

Gwamba's Own Time

- Empowering the youth
- Malawi Hip-Hop Awards
- Song Ft Emtee Release Date?

Police brutality – a thing in Malawi



While we give a lot of attention to the #BlackLivesMatter International Human Rights Movement, as we stand in solidarity with African Americans protesting after the death of George Floyd (who died at the hands of the American police on 25th May 2020), it's worth noting that the situation is just as bad in Malawi.

Evidently, every time one of the constituent colleges of the University of Malawi (Unima) engages in demonstrations, students are exposed to the reality of police brutality. Unlawful slaps, violent interrogations, and a lot of other examples of how Malawians are subject to police brutality.

The situation is actually just as bad as the USA – only “racism” isn't the issue but an abuse of power of some

sort. The police in Malawi think they can get away with anything and less media (and government) attention is paid to these incidents. People die every once in a while at the hands of a service that's meant to protect us.

Imagine, you get into a bar, meet a police officer who is off-duty, drunk, you get involved in a commotion with the man, next thing you know you're in cuffs and getting a kick to your face. Yikes. Guilty or innocent, what happened to taking perpetrators in for questioning and letting them plead their case, without getting physical?

Police brutality is (and has been) a thing in Malawi (for a long time now).

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What's in my purse?

BY Sarah Kachingwe

Make your purse your mid-day glam squad and your backup plan in case of an emergency. These are the must haves for all the ladies out there:

Powder

Make sure you have your compact powder in your purse, especially if your facial skin is oily, trust me, you don't want to run all over with a shiny face.

Lipstick of the day

Lipstick in your bag is a must; look good 24/7.

Baby wipes / tissue

I can't afford to always have baby wipes but if you can, then good for you.

African cloth/chitenje/nsalu

As a Malawian lady, a chitenje is a must; always carry one.

Sanitary pad/tampon

Another must have in every purse or bag you have. Make sure it's out of site though. You never know, Aunt Flo could decide to come earlier than expected.

Mints

This is not a necessity but who doesn't want good breath throughout the day? I rest my case.

The top 5 best rappers of all time

Music heads bump when it comes to settling this debate. Rap is the only genre which sees artists trying to outdo each other – even fans expect the same. Once two rappers are on the same song, the “who killed who” debates emerge. Well, as much as legends can coexist, here is a list of who I think are the top 5 best rappers of all time:

5



J. Cole

4



Lil Wayne

3



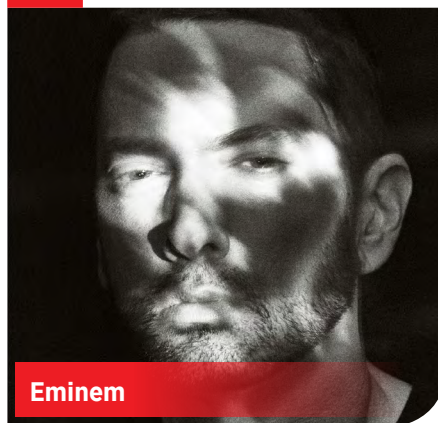
Jay Z

2



Kendrick Lamar

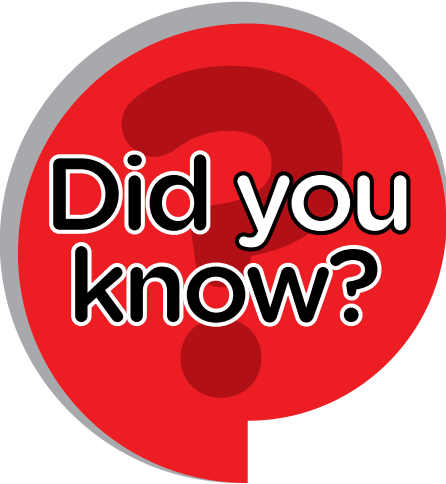
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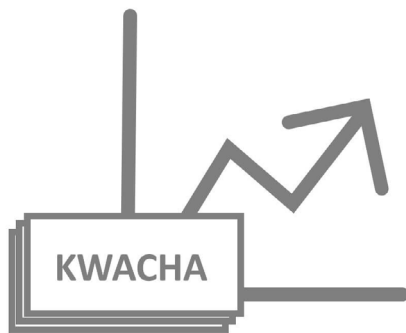
Eminem

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

Editor's social media - @garysamati



Did you know?



Malawi is ranked as the 12th best African country to do business in (2020).

Source: World Bank's Ease of Doing Business.

Brief Gossip

Martse attacked? Police Brutality!

The George Perry Floyd Jr. story has yet again brought police brutality to the world's attention. Floyd, an African American man, was killed by the police during an arrest in Minneapolis, USA, on May 25, 2020. This has since led to the different parts of the world joining hands to spread the word that Black Lives Matter.

Well, back home, police brutality has been a problem for years – with

less media attention. A video at one of the strikes that happened at Chanco years back showed a police officer slapping a female student; likewise at the Polytechnic (during the strikes that led to one of the hostels being burnt down last year, 2019) as the police were also seen beating a young man that happened to be around the premises at the time.

This week, the rumour mail was filled with a video that circulated

showing a police man beating a man, allegedly Martse, for being cussed at by the rapper (nkhanu zaku mowa) – but again, allegedly. However, the rapper responded to the issue on his twitter page by saying, “I am not obligated to talk about the incident coz the lawyers told me not to. I will explain everything when I’m done dealing with this...” Well, at least he’s acknowledged, rather indirectly, that it’s him in the video.

How well do you know Gwamba? Quiz!



- How is Gwamba related to Bushiri?
 - He's his brother
 - They got married
 - They're in-laws
 - He's his uncle
- In which year was Gwamba born?
 - 1989
 - 1990
 - 1991
 - 1992
- How many music awards does Gwamba have?
 - 1
 - 12
 - 9
 - 7
- In which year did Gwamba become a Gospel artist?
 - 2015
 - 2016
 - 2017
 - 2014
- What's the name of Gwamba's debut gospel album?

Answers:
1 – C
3 – C
5 – ?
2 – B
4 – B



How to Start a YouTube Channel

BY Wezi Kumwenda - @wezi_xo Instagram/Twitter

The rise of YouTube content creators over the past decade has birthed a new generation of creativity. Spurred by the lack of representation on mainstream media, content creators took matters into their own hands by creating content that was relevant to their niche. A few Malawians have their own YouTube channels as well so; you want to jump on the train? Here are a few tips to get you started:

Decide on your niche.

What can you talk about constantly without getting bored? What do you love to discuss and educate others on? The beauty about YouTube is you can create content about anything... long as it meets their rules and regulations. In the early stages, stick to one type of content to allow you to gain your subscribers' trust in your content and venture out once you are established.

Plan your content.

Consistency is key to building a successful YouTube channel. Just

as you turn on the TV to watch your favorite show at 7pm every Thursday, your subscribers are more likely to engage with your channel if they get regular content. Once your schedule for uploading videos is set, you can work around this by planning your filming and editing.

Get a good camera and good lighting.

A good camera is not the deal breaker when it comes to creating content on YouTube but it can give you the extra leverage with clearer and high quality videos.

Edit, upload and share! repeat!

Once you're done with filming half of the job is done. Editing is next and this can be a hefty task. There are a few free editing softwares such as iMovie and Windows Movie Maker which are good for beginners. Once you are ready to level up, consider looking into much more powerful video editors such as Final Cut Pro. Last but not least upload it and share it everywhere!



5 winter wardrobe essentials (Women's Edition)

by Iradukunda Pacifique – IG @iradukunda_pac

Skinny Jeans

The best thing about skinny jeans? You can wear them at any time of the year! They are perfect for winter as their streamlined shape allows you to layer multiple items on top for warmth. Wear them with flat heel booties and a leather jacket in the day or pointy toe heels and a silk drape top for a night out.



Cashmere sweater

Sweaters really do come in handy because they are usually thin and smart, which make them as easy to dress up as it is to dress down, and really look great with almost everything, yet so warm.



Fedora or Beanies

Although a hat might not be the most efficient of them all, it doesn't hurt to feel good in an outfit while keeping warm and looking like a million dollars. Just make sure the hat goes well with your outfit, otherwise you could ruin it.



Over the knee boots

Probably the only time these are ever going to come out of the closet, so use this time wisely! Warm and chic are the words to describe those boots. They can be dressed down with jeans and a jumper for a casual look or with a skirt or mini dress for a night out style.



Leather Jacket

A leather jacket is crucial for every winter wardrobe and adds instant edge and coolness to any outfit. Toss it over your jeans and tee on the weekend or blouse and pants for the night; this jacket has the power to transform any winter outfit from drab to fab!



Other Essentials: Ankle boots, Turtle necks, Blanket wrap scarf, Knitted jumper dress, and Statement coats.



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No Pressure

BY Sharon Chirwa



As Sharon sees It

I turned 26 this week, and if you know me personally, you know just how much birthdays mean to me! That's not the point though. My point is; there are certain 'expectations' that are subtly dropped once an age is added.

And no, I am not only referring to the *'tivina liti'* question, because I have been asked that for ages!

I am talking about the expectations that you suddenly have everything well thought of and your life is simply

going according to plan.

In this world of technology, it is very easy to assume that the girl who always has good hair, fabulous nails and her eyebrows 'on fleek' has it all good.

But here is the truth; that is what she chooses to show you. You cannot really know how well her life is unless you are that close to her in person.

That is also how we all end up creating expectations for ourselves. We compare ourselves to that friend

who seems a little composed and instead of seeing that as an inspiration or let alone ask how he or she does it, we succumb to the belief that we are not doing enough.

Doing enough has nothing to do with what the people around you are able to achieve. It is about what you are able to achieve.

So from today, start using the 'No Pressure' phrase in your life. Remind yourself that with enough time, you are your only competition.

Gwamba's Own Time

BY Gary Samati



One thing we can't take away from Gwamba is his consistency when it comes to making music. Year in, year out, staying relevant enough to have your name mentioned in people's conversations in the rap game is worth every applaud he can get. The thing about life, you see, the energy you give is the energy you receive. Once you take care of the music (or whatever it is you do), the music (or, again, whatever it is you do) will take care of you.

It comes as no surprise to see the rapper get his flowers while he breathes; through a Twitter trend that was dedicated to honour him earlier this week (recap: search #GwambaAppreciationDay on Twitter and watch your heart melt). He continues to recharge from that positive energy and plans to give back to the Malawi music industry by sponsoring 7 upcoming artists who can't afford to shoot videos for their songs and introducing Malawi Hip-Hop Awards. Here's everything you need to know about the initiatives and his upcoming song which features South African rapper Emtee:

Empowering Young Artists

"A lot of young artists can't afford to shoot nice videos hence there are a lot of good songs that don't go far. I will be sponsoring 1 upcoming artist per

month," says the rapper. The initiative will run from June to December and Gwamba urges all young artists to send their audios to +265998640811 to stand a chance to get a free video shoot.

The Malawi Hip-Hop Awards (Post Covid-19)

The Malawi Hip-Hop Awards is an initiative by Gwamba, set to launch this coming November if the Rona paves way for public gatherings. The Awards are aimed at celebrating the hip-hop genre in Malawi and every talent involved in the field.

Upcoming Song with Emtee

It's always a big deal when a Malawian collaborates with an artist from a different country. On the South African scene, Emtee is as big as artists get and we can't wait for Channel O to play the music video on a regular. Produced by Malawians Dj Meg and BFB, the song is titled Own Time and is set to be released any day before the 21st of June.

"Meeting Emtee was through his management and we managed to reach an understanding. We have been hanging a couple of times and he is such a humble and real person," said Gwamba as he revealed that he plans to work on more projects and promised Malawians to look forward to seeing Emtee perform with the rapper soon.

Gwamba's fun facts!

1. He is a huge fan of wrestling.
2. He's working on becoming one of the best FIFA players in Malawi. Well, good luck with that – and we mean that in the most sarcastic way...
3. Both his kids were born in June. Daniel, on 7th June; Yewo, on 12th June, and he has a baby on the way (his wife is due this month – June).
4. The rapper loves cocky people who can prove themselves with action (like Mayweather, CR7, Mourinho, etc.).
5. Gwamba spends 80% of his time on TV, watching football, movies or a bunch of series.

MALAWIAN URBAN DICTIONARY

WORD OF THE WEEK

Tili M'momo

A Malawian version of "We're in there."

Basically means whatever is going on, we're committed to being part of it.

Person A: "Ku show mupita man?"

Person B: "Eya man, **tili m'momo!**"

URBAN LANGUAGE MISTAKE

Loan Vs Borrow

Mistake: Can you borrow me your pen? / You can loan my pen.

Tip: To "loan" means to give. To "borrow" means to get. In simple terms, you "lend to" and you "borrow from."

Correction: Can you **lend me** your pen? / You can **borrow** my pen.

ASK SIBWENI



"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, cause the sex is good. What should I do?"

—Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

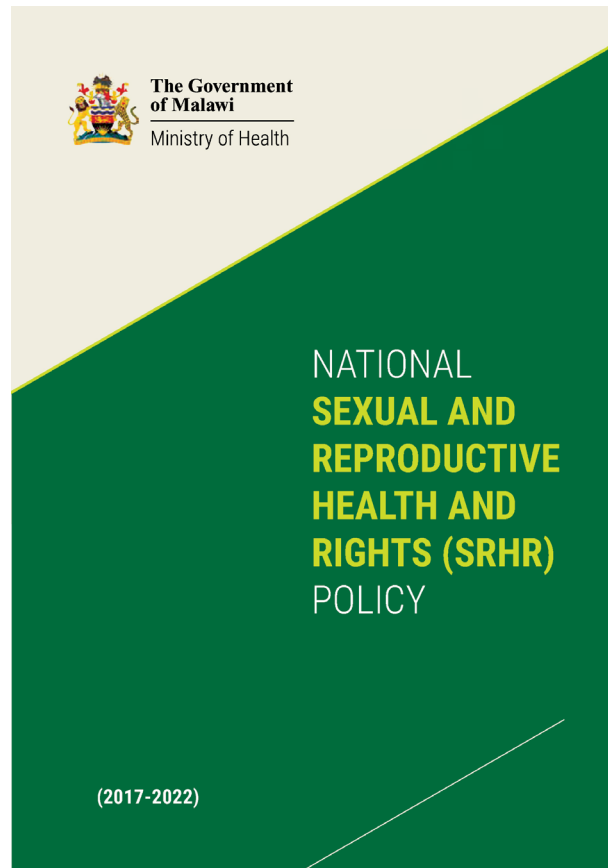
Your relationship sounds oddly familiar... is that you 'S'? I'm kidding, I have no idea who you are, but your relationship sounds like something I was eons ago! It did not end well because I chose to date her. I thought "Ndikudya bho kale, a relationship shouldn't hurt" and I was so wrong. That was the beginning of a year of me settling for things simply because she said so. And let me not get into the break up...

My advice to you is that you sit her down and tell her all you want is sex. If she is okay with just the fling then you go on with that. If not, stop wasting that girl's life, my brother!

She cannot be your secret lover for eternity. Let her go and she will find someone who can give her what she wants.

Institutions and the Youth's Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights

BY **Godfrey Jnr Malongo – SRHR Advocate**



Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) advocacy for the Youth is in demand in all parts of the globe right now. It's very important to give credit to the work that has been done so far. Young people consist of over half of the population of Malawi and they exist in most spheres of the nation's productive sector including the Universities. As such, it is important for higher learning institutions to step up and put the SRHR interests and needs of the young people at heart.

It is no secret that young people make up a large part of any University's population but are their SRHR interests and needs prioritised?

Roaming through one of the prominent higher learning institutions in the country, University of Livingstonia, which is run under the CCAP and its incorporated Christian values and has its policy. In regards to SRHR issues, family planning for example, the policy **"does not accept the use of contraceptives (condoms, pills) by unmarried people"**. This already puts out a "death

sentence" to the sexual lives of the unmarried university students who are a majority of young sexually active people and this increases the difficulty in accessing SRHR services. In other words, the students are denied access to the much needed SRHR services.

Is this helping the youth from the university, who are the central focus of the SRHR National Strategy and the National Youth Policy? Should the university's leadership remain unchecked on such issues because of the institution's deep roots in Christian values?

My take on this particular higher learning institution, they are not doing enough, or as some would say, not even the bare minimum for young people's SRHR needs and interests as they would need to access the said services with not only difficulty, but also fear, shame and secrecy. A big applause though, to the higher learning Institutions that are prioritising SRHR needs for young people.

“

It is no secret that young people make up a large part of any University's population but are their SRHR interests and needs prioritised?

”

Yes, there's chemistry, but is there compatibility?

BY Zindziswa Mvula



Chemistry, in the context of relationships, is a simple emotion that two people get when they share a special connection (Wikipedia). On the other hand, compatibility is how well you and your significant other get along and enjoy spending time together (yourdictionary.com).

Well, chemistry can fool you into believing that you have a connection with someone only to discover later that it was a spark that quickly faded. My experiences from my past relationships have taught me how to determine whether what you have with your significant other is genuine compatibility or chemistry.

I hate to be the bearer of bad news but you cannot develop deep and meaningful intimacy in a hurry. There are three essential ingredients

(three Ts in fact) that are critical to pay attention to when getting to know someone and who they are:

- **Talk:** You cannot text your way into a great relationship. Engaging in conversations that get deeper; exploring critical topics such as values; relationship expectations and; one's background – a must. These conversations will help to peel back the layers of the person you are dating.
- **Togetherness:** How you are able to see different sides of a person. How does he or she act when around their friends, under stress, at work, at a restaurant, or when angry? Doing different things together will provide you with a diverse set of experiences in which you are able to see, clearly, the person you are dating. Their

consistency or lack thereof will clue you into whether or not your partner and the way that he or she treats you is real or just a facade.

- **Time:** Cannot be manufactured or rushed. This T is one of the most important because it allows patterns to emerge. You can then take what you've learned from talking and spending time together and see whether or not this information is consistent in the long term. It is always a good and safe practice to enforce some boundaries in the early stages of a relationship. This will allow you time to talk and do things together that will provide such great insight into whether or not your connection is a true compatibility or just chemistry.

WEEKLY NEWS RECAP!

Here is a recap of 10 things that happened this week:

1. Parliament has set 23 June as the date for fresh elections.
2. Joyce Banda claimed there is no Coronavirus in Malawi
3. According to the Minister of Health, the Coronavirus cases are now at 455.
4. The Minister of Health, ironically, put the lives of thousands of youths in danger by organizing walk-in interviews amid the pandemic; needless to say it exposed the levels of unemployment in Malawi.
5. Chilima gave an emotional speech in Zomba, vowing to take on APM.
6. Controversy over the owner of the land on which the Malawi University of Science and Technology was built as reports indicate that the land is owned by the Mutharika family, and not the Malawi Government.
7. APM unveiled the K7 Billion Stadia projects (for Nyasa Big Bullets and BeForward Wanderers), saying it will take 2 years.
8. Nicholus Dausi, yes the Minister of Homeland Security, justified violence; saying the opposition party is reaping what they sowed.
9. Martse allegedly got beaten by a police officer, says he can't comment on the matter until the case is over (looks like he is suing the police officer).
10. The Misozi Chathunya trial (for the murder of Linda Gasa in 2010) is set to conclude next month. The two were in a romantic relationship, reportedly, and judgment will be passed a decade after the murder happened.

Meet Bonface Msunje

BY Lonjezo Msodoka



Being passionate about other people's welfare is one way of putting a smile on other people's faces. This is the story about Bonface Msunje, founder of Tek Media production which was founded with an aim of offering different media services.

"Apart from being the founder of Tek Media Production, I am a journalist too. I have been a dedicated journalist for years, holding an advanced diploma in film and television production, which I obtained at Malawi Institute of Journalism (MIJ). I also have 8 years of experience working as a film maker. So I can say I have vision, skills and experience to take scripts and turn them into successful and unforgettable films."

With the experience he has as well as the hardworking spirit and the support from his team which comprises of fellow journalists, film makers, marketers, public relations experts, script writers, producers and presenters, it has been easy to

work together and come up with productive results.

"We have worked with different organisations like British Embassy, Oxfam, Plan International, and Pump Aid among others as a company, and myself as a filmmaker and a journalist.

I have also enjoyed being able to capture quality photos and producing videos for various people and international organisations in Malawi. I hope to continue my career further while sharpening my skills, for I believe everyday there is something new to learn."

As such, he encourages young people not to give up in life regardless of the tribulations in front of them, saying it is high time for them to focus and commit fully to any of their hustles.

"The greatest glory is never in failing but rising every time we fall. Challenges may come but use them as stepping stones towards your destiny. Push harder and never stop upgrading yourself."



TWITTER MW VS TAY GRIN

The differences in our political views lead to a lot of feuds between us. This was evidenced this week by Twitter Malawi users who aren't DPP supporters – as they tried to take Tay Grin's twitter account down.

Well, on Monday, 7 June, the rapper posted the reasons why he is voting for APM; saying he has done a lot for the youth. Ironically, a few days later, the level of unemployment for the youth in the country was exposed.

Yeah, you guessed right, Twitter Mw went back to Grin's earlier post praising the President's apparent devotion to empower the youth.



Like

Comment

Share

Sidhaat Kooranah Prince
Admin • 5 Jun at 17:54 • 🌐

Malawi vs Zambia



76

48 comments • 3 shares



Like

Comment

Share

Malawi vs Zambia

Definitely one of the funniest social media beefs between countries. Besides having somewhat a similar name for our currencies and being bordering countries, it's not clear what started the Malawi vs Zambia social media feud – but it's very, very funny.

Looks like our country took an L in this round – as Zambians compared their buff soldier with our recent army recruit.

On this same note, why are Malawians so pressed with the new army recruits? We're not saying they'd defend us in a war, we're saying cut them some slack and check where their bodies are a few years from now.

A new normal for football

By Tiyamika Mkwanda

These are unprecedented times for everyone, more so for those associated with sports and not least those who are tasked with finding ways for its safe resumption, either way, like the rest of us, football will have to adapt to a new normal, whatever that will be.

Since football was banned in Malawi, the Malawian FA (FAM) had played more of a wait and see strategy with no obvious plan as to when football will return in the country. However, this has suddenly changed as the association has recently announced that football in Malawi will resume in August and the season will run until May 2021.

Elsewhere, Europe in particular, football has returned. The German Bundesliga being the first of Europe's top 5 leagues to return so far, followed by La Liga and the most loved league, the English Premier League (17 June, 2020). The main issue has been finding ways to make sure football returns in a safe environment; that includes players and staff being regularly tested (as much as two times a week), travelling to matches in two team buses, social distancing in the dugouts and, matches being played behind closed doors (without spectators).

The big question is; can FAM and its various concerned stakeholders bring back football in a safe environment? How will they justify using Covid-19 test kits on footballers when the country has at least 18,000 test kits for its 18 million citizens? As other countries have shown in their plans, one of the solutions for a safe return is for football to be played behind closed doors, but this solution will bring its own problems as football clubs in the country earn over 80% of their revenue through gate collections.

But with games being played behind closed doors, how will teams get paid? What about match day security personnel, stewards, ball-boys, cashiers, medical staff? This brings to highlight the need for broadcasting rights, because in these times clubs could be earning revenue from TV and Radio broadcasters but that's a story for another day.

Subject to government approval, FAM and its Covid-19 Taskforce aims for football to return in August, hopefully the strategies agreed will be with safety of the football fraternity at heart. Whatever happens, football in Malawi will have to adapt to a new normal as the rest of the world has shown.

