

Man lynched over assault on daughter

By KNA

A MAN was yesterday lynched by members of the public at Chemilil training centre for chopping off his twelve-year-old daughter's hands.

Nyanza police boss Anthony Kibuchi said the 41-year-old man who was released from Kodiaga prison last week after serving a seven-year jail term for robbery went berserk after a domestic quarrel.

Meanwhile two men conned a man Sh 81,000 moments after he withdrew the money from a bank in Kisumu.

The duo posing as police confronted the man saying they had been sent by Nyanza police boss Anthony Kibuchi to apprehend him.

Kibuchi said the conmen followed their victim to a hotel where they caught him.

Govt to employ 6,000 teachers, says Onger

By KNA

THE government will employ over 6,000 teachers in the next financial year to address the current shortfall in primary and secondary schools, Education minister Prof Sam Onger has said.

Onger also denied allegations that the Kenya National Union of Teachers (KNUT) that the government was plotting to weaken the union.

The minister said the government will not interfere with the teachers' right to join a trade union of their choice as the same was enshrined in the Constitution.

Onger made the remarks at Kirithia Girls Secondary School in Nyeri during a funds drive where he was the chief guest.

Over Sh 10 million was raised for the completion of a dormitory.

Brothers get 5 years for planting bhong

By KNA

TWO brothers have been sentenced to five years imprisonment each by a Kilifi court for planting bhong.

Chivatsi Katana and Nzombo Mtana were found guilty of the offence by resident magistrate Peter Muma.

The court was told that Administration Police officers acting on a warrant invaded the farm and found stems of the drug.

They were given 14 days to appeal.

In the same court a 29-year-old man was put under two year probation for trespassing on a private farm.

Matano Wanje was charged with trespassing Kenya Sugar Research station farm at Mtwapa on February 12, 2009.



An official of the Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation Dr Josephine Kibaru (left) confers with Kenya Medical Research Institute acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Monique Wasunna during the opening of an 11-day workshop on parasite control.

PHOTO/SAM MAKOKHA

Graft blamed for growth of illegal militia groups

By KNA

CORRUPTION in government is among the factors that spark the emergence of militia groups, a parliamentary committee was told yesterday.

The team which was sitting in Kisii heard that many youths seeking employment are shocked when potential employers demand kickbacks in order for them to secure jobs.

During a public hearing at Gusii county hall, the team led by Ndaragwa MP Jeremiah Kioni heard that the government was to blame for failure to give proper policies on governance.

The participants cited the recent teacher recruitment exercise where graduates were asked to cough Sh100,000 to secure

employment.

Also teachers who graduated in 1998 were left out while those who graduated in 1999 were hired.

The demand for kickbacks, the committee was told, prompted many youths to join unlawful groups that offer easy way to earn a living.

Responding to the claims, the Chairman of the Parliamentary Education Committee, David Koech, promised to launch investigations into the matter.

Koech said officials found to have been taken bribes from the applicants will be suspended.

He said teachers were employed according to the year they graduated and it was illogical for a 1999 graduate to get employed leaving out a 1998 one.

"The matter is serious and

it's good that you've raised it before me as the Chairman of the education committee. I want to assure you that something is going to be done," said the MP.

The committee was further told that some government officials and prominent figures funded the militia groups in order to protect their political interests.

The public singled out the Sungu Sungu which has caused mayhem and executed massive killings in Kisii with impunity, saying it was funded by prominent figures. They called for the disbandment of illegal groups saying their existence pose a threat to country's security.

The committee was constituted in July last year to look into factors that make many youths to join outlawed groups.

Balala shreds ranking of ministries, says the process is fraudulent

By Seif Abdallah

TOURISM minister Najib Balala has dismissed the government's ranking where the ministry of Provincial Administration and Internal Security was rated as the best performing last year.

Speaking at Moi International Airport in Mombasa on arrival from Mozambique where he was declared the top tourism ministers during the Tourism Investor Summit, Balala said the ranking which had his ministry at number 36 out of 40 ministries was flawed.

The minister said he was shocked to see his ministry ranked among the non-performers despite him being honoured internationally.

"Last year during the ranking we were no 17 but this time around we are at the bottom and yet we have emerged top at the African Gala Summit in Maputo," said the minister.

He added that though the government allocated the ministry Sh200 instead of the Sh1 billion required, the ministry had managed to recover from the post-election violence.

He, however, said the ranking will not demoralise the staff but will instead enable them to work harder to improve the sector.

The minister dedicated the award to his staff who, he said, have been working tirelessly to improve the tourism sector.

Group's boss appeals for police protection

By KNA

THE chairman of Malindi Maaruf Organisation Famau Mohammed has appealed for police protection saying drug barons have threatened to kill him for spearheading the war against the trade.

Speaking to the press, Famau said he has been receiving threatening messages on his phone from the drug barons. He added that the barons have also threatened Malindi police boss Peter Kattam with dire consequences.

Intrigues in ODM said to have cost Miller IIEC job

By Moses Koech

FRACTIONAL wars and intrigues within the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) cost lawyer Cecil Miller the position of the chairman of the Interim Independent Electoral Commission (IIEC), we can now reveal.

Sources said the differences between ODM MPs from Nyanza and those from Rift Valley put paid to Miller's bid for the electoral body's top position.

While ODM Rift Valley MPs had no problem with Miller's

candidature, Nyanza leaders felt Miller, who is the son of a former chief justice, was too close to central Kenya.

According to some ODM MPs from Rift Valley, a party meeting called to discuss who to support for the IIEC job reached a dead-end when those from Nyanza vowed to block Miller owing to what they termed as his tribal inclination to Central Province.

During the meeting which took place at Parliament Buildings three weeks ago, MPs from Nyanza stood their ground that

though Miller was the most qualified among all those who had been short-listed, he had to be blocked because of fears he was working for the interests of politicians from Central Province.

And following the impasse, MPs from Rift Valley informed their Nyanza colleagues that the trend they were taking over the Miller issue did not augur well for the country, stating that they should not look for tribal inclinations when it comes to such important appointments.



Miller