

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2022 COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SIAYA DEBATES

## REPUBLIC OF KENYA

### SIAYA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

#### THE HANSARD

#### Third County Assembly-First Session

**Tuesday 13th December, 2022**

The House met at the County Assembly Chamber at 2.30 p.m.

*[Temporary Speaker (Hon. Cynthia Akinyi) in the chair]*

#### PRAVERS

#### NOTICE OF MOTION

#### HONORING HEROES AND HEROINES

**Hon. Oinga:** Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I beg to give a Notice of the following Motion:

**Aware that** the Constitution of Kenya 2010, the County Government Act, National Honours Act of 2013, provide for the legal framework of identifying outstanding national, regional and international contributions of selected patriotic citizens for bequeathing with various awards and honors including but not limited to the naming of streets, roads and public spaces.

**Noting that** naming of roads, streets and public spaces is one of the ways through which we can honor our heroes in order to bestow honor, dignity and show our collective gratitude for their services and contributions to our County.

**Concerned that** the key roads within Siaya Town/County are currently unmarked thus presenting various directional related challenges for both locals and non-residents.

**Cognizant** of the fact that Siaya County boasts of being home of several deceased/living heroes and heroines who have made tremendous contributions to both the County and the Nation such as Jaramogi Oginga Odinga, Chief Odera Akango, Chief Amoth Kowira, Jakoyo Midiwo, Achieng Onoko, Musa Juma, James Orendo, Raila Odinga, Conjestina Achieng, Prof. Bethwel Ogot, Grace Ogot amongst others.

**Now therefore** this House resolves; that the County Government of Siaya immediately initiates the process of identifying and honoring various heroes and heroines within the County by naming

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major roads, streets, highways, public spaces and public buildings after their names as indication of the collective gratitude and appreciation for their unmatched contributions to the County.

## MOTION

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**Noting that** naming of roads, streets and public spaces is one of the ways through which we can honor our heroes in order to bestow honor, dignity and show our collective gratitude for their services and contributions to our County.

**Concerned that** the key roads within Siaya Town/County are currently unmarked thus presenting various directional related challenges for both locals and non-residents.

**Cognizant** of the fact that Siaya County boasts of being home of several deceased/living heroes and heroines who have made tremendous contributions to both the County and the Nation such as Jaramogi Oginga Odinga, Chief Odera Akango, Chief Amoth Kowira, Jakoyo Midiwo, Achieng Oneko, Musa Juma, James Orendo, Raila Odinga, who is also the father of devolution, Conjestina Achieng, who made Siaya proud in boxing, Prof. Bethwel Ogot, Grace Ogot amongst others.

It would be an honor to name our roads after these people so that we could have proper directional assistance.

**Now therefore** I request this House that it should indulge on this issue and approve this Motion so that we could have some order in Siaya. Name our major roads, streets, highways, public spaces and public buildings after their names as an indication of the collective gratitude and appreciation for their unmatched contributions to the County. Allow me to request Hon. Bernard Adala to second.

**Hon. Adala:** Thank you so much, Madam Temporary Speaker. I rise to support the Motion. For the sake of naming our roads, it is also a way in which History is sent to generations as we go by. A time will come that Historians will have so many things to write and the future of our nation/County Siaya.

I believe that when some of these roads are done in their honor, it will help us to fast track History lanes in a way that all of us are able to know. I beg to support.

### *Question proposed*

**Hon. Arika:** Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I object the Motion because if I look around Siaya County, most of the roads we have are feeder roads apart from the roads that belong to National Government. I do not see any road here that can be named after Raila Odinga. I also heard

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my colleague talk about the late Chief Amoth, I believe we have so many chiefs, like the late Chief Elijah Bonyo, so if we were to name our roads after the following chiefs, then I think we will not have enough roads to be named.

It is my humble submission that we ensure that we have enough roads that can be used to be named after the following heroes. My colleague has also talked about public buildings. I am in Siaya County and I have never seen a public building around unless we are going to use the Assembly premise to be named after Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga.

The Hon. Member has also mentioned the fallen heroes. First of all, these are very respected people, when I look around I do not see anything that is worth being named after these people. If this Motion was to go through, then I believe all roads within Siaya County are supposed to be named after the fallen chiefs because what we have are feeder roads.

I don't think the law will allow us to name Ugunja/Siaya road after Hon. Raila Odinga, because it belongs to the National Government. It is my humble submission, let us have decent roads, let us have these public buildings then we can now think of naming them after heroes. I oppose this Motion.

**Hon. Angule:** Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. If you look at Raila and relate him with Siaya, you will never dream that Raila was born in Siaya. Raila and Siaya are two big different things.

I support the Motion because charity begins at home, this is the home of Raila. Be it a street, a road, a path can be named after him. We have Amoth, who is a hero, we can even name after Justice Ouko, the first Luo president, because he was the first president of the court. The roads are not there but most of them are streets and we can name after them. I support the Motion.

**Hon. Rabinya:** Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I support the Motion because we should be contented with what we have. In as much as we don't have the streets but whatever we have is ours. We should start from somewhere, in Siaya we have streets.

Let us name these streets after our heroes. If there is a street, then direction is easy, let us go ahead and name the streets. I support the naming of the streets. Thank you.

**The Temporary Speaker:** I now call the mover to reply.

**Hon. Oinga:** Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. Allow me to thank the Members for indulging in the Motion. It is my humble plea, honestly, if you come to Siaya, let's say you alight at Bondo junction, giving somebody direction maybe to go to kobil, in the market, you will be giving directions using turns, but if we can have our feeder roads, small roads or streets named, then I think the challenge of giving direction can be solved.

I am cognizant on the fact that we don't have big roads in Siaya County. We need to appreciate our heroes, they fought for this Nation. We want the next generation to appreciate the History of this County.

Where we don't have buildings we can honor these heroes by erecting monuments so that they can act as landmarks. With all those Madam Temporary Speaker, am humbly requesting the House to support the Motion. Thank you.

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*(Question put and agreed to)*

**MOTION**

ADJOURNMENT

**Hon. Madam Temporary Speaker:** The House adjourns until tomorrow Wednesday at 9.30 a.m. in the Chamber.

The House rose at 3.20 p.m.