



HOT ON X

s Baba likely to endorse Kalonzo?

James Wazir: Kalonzo Musyoka has supported Raila Odinga and stood with him through thick and thin. Baba has a lot of influence, if he says Kalonzo tosha that will have a great impact. Wise Luos will vote in Kalonzo.



Ellijah Ogeya: In politics, you don't expose our strategies. Endorse Kalonzo this early will expose KK to KK ruthless ropenganda machinery. Politics is not a wedding!

patemest, victor: Bro, it's still too early to get there. Kalonzo should take advantage and consolidate everything by picking from where babu left.

MaKopA9003: Let Kalonzo choose a woman for running mate. To appease Luos, he choice of Gladys Wariinga will suffice.

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FROM THE WEB

No basis for Housing Levy, says Muturi

Millie's Gichohi: Government's chief legal advisor has spoken.

Itis Kojlo: Good move Attorney, let them understand what common wananchi are going through! It's hell to live in Kenya.

Wwalin: **1** Gitungu: Serikali iko imara. KGC is the sor of the government, he is advocating and directing KRA against doing what the president is pressing to be done.



Thamungu Penda: I don't understand this. Are you really sure?
Ken Odieno Mirasi: Sounds good but then how sincere are you? How effective will this be since you're among the government attendees in the just concluded Naivasha retreat to push the government agendas?

harun Junja: Now you are behaving like Attorney General

esto Fesay Kimanathi: Ask the teachers what they saw in their February payslips. Too late.

George Ombok: This has just created new room for politics.

Take party!

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POLITICS
Lesson from 'handshake' between Raila and Ruto: Never volunteer to die for temporary foes

Since Raila Odinga declared his bid for the African Union (AU) Commission chairmanship, most Kenyans are confused and shocked by the sudden turn of events.

There has been an unexpected change in the political atmosphere, what can be best described as the "handshake" between President Ruto and Raila who most Kenyans believed were enemies since the last presidential election.

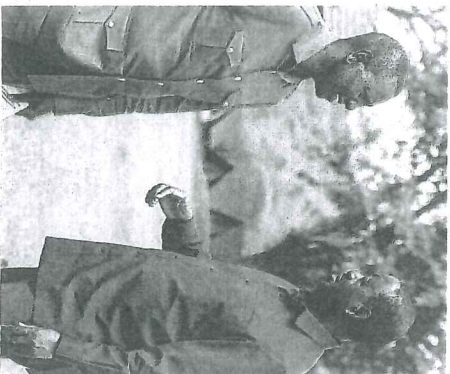
The rivals, who are now allies, stirred the internet after they shared photos that were pleasant to some and distasteful to others, showing them at President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni's home in Uganda.

The handshake between the duo is very healthy for the country as it could help achieve inclusivity in politics since both parties would feel satisfied. On the other hand, the "handshake" also poses a question to the voters on whether all the drama that comes post elections are really necessary and worth it. Kenyans must weigh whether it's worth dying for temporary political enemies.

Ruto's support for Raila's AU bid is a lesson to Kenyans that politicians are not enemies except during campaigns. Once the campaign period is over, the politicians eat, drink and laugh together.

This was evident during the Uhuru-Raila handshake and now the Ruto-Raila handshake. In both cases, Kenyans never anticipated such moves. To be precise, there are no permanent enemies and permanent friendships in politics and it's therefore a loss to citizens who take politics to the heart.

The truth is, Kenya always experiences divisive elections but, surprisingly, the elections only during the ordinary citizens and not the politicians. During the Obama Bay International Investment Conference on Tuesday, President Ruto said he will make sure he achieves a win-win outcome, meaning he will support Raila so that no party loses. He even hinted that he had planned how to sort out



Raila wavy earlier, and he is glad that things are moving as planned.

In case that both parties win, the loser in this situation is the Kenyan who lost their child, got orphaned and lost property as a result of the post-election violence. Politicians have very little to lose.

The handshake between Ruto and Raila should inform Kenyans that politicians have their own language that only they understand. Meddling in political rivalry is a waste of time, energy and resources because one minute they are enemies and the next close friends. It's like trying to meddle in the fight between a husband and a wife. Once they reunite, the mediator becomes the problem.

Rahab Adhiambo, Horna Bay

AGRICULTURE
Government should subsidise seeds as well

Agriculture CS Mithika Linturi has thanked farmers for last season's maize harvest that produced a record 60 million bags against his ministry's target of 40 million bags. We can credit this to the fertiliser subsidy that torpedoed the cost of a 50kg fertiliser bag from SH7,500 to a low of SH3,500. It has since gone down further to SH2,500.

From whatever perspective the one looks at, this is a commendable effort. Fertilisers, however, constitute only a small fraction of what farmers need to effectively produce more food. Unlike

In the past, when maize production was less costly, today a farmer must spray his crop against the Fall armyworms and some of them are becoming resistant to available herbicides. The cost of the herbicides is prohibitive and those who cannot afford them abandon their crop to the worms. Besides the fertilisers, farmers want the cost of seeds subsidised too. Farmers are still scanning the horizons for the 'prohibited' guaranteed minimum return to shield them from losses.

Kadaria Ole Muturi, Nyeri



Step up efforts to rid Kenya of fake certificates

The proliferation of fake academic papers in Kenya's job market is a pressing concern that undermines the integrity of employment processes. Despite efforts of the government, instances of individuals with counterfeit credentials securing employment continue to surface, displacing qualified candidates and eroding trust in the system. The government's failure to effectively vet individuals for genuine academic qualifications, perpetuates a culture where unqualified individuals occupy positions they are not suited for. The prevalence of this problem, as reported by the Kenya National Qualifications Authority, is alarming, with approximately one in three employees potentially holding fraudulent academic certificates. This not only undermines the efforts of qualified individuals who have invested significant resources in their education but also erodes public confidence in the credibility of academic institutions and the hiring process. It is unjust that individuals can obtain employment based on falsified credentials while deserving candidates struggle to secure positions. The government must adopt stringent measures to identify and penalise individuals involved in the production of fake academic certificates.

Kendatoos Dikson Nantohi

RELIGION
Universities should guide their students on religion

Whether students should attend religious functions depends on the policies and values of the university in question. Universities have different approaches to religious practices and may have their own guidelines regarding attendance of religious activities. Some universities have religious affiliation or may encourage students to explore their spirituality by providing resources and opportunities for religious engagement. In such cases, attending church or participating in religious activities might be encouraged or even required as part of

the university's mission or values. On the other hand, many universities strive to maintain a secular environment that respects the diversity of beliefs and promotes inclusivity. In these cases, there may be no specific requirement or expectation for students to attend religious services. Ultimately, it is important to review the specific regulations and policies of the university to understand their stance on this matter. If you have concerns or questions, reach out to the university's administration.

Devina Adhiambo, Rong'o University