

PARLIAMENT OF KENYA

THE SENATE

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 9th July, 2019

*The House met at the Senate Chamber,
Parliament Buildings, at 2.30 p.m.*

[The Speaker (Hon. Lusaka) in the Chair]

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATION FROM MILIMANI PRIMARY
SCHOOL, NAIROBI CITY COUNTY

Sen. Olekina: Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. On behalf of the people of Narok, the young boys who I grew up with, who used to hear *Kadenge na mpira*, I sent my condolences to the family and to the people of the football nation.

I am not a big football fan, however, when I was growing up, I used to hear people say; *Kadenge na mpira*, which made me develop an interest in that sport. As we stand here, I recently read in the newspapers what a gentleman called Abbas Mohammed, who used to play soccer, lamented. He said that over the last seven years, this Government said that it will support the heroes, but until now, they have received nothing. Immediately after the death of Kadenge, you will hear people come out saying he was a great man and we should do something. Why do we have to keep on repeating history?

Madam Temporary Speaker, it is necessary for us to come up with a resolution in this House. The approach which Sen. Sakaja wants to take in coming up with a Bill will ensure that this is not repeated on a daily basis. There is no point in remembering people who are dead, yet we cannot do anything for them when they are alive. Remember that all of us will be alive for a very short time, but dead for a long time that we cannot measure.

I urge the Government and all leaders in county governments to take this opportunity and invest in sports and in our heroes. It is sad that even when runners are representing the country around the world and carrying the flag of Kenya so high, it is the only time we can say that a particular person has broken the world record. Joe Kadenge did this thing for Kenya, but when he was ailing, no one gave a hoot about him.

Therefore, I thank Sen. Khaniri for bringing this Statement. I encourage all leaders, particularly from where most of our talented youth come from, for example, in Western Kenya, in terms of soccer, Narok County, Kericho, Nandi and Elgeyo-Marakwet counties in terms of young boys who are breaking world records in athletics. We should

start to practice what we preach and not wait until these people are dead. We should make sure that we build these academies and support their families so that we do not hear what Abbas Mohammed said that seven years ago, the Government said that we will be taken care of. However, until now, we have not received anything. It is sad. I hope that somebody out there is listening and will act on it.