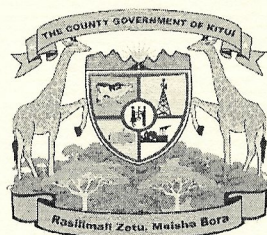


COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI

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OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI, HON. KEVIN KINENGO KATISYA, FOLLOWING THE PASSING ON OF FORMER PRIME MINISTER, RT. HON. RAILA AMOLO ODINGA

I am deeply shocked and profoundly saddened by the passing on of the Rt. Hon. **Raila Amolo Odinga**, one of Kenya's most iconic and visionary leaders whose immense contributions to democracy and good governance transformed not only Kenya but also the African continent and the world at large.

On behalf of the **County Assembly of Kitui**, and on my own behalf, I extend our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and the entire nation during this moment of great sorrow.

Kenya has lost a true patriot, a defender of democracy, a champion of justice, and a selfless servant of the people. The late Raila Odinga devoted his life to the pursuit of freedom, equality, and fairness for all Kenyans. His courage and resilience in the struggle for multiparty democracy inspired generations and reshaped the political landscape of our nation.

From his early days as a fearless pro-democracy crusader to his long and distinguished service as a **Member of Parliament, Cabinet Minister, and Prime Minister**, the Rt. Hon. Odinga exemplified steadfast commitment to the people of Kenya. His leadership and sacrifices paved the way for constitutional reforms, the expansion of political freedoms, and the strengthening of democratic institutions.

A firm believer in inclusive governance, the late Raila Odinga was also one of the strongest advocates for devolution. He championed the idea of bringing government closer to the people, ensuring that resources and decision making powers were shared equitably across the country. His support for the 2010 Constitution laid the foundation for the devolved system of governance that continues to empower counties today.

The Rt. Hon. Odinga also strongly supported the autonomy and strengthening of County Assemblies. He believed that devolution could only thrive if County Assemblies were empowered to effectively play their oversight, legislative, and representative roles. Throughout his engagements with county governments, he consistently affirmed his commitment to the independence of assemblies and encouraged their leadership to safeguard accountability, transparency, and good governance at the county level.

On a personal note, I had the distinct honour of working closely with the Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga in his presidential campaign secretariat during the 2013, 2017, and 2022 general elections. During this period, I witnessed firsthand his unmatched political acumen, humility, and devotion to national service. He taught me valuable lessons in leadership, resilience, and the power of unity. I will forever remain grateful for his mentorship and guidance, which shaped my political outlook and deepened my commitment to serving the people with integrity and purpose.

We also wish to thank His Excellency the President, Dr. William Samoei Ruto, for declaring Friday 17th October, 2025 a public holiday in honour of the departed former Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga. This noble gesture is a fitting tribute to a man whose life and legacy profoundly shaped the destiny of our nation. It provides all Kenyans an opportunity to reflect on his immense contribution to democracy, unity, and national progress.

The County Assembly of Kitui will participate in the State funeral Program scheduled for tomorrow at Nyayo National Stadium. I appeal to all Honourable Members of the County Assembly to attend and join the nation in celebrating the life and legacy of this great son of Kenya.

In honour of the Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga's memory, the County Assembly has also placed a condolence book at the Assembly precincts. Members of the public are invited to visit and record their messages of sympathy and remembrance as we collectively pay tribute to his remarkable life and service to our country.

As a statesman, reformer, and unifying figure, he consistently championed inclusivity, national dialogue, and peace. His vision for a just and prosperous Kenya will forever remain a guiding light for our nation.

As the people of Kitui and Kenyans at large mourn this monumental loss, we also celebrate a life well lived — a life defined by service, sacrifice, and unwavering love for country.

May his enduring legacy continue to inspire us to work for peace, unity, and the progress of our great nation.

May the Almighty God grant comfort and strength to his family and the people of Kenya.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.



HON. KEVIN KINENGO KATISYA
SPEAKER, COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025