL (ON CAMPUS)	ONLINE (VIRTUAL CLASSES)
8:00 am – 9:30 am	8:00 am – 12:00 pm
9:30 am – 11:00 am	2:00 pm – 5:00 pm
11:00 am – 2:00 pm	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm (Lunch Break)	
3:30 am – 5:00 pm	
5:00 am – 6:30 pm	
6:30 am – 8:00 pm	

WHY CHOOSE US?

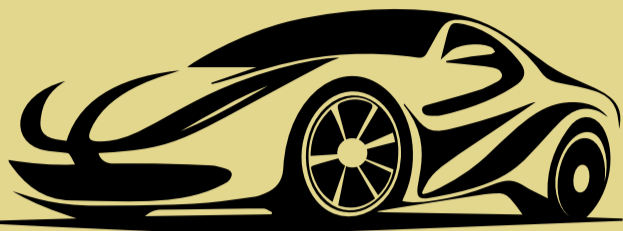
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