

PARLIAMENT OF KENYA

THE SENATE

THE HANSARD

Monday, 17th August, 2020

Special Sitting

*(Convened via Kenya Gazette Notice
No.154 of 14th August, 2020)*

*The House met at the Senate Chamber,
Parliament Buildings, at 10.00 a.m.*

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

PRAYER

Sen. Olekina: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will do it in three minutes. Steve Biko was arrested on 18th August, 1977 when he was leaving a political rally. He said some very powerful words that: "I am going to be me as I am, and you can beat me, jail me or even kill me, but I am not going to be what you want me to be." Those are very powerful words and they today remind me of the young men; Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe, Sen. Malalah and my neighbour, who is currently in police custody, Sen. (Dr.) Langat. As we sit here, Sen. (Dr.) Langat has already surrendered himself to the police. Those Senators were elected to represent the interests of their people and instead of allowing wisdom or the power to convince, we are intimidated.

It is sad. We stand with our colleagues. I appeal to the residents of Bomet, Samburu and Kakamega counties to stand with their leaders. Today, being one of those days when I become very emotive, I tweeted something that I totally believe in. I said that we are going back to the era of Moi. It was my hope that my colleague, Sen. Moi, would be here for me to tell him that we are young and we should not go back to that era. People who have fought very hard---

Please proceed, Sen. Olekina.

Sen. Olekina: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I want to put it in context that I have a lot of respect for my father, Sen. Orengo, who has been a reformer. However, he will turn into an errand boy of a dictator if he stands today to support what this Government is doing. These are very emotive and personal things.

As I end, I will once again quote Steve Biko who said that, "the most potent weapon of the oppressor is the mind of the oppressed." Let us not sit here as honorable, distinguished Members and see our colleagues suffer. Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe, Sen. (Dr.) Langat and Sen. Malalah are our brothers. It does not matter whether we agree with them

or not. We normally disagree here. If I do not defend them, I will not have a face when I go back to my County.

The Speaker (Hon. Lusaka): Sen. Olekina, please conclude.

Sen. Olekina: Thank you Sen. Murkomen for informing me.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I appreciate you for giving me this opportunity. This is the time for Sen. Poghisio and Sen. Orengo to show leadership in this House. I beg them to look back and show leadership, revenue formula aside.