



Nthanda VS The Internet

*Malawian Twitter user
almost caught a case*



Internet trolls



A toxic trait that has been normalised is cyber bullying. I don't know what's worse, the ones trolling innocent internet users or the ones laughing at the hate speech that is directed at random people on the internet. If you ask me, most of the internet trolls wouldn't exist if their posts got zero attention. So, yeah, every single retweet, like, or laughing emoji used on these posts is what's part of the problem.

On twitter, particularly, Malawians breathe through a lot of negativity on their timelines. So much to the point that there is an account called @Nyekhwe – trying to make people feel 'nyekhwe' by sharing their personal scandals; that lack any credibility.

Internet users have also normalised 'trolls' to the point that most Malawians aren't aware that it's

actually a crime.

Section 86 of the Cyber Security Act states that: "Any person who uses any computer system and continues (a) making any request, suggestion, or proposal which is obscene, lewd, lascivious or indecent; or (b) threatening to inflict injury or physical harm to the person or property of any person, or (c) knowingly permits any electronic communications device to be used for any of the above-mentioned purposes, commits an offence known as cyber harassment and shall, upon conviction, be liable to a fine of K2 million and to imprisonment for five years.

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5 ridiculously fun ways to make noodles

If you've ever been broke in college you'll understand why the Chinese, before they infected the world with the Corona Virus, made noodles. The broke days in college are bearable if you stocked up a few packets of noodles. Interestingly, you can make noodles by doing more than just boiling them and draining the water before you add spices. Here's how:

Make it with Peanut Butter

Yeah, sounds ghetto, right? But you can't fully know until you try it *winks*

Crack an egg in it

This one's less ridiculous if you ask me. Add a boiled, half scrambled or full fried egg to a bowl or container you're steaming the noodles in. Better yet, crack an egg inside and let it cook in the broth for some time.

Make it with Coconut Milk

You heard right, coconut milk! The trick here is finding mature coconuts and extracting the milky-white liquid. But hey, try it.

Sprinkle Lime Juice

Rose's Lime Juice is not only a Malawi Gin Chaser... you might want to add it in your noodles and see if you like it.

Boil it in soup instead of water

Try boiling your noodles in chicken soup instead of water. Thank me later.

5 Best Series of All Time – Editor's Recommendations

This conversation stirs up a lot of debate; an unsettled one – like the Messi and Cristiano GOAT debate. But here is a list of what I think are the five best series ever watched:

5



American Crime Story: The People vs OJ Simpson

4



Money Heist

3



How to Get Away with Murder

2



Game of Thrones (GOT)

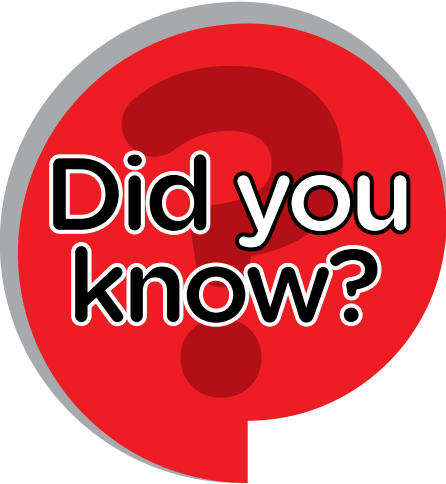
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Prison Break

Send your reactions through our social media pages (@FYIonline) and send us your list.

Editor's twitter - @garysamati



Did you know?



August has the highest percentage of births; which actually makes sense, coz a late August birthday would mean the baby was conceived in December.

Brief Gossip

Faith Mussa: New look, odd reactions

A lot of Malawian Facebook users aired out their opinions on Faith Mussa's new hairstyle. While some believe there's nothing wrong with the dreadlocks, a lot of people say it doesn't give a good look to his Gospel-musician brand.

As he rocked stages with his performances, the 'Mdidi'

star rocked an afro look for a long time. Addressing the fans' comments, however, the gospel artist told one reporter that he loved the comments that people were making on the new hairstyle.

"I just did it for a change really. I am tired of trimming my afro; I want some freedom with it. I

knew some people will obviously bad-mouth me for it but again, you know I can't please everyone," he said.

As FYI, our focus isn't on whether gospel artists can have what people see as wild hairstyles but, can they look good in them? Well, we think Faith Mussa does!

QUIZ – Women in the Bible!

Source: Fun Trivia



- Which woman committed adultery with David, but a few years later gave birth to Solomon, the wisest king, in the Bible?
 - Bilhah
 - Abigail
 - Bathsheba
 - Michal
- She was an 84-year-old woman who saw baby Jesus when he was brought to the temple for his circumcision.
 - Hadassah
 - Bernice
 - Jerusha
 - Anna
- Which woman was Jacob's first wife?
 - Lois
 - Leah
 - Mara
 - Rhoda
- Which woman bore the twins Jacob and Esau?
 - Zipporah
 - Rebekah
 - Sarah
 - Judith

Answers

2 - D, 1 - C, 4 - B, 3 - B



We're not cancelling shows: Ma Blacks, Soldier

BY Sam Banda JNR



The country's music heavyweights Black Missionaries, Soldier Lucius Banda and Skeffa Chimoto maintain that they are not cancelling any of their shows.

The government, in a letter dated May 26, 2020, addressed to Musicians Union of Malawi (Mum) cautioned musicians against resuming public performances due to Covid-19 pandemic. But the Chileka reggae group which had already put up posters for their gigs said they were going ahead with the shows.

"We are going ahead without fail. For them [government and political setups] it is business as usual but for us why are

they saying no? Why should we keep on suffering? Politicians are holding rallies where they are attracting huge audiences. When they stop, then we will also do the same," Blacks lead vocalist, Anjiru Fumulani said.

Lucius Banda and his Zembani Music Company also said they were going ahead with their shows. Skeffa also said his shows were on.

"Let them stop rallies too then we will also stay at home. For them it's business as usual but for us life is hard," the 'Nabola Moyo' star said.

"The government, in a letter dated May 26, 2020, addressed to Musicians Union of Malawi (Mum) cautioned musicians against resuming public performances due to Covid-19 pandemic."



Mumatha – 4 the Creatives

Name: Cecilia Bamusi

learnt a lot about the field."

Creative Field: Fashion Designer

Vision: "Like every business person, I want to export in large quantities to other countries, even shops around the country; like a clothing factory. One day."

Brand Name: Ciar Designs

Inspiration: "It's something I wanted to do since I was a little girl but my parents couldn't let me study it. So I used to hand sew about four years ago; learning through YouTube and all. Got a job as a designer at Outlet in Lilongwe in 2017 from those little pieces I made from hand sewing and at that job I

Challenge: "People pay less for a service they would pay double if they were getting it from another country."

Find her on IG or twitter
@Ciar_Designs

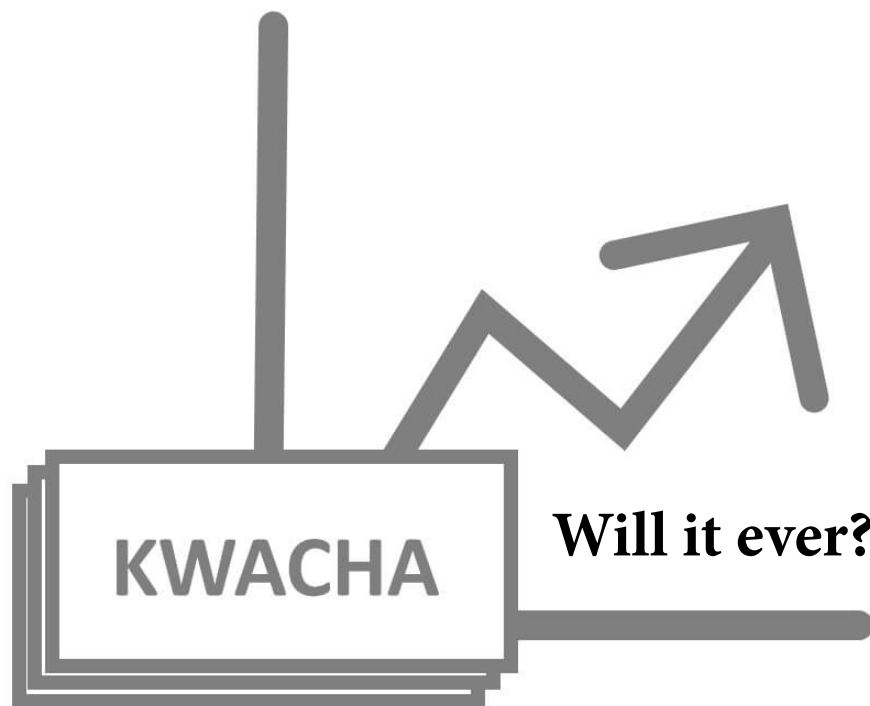
Dinner dress ideas

Pictures submitted by Cecilia Bamusi
Dresses designed by Cecilia Bamusi



Malawi's economy: Who's to blame?

BY Mphatso Mwale



It has become a topic of debate regarding who, as citizens should we blame for Malawi's poor economy, regardless of the several economic and financial policy reforms that the country has taken. Well, the debate points fingers at the Malawian leaders, particularly those in high profile positions in the government.

The GDP (Gross Domestic Product) per capita of Malawi is USD 500 which is relatively half that of surrounding countries: Zambia, Mozambique, and Tanzania. In plain language it means we are far behind these countries economically.

But the question remains: who is responsible for the unappealing economy of the country? Is it our leaders? The economists in the country? Or us, the citizens? As we are pondering to answer this question, it is also important to understand how we can generally boost the economy. The 'how' will take us to the 'who'.

The GDP of any country including Malawi comprises several components, which among others are Consumption by Households and Business Investments. Intuitively you can see that

every citizen contributes something towards the economy of the country, by consumption.

However, I will put my entire clarity on business investments, which includes the commercialization of agriculture. This is one of the most neglected areas in as far as the economy of Malawi is concerned. I'm talking about Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), which account for nearly half of Malawi's GDP, which implies that these enterprises are very crucial if we are to have a robust economy.

A 2012 World Bank report shows that a scanty percentage (0.04%), which has just slightly grown to-date, of Malawians engage in MSMEs. This is to open our eyes and see that we are not doing enough. If we are to have a thriving economy we are to invest much in small businesses. Economic growth is not a result of a few people's actions; it's a collective initiative to be taken by every Malawian.

Some MSMEs policies have been put in place by relevant bodies like the Reserve Bank of Malawi, as one way of effecting the growth of the economy, though they haven't done much.

I will be a liar to say that the government has done enough to boost our economy but, I believe, we are all to be blamed. To hit the nail on the head, **No one should be blamed, let's rise, invest more in our enterprises and invest more in financial and economic literacy sessions.** Remember, **"invest in MSMEs to be part of the economic change you want to see."**



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Top 5 Summer Destinations

BY Trecia Ndelema

Experience the Warm Heart of Africa at its utmost beauty all summer '20; assuming the rona gives us a break. If it does, there has never been a better year to pack your bags... leave your home, call your friends... and hit up some of these cool places this summer.

1. Likoma Island

This is a slice of Paradise on Earth. With the golden beaches and nature that is too beautiful to put in words, this island is perfect for all those who just need some time to unwind from their busy schedules.

2. Cape Maclear (Mangochi)

The need to be around water during summer whether it is just for a day or a more prolonged trip is the top reason that makes this place the right choice for a gate away trip.

3. Mulanje Mountain

The mountain comes with a range of relaxing activities that can turn your summer into the best one yet.

4. Zomba Plateau

The beautiful view and the interesting vegetation interwoven with waterfalls and dams proves Zomba plateau is a collection of one of nature's finest works of art.

5. Nkhata Bay

Nkhata Bay is rich with culture and beauty that you just want to bottle it up and take it with you on your way back home. Its striking harbour comprises sheltered bays with forested and rocky headlands. With a beautiful sand beach and a variety of accommodation to offer – most in the form of camping sites and small lodges, the district gives the home away from home feeling to all its visitors.

Credit:
Image by Pixel Dynamix



Nthanda Manduwi vs The Internet

BY Gary Samati



“There are people that people hate to love. Then there are those that love to hate,” once said Nthanda in one of our conversations back in 2017. Years later, Nthanda has evolved as an individual; and has grown her name-brand from being merely the 2017 Miss Malawi First Princess, to the master of the digital media she is now. She says she now finds ‘haters’ irrelevant.

Nthanda runs a digital media agency called By Ntha Media, which produces the Morning Star Newsletter among 6 other digital media products. She also runs the Ntha Foundation, which recently launched the #Nyenyezi Fellowship – a skills training programme; at Sunbird Hotel in Lilongwe. Ntha Foundation believes if it’s about charity – we must equip people with sustainable skills as opposed to perishable goods. This fellowship is for young Malawians; equipping them with digital skills; starting with 20 fellows at the moment.

With all these businesses on her mind and an IG following of 26K+, it’s no surprise to see people join in and be all

up in her business.

To address the elephant in the room; a twitter user wrote a post saying “Nthanda Manduwi is such a role model” which got a 100+ likes; to which Collins Mponela responded saying, “That grandfather she got married to... she is a gold digger.” This led to Nthanda involving the police.

“There were several uncorroborated claims in his post. I am not married. Neither is my partner. He has no children, and is not of an age to be anyone’s grandfather. Any which way; it is my personal life and not anyone’s business. Malawians think they can get away with malicious gossip. That’s why I decided to call the police to set precedent,” says Nthanda.

“The police officers looked him up and found his Instagram page,” she explains. “I know one of the people that follow him. The friend gave me his contact details and I sent it to the officer, but I called him as well. He stuttered before he blocked me from calling him. I texted him on WhatsApp, to tell him he won’t

get away with saying things about me and my life. Within 30 minutes, he sent a PDF apology and he posted it on Twitter as well. It’s disgusting how Malawians are fixated on negative news and try to bring people down, that’s why I took a stance on this. You can’t just harass people online,” she said.

On the other hand, Collins Mponela told FYI that the comment he made on the By Ntha Media owner was indeed insensitive.

“I realised how bad it was after the tweet got attention, I didn’t even think she would see it. Nthanda called me a few days after the comment and upon hearing that the matter will be taken to court, I immediately typed an apology. I whole heartedly regret making the comment because she has achieved a lot in her life, and I feel bad for overlooking that,” he said.

Meanwhile, Nthanda says she won’t pursue the matter in court anymore but henceforth, she will sue anyone who discredits her on the internet.

MALAWIAN URBAN DICTIONARY

WORD OF THE WEEK

Nyekhwe

Nyekhwe is actually the sweat that comes from overworking (*magobo*) – dripping from a person's back.

However, the urban meaning is "Kumvetsa kuwawa".

"Pa 21 May anthuwa aona chani? Aona nyekhwe."

URBAN LANGUAGE MISTAKE

Literally vs Figuratively

Mistake: I'm **literally** melting because it's so hot / **Figuratively** speaking, it's 100 degrees out here.

Tip: This is a mistake because "literally" means "actually" or "really". "Figuratively" means not real. "Figuratively" is used to exaggerate, or enlarge the meaning of something.

Correction: **Figuratively** speaking, I'm melting because it's so hot / It's **literally** 100 degrees out here.

ASK SIBWENI



Question

"Dear Sibweni, I am having a fling with a girl I do not want to have a serious relationship with. She's been nagging me to either make it official or break up with her; I don't want either. What should I do?"

Anonymous

Look out for Sibweni's response in next week's edition!

Think of Sibweni as the uncle you would like to ask uncomfortable questions and get advice from. Send us any uncomfortable question through our social media inbox and we will give advice anonymously.

f t i @FYIonlineMW

Gender gap in employment

BY **Precious Hemah**



**friends.
mothers.
daughters.
visionaries.
queens.
rulers.
women.**

The unemployment rate hits women harder than men in Malawi. This is contrary to the Gender Equality Act which was passed by the Malawi Government in 2013. The Act aims to take action and address the inequalities that exist between men and women in many aspects of our daily lives.

Rose, a woman who proves that women can do men's work by working with men at the TAAE Constructions Company in Chilinde, Lilongwe, explains that women do not come at the company to seek for jobs because they think construction is for men only.

"Many girls do not come to seek job opportunities because they think that being a builder is only for men," she said as she encouraged her fellow women not to fear these jobs but to learn how it's done.

Our traditional backgrounds have made us see women as inferiors but it is time that we all start to address the gaps that still exist in the Gender Equality concept.

Malawian Identity – “I am Malawian”

by Tuto Kalitera



Suppose there is a prestigious international banquet to take place exactly one month from now. This will be an extravagant and colourful event where one person from every nation in the world will be invited as a distinguished guest to represent their country. Now suppose you have been chosen to represent Malawi.

How would you be able to express “I am Malawian” at this event without actually saying it? (And yes, showing up to the event with a bottle of Sobo in one hand and the jumbo pack of Kamba in the other would be cheating). It is fair to assume that the Nigerian and South African representatives would be easily identifiable based on their attire, accent, musical preferences and dance moves. What about you though?

What would you wear to the event? If you're a woman, African print attire immediately comes to mind. Though such attire is indeed African, have we yet embraced our own style that can be distinctly identified as Malawian? A similar case can be made for men. Other than the Ngoni

tribe (who once belonged to the Zulu tribe), what attire distinctly identifies a Malawian man?

Would you be identified by your accent perhaps? When talking about our accents we must first address the role our education system plays. On one hand the shortcomings of our public education are well known. There are many who struggle to speak English fluently due to the quality of education they received. On the other hand, the shortcomings of our private education should not be ignored. Why are vernacular languages not taught in private schools? Not only are they not taught, but speaking vernacular is prohibited in these private institutions. The consequence of this is that we are raising a generation of children who cannot speak their own mother tongue in their own country, but have instead adopted British or American accents.

Lastly, what music would you play at the event? I believe Malawian music doesn't yet have a huge international appeal for two reasons. Firstly, we have many talented artists who lack the proper exposure

to thrive. Secondly, contemporary Malawian music is yet to form its own distinct sound. It is evident our music is heavily inspired by Western culture, especially the hip-hop and dancehall genres. The problem however is that when ‘inspiration’ becomes imitation rather than a catalyst for innovation, art cannot evolve. In the same way you can identify a Kwaito or Nigerian track by the beat alone, can you identify Malawian music by the instrumental alone?

The time has come for us to rediscover who we truly are as a people. The time has come for us to embrace our true identity. The time has come for us to embrace our traditional attire. The time has come for Malawian music to embrace its own distinct sound that takes over the Billboard charts. The time has come for Chichewa mandatory for all schools including private.

That way, if you ever walked into a room, people would be able to say “Look at that person there, no doubt about it, they are Malawian”.

How do we begin, who's in?

BY Andrew Mtewa—Twitter: @andrew_mtewa, Lecturer in Chemistry – Malawi Uni. of Sci. Tech.



In the first edition of FYI we emphasised that the drug development process is one of the most highly collaborative projects in life sciences. This time around, it is important we begin by looking at what inspires drug making and some of the expertise that will be required for the success of making a drug.

Every drug is made in response to a particular question. It may be a disease burden weighing down some regions for some time that needs to be addressed, a projected future disorder due to climatic changes, lifestyle changes or other reasons that human kind has to get ready for. Pharmaceutical companies and academic research groups get funded to research and make drugs to address the needs identified.

There are various factors that play roles in the direction and success of the project. These include the political will of the state and state/regional legislation in the deliberate facilitation of local drug development projects, interests of the funding agency, commitment, discipline and working culture of stakeholders, the research

and administrative team make-up and most importantly, the detailed project plan among others. As obvious as it sounds, the research team will need medicinal chemists and biochemists the most.

A medicinal chemist is required to meaningfully design a drug and actually make it in the lab which a Biochemist will subject to various relevant assays to see how a target or various targets are responding to the newly made drug. Other Biologists and pharmacologists will be involved in testing the activity of the drug at the earliest on plates then escalate to animal models such as mice and rats and then move on to clinical stages where tests are conducted on humans, all upon registered successes of the drug. If any part of the drug fails, the medicinal chemist does the design again until it works. If all logical designs fail to register success, the whole drug project is pulled off for that particular question but all progress is carefully stored for future lessons or for a possible starting point for other related questions later.

We also talked about non-scientists in the game: It is mostly the administrative

team, which in my opinion needs to also have some understanding of these sciences. A lawyer will be handy in handling intellectual property protection, business developers and planners, project managers, artists in promotions and engaging stakeholders, media experts, marketers, communications experts, social scientists, nurses and physicians (at the clinical phases in particular) and others may find themselves a place in the pipeline, no matter how far it can be from the actual drug, their contribution will be essential to the whole process.

Lastly, I would like to highlight the essence of the multidisciplinary approach in the process. It is beneficial that the people directly involved in the science of making and testing the drug are well conversant with allied sciences around their work. This is where a combination of or additional expertise become necessary. I would like to urge the youth interested to take this path to incline them with one or more related science areas that they can easily add value to their original areas of expertise to become more relevant. The same applies to administrative teams.



NYEKHWE AONA NYEKHWE?

An anonymous person created an account called @Nyekhwe on Twitter with the aim of exposing Malawians involved in different scandals.

For a while, a lot of people on the platform had wondered who it was. However, a Facebook user (yes twitter users, Facebook people are doing the job for you) by the name Kelvin Sulugwe made allegations in revealing the one behind the Nyekhwe account on Twitter.

Our website, in the subsequent days, will have this story as we would like to hear from both Kelvin Sulugwe and the person he alleged as the perpetrator.

Meanwhile, some of those that were affected by the stories are ready to take the accused to court as they plan to open a defamation case against him. Yikes, looks like Nyekhwe aona Nyekhwe.



Twitter: Rape survivors' voices

Twitter has been both heart-breaking and inspirational from the strengths that rape survivors showed in sharing their stories on the platform. The stories were shared by stating the age that the person was when they got raped. A few stepped forward and shared full details of how it happened while some of the survivors stated when it happened – while others shared the experiences of those around them.

Reading all these stories from Malawians broke our hearts further as no-one deserves to have the experience of being raped.

Regardless, we applaud everyone sharing their stories to inspire more people to talk about their painful experiences.

CAPTAIN. WILTON. WINNER

BY Tiyamika Mkwanda

Malawi has had its fair share of sporting families; think of the Waya siblings Lawrence, Mary and George, Gift and Jimmy Zakazaka, Albert and Bob Mpinganjira, Holman, Kennedy and Leonard Malunga who have all left their mark on sport in the country. Likewise, the father and son combo of Wilton and Wilton Kaunda are steadily forging their own path in Malawian football.

Wilton Kaunda senior had a modest football career culminating in a successful stint at Mighty Beforward Wanderers where he played at left-back, his 21-year-old son Wilton Junior is looking to go even further as a footballer.

Wilton Junior is the current captain of Nyasa Big Bullets Reserve having joined the people's team four years ago. His footballing journey started from the dusty streets of Machinjiri township having developed a passion for the game from watching his father's matches which he describes as an "awakening", although during the course of our 40-minute chat he stresses that Wilton senior never pushed his young son to follow his footsteps, "it was natural" he says.

During the late 2000s he played regularly for his local amateur team in Machinjiri and things quickly got serious in 2010 when he was spotted by Maggie Chombo in a friendly game against the Maggie Chombo Football

Academy. The young midfielder impressed so much that he was taken straight to the Academy without needing any trials. At the Academy his game progressed in leaps and bounds his dedication to the game helping him improve in many aspects and after a little over 5 years there the People's team came calling.

He describes himself as a "modern box-to-box" midfielder capable of attacking and defending. He counts Big Bullets combative midfielder Chimwemwe Idana as the one player he tries to model his game around. He equally talks very fondly of his Bullets Reserve coach Enos Chatama who has coached him at the club since he arrived and is regularly giving him advice to improve his all round game.

In person, Wilton Junior comes across as a quiet, shy personality and on how he handles the pressure being the captain and leader of arguably the country's biggest team; he says once he steps over the white line he is a different person snapping into tackles, shouting instructions and cajoling his teammates in pursuit of a win. He counts winning last season's Southern Region Football League Premier Division title (the country's second tier) and being chosen as team captain of the season as the proudest moment of his young career.