COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

Official Report

THIRD ASSEMBLY – FOURTH SESSION

Tuesday, 21st October, 2025

House met in the Main Chamber at 2:30 p.m.

[The Speaker (Honourable Elisha Jack Oraro) in the Chair]

PRAYER

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro**):** Honourable Members, I want to direct that the Quorum Bell be rung for the first five minutes. As that is done, the Leader Majority can designate someone to whip the Members who are out.

(The Quorum Bell was rung)

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Thank you. Honourable Rakwach, the Majority Leader appointed you to act as the Whip. Kindly confirm if we have Quorum.

Honourable Rakwach (Kolwa East**):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, we have a Quorum.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Clerk, kindly take us through the order of the day.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

PASSING OF THE RT. HONOURABLE RAILA AMOLO ODINGA, E.G.H, C.G.H

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Honourable Members, I have a few communications to make the passing of the Rt. Honourable Raila Amollo Odinga, E.G.H, C.G.H and the Tributes to the

County Assembly. Honourable Members, as we are all aware, on Wednesday, 15th October, 2025, the Kenyan nation received devastating news of the passing of the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, former Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya and Party Leader of a great party, the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM), which constitutes this Honourable House. His death marked a profound moment of sorrow, not only for our nation, but also the great people of Kisumu County and indeed the entire African continent.

The late Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga was not only a national leader, but also a beloved son of this country. He was a statesman, a visionary, and a principled architect and foremost champion of the devolution; very system of governance under which this County Assembly exists. I want to say that his courage, sacrifice, and lifelong commitment to Democracy, Justice, and Equality continue to define the foundation of our National Governance and inspire generations of leaders.

Honourable Members, the heartbreaking news occurred when the House was adjourned. Therefore, this Assembly has not had the opportunity to formally record its Tributes in Honourable the Prime Minister. Honourable Members, I am aware that the National Assembly of Kenya had paid its tributes to the late former Prime Minister in accordance with its Standing Orders, which expressly provide for such proceedings. However, the Standing Orders of Kisumu County Assembly do not contain a specific provision on Tributes of the House upon the passing of a National Leader of such stature.

In light of this, and in exercise of the powers conferred upon me, or the Speaker, under Standing Orders No. (1) and (2), I have invoked the said Provisions which provide as follows, and I quote, that in all cases where matters are not expressly provided for by these Standing Orders or by other orders of the county assembly, in any procedure or question shall be decided by the speaker. The decisions made under Paragraph (1) that I have stated shall be based on the Constitution of Kenya, Statutory Law, and usages, forms, precedents, customs, procedures, and traditions of the Parliament of Kenya and other jurisdictions to the extent that these are applicable to Kenya.

Honourable Members, accordingly, in consultation with the House Business Committee, I have directed that today and tomorrow's Sittings be dedicated to the Recordings of Tributes to the late Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, in Honourable our of his immense contribution to our Nation and to the people of Kisumu County. At the right time, as per the sequence of pieces in Order Paper for today, the Leader of Majority Party will move the Motion titled: Tributes of County Assembly of Kisumu to the late Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, E.G.H, C.G.H for consideration by this House. I want to urge all Honourable Members to make their Tributes with utmost decorum, dignity, and respect befitting the legacy of this good son of Kenya.

Honourable Members, as we do so, let us also remember in our prayers one of us, Honourable Emily Oginga, who during this period of sorrow lost her dear brother. I request that we all rise

and observe a moment of silence in Honourableor of our dearly departed leader Raila Amolo Odinga. May the soul of the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga rest in eternal peace. You may be seated.

ODM MEETING FOR NYANZA COUNTIES CONVENED BY ACTING PARTY LEADER HONOURABLE (DR) OBURU ODINGA ON FRIDAY, 24TH OCTOBER, 2025 IN BONDO

Honourable Members, I also want to communicate that following the demise of the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, the former Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya and the Party Leader of ODM, the acting Party Leader, Honourable (Dr) Senator Oburu Odinga, Senator for Siaya County, has convened a meeting for the ODM, Nyanza Counties, MCAs, and other leaders. The meeting is scheduled to take place on Friday, October 24, 2025 at his residence in Bondo, Siaya County.

Honourable Members, you are hereby notified that all invited Members are expected to be seated by 9 a.m. on the same date. Kindly take note of this communication and make necessary arrangements to attend the meeting and please be punctual. I repeat, the date is Friday, the 24th of October, 2025. All invited guests must be seated by 9 a.m. Therefore, please inform Honourable colleagues who are not present in the House today. I want to allow the Honourable Members to sit.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH LOCAL GOVERNANCE INSTITUTE (LGI) ON TRAINING OF MEMBERS OF KISUMU COUNTY ASSEMBLY

Honourable Members, my last communication regards Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that we did with the Local Governance Institute (LGI) that agreed to offer certain trainings to Members of County Assembly. In our MOU, we agreed that all Members of County Assembly will be trained, but will be having different clusters. Honourable Members, you may recall that during the meeting held in Bondo sometime last week, I did make a communication regarding training organized for the Sectoral Committee chairpersons. In this regard, I wish to inform you that the same training has been scheduled to take place here in Kisumu in the course of this week. Going by the previous communication that I made, the exact date and venue for the training shall be communicated to Members in due course.

I say that because initially the training was scheduled for Friday, the 24th, and by the latest development of the ODM meeting, which is mandatory for all Members, we are in communication with the organizers of the training. Therefore, we shall communicate the date and the venue within Kisumu in due course. Take note that the same training, there are Members who had been trained earlier, is the same content.

Therefore, in all the Sectoral Chairs, except those who had been trained; to be precise, it is Honourable Carren Ajwang' of Finance and ICT Committee and Honourable Seth Okumu of Education Committee, alongside the leadership. The rest of the Sectoral Committees, you will

get the date and the venue. By consideration, we have included Honourable Kennedy Ouko of PIC/PAC and Honourable James Omollo to replace the two Members who already received the trainings. That makes a total of 10. We shall arrange for the remaining Members to get the same training as we move forward. These are the communications I had to make. I thank you.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Next order!!

STATEMENTS

STATEMENT INFORMING THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF THE BUSINESSES COMING BEFORE THE HOUSE WEEK COMMENCING WEDNESDAY, 22ND OCTOBER, 2025 TO TUESDAY, 4TH NOVEMBER 2025,

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Honourable Leader of Majority.

The Leader of Majority (Honourable, Ooko, Ahero): Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I rise, pursuant to Standing Orders No. (41) (2) (c) to Lay on the Table of the County Assembly, a Statement informing the County Assembly of the businesses coming before the House in the following week.

Mr. Speaker, this is, therefore, to bring to the attention of the Members and the County Assembly that for the week commencing Wednesday, 22nd October, 2025 to Tuesday, 4th November 2025, the Select Committee on the Assembly House Business at its last meeting approved the following tentative Businesses to appear in the Order Paper as follows:

Wednesday, 22nd October 2025 at 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

The House will continue paying tributes to the late, Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, E.G.H, C.G.H, if not concluded during the Tuesday, 21st October 2025 Afternoon session.

Thursday, 23rd October 2025 at 2.30 p.m.

NOTICE OF MOTION

1. The Chairperson, Select Committee on PIC/PAC, Honourable Ken Ouko, will Table a Motion on the Auditor General's Report on the Kisumu County Revenue Fund FY 2023/2024.
2. The Leader of Majority Honourable Kennedy Ooko will Table a Motion on the Adjournment of the County Assembly for sittings for County Assembly Sports Association (CASA) Games until Tuesday 4th November, 2025 at 2:30 p.m. Thank you.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Yes, Honourable Okombo, the Deputy Speaker.

Honourable Okombo (mca, Manyatta "B"): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise on Standing Orders No. 42 on personal statements to create awareness on breast cancer. Honourable Members,

cognizance of the facts that October is recognized as the month of Breast Cancer Month dedicated to increase about awareness of breast cancer prevention early detection and treatment and out theme for this year is no one should face breast cancer alone. Therefore, I want to invite the community in committing to promote breast cancer awareness. I also want to commit to unite the community in supporting those affected by breast cancer and encourage routine screening for early detection.

Mr. Speaker, this month we are also celebrating the strength of survivors. I know that as much as the bigger percentage of the House is composed of men, with 16 Members being female. Mr. Speaker, I also know all Members here are born of ladies and live with ladies. In short, we all in a way are affected if not infected by the killer disease. Therefore, it is my pleasure, Mr. Speaker, just to encourage the House to encourage our friends, our mothers, our sisters and our wives to go for early screening that go a long way to give quality life during the management of breast cancer. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, thank you.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Next order!!

EXCEPTIONAL MOTION

TRIBUTES OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY IN HONOUR THE LATE RT. HONOURABLE RAILA AMOLO ODINGA, CGH

BY

HONOURABLE KEN OOKO, MCA, AHERO

[LEADER OF MAJORITY]

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Yes, Honourable Leader of Majority.

Leader of Majority (Honourable Ooko, Ahero): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to move a Motion with Tributes of the County Assembly to the late Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, CGH. Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, I am aware that on Wednesday, 15th October, 2025, the Kenyan nation received with great sorrow the news of the passing of the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, CGH, a distinguished statesman, former Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya, and one of the foremost architects of Kenya's modern democracy.

Further, I am aware that the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, CGH devoted his entire life to the struggle for multi-party democracy, justice, constitutionalism, and the rule of law, enduring detention, persecution, and immense personal sacrifice for the freedoms Kenyans enjoy today.

Cognizant that he was the principal architect and founding Father of devolution in Kenya —a system of governance he passionately championed as the cornerstone of equitable development, inclusion, and service delivery to the people, this County Assembly, being a testimony of his legacy. Noting that his visionary leadership and relentless advocacy for decentralization culminated in the promulgation of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, which institutionalized devolution and redefined Kenya's governance landscape.

Appreciating that as a selfless leader and a true patriot, the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, CGH dedicated himself to empowering marginalized communities, promoting national unity, and ensuring that every Kenyan had a voice in the governance and access to resources. Recognizing his enduring legacy as a reformist, peacemaker, and unifying leader who countless times put the interests of the nation ahead of his own ambitions, and whose influence transcended political boundaries and inspired generations of leaders.

Now, therefore, this Assembly resolves that:–

1) The County Assembly of Kisumu records its deepest condolences to the family, friends, and the people of Kenya on the demise of Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, CGH.
2) The Assembly pays glowing tribute to his lifelong service, patriotism, and history role as the founder of Kenyan devolution and a pillar of its democratic transformation.
3) The Assembly conveys its message of sympathy and solidarity to all Kenyans as the nation continues to come to terms with the loss of one of its greatest sons.
4) The Assembly urges both the national and county governments to establish memorial initiatives in his Honourable that promote the values of democracy, inclusivity, and good governance that he fought and stood for.

Mr. Speaker, may I ask Honourable Seth Okumu to second. Thank you.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Yes, Honourable Seth Okumu

Honourable Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Thank you very much Mr. Speaker. With a heavy heart, allow me to second this Motion. Mr. Speaker, we are paying tribute to a man that all of us give a lot of respect. As the Leader of Majority has mentioned, that other than being an icon, a fighter, a man who wanted fairness, we all know that he is also the Father of Devolution, which has made this Assembly possible. All these members of the House are here because of the struggles that he made during his life. Honourable Speaker, reading the autobiography of H.E the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, C.G.H and learning of his detention when he was still a young man and surviving that detention for nine years, he needed a lot of wisdom during such a time when incarcerations were common and hanging was allowed in Kenya.

Honourable Speaker, as an Assembly, we are grateful for the peace that has existed out of his leadership. Every now and again, when Members are stuck on a decision, he would always be consulted. His word would always bring Members together and join in the fight against poverty, ignorance, and disease. The best thing that we can do as a way of giving respect to our departed leader is to serve the people. His Excellency Raila believed in the people, in service to the people, and the best service that we can provide within our ability. Honourable Members, every time we are in this House, when we remember His Excellency the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, C.G.H, let us remember the people that believed in him.

Honourable Members, you traveled to Bondo, and some of you went to Nairobi, and some of us went to Mamboleo Stadium, and you saw the people who believed in him, the people he gave hope despite the challenges we are having in life, the people who thought that things would be better with him. As it stands right now, we are the only people left with those people. Every decision we make as leaders in this House, or wherever we are, let us think about those people on behalf of Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, C.G.H

Let us make decisions that will give hope to those people. Let us make decisions that will change the lives of those people. That way, wherever our leader is, he will always be happy with us. Honourable Members, I will not tire to say that our Party Leader left us with our party, the ODM, and he has always talked about unity amongst us, and the strength of parties in governance. Let us work towards building our party ODM to strengthen governance. Honourable Members, let us not forget that it is out of that party that we can provide the services that I was talking about.

Honourable Members, as we pay tribute to our departed leader, remember he talked about fairness, encouraged peace, always forsook what was his, just to ensure that Kenya was peaceful. Honourable Members, you could see that with the attendance, and it was clear to everyone that he was winning elections, but he agreed to shake hands with people that stole his elections. Let that spirit flow with us. The Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, C.G.H said that sometimes the nation becomes more important than your individual interest. Every decision that we make, please, you might have personal interest in it, but if you look at your personal interest against the interest of the people, sometimes it is good to forgo your interest.

Honourable Members, those are my appeals as we pay tribute to our departed leader, to our icon, to our fighter, to the person who brought devolution, who believed in constitutionalism, and who forgave those we thought he would not forgive. Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I second.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Honourable members, now that the Leader of Majority has moved an Exceptional Motion, Tributes of the County Assembly of Kisumu, that following the

untimely demise of the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, E.G.H, C.G.H, the former Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya, and pursuant to the provisions of the Standing Order No. 1, Tributes of the County Assembly be recorded in Honour of the late former Prime Minister's contribution in his selfless service to the nation and the continent of Africa, and for his role in promoting democracy, peace, and stability in Kenya and in this region. The Motion has been seconded.

Therefore, as per our Standing Orders, I want to propose a question, but before I propose the question, I want you to pardon me, that I ought to have brought to you under Notices in page 819 of the standing Order, under limitation of debates, that the House resolved on Tuesday, 25th February, 2025 as follows: -

THAT, pursuant to the provision of Standing Order No 95 (1) of the Standing Orders, the Assembly orders that each speech in a debate on any Motion, including special Motion, be limited to the following manner: a maximum of two hours, without more than 20 minutes for the Mover, and five minutes for each other Member speaking, except the Leader of Majority party, who shall be limited to a maximum of 15 minutes; that is, 10 minutes before the expiry of the time, the Mover shall be called upon to reply, and that priority in the speaking shall be accorded to the Leader of Majority party, and the chairperson of the relevant central committee, in that order.

Honourable Members, I am bringing that to your attention because in my communication, I had said that we have dedicated three Sittings: – today, tomorrow morning, and tomorrow afternoon, for the said tributes, and going by our number, it is important that we adhere to this limitation of five minutes per member, so that we give opportunity to all Members to pay their tributes, by the time we are exhausting the three Sittings. Therefore, that said, I want now to propose a question that the Motion is open for debate.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Yes, Honourable Pamela Oyoo

Honourable Oyoo (MCA, Migosi): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members. I want to speak about Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, CGH, who was a Member of Parliament for four terms. He was the Prime Minister of Kenya, and the last office he served, he was a representative of the African Union (AU), in charge of infrastructure.

I want to say, Raila has done his best in his entire time he has been in politics. He has brought many changes to Kenya. It is a trying moment for all of us, and when we went to Bondo, we saw the number of people who were present. It was countless. When we went to Mamboleo, it was impossible for all of us to view the body. Raila brought changes to the Constitution of Kenya.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Raila Odinga brought devolution, to which we are beneficiary. This devolution brought county assemblies. He brought gender balance to the Constitution, of which many of us have benefited due to gender balance. I want to say that Raila is a great man. He is a king that never ruled, a king that never got to the throne, but ruled the whole of Kenya. He is a democrat. Raila loved democracy.

Mr. Speaker, anybody could reach Raila. I know of a shoe shiner that could just call Raila, and he picks the call, and they talk at length. He was a humble person. I think we should learn from him that humility is a key to success. Let us embrace humility. As politicians, we deal with many people. We handle many problems. Let us be humble, because one day you will be paid back, as Raila has been paid back by the whole nation.

I want to say that all of us have campaigned. Getting into an office, even for the first time, is a milestone, but Raila has made it four times. Let us emulate him. Let us be humble. Let us be accommodative to one another, because this world, you do not know what lies ahead of you tomorrow. We are mourning, but I thank God that Raila indicated in his will that he gets buried within 72 hours.

If we were left to decide as a nation when we were to bury him, I think this country would have stopped. I want to pass my commiserations to our colleague, Honourable Emily Odinga, who is a sister to Honourable Raila. We are part of her. Raila was a father to all of us. I want to thank God that we are able to sit here. I know many of us are still mourning. I have seen people who have not come out of the house since the demise of the Rt. Honourable Raila Odinga. I want to say he is a great man. We will miss him, but God loved him most. Thank you.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Honourable Ochele.

Honourable Ochele (MCA, East Kano/Wawidhi): Thank you, Mr. Speaker for according me the opportunity to speak and thank you my brother Honourable James Omollo. You have accorded me respect. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, it is a sad moment holding this microphone just to eulogize a great leader, a leader of the new nation, a leader of the people of Kenya, and a leader of the lovers of Pan-Africanism. Mr. Speaker, I first heard about the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga way back when I was in nursery school. Those days, the most popular name was the senator for Siaya, Honourable Oburu Odinga. Our nursery school teacher used to tell us that Oburu will come to overthrow the government because Raila was in detention. We waited only just to realize later that the Senator was an employee of the government, not a Russian military man.

Mr. Speaker, I got an opportunity when I joined university, 1996, I had joined university in 1995. There was a tussle between student leaders, a camp led by the then chair of Students of

University of Nairobi (SONU) Achiono Achiono, and a camp led by the vice-chairperson of the same organization, Suba Churchill Meshack. We were approaching election of the Union. At that time, Mr. Speaker, the Rt. Honourable Raila had just resigned as a Member of Parliament and was busy campaigning. He took his time to come down to Njoro, Egerton in specific, and invited this tussling leadership to a meeting at ARC. I believe Honourable Majority leader knows ARC.

Mr. Speaker, this leadership picked some few members. I was lucky as a first year among other first years. We were four of us, and we held a meeting about peace at ARC. In that meeting, there was Uchin Tix, who was vying for a general position, there was Joe Ageyo, we used to call him Ageyo Kageyo, who was vying for senate representative, and other leaders. Mr. Speaker, when we were done with that, the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo took some of us, for the first time to Njoro, Egerton Castle. It was a privilege, and I think that was the last time I ever stepped foot at Njoro, Egerton Castle. I never got the opportunity because I did not have money to take me there.

Mr. Speaker, after that election was held, and it was very peaceful, and the strikes ended. I failed to mention the company of the current Embu governor, Honourable Cecil Mbarire, who was vying as the SONU treasurer. Mr. Speaker, when we were with him, I could not imagine that I was alive. I thought, could it be real that this Raila, who scares me, can sit with the son of a peasant farmer? Mr. Speaker, from that day, I always believed that the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga was immortal and could not shy from problems or run away from guns because he could not be shot. Going by what has happened throughout his life since that year to 1996, great things have happened. We, as student leadership then, we could not believe that the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga could beat Lazarus Amayo, who was heavily funded by the then regime, KANU, headed by President Moi. It came to pass, and they won with a landslide. Some of us were sponsored, courtesy of the well-wishers of Raila Amolo Odinga to Langata, then Kibera, and we witnessed the victory amid violence. It was serious violence, and some of us participated in the violence.

Mr. Speaker, the life of the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga has never been rosy. He is a man who has gone down in the history to be brave, even though he came from a royal family. He was not keen in enjoying this royalty. He sacrificed to go to the streets and was ready to be jailed. He was ready to be detained and above all, whatever he was doing, it is true that he did not care whether he was to be killed on behalf of Kenyans, so long as Kenyans got good life. Mr. Speaker, a time reached when he was enjoying trappings of power, it did not bar him from being a spokesperson of the downtrodden. He kept on ensuring that good things happen in Kenya. When he was the Prime Minister in the *Nusu Mkate* government, he did not shy from even criticizing bad things the other wing of the government did.

Otherwise, if he was an ordinary politician, I think he would have gone down so that he continued enjoying what came with the office of the Prime Minister. Mr. Speaker, it is a shock nowadays that young boys who were not there when Raila sacrificed, and some of whom are

enjoying privileges of freedom of speech are abusing the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo on social media, and when they are doing so, they are doing so at the comfort of their bedrooms, at the comfort of their dining rooms, not knowing that the same man they are insulting is the man who fought for that freedom of speech. He gave us a tool, he opened our mouths so that we could speak freely on certain injustices the government does, but the same man suffered from the tools he gave us.

Mr. Speaker, certain politicians in this republic who could not be what they are today, hurl insults to Raila Amolo Odinga, forgetting that sometimes since Raila did not fight for freedom, did not fight for devolution, certain positions we are enjoying today would not be there. Mr. Speaker, today this chamber will be a chamber for councilors, and those who know councilors like Honourable Eunice Alandoh, you know the gap between being a counselor and being a Honourable MCA. We are here courtesy of the fight of Raila Amolo Odinga to ensure that devolution succeeds.

Today, other than being called a councilor, we are called Honourable Members. We share the Honourable with Members of Parliament, Cabinet Ministers and Senator courtesy of the fight of this noble gentleman whom we buried on Sunday.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the only thing we can give as a gift, as a House and as a nation and most specifically the lovers of the policies, is to ensure that the Party of our departed hero stays intact and that it is run with Honourable, Honour, and impartiality to all, so that we all belong to that house without any bias.

Mr. Speaker, ODM is a big party, and for those who were not there in the year 2005 when this party was being formed, I believe you heard what the Mr. president said. He said that anybody who will dare joke with the party ODM, they would rather think they can carry ODM to the opposition, he will not allow. That means the President himself is too much attached to the party they struggled to form. I saw former president Uhuru Kenyatta present in moment of mourning, at Kasarani, parliament building and Bondo where he stayed overnight.

Mr. Speaker, the President and former president are founder members of ODM. Now for us, if the founder members of ODM are still feeling attached to our party, it is just a Honour that we are members of ODM, and we must just maintain that Honourable by being Honourable to that which we call our party ODM. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, may I wish the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga a safe journey as he meets with his creator. May the angels who have never taken protection of anybody, protect the Rt. Honourable Odinga closer to God so that he can oversee what we do politically. Thank you.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro**):** Honourable James Omollo.

Honourable Omollo (MCA, West Nyakach): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Allow me to also pay my tribute to the party leader of ODM. Mr. Speaker, I was elected in 2013 as a very young man. I

was barely 30, and I was running against a counselor who had been there for over 18 years. Many told me that I would not get the ticket to go to the County Assembly of Kisumu because I was such a young boy. I think Raila believed in everyone who took his time to campaign in ODM and to win election and come to the County Assembly. Therefore, I owe that to him, because I do not think that if their democracy was not prevailing then, I would not be a Member of this County Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, Raila was a peacemaker. In this County Assembly, in the first regime, we had disturbance then, and Raila came and sat here and told us directly that we cannot build Kisumu if we continue with the wrangles. As a County Assembly, we must be peaceful and discharge our duties as mandated by the constitution of Kenya as MCAs, and we Honourableoured that, and we finished our term very peacefully, working together with the government until then.

Mr. Speaker, were it not for Raila, devolution would have not seen light of day. You could see, that by the time we were changing this constitution, there were so many drafts, and I think devolution was the most controversial one. You can recall our own in Homabay County died because of that; Prof Odhiambo Mbai. By then, I was still in college, and we went to bury him as the father of devolution in terms of putting across whatever was to be, to build devolution to be in 2013. Mr. Speaker, Raila believed in devolution, and the only Honour we can give him as people who have been mandated by the constitution to steer county assemblies and to be here as lawmakers is to carry his legacy very high. He believed in service to humanity.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Raila was a very selfless human being on up. However much you hurt him, in whatever way, he would still take charge as a people's president, forgive and move on. We saw that when it happened with Kibaki, when *Nusu Mkate* came to be, we saw that with the handshake during Uhuru Kenyatta's regime, and we are seeing it now. He really would forget about his self-interest and focus on the interest of the public.

Mr. Speaker, in this republic, we have enjoyed peace, courtesy of Honourable Raila Odinga. Otherwise, in 2007, things could have gone south. I was in Kisumu then. It took me a day to travel from Kisumu to my constituency in Nyakach, just by road, walking. Literally, there was no any car on the road, and the turmoil was adverse. It came a time when he said, Kenya is bigger than him, and they broke a deal, and peace prevailed after some of our people were killed in Naivasha.

Mr. Speaker, Raila really mentored so many, and it is good that most people from where we were in the funeral the other day passed through the school of Raila. Every speaker, including the President and the former President looked upon him in terms of leadership. I think the only Honour we can give him is to carry his legacy very high in this nation. Mr. Speaker, as I finish, it will not go well as Kisumu County if monumentally we do not propose to Honour him in a big way, either by starting or naming whatever we have in this county, under his name to preserve his

legacy so that we can think about him tomorrow, and even the generations to come. That way, we would appreciate his efforts to the developments in this country.

Mr. Speaker, were it for Raila, the marginalized communities in this country would have suffered. It was Honourable Raila who gave them a voice during the regime of president Moi. The women of this country, children and the youth would have never had a voice. Mr. Speaker, right now, even in the county assemblies all over Kenya, even in National Assembly or the Senate, our marginalized societies are represented. The PWDs, the youths, and the women are representatives of the people, courtesy of what Honourable Raila fought for. He wanted fairness, justice, and he would not fear, even during Moi, when he was detained.

He was detained fighting for the rights of all Kenyans. Whatever we enjoy today is courtesy of Honourable Raila. We have one Honourable Member in this House, Honourable Lumumba Owade. I am a very young guy, but I remember reading the story of Honourable Lumumba Owade and several others who underwent torture under the regime of Moi. Mr. Speaker, people have come a long way, and were it not for Raila, I think some of them would not be alive. But God had created human beings, and from him we came, and from him we will go. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro**):** Yes, Honourable Carren. I have seen you, Honourable Ngeta, and Honourable Rakwach.

Honourable Carren (MCA, Kaloleni-Shaurimoyo): Thank you, Honourable Speaker, for the opportunity. First, I would like, once again, to pass my condolences to Mama Ida Odinga, our colleague, Honourable Emily Oginga, and the Jaramogi Oginga family for their loss. Honourable Speaker, this is also my loss, because the Rt. Honourable Raila Odinga is a figure I held dearly. Baba made it possible for me to be elected. We were also valued in ODM Party. True to my words, I participated in ODM Party primaries and eventually I was elected as the MCA for Kaloleni-Shaurimoyo Ward on ODM Party ticket. Honourable speaker, Baba having been raised in Kaloleni estate, he always referred to me as his MCA. Each time Baba's election was rigged, he never gave up because of us who counted on him. His unwavering resilience and strength always set him apart. For these reasons, I say today—with a heavy heart—that I have lost a father, a steadfast leader who stood tall for his people, and my party leader. We have lost our Kingpin. May his soul rest in peace.

Honourable Speaker, I want to urge all of us not to give up on the dreams and aspirations of Baba of desiring this country to be a better place. That is what he would have wished if he were alive. May Baba's soul rest in peace. Jowi!

(Hon. Okoyo and Hon. Ngeta stood on their feet)

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Honourable Okoyo, I had already indicated that we will have Honourable Ngeta and Honourable Rakwach speak. However, I have noticed you.

Honourable Ngeta (MCA, Awasi/Onjiko): Thank you, Mr. Speaker for giving me this opportunity to pay my tribute and those of the people of Awasi Onjiko. Mr. Speaker, it is so unfortunate that today the 21st October, 2025, in this Honourable House, that we are eulogizing a departed hero; a king, a father, a unique character Raila Amolo Odinga; a game changer. A man who made this country to have 47 counties. A leader who fought for the freedoms we are enjoying today. Mr. Speaker, it is sad indeed that a peacemaker has gone. A man who always stood for peace and justice in this great country.

Honourable Raila was man who could forgive and forget and then be able to move on for the sake of this great Nation. Mr. Speaker, we have lost a hero. Let the demise of Baba Raila Amolo Odinga unite this Nation, unite this great County of Kisumu, unite leaders who are here so that we can make sure that his legacy shines.

Mr. Speaker, I know it is a tough time for all of us. However, let us keep holding our hands and let us keep the family of the Odinga in prayers. Let us also keep ourselves in prayers so that Raila Amolo Odinga can be happy where he is lying. May his soul rest in eternal peace. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Honourable Rakwach (MCA, Kolwa East): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me a chance to give my tributes to Baba. Additionally, I have to say that it is hard to accept that today we are giving tributes to one Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, C.G.H.

Honourable Speaker, this is a man who is worth admiring and is being admired by everybody. Even those who portray themselves as his enemies, I think it is just a force of tribalism. He is a man who brought tremendous contributions to this country, Multipartism being one of them. In the Olden days, Kenya was a one-party state whereby after party primaries, there was nothing you could do, even if you are loved by your electorates. It was concluded and over. Whoever got the certificate marched to Parliament or to the Council during that time and you do nothing. There was not even freedom of speech. Nowadays, we are able to see several party leaders whereas during that time, there was only one party leader who was the ruling president. Therefore, we have to thank Baba for that. Honourable Speaker, Baba is the one of those who fought for the constitution of Kenya 2010, which eventually gave birth to devolution, to which all of us here are beneficiaries and Baba remains the only benefactor. That is because, he won elections on several occasions, won during the year 2007, 2013, 2017 and even 2022, but the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) never declared him a winner. Honourable Speaker, in spite of such, he forgave and moved on -what a great man!

Honourable Speaker, Baba showed us that there is need for respect of constitution and the political parties Act. I can recall in 1994 when I was still young, he disagreed with the ideologies of Ford Kenya, the party which nominated him to parliament in 1992. The most Honourable thing he would do was to resign as an MP for Langata and was re-elected in the same constituency on NDP ticket. Nowadays, you see people sometimes disagree with the ideologies of the political parties which nominated them to the parliament and County Assemblies but, they just cling on those positions without doing what the constitution dictates. I thank Baba.

Honourable Speaker, the Rt. Honourable Raila Odinga on several occasions demonstrated selflessness. I can recall the four instances:

i) In 2001 when he merged his party NDP with KANU to help stabilize the country.
ii) In 2002, when he said Kibaki *Tosha* and he made Kibaki the president who, after a short while, kicked him out of the government.
iii) In 2018, he shook hands with the then president Uhuru Kenyatta in order to stabilize the country.
iv) In 2024, he shook hands with His Excellency Dr. William Ruto to stabilize this country. He said Kenya is greater than any one of us. Even though his votes were stolen and he was never declared the president, he still kept on with spirit of holding Kenya together.

Honourable Speaker, as of now the best thing we can do as elected leaders in this country, after the demise of Baba, is to unite our party, ODM is to preach peace in Kenya and to serve the people of Kenya in our capacity. Rest in peace Baba, rest in peace Raila Amolo Odinga, CGH. Thank you.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): For the H Honourable Members who are standing, let me go in that order. Honourable Okoyo was up sometimes ahead of Honourable Were. So let me just go in that order; Honourable Okoyo, Honourable Were, Honourable Boitone then Honourable Bill Oliver.

Honourable Okoyo (MCA, Central Kisumu): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I must say I am one of the saddest MCAs of Kisumu for what happened to Kenya. Mr. Speaker, allow me to start by giving gratitude to H.E the President of the Republic of Kenya Dr. William Ruto for the state funeral accorded to Raila Odinga. Mr. Speaker, let me say today that by the time Jaramogi Odinga died, I had developed interest in politics. This was way back in the year 1994. I remember very well; I was among the youths who were chosen to accompany the body of the late Jaramogi Odinga to Kisumu from Kileleshwa. I remember we were at Kileleshwa and then we left for Kisumu.

The body of Jaramogi Odinga was brought to Kisumu by road. I cannot remember which car carried me because at some point we could alight and walk or run beside the casket and then board the car at some point until we reached Kisumu. It was a day which I thought I would never see again. However, we were disappointed because we thought Jaramogi would be accorded a befitting send off. However, that never happened. Mr. Speaker, I thank the President very much for the befitting send of accorded to Honourable Raila Odinga.

Mr. Speaker, the Rt. Honourable former Prime Minister Raila Amolo Odinga was a man of action. I cannot mention everything because immediately after the burial we started walking with him. We were with him at Agip House and all that happened up to where we are now is a very long story. However, Mr. Speaker, allow me to mention some of the achievements which the Rt. Honourable former Prime Minister did. Without Raila, I believe, I would have not been here. I would have not been an Honourable Member. Therefore, I want to say thank you to what Baba did by making sure we got the Constitution of Kenya 2010.

Mr. Speaker, many people would say that it was the late President Kibaki who did and made sure we got Thika Superhighway. But because I have been a very staunch follower of Baba, I remember when former Prime Minister was a Minister for Roads, this is exactly when the Thika superhighway and these beautiful flyovers were constructed. Prime Minister Raila Odinga contributed so much to this Country by giving us the roads which we could not imagine could be built in Kenya during that time. In addition to that, it has made our old mothers to know the meaning and pronunciation of flyover. Today, old mothers can use such terms with ease.

Mr. Speaker, let me also appreciate by mentioning one of the achievements which Rt. Honourable former Prime Minister did.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Honourable Okoyo, you should be winding up. You have one-minute left.

Honourable Okoyo (MCA, Central Kisumu): Mr. Speaker, let me speed up. The issue of gender inclusivity was brought, were it not for Baba, I believe we could not have our women Honourable Members in this House. It is an achievement worth mentioning. Mr. Speaker, allow me to associate Honourable former Prime Minister with sacrificing his personal interest for the interest of the country and this was seen because whenever former Prime Minister was denied victory. He could still come and work with his oppressors. We must appreciate him for uniting the country.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, we need to get---

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Your time is up. I am giving you one minute.

Honourable Okoyo (MCA, Central Kisumu): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Lastly, let me echo what the Luo Council of Elder Odungi Randa said during the burial and we must see how we can practice this. Mr. Speaker, I would ask our Honourable female Members that this is the time to conceive. We want to attend for baby showers. I want to see a few Honourable Members who can make sure this is done. I started immediately that night, and I believe very soon we are going to do that. I want to see Honourable female Members, so that we can do what we were told. And this, I would ask Honourable Alando, who is a good friend of mine, let us see how we can get another Raila Amolo Odinga amongst ourselves. May the soul of Raila Amolo Odinga rest in peace. Thank you.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Honourable Were.

Honourable Were (MCA, Nyalenda "B"): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also rise to eulogize my party leader, the people's president. Mr. Speaker, Eng. Raila Amolo Odinga, C.G.H played a major role in this republic.

Mr. Speaker, Raila was known as a visionary leader. He was known as human rights defender. He was known as a defender of justice and democracy. As his foot soldiers, we would want to speak about that. Dr. Raila really played a major role in ensuring that we have the 2010 constitution, which brought devolution. Mr. Speaker, long time ago, it was very hard even to see tarmac roads. We could walk or travel several miles to see a road that is tarmacked. However, devolution made that work easier for Kenyans such service delivery, water coming to our devolved units, electricity coming to our devolved units, good roads coming to our devolved units. We thank him for that, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, as a human rights crusader, Raila fought many battles in Kenya especially in his attempt to put various governments into check and fighting against draconian laws. Mr. Speaker, when multiparty came, it was as a result of the fight put forward by the late Raila Odinga. Raila's fight has made Kenya to be different. If you look around and you compare Kenya with our East African countries, we are much ahead because of the democratic space that we have. We have freedom of speech and freedom of association. All this was possible because of gallant soldiers like Raila Odinga.

Mr. Speaker, Raila is also known as an advocate of gender equality. A number of women have gotten into leadership positions because of Raila who fought for their space. He created party structures within his party that has ensured that many women are included in leadership.

Mr. Speaker, as the founder of the biggest and the largest political party in East and Central Africa, ODM, Raila has chaired this party for over 20 years. He has seen leaders from different

communities grow. Leaders like us came simply because Raila gave us that platform and the space to be seen and to be heard. Mr. Speaker, as we come as the county assembly of Kisumu, we have lost a gallant son of Kenyan soil. We have lost a courageous person. A person who had the heart of a lion. May his soul rest in eternal peace. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): I had given Honourable Ratib but I am seeing he is still down.

Honourable Boitone (MCA, Nyalenda A): I am up, Honourable Speaker.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Honourable Deputy Speaker I had already…

Honourable Okombo (MCA, Manyatta "B"): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Do you want to contribute?

Honourable Okombo (MCA, Manyatta "B"): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): I want to request you that because I had given Ratib, we just allow him to contribute, then you come.

Honourable Boitone (MCA, Nyalenda "A"): Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I want to sincerely convey my condolence to Mama Ida Odinga, Raila Jr., Winnie and Rosemary. Honourable Speaker, I also want to convey my heartfelt condolence to the Odinga family, led by Honourable Senator Oburu Odinga. On behalf of the people of Nyalenda 'A', I convey our deepest condolences to the family of the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga.

Mr. Speaker, Raila Odinga's life was marked by sacrifice in the pursuit of democracy and justice. Of course, he endured detention, persecution, and untold personal loss, not for power or for position, but to have a dream of a freer, fairer Kenya. His fearless stand during the struggle for multi-party democracy is very instrumental. Honourable Speaker, the 2010 revolution that we enjoy today is a result of the struggle of Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga.

Honourable Speaker, when I got this information, I was travelling from home to town. I did not know that I had a touch with Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga until when I got this information. I parked, came out of the car, and I cried like a baby. In fact, the onlookers were asking me, what is happening? Honourable Speaker, we are deeply affected by the death of our hero.

Honourable Speaker, many a times, the late Raila Amolo Odinga was preparing us. I remember in a clip when Raila Amolo Odinga said in Kiswahili, I quote, "mti kubwa ukianguka ndege

huyumba''. We are finding ourselves in that situation today. As a nation and as ODM fraternity, we are not yet to come to terms with what has happened. There is going to be a lot of turbulence, which, of course, we pray to God to bind us together.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Raila prepared us when many a times he used to say that when you fall sick, you go to the hospital and two things may happen. You will be treated, and you get well. Or, you may be treated, and you die. He continued said that if you die, two things will happen. You will either go to heaven, when you will find angels, and you sing along with them, or you will go to hell. If you go to hell, do not worry, because you will find many of your friends there.

Mr. Speaker, the proclamation of his will, which he publicly mentioned, that in case of his death, let his body be buried within 72 hours. You know, that was the message itself. When you start mentioning about your will and going public proclaiming it, it was preparing us that Raila will soon leave us. But we were blinded, we could not see this.

Honourable Speaker, you remember the song that Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga used to sing. This was also a preparation to his people. He used to passionately sing Harry Belafonte's Jamaica Farewell song.

Down the bay of Mexico, where the sun shines daily on the mountain top, I took a trip on a sailing ship and when I reached Jamaica, I made a stop. But I'm sad to say I'm on my way. I won't be back for many a day. My heart is down my head is turning around I had a little girl in Kingston town.

This was clear indication to us that Raila was soon leaving us. But who are we? It fell on deaf ears. But it has happened. The will of God has happened. We are told in the Holy Koran, that from God we come, and unto God we shall return. Every soul shall have a taste of death. This is preparing us that whichever position you are, wherever you are, whatever you do, remember that one day you will die. So what you best need to do is touch the lives of others. Help those who you can help.

Today, a number of people are enjoying what Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga put in place. In our religion, we are told, it is called Zakatul Jariya, that all the good things that you have done on earth will hold to you when you die. That is why in Islam there is no salvation. It is just about what have you done on earth that will save you and I believe what Raila has done on earth will save him. He will go to heaven as he was singing to us.

Honourable Speaker, I want to say this is a great loss to the country. This is a great loss to the people of Nyanza. This is a great loss even to the entire world. Everybody mourned Raila Amolo Odinga.

Finally, Honourable Speaker, we were not very much pleased with the way the security men were handling us. It was not very pleasing. We went to mourn with our leader but the way they push and pull, that was done to some of us, was not very pleasing. I felt that, I do not know whether there is going to be any other time, but it was not very good. Otherwise, Honourable Speaker, may the soul of the Rt. Honourable Raila odinga rest in peace. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Honourable Nereah.

Honourable Okombo (MCA, Manyatta "B"): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, allow me also to rise and give my tribute to the enigma, the Rt. Honourable Dr. Eng. Raila Amolo Odinga, C.G.H

Mr. Speaker, in the tapestry of Kenyan history, we know few figures shine brightly as the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, a staunch advocate of democracy and social justice, a man who dedicated himself to the pursuit of a better Kenya for all of us. His unwavering commitment to the principle of good governance and integrity inspired many of us that is countless individuals like us, to stand up for our rights.

Mr. Speaker, during the Moi era, very few individuals could come out and champion for human rights. Only the iron-fisted like the enigma could come out and that saw his imprisonment and torture for a number of years. He is a man that Kenya celebrates, Africa celebrates, and the world celebrates forever and ever.

Mr. Speaker, I know it will be hard for a number of us to accept the demise of Honourable Raila. In the very words of his daughter Winnie, we may be forced to accept the demise of the king, but the crown shall forever live. Mr. Speaker, even as we carry our own flames in his discipleship, we must burn, keep his fire burning, Mr. Speaker, and the things that he believed in have to live on.

Mr. Speaker, faced with a number of difficult questions, in the very words of a pastor in my church that once did a sermon and said that in difficult situations, as a Christian, one needs to ask themselves, what would Jesus do? Mr. Speaker, when faced with difficult decisions, as Christians we often ask ourselves, "What would Jesus do?". As disciples of Raila Odinga, we also ask, "How would Baba have handled this situation?" How would he have responded to that particular challenge?

Mr. Speaker, Raila Odinga fought for all of us — even for those who stood to celebrate his pain and misfortune. I vividly remember, after the 2022 elections during our protests, one day I found

myself at the Serena Hotel together with the Rt. Honourable Raila Odinga and other leaders. Mr. Speaker, before we could leave Serena, the place was completely surrounded, forcing us to flee. Some of us had gone there without our cars, and so we had no means of escape. We had to hang on to Baba's car to get away.

I remember clearly, I was hanging outside the vehicle alongside Honourable Seth Kanga, who is not with us today. Honourable Okoyo was present too, though I do not recall seeing him hanging on the car. I also remember the former MCAs for Migosi and Railways Wards. Somewhere along the way, I lost sight of my colleagues. Just before we negotiated the roundabout into Uhuru Highway, Honourable Kanga was struck hard by a tear gas canister and fell off the car.

Before I could process what was happening, Mr. Speaker, I was hit in the abdomen by a rubber bullet. For a moment, I thought of letting go, but I knew if I did, I might not survive. So I held on until we reached Eastleigh. By then, my stomach was already swollen from the impact. Mr. Speaker, that day I realized Raila Odinga was a man I would take a bullet for—without hesitation.

I recall another incident in 2016 during the IEBC Must Go protests. I was again caught in the chaos near the IEBC offices here in Kisumu, and the next thing I knew, I woke up the following day in the theatre at Aga Khan Hospital. Mr. Speaker, Baba believed that whatever sacrifices were made, they were justified if the end result was a better life for all Kenyans.

Beyond politics, Mr. Speaker, the Rt. Honourable Raila Odinga had a deep passion for football. He was a great footballer in his youth, and we all know he served as the patron of Gor Mahia. Long before Gor Mahia's glory days, Honourable Raila Odinga and my late father were teammates on the football field—that's where their friendship began. Baba was a man who never forgot his friends.

Football, a game that unites people beyond tribe and class, mirrored the teamwork and resilience that defined Baba's life. Just as he rallied citizens to fight for democracy, he also rallied teammates, family, and friends to play with unity and joy. I remember during the CHAN tournaments, Baba attended almost every match—and in nearly all those games, Kenya emerged victorious. His presence inspired players and transformed lives. His love for football made this nation see sports as a symbol of unity and national pride.

Mr. Speaker, the legacy of the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga is not only found in the policies he fought for, but also in the countless lives he touched. Even in death, he remains a beacon of hope—a leader who dreamt of a united Kenya and a united Africa where every voice matters.

As we Honourable him today, Mr. Speaker, let us commit ourselves to carrying forward his vision of inclusivity, justice, and progress. It is indeed painful to accept that Baba is gone, but we are comforted by the knowledge that his spirit, his courage, and his legacy live on. Jowi! Jowi! Jowi! Mr. Speaker, Honourable Okoyo here…

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Your time is up. You need to wind up.

Honourable Okombo (MCA, Manyatta "B"): Just one minute, Mr. Speaker, to allow me to conclude. I know this is one of the few privileges I enjoy for deputizing you, Mr. Speaker — and I thank you for granting me this chance, as also acknowledged by Honourable Ochele.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Okoyo has encouraged our Honourable Ladies to stay active so that we can celebrate them during baby showers. In the same spirit, I also wish to encourage Honourable Okoyo — even as he hopes that Honourable Alandoh may one day bring forth another "Baba" — to remind our colleagues to perhaps go slow on the late-night "Uhuru porridge" gatherings that keep them up too late. Otherwise, they may have no time left to make Honourable Alandoh bring forth another Raila!

With those few light-hearted remarks, Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay my heartfelt tribute. Long live the legacy of the Rt. Honourable Enigma — Raila Amolo Odinga.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Honourable Bill.

Honourable Bill (MCA, Kobura): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, allow me to join the rest of Honourable Members in paying tribute to our beloved Baba. I stand here as the youngest Member of this Assembly, and I was privileged to attend the same school that Baba did — Maranda High School. That is where I first met him during one of our alumni programs.

Mr. Speaker, during that time, my classmates and I made a promise to Baba — that we would make him proud by being the best in the country. And true to that promise, during our year, Maranda High School emerged as the top-performing school in Kenya.

It was from that moment, Mr. Speaker, that I began following Baba's journey closely. His courage, vision, and relentless spirit inspired me deeply — and that inspiration is what drove me into politics. Even while in college, I proudly wore ODM colours on my campaign T-shirts, as a show of love and admiration for Baba.

After completing my studies, I worked for a while before fully venturing into politics. I campaigned under his party, and it is through that very democratic space — one that Baba fought so hard to create — that I now stand in this Assembly. It is that same democracy that allows even independent candidates to contest and serve their people.

Mr. Speaker, since joining this Assembly, I have had the Honourable of meeting Baba again, through our leadership and engagements. He personally welcomed me into his party — a gesture that I will cherish forever.

Baba was a great man — a man who fought for democracy, devolution, and justice — values that continue to shape this country. And while he may be gone, his crown, his ideals, and his legacy must live on through us.

Mr. Speaker, I therefore urge all Honourable Members that from today, as we deliberate, legislate, and serve our people, we should let Baba's spirit guide us. In every piece of legislation, we pass, let us ask ourselves: What would Baba have wanted? In every decision we make for this county and in every budget we approve, let us reflect — does this truly serve the people as Baba would have wished?

That, Mr. Speaker, is how we can best Honourable him — by keeping his vision alive through our actions, our service, and our commitment to the people of Kisumu and to Kenya as a whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Honourable Bodo, then Honourable Obaso.

Honourable Bodo (Nominated Member): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Allow me also to join my fellow Honourable Members in mourning the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga. Mr. Speaker, as human beings, we truly lack enough words to describe who Baba was, what he stood for, and what he shall forever mean to us.

Baba stood for love, for peace, and for unity. That is why, whenever the nation faced turmoil, he always knew when and where to draw the line. He would lead demonstrations for justice and fairness, but at the right time, he would call for calm—because he loved Kenya, and he loved her people deeply.

Mr. Speaker, Baba loved everyone, including those who led this country before him and those who lead it today. His actions were guided not by personal gain, but by his immense love for the nation and his unwavering belief in a better Kenya.

Indeed, we shall miss him greatly—his leadership, his courage, and the many transformations he brought to our country, many of which we continue to enjoy today.

Mr. Speaker, Baba was the architect of true devolution. He is the reason we now have 47 counties. He believed that even if he could not lead Kenya as President, he could still bring meaningful change from wherever he stood. He once asked himself, *"If I* am not the head, what

can I do with the position I have?"—and from that thought, the revolution of devolution was born.

He championed the 2010 Constitution, fought to amend sections that were oppressive, and introduced provisions that empowered ordinary citizens. When the country went for a referendum, Baba stood firmly on the side of progress—the *Chungwa* side, from which the ODM Party was born. And through the will of the people, he triumphed, ushering in the new constitutional order that gave us the county governments we cherish today.

Mr. Speaker, sometimes I pause and ask myself—who among us would put aside personal ambition to fight for the good of an entire nation? Who would sacrifice their own political victory to secure justice and dignity for others? That was the kind of leader Raila Odinga was.

Honourable Okoyo reminded us earlier of the need to bring forth the next generation. Indeed, Kenya needs a growing population—not just to carry his name, but to carry forward his vision. We must continue his struggle, win elections, and implement the changes he longed to see for our people.

Mr. Speaker, as I conclude, I wish to convey my heartfelt condolences to the family of His Excellency, the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga. May they, and the entire nation, find peace—peace that no human being can give, but only God can provide. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and may God bless Kenya.

Honourable Obaso (Nominated Member): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mine was just to call the Mover to reply, since there is so much repetition in what people are saying here. Thank you.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Honourable Obaso, we had dedicated Three Sittings for this matter since some Members are not present. Therefore, the Mover will not reply today. However, if there are no further contributions at this point, we shall allow other Members to make their contributions during tomorrow's sitting, and even in the Afternoon Session the following day.

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Next order!!

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker (Honourable Oraro): Honourable Members, you can be upstanding. There being no other business in the Order Paper, the House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, 22nd October, 2025, at 9.00 a.m.

(House rose at 4.16 pm.)

Addendum

The Hansard Team

Zablon Otiende – Assistant Direction, Information Services

Patrick Okoyo – Chief Hansard Reporter

Fanuel Okode –Chief Hansard Reporter

Jesca Otieno – Chief Hansard Reporter

Edward Odanga – Senior Hansard Reporter

Jacklyne Otieno – Senior Hansard Reporter

Vallery Achieng – Senior Hansard Reporter