

## **Local News 27 May 2010**

### **National prayer day held**

The 8th National Prayer day organized by the parliamentary and leadership prayer group got underway today at the Safari Park Hotel in Nairobi. This year, no foreign guest speaker was invited, unlike last year when the key speaker was Rwanda's president Paul Kagame who urged the country to heal the wounds inflicted by the 2008 post election skirmishes. Eldoret East legislator Professor Margaret Kamar prayed for the healing of the nation.

The Guest speaker Bishop Cornelius Korir from the Catholic diocese of Eldoret called on Kenyans to build peace by loving one another stating that God forbids revenge.

Bishop Korir urged the government to empower Kenyans economically saying peace and development compliment each other.

He said that in order to build a one Kenya: one country, political style of this country has to change saying that each political party in the country has to serve the nation and not a tribe.

Absent during the meeting was prime minister Raila Odinga and Vice president Kalonzo Musyoka who are outside the country on official duty.

*Ends.....Silvanoh Chumba*

### **Kenya a God fearing nation, says Kibaki**

The annual national prayer day reaffirms the country's heritage as a God fearing nation. These are the words of the head of state president Mwai Kibaki while making a key note speech at today's national prayer day. President Kibaki challenged the people of Kenya to go before God to seek for forgiveness and ask Him to bless the country Kenya. The president noted that God has done great things for this country noting that despite all the challenges the nation has faced in the recent past, the country is now recording remarkable growth economically.

He challenged Kenyans to join hands in prayers so they can make informed decision on the proposed new constitution during the referendum vote. Quoting Psalms 127 verse 1, the head of state asked Kenyans to put God first in their undertakings noting that unless the Lord builds the house, they labour in vain that builds it.

*Ends.....Silvanoh Chumba*

### **Marende appeals for reconciliation**

Still on the 8th edition of the Annual National Prayer Breakfast, Speaker Kenneth Marende has called on Kenyans to remain united before and even after the referendum on the proposed new constitution, and accept the outcome for posterity of the country. Marende also appealed to members of Parliament to lead from the front in reconciling the nation and embrace differing opinion, to avoid a repeat of chaos that followed the announcement of the 2007 disputed

presidential election results. The annual national prayer event aims at praying for peace and prosperity of the nation and her neighbours.

*Ends...Ben Ogoi*

### **Kalonzo, Moi attend Sudan's Bashir swearing in**

Vice President Kalonzo Musyoka and Former President Daniel Moi are among prominent guests attending the swearing in ceremony of Sudanese President Hassan Omar El Bashir. Kalonzo arrived in Khartoum on Wednesday at the same time with Moi who is the Executive Director of the Moi Africa institute and one of the architects of the Sudanese peace process. Gen. Lazzarus Sumbeiywo, the VP who played a key role in brokering the comprehensive peace agreement, also represented Kenya during a similar ceremony for the President of Southern Sudan, Salva Kiir Mayardit, who is also the first Vice President of the Southern Sudan, in Juba. Moi, Kalonzo and General Lazzarus Sumbeiywo are highly respected in Sudan for their role in crafting the comprehensive peace agreement (CPA).

On Wednesday, the International Centre for Policy and Conflict (ICPC) in a letter to President Kibaki and Prime Minister Raila Odinga said Kenya was a signatory to the Rome statute and it would not be proper to send representatives to the ceremony. Bashir is to be sworn into office again for another five-year term, following his controversial win in last month's elections.

Regional news May 27, 2010: Refugee fear after UN forced to leave Chad and CAR. Services for refugees could be hit when UN peacekeepers leave Chad later this year, the UNHCR says.

A spokesman for the UN refugee agency said that he "regretted" the decision to withdraw the peacekeepers from Chad and Central African Republic. The 4,375-strong force is to pull out in stages by the end of 2010. It was deployed in 2009 to protect hundreds of thousands of displaced Chadians and refugees from the Sudanese province of Darfur. The Chad government has asked the UN Security Council to withdraw the peacekeepers.

### **Global News May 27, 2010**

#### **Obama security strategy to highlight domestic terrorism**

The US president's national security strategy is to highlight homegrown terrorism for the first time, an adviser to Barack Obama says. John Brennan said the document being unveiled on Thursday explicitly recognised the threat posed by "individuals radicalised here at home".

The issue has grabbed headlines since the Fort Hood shooting last year and the Times Square bombing attempt.

Domestic terrorism did not feature highly in previous strategies. Bill Clinton did not mention the issue in his 1998 strategy, despite the Oklahoma City bombing three years earlier, while George W. Bush made only passing reference to the issue in his 2006 document.

**Sports News May 27, 2010**

**Champion Kuznetsova edges through**

Defending champion Svetlana Kuznetsova survived a huge scare to beat Germany's Andrea Petkovic 4-6 7-5 6-4 and advance to round three of the French Open. Sixth seed Kuznetsova was forced to save four match points as world number 41 Petkovic dominated the first two sets of a rain-affected match.

But the Russian rallied in the decider to win on her fourth match point and seal a meeting with Maria Kirilenko. Earlier, second seed Venus Williams beat Arantxa Parra Santonja 6-2 6-4. Williams will be buoyed by the manner of her victory but in the post-match press conference found herself answering more questions about her outfit than her performance. The American wore the same self-designed black lace number she had unveiled against Schnyder, a see-through skirted bodice featuring a skin-coloured undergarment.