

# THE COUNTIES



**LUSAKA ACCUSED OF USING PUBLIC CASH IN VOTE HUNT**  
County reps claim governor is also using government cars in Kombo campaigns. P. 22

**VIOLENCE** | Kimaiyo pledges to probe incidents and arrest perpetrators

## Varsity closed after two-day riots

University of Nairobi students stone vehicles and shops over death of two of their colleagues

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The University of Nairobi yesterday closed indefinitely following two days of student riots.

A circular sent out by the university's Vice-Chancellor Prof George Magoha directed all students to leave immediately.

"Following student disturbances in the last two days, the senate, at its special meeting today (yesterday), resolved to close the university with immediate effect. All students have been asked to vacate the university premises," read the circular.

### Traffic disrupted

The students have been rioting since Saturday evening when they took to the streets protesting the death of a colleague whom they said had passed away while in police custody.

They also alleged that another student was killed by police that Saturday evening as they protested.

The killing further fuelled the riots which began afresh yesterday after the students converged at the university's hostels before marching to the Central Police Station and then to the city's central business district.

Vehicles on the busy Uhuru Highway and University Way were diverted for the better part of yesterday as the students engaged police in running battles.



BILL MUTAI | NATION

A policeman fires teargas at protesting University of Nairobi students on Uhuru Highway yesterday. The university's senate closed the institution.

Inspector-General of Police David Kimaiyo yesterday ordered investigations into allegations that a police officer at Central shot dead a student.

The student is alleged to have been among a group that stormed the police station on Saturday night to protest against the death of their colleague in the station's cells on Friday.

Mr Kimaiyo said that the officer will face the full force of the law and must explain the circumstances under which an unarmed student was shot dead.

"The preliminary findings will be expected within 48 hours and I therefore ask the aggrieved to remain calm and give us a chance to do our job," Mr Kimaiyo said.

He also urged the victim's family and University of Nairobi administration to officially report the incident to his office at Jogoo House A and also to report to the Criminal Investigation Department in Nairobi and record statements.

He warned errant officers that his office is zero-tolerant to corruption and other vices.

### TRANS NZOIA

## Demolitions 'must go on'

BY NATION CORRESPONDENT

Traders' structures on public land in Kitale town will be demolished as planned, Governor Patrick Khaemba has said.

The governor has rejected calls to consult with the traders before bringing down the structures.

"How do you expect us to consult them before evicting them when they did not consult anybody when they were grabbing public lands," Mr Khaemba said.

Sikhendu ward representative Andrew Kutitila had cautioned against removing the structures before an alternative site has been identified for the traders.

### MOMBASA

## Security boosted ahead of holidays

BY NATION CORRESPONDENT

The national government has boosted security for residents and international tourists in Mombasa County ahead of the festive season.

This comes after two British holidaymakers narrowly escaped death last Thursday when a grenade hurled at their vehicle failed to explode.

The visitors, who were travelling to Amboseli National Park, were attacked by a lone man at Likoni.

Yesterday, Mombasa county commissioner Nelson Marwa assured both residents and visitors that the tourist resort town is safe for holidays.

"The government has beefed up security across the county ahead of the festive season for the safety of residents and holidaymakers," he said.

"We are working closely with tour-

ism stakeholders and county leaders to ensure both residents and visitors enjoy their stay without fearing for their lives," he added.

He said the officers — drawn from the regular unit, Administration Police and Tourist Police Unit — are patrol-

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Mombasa county commissioner Nelson Marwa

### REASONS

## Deaths of youths sparked the unrest

An engineering student, Erastus Abok, was found dead at Central Police Station cells on Friday night. He was arrested on Thursday night.

His colleague Edward Kubai is alleged to have been shot by police with students union chairman Zack Kinuthia insisting that police were behind the deaths and must be arrested.

### BRIEFLY

#### KWALE

## Keep off county affairs, Muslim council told

The labour committee of the Kwale County Assembly has warned a Muslim organisation against meddling in the affairs of the devolved unit. This comes after the Kenya Muslim National Advisory Council chairman, Sheikh Juma Ngao, opposed a move by the committee to dissolve the Public Service Board for alleged corruption and tribalism in recruitment. Committee chairman Swaleh Simba said the council does not have any mandate to interfere with county affairs.

#### MERU

## MP urges Kenyans to support devolution

Igembe Central MP Kubai Kiringo has urged Kenyans to be patient as the country tries to fulfil promises on devolved governance. Mr Kiringo said realising devolution is not easy, adding that it takes the unity of all Kenyans to achieve faster development. Speaking in Meru, the MP said supporting devolution is not a choice but a constitutional duty. "Gains to be made through devolution cannot be realised overnight. There are many teething problems," he said.

#### NYERI

## County to preserve Mau Mau history

A museum will be built in Nyeri County to preserve the history of the Mau Mau freedom struggle, Governor Nderitu Gachagua has said. Speaking at the Dedan Kimathi Stadium in Nyeri during celebrations of Kenya's 50 years of independence, Mr Gachagua said proceeds from the museum would be shared with the existing Mau Mau war veterans in recognition of their contribution towards independence. The former fighters had complained of neglect.

#### MOMBASA

## Many workers 'lack proper education'

At least 176,000 adults capable of providing labour never received secondary school education, a county official has said. Mombasa County Executive officer for Education, Tendai Mtana, said the region's work force of 440,000 people had many between the ages 18 and 45, who lacked secondary education. The figure was obtained after an analysis of school enrolment over the past 25 years, the officer said. "Something went wrong in Mombasa in the past 25 years," he told reporters in his office.