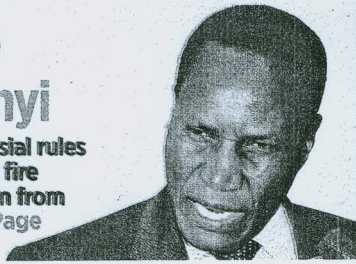


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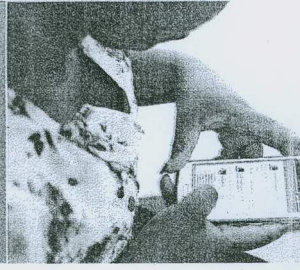
Headteachers to report to Kaimenyi

Education CS gazettes controversial rules giving him the power to hire and fire school managers amid opposition from unions and Nyachae team **Back Page**



New tough law on phone data sharing

You could spend up to two years in jail for revealing someone's mobile phone number without their consent if Data Protection Bill is passed **Pages 10-11**



DAILY NATION

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POLICE HIRING

YOUTH TURNED AWAY AT KIGANJO POLICE COLLEGE

Anger, desperation as group ordered to return home and await fresh recruitment **P. 6**

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EXPLOSION | Series of blasts sparks deadly stampede at University of Nairobi campus

One dead, 141 hurt in varsity terrorist scare

>> Power transformer explodes at dawn, sparking fears campus is under attack
>> Dozens treated and discharged from various hospitals >> Kenya Power apologises over incident >> Ruto assures on security **Stories and pictures Pg2-3**

Police plane in Mombasa on day of Garissa raid

BY NATION TEAM
newsdesk@ke.nationmedia.com

The Inspector-General of Police has received a brief confirming that a Kenya Police Airwing plane was not immediately available to the GSU Recce Company on the morning of the Garissa University College terrorist attack because it was flying a small group of civilians from Mombasa.

The police boss had demanded an explanation in the wake of media reports on Saturday that the aeroplane had flown on an unauthorised lease to Mombasa.

Contacted by the *Nation* yesterday, the IG, Mr Joseph Boinnet, said that the matter had been brought to his attention and preliminary investigations showed that the crew

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Kenyatta National Hospital nurses attend to a University of Nairobi student who was injured in a stampede at the Kikuyu Campus yesterday after a transformer exploded several times, sparking fears of a terrorist attack. Many of the injured jumped from their rooms in a six-storeyed hostel. One student died.

BILLY MUTAI | NATION

66

This tragedy indicates the magnitude of the problem we are facing as a nation. A climate of fear and uncertainty is gripping our country.

Cord leader Ralla Odinga



141

Number of students who were injured in a stampede sparked by a transformer explosion mistaken for terrorist attack

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SECURITY | Transformer explodes at dawn, sparking fears of a terrorist attack at university campus just 10 days after Al-Shabaab

Student dies, 141 injured in stampede

Raila calls for immediate action to assure public of security as Ruto says steps have been taken to secure all institutions of higher education

BY NATION TEAM
newsdesk@ke.nationmedia.com

One student died while 141 others were injured in a dawn stampede sparked by an explosion in a hostel at the Kikuyu Campus of the University of Nairobi.

Of the injured, 99 were admitted, most of them at the Kenyatta National Hospital, while the others were treated and discharged.

An electricity fault in the hostel's main supply station caused several "gunshot-like" explosions that sparked panic among students who feared that they had been attacked by gunmen. Some of the casualties jumped from as high as the 6th floor of Kimberly Hostels in an attempt to flee from what they thought was a terrorist attack in the campus.

This comes 10 days after four gunmen shot dead 148 people at the Garissa University College in a dawn attack that has been condemned across the world and led the Pope to speak out against the persecution of Christians.

"We have confirmed that it was not a terror attack," said Prof Peter Mbithi, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Nairobi. "This was a reaction by scared students who thought they were fleeing from terrorists. The power fault caused the transformer to explode, forcing students into panic after more than three successive blasts."

He said that 99 of the 141 casualties were at the Kenyatta National Hospital, where five are said to be in critical condition.

At least 54 students were taken to the Kikuyu Mission Hospital, which is near the campus and 50 of them were treated and discharged.

The male student who died had been taken to the Karen hospital together with one other critically injured colleague.

"We have lost one student who was a third year Bachelor of Education student. The body is at the Chiromo mortuary," said Prof Mbithi.

The victim was identified as 24-year-old Francis Maina. He is suspected to have sustained internal head injuries.

Deputy President William Ruto and ODM leader Raila Odinga sent their condolences to the family of the victim and wished the injured a quick recovery.

Climate of fear

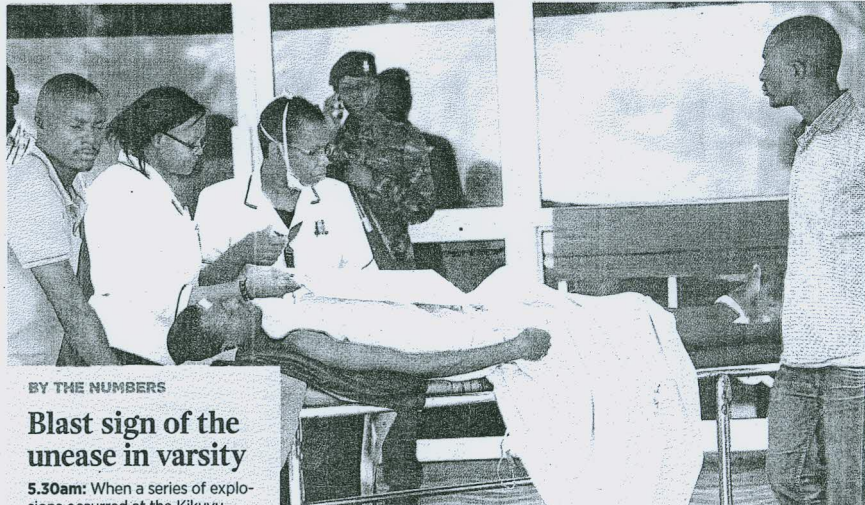
Mr Odinga said the climate of fear that has engulfed the country must be dealt with.

"This tragedy indicates the magnitude of the problem we are facing as a nation. A climate of fear and uncertainty is gripping our country. We have to deal with this as a matter of urgency," he said in a statement to newsmen.

"Everything must be done to reassure the public that they have nothing to fear and their security is guaranteed, if we are to avoid tragedies like the one witnessed at the University of Nairobi."

A message sent to our newsroom by Mr Ruto's spokesman, Mr David Mugonyi, said the Deputy President had asked the public to remain calm.

"We have put in place mechanisms to protect our institutions of higher learning and there shouldn't be panic



BY THE NUMBERS

Blast sign of the unease in varsity

5.30am: When a series of explosions occurred at the Kikuyu campus of the University of Nairobi yesterday, sparking fears of a terrorist attack.

113: Number of students who were admitted at KNH after they were injured in the stampede.

4: Number of students who were in surgery at KNH yesterday. One died while undergoing treatment at the Karen Hospital.

24: Age of the Third Year student who died in the stampede. He was pursuing a Bachelor of Education degree.

54: Number of students who were taken to the Kikuyu Mission Hospital. Fifty were treated and discharged.

A University of Nairobi student, who was injured yesterday in a stampede sparked by a transformer explosion at Kikuyu Campus is wheeled to the Kenyatta National Hospital for treatment. One student died after suffering head injuries.

BILLY MUTAI | NATION

or fear around the country," said Mr Ruto. The Kenya Power chief executive, Dr Ben Chumo, visited the campus yesterday and said an underground power cable near the students' hostels exploded because it was overloaded.

"We will increase the capacity of the transformer to help cater for the amount of energy being consumed by the campus and at the same time commence inspection in other campuses," he said.

He also apologised to the students for the outage and scare.

Education Principal Secretary Belio

Kipsang visited the injured at KNH.

"We are sorry that this incident had to happen, but we want to confirm that it was not a terror attack. We have received a report from the hospital that many of the students affected are stable," he said.

The KNH Chief Executive Officer, Ms Lily Koros, said there were five seriously injured students admitted at the hospital. The others had soft tissue injuries.

Reported by Elizabeth Merab, Isaac Ongiri, Bernardine Mutanu and Samuel Karanja

Four undergo surgery at KNH, 113 treated

One hundred and thirteen students who were injured during yesterday's stampede at University of Nairobi's Kikuyu Campus were admitted at the Kenyatta National Hospital, with one of them in critical condition.

Of those, 102 were male while 11 were female.

The high number of males was attributed to the fact that the transformer that exploded, leading to panic, was near the men's hostel. The students were injured as they ran away, thinking it was a terrorist attack.

"The hospital received 113 casualties. Already, four of the students received are undergoing surgery," said Education Cabinet Secretary Jacob Kaimenyi, who visited the referral hospital last evening.

The students were distributed across different hospitals. PCEA Kikuyu Mission Hospital received 54 students. Fifty were treated and discharged, while four were still in hospital yesterday.

One student was moved

from KNH to the Nairobi Hospital, another was taken to the Aga Khan University Hospital and another to the Karen Hospital.

"Most of the students admitted are in stable condition and the number of those to be discharged will increase," said Prof Kaimenyi.

Kenya Power employees yesterday visited the Kikuyu Campus to assess the damage and repair the transformer and cables.

Power supply

Dr Ben Chumo, the power supply company's CEO, said that normal power supply was expected to resume by yesterday. He also said that the capacity of the current transformer (630 KVA) would be increased to 1,000 KVA.

"The impact of the blast was massive because the cable had been laid close to the foundation of the hostel where the explosion's impact was felt," said Dr Chumo.

— Elizabeth Merab

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killed over 140 students in Garissa; learners say there had been rumours they would be targeted by attackers

after explosions rock UoN campus



BILLY MUTAI | NATION

Some of the University of Nairobi students who sustained injuries during yesterday's stampede at the Kikuyu Campus leave the Kenyatta National Hospital after they were treated.



BILLY MUTAI | NATION

The six-storey Kimberly Hostel at Kikuyu Campus (left), where some students jumped from their rooms after a nearby transformer exploded. Right: One of the students treated at KNH.

Students: We have been living in fear over Shabaab attack claims

BY NATION TEAM

Students interviewed by the *Nation* yesterday said there had been a state of fear at the Kikuyu Campus for the past two weeks over rumours that the college is among those targeted by Al-Shabaab terrorists.

"Some students have been working on defence strategies just in case of an attack," said Mr Innocent Ochieng, a First Year student at the campus.

Mr Ochieng, who jumped from the fourth floor of the Kimberly hostel, sustained multiple arm injuries.

"I heard the explosion. Everyone was running so I decided to jump as nobody wanted to flee through the regular exits," he said.

The explosions sounded like gunshots. Matters were made worse after students from nearby hostels raised the alarm on hearing the explosions.

Another student, Mr Manuel Kelly, who was unhurt, said: "I just heard people shouting 'fire! fire!' I then thought we were under attack. I fled to the field where I felt safe. When it was confirmed it was not an Al-Shabaab attack we came back to help those who had been injured."

A Third Year student, Mr Kennedy Ouma, got cuts on his right leg as he tried to escape through a window on the sixth floor. "I was woken up by screams from the girls' hostel. All I could think about was how to save my life because the explosions sounded like continuous gunshots," he said. "I was ready to nurse a



“We have confirmed it was not a terror attack. This was a reaction by scared students who thought they were fleeing from terrorists.”
Peter Mbithi, VC

"We don't have faith in our security system. This incident took the police close to one hour to respond," said Mr Ronnie Ayumba, the university's student representative.

Speaking at the campus, Mr Isaac Mbeche, the university's deputy vice-chancellor in charge of academic affairs, said the students' reaction was justified.

"The recent terror attack on a university made students react the way they did, he said. "No one wants to fall victim of a terror attack."

A University of Nairobi student leader attributed the death of their colleague to lack of emergency doors at the hostels.

Outgoing student union Vice-Chairperson Irene Kendi said the situation was dire and there was need to create emergency exit routes as soon as possible, to avoid a bigger disaster.

"Security in our campus is pathetic. We have not learnt from what happened in Garissa. I have raised the issue of emergency exits but nothing has been done," she said.

She said many of the students were agitated and the situation could affect their performance in examinations due in the next few days. Ms Kendi urged the university administration to offer counselling to students.

Vice Chancellor Peter Mbithi said: "We have confirmed that it was not a terror attack. This was a reaction by scared students who thought they were fleeing from terrorists."

broken leg but not die without trying to rescue myself."

Mr Vincent Adika, a Second Year student, was also among those who ran out of the campus for fear that they had been attacked.

"For days now, we've been on a high alert after some strangers were seen in the school. Police have been patrolling the campus and some students were not even sleeping because of fear. So, when I heard the explosion, I ran and jumped over the fence with other students," he said.

According to him, police response was rather slow.

Most of the students said after the attack on Garissa University College, they were not willing to take any chances with their lives.

See Editorial Page 12

In your copy of *The East African*

BATTLE FOR FREQUENCIES:

The rollout of the 4G spectrum in Kenya promises to raise temperatures, with the Communications Authority already being accused of tilting the ground in favour of Safaricom.

FINALLY, FRANCE AGREES TO REVEAL GENOCIDE SECRETS

France finally agrees to lay bare the truth on role in genocide by making public its archives, which might answer the many questions on what happened during the 100-day massacre ... But Rwanda is demanding an apology and much more.

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