

MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 3rd December, 2014

The House met at 2:43 p.m.

(Temporary Speaker Hon. Bernard Kariuki in the Chair)

PRAYERS

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Bernard Kariuki): Next Order!

PAPERS

ADDRESS BY MURANG'A SENATOR HON. KEMBI GITURA

Hon. Peter Kihungi: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir, I hereby want to lay on the table the address of Hon. Kembi Gitura, Senator Murang'a County. Thank you, Mr. Speaker sir.

(Hon. Peter Kihungi laid the paper on the table)

BILLS

MURANG'A COUNTY LOANS AND MORTGAGES BILL, 2014

Hon. Joseph Kimani: Thank you, Mr. Speaker sir, I represent the people of Ithiru and I am the Chairperson of Finance and Planning. Mr. Speaker, I would request that we defer the Loans and Mortgage Bill because we have received a circular from the SRC and a letter from the Executive whereby the Members of the Executive have also been given the right to enjoy the facility, they have requested us to include them in the Loans and Mortgage Bill so I would I request that you give us time so that we make the amendments on the Mortgage and Loans Bill, 2014. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Bernard Kariuki): So Hon. Members, the Hon. Chair for Finance has sought the leave of the Speaker to defer the matter on the Committee of the Whole for the Bill on County Loans and Mortgages, 2014. So that matter is deferred until such a time that the House Business Committee shall allocate it time for consideration by the Assembly. Thank you. Member for Mugoiri?

Hon. Kago Njoroge: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wish to seek leave from the Chair to move a special Motion on the insecurity in Kenya. Mr. Speaker, you can please give me your leave please.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Bernard Kariuki): Hon. Member for Mugoiri, you may move the Motion if you feel it is an urgent matter that needs to be debated upon by the Hon. House.

MOTIONS

FACILITATION OF SECURITY AND TRANSPORT FOR THE MURANG'A RESIDENTS STRANDED IN MANDERA REGION

Hon. Kago Njoroge: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I beg to move the following Motion:-

Aware, that the state of insecurity in Kenya has continued to escalate as a result of terrorism attacks in the North Eastern region, concerned that in the last two weeks, 64 Kenyans have lost their lives in recent Mandera County massacres, recognizing that the National Government has been dragging in efforts to restore peace and security in Mandera region and that so far, many of the non-Muslim residents are still stranded, further aware that the Murang'a County residents are still crying for rescue; this House urges the County Government to collaborate with the National Government in facilitating security and transport for the Murang'a residents stranded in this region.

Mr. Speaker, it is in the wake of each and every Member of this Assembly and country that Mandera County has become inhabitable for the people who are non-Muslims. More so, I do not want to be religion biased, but as it has been reported, during the killing of the 28 people who were travelling from Mandera to Nairobi, we hear that if you were not able to recite a Muslim prayer you were killed.

Mr. Speaker, it was just the other day when we had other killings of 36 Kenyans, most of them, about 18 of them, are from Nyeri. What we expect and from what we see in most of these burials, we politicians go there and try to pretend that we are sympathising with those families and yet there is no effort we make in rescuing those people.

Mr. Speaker, our Constitution is very good, it gave us, or we gave ourselves 47 Counties. We all agreed that Kenya is a unitary state; under one President who should keep peace or is the one who is in charge of peace and security in this Country. We also recognize that the Constitution gave us the mandate to work and invest anywhere in any of the Counties in Kenya. None of the Kenyan citizens is supposed to be moved or killed by anybody from any part of this country simply because he or she does not believe in a certain religion or does not belong to that ethnic community.

Mr. Speaker, our Constitution also recognizes the number of communities which are there, both that are recognized or not recognised, it is very sympathetic.

Last night, I was called by about three people, my ward has 12 sub-locations, 20 of them from one of the sub-location are stranded in Mandera. There are no buses which are going there or getting out of the place simply because of insecurity. They are all stranded, they are not going to work, there is nowhere they can go to shop. So, Mr. Speaker, the 20 of them are very hungry and they want to be rescued.

They were asking me, "Hon. Member from our ward, how can you help us so that we can get out of this place and at least go back home until this place gets peace?" In fact, they are saying that they do not want to move away from there, they just want to be rescued for the time being and they will go back when peace restores.

Mr. Speaker, I had no answer, I could not answer them. In the morning, they called me when I was on my way here. Another member from my area also called me when we were in the lands meeting, he asked me, "What are you doing you people? That our people will die in Mandera and yet you are there to rescue and talk on our behalf."

I also remember that there is another guy from my area who came using *miraa* pickups, in fact, he used four days. I remember that one day he was dropped at Wajir, he was telling us that he spent the whole night walking, trying to run away from the tarmac road because he was suspecting that maybe some people or some thugs would follow and kill him.

Mr. Speaker, bearing in mind that we have 12 sub-locations, if you multiply 20 people from each sub-location, you can see I have almost more than 200 people who are very busy working to build the County of Mandera which is not recognizing the effort my people are putting. It is not only my people; you can also imagine the people of Murang'a County. If I have about 200 people in the County and you multiply with the 35 wards, you can see the big number we have working in Mandera.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I am seeking whether the County Government of Murang'a can collaborate with the National Government to give transport and security for those people to come back here and the National Government to restore peace and when the peace is restored, those people are ready to go back there and work. Mr. Speaker, if they were your brothers or sisters, you could see the pain.

We were told that about eight of them belong to one village in Nyeri. Mr. Speaker, imagine if they came from my ward where we have about 20 working in the same locality. Imagine if the terrorists were to attack those people tonight, you can imagine the number of coffins that we can expect in the primary school nearby. So, Mr. Speaker, to hinder or to curb this and bearing in mind that we bought some sports buses which are lying idle there and we have a bus for the County Assembly which is lying idle here; can the County Government provide them with transport.

Also, the National Government should provide security so that people may come back home and at least enjoy the peace we are enjoying. Mr. Speaker, we call upon the President to restore peace in our country. At this juncture, I would like to call the Hon. Member for Ng'araria to second this Motion so that we can all adopt this and at least see the light of the day for our people to enjoy the peace we are enjoying today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. James Kariuki: Mr. Speaker sir, I rise to support the Motion; that our people who are stranded in Mandera are brought back to their homes. What is happening in Mandera is extremely sad because I can see a situation where the *Al-Shabaab* is trying to create a religious conflict between Muslims and Christians in this country.

Mr. Speaker, the culmination of what happened in Mandera has its roots from very far in the past and the fact that Kenya decided to take security issues---

(Hon. Charles Kirigwi rose on a point of order)

Hon. Charles Kirigwi: Under the standing order on the provisions of decorum, is it in order for the Hon. Member for Ruchu to walk into this Chamber in sports shoes, Mr. Speaker?

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Bernard Kariuki): Hon. Member for Ruchu, do you want to respond to that point of order?

Hon. Boniface Njihia: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I think the Hon. Member from Kinyona has not seen well. I am not in sports shoes but I am in leather shoes.

(Laughter)

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Bernard Kariuki): Leather shoes are in decorum.

Hon. James Kariuki: So Mr. Speaker, what I am saying is that what has been happening in Mandera and other parts of the country is something that is very sad. All Kenyans must rise up and talk very loudly so that the government can hear the complaints and the cries of the people of this country.

Mr. Speaker sir, when you look at the kind of conflict that is being created in this country, it is one where the Muslims or a certain organisation wants to pit the Muslims against the Christians. My worry is; if this happens, then we should not have a country called Kenya. You can have any other sort of conflict but if you have a conflict whose genesis is religion and God then you can be sure that, that conflict has no end.

If you look at what has been happening at the Middle East and also the Arab Spring uprising in the north of Africa, then you realise how serious religious conflicts can be because there is no rational, and there is no logic. Once somebody says that he is doing so because of God, then there is no escape.

Mr. Speaker sir, it is also my belief that if these people want to come back to their homes, they should be assisted by the County Government in collaboration with the National Government until the situation normalises.

It would be wrong for us to say that you cannot work in Lamu, Mandera, Western Province or any part of this country. This is a sovereign State, we have a new Constitution, everybody has the liberty to be employed and own property anywhere in this country. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, to me this would be a stop-gap measure to let the situation normalise in that part of our country.

Mr. Speaker, I have a very great problem with what is happening because I think the problem is that our security forces are not up to the task, especially when it comes to intelligence gathering. The National Intelligence Service (NIS) should do more to collect intelligence from the ground because these people cannot be attacking without knowledge of the locals. So, I tend to think there is some collaboration between *Al-Shabaab* and the locals on the ground and the only way to counter that is through intelligence gathering.

Mr. Speaker, all covert or overt operations anywhere in the world are won on the platform of intelligence gathering. So, it shows that our intelligence agencies, our

military and our police force are not very adept in that area and I think this is where our major problem lies.

Mr. Speaker, we also need to secure our border. I understand it is an 800 kilometre border between Kenya and Somalia. I do not see why we do not have army battalions along that border. It is the highest time the National Government employed more people in the armed forces so that they can secure that border.

Mr. Speaker, I also have a problem with the police force. The police force, in this particular area as we understand is being bribed with a lot of money. They let the militia come in and cause havoc. Mr. Speaker, we are paying the price of corruption and therefore, until the situation is improved, especially now that the former Inspector General- Inspector Kimaiyo- has already retired, and the Cabinet Secretary (CS) Internal Security- Ole- Lenku- we need to see some positive change in that direction. Mr. Speaker---

(Hon. John Gitau rose on a point of order)

Hon. John Gitau: Mr. Speaker, I think the person on the floor has lost direction because the Motion is about repatriating our people; not about what is happening. I think he should restrain himself on how we are going to get our people from where they are.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Bernard Kariuki): Order! Member for Kamahuha, the seconder is part of the Mover and he is at liberty to second as long as he able to convince members to support his Motion.

(Applause)

Continue.

Hon. James Kariuki: Thank you for your protection Mr. Speaker. This is not an easy matter, this is something that needs to be debated very deeply in this particular House. Telling people from Mandera to just come without knowing the genesis of the problem is not the solution. We need to know where the rain started beating us.

Mr. Speaker sir, as I had said earlier, we should not be seen to be succumbing to terrorism and therefore, it is important that the Mover of the Motion be supported in this particular Motion so that our people who are in Mandera can come back to their homes and go back after the situation normalises. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I second the Motion. Thank you.

(Question proposed)

The Motion is open for debate. Member for Kahumbu?

Hon. Erick Kimani: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am the Member for Kahumbu ward. I support the Motion.

Hon. David Muhoro: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am the Member for Kariaira. I stand to support this Motion and actually congratulate the Mover because we should not sit in this House and think that things are running well.

Mr. Speaker, as the Mover has said, we all know that we come from Murang'a. Murang'a people are business men and women, even the young people do not sleep. They know that they cannot get manna from heaven. They are there looking for greener pastures. There is something which can be very sad and in fact Mr. Speaker, very humiliating when you are called by your voters and they ask for your help so that they can be rescued from a place and you do not have answers.

I think, Mr. Speaker, this House should stand with those people in Mandera from Murang'a. We should at least see our Governor trying to collaborate with the National Government and see how our people can come from Mandera and enjoy their Christmas. It is not that they shall not go back to Mandera; they are just to enjoy the Christmas in the comfort of their homes and when the situation in Mandera stabilises, they will go back there because I believe Mandera is in Kenya. As the Secunder says, we are not to succumb to the threat of *Al-Shabaab* and other militia groups.

Mr. Speaker, those are cowards, they will be dealt with and they will fail. I want to urge the Governor and the Executive to make arrangements. In fact, we want to see them in the press, we want to actually see them calling for the safety of their people. We should not see them thinking that the Hon. Kanini Kega is the only person in trouble. Our people are there, Mr. Speaker, even people from Kariara. They have not called me but I know that a good number of young people are in Mandera looking for greener pastures. There are even civil servants, Mr. Speaker, from my area who ate working there.

So, we should, at least, for once, see some effort from this government trying to stand with their people who are in trouble. I, therefore, support this Motion and I actually condemn the killings which were done by the *Al-Shabaab*.

Mr. Speaker, I also take this chance to send condolences to the families of those affected and wish them well. I actually also congratulate the President of this nation because yesterday we saw that he made some changes in the security docket of this nation. We believe that those people taking the charge have new ideas so that we can fight with this menace.

Actually, the people of Kenya should embark on what the President said. Mr. Speaker, this is not a fight to the Jubilee Government, Kikuyus or anything; this is a fight against the Kenyans. Everybody should stand for Kenya. And those people who think that they will trigger a fight between the Christians and the Muslims, I believe we do not have problems with our Muslims but there are external forces who want to see this country in chaos. We believe that we have all co-existed for years and this issue of *Al-Shabaab* is just a passing crowd and we shall defeat it.

So, I support this Motion, Mr. Speaker, and actually call upon our Governor to collaborate with the government and see to it that our people are back before the situation stabilises and they will go back to their businesses in Mandera. Mr. Speaker, I am also thinking of investing in Mandera. It is not that Mandera is not in Kenya? We are going there and we will start businesses there after the situation stabilises. I support the Motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Jesse Mburu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I represent Nginda ward. I stand to support the Motion and also congratulate the Mover but with reservations. Mr. Speaker, what is happening is shameful, it is something that can be prevented and as we talk about our security agencies, what has broken down is the flow of information.

This information will not come, it will not come anytime so long as we have got people who are calling themselves Islam fighting this region. Remember Hon. Speaker, they have sworn that they are going to rule Africa, this is part of that plan. You never get any information from the Somali people, you will never get information because these people who commit these crimes do not just walk from the air and commit the crimes, they live among their brethren. They live in those houses but the security officers will not get information.

So, it is the high time that someone suggests in the Assembly that a law be enacted so that anybody who is caught harbouring the terrorists should be dealt with or should be counted as part of the people who are abetting crime.

Mr. Speaker, I said that it is with reservations that I am going to support the Motion because I heard the Mover talk about our buses lying out there. We are going to be in double jeopardy if we think of, let's say, the Governor or this Assembly passing that our buses leave this place to go to Mandera and fetch our people from there.

This is a matter that should be left to the security forces to do because they have been flown home. But if we do that, remember that even those roads are not safe. We are also going to put those drivers and the escort in jeopardy. Mr. Speaker sir, I want to support this Motion and say that the part that has broken down is the source of information that is supposed to be coming from the people who know operations of the terrorists and those who are committing those crimes. I stand to support the Motion with reservations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Danson Mburu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker sir. I am the Member for Makuyu. I also stand to support the Motion and say that we should not think that we are very far from what has happened in Mandera. It can happen in our area, like it has happened in Chaka in Nyeri, where people are crying and they are very worried because their sons have been killed there.

Remember Mr. Speaker we have Garissa road which passes through Thika, Mwingi up to those areas, we have Kenol road which passes through Thika, Meru to Isiolo and the people who live there are Boranas and Somalis, therefore you do not know what will happen when the buses and vehicles are passing through that road.

We have heard that grenades have been found in Eastleigh and definitely they must have passed through those areas and ended up in Eastleigh where they have caused serious damage to the people and property. We in Murang'a, should know that what have happened can happen to us, Makuyu in particular, there are so many Boranas and Somalis in Makuyu who have rented one shop in a building and live there. They are many there, they get visitors, new faces now and then, we do not know where they come from, and you do not know what they talk about.

At a place called Gakungu we have shanties where Borana sit up to midnight, I pass through that route, I see them and I do not really know what they discuss, this can be

dangerous and that is why Mr. Speaker I am saying that when we are talking about security we should talk about it and deliberate on the steps that we are going to take.

In Mandera, about ten days ago, 28 people were killed, the Vice president announced later that all the terrorists about 100 were killed in their hideouts, so many people doubt this. Now we have The Army which can move with speed and get these people where they are. If they were really 100, 100men is a huge figure which cannot hide anywhere. Because the Army has helicopters, they have all the instruments needed to counter this people.

Mr. Speaker I think it is the high time the government gave it a thought because it appears like the police and the GSU have been unable to deal with them. Why doesn't the government now let the Army to go to the border and decisively deal with this people until this menace comes to the end. I support

Hon. James Kagoni: I stand to support this motion and thank the mover for giving us a forum to discuss this issue. I am sad when I see the bodies of the young men who have been shot and attacked by terrorists, I am sad when I see many young people who had travelled thousands of kilometers in search of livelihoods so that they can be able to support their families.

Mr. Speaker, I am sad when I see families in Nyeri mourning their young men who had gone out to go and look for money to support their own families. When the features were running in our television last night, it was sad, you could feel the sorrow in the hearts of the young women who were wives to these men.

Mr. Speaker in moments like this, I saw something that was posted by Her Excellency the prime minister of Australia Julia.... she came out very bold, we might not be able to borrow everything from her but we should be inspired by her and makes such statements. She said that all Muslims who were not comfortable in operating in Australia the way they want to just leave them.

It has been stated severally that grenades and other items have been found in mosques, we need to be bold enough and say that there is some collaboration in this.

Not that we have Muslims or Islam as a religion but we have some elements that are destroying this religion in a big way. We need to state matters as they were stated yesterday by Julia and say we cannot just look when people are just dying and we are the leaders in this country. We need to do something. many of us who can do something, I am happy that even the President went out of his way to get someone from the Cord fraternity who he thinks can be able to man our security to do so Mr. Speaker.

I am also feeling that we should recommend the Hon. Member for Nginda to also be co-opted in the security system of this country, we tap his experience because he speaking of communication breakdown, if there is something we can be able to tap from him.

(Applause)

We would not mind a by-election in Nginda if he can be able to assist us to bring our young men from Mandera and make that place a bit calm and settled; the scenario of what happened yesterday in Koromei is something that needs to be condemned.

It is only nine days ago that we had a scenario in Arabia, we also need to recommend to our Governor, I saw some people who are there, I know some people who were civil servants in Murang'a who work in Mandera. One of our assistant clerks has a brother in Mandera and I wonder how they are operating, I know the mother is sad, she does not know what can happen, when you try to reach such a person and you are unable, you cannot be able to live in such an environment Mr. Speaker.

Therefore, I would recommend, as part of the prayer that the mover have made, If our Governor can partner with the Kenya Defense Forces then they offer one of the planes, or even the Red cross, we go and evacuate young people stranded there and not sure whether they will reach, whether the buses they will board will be safe up to Nairobi. It would be better that way. I am sure the county cannot lack a few coins to cater for that.

Mr. Speaker, I always find, anytime there is a terror attack, the government in Western countries make missions and send planes to evacuate their people from these countries. They even send alerts to their people. These are the same things we should be doing, because our people matter a lot. We cannot be making legislations for our young people who are being killed elsewhere in other countries.

I join the mover to request our governor that we partner with Amref, Redcross or another, we evacuate the young people who are there, we bring them here for some time until that place is calm then we can send them back to go work where they were working in the past.

There are churches that are there and still offering shelter to the young people who are there. As part of the prayers that the mover have made, I would also request that we partner with the churches there we assist them so that they can act as refugee camps to shelter our young people who are there for the time being as we wait for calmness. I support this motion which is dear to me bearing in mind it involves young people. Thank you

Hon. Cecilia Gitu: It is a sad time for Kenya, we are in a catch 22 situation, do we surrender our sovereignty and withdraw our people, and this is the question? I will agree with Hon. JK that if we support the motion this will only be a stop gap measure while something is being done about it, the minute we withdraw our people from Mandera and you know it have been a problem since time immemorial, Somali has always wanted to take a part of Kenya. We won that fight because we stuck and the late President Kenyatta stood to his guts that that were part of Kenya and nobody would annex it.

Members, you can see we are at a corner. But when it concerns the life of our young people, we would rather withdraw them temporarily hoping that the new system that have been set by our President is going to work and those who have been given the responsibilities to restore law and order in North Eastern and elsewhere will work seriously. This is a difficult time for our country, we are a sovereign country, unless we

fight for every inch of our land and stick to our guns, we are going to lose because the agenda is deeper than meets the eye.

I have lived in Mandera in the early 90s when my husband was a manager in one of the banks, and the situation there is porous and you will not know those who are from Kenya and those who are from Somalia, they are the same, they speak the same language they have brothers and cousins across Kenya it is such a fluid situation which becomes a big challenge for any administrator.

Removing our people from Mandera will only be temporary, that far, I can say yes, but it being a permanent solution I say no. Like Deborah in the Bible, I will stop being a coward. Kenyans stop being cowards, we do not want to surrender but because lives are being lost, as the situation gets under control we can withdraw them temporarily and tell our Kenyans that Mandera is Kenya, Coast is Kenya and let them return to their work when the situation is settled. This is my take. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Rebecca Mwicigi: I support the motion, I am imagining what pain the parents of these people and the relatives are feeling and having sleepless nights because they do not know the fate of their relatives.

I would think that if this motion is passed this afternoon it should go to the Governor's desk before the close of day so that he can take action along with the national government and find out how we can bring our people home. Mr. Speaker, one of the Hon. Members raised a question on how the information reaches the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces who is the President.

The bureaucracies in our Constitution are that the director of intelligence gives the Inspector General information which the Inspector General takes to the President at his own time. Mr. Speaker I am happy of the action taken yesterday, and I am sure we will see some improvements.

Mr. Speaker, when President Kenyatta was alive, the security was directly under him, the intelligence used to be in his house at 6 a.m. to report on what was happening in the country. Our national government should go back to the house, change this Constitution so that the president gets direct information from the director of intelligence now that he has a very able intelligence officer.

We also need to ask ourselves what is happening because the forces seem demoralized, we need to know what is happening, we urge the President, it is not a command, but we request, as parents, as relatives of the most hit people, that we should send a battalion there like his father did. Let them not kill innocent people but they should guard our borders because these people seem to come from Somalia and fighting innocent Christians.

Mr. Speaker, the people in North Eastern were killing themselves according to clans, now they have gone beyond each other, now they are going to religion and if we start the religious fights I do not think there can be peace in this country.

I would urge the people in authority, life is sacred and everyone in authority has a right to live, action should be taken, people brought home and when the situation normalizes then they can return or they employ the people who can talk their language,

whether Christian or Muslim because I know they will find brotherhood in them. I support this motion and say that Action should be taken today. Thank you.

Hon. Charles Kirigwi: Thank you Mr. Speaker, today let me be on record, in this House having been the first one to oppose this motion of repatriating our people from a war-torn county to Murang'a. Not very far from today we had Westgate where terrorist killed 78 people, did we as an Assembly consider it wise to repatriate our people from Nairobi because the terrorists hit Westgate?

There are international travel advisories and we know the harm it has done to us as a country. You hear an embassy advising their citizens not to travel to a country called Kenya because of ABCD. As a Kenyan, how do you feel when the people tell others not to visit you because of insecurity? We lose economically. How will the people of Mandera feel, if this motion sees the light of day, that an Assembly in Murang'a, people representatives have recalled their people from the war torn county?

The other day, it was not only non-Muslims who were killed, as this Assembly makes it's resolutions that the Governor of that county missed death by a whisker, his entourage was almost bombed where will he ran to? He will still be in that county. If we pass his motion today, we may jeopardize the efforts being done by the national government, by President Uhuru Kenyatta and his deputy, of restoring peace there because we will have succumbed to Al Shabaab. They will see as if they have won a fight. But we are all candidates of death even where we are an aeroplane can come from the skies and crumble here.

We should die standing rather than succumbing to this fear, The image of this country internationally is at stake, if foreign media hear that we as Kenyans , we are withdrawing our people from war torn region rather than standing together, this is a negative image.

Members, I urge you to exercise caution as you resolute. I have maximum respect for my neighbor member of Mugoiri, I will seek the member to withdraw. We do not have a very big number of Murang'a people in Mandera, we cannot go and engage the army and tell them that these are the good people of Murang'a, can you take them home. The army has a responsibility of protecting this country called Kenya, not a specific population from a certain region. I think the spirit of the motion is good but I urge members to be caution that we may not jeopardize what the national government is doing.

Matters security are sensitive and whatever you do here, and if you go to the media, Alshabaab will just start tweeting them like they have won. Personally, I will say, let us die standing, nobody is immortal, even Kirigwi and you will never die for more than three minutes, an ordinary human being dies for three minutes. Thank you Mr. Speaker, I oppose.

Hon. Samuel Wandia: Mr. Speaker, I send my condolences to the families that lost their relatives in that tragedy. Mr. Speaker, this is an issue with the national government. Mr. Speaker, if all the people decide to remove their people from Mandera it means the national government has failed. Mr. Speaker, I would urge our government to move with speed and take part of Somalia. Let the international community decline, but we must stand our ground and follow them, if they are in Somalia, we move to Somalia.

Mr. Speaker, I remember one day, terrorists from Congo came and killed some people in Kivu, and the Rwandan government followed those people right to the heart of Congo. The army remained there in Congo and the International community started crying that the Rwandan government had invaded Congo. We have a similar case in Kenya, it is the high time we support our national government in whatever it is doing. We people in Murang'a, if all the counties start removing people from Mandera, that means we have no national government.

Mr. Speaker, before we pass the resolution, we must know that we are part of the national government so is the county government. Mr. Speaker, The only thing we can do is giving moral support to the national government. If it says it has no resources, we can equally surrender half of our salaries to go save our people in Mandera, I would say, let the government move it's army to Mandera, let it be a military province until peace prevails. There is no way out, let the government make it a military region until peace prevails, and if need be we can go defend our country even at this age we are in. Thank you.

Hon. John Njoroge: Mr. Speaker, I support the motion. The mover has said it clearly that there are people who are calling for help. These people should be helped. However, this does not mean that we should evacuate all the people from Murang'a County who are in Mandera, because you will agree with me that in Murang'a we have strained economic activity.

The reason we have to go for those who are crying for help is because we need to protect our people and every government, must protect its people. Mr. Speaker, we need to stress the gospel to our people, when you go out to hunt, because of the strains we have in Murang'a and the environment, we are taking care of you and we will then motivate them to go there because they know they will be protected.

Mr. Speaker, I do not support the blanket going there for the people, but for those who are calling the Hon. Member and they are crying, let us go for them and apparently we are going to know where they are but as the Hon Member as said, it would be difficult to go separate the people from Murang'a and send buses as we jeopardize the drivers and APs security. I support, if we have people who are calling for help, let us go for them.

Hon. Mary Waithira: Mr. Speaker sir I rise to oppose the motion, since as the County Assembly of Murang'a we may be seen to have no mercy for people who live in Mandera and people who call Mandera County their County. We are leaders irrespective of being elected by the people of Murang'a we are also there to mind the humanity in whatever are they are in and the moment we are seeing as if we only care for the people from Murang'a it is the moment we will be seen as jeopardizing the efforts by the national government.

The national government represents us all and we should not be seen as representing the Murang'a people only. Let us tell the national government to move with speed and if at all we doubt their capacity we are supposed to rise and tell them to get to our neighbouring countries, East Africa or outside East Africa and may be enhance their capacity so that the humans in Mandera County may be assisted.

When we talk of help we are supposed to say if at all Murang'a County has the capacity maybe we can support Red Cross to go and assist people there, but when we say we only want to help the residents who originate from Murang'a, who is not feeling the heat?

People from Mandera County do not have anywhere to run to yet they are feeling the heat and what we are supposed to do is work in unity and support what is being done by the national government.

But if we are seen to just call only our people how will it be taken? Are we not part of the national government? Are those in Mandera County not our people? Mandera County is Kenya equally as Murang'a County.

Let us not be seen to cry for our people only but let us be seen to cry for all the humans in Mandera County and if it is an issue of sending County vehicles does it mean that we doubt the capacity of national government to airlift our people and may be taken to wherever they want to go.

We know the national government have crafts as well as army crafts to airlift the people but they do not want to do this and show the Mandera people that they are there to secure them and all of them irrespective of their county of origins.

What if they come and then tomorrow the Mandera County says since you left us when we were in problem once the calm returns we do not want people from other counties but the people from Mandera since they are the one who stood with the county in time of turmoil.

The motion is good and I know the hon. member is really feeling for his people and I know there are other people that belong to the wards that we come from, it is only that they have not called but I am saying let us also mind people who call Mandera their County.

But if at all the motion goes through, it will put our Governor in a fix as he will ask himself how he will appear as a Governor calling for his people from Murang'a County and seen by national government as if I am not supporting for restoration of security for benefit of all people.

Let us not only look for our people but for the welfare of all the people who belong there not unless we say we get them and they will never go back there. The County Assembly of Mandera will not be wrong to say we will only have....

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Bernard Kariuki): Order! Hon. Mary. The Speaker allowed this under standing order number 34 and the same standing order 34 (4) says a member may only speak for five minutes and the Speaker has heard that you are passionate for this motion and you have spoken for seven minutes so this is an opportunity for another member. Hon. Member for Ithiru

Hon. Mary Waithira: Thank you Speaker, I obey.

Hon. Joseph Kimani: Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me a word to say something on this motion and Mr. Speaker I strongly oppose the motion taking into consideration

that in 2002 we had a lot of problems and right now is when we are urging people to unite.

And as far as we see we do not know what is happening in Mandera as they are looking for the people who do not speak the same language so to that point I oppose the motion since we are only one and Kenya is one.

The second point is that the national government is taking all the precautions to see that peace is restored in Mandera and by passing a motion to say that Murang'a County gets its people is as if we are jeopardizing the efforts of His Excellency the President and his Deputy.

I would ask honourably if there is any need the people of Hon. member for Mugoiri will need from him we can assist him to help those people but passing a motion here it will mean that Murang'a people are tribal and they do not care for the welfare of the other people. Thank you very much Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Peter Kihungi: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir I will first of all console the families I know they are suffering and I know there is fears.

I wish to oppose the motion but this is not to mean we cannot assist the people who are there but out of contributions from the hon. members when they look at the situation they also see that it can create a picture that even the jubilee people have given up and they are calling their people from Mandera.

I think it is not good and if taken by media it can paint us negatively and we will be condemned by other jubilee members.

I think we can find another way of assisting those people but not a motion from this House to withdraw Murang'a people from Mandera. Thank you Mr. Speaker sir.

Hon. Kago Njoroge: I wish to thank the members who have supported and those who have given their views.

(Hon. Anderson Muchemi rose on a point of order)

Hon. Anderson Muchemi: Mr. Speaker looking at the House it is time for the mover to respond yet we do not have quorum.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Bernard Kariuki): I would request the clerk to establish if there is quorum.

(Clerk established there was no quorum)

Honourable members it is true there is no quorum and I request that the bell be rung for five minutes to attain quorum.

(Quorum bell was rung)

(Members walked in)

(Quorum attained)

Hon. Kago Njoroge: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir, I had started by thanking those who supported the motion and those who have given their views because I do not say that they have opposed but they have given their views.

In old days the culture never allowed one to see the nakedness of his parents so if they happen to see the nakedness of their mother they used to hide their face with their hands pretending that they have not seen anything so that they cannot be cursed.

Mr. Speaker my fellow members fear to be known by the country that they really fear for their people. I want to thank Her Majesty the Queen of Australia who said if the Muslims are not ready to work with what the government is saying they should quit.

We are not saying, I remember the Deputy President lamenting and saying if they knew they could have evacuated the people from those quarries as early as when the alarm was raised. He said that they were informed to evacuate those people because they were next to Somalia border to take them to Mandera town where they could get security from County Commissioner's office.

After the death of 28 people who were killed in a bus you remember the western counties catering for the burial expenses, I would hate a scenario where by our Governor Mr. Mwangi wa Iria would announce that he will cater for the burial expenses of those people from Mugoiri who are calling for help while at Mandera.

I thank Hon. Kirigwi because I understand his son is in standard five so he has not moved from his home to Mandera. If his son was there Mr. Speaker sir I know he could be feeling what I am feeling.

(Hon. Charles Kirigwi rose on a point of order)

Hon. Charles Kirigwi: Mr. Speaker sir I need your guidance, is it in order for the hon. member to personalize his motion in this Assembly? Because as far as I am concerned I have two wives and my eldest son is in university, the other one is in form four and the other wife I do not know which form.

(Laughter)

Hon. Kago Njoroge: Mr. Speaker I wish to withdraw my statement but even he does not know the second wife's child whether is in standard four of standard five so Mr. Speaker I withdraw the statement but it is good to understand that even he does not understand his family.

Mr. Speaker let us go to Westgate, we could not say that we remove people from the surrounding areas because they never asked to be removed. After what happened, and it is good to protect me from Hon. Wa Dishon who is talking of the common sense whereas while talking he never uses microphone.

We also need to remind this House that there was somebody from Kigumo who had a hotel which was written hotel "Gwa Chege" and when the people died there most members went to Hon. Caroline's place to give their condolences.

That is why I am asking is it the work of politicians to console the people once they lose their loved ones whereas we have a way of removing our people there and securing them for the time being.

I am not ready to withdraw the way I was requested by Hon. members. We are talking of international travels and the people are saying they do not want to go to Mombasa because they are going to be killed.

Let us not run away from the reality, it is in this Assembly when we said some of the committees go to Mombasa they refused because of their safety. If we said that why are not saying Mr. Speaker that our...

(Hon. Joseph Kimani rose on a point of order))

Hon. Joseph Kimani: Thank you Mr. Speaker, is it in order for the hon. member to talk of the security 100% while it is not a devolved function? The security totally lies with national government although we have part of it to play and I think what we are talking about is national issue.

Hon. Kago Njoroge: Thank you Mr. Speaker but if you may allow me. These are some of the words that were said by the hon. members when they were contributing and I am just responding to what they said as per your request.

I am here standing saying that we need to give and I am not using the word evacuate because you cannot evacuate somebody from his own country, we are saying we rescue them from there for the time being.

I strongly feel that we are supposed to help those people to come home and at least enjoy the holidays and not to have deaths in Mugoiri.

It will be very shameful to those hon. members who have opposed this motion if they can have at least two there and then we hear them telling us to accompany them to go and console those who will have lost their people at Mandera.

And if it can happen though I wish it does not happen and I attend those burials I will carry a copy of my motion and say these are the hon. members who said we should not help people to come out of Mandera.

Politics is a matter of interest and if you have no interests of your people then you are not supposed to be a politician. My interest as a politician is to assist my people.

I wish to thank the members and I know they are going to support this motion, I am requesting for transport and security for those people. Whichever means is going to be used but I know the people from Mugoiri who are suffering to be brought back.

I thank Hon. Jesse who was once a security officer has even supported the motion. His reservations were only if it is forever and since it is not forever he can support.

I was in Sudan once and I ran away for my security. We went to Kenya Embassy and who was there told us to call home so that we can ask for assistance. I called Hon. Kembi Gitura who was by then my Member of Parliament and he was able to rescue those who were there from Kiharu.

I call members to support it because it is a good motion and Hon. Speaker for members like Hon. Wandia should always be respectful to a person who is moving a substantive motion which is helpful to the people of his ward instead of just murmuring, Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Bernard Kariuki): Hon. Members I have really acquainted myself with standing order number 34 and any member may at any time rise at his or her place and seek to move a motion for adjournment of Assembly for discussing a matter of urgent county importance.

And the motion before the Assembly is for the purposes of the members to discuss and debate urgency of security of citizens in Murang'a County. This motion is usually given without notice and therefore making a resolution out of it is an uphill task.

And therefore it is my opinion that the motion that hon. Kago has moved is binding and it is the opinion of the Speaker that this matter should have been a general matter that the Assembly should discuss and debate without definite resolution.

Standing order 34 is only meant that the members will only discuss and debate for the record. Just like the National Assembly recently debated the same issue and therefore it is my view that if we put the question we are going to bind somebody to do something whereas standing order is very clear that it is for the members to debate and discuss for the records of this house.

Therefore, as the Speaker using standing order number one that matter rest at that. *(Applause)* so that members are properly guided, thank you. Next order

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Members the House is adjourned until tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. thank you.

House rose at 4:08 p.m.