

REMARKS BY H.E. GOVERNOR PATRICK KETURET OLE NTUTU DURING THE 62ND MADARAKA DAY CELEBRATIONS HELD AT MASAANTARE PRIMARY SCHOOL IN OLOLULUNG'A WARD, NAROK SOUTH SUB COUNTY

1ST JUNE, 2025

- Deputy Governor Hon. Tamalinye Koech,
- Members of Parliament Present,
- Narok County Assembly Speaker Hon. Davis Dikirr,
- Members of the County Assembly
- County Commissioner, Mr. Kipkech Lotiatia and the Security Team,
- Representatives from Parastatals and all Arms of Government,
- Ladies and Gentlemen

- 1. Every year, on the 1st of June, we gather as a nation to remember, with a lot of gratitude, the sacrifices made by our fellow Kenyans during the struggle for self-governance. On this day, 62 years ago, we took over the management of internal affairs of our country Kenya from the colonial masters. It is this day, in the history of the Kenyan struggle for internal self-rule, that marked an important step towards the full attainment of our independence as a sovereign state.
- 2. Article 8 of the 2010 constitution, recognizes Madaraka day as one of the national holidays. It provides us with an opportunity

to pause, reflect and appreciate the selfless acts of our freedom fighters as they fought relentlessly for the liberation that we enjoy today.

3. As we gather here today, we are deeply mindful of the sacrifices made by those within our own county who actively participated in the struggle for independence.

Among them was General Kurito Ole Kisio, whose commitment to the cause of liberation, alongside compatriots such as Ole Ngere and Ole Ngapiani, remains a testament to

their courage and patriotism. General Ole Kisio was tragically and brutally killed by the colonial forces, and to this day, his remains have not been returned to his family. To his loved ones, and to all who gave their lives in the fight for our nation's freedom, we extend our deepest gratitude and enduring respect. Asanteni.

4. Since attaining Madaraka in 1963, we have made remarkable strides in our journey of self-governance by establishing and strengthening systems that have enhanced service delivery

across all the sectors of economy and spurred economic growth within our borders.

5. The promulgation of the 2010 constitution, that put in place the 47 devolved systems of governance, is a perfect example of what happens when we commit to improving our self-

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governance by involving even the smallest units of our administration.

6. As we continue to define and enhance our own mechanisms of self-governance, the President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E. William Ruto, introduced thematic celebrations of national holidays as a way of redirecting our focus towards and calling for action on pertinent issues affecting our communities and the nation at large. For this 62nd celebration of Madaraka day,

we are highlighting the critical matter of *Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs*.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

7. In as much as Narok county does not have a marine resource, we are equally responsible for the survival of the existing marine resources like Lake Victoria. Our county is strategically located within the Mau complex, which is the source of River Mara that drains into Lake Victoria. This

therefore means that our activities upstream directly affects marine life, downstream.

8. Although the National Department of Mining lists Lake Magadi as a mining site for soda ash, the Kenya Fisheries Service, in their 2024 report, indicated that it is a lake with potential for utilization within the blue economy. Subsequently, the activities we undertake in the upstream regions of Suswa and Keekonyokie have a direct impact. As such, we are also partnering with stakeholders in our environmental conservation efforts within the Narok East area.

9. Here in Ololulunga Ward, my administration has implemented key development projects, across all sectors of the economy. It is here in Ololulung'a ward where we constructed and commissioned our model ECDE Center. We have also upgraded over 33 Kilometers of road through our robust county-wide Infrastructure Overhaul Program. Together with other development projects that we are continually implementing in this ward, as listed in our CIDP, we are steadily opening up Ololulung'a ward for enhanced trade and development.

10. In the spirit of bringing administrative services closer to mwananchi, I signed the Narok County Village Delineation Bill, 2024 into law on the 30th of April this year. This law establishes 202 Village Administrative Units which is an important step towards strengthening grassroot governance. Ololulung'a ward has received seven Village Units as a result of the enactment of this law.

11. My administration has also been working closely with the National government to ensure that we join efforts in devolving services further to the grassroots. During the recent two-day development tour of our county by President William Ruto, we launched and commissioned several projects across the county.

12. The laying of the foundation stone for the construction of the first ever Narok International Airport is a major milestone that will enhance the accessibility of Narok county and unlock new opportunities on matters international trade and tourism.

13. The construction of the Suswa and Ntulele ESP markets has been completed, and both facilities are currently ready for use. I hereby direct the Department of Trade, in coordination with relevant

stakeholders, to expedite the allocation of trading spaces to ensure that traders can commence their business operations in a conducive environment. These markets were recently commissioned by His Excellency President William Ruto. A similar market is ongoing here in Ololulung'a Ward, through the Economic Stimulus Program.

14. In the foregoing, as we celebrate this Madaraka Day, I am proud of the progress we've made across key sectors. Our roads are opening up new opportunities, healthcare access has

improved, and tourism continues to grow through conservation and investment. We've strengthened revenue collection to support development, and our education sector is equipping the learners (ECDE) and the youth with skills for the future. Together, we are building a stronger, more prosperous nation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

15. By Kenya attaining internal self-rule, we have been provided with an opportunity to strengthen governance and offer

exceptional and timely services to our people. Narok county government is continually doing her part in fulfilling this obligation for the wellbeing and prosperity of her citizens.

16. As we come to the close of our Madaraka Day celebrations, I take this moment to recognize an important milestone in our county's journey; the official recognition of Amalo as a new Subcounty. This marks a new chapter of development and

inclusion for our people, and we extend our heartfelt gratitude to His Excellency the President for this bold and visionary decision.

17. Today, as we gather here, our brothers and sisters in Amalo are proudly hosting their first ever national day celebrations at the Subcounty Headquarters in Sogoo. We celebrate with them in spirit and applaud their historic moment. May this new

beginning bring lasting growth, unity, and prosperity to the people of Amalo and to our beloved County.

Thank you, Happy Madaraka Day and May God Bless you all.

H.E. Hon. Patrick Keturet Ole Ntutu GOVERNOR, NAROK COUNTY