COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

Official Report

THIRD ASSEMBLY – FOURTH SESSION

Wednesday, 22nd October, 2025

House met in the Main Chamber at 9:00 a.m.

[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu) in the Chair]

PRAYER

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Honourable Members in line with our Standing Orders, I want to direct that the quorum bell to be rung for the first five minutes.

(The Quorum Bell was rung)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu. MCA, East Seme): Could we please ask the Sergeant-at-Arms to stop ringing the quorum bell? Because the Chief Whip has confirmed that there is quorum. Is that true, Honourable Chief Whip?

The Majority Whip (Hon. Kanga, Market Milimani): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is enough quorum in the House. Thank you, Honorable Members.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, East Seme**):** Mr. Clerk, take us through the Order of today.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Next order!!

PAPERS LAID

QUARTERLY REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF KISUMU COUNTY EDUCATION FUND FOR THE PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 2025

BY

HON. KENNEDY OOKO, MCA, AHERO

[LEADER OF MAJORITY]

KISUMU COUNTY ACCESS TO INFORMATION POLICY

BY

HON. KENNEDY OOKO, MCA, AHERO

[LEADER OF MAJORITY]

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Yes, Honourable Leader of Majority.

The Leader of Majority (Hon. Ooko, Ahero): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to lay the following Papers. Pursuant to the provisions of Section (166) (1) of the Public Finance and Management Act 2012, I table today, Wednesday, 22nd October 2025, Quarterly Reports and Financial Statements of Kisumu County Education Fund for the period ended September 2025.

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 185 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, I table today, Wednesday, 22nd October 2025, Kisumu County Access to Information Policy 2024. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Thank you, Members. I acknowledge receiving the Kisumu County Access to Information Policy, and I want to direct that this policy is committed to the Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs, Constitutional Affairs, Good Governance and Security and a report be brought back in this House in the next 21 days. Honourable Members, I have also received the Financial Statements of Kisumu County Education Fund for the period ended September 2025 and I direct that these financial statements be taken to the Committee on Finance and ICT, a report be brought to the House within 21 days.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Next order!!

MOTION

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE

THE TRIBUTES OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY BE RECORDED IN HONOUR OF THE LATE FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA RAILA AMOLO ODINGA, C.G.H

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Thank you, Honourable Members. This is a motion that was moved yesterday and seconded. Members debated and we are continuing with the debate on the motion today. Members, I want to remind you that we had agreed that we had a limitation of debate, which was five minutes for every Member debating.

And we are only going to give opportunities for debate to Members who did not talk on the motion yesterday. Members, and on that note, I propose we continue with the debate on the motion. Yes, the Honourable Eunice Alando.

Hon. Alandoh (Nominated MCA): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, the 22nd day of October, 2025, I join my fellow Members of the County Assembly, the people of Kenya, the continent of Africa, and the world at large, in mourning the passing of a state man, a true patriot, a visionary, and a revolutionary leader. Mr. Speaker, the right Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my family, I and the women that I represent, I extend our heartfelt condolences to Mama Ida Odinga, Rosemary Odinga, Raila Jr., Winnie Odinga, and the large Odinga's family. Your loss is deeply personal, yet profound, National. We grieve with you.

We stand with you. We pray that the Almighty God grant you strength and fortitude during the moments of grief. To me, right Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga was more than a political father.

He was a defining part of my political journey. He offered counsel, opportunity, and above all, unwavering belief in the power of women to shape the destiny of this Nation. I am but one among the numerous women leaders across the nation whose political career and journey were shaped under his tutelage.

His support for women leadership made me to be a counselor for two consecutive elections and currently serving as a special elected MCA at the County Assembly of Kisumu. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity. Mr. Speaker, Raila was the longest-suffering political detainee in Kenya at the heart of the struggle for the multi-partism. Kenya has lost an exemplary leader the president who won many elections but was never declared and sworn in in the office. The loss of right Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga is not only to his family and the country but to the entire Africa continent and world at large. May God rest the soul of right Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga in eternal peace.

And I also want to pray for this country and particularly our party of ODM and I urge the members of ODM to remain united and be in peace as Baba was preaching peace all the time. With those few remarks I say thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Yes, the Honourable Patrick Lumumba.

The Deputy Leader of Majority (Hon. Lumumba, South East Nyakach): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I stand here to convey my tribute to the Kenyan hero Honorable Raila Amollo Dinga whom we just buried the other day. Allow me to send my condolences to the family led by Madam Ida Odinga, Rosemary, Junior, Winnie, and the entire Jaramogi Ogingo Dinga family together with the Kowak Community.

The man that we buried just the other day was more than a normal human being to me. To me he was a mortal and the sacrifices that he gave to this country whatever he stood for is being seen and I am happy that people are now openly accepting what Raila Odinga stood for. It is a proof that self-denial does not live forever.

Those who are denying what he had done are now openly talking and saying the truth which is okay because they say the truth shall set you free. I am happy that the truth is setting those who are mean with their truth are now coming out to say so. Personally, I have lost a father in the name of Raila Odinga.

I would refer to him as a father but he would always refer to me as a brother considering his age and my age but he would always refer to me as his brother. This is a man I have known for more than four decades. Mr. Speaker, I came to know this man in 1981 and to date we have maintained our friendship. We have come a long way. You have seen and you have experienced the good and the bad part of life. We have enjoyed life.

This man had no class. We spent in places that if I tell you, you cannot believe this man that you have heard. Lived in Kondele.

One time we spent in a hotel in Kendu, Homabay County, called the Big Five, in a shanty room that when we woke up in the morning, we went to bathe. But the water was full of frogs, and we had to leave without bathing and come to Kisumu. In equal measure, we were both spent in places, which made me be exposed.

I even spent in a hotel where I was spending 6,000 euros a day. This is the man in whose honour I am giving tribute. It pains me. I do not have time. I do not know whether I will tell all the stories that we shared together. However, be it as it is, I pray that the almighty God rest his soul in peace. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Thank you very much Hon Lumumba. We celebrate you in this Assembly too, together with our late Party Leader. Hon Members, I want to give this opportunity to Hon Mildred Ajumbo.

Hon Ajumbo (MCA, Central Seme): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand here to contribute to the Motion on the Rt. Hon Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, CGH. On behalf of my family, people of Central Seme Ward, and the Kisumu County Assembly, I join hands with fellow Kenyans in contributing to the debate.

Mr. Speaker, we lost the people's president, a reformist, a leader that we even failed to describe in words. Mr. Speaker, it is not easy to come to the Assembly after the burial of our leader to contribute to this Motion. It is very emotional and it is not easy to describe him in five minutes that it is allocated. However, I want to talk a few words and say that the Rt. Hon Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, CGH sacrificed for this country. We look at the economic reforms, political reforms, the social reforms.

Mr. Speaker, during the 2010 constitution when people were at Bomas of Kenya, we saw a lot of division in the constitution of the 2010 until the final draft was out. Mr. Speaker, these 47 counties plus the bicameral parliament would not have been realized without the Rt. Hon Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, CGH. The freedom of speech that many are enjoying today, Mr. Speaker, would not have been enjoyed in this country if it were not for Rt. Hon Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, CGH. I just want to take us back to yesterday when a Governor from a certain region had freedom of speech to celebrate the passing of our Party Leader who had been laid to rest.

Mr. Speaker, we feel hurt as an Assembly and as the people of ODM and the people of this country. Mr. Speaker, we know that Raila has endured a lot of political persecution in this country. He stood firm when many were silenced.

Those who now enjoy freedom of speech should know that it is because of our late Rt. Hon Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, CGH. Many of us in this Assembly would not be people in this country if it was not because of Rt. Hon Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, CGH. Because of devolution, we can now enjoy sitting in this Assembly and contributing to the Motion. Mr. Speaker, my heart goes out to the family, Mama Ida Odinga, the children, the brothers and sisters, the family members, the relatives, and the people of this country. I send my heartfelt condolences. Mr. Speaker, we say long live Raila Odinga. He is in the grave, but his spirit lives in us. We will not tire, we will not stop, but we will continue with the *Mapambano.* Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Yes, Honourable Adega

Hon Adega (MCA, Kajulu): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for this opportunity to contribute. Mr. Speaker, my first time to meet the Rt. Hon Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, CGH was when I was the Personal Assistant to former Member of Parliament, Kisumu East Hon Eric Gor Sungu. By that time, I was handling phone calls.

It is when I received a call, it was a private call, but I did not know it is the Right Hon Raila Odinga who was calling. Immediately when I picked the call, the guy did not say hello, he was just calling, Sungu, Sungu. So when I said, who are you, because by that time, the Member of Parliament who allied to the hero were being attacked.

It is when Sungu heard me talking to someone, he grabbed the phone and talked to Baba. I heard him telling, Jakom, sorry, that is my handler, we are sorry. After that, Sungu told me, that was Jakom, you should know how to handle the phones. After some two weeks, we met the Rt. Hon Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, CGH at Yatch Club, at night with Hon Sungu together with the former MCA Hon Gabriel Ochieng. We were there together. So when we met the Rt. Hon Raila, he asked Sungu, where the young man who received the call was.

It is when Hon Gabriel Ochieng called me saying I was in trouble, and that Raila wanted to see me. When I went there, I thought I was in trouble. Baba said, we like such young turks to take charge when we are in a hard situation during this campaign moment.

Raila told me to be strong and guard Hon Sungu very well. When I see that, Mr. Speaker, that simple exchange marked the beginning of a journey, admiration and respect for Rt. Hon Raila Amolo. He was not just a political leader, he was a symbol of courage, resilience and unwavering love for this nation. Mr. Speaker, what I can tell my colleagues and the whole Luo nation is that we are now orphans and we need unity in order to prosper.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. May the soul of Rt. Hon Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, CGH rest in eternal peace. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Honourable Lawino Opar

Hon Opar (Nominated Member): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to pay my tribute and to join my colleagues in paying tribute to the Rt. Hon Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, CGH. First, I would like to pass my condolences to the entire nation, to the entire world, Africa, to the Luo Nation and even the family. My concern, I know much has been said, but it goes to the family of Raila Amolo Odinga.

Mr. Speaker, we have been seeing in social media, people mocking the family and especially the eldest son, called Raila Junior. Now, me as a member of PWD, I really feel pained. When I see

people drawing and TikToking, making funny faces about the son, I really feel it. I feel it personally because I am also affected by the same. In 1986, after giving birth to my firstborn, I had a stroke and it deformed my face. So, it really took me time to face people and to talk to them.

And even now, when we go to places, you can see somebody drawing your funny face and mocking you, not knowing that that is something that can befall you at any time. I did not know I could be a member of PWD, but I am proud to be part of that team. Therefore, I condemn those who are making funny faces, drawing and TikToking the face of our hero's son, Junior.

I do not know what they are feeling when they are doing that. It is really bad. And if there is anything that can be done to stop those people, I would really be grateful. Now, another thing, I know we are hurt, and most of us have not come to terms with what happened. I thank our Baba, because before he left, he knew that we were there. Personally, as a nominated MCA under the Gender Top-Up, I am here because of the Rt. Hon Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, CGH.

Mr. Speaker, because of the love and care that Baba had for us, he could not leave us hanging without placing us. Therefore, I thank Baba that even though he is gone, he gave us a way and he put us into the government so that His Excellency, President William Ruto (PhD), can hold us. He did not leave us hanging.

I thank Baba, even in his resting place, he is happy that we are going to at least get somebody who can get hold of us. Therefore, I join my people and I say, long live Baba, even though he is gone, his spirit will be with us. We are going to do anything possible to make the name above all other names. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** I will give the Honourable Kennedy Ouko, then Honorable Tom Nyaoke

Hon. Ouko (MCA, West Kisumu**):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the motion which was moved by the Majority Leader concerning the demise of our Right Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga. Mr. Speaker, it is my condolences to the family and all those who are concerned and even members of the County Assembly especially to our own Honorable Emily. It is not very easy to come to terms with death, especially to somebody who has impacted positively towards the future of Kenya and me in particular. Mr. Speaker, I contested being an MCA through the party as structure put by BABA and I must appreciate that through that structure I am now an Honorable Member. It is not easy to be called an Honorable Member. It is earned, but I did it through the effort and the structures made by BABA. I really appreciate him. Death at times makes us appreciate life. Death arrives softly. It shakes. It shakes a lot. It shakes the soul. It shakes the families. It evokes some kind of emotional response.

It really happened to us throughout the country and we understand how Kenya and the entire world was acting towards the death of BABA. This is a fellow who chose selflessness over comfort. He could go an extra mile to raise his voice in our favour. This was a servant of the people. His decisions were very much influenced by the people. This was the people's servant. It is quite unfortunate for people who worked very closely with the BABA, like Honourable Lumumba. You understand how it is emotional to lose somebody you have had for over 30 years or 40 years. We have lost a great man, a patriarch, somebody who has shaped the lives of very many people, who has created devolution, the father of the second liberation.

When some were running away, BABA could come out to demonstrate against some negative behaviours of individuals in leadership. Even if he won in many elections, BABA could now get back again and talk to those who stole his votes for the sake of the people of Kenya. BABA was always putting Kenya's interests first before anything else. We have lost him. It is quite unfortunate that now you can hear some people who are benefiting from what BABA fought for, mocking BABA in death. It is quite unfortunate. I know there is freedom of speech, but it has its limitations. I do not think anybody is above death. It is good it is their time, let them do what they can do. However, they must appreciate that it is through BABA that they can now get their resources in several counties. They can also lead the counties. When BABA was fighting for these things, they were nowhere to be seen. We really appreciate BABA. Death is just a final cutting of the body, but never to the spirit. I know his spirit will live with us, and we will be guided with his principles and legacy. May God rest his soul in eternal peace. I support the motion.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Yes, Honourable Tom Nyaoke.

Hon. Nyaoke (MCA, North Nyakach): There is the passing on of human beings. But at the same time, we must admit that we lost a golden person. Mr. Speaker, the Deputy Majority Leader, on his tribute, he mentioned something that I reflected upon keenly. That BABA Raila Amolo Odinga was someone who was down to earth and someone who had no class. Mr. Speaker, it is not imaginable that me standing here, His Excellency, Right Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga, when he was in office as the Prime Minister, he used to pick his phone and call me directly. He used to call me by the name Black Chinese. He could call me anytime. I want to assure you that part of the reason why I love and I like putting on suits almost all the time was because of BABA. One time he called me when I was in my casual wear and when I went to his office, he told me one thing, that why don't you behave like a law maker and be smart all the time. Because of those unplanned calls, I had to make sure that I was always smart. So, anytime he called me, I could go while smart. Mr. Speaker, I personally interacted with Right Honorable, particularly during the time that he was the Minister for Roads. That is the several times that we used to meet because I used to work in the construction. I tell you for sure that the plans that he had during the time when we had a lot of infrastructure taking place in Kenya was because of the plan of our departed hero.

Mr. Speaker, I remember one particular time when he called me to his office when he was the Prime Minister. Immediately, I entered his office. He called His Excellency, former Governor of Kakamega, Governor Oparanya. By then, Honourable Oparanya was the Minister for Planning. He had some visitors who had come from China. He believed that I had quite a lot of knowledge in terms of Chinese investors and so on. So, we had a meeting with Honourable Oparanya, the Minister for Planning. He introduced me as the black Chinese, as someone who understood the cooperation between China and Kenya. We then moved with Honourable Oparanya to his office in the Treasury Building. Mr. Speaker, that one shows that despite the fact that I was young in age and that I was not very much exposed, he understood possibly the gift that I had at that particular time. So, Baba had a lot of considerations even to each and every individual. Mr. Speaker, now that he has gone, there is nothing much that we can do but to continue to pray for the family. To continue praying for them, day and night.

Brothers and sisters, I can assure you that there is nothing as bad as losing any of your parents. For some of us who have lost their parents, we understand the pain. Mr. Speaker, before I conclude, I got the opportunity to attend the 20th Mashujaa Day celebration in Kitui County. It was so emotional when tribute was being played and particularly the time that the President, His Excellency Ruto, was conferring the highest Honor to our departed hero. Most of us shed tears in that particular stadium. So many people shed tears. Mr. Speaker, we have lost a hero. What I request my fellow colleagues and the people of Kenya at large is that we should continue to pray for the family because we know that even though Baba departed in body but spiritually, he must be living amongst us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Thank you. Yes, the Honorable Anne Ochola.

Hon. Ochola (Nominated Member**):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, Mr. Speaker, I lost my hero in my life. There was a time, between 2002-2008, I called Baba when I was sick and I had nothing. I remember Baba took his time to call and sent a driver with a vehicle to pick me up to Kisumu. After two days, Baba sent me money for my treatment. So, at now, I do not know what I can do because I feel so much pain for his loss. Our party, ODM, is strong because of Baba. You know Baba respected people from the grassroots. Now Baba is not around and Baba is gone. Baba was a peacemaker in this county and country at large. we are here because of Baba. Mr. Speaker, in my life, I don't know what next, but I want to release Baba to rest in peace. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, East Seme): Thank you, Honourable Anne. Allow me to give Senior Member, the Honourable Pete Oiko.

Hon. Pete (MCA, Kabonyo/Kanyagwal): Mr. Speaker, we want to pay tributes first to our Luo son, who became a nationalist and is highly recognized for the second liberation of Kenya. Mr.

Speaker, if we were to get time to talk about Raila Odinga and where Kenya is now, history is at times a very bad subject; you struggle, you fight and you do the impossible for your people. Then, when you are no more, that is when they paint a good picture of what you are and that is where Raila is now. What is called the second liberation of Kenya was not easy. Quite a number of people here were young by that time and others had not been born. Someone like Senior Lumumba Owade, Senior Anne Ochola (Chimbli) will tell you what Kenyans underwent in the the year 1970s, 1980s and in 1990s. It was not easy and that is where the son of Odinga put his life. In the 1982 coup attempt, it was known in Kenya that Raila was to be killed because he was the leader that movement. However, in the analysis of this attempted coup, Raila only came out to save Kenya because the then Attorney General, Mr. Charles Njonjo, had made an arrangement to take over the government and that is when the Luos came up; the likes of team Ochuka led by Raila Odinga to thwart and they succeeded and Raila was taken to detention. After that, Raila went to exile. Nevertheless, a good thing happened and the fight for democracy in Kenya led by late Jaramogi Odinga came up. Consequently, the late Raila Odinga came back to Kenya, having risked his life in the 1982 coup attempt.

Mr. Speaker, it was known in Kenya that the political struggle to help Kenyans was in the hands of the Luo Nation and that is what Jaramogi had started doing in the late 1970s and in 1980s. during the year 1994, when we lost the doyen of opposition in Kenya, the late Jaramogi Odinga, Raila Odinga saw it fit not to serve other set of politician. He wanted to lead his party. He struggled in Ford-Kenya but, because of his position being a Mayor, Deputy Director of elections, he never succeeded. As a gentleman, as a real politician he was, he broke away from for the Kenya and formed his party whereby he went for a by-election (a very brave decision that most people could not undertake) but, Raila risked all that. He went for by-election and won the Langata seat. From there, his political journey started in earnest.

Another brave thing the late Rt. Hon. Raila did is that before forming his own political party, he was a member of PIC/PAC. During that time, the biggest scandal in Kenya in the 1990s was the Goldenberg scandal. So those who have got position because of the shadow of Raila should listen to this: The biggest scandal in Kenya in the 1990s was the Goldenberg scandal which was valued at around Kshs 58 billion and was under investigation. In the PIC/PAC, Raila differed with all the MPs and refused to sign the report that was presented in Parliament. He claimed - which was the truth in the eyes of the Kenyans- that the report was compromised because there was no way Kenya could lose Kshs 58 billion and Patmi, who was the architect of Goldenberg, was being given a clean bill of health by the members of the committee. Raila Amolo Odinga broke the rank on principles.

So if you know that you have been given a position because of being near to Raila, that was the character of him. Not to; amass wealth and not to enrich himself at the expense of the Kenyan

people. So look at yourself: if you have been given a position because of Raila, that is where you belong to.

Mr. Speaker, in the year1997, Raila behaved like the strong politician he was. He led his party NDP to election and people were elected on NDP certificate. After that, he realized he could not soldier on with his own party. He had to join the ruling party at that time. Additionally, when he felt disappointed by the late president Daniel Toroitich Arap Moi who never recognized that he was also a party leader, he was now bringing a boy he had picked because that was the son of his friend. Raila simply told him; "Bye, I am charting my own way".

When he looked at the political situation of Kenya at that time, he concluded that the most important thing at the political decision to be made at that time was to get rid of Moi and his tentacles. He supported Kibaki not because he wanted but, the political scenario at that time demanded. That is what our Honourable Raila did. Then, from that time, he started fighting his political way up to where he has ended, Mr. Speaker. In this struggle, when we talk of democracy, when we talk of the freedom of speech that Kenyans enjoy now, Mr. Speaker, it was Raila Odinga. in the 1980s and 1990s, there was what was called *Mwakenya*. Seditious publication which could just be put in your office or be sent to your post box and you become a criminal. Life in Kenya was not easy when the government did not want you. But, Raila braved all these and fought for the rights of Kenyans.

Mr. Speaker, when you now look at the Country Kenya, when they are now praising Raila, they are also praising him that he was winning the elections and easily giving in to those who had stolen his election victories. When I saw Professor Kivutha Kibwana talking, he was referring to Kenyans to rethink about that picture.

What is it that happens in Kenya whereby someone who spend all his resources, his energies, he wins and then the election is easily stolen from him? The easy reference was the one of 2007 when Kibaki was sworn in at night. Another easy reference was 2017 when the Supreme Court ruled that Raila had won. Then, in his conscience, he declined to go for the second election. Why? Because he knew the same mess was still going to be there. He did not want to still get humiliated.

Mr. Speaker, Raila started politics in Kenya when he was still a young man. He now died at the age of 80 years. In the 70s, 80s and 90s, he spent most of his time fighting for the people of Kenya. Because I am taking a lot of time, Mr. Speaker, there is a statement which was made by a politician in Kenya.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Honourable Member, I want you to summarize. We agreed on five minutes.

Hon. Oiko (MCA, Kabonyo/Kanyagwal): Obliged, Mr. Speaker. The statement that was so made by the Governor of Nyeri County, we should sit down and analyze. Because, on the surface, Raila does not work on the programmes of the National Government. He does not participate neither involve himself with because he has not been a Member of Parliament from the year 2013 up to the time he died. What message was he really passing to us? He was telling us that "**our hero is gone**". For them, they have so many people in the top government positions. He was trying to compare the development in Kikuyu land- that is central and Luo Nyanza. In Luo Nyanza, the good developments projects that we talked of are when Raila has been in the government. For instance, in 1998, when he became the Minister for Energy, that was when the Sondu-Miriu Power Project was built. He was simlpy mocking at us Mr. Speaker. And little did he forget, he was passing a message to us, now that we are in the government, for these developments to continue, we must continue being in the government.

Mr. Speaker, let me give you also one story. The first project in Kabonyo Kanyagwal, and during the coalition government, 2008 to 2013.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** 40 seconds Honorable Member.

Hon. Oiko (MCA, Kabonyo/Kanyagwal): That project was going on, Mr. Speaker, and the project was hijacked and taken to Sagana, Mr. Speaker. It took the intervention of some young technocrats in the government to bring it back to the government programme. And when it was brought back to the government programme in 2018-2022, Professor Nyong'o took it upon himself that this project should be done. And came 2021, there was a discussion between Professor Nyong'o and Raila, and Raila advised, when he was told that that is a mega project, that Donner Fund should be looked for that project. And we were also lucky at that time that a Luo became the P.S., Dr. Francis Owino. Within one year, Dr. Francis Owino did all that was necessary that the project be implemented. And by 2022, when we were going for election, we were upbeat that we were going to take the government and that our mega project would be implemented.

So the F.I.S.T. project is a project of Raila and Professor Nyong'o. They are the people who managed to get the Donor funding for that project. And we must now learn...

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Thank you. Thank you, Honourable Member. Yes, the Honourable Oiko I am really sorry we have to cut you short, because we had agreed on limitation of debate. And it will be out of order for me to allow you to continue for more than the amount of time we have given you. I had seen the Honourable Member for North Kisumu, and I think in order of seniority, I want to give him, unless he hopes to allow others to speak.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** The Honourable Member, Dede Samuel.

Hon. Dede (MCA, Kisumu North): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me the opportunity to also talk about our hero, Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga. First and foremost, Mr. Speaker, our hero, Dr. Engineer Raila Amolo Odinga is a founder or is a constitutional reformist. By that, Mr. Speaker, he introduced the 2010 Constitution, which brought the post which we are now enjoying at this hour moment, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, being that Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga also took his time staying in the world where I live, being that he has got a family in the world. I used to visit him most of the time while he was alive, and we shared much with him.

Mr. Speaker, also, the Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga was a transparent man. By this, when I came to politics in the year 2019, we went to a by-election. The nomination for the by-elections was highly contested, Mr. Speaker. And when the nominations were done, all those I competed rushed to Nairobi for the certificate. And by that time, the returning officer was the Senator Catherine Muma. By then, when they rushed to Nairobi, the Right Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga refused to give the certificate to all those who rushed to Nairobi. He waited for a report from the returning officer, Catherine Muma. And by then, none knew me in politics, and all those who were contested were ones in politics. And when the returning officer came with the results, he accepted that I should be given the certificate, being that I was the winner in that particular nomination. Being that none knew me, he considered me by the way in which I got, and that meant that he was a transparent man, and I was awarded the certificate for the party at the by-election, which was highly contested, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, being that being that he was a caring man, Mr. Speaker, during the time when Moi was in power and wanted to hand over the mantle to Uhuru Kenyatta, he decided to come up with a slogan by saying Kibaki Tosha. Kibaki was by then on a wheelchair. He decided to change the game in politics and came up with Kibaki and stepped down from him, and Kibaki became the president by then.

And Mr. Speaker, the Right Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga was not a tribalist, being that he worked in the era of Moi. While Moi was in power, he worked with him. While Kibaki was in power, he also joined him and assisted him in running the nation. And in 2017, when the country was in crisis, he also joined and shook hands with Uhuru Kenyatta and assisted him to work away.

In the era of Ruto, Mr. Speaker, he also joined Ruto while the country was in a mess and all he supported and everything came to place up to the moment, being that he did not consider tribes, but he worked with each and every leadership in every capacity.

Mr. Speaker, we can say that even though others did wrong to him, Mr. Speaker, in leadership, he is a man who never forgets, but he usually forgives those who wronged him at any particular moment in his career, Mr. Speaker.

In terms of leadership, Mr. Speaker, he was inclusive. He included each and every one, consulted from each and every person before he made a step, and he considered each and every consultation he had with others.

Mr. Speaker, we have lost a man whom we cannot compare with anyone in this country, but we know that he is not with us physically, but in spirit, he is still living. And I am urging all those who are still alive to remain with what he wanted, to be united and be steadfast in whatever activity we are partaking, so that his legacy can be met. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, let the soul of right-Amolo Odinga rest in eternal peace till we meet. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Honorable Kelvin Oraro.

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): Mr. Speaker, let me join my colleagues and also draw my tribute to this great legend, the late Hon Raila Amolo. I want to start by saying that Raila was the best thing that Kenya ever had.

As a good student of history, it happens that all my education in primary and secondary was in Rift Valley. I was in Eldoret North, and I think by the time I was becoming MP for Eldoret North in 1997, I was just in Class 5. I got a lot of interest in politics in 2001, 2002, when Luos were nobody in this society, in this Kenya and the issue of circumcision made us look inferior to other tribes. Nobody ever imagined that a Luo could be somebody worth talking about. Maybe the reason was due to our major participation in opposition politics fighting for the rights of Kenyans from the time of the late Jaramogi Odinga to Raila Amolo Odinga. So in 2002, when Raila actually stole the show with the 'Kibaki Tosha', and when the Kalenjin rule was ending in 2002 under President Moi, that is the time people started respecting us Luos.

Then the respect was too small. Nobody knew that an uncircumcised man or men referring to Luos then we could be somebody respected, we could be people respected in Kenya. We grew as a society which was marginalised. And Raila Amolo Odinga actually gave us a name in this Republic of Kenya. He is a nationalist, but we celebrate him as our tribesman.

Mr. Speaker. By the time Raila was taking Kibaki in 2005 referendum between the Orange and Banana and the ODM movement during movement starting and forming the party in 2007, I think that is the time Kenyans realised that Raila was not an ordinary man. All the Kalenjins who used to despise us gave, they voted Raila to a man in the year 2007. And Raila became the Prime Minister after National Accord in the year 2008. All this time, I was still young and I think the first time I got the closest opportunity to celebrate him most is when he came for celebration at Kitmekai for Professor Nyong'o as a Minister and I think I was in Maseno University then we went to witness the event and from that day I just got a lot of interest in politics and the politics, Raila was shaping politics.

There is this common phrase by the late Kijana Wamalwa about the Raila mania and the Raila phobia where Raila mania stood for those who loved him and phobia stood for those who hated him to the core and we are all aware that up to date Kenyans have been voting either for or against Raila for those who love him celebrate him most for those who hate him, they built their politics around insulting him the most. That has been the reality of Raila Odinga's political journey for the last three decades—since 1995, when he first rose to national prominence in Kenya's political arena.

Mr. Speaker, after witnessing the success of devolution under the 2010 Constitution, I believe Kenya was truly transformed. For those of us who follow history closely, we know that one of the greatest victories our country achieved was ending the excessive centralization of power in Nairobi. For decades, almost every major decision and development was concentrated there, and that's why the city and its surroundings grew disproportionately compared to the rest of the country.

Devolution, therefore, came at the right time—a true gift and legacy from Raila Amolo Odinga. Before devolution, everyone's dream was to go to Nairobi. But today, because of the system he fought for, we see growth and opportunity across our 47 counties. As a leader, I count myself blessed to live in and benefit from the fruits of that vision.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to mention something that has always stayed with me. I remember a particular moment when we were invited to a meeting with Baba, just before the election of the Speaker. Unfortunately, we were far away in Nakuru and could not make it. That day, I felt a deep sense of loss—because to me, Raila Amolo Odinga was not just a politician; he was a fire, a force of inspiration, someone one could admire and emulate. He was a man who stood for democracy, who gave direction when the country needed it most.

That day, in his absence, I made a decision that went against his will, and I have never stopped reflecting on that moment. But, Mr. Speaker, Raila's success was never for himself—it was always for the people.

If I may borrow from the Book of Ecclesiastes, *all is vanity*. Even the most powerful among us will one day rest beneath the soil. And yet, what endures are the deeds we leave behind. Raila's name will be written in history books. His songs will continue to be sung. His works and his ideals will live on—but the man himself, we shall never see again. Statues may be built in his honour, but we will never again hear his voice or see his smile.

Mr. Speaker, I say without fear of contradiction that ODM was Raila, and Raila was ODM. If he had chosen to form another party before his passing, that party would have immediately gained strength and possibly power. He had a spirit that was larger than life—a man whose influence felt almost supernatural.

His death has come at a very difficult time for this nation. I mourn him deeply, alongside the people I represent. He was a great man—a visionary who shaped the politics of this country, who inspired us to keep going, and whose memory will forever remain in our hearts.

As I conclude, Mr. Speaker, I can only hope that one day Kenya will produce another leader of Raila Amolo Odinga's calibre. But truthfully, even if we get a new party leader, there will never be another Raila. He was unique—one of a kind.

Though I never had the privilege of working directly with him, I have followed his journey closely since 1995, and every chapter of that history lives in my mind. I hope that one day, we will put his story into writing so that generations to come may learn about the man who gave so much for this nation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Yes, Honourable Matara.

Hon. Matara (Nominated Member): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for granting me this opportunity to pay my tribute to our late Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga.

Mr. Speaker, I stand here today with a heavy heart. This loss feels deeply personal to me. My father was the longest-serving Personal Assistant to the late Jaramogi Oginga Odinga, and Raila was like a brother to him. Losing Raila feels like losing my father all over again. I now truly understand what Winnie Odinga is going through — for I too was my father's favourite child, and after his passing, I often said I was never the same again.

Mr. Speaker, I join my fellow Honourable Members in celebrating and mourning a towering figure in Kenyan politics — a man who served as Prime Minister and played a pivotal role in championing multi-party democracy. From the 1990s, through multiple detentions without trial, he never wavered in his fight for justice and reform.

His death leaves a great void in our nation's political landscape. As the prominent anti-corruption crusader John Githongo once said, Raila Odinga was perhaps the most consistent and principled political actor Kenya has seen in the last three decades.

Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga was a true patriot and Pan-Africanist — a man whose life was as mysterious and profound as his name, *Agwambo.* Even the number five seems to mark his journey: born in 1945, formed ODM in 2005, vied for the presidency five times, and passed away on the 15th day of the month — all with the number five echoing through his life story.

To many, Baba was more than a politician. He was the flame that lit our path in darkness, the river that carved valleys of hope, the tragic hero whose dreams went beyond himself. He endured defeat, pain, and exile — yet never lost faith in Kenya.

In his passing, he has become a legend, but one rooted in real struggle and sacrifice. May we honour him by continuing his mission — by building the bridges he envisioned, by reading our history honestly, and by letting his legacy light the path toward the Kenya he dreamed of.

Mr. Speaker, I stand in this House today because of the late Rt. Honourable Raila Odinga. In 2013, my name appeared at number 77 on the party's nomination list. In 2017, I moved up to number 33, but still didn't make it. In 2022, I was number one after Mr. Kasuko, but my name was later moved to number 27.

It took the intervention of our County MP, Honourable Ruth Odinga, who reminded Baba that I was the daughter of his late brother Awino, who had served Jaramogi with loyalty and distinction. Baba said, *"There's nothing we can give Awino now, but we can honour him through his daughter."* That is how I was nominated — and for that, I will forever remain grateful.

I got a chance many dream of — a position earned not through an interview, but through legacy, loyalty, and love. So today, I bid farewell to the champion of our democracy. You did your duty to your country. You marched where others trembled. You dreamed where others despaired. The voyage may have ended, but the legend sails on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Thank you, Honourable Members. It appears that all Members present have made their contributions to this debate. Those who were unable to do so will have an opportunity in the afternoon session to convey their condolences to the family of the late Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga and to our colleague, Honourable Emily Odinga. At this point, we shall bring to a close the debate on the tribute by the County Assembly of Kisumu to the Rt. Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga. Next order.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme**):** Thank you, Honourable Members. There being no other business to transact, the House stands adjourned until today, Wednesday, 22nd October 2025 at 2.30 p.m.

(House rose at 10.25 a.m.)

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