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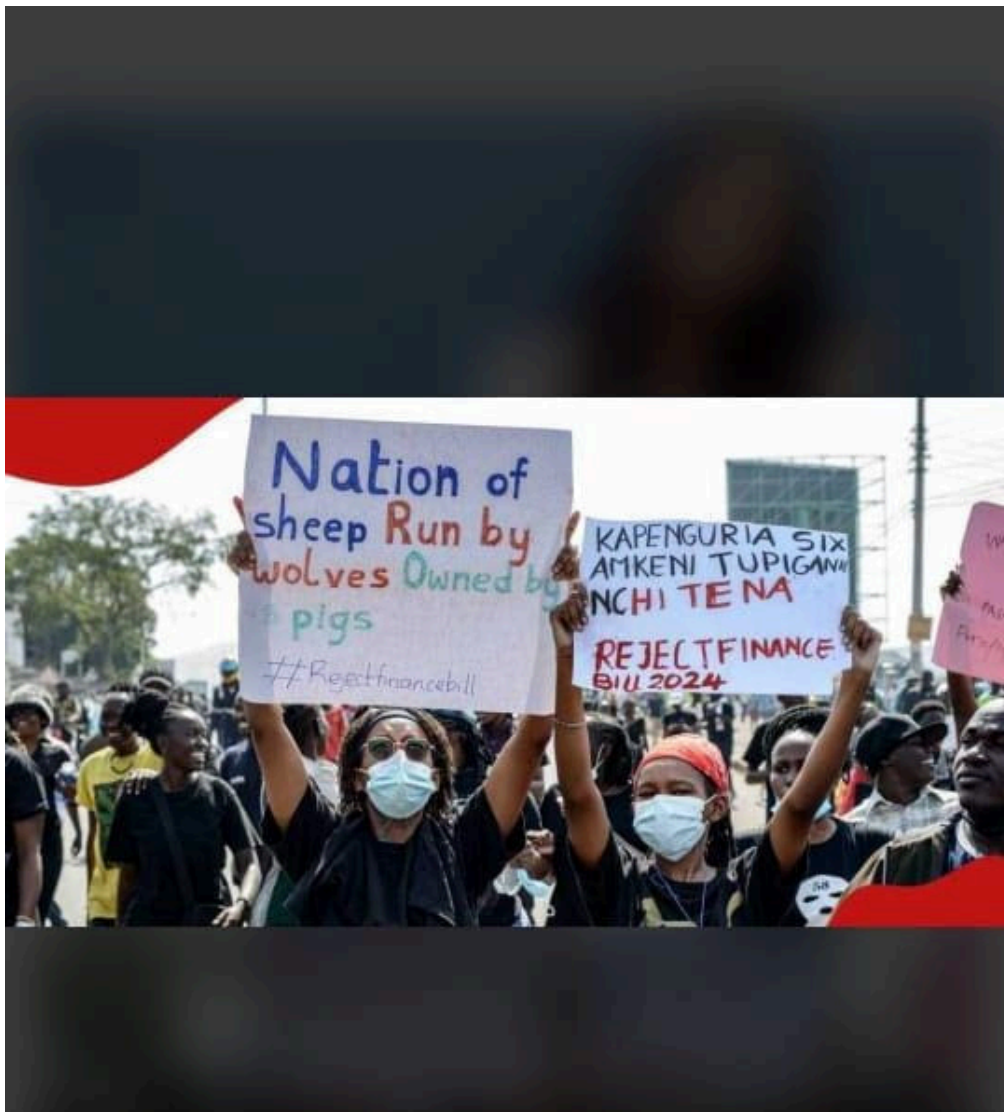


REQUEST FOR PRAYERS: YOUTH REVOLUTION AND POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN KENYA.



Dear Friends & family,

As a valued partner of Institute for Faith and Gender Empowerment, we are reaching out to you with a critical prayer request and a call to action. Over the past one month, Kenya has experienced significant political and social unrest. There has been a mass protest primarily organized and led by the 'Gen Z' (Generation Z) under the hashtag #RejectFinanceBill 2024. This mass protest started online where the Generation Z used all the social media platforms to address the issue of Finance Bill 2024 and later filled the Kenya streets, the protest are in response to high taxes, the rising cost of living, and government accountability. Protesters have been demanding the repeal of the Financial Act 2023, and reconstitution of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC).





Despite the peaceful demonstration by the Gen Z's as guaranteed by chapter four of the Kenyan Constitution, also known as the Bill of Rights. Specifically, Article 37 guarantees the right to assembly, demonstration, picketing, and petition. It states: " Every person has the right, peaceably and unarmed, to assemble, to demonstrate, to picket, and to present petitions to public authorities. The government's response has been marked by a heavy-handed approach, there have been numerous incidents of police brutality. This has led to several deaths and injuries among protesters, whose only mistake was to come out and condemn the Government on the heavy taxes, the rising cost of living, and government accountability.



Pictures of Gen Z on the streets during the Reject Financial Bill 2024 protest

On June 18, 2024, protesters broke into parliament, a highly protected area in Kenya, under the hashtag #OccupyParliament. This occurred after feeling betrayed by the Members of Parliament who voted in favor of the punitive Finance Bill 2024. The protesters, who felt let down by their elected representatives, managed to overpower the police despite the use of tear gas and live rounds. The events of that night led to over 50 people being shot dead

and more than 400 injured.

During the Gen Z riots, other bad actors and thugs exploited the situation by breaking into people's businesses, leading to significant losses due to theft. Women have also experienced an alarming increase in cases of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) during this period of unrest.

Dear friends and partners, our country Kenya needs your prayers. Beyond the political violence, Kenya has recently been rocked by other disturbing events. Bodies of women have been found dumped, dismembered, and wrapped in sacks, a chilling indication of the increasing danger women face. Additionally, during times of protest, women and girls face increased risks of gender-based violence, including sexual assaults and harassment.

IFAGE is currently working with the local Red Cross Society to map out women and girls who experienced SGBV, including rape and defilement, during the riots. We also intend to support women who lost their businesses as a result of the unrest.

Please stand with Kenya in your prayers as we navigate through these challenging times. Additionally, we appeal to you for financial support to help the victims of these tragic events. Your donations will be used to provide immediate relief and long-term assistance, including medical care, psychological support, and resources to help women rebuild their businesses. Together, we can make a difference.

We need a total of \$ 2500 to respond to this crisis. Donate to us through Global Horizons Inc. and receive your Tax Deductible Receipt.

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