



-KAZI NI KAZI-

UNITED DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE

Bid to Extend Presidential Term Limit: Repugnant, Retrogressive and Primitive
Wednesday, 2nd October, 2024


The United Democratic Alliance (UDA) has learnt with great concern and disappointment that one of the Party's elected leaders has tabled a Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Bill, 2024, which seeks to alter the constitutional term limits set for holders of elective offices by extending them.

Of grave concern is that this cynical, profoundly misguided and self-serving Bill contravenes a long-held aspiration of the people of Kenya to retire the undemocratic entrenchment of unaccountable political monopolies, and seeks to deny the people regular opportunities to hold leadership to account and directly exercise sovereign power. It does not seek to pursue any meaningful objectives beyond illegitimate, myopic and retrogressive ends.

The masterminds and sponsors of the constitutional amendment bill, who are evidently preoccupied with sensational distractions and perverse indulgence in political delinquency and legislative mischief, have not engaged in sufficient reflection with regard to the historical origins, institutional basis and political necessity of term limits. Neither have they duly considered the explicit duty of leadership to respect, uphold and defend the letter and spirit of our constitution, and our commitment to offer leadership of our common national project of fully actualising its values and principles.

UDA remembers the lessons of our nation's history and honours the long struggle of the people of Kenya for constitutional change, which delivered us a liberal, progressive, democratic and inclusive constitutional dispensation, that has enabled our nation make impressive strides in consolidating our institutions, deepening our democracy, protecting our freedoms and placing our economy on the sustainable path of inclusive prosperity.

The party therefore disassociates itself from the repugnant and backward bill and calls any of its rank and file who leads, supports or is, in any manner whatsoever, involved with it, to order: The bill is incompatible with our policy and aspirations. This juvenile political experimentation and delinquent affront to our constitutional values must now crush to a halt!


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