



**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR  
PATRICK OLE NTUTU DURING THE 60<sup>TH</sup>  
MASHUJAA DAY CELEBRATIONS HELD AT  
EMURUA DIKIRR CONSTITUENCY**

**20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023**

- **My Deputy Hon. Tamalinye Koech,**
- **Area Member of Parliament, Hon. Johana Ngeno,**
- **Other members of Parliament Present**
- **Narok County Assembly Speaker Hon. Davis Dikirr,**
- **County Commissioner and the Security Team,**
- **Amref Health Africa & other development partners,**
- **Distinguished Guests,**
- **Watu wa Emurua Dikirr,**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen, HABARI YENU!**

Today, as we gather to celebrate Mashujaa Day, we come together to honor the remarkable heroes and heroines of our beloved nation. As you are all aware Mashujaa Day is a time to reflect on our rich history, recognize those who paid the price for our freedom and hail the men and women of today that have lifted the Kenyan flag higher and higher.

Our freedom fighters faced adversity, hardship, and even death, yet their unwavering determination led us to the dawn of a new era.

Our contemporary heroes in every corner of Kenya, are tirelessly working to make our nation better. They are the teachers who nurture young minds, the doctors who heal the sick, the farmers who feed our nation, the innovators who push the boundaries of possibility, and the activists who advocate for justice.

This day is also a reminder that each of us has the potential to be a shujaa in our own way. Ushujaa is not limited to the grand and extraordinary. It can be as simple as extending a helping hand to a neighbor in need, standing up for what is right, or working diligently to provide for our families.

In my first address on Mashujaa Day last year, which took place two months after I assumed office, I made a series of promises to the people of Emurua Dikirr and indeed the entire Narok County. Some of these promises included working closely with all leaders, fostering peace and harmony within our communities, and promoting public participation.

Today, one year later, I'm delighted to report that the promises were kept. I embarked on a series of public participation forums at the grassroots level, led by our

MCA's and Committees that were set up by the people. These forums enabled us to gather views on which projects were of critical priority that were to be funded from the Ksh 100 million that my government had allocated to every ward in our development budget.

This included bursaries, which went up to Ksh 400 million and the largest ever allocated by any County in Kenya with over 40,000 students from both Secondary and Tertiary Institutions benefitting.

As a consequence of these initiatives taken by my government in the financial year 2022/2023, two days ago, we held our inaugural Governor's Accountability Forum in Narok Town. During the event, we gathered both the Executive and the County Assembly to track the promises we made to you and determine our current status. This forum served as a testament to my government's determination to once again deliver on our promises of accountability, transparency, and zero tolerance for corruption.



## **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The national Government in collaboration with County Governments, is committed to realizing the Presidential Manifesto of the Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) with the goal of ensuring inclusivity for all. It is with this regard that Universal Health Coverage (UHC) forms this year's Mahujaa Day theme and the President, His Excellency William Ruto is leading these efforts today from Kericho County.

UHC aims to provide all Kenyans with unfettered access to comprehensive high-quality healthcare services, tailored to their needs and delivered without imposing financial burdens.

Achieving UHC is among others contingent upon the establishment of Primary Care Networks (PCNs) that pivot towards the community and households, placing a strong emphasis on preventive and promotive health services.

At the moment, Narok County Government has forged a strategic partnership with Amrref Health Africa to pioneer the inaugural Primary Care Network (PCN) in Narok East Sub County. And indeed, as a government, we deeply appreciate the unwavering support and cooperation of our development partners.

Furthermore, my Government has meticulously charted out the roadmap for extending PCNs into the remaining seven (7) Sub-Counties.

As we speak, Narok County has a total of 1,638 Community Health Promoters (CHPs), who have been selflessly volunteering their services at the community level. Today, they will be equipped with 1,638 corresponding kits donated by the National Ministry of Health. I am as well glad to announce that for the very first time in Narok County, these dedicated CHPs will be entitled to a monthly stipend of Ksh5,000 each as a motivational gesture for their invaluable contributions to the community.

Additionally, the County is poised to recruit and train an additional 1,136 Community Health Promoters to augment the coverage of community health services throughout the entire county.

A legal framework that will address matters of child healthcare, immunization, reproductive health, maternal care, ante-natal care, delivery services, post – natal care and community health services in general will be achieved through the enactment of the Narok County Maternal and Child Health Bill of 2023.

I urge the County Assembly to process the Bill within the shortest time possible to enable the people of Narok County benefit from the many good initiatives.

We are also going to fully implement the Narok County Health Services Improvement Fund Act to enable our health facilities across the county to achieve stability by efficiently utilizing the funds they collect at their respective facilities to meet urgent expenditures.

## **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Immediately following this address, I will be flagging off 1,638 CHPs kits and officially launching the Primary Care Network for Narok East. I would like to express my gratitude to the National Ministry of Health and Amref Health Africa for their invaluable partnership, which is bringing Narok County one step closer to addressing the healthcare challenges we face.

It is important to mention that my government is taking health matters extremely seriously and have set aside adequate funds in the budget in this financial year. In the shorten, I shall hold a health caucus to discuss strategies to spur the sector, address challenges, explore opportunities and partnerships.



However, I strongly urge our people to regularly attend checkups and screening especially in the wake of the monster called CANCER that has caused ravage in almost every homestead today. Cancer is manageable when detected early. My administration is going to provide screening services at our facilities closer to you. You will also receive information on prevention, treatment and management in those facilities.

As I end my remarks, allow me to reiterate that development is not a passive process; it demands our unwavering dedication and commitment. As we move forward on the path to progress, let us all stand resolute in our pursuit of a brighter future. Let our actions reflect our determination, our choices mirror our commitment, and our endeavors be a testament to our unwavering dedication to the betterment of our community and nation.

Together, we can achieve greatness, and with unity and steadfast purpose, we will build a future we can all be proud of.

Thank you. May God Bless this Great County of Narok.

**H.E. Hon. Patrick Keturat Ole Ntutu**

**Governor, Narok County**