

**SABA SABA @30 – LIMURU IV:
PEOPLES’ POPULAR INITIATIVE CONVENTION**

Date: **7.7.2020**

Venue: **Jumuia Conference and Country Home, Limuru.**

Activation Concept Note

Theme: *Tekeleza Katiba, Boresha Maisha*

1.0 Background

When leaders of movements across the country met in Limuru on 7/7/2019, under the theme “2022: Make or break” it was noted that electoral justice would be an instrument to break the long fall of the country into the realm of a failed state. Leaders resolved to champion the implementation of the constitution, delegitimize the handshake between the former political foes (Raila Odinga and Uhuru Muigai) and to start convenings at all levels to ensure that we nurture an alternative leadership cadre in the country. It was also resolved that we identify a national champion to lead the takeover of our government from the current leadership.

One year later, the situation in Kenya is worse than it was then – owing in part to the fact that Covid-19 has impacted negatively on the economy. The collapse of the institutions of governance such as Parliament and the continued attacks on the Judiciary has left citizens exposed to the excesses of statecraft. Indeed, the executive has subverted the constitution – there is an escalation of illegal edicts from the president, public debt, extra judicial killings, unemployment and destruction of livelihoods.

Kenya is in dire want of leadership. The political elite are busy talking to each other and we may end up with another scheme to defraud Kenyans of their vote come 2022. The hustler/dynasty narrative has ebbed with Uhuru moving in to silence erstwhile members of the ruling party. Although this may be a game, the coming to power of William Ruto or Raila Odinga is a continuation of the oligarchic leadership that we have suffered as a country. Now more than ever, the development of an alternative voice, a transformational axis of political leadership is critical.

On the 10th birthday of the Constitution, the handshake gave birth to the Building Bridges Initiative (BBI) – a fraudulent collection of views from Kenyans and whose report purports to introduce a referendum to ostensibly amend the constitution. This is escapist of the leadership because the constitution has not been implemented. We should take cognizance of the fact that historically, the amendment of the constitution has been used

to entrench dictatorship and despondency by the leadership. Any move towards this needs to be resisted vigorously.

2.0 Context

There is an escalation of political activity in the country as 2022 nears. Owners of political parties have been busy extracting allegiance from their members – especially the elected and nominated. Other parties are locked in protracted power wrangles that seem to be stage-managed by the deep state. The probable outcome of these machinations will be visionless coalitions for political expediency.

Covid – 19 has created an environment that favours a non-responsive government. Restriction of movement, curfew, minimal operations in institutions of access to justice and rampant unemployment has created a suddenly weak and preoccupied citizenry unable to hold the government to account. As a result, the police have had a field day harassing citizens and perpetrating extra judicial executions and thus perpetuating the criminal enterprise of the state.

The voices of the civil society and those of other actors curating people movements around either grievances, historical injustices or advocacy for specific issues need to be brought together to articulate the vision of a new Kenya and to work towards realizing it.

3.0 Goal

To create a solid citizens' base for defense of the constitution and takeover of political leadership in the country.

4.0 Objectives

1. To take stock of the struggle – constitutional reform, political mobilisation and citizen activism;
2. To amplify strategies for mobilizing citizen action towards the capture of political leadership;
3. To bolster people's energy in reclaiming their power, voice and agency.

5.0 The Convenings

The impact of Covid-19 makes it impractical for a large gathering of people in the venue. As such, the convening will take the following form:

a) Commemoration/Build up to the day

There exists a dearth of knowledge on the commemoration of this day with a majority of the young population unaware and unengaged on it. On the days preceding 7/7, there will be civic and political education sessions on the historical significance of Saba Saba and its relevance today. Tweet chats and media appearances will be organized with moderators and guest speakers (respectively) exploring the topic and fielding questions. The topics to rally around include, but are not limited to: the constitutional implementation

imperatives: intergenerational equity, protecting and fostering devolution and Service provision, livelihoods, economic freedom and equity and justice and equality in Kenya today.

Five (5) online Thematic Convenings¹ will be held as build up activities to mobilise ideas and support for the day.

Group	Proposed Topic
Thematic Group 1:	<i>Covid-19 and the Recentralisation of Statecraft</i>
Thematic Group 2:	<i>Citizen Advocacy Platforms</i>
Thematic Group 3:	<i>Developing a Political Engagement Strategy</i>
Thematic Group 4:	<i>Defending the Constitution -</i>
Thematic Group 5:	<i>Youth in Action: Citizen advocacy platforms in the digital age</i>
Thematic Group 6	<i>Art in People's Popular Struggles</i>

For each, an advert with proposed day/time will be put out for people to register and participate in a discussion on the topic. Up to 100 people will be allowed into the room.

b) Saba Saba Day Activation

Saba Saba activities shall be held by diverse actors across the country all taking the character of public political events and amplified through social and mainstream media. In Limuru, there shall be a convening at the historic venue. Although the number of attendees is limited to 15, they will be speakers and discussants whose presentations will be livestreamed (on the channels <https://www.youtube.com/nisisikenya> and <https://www.facebook.com/Maskani254> as from 8.30am to 4.00pm) so that people across the country and the world can participate. The commemoration will be popularized beforehand so that participating groups, organisations and people can be primed to participate in the chat and to pose questions and make contributions online.

c) Post Convening Activities

The momentum for political and social mobilisation will be carried forward through convenings and pro-reform activations on 8/8/2020, 9/9/2020, 10/10/2020, 11/11/2020 and 12/12/2020. The nature and form of activation will be discussed going forward. In the spirit of Saba Saba, the year 2021 will mark a watershed of community mobilisation, political action and sustained movement building to protect the constitution and germinate alternative value-based leadership in Kenya.

¹ The thematic group meetings are happening on Monday 6th 2020. Register here ⇒ <https://forms.gle/BTN3eM2RS2ppgq5f9>

6.0 Programme for Saba Saba Day 2020

Rallying call: Kutekeleza Katiba ni Kuboresha Maisha

Time	Activity	Responsible	Session Chair
0830hrs - 0900hrs	Arrival and Registration	All	
0900hrs - 0920hrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prayers • National Anthem • Introductions • Opening Remarks • Entertainment: Liberation Songs 	Ndungu Githuku	Moderator.
0920hrs-1000hrs	<p>Key Note Address:</p> <p>Constitutional Implementation and the Alternative Leadership Project in Kenya</p>	Dr. Willy Mutunga – Former Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court	John Githongo
	<p>Responses to Key Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Wandia Njoya – <i>The Role and Performance of the Academia in Curating Alternative Leadership in Kenya</i> • Arch Martin Kivuva, Chair, Dialogue Reference Group: <i>The Role and Performance of the Religious Sector in Curating Alternative Leadership in Kenya</i> 		
1000hrs – 1045hrs	<p>Presentation:</p> <p>The Constitutional Implementation Imperatives: Justice and Equality in Kenya today.</p>	Hon Martha Karua - Party Leader - NARC -Kenya	TBC
	<p>Responses to the presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ikal Angelei, ED Friends of Lake Turkana – <i>Marginalised Communities and the Question of Justice and Equality</i> • David Ochieng, MP Ugenya – <i>Parliament in Kenya Today and the Justice and Equality Question</i> 		
1045hrs – 1130hrs	<p>Presentation:</p> <p>The Constitutional Implementation Imperatives: Livelihoods, Economic Freedom and Equity</p>	David Ndi - Economist	Zipporah (CRECO)
	<p>Responses to the Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canon Omondi - ACK Cleric – <i>The Impact of Neo-Liberalisation on Livelihoods in Kenya</i> • Jerotich Seii – Activist – <i>The Corporate World and the Questions of Equity in Kenya</i> 		
1130hrs – 1215hrs	<p>Presentation:</p> <p>The Constitutional Implementation Imperatives: Intergenerational Equity</p>	Darius Okolla – Youth Leader	Salome Nduta (NCHRD)
	<p>Responses to the Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nerima Wako, Siasa Place ED – <i>Talking Revolution: The Youth Bulge and Responsiveness of the State in Kenya</i> 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rev Evans Omollo, Deputy Provost ASC – <i>Youth, Leadership and Politics in Kenya</i> 		
1215hrs - 1300hrs	Presentation: <i>The Constitutional Implementation Imperatives: Protecting Devolution and Fostering Service Provision</i>	Hon Kivutha Kibwana – Governor Makueni County	TBC
	Responses to the Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorcas Gibran, Chair, Sauti ya Wanawake – <i>Devolution and the Empowerment of Women in Rural Areas</i> • Zein Abubakar, Governance Expert – <i>Service Delivery and the Dynamics of Statecraft</i> 		
1300hrs-1310hrs	Entertainment	Lydia Dola	
1310hrs – 1340hrs	Plenary: Question and Answer		Moderator
1340hrs to 1430 hrs	Health Break Liberation Music	All	All Richard Mwendwa
1430hrs – 1500hrs	Thematic Working Presentations		Anthony Mboyo
	Thematic Group 1: Covid -19 and the Recentralisation of Statecraft	Ndung'u Wainaina	
	Thematic Group 2: Citizen Advocacy Platforms	Regina Opondo	
	Thematic Group 3: Developing a Political Engagement Strategy	Nduko O'Matigere	
	Thematic Group 4: Defending the Constitution	Daisy Amdany	
	Thematic Group 5: Youth in Action: Citizen advocacy platforms in the digital age	Purity Jebor	
	Thematic group 6: The Role of Artists in the Struggle	Ndungu Githuku	
1500hrs - 1515hrs	Entertainment	Dorphan & Javan The Poet	Moderator
1515hrs - 1545hrs	Statement of Resolutions and Way Forward	Press Conference	
1545hrs	Closing Remarks/Closure		

In charge of Programme/Moderator: Anthony Mboyo