



## Victoria Falls

By Memory Phiri

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## FORGIVE YOURSELF

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## Kenya's Hope

By Charles Kabiriri

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*Diaspora Source Of Anything... Everything you are looking for.*

# The Diaspora Times

Sunday Edition

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We fail because we do not try The Diaspora Fountain Of News & Knowledge

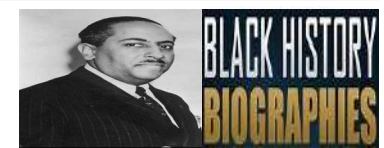
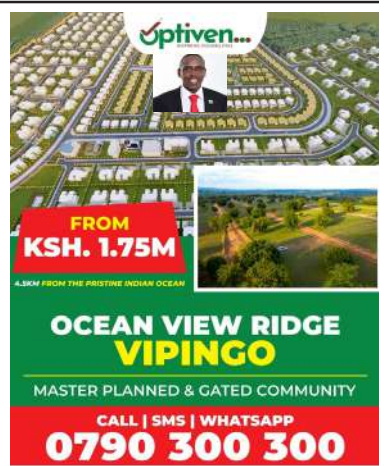
# Taylor Swift's Endorsement: What Is The Effect????

Taylor Swift said Tuesday she is supporting Vice President Kamala Harris in the race for president, ending speculation about whether the superstar singer would share her political views ahead of November's election.

"Like many of you, I watched the debate tonight. If you haven't already, now is a great time to do your research on the issues at hand and the stances these candidates take on the topics that matter to you the most.

Zenz share

There's no doubt that Swift has sway with her legions of fans. There were a total of 405,999 visits to Vote.gov through the link on Swift's Instagram story in the 24 hours it was live, far more than the site's daily average of 30,000



**Arna Wendell Botemps**  
He was an American poet, novelist and librarian, and a noted member of the Harlem Renaissance. He wrote Poems that depicts.... [Page 10](#)



**Philomena Chelagat Mutai**  
(January 29, 1949- July 6, 2013) was a prominent female Kenyan politician and human rights defender known for her ..... [Page 06](#)

*It is difficult to get a man to understand something when his salary depends upon his not understanding it. Sinclair*

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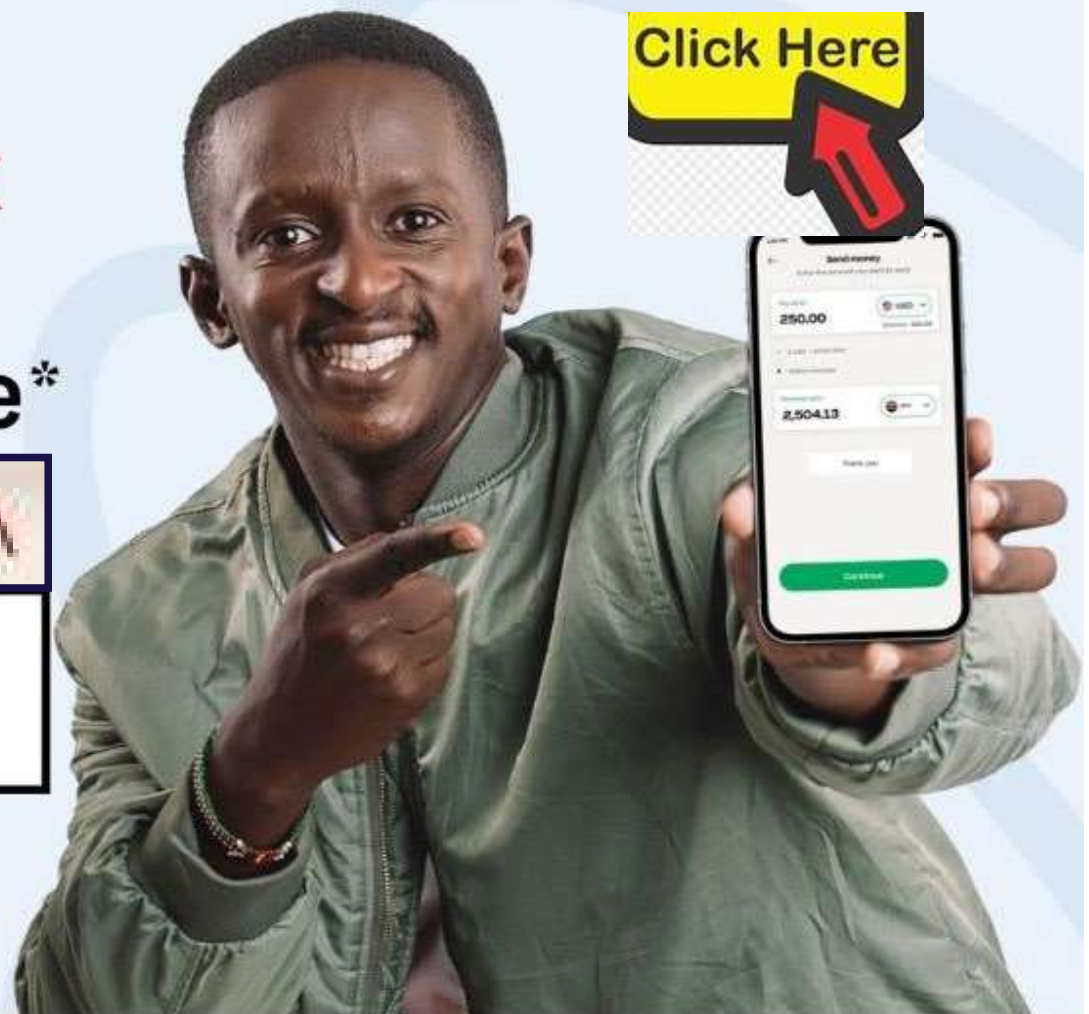
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KENYA  
NEWS

# Kenyans Must Liberate Themselves

We are the voice of the Diaspora Worldwide

*The Weston Hotel, owned by the first family, is in the limelight as one that has gained immensely from state power's most available tenders*



Charles Kabiriri  
Political Activist  
New Kenya  
Movement for  
Change



**K**enya's political history is rewriting itself as we mirror the events that preoccupy the country today and those of the second regime, where the art of power is being manipulated to suppress the people

of this country.

It was just the other day in Kisumu county where the President faulted his intelligence publicly by claiming not to be aware that Kenyans are being abducted and challenged the families of those whose relatives have reportedly been missing to bring forward their names.

The growing public discontent against President Ruto's administration places him in a precarious political situation.

There is no way the President can claim not to be in the picture of the current ongoing abductions in the country being maneuvered by masked civilian-dressed police in unmarked Subaru vehicles when his own Inspector General of Police, Mr Misengeili, who is in an acting capacity snubs court orders by way of contempt for six times intended to have him produce a family of three from Kitengela that are victims of abductions.

There is no way an acting IG can go ahead and show such a level of impunity without the blessings of the President himself.

We can see it everywhere in the country, the presidents' hands, even in conduits of pilferage!

Kenyans need to understand that the political elites play to their court and should no longer rely on the representatives they

The Kenya Kwanza government fails to explain its policies to the public, demeaning public participation.

The government does things in the dark to create a monopoly in its decision!

The crafters and the brains behind the Adani deal failed to carry the public with them.

The consequence is that Kenyans want the Adani procurement of the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport nullified.

elected in the last general elections. The alterations done by the Senate on the Conflict of Interest Bill must be quashed! The bill opened the way for the government to do business with itself. It is, therefore, clear that it's not that the government keeps getting it wrong. There is a clear motive to suppress the people.

The Kenya Kwanza government fails to explain its policies to the public, demeaning public participation.

The government does things in the dark to create a monopoly in its decision!

The crafters and the brains behind the Adani deal failed to carry the public with them. The consequence is that Kenyans want the Adani procurement of the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport nullified.

Substantial financial costs will thus be incurred to compensate Adani.

Education, health, and energy sectors are key to any given country.

In Kenya, the three sectors are ailing, and this government, in its Broad-based arrangement with the ODM Party, involved giving the ODM-appointed members cabinet slots to run the above portfolios, confirming the incompetency of the Kenya Kwanza administration.

Why are teachers being taken in circles?

President Ruto is not serious about JSS.

In their campaigns, Kenya Kwanza promised to scrape the Competency Based Curriculum (CBC), but they did not.

The bottom-up economic model was a narrative meant to create political euphoria but never existed.

Therefore, the country should be cautious about President Ruto's reelection in the next general elections.

President Ruto is collecting salary and all manner of other collections across the board through political power.

It was only recently that the IMF helped to expose the tendering monopoly in hospitality.

The Weston Hotel, owned by the first family, is in the limelight as one that has gained immensely from state power's most available tenders, creating a monopoly of the market and a negative trend in the hospitality industry.

The president companies are leading in doing business.

As a country, we are headed in the wrong direction.

In short, the election of Ruto to be President was the greatest political error committed in this country.

The current script for President Ruto to get back to power is not like the one for 2022.

The President is coming up with antagonist politics. Divide and rule.

This is to enable escape from his government's failure, which has failed to deliver. Divide and rule usually suppress the questions of "What have you done for us?"

The objective of splitting Mt Kenya East and the rest is to create a situation where the excitement of the split away overshadows questions of delivery as promised in 2022.

The loser all the same is Wanjiku!

Kenyans need to liberate themselves from the current crop of leadership and form a splinter group from a fresh crop of leaders. Kalonzo Musyoka lacks the sparkling ideology to mobilize voters.

Musalia Mudavadi is a presidential material but not a suitable presidential candidate. Rigathi Gachagua lacks the national image. Change is inevitable, and as a country, we should not be caught unawares come next general elections.

We should be able to have identified fresh leaders with whom to rally the masses in their support to achieve a New Kenya.

By Charles Kabiriri

The Diaspora Times Senior Correspondent on Political Affairs in Kenya and a Political Activist New Kenya Movement For Change

FROM THE  
ARCHIVES



*A consummate chameleon, Mr. Ruto joined forces, in succession, with Mr. Moi, Mr. Odinga and Mr. Kibaki. He was this election's kingmaker, happy to be wooed by both leading candidates."*

From the editorial pages of NY Times March 14, 2013

Article by Literature guru Ngugi wa Thiong'o

<https://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/15/opinion/a-dictators-last-laugh.html>

What was the reward I got from Kenya for inspiring Kenyans to global visibility while rooted in their own country? Mocked in Parliament, accused of abolishing Shakespeare (NOT TRUE) and replacing him with Marxists from the Caribbean like George Lamming and V S Naipaul.

In 1978 I lost my job and I was banned from teaching at any institution in Kenya.

Ngugi wa Thiong'o



# LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE



**"We don't laugh because we are happy we are happy because we laugh."  
William James**

A young boy enters a barber shop and the barber whispers to his customer, "This is the dumbest kid in the world. Watch while I prove it to you."

The barber puts a dollar bill in one hand and two quarters in the other, then calls the boy over and asks, "Which do you want, son?"

The boy takes the quarters and leaves.

"What did I tell you?" said the barber. "That kid never learns!"

Later, when the customer leaves, he sees the same young boy coming out of the ice cream parlor.

"Hey, son! May I ask you a question? Why did you take the quarters instead of the dollar bill?"

The boy licked his cone and replied:

"Because the day I take the dollar the game is over!"

Putin is held hostage by a terrorist. A Russian truckdriver stops at the back of



a long queue on the motorway. He sees a policeman walking down the line of stopped cars to briefly talk to the drivers. As the policeman approaches the truck, the truckdriver rolls down his window and asks, "What's going on?"



is holding Putin hostage in a car. He's demanding 10 million rubles, or he'll douse Putin in petrol and set him on fire. So we're asking drivers for donations." Driver: "Oh, ok. How much do people donate on average."

Policeman: "About a gallon."

A guy said to God, "God, is it true that to you a billion years is like a second?"

God said yes.

The guy said, "God, is it true that to you a billion dollars is like a penny?"

God said yes.

The guy said, "God, can I have a penny?"

God said, "Sure, just a second."

A taxi passenger tapped the driver on the shoulder to ask him a question.

The driver screamed, lost control of the car, nearly hit a bus, went up on the footpath, and stopped inches from a shop window.

For a second, everything was quiet in the cab. Then the driver said, "Look, mate, don't ever do that again. You scared the living daylights out of me!"

The passenger apologized and said, "I didn't realize that a little tap would scare

## EDITORIAL PICK



Internet never forgets-June 25th was and will always remain a sad day in Kenya

# THIS DAY WILL ALWAYS REMAIN MEMORABLE IN THE HISTORY OF THE THIRD LIBERATION IN KENYA



**R.I.P. heroes of your times!  
Such courageous invasion of parliament will mark the beginning of times that never were. Kenya will never be the same again!**



32 Years later, the same Ruto of the infamous YK92 terrorized the pro third liberation movement coded Gen Z. This time not as an errand boy of Cyrus, Njirongo but as the President of the Republic of Kenya..... God forbid!

**THEY DIED FIGHTING FOR A BETTER KENYA REST IN POWER**



Article By Abigirl Phiri- Zimbabwe



# Forgive Yourself.



Your conscience will have a hard time accepting this and ultimately you end up in doldrums. The mind is bombarded with questions I should have done this or I shouldn't have done this.

**A**s human beings we have things that we have done either intentionally or unintentionally. Whatever it is and is making you lose sleep. Have the will power to forgive yourself first. We make mistakes in life.

This is the reason it was noted to err is to be human. But once you have come to terms with what you have done, please forgive yourself first. Take time of reflection look in the mirror and note this is not me. I want to be a better and God fearing person.

Then do ask God for forgiveness. Only when you are able to do so can you be able to move onto the good path. In the same vein you will be able to forgive others who wronged you. The act of forgiving yourself and others is quite hard but with prayer and fasting it's achievable.

Nobody said this life will be smooth sailing. It has ups and downs which we must face with resilience and faith that God is omnipotent to guide us. We fail to do things because of various push factors of life such as societal pressure. But at the back



end when you are in the mire because you are a decent person you come to the realization I have now become a lost sheep.

Your conscience will have a hard time accepting this and ultimately you end up in doldrums. The mind is bombarded with questions I should have done this or I shouldn't have done this. Either way it's all spilt milk.

Salvage your decency and pride by forgiving yourself first, accepting the turn of events for things you have no power to control then will you be able to forgive others who trespass against us.

When all is said and done, it requires maturity in prayer and resilience for one to be able to do so. Most people find it hard to forgive. But then you can't continue to carry the cross for the rest of your life. It is what it

is. One has to learn to let go of things and move on. I exhort everyone when you forgive oneself not to find yourself repeating the same mistake.

At least have a take away from that whole episode and work on your character. Second chances are there for everybody even the Bible says so. The beauty of life is that it teaches you lessons that are valuable.

These you will be able to impart to other people going through the same predicament. Its not easy to carry on as if nothing happened but you have to find strength to move on. With time you will look back with a smile on your face because the hurt will have gone away since time heals everything. Our past actions usually determine how we will enjoy the near future so strive to do good so that you won't harbour

regrets. The long and short of it everyday you wake up alive it's a chance to prove yourself worth, do good and forgive others.

In Shona it's noted as "mukana" an opportunity and a chance at another try at life. Lets do our best to enjoy life righteously. Rugare treasured readers. Notably, peace is all that we seek for. Peace of mind is a highly treasured possession because armed with it you will be free from self persecution. treasured readers.

By Abigirl Phiri Zimbabwe

# 5



By Abigirl Phiri-Zimbabwe

## summary

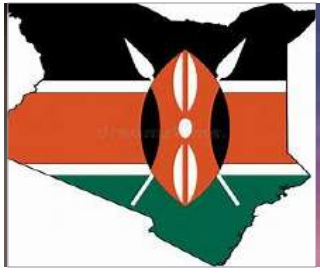


Poem Title : Peacefully accepting  
By: Abigirl Phiri

Reliance on the word  
Bravery that needs to be purchased  
Candid thoughts that triggers trauma  
Acceptance of reality already done  
Grieving for what could have been and can not be  
Truth serum the potion needed for recovery  
Endless debates and confrontations of the heart and mind  
Seeking and sorting the pieces of jigsaw of peace  
Peace is underrated and it's presence must be warranted  
Granted you first forgive yourself through the thorny journey  
Of peacefully accepting things you can't and can control  
Hallelujah revelation







Chelagat

# FALLEN HERO



Chelagat

## Kenya FALLEN HERO



# Chelagat Mutai

Chelagat got involved in a road accident in 2006 and suffered multiple injuries including fractures. She was also diagnosed with a spinal problem which she nursed but kept recurring. She became wheelchair-bound.

**P**hilomena Chelagat Mutai (January 29, 1949- July 6, 2013) was a prominent female Kenyan politician and human rights defender known for her bold utterances in and outside the Parliament of Kenya. Popularly known as 'Chelagat Mutai', she started out as a vocal student activist and journalist, later joining elective politics early in her life and becoming a fierce critic of the Kenya government. She became an Amnesty International prisoner of conscience when the administration of President Jomo Kenyatta clamped down on dissent and threw her in jail. She was eventually exiled from Kenya joining a cast of foreign-based Kenyan dissidents fleeing the repressive regimes of Mzee Jomo Kenyatta and Daniel Moi. In October 1974, at the age of 25, she became the youngest person elected to the Kenyan Parliament, defeating a cast of 11 male contestants in a tight race for the Eldoret North seat.

She quickly joined Kenya's leftist politics, becoming a fierce critic of the Kenyatta government, and was imprisoned as a result. Soon after her incarceration, she returned to politics winning back the seat she had lost. She would not last long and would be exiled from Kenya, fleeing what she believed to be another round of politically motivated incarceration. She spent several years in exile in Tanzania. She championed the inclusion of women in Kenyan politics and society, and as a lifelong activist for good governance.

### Early life

Chelagat Mutai was born on January 29, 1949, in Terige Sublocation, Lessos Location in Nandi County. She was the last-born daughter of the Antony Kimutai araap Kogo a prominent local farmer and Paulina Kogo.



### Late Chelagat Mutai

Her family was strongly Catholic and on February 6, 1949, she was baptized at the St. Joseph's Catholic Church Chepterit by the presiding priest Fr. John Daley.

She was given the name 'Filomena' which in later life she spelt Philomena. Chelagat was born into a politically active family. Her father had been at one time a member of the Nandi Local Native Council (LNC) council at Kapsabet. Her uncle Michael Kibet Rongoei had served in the Rift Valley Regional Assembly and also at the Sirikwa County Council as a councillor. Her maternal uncle William Morogo Saina would later become the Eldoret North member of Parliament and whom

she would succeed when she joined politics. Her older brother Eng Jan Mutai (1945-2020) was a prominent public servant who was at one time the Managing Director of the giant Kenya Posts & Telecommunications Corporation (KPTC).

#### Life at the University

Chelagat became one of the first Kalenjin women to be admitted to the newly-established University of Nairobi. She reported at the main campus on September 1970 to begin her degree program. Prior to that, she had secured a temporary job at the leading newspaper in Nairobi, The East African Standard, as a reporter. She conducted her reportage mainly in Nairobi. She re-

signed just prior to joining the university after only six months on the job. At that point, there were very few women on campus and even fewer from her Kalenjin ethnic community. In spite of her then 'minority' status, her campus presence was quite prominent as she had a natural gift of public speaking delivering fiery speeches during kamukunjis or informal student meetings held to address emerging issues affecting students.

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 bears the voices of many social and political activists over the years. It bears Chelagat's voice too.

To be cont.....

By Dr. Jean Kamau  
Excerpts from Sms Diary  
jean@gmail.com

summary



The Death of Chelagat Mutai was epochal, as it marked the fall of one of the 'Seven Bearded Sisters', a moniker attributed to former Attorney-General Charles Njonjo describing dissident members of the Kenyan parliament. These persons raised important issues that affected Kenyans and which the Kenyatta administration did not quite like. Members of that motley crew included Koigi wa Wamwere, Lawrence Sifuna, Abuya Abuya, Chelagat Mutai, George Anyona, James Orendo, Chibule wa Tsuma and Mashengu wa Mwachofi. She is a hero of the second liberation even though she died in penury unable to benefit from her many years of so-

Chelagat Mutai



# New York City police commissioner resigns



**N**ew York City Police Commissioner Edward Caban resigned Thursday, one week after it emerged that his phone was seized as part of a federal investigation that touched several members of Mayor Eric Adams' inner circle.

Caban, who had been in charge of the nation's largest police department for about 15 months, said in an email to staff that he made the decision to resign after the "news around recent developments" had "created a distraction for our department."

"I am unwilling to let my attention be on anything other than our important work, or the safety of the men and women of the NYPD," he added in the email obtained by The Associated Press.

At a news conference Thursday, Adams praised Caban for "making our city safer" and said he had named Tom Donlon, a retired FBI official, as the interim police commissioner.

Donlon previously served as the chief of the FBI's National Threat Center and once led the Office of Homeland Security in New York, before starting his own security firm in 2020. He helped lead the investigation into the 1993 World Trade Center bombing and investigated the 1998 U.S. Embassy bombings and USS Cole bombing.

# Trump changes course again, says he won't hold another debate.

**F**ormer President Donald Trump said in a social media post on Thursday that he will not debate Vice President Kamala Harris a second time before Election Day.

"THERE WILL BE NO THIRD DEBATE!" Trump wrote on Truth Social in reference to his first debate against President Biden in late June and a second debate against Harris this week.

In the post, Trump maintained that "polls clearly show" that he won the debate, though he did not provide any evidence to back up his claim.

Three polls taken immediately after the date found that Harris outperformed Trump. CNN/SSRS showed Harris beating Trump by a margin of 63%-37%, SoCal Strategies/On Point Politics/Red Eagle Politics had Harris over Trump by 53%-34% and YouGov found that Harris bested Trump by a margin of 54%-31%.

Two other post-debate polls released Thursday showed Harris building her national lead over Trump. A national Morning Consult poll found Harris leading Trump by five points, a three-point bump following Tuesday's debate. A Reuters/Ipsos poll also found Harris with a five-point lead.

Moments after Trump announced his decision to forego another debate with Harris, the vice president took the stage at a campaign rally in Charlotte, N.C., and proclaimed "we owe it to the voters to have another debate!"

On Tuesday, Harris's campaign called for a second debate between the two candidates to be held in October.

Vice President Harris is ready for a second debate. Is Donald Trump?" Harris



campaign chair Jen O'Malley Dillon said in a statement Tuesday night.

Following the first debate, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz was asked by MSNBC's Rachel Maddow whether his running mate should debate Trump again.

"Look, I don't want to speak for her, but I would be there encouraging her to do it every day," Walz responded, and there is data to back up his confidence.

On Wednesday, Trump sought to cast himself as the winner of the debate. "The first thing they did is ask for a debate because when a fighter loses, he says 'I want a rematch,'" Trump said during a Wednesday morning interview on Fox & Friends.

Trump repeated that message in a post on Truth Social.

"In the World of Boxing or UFC, when a Fighter gets beaten or knocked out, they get up and scream, 'I DEMAND A REMATCH, I DEMAND A REMATCH!' Well, it's no different with a Debate,"

he wrote. "She was beaten badly last night. Every Poll has us WINNING, in one case, 92-8, so why would I do a Rematch?"

It's possible that the former president may change his mind in the coming days and weeks, but Thursday's statement represented the first time he had definitively turned down the Harris campaign's challenge.

Harris quickly responded to Trump, writing on X that the candidates "owe it to the voters to have another debate."

It looks like Tuesday night's presidential debate between Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump may have been the final face-off of the 2024 election.

NY Times share

## The Defining Moments

### It's A Do Or Die

# Gen Z Choice Is Kamala Harris

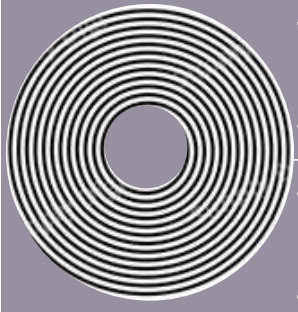


"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." -Ralph Waldo Emerson

07

Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up. -Thomas A. Edison





# Hamas Leader, Other Militants To Face Charges

*Other Hamas leaders facing charges include Marwan Issa, deputy leader of Hamas' armed wing in Gaza, who helped plan last year's attack and who Israel says was killed when its fighter jets struck an underground compound in central Gaza in March*

**T**he Justice Department announced criminal charges Tuesday against Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar and other senior militants in connection with the Oct. 7, 2023, rampage in Israel, marking the first effort by American law enforcement to formally call out the masterminds of the attack.

The seven-count criminal complaint filed in federal court in New York City includes charges such as conspiracy to provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization resulting in death, conspiracy to murder U.S. nationals and conspiracy to finance terrorism. It also accuses Iran and Lebanon's Hezbollah of providing financial support, weapons, including rockets, and military supplies to Hamas for use in attacks.

The impact of the case may be mostly symbolic given that Sinwar is believed to be hiding in tunnels in Gaza and the Justice Department says three of the six defendants are believed now to be dead. But officials say additional actions are expected as part of a broader effort to target a militant group that the U.S. designated as a foreign terrorist organization in 1997 and that over the decades has been linked to a series of deadly attacks on Israel, including suicide bombings.

The complaint was originally filed under seal in February to give the U.S. time to try to take into custody then-Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh and other defendants, but it was unsealed Tuesday after Haniyeh's death in July and other developments in the region lessened the need for secrecy, the Justice Department said.

"The charges unsealed today are just one



*Yahya Sinwar, head of Hamas in Gaza, greets his supporters during a meeting with leaders of Palestinian factions at his office in Gaza City, Wednesday, April 13, 2022.*

part of our effort to target every aspect of Hamas' operations," Attorney General Merrick Garland said in a video statement. "These actions will not be our last." The charges come as the White House says it is developing a new cease-fire and hostage deal proposal with its Egyptian and Qatari counterparts to try to bring about an agreement between Israel and Hamas to end the nearly 11-month war in Gaza.

A U.S. official, who was not authorized to talk publicly about the case and spoke on

condition of anonymity, told The Associated Press there was no reason to believe the charges would affect the ongoing negotiations.

National security spokesman John Kirby said the recent "executions" of six hostages, including one American, Hersh Goldberg-Polin, by Hamas underscore "the sense of urgency" in the talks.

"We are investigating Hersh's murder, and each and every one of the brutal murders of Americans, as acts of terrorism," Garland said in the statement. "We will

continue to support the whole of government effort to bring the Americans still being held hostage home."

Sinwar was appointed the overall head of Hamas after the killing of Haniyeh in Iran and sits atop Israel's most-wanted list. He is believed to have spent most of the past 10 months living in tunnels under Gaza, and it is unclear how much contact he has with the outside world

This article appeared at Washington AP

In the 70's Gacamba, a jua kali bicycle repairer, made an aeroplane, he termed KENYA ONE. It flew for ten minutes or so. You would think that an African government would have come to his aid, and give him help to develop his skills? Instead, the Attorney General had Gacamba arrested and then warned never to fly an aeroplane without an aviation licence. Charles Njonjo is famous for swearing never to fly in an aeroplane piloted by an African.

Ngugi Wa Thiong'o

**The secret of happiness, you see, is not found in seeking more, but in developing the capacity to enjoy less.**

*The Diaspora Times is the Diaspora Voice*



*You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. -Dr. Seuss*

*"If life were predictable it would cease to be life and be without flavor." -Eleanor Roosevelt*



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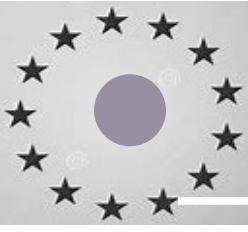


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# Wendell Bontemps

During the early 1930s, African-American writers and intellectuals were discriminated against in Northern Alabama. Thirty miles from Huntsville in Decatur, the Scottsboro boys, nine African Americans, were charged with rape of two white women and being prosecuted in a case that became renowned for racial injustice.

**A**rma Wendell Bontemps was an American poet, novelist and librarian, and a noted member of the Harlem Renaissance.

## Early life

Bontemps was born in 1902 in Alexandria, Louisiana, into a Louisiana Creole family. His ancestors included free people of color and French colonists. His father was a contractor and sometimes would take his son to construction sites. As the boy got older, his father would take him along to speak-easies at night that featured jazz.

His mother, Maria Carolina Pembroke, was a schoolteacher. The family was Catholic, and Bontemps was baptized at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. They would later become Seventh-day Adventists.

When Bontemps was three years old, his family moved to Los Angeles, California, in the Great Migration of blacks out of the South and into cities of the North, Midwest and West. They settled in what became known as the Watts district. After attending public schools, Bontemps attended Pacific Union College in Angwin, California, where he graduated in 1923. He majored in English and minored in history, and he was also a member of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity.

## Career

Following his graduation, Bontemps met and befriended the author Wallace Thurman, founder of Fire!! magazine, in his job at Los Angeles Post Office. Bontemps later traveled to New York City, where he settled and became part of the Harlem Renaissance.

In August 1924, at the age of 22, Bontemps published his first poem, "Hope" (originally called "A Record of the Darker Races"), in *The Crisis*, official magazine of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He depicted hope as an "empty bark" drifting meaninglessly with no purpose, referring to his confusion about his career. Bontemps, along with many other West Coast intellectuals, traveled to New York during the Harlem Renaissance.

After graduation, he moved to New York in 1924 to teach at the Harlem Academy (present-day Northeastern Academy) in New York City. While teaching, Bontemps continued to write and publish poetry. In both 1926 and 1927, he received the Alexander Pushkin Prize of Opportunity, an academic journal published by the Na-



(October 13, 1902 – June 4, 1973)

tional Urban League. In 1926 he won the Crisis Poetry Prize.

In New York, Bontemps met other writers who became lifelong friends, including Countee Cullen, Langston Hughes, W. E. B. Du Bois, Zora Neale Hurston, James Weldon Johnson, Claude McKay and Jean Toomer. Hughes became a role model, collaborator, and dear friend to Bontemps.

During the early 1930s, African-American writers and intellectuals were discriminated against in Northern Alabama. Thirty miles from Huntsville in Decatur, the Scottsboro boys, nine African Americans, were charged with rape of two white women and being prosecuted in a case that became renowned for racial injustice.

During this time, Bontemps had many friends visit and stay with him while they came to Alabama to protest this trial. The school administration was worried about his many out-of-state visitors.

In later years, Bontemps said that the

administration at Oakwood Junior College had demanded he burn many of his private books to demonstrate that he had given up radical politics. Bontemps refused to do so. He resigned from his teaching position and returned with his family to California in 1934.

In 1936 Bontemps published what is considered by some as his best work, *Black Thunder*. This novel explores a slave rebellion that took place in 1800 near Richmond, Virginia, led by Gabriel Prosser, an uneducated, enslaved field worker and coachman. It describes Prosser's attempt to conduct a slave army to raid an armory in Richmond, in order to defend themselves against any assailants. A fellow slave betrayed Prosser, causing the rebellion to be shut down. Prosser was captured by whites and lynched. In Bontemps' version, whites were compelled to admit that slaves were humans who had possibilities of a promising life.

Bontemps died aged 71 on June 4,

1973, at his home in Nashville, from a myocardial infarction (heart attack), while working on his collection of short fiction in *The Old South* (1973).

Bontemps is buried at Greenwood Cemetery in Nashville, Tennessee.

Through his librarianship and bibliographic work, Bontemps became a leading figure in establishing African-American literature as a legitimate object of study and preservation.

His work as a poet, novelist, children's writer, editor, librarian and historian helped shape modern African-American literature, but it also had a tremendous influence on African-American culture.

To be cont.....



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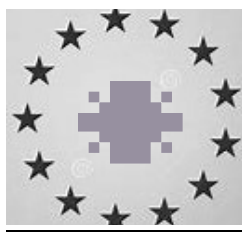


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# Our Wings Of Glory

I was due to fly back to Kenya on 7th June 1982 when I learned that a red carpet awaited me at Jomo Kenyatta. Exile was my only option. In exile I did not give up.

**T**he moment, organized by Kenyans, is special and very personal. I have received many honors and prizes from all over the world, in fact two days ago in Canada I received my 14th Honorary Doctorate from Queens University. The other doctorates have come from some of the top Universities in Europe, America, and New Zealand. In Africa I have received three doctorates from universities in South Africa, Dar-es-Salaam and Kenya. But no such an honor has been accorded me by the University where, I along with others like Micere Mugo, Taban Lo Liyong, Oluwole Osofisan, did so much to put Nairobi University on the global intellectual map.

We were the first Department in the world to call for the abolition of the English Department as then constituted and have it re-organised as a Department of Literature, with Africa at the center. And thus was born the afro-centric studies and also post-colonial theory.

Some of the graduates from our department would go on to become leading professors all over the world. Let me mention a few: Simon Gikandi who I call Prince of Princeton is currently one of the top Professors in America. James Ogunde, is one of the leading professors in South Africa. There are others like Kimani Njogu, Wanjiku Kabira, and Gitahi Gititi, too many to mention them all.

What is the secret of their success and global visibility? Firmly rooted in Kenya and Africa, they were able to fly to the stars.

What was the reward I got from Kenya for inspiring Kenyans to global visibility while rooted in their own country? Mocked in Parliament, accused of abolishing Shakespeare (NOT TRUE) and replacing him with Marxists from the Caribbean like George Lamming and V S Naipaul. In 1978 I lost my job and I was banned from any teaching institution in Kenya.



## Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o-Atlanta GA

In this category let me single out the late Henry Chakava. Chakava a fresh graduate of the Department of literature inherited the reins of the Kenya Branch of the British owned Heinemann Educational Publishers and in no time, turned it into a fully Kenyan owned and run company. He even changed its name to East Africa Education Publishers. Under his leadership the company became the leading African owned Publishing Company in Africa and the world. Talk of what self-confidence can do!

What was the reward I got from Kenya for inspiring Kenyans to global visibility while rooted in their own country? Mocked in Parliament, accused of abolishing Shakespeare (NOT TRUE) and replacing him with Marxists from the Caribbean like George Lamming and V S Naipaul. In 1978 I lost my job and I was banned from any teaching institution in Kenya.

But that was only the beginning of my saga with my beloved country. In 1977, four of us from the university of Nairobi, viz Ngũgĩ wa Mirii, Sultan Somjee, Kimani Gecau went work with the peasants and workers of Kamirithu, driven by our belief that real power, our power, comes from an awakened people. We called it Kamirithu Education and Cultural Center, and in Gikuyu, Mucii wa Muingi Mugi, i.e. the Home Base of a people with an awakened consciousness. With the peasant farmers and workers in factories and in the tea plantations, we produced a play in Gikuyu language, Ngaahika Ndeenda, which drew thousands from all

over Kenya. The day it was banned, buses from Kisumu, on their way to Kamirithu had to turn back in Nakuru.

Kamirithu would become an inspiration for people theater around the world. In Malaysia they even produced a news-magazine called; the Kamirithian. Kamirithu has been the subject of theater studies and doctoral dissertations around the world. What was my reward from the Kenya government? Jomo Kenyatta placed me in Kamiti Maximum Security prison for a year viz 1977-78

In prison I wrote the first ever novel in my mother tongue: Caitani Mutharabaini/Devil on the Cross. I was driven by the same motivation and belief: Our languages can also produce great written literature to compete with the best in other languages including European languages.

The reward? The Moi Dictatorship tried to stop its publication by sending anonymous telephone threats to Henry Chakava, the publishers. In the end they sent assassins to abduct him. A passing car saved Chakava. But the assassins managed to cut off his finger and he had to have it surgically reconnected. But Henry Chakava went ahead and published Caitani Mutharabaini as scheduled in 1981 (?). Later the same Moi dictatorship forced me into exile.

How? In 1982 I went to England for the launch of my English translation of my Gikuyu novel written in prison. The English title was Devil on the Cross. I was due to fly back to Kenya on 7th June 1982 when

I learned that a red carpet awaited me at Jomo Kenyatta. Exile was my only option.

In exile I did not give up. I wanted to show that even in an English speaking environment, I could still write in Gikuyu. And I did: two novels in fact: Matigari ma Njirungi and Murogi wa Kagogo. Matigari was confiscated by the Moi regime. And eleven days after my arrival in Kenya after 23 years of exile to help launch my other Gikuyu novel, Murogi wa Kagogo, assassins, armed with a gun, stormed my hotel room. My wife and I barely escaped with our lives.

But the regime would not stop there. Years later, I attended a Unicef conference in Harare, Zimbabwe, in support of the children of Mozambique, ravished by the RENAMO terrorist rebels directed by then apartheid regime in South Africa, to destabilize the FRELIMO government. On the way there I sat next to Harry Belafonte, then an Ambassador of UNICEF. In the middle of a meeting in Harare, I was summoned to the offices of the Zimbabwe Intelligence. They had just stopped two armed police assassins, outside the door of my hotel. They did not want to alarm me. They wanted to assure me that the Zimbabwe Intelligence would keep a vigilant eye during my stay. I was not sure what to make of the story. But soon after, I learnt that the Moi regime had recalled the official Kenya delegation to the conference, I suppose, in protest at my presence.

By Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o  
Cont P. 17

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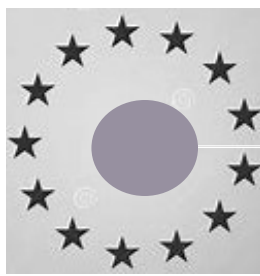
BIDEN HIGHLIGHTS



President Joe Biden briefly donned a red "Trump 2024" hat during a visit to a Shanksville, Pennsylvania fire station...

"At the Shanksville Fire Station, @POTUS spoke about the country's bipartisan unity after 9/11 and said we needed to get back to that..."

"As a gesture, he gave a hat to a Trump supporter, who then suggested that, in the same spirit, POTUS should wear the Trump cap."



Father of 11-year-old killed in crash says Trump and Vance are using son 'as a political tool'

The father of an 11-year-old Ohio boy who was killed last year when a mini-van driven by a Haitian immigrant struck his school bus said Tuesday that Donald Trump and JD Vance were "morally bankrupt politicians" who were using his dead son as a political tool.



"Using Aiden as a political tool is, to say the least, reprehensible for any political purpose," Clark said during the commission's public comment period...

spokesperson for Vance, said that Vice President Kamala Harris should apologize to people who are victims of crime allegedly committed by immigrants...

"The Clark family is in Senator Vance's prayers," he said. Campaign representatives for Trump did not immediately respond to requests for comment late Tuesday...



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Dr. Ayub Wainaina UK Correspondent



ARCH. DR. D.K. GĨTŪ MŪTONGORIA W Ī KĪONEKI

Writer is a Kenyan freelance journalist and a political commentator based in the UK.



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# The Devil's Pool of Victoria Falls.

*Talk about a heart stopping experience with the Mosi- Oa- tunya, the Smoke that Thunders*



Tourism with Memory Phiri Zimbabwe.



Fashion wise, the pool motivates the ladies to get themselves an arresting colorful bikini and tight fitting swimming trunks for the guys.

**A** lately every tourism fanatic from all over the globe has been talking nonstop about the Devil's Pool or the Angel's Pool. It is a very special package that has everyone yearning for a picture in the thick of things. Be assured that you will be able to look over the Victoria Falls with the flowing water gushing past just meters away from you.

Talk about a heart stopping experience with the Mosi- Oa- tunya, the Smoke that Thunders. Luckily, tourists have been visiting the Victoria Falls since it was discovered and because it is one of the wonders of the world. Without doubt, the current trend allows everyone to have something extraordinary to talk about after a vacation and the Devil's Pool is one good excuse.

Although there are a lot of things that need to be experienced in Victoria Falls like the Knife Edge, the Rainbow and the Horseshoe it can be seen that the natural pool has gone viral and made a mark for itself. Just imagine yourself swimming at the top of the falls. Indeed, it is a much coveted activity on every bucket list of one too

## Enjoy Touring best destinations in Zimbabwe

many a traveller or explorer. In other words, the natural pool at the crown of the falls allows you to touch base with the Batoka Gorge, the Mighty Victoria Falls.

Fashion wise, the pool motivates the ladies to get themselves an arresting colorful bikini and tight fitting swimming trunks for the guys. On the same token, be prepared to strike a pose that will grace your photo collection for all times.

This is the appropriate time to visit the Devil's Pool for it is open between mid-August and mid-January depending on the Zambezi water levels. Interesting enough, to

reach this part of the pool you have to have a tour guide who will ferry you to and fro. In terms of location, the Devil's Pool is adjacent to the famous Livingstone Island.

At this point in time, the tour guide enables one to swim to the edge of the falls and plunge into the pool. If anything, the swirling crystal clear water allows tourists to lie on their back and stomach and reach out for the waterfall with the roar of it as music in your ears. What say you to such an immersive experience? Contrary to popular beliefs, there is nothing to fear when it comes to this excursion because there is a safety rope that can assist you

along the way.

Truth is, the Devil's Pool has a natural rock ledge which acts as a barrier that permits participants to safely jump into the pool. The challenge is worth taking for every adventure tourist wants to live and tell the tale.

As far as we are concerned, that adrenalin pumping and the risk of plunging into the abyss gives the Devil's Pool its name so we are guaranteed of more tourists who are dying to try it out. Victoria Falls will never cease to amaze us for years to come.

Talk about a heart stopping experience with the Mosi- Oa- tunya, the Smoke that Thunders. Luckily, tourists have been visiting the Victoria Falls since it was discovered and because it is one of the wonders of the world. Without doubt, the current trend allows everyone to have something extraordinary to talk about after a vacation and the Devil's Pool is one good excuse.



*The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing.*  
-Walt Disney

*The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.*  
-Eleanor Roosevelt



# Diaspora Sunday

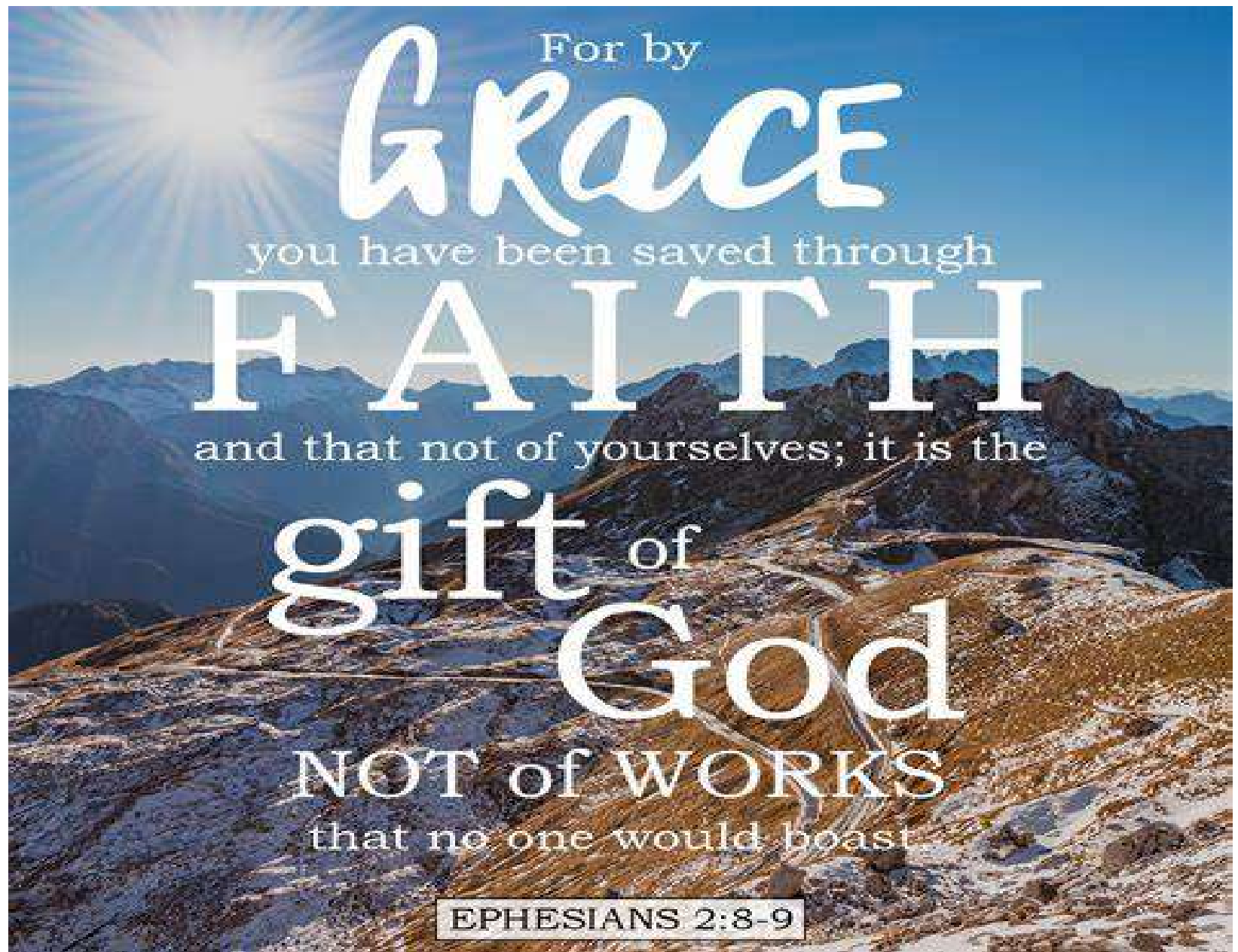
Worship the Lord your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you.  
Exodus 23:25 Romans 15:13

## PRAYERS

Prayer for a Healthy Cardiovascular and Respiratory System

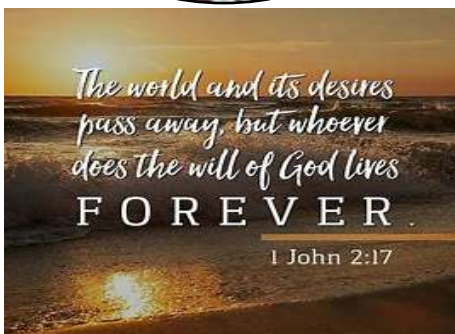
God of Might, please give me a healthy cardiovascular and respiratory system, so that I don't have any circulation or breathing issues that would damage my well-being. I pray that You will contend with any inherited propensities to heart or lung disease and help me make important changes to my lifestyle to promote healthy circulation and respiration. I praise You for splendid and majestic is Your work, O Lord. Amen.

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"



The Bible is filled with promises on how God can change your life when you study His Word—"Meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it ... then you

will make your way prosperous" (Joshua 1:8, ESV). It's never too late to start regularly reading Scripture, and we have a simple plan that can help you spend time in God's Word every day.



Pastor Mukuria

**Morning Affirmation**  
Psalms 118:24  
This is the day that the Lord has made, Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Good day



Brother Kigume

Some who owned houses or land sold them and brought the proceeds before the apostles to distribute to those without. Not a single person among them was needy.



You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one. I hope someday you'll join us. And the world will live as one. -John Lennon

If you set your goals ridiculously high and it's a failure, you will fail above everyone else's success. -James Cameron



# OUR WINGS OF GLORY

Our languages are our wings to glory.  
Let us root ourselves in them and Africa will fly.

**W**hat was my crime? I was trying to show that rooted in our languages and belief in the power of the Kenya working class and the small farmer, ie the Wanjikũ of Kenya and Africa, we can break any barriers set against our development. There is no height we cannot reach. Trying to beak barriers has been the constant theme in my writing career. I was a second year undergraduate student at Makerere when I said I was writing a book. The other students laughed at me, pointing that only a few professors had been able to write a book. And you, a freshman at the University, you say you want to write a book. I said, I can do it, a student can do it. I entered Makerere in July 1959. By December 1961, I had competed writing my first novel, years later published under the title, The River Between. In 1962, still a student, I wrote Weep Not Child, published in



### File Picture Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o

1964. But I also wrote about 8 short stories. In addition I used to write weekly column for the Sunday Nation, titled, As I See It by James Ngũgĩ. It was also as a student that I wrote and directed the Play, The Black Hermit, the first English language play by an East African, to be played at the Kampala National Theater, which, until then, was dominated by European theater, That has been my spirit, and I carried it into my post-graduate studies in Leeds University where I wrote and published my third Novel: A Grain of Wheat. That was the same spirit I carried back to Kenya on my eventual return from Leeds in 1968. There is more to tell about my days in Leeds in my memoir of Leeds under the title: Horseman of the Sixties. And I was punished for it. It is not just me. In 19? Gacamba, a jua kali bicycle repairer, made an aeroplane, he termed KENYA ONE. It flew for ten minutes or so. You

would think that an African government would have come to his aid, and give him help to develop his skills? Instead, the Attorney General had Gacamba arrested and then warned never to fly an aeroplane without an aviation licence. Charles Njonjo is famous for swearing never to fly in an aeroplane piloted by an African. What is the common thread in all those stories? Rooted in ourselves, there is no height that we in Africa cannot reach, says An African Patriot. No, says a colonized parrot. The Patriot and the Parrot: That is the struggle in Africa today. Unfortunately the Parrot has captured state power. Take the example of the current leadership in Kenya. Ruto heard Trump talk of America First. Ruto echoed: Kenya First. Trump talked of the deep state-even though he was President Ruto talked of state capture: even though he was Vice-President and now President. Trump lies all

the time, smiling even. Truth and Lie are interchangeable. Ruto lies all the time, smiling. But now he has gone far is in his self-abasement: he has morphed into a mercenary of the West. He thinks he can sell Kenya to the West the way he used to sell chicken to Western tourists. We are not chickens, William Ruto. Africa should read again the story Kweggir Aggrey of Ghana about the Eagle raised among chicken as a chicken. The farmer believes he has completely clipped the wings of the Eagle and that it believes itself a chicken. Eventually it discovers its wings. It raises the wings and flies... "My people of Africa," said kweggir Aggrey, "we were created in the image of God, but men have made us think that we are chickens, and we still think we are; but we are eagles. Stretch forth your wings and fly! Don't be content with the food of chickens!" The journey of self-belief must begin in a belief in our people and therefore the languages they speak: mother tongues. Our languages are our wings to glory. Let us root ourselves in them and Africa will fly.

*Rooted in ourselves, there is no height that we in Africa cannot reach, says An African Patriot. No, says a colonized parrot. The Patriot and the Parrot: That is the struggle in Africa today. Unfortunately the Parrot has captured state power.*

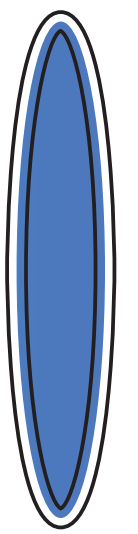
**June 22, 2024 and organised by the Kenya  
Diaspora Alliance-USA (KDA-USA).**

By Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o

17

**Americans  
On Medicare  
Could Get A  
New Food  
Allowance  
Card This  
Month**

**A**mericans on medicare could now be eligible to get a new Food Allowance Card with an annual spending limit, yet many don't even know it exists. This benefit is helping smart seniors get the benefits they deserve and can be used cover various bills and even groceries. Up until recently, Americans have not been able to get the full care they need. But that's all changed now that people can get their Food Allowance benefit and unlock additional benefits and spending each year.



Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that. -Martin Luther King Jr.

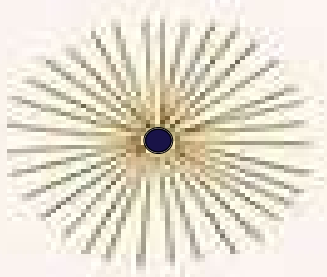
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Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier. -Mother Teresa





# Health Tit Bits



# BREAST CANCER

A personal history of breast conditions. Certain breast conditions are markers for a higher risk of breast cancer. These conditions include lobular carcinoma in situ, also called LCIS, and atypical hyperplasia of the breast. If you've had a breast biopsy that found one of these conditions, you have an increased risk of breast cancer.

By Maggie Gonna  
mngona@gmail.com  
Internet MC sources Share only



## summary



The cancer cells might form a mass called a tumor. The tumor can grow to invade and destroy healthy body tissue. In time, cancer cells can break away and spread to other parts of the body. When cancer spreads, it's called metastatic cancer.

The DNA changes that lead to breast cancer most often happen in the cells that line the milk ducts. These ducts are tubes designed to carry milk to the nipple. Breast cancer that starts in the ducts is called invasive ductal carcinoma. Breast cancer also can start in cells in the milk glands. These glands, called lobules, are designed to make breast milk. Cancer that happens in the lobules is called invasive lobular carcinoma. Other cells in the breast can become cancer cells, though this isn't common. may feel reluctant to seek help.

**B**reast cancer is a kind of cancer that begins as a growth of cells in the breast tissue.

After skin cancer, breast cancer is the most common cancer diagnosed in women in the United States. But breast cancer doesn't just happen in women. Everyone is born with some breast tissue, so anyone can get breast cancer.

Breast cancer survival rates have been increasing. And the number of people dying of breast cancer is steadily going down. Much of this is due to the widespread support for breast cancer awareness and funding for research.



Advances in breast cancer screening allow healthcare professionals to diagnose breast cancer earlier. Finding the cancer earlier makes it much more likely that the cancer can be cured. Even when breast cancer can't be cured, many treatments exist to extend life. New discoveries in breast cancer research are helping healthcare professionals choose the most effective treatment plans.

**Signs and symptoms of breast cancer may include:**  
A breast lump or thickened area of skin that feels different from the surrounding tissue.  
A nipple that looks flattened or turns inward.

Changes in the color of the breast skin. In people with white skin, the breast skin may look pink or red. In people with brown and Black skin, the

breast skin may look darker than the other skin on the chest or it may look red or purple. Change in the size, shape or appearance of a breast.

Changes to the skin over the breast, such as skin that looks dimpled or looks like an orange peel.

Peeling, scaling, crusting or flaking of the skin on the breast.

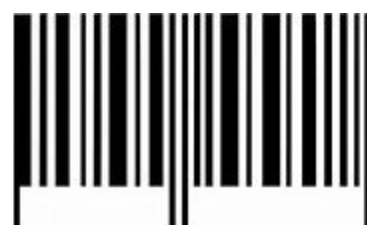
**When to see a doctor**  
If you find a lump or other change in your breast, make an appointment with a doctor or other healthcare professional. Don't wait for your next mammogram to see if the change you found is breast cancer. Report any changes in your breasts even if a recent mammogram showed there was no breast cancer.

### Causes

The exact cause of most breast cancers isn't known. Researchers have found things that increase the risk of breast cancer. These include hormones, lifestyle choices and things in the environment. But it's not clear why some people who don't have any factors get cancer, yet others with risk factors never do. It's likely that breast cancer happens through a complex interaction of your genetic makeup and the world around you.

Healthcare professionals know that breast cancer starts when something changes the DNA inside cells in the breast tissue. A cell's DNA holds the instructions that tell a cell what to do. In healthy cells, the DNA gives instructions to grow and multiply at a set rate.

The instructions tell the cells to die at a set time. In cancer cells, the DNA changes give different instructions. The changes tell the cancer cells to make many more cells quickly. Cancer cells can keep living when healthy cells would die. This causes too many cells.

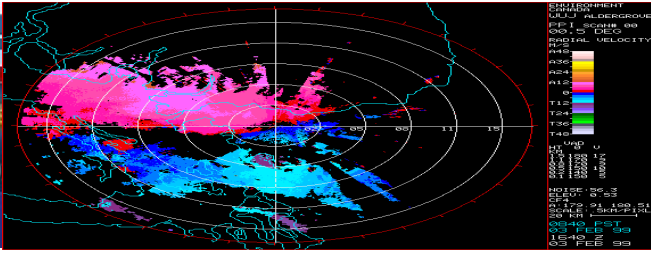


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Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail. -Ralph Waldo Emerson

The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart. -Helen Keller





summary

Temperature, rain, snow, fog and wind are all part of weather. Severe weather events such as tornadoes, tropical storms, hurricanes, cyclones, floods, lightning strikes and extreme weather affect us all. In addition to weather forecasts are ozone levels, changing climate conditions and solar winds. Weather warnings are important forecasts because they are used to protect life and property. People use weather forecasts to determine what to wear on a given day or to plan travel or events. Since outdoor activities are severely curtailed by heavy rain, snow and the wind chill, forecasts can be used to plan activities around these events, and to plan ahead and survive them.

Tornado in Oklahoma forms behind rainbow as severe weather strikes region.



A new line of storms was barreling through Texas on Sunday as officials worked to assess damage from a series of tornadoes and severe weather which left at least 11 people dead overnight.

Authorities said the full extent of the damage from Saturday's spate of storms was not yet known — but warned the region should get ready for another hit. Forecasters warned of more "severe" weather and heavy rain.

The same storm system that spawned the deadly twisters in the Dallas area was expected to leave up to 16 inches of snow in west Texas through Sunday evening, according to the National Weather Service (NWS).



WEATHER



"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that." -Martin Luther King Jr.

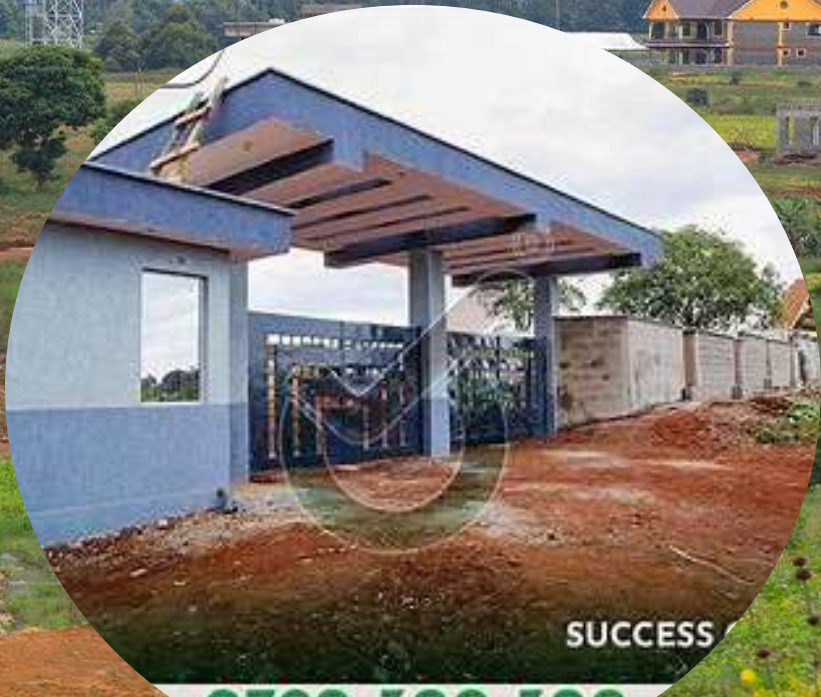
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# Teenager In Attempted Murder Case In San Francisco.

A struggle ensued, and gunfire from the suspect's firearm struck both Pearsall and the teenager, who was shot in the arm, they said



**"Where is the justice for Jayda?"**



**T**he attorney for a 17-year-old high school senior charged in the daytime shooting of San Francisco 49ers rookie receiver Ricky Pearsall said Tuesday that new video evidence supports his theory that the teenager should not be charged with attempted murder.

San Francisco Deputy Public Defender Bob Dunlap said after a pretrial hearing where the teen waived his right to a speedy trial that the evidence he found showed that what happened the afternoon of Aug. 31 at Union Square was an attempted robbery, not attempted murder.

He said the footage he has shared with prosecutors showed "it was a rather extended struggle" between the two, with Pearsall getting the better of the teen.

"It supports what's always been my belief and theory in this case, that this is an attempted robbery, not an attempted murder," Dunlap said.

Pearsall, 23, was walking alone to his car after shopping at luxury

stores in Union Square on Aug. 31 when the suspect allegedly saw the NFL player was wearing a Rolex watch and other expensive jewelry and tried to rob him at gunpoint, San Francisco police said.

A struggle ensued, and gunfire from the suspect's firearm struck both Pearsall and the teenager, who was shot in the arm, they said.

The teen, who lives in Tracy, a city about 60 miles (100 kilometers) east of San Francisco, was arrested about a block away from where he allegedly confronted Pearsall.

San Francisco District Attorney Brooke Jenkins charged the teen last week with attempted murder, assault with a semiautomatic weapon and attempted second-degree robbery. Her office later added several gun-related charges.

Jenkins has not decided whether to try the juvenile as an adult and said her office needs time to investigate further and, if appropriate, petition the court to transfer the case to adult court. California law prevents prosecutors from charging a minor as an adult without judicial approval.

The 49ers rookie was shot through

the chest at close range, officials said. His mother, Erin Pearsall, posted on social media that the bullet went through the right side of her son's chest and out his back without striking any vital organs.

Pearsall was released from the hospital a day later. Two days after the attempted robbery, he was back at the team's facility.

He was at the team's season opener at Levi's Stadium Monday night when first responders who helped him after the shooting were honored and received signed jerseys from him.

Pearsall's shooting in an upscale shopping district downtown put the national spotlight again on a city that struggled with brazen shoplifting, empty storefronts and assaults on Asian-American seniors before voters choose a new mayor. Mayor London Breed, a Democrat, is in a tight reelection contest in November.

**F**amily and loved ones of Jayda Woods-Johnson – the 13-year-old girl killed in a shooting at Alderwood Mall in Lynnwood a little more than two months ago – say they're upset with a judge's ruling on the bail for the suspected shooter, 16-year-old Samuel Gizaw.

"Samuel Gizaw is a danger to our community," said Cheryl Huffman, Jayda's cousin.

Prosecutors say Gizaw retaliated after getting punched near the mall's food court, firing a shot toward a group of teen boys running away, as Woods-Johnson was hit by the bullet while walking with a friend.

Huffman says, on one hand, the family is pleased the judge decided to keep Gizaw's bail at \$2 million after his attorney asked for a reduction to \$790,000.

But they're disappointed the

judge is allowing Gizaw's family to use their home – valued at up to nearly \$1.1 million – as collateral.

Defense attorney Bryan Hershman asked for a property bond during last week's bail hearing.

"There will be at least two eyes on this young man at all times, more than that, four or six or eight eyes at all time to include mom and dad who have sort of created a shift for their own work so that one or the two of them can be home 24/7," said Hershman.

Under the court's ruling, if released, Gizaw is not allowed to leave home, except for medical or legal appointments.

"I think it was 24 people who wrote letters on behalf of Samuel, stating he's this outstanding child and that he is well-received in the community.

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# WORLD OF SPORTS

## Ranking NFL's top 10 quarterback-coach duos for 2024: Chiefs' Patrick Mahomes and Andy Reid remain No. 1.



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**Quarterbacks who had a strong 2023 season or have a small sample size with their coach shouldn't be punished too harshly because they haven't been together for many years.**

**T**he quarterback-coach duo rankings have undergone a lot of change over the past five seasons, yet one aspect remains constant: Patrick Mahomes and Andy Reid are the standard.

Mahomes and Reid led the Kansas City Chiefs to their third Super Bowl title in five years, retaining their spot at the top of the annual quarterback-coach duo list. Behind Mahomes and Reid, the rankings underwent some shuffling.

Two new duos made the list for the first time, thanks to some impressive seasons by two of the rising teams in the league. The top of the rankings also shuffled a bit thanks to the performance of their teams last season, which plays a huge role in determining the 2024 list.

It's a great sign that a coach and a quarterback have been together for a long time (which certainly plays a role in these rankings), but recent success on the field should also play a factor.



# SPORTS WORLD

