



KENYA ELECTION HISTORY 1963-2013

1963

Kenya Election History

1963

1963: THE PRE-INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS

These were the last elections in pre-independent Kenya and the key players were two political parties, KANU and KADU. KADU drew its support from smaller, less urbanized communities hence advocated majimboism (regionalism) as a means of protecting them.

KANU had been forced to accept KADU's proposal to incorporate a majimbo system of government after being pressured by the British government.

Though KANU agreed to majimbo, it vowed to undo it after gaining political power.

The majimbo constitution that was introduced in 1962 provided for a two-chamber national legislature consisting of an upper (Senate) and lower (House of Representative).

The Campaign

KADU allied with the African People's Party (APP) in the campaign. KANU and APP agreed not to field candidates in seats where the other stood a better chance.

The Voting

Elections were marked by high voter turnout and were held in three phases.

They were widely boycotted in the North Eastern Province.

Violence was reported in various parts of the country; four were killed in Isiolo, teargas used in Nyanza and Nakuru, clashes between supporters in Machakos, Mombasa, Nairobi and Kitale.

In the House of Representative KANU won 66 seats out of 112 and gained working majority from 4 independents and 3 from NPUA, KADU took 47 seats and APP won 8.

In the Senate KANU won 19 out 38 seats while KADU won 16 seats, APP won 2 and NPUA only 1.

REFERENCE: NATIONAL ELECTIONS DATA BOOK

By Institute for Education in Democracy (published in 1997).

1966**1966: THE LITTLE GENERAL ELECTIONS**

The elections were meant to neutralize Vice-President Oginga Odinga since President Jomo Kenyatta felt that Odinga and powerful Cabinet Minister Tom Mboya, both hoped to succeed him and yet he, Kenyatta, still wanted to consolidate power.

In his view, Odinga had to go first so he made an alliance with Mboya. This political contest saw the use of constitutional amendments to win political battles. Mboya and Attorney General Charles Njonjo moved them through parliament to increase presidential authority.

The first amendment in 1964 transformed Kenya into a Republic headed by a President who had both head of state and head of government powers.

KADU then joined KANU, reinforcing it against Odinga's wing.

The final result of the 1964 amendments was to re-establish a centralized bureaucracy controlled by the presidency.

This reduced powers of regional leaders like Odinga.

Mboya laid out coups against Odinga's allies and replaced his deputy party president post with eight provincial vice-president posts.

Odinga resigned from KANU and the government on April 14, 1966 and formed the Kenya Peoples Union (KPU).

KANU then passed a constitutional amendment requiring MPs who defected from their party to seek re-election, which necessitated the mass by-elections.

The Campaign

KANU's plan was to confine Odinga's influence to his home and prevent KPU from growing.

Legal registration of KPU was delayed until nomination day and candidates denied licenses to hold rallies. The sole national broadcaster, Voice of Kenya gave them a news blackout and their supporters were harassed.

The Voting

This took place in three rounds over a period of two weeks. KANU won 21 out of the 28 contested seats in the House of Representative and KPU won 7.

In the Senate, KANU won 8 out of the 10 contested seats while KPU won 2.

REFERENCE: NATIONAL ELECTIONS DATA BOOK

By Institute for Education in Democracy (published in 1997).

1969

1969: THE FIRST POST INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS

These were to be held in 1968 but the 1966 Constitution amendment which abolished the Senate increased the life of parliament by a year. Four new constitutional laws consolidated more power in KANU. Every KPU candidate was disqualified due to few technical mistakes in the 1968 civic elections. Mboya was assassinated in July 1969 and the presidential convoy was stoned by crowds in Kisumu protesting the killing. KPU was banned on October 30, 1969 so it made it impossible for any candidate or presidential candidate opposing KANU or Kenyatta to stand for election. Kenya was now a de facto one-party state.

The Campaign

This was free of violence apart from isolated incidents. The main difference between the parliament elected in 1963 and the one in 1969 was a single republican legislature serving under a head of state with immense powers.

The Voting

KANU primary elections were held on December 6, 1969 and were followed by general elections on January 3, 1970. Out of the 158 incumbents, 77 lost their seats including 5 cabinet ministers and 14 assistant ministers. Seven women stood for elections but only one was elected Grace Onyango in Kisumu Town.

REFERENCE: NATIONAL ELECTIONS DATA BOOK

By Institute for Education in Democracy (published in 1997).

1974**1974: THE SECOND POST INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS**

The elections took place in the setting of a slowing economy. KANU remained the only political party.

The Campaign

To assure exclusive control, for one to be eligible to run, he/she had to be a life member of KANU and special regulations were introduced to hinder KPU detainees from easy life membership process.

The Voting

The secret ballot was introduced for the first time in Kenya for these elections. Previously a presiding officer was present during vote casting. Voting age was reduced from 21 to 18. Out of the 158 incumbents, 88 lost their seats including 4 cabinet ministers and 13 assistant ministers. There were 13 women candidates and four were elected.

REFERENCE: NATIONAL ELECTIONS DATA BOOK

By Institute for Education in Democracy (published in 1997).

1979

1979: THE THIRD POST INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS

As Kenyatta's health deteriorated in the 1970's there was an inside struggle between Vice-President Daniel arap Moi and a group opposed to him and his allies. This brought the change-the-constitution movement of 1976 which advocated for the renunciation of the Vice-President to automatically assume the presidency once the President dies. However, when Kenyatta died on August 22, 1978, Moi took over without much tension.

The Campaign

The period was restricted to three weeks. Campaign spending was raised to curb vote buying.

It was stated that candidates had to be loyal and popular to be eligible with KANU. This came with much hassle. Many ex-KPU members were declared security risks. An attempt by one of them to sue saw the President intervene. Moi also proclaimed that five ex-KPU leaders including Odinga would not be cleared.

The president was conspicuously involved in his allies' campaigns. He wanted them to hold key positions in government and said he had a right to recommend development-aware leaders.

The Voting

Seven hundred candidates stood for the elections and about half of the incumbents did not return. Out of 15 women candidates 4 were elected.

REFERENCE: NATIONAL ELECTIONS DATA BOOK

By Institute for Education in Democracy (published in 1997).

1983**1983: THE FOURTH POST INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS**

After the previous election, Moi continued to strengthen his position. He began the Nyayo free milk scheme, declared a 10% increase in minimum wage, banned all ethnically-based associations and disjoined civil society formations.

In reaction, Odinga and former KANU secretary general George Anyona attempted to register a new party. To prevent this, the constitution was amended to make KANU the sole political party. Following the creation of the de jure one-party state, two events occurred which had major impact on the elections.

The first was the attempted coup of August 1, 1982 staged by some units of the Kenya Air Force.

The second was the Njonjo affair in which the Minister for Constitutional Affairs, Charles Njonjo was accused for planning to hire South African and Israeli mercenaries to overthrow the government. Following poor terms of trade such as high borrowing rate, the economy continued to deteriorate.

The Campaign

All contestants had to get clearance from KANU and Odinga with some of his ex-KPU members were denied. The campaign lasted a month and candidates had to prove their loyalty to President Moi.

The Voting

Only 48% of registered voters turned out on Election Day, the lowest figure since independence. 40 % of incumbents were voted out. Out of 7 women candidates 2 were elected.

REFERENCE: NATIONAL ELECTIONS DATA BOOK

By Institute for Education in Democracy (published in 1997).

1988**1988: THE FIFTH POST INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS**

The peak of regime consolidation under President Moi was marked in these elections. Local opposition was weakened and constitutional amendments saw control of the presidency rise and manipulation of legal system possible.

A new system of queue voting called Mlolongo was introduced where a separate queue was formed for each candidate and voters joined according to their preference. People in each queue were counted and the results announced by the presiding officer.

KANU argued that the system promoted honesty but it enabled candidates to intimidate voters. Any candidate who got more than 30 % of the vote or finished among the top 3 in the queue voting round was issued with a nomination certificate and cleared to proceed to stand in the final round where the secret ballot was used. KANU also introduced a stipulation that any candidate who got more than 70% vote in the queue voting round was declared elected.

The Campaign

KANU used a huge recruitment drive to maximize membership. During the campaign there were incidents of violence.

The Voting

Several candidates complained that they had been rigged out by the queue-voting system. Out of 188 seats 123 were decided by secret ballot while 51 were declared elected under the 70 % rule. 14 candidates went in unopposed. Out of 6 women candidates 2 were elected.

REFERENCE: NATIONAL ELECTIONS DATA BOOK

By Institute for Education in Democracy (published in 1997).

1992**1992: THE SIXTH POST INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS**

The introduction of queue voting with the 70% rule and claims of rigging in the 1988 elections tainted the one-party system. Several leaders began to oppose the one-party system in the first quarter of the year 1990.

Public anger exploded in the saba saba uprising of July 1990 which broke out after anti-Moi forces tried to organize a pro-democracy rally and several people were killed. International and local pressure culminated upon this hence KANU amended the constitution in 1991 restoring the right to form alternative political parties.

This paved way for the multiparty elections of December 1992.

President Moi made minimal reforms to accommodate multi-party politics.

The government amended the constitution requiring the winning presidential candidate to get at least 25% of the vote in five out of the eight provinces.

There was unprecedented violence in various parts of the country.

Thousands were killed and this greatly affected the 1992 elections.

An NCKK task force and a parliamentary select committee investigated the clashes.

Despite government assurances of security restoration the clashes escalated throughout the year.

Nine parties had been registered by the time of nominations.

The new Electoral Commission appointed was filled with controversy.

All members were appointed by the President without any consultation with the opposition. This undermined its credibility.

The commission was afflicted by administrative problems. It was accused of incompetence, bias in management and registering non-Kenyan and underage voters.

Nominations were marked by violence, a possibility acknowledged by the Electoral Commission.

Opposition candidates were prevented from registering their nominations in some 16 constituencies.

The Campaign

KANU had organizational superiority, huge national resources and unlimited access to administrative machinery.

It controlled the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC), Kenya Television Network (KTN) and made effective its newspaper, The Kenya Times.

Alternative media gave coverage to the opposition but its circulation was limited.

KANU also used official intimidation against opposing candidates.

The Voting

On December 29, 1992, voter turnout was about 65% and the process was carried forward to the next day.

Late opening of polling stations delayed voting and counting of ballot papers was affected by numerous problems.

The Electoral Commission failed to provide mobile polling stations as it had pledged.

Moi won 36.8 % of total votes in Kenya's first ever contested Presidential elections which attracted 7 other candidates. He won the presidential election in one ballot. He failed to secure 25% of the vote in Nairobi, Central and Nyanza Provinces.

KANU won 94 of the 210 seats followed by FORD-Asili with 31 and FORD-Kenya with 23. DP, KNC, PICK and KSC each won 1 seat.

Out of 18 women candidates 6 were elected, the highest number in any election.

There were mixed opinions on whether the elections were free and fair.

REFERENCE: NATIONAL ELECTIONS DATA BOOK

By Institute for Education in Democracy (published in 1997).

1997

1997: THE SEVENTH POST INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS

Kenya's second multi-party General Elections since independence were held in December, 1997 amid a worsening economic climate. Despite repeal of Section 2(A) of the constitution in 1991 the divided opposition could not prevent President Daniel arap Moi and KANU from winning the 1992 General Election.

In early 1997, President Moi appointed ten more Election Commissioners from list provided by opposition parties under the Inter-parties Parliamentary Group (IPPG) talks that were meant to create a level playing field in the run up to the 1997 General Election.

In 1996, the Electoral Commission of Kenya reviewed constituency boundaries and created 22 new constituencies thus bringing the number to the maximum 210 allowed by the constitution.

At about the same time President Moi created 24 more Districts, a development clearly related to the creation of the new constituencies. Out the 22 new constituencies, 8 were granted to the new Districts.

The Campaign

Before 1997, there were 16 registered political parties but an additional 9 were registered by the time of the 1997 General Elections but only 22 took party in the elections.

The IPPG talks allowed candidate and political parties to hold campaign rallies without first obtaining a license but only to inform the local police station. But there were cases of opposition candidates being blocked from holding rallies or even landing at some airstrips. There were several case of violence reported but were not as serious as those in 1992.

The Presidential nominations took place on 3rd and 4th December while the Parliamentary and Civic nominations took place on 8 and 9th December.

There were a record 15 Presidential candidates including 2 women for the first time. A total 880 candidates were cleared for Parliamentary elections and 8 were nominated unopposed. KANU was the only party to field candidates in all 210 constituencies.

The Voting

The 1997 Elections were held on 29th December but were extended to 30th December due logistical problems and flooding mainly in North-Eastern and Coast Province.

The Elections had a large voter turn out of 65.7% compared with 58.9% in 1992.

President Moi of KANU won the Presidential election with 40 % of the National vote followed by Mwai Kibaki of DP with 30 %, Raila Odinga of NDP with 10.81 %, Christopher Wamalwa of Ford-K with 8.19 %, Charity Ngilu of SDP with 7.91 %. The other 11 candidate only managed 1.73 %.

Moi was the only presidential candidate to attain 25 % vote in 5 of 8 Provinces but despite being elected for his final term as president he obtained only 40.51 % compared to the combined opposition vote of

59.40 %.

In the Parliamentary elections KANU won 107 seats including 11 unopposed followed by DP with 39, NDP with 21, FORD-K with 17, SDP with 15, SAFINA with 5, FORD-P with 3. KSC, SPK and FORD-A each won 1 seat.

Despite winning 50.9% of the seats, KANU only had 38.43 % of the National vote (2,243,463) compared to the opposition with 61.57 % (3,594,145).

Out of a record 47 women candidates standing, only 4 were elected including Charity Ngilu, one of two women candidates vying for the Presidency. This compares poorly with 1992 when out 19 women candidates 6 were elected.

REFERENCE:1997 GENERAL ELECTION REPORT

By Institute for Education in Democracy; Catholic Justice and Peace; National Council of Churches of Kenya (published in 1998).

2002**2002: THE EIGHTH POST INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS**

The 2002 Elections were awaited with great anticipation as the incumbent President Daniel arap Moi was barred from standing for a third term by the constitution although he had already served five terms since 1979.

For the first time Kenya will have a new president during the life time of the previous one.

The run up to the elections was marked by several significant events among them the ECK asserting its independence and authority, including rebuking political parties and candidates who broke the Election Code of Conduct. This allowed for a free and fair election process.

Another change in the process was that votes were to be counted at the actual polling station and the results announced hence eliminating the possibility of ballot boxes going missing or being stuffed with new ballots on the way to the counting center.

With the technology of mobile phones and SMS messaging, it was possible for Kenyans to know the results of any elections within hours of polls closing.

A private FM radio station managed to announce provisional results even before the ECK!

The most significant event was the fall out in the ruling party KANU after President Moi chose Uhuru Kenyatta as his successor thus triggering a rebellion within party ranks.

A group of Cabinet Ministers opposed to Moi's choice and calling itself the Rainbow Coalition joined force with the opposition to form the National Rainbow Coalition (NARC) that finally ended KANU's 40 year reign.

The Campaign

With KANU facing a united opposition for the first time the mood for change was in the air. The campaign period was relative peaceful with non-partisan security by the police. Kenyans flocked to NARC rallies in droves with a new anthem "Yote yawezakana bila Moi"(All is possible without Moi). This made NARC to be seen as the perceived savior of the people from want, corruption, misrule, mismanagement of public resources, etc.

In an unusual move, one of the opposition parties in the NARC coalition, the National Party of Kenya (NPK) transformed itself in the National Rainbow Coalition (NARC), a political party to enable candidates in the various opposition parties to stand under a single party.

While in most democracies, coalitions are formed after elections, Kenya's case was unique in forming a coalition of 14 opposition parties before the election and then using one of the parties to sponsor candidates without dissolving the original parties.

The NARC presidential candidate, Mwai Kibaki was involved in a road accident just before the elections hence could not take part in campaign rallies but a group of credible and well-tried politicians called the Summit campaigned on his behalf.

Nomination for presidential elections was carried out on 18th and 19th November, 2002 while those for parliamentary and civic candidates took place on 25th and 26th November, 2002.

5 presidential; 1,035 parliamentary; and 7,009 civic candidates were cleared to stand.

The Voting

Polling took place on 27th December, 2002 which was part of the long Christmas holiday, hence the voter turn-out was marginally lower than 1997.

A total of 5,969,181 voters voted in the 2002 elections, a voter turn-out of 57 %, down by 7.2 % from 1997. An estimated 4,482,506 voters did not vote.

Although voter turn-out was lower, the overall turn-out was up in every province except in the Rift Valley and Nyanza. The combined opposition turn-out was up in every province while KANU turn-out was down in every province except Rift Valley and North-Eastern.

The ethnic presidential bloc voting of 1992 and 1997 did not take place except in Kisii Nyanza as both the two main contenders; Uhuru Kenyatta and Mwai Kibaki were both from the same ethnic group.

Mwai Kibaki of NARC won the presidential elections to become Kenya's third president. He garnered 62 % of the national vote; Uhuru Kenyatta of KANU came second with 30 % while Simon Nyachae of FORD-P came third with only 7 %. Two other candidates did poorly and failed to win their parliamentary seats.

Mwai Kibaki made history by being the first presidential candidate to surpass 25 % of valid votes in all 8 provinces.

In the parliamentary elections NARC emerged the winner with 125 seats, the highest number seats gained by one party since re-introduction of multi-party politics in 1991. KANU came second with 64 seats down from 103 in 1997, hence becoming the official opposition after 40 years as the ruling party. FORD-P got 14 seats mostly from Kisii Nyanza; SAFINA, FORD-A and Sisi Kwa Sisi each got 2 seats; Shirikisho got only one seat.

Out of 44 women candidates, only 9 managed to be elected which was an improvement of 3 compared with 1997.

REFERENCE: ENHANCING THE ELECTROL PROCESS IN KENYA-A
Report on the Transition General Elections 2002

By Institute for Education in Democracy (published in 2003)

2007

2007: THE NINTH POST INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS

The ninth post independence elections held on 27th December, 2007 turned out to be the most trumatic in Kenya's history, resulting in post-election violence that resulted in over 1,000 deaths and displacement of over 600,000 people. Kenya's reputation as a heaven of peace and stability was tanished. While the actual voting went peacefully, it was the announcent of the presidential election results that triggered riots and blood letting never before witnessed since the days of the Mau-Mau uprising in the 1950s. Ironically the parliamentary elections held on the same day went smoothly except for two constituecies where the results could not be announced due to incidents at the tally centres & another where two candidates tied for first place. These elections were remarkable for a number of changes among these were:

- Out of 190 outgoing MPs defending their seats only 71 were re-elected.
- 20 ministers, including a sitting Vice-President defending their seats were defeated.
- KANU the official opposition party of 2002 which later joined the government was reduced from 62 to 14 seats.
- 15 female candidates were elected which is the highest number ever up from 9 in 2002.

2007 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS**The Parliamentary Campaign**

The 9th Parliament of Kenya was dissolved on Monday October 22, 2007. The date, was officially announced on October 26, 2007 by the Electoral Commission of Kenya (ECK), stating the elections will be held on Thursday December 27, 2007. This made it possible for the Speaker to issue writs to the seating MPs thereby declaring the 210 MP positions vacant. Contenders are required to gain nominations on any of the 144 registered parties in order to qualify to be on the ballot. A simple majority is required to win a parliamentary election. The winners will be elect-MPs until the official swearing ceremony for the 10th Parliament.

The Electoral Commission of Kenya (ECK) had initially set a deadline of November 19, 2007 for submitting the list of contenders to prevent losers from defecting after losing in their parties. The ECK later retracted and allowed losers to defect to minor parties. ODM, PNU and ODM-K held their nomination elections on November 16, 2007. The final list of successful nominees were formally submitted to the ECK on November 23, 2007 and November 24, 2007. A record number of 2,547 candidates vied for a parliamentary seat, compared to 1,035 candidates at the previous parliamentary elections in 2002. This despite the number of constituencies remaining the same. There was a record number of women candidates (269).

ODM had the highest number of candidates (190), followed by KENDA (170), PNU (135), ODM-Kenya (135), Kaddu (97) KANU (91), Safina (88), NARC (73), DP (86) and Narc-Kenya (59). Total of 108 parties fielded parliamentary candidates, another record. For the first time in

Kenyan general elections, no party fielded a candidate in every constituency. Previously, KANU had fielded candidates in all constituencies.

Kitutu Masaba Constituency had the highest number of candidates (33), all of them contesting for a single parliamentary seat and each representing different parties respectively. All 210 constituencies had at least two candidates. Thus, unlike previous general elections, there are no constituencies with a single candidate (walk-over).

The campaign period was relatively peaceful except for a few incidents of violence between supporters of the various parties, especially ODM and PNU. The main issues were use or misuse of the Constituency Development Fund (CDF), MP salary hike and unemployment among the youth.

The Parliamentary voting

These election were noted for the high number of prominent personalities who lost their seats, including for the first time in Kenya's history, a sitting vice-president. Vice-President Moody Awori and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Wangari Maathai lost their parliamentary seats. Other notable politicians with the same fate included Mutahi Kagwe, Musikari Kombo, Simeon Nyachae, Nicholas Biwott, Chris Murungaru, Mukhisa Kituyi, Raphael Tuju, Kipruto Kirwa, Njenga Karume and Gideon Moi, the son of former president Daniel arap Moi.

Parliamentary election results were cancelled in Kamukunji, Kilgoris and Wajir North and were to be repeated some time in future. The Wajir North result made history as for the first time two candidates tied for first place. Hence only 207 seats were declared.

ODM emerged with 99 seats followed by PNU (43), ODM-K (16), KANU (14), Safina (5), Narc-K (4), FORD-P (3), Narc (3), CCU (2), DP (2), NFRD-K (2), PICK (2), SKS (2), FORD-A (1), FORD-K (1), KADDU (1), KADU-A (1), KNDA (1), MGPK (1), NLP (1), PDP (1), PPK (1), UDM (1). TOTAL-207.

2007 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

A presidential election was held as part of the Kenyan general election on December 27, 2007; parliamentary elections were held on the same date. Incumbent President Mwai Kibaki was declared the winner and sworn in on December 30, despite opposition leader Raila Odinga's claims of victory. There is agreement in the international community that the elections were at least partially manipulated. In July 2008, an exit poll commissioned by the US was released, revealing that Odinga won the election by a comfortable margin of 6%, 46% to 40%, well outside of the exit poll's 1.3% margin of error.

The election was strongly marked by tribalism, with Kibaki a member of the traditionally dominant Kikuyu ethnic group getting much support amongst people of Central Kenya, i.e. Kikuyu and neighbouring groups like Embu and Meru. Odinga, as a member of the Luo ethnic group, succeeded in creating a wider base by building a coalition with regional leaders from the Luhya in Western Kenya, Kalenjin from the Rift Valley and Muslim leaders from the Coast Province. The third place

candidate, Kalonzo Musyoka, had his base mainly amongst the Kamba. Following the announcement of Kibaki's victory, civil unrest broke out which was often directed against members of Kibaki's ethnic group residing outside their traditional settlement areas.

Kenneth Matiba of Saba Saba Asili joined the race after a 10-year political hiatus. Other candidates were Joseph Ngacha Karani (Kenya Patriotic Trust), Nixon Jeremiah Kukubo (Republican Party of Kenya), Pius Muiru (Kenya Peoples' Party), David Waweru Ng'ethe (Chama Cha Umma) and Nazlin Omar (Workers Congress Party). The latter was the only woman candidate.

The Presidential campaign

Incumbent president Mwai Kibaki declared on January 26, 2007 his intentions of running for re-election, even though he had previously declared at the 2002 elections that he needed only one term as president. At the time ODM-Kenya coalition was expected to field the strongest challenger for Kibaki. The main parties affiliated to ODM-Kenya were LDP and KANU. At the time of the 2002 elections, LDP was part of the NARC movement backing Kibaki, but were dismissed from the cabinet after the 2005 constitutional referendum. KANU, on the other hand is a former ruling party, but the former president Daniel arap Moi was among its faction opposing its involvement with the ODM-Kenya coalition. KANU and LDP had originally teamed up for the 2005 referendum, under the banner Orange Democratic Movement.

ODM-Kenya split in two in August 2007, with one faction (ODM-Kenya) led by Kalonzo Musyoka, while others joined the original ODM. KANU left the coalition. Former president Daniel arap Moi announced his support for the re-election of Kibaki, his former political enemy, in late August, and Uhuru Kenyatta followed the suit and announced his support for Kibaki in mid-September, hence making history by being the first leader of the Opposition to support an incumbent President during an election campaign. Kenyatta had earlier vied for presidential candidacy on the ODM ticket before he and his party KANU ditched the coalition. KANU fielded its own parliamentary candidates.

Several ODM members vied to be the party's presidential candidate, including Kalonzo Musyoka, Raila Odinga, William Ruto, Najib Balala, Musalia Mudavadi and Joseph Nyagah. Following the August 2007 split between ODM and ODM-K, the ODM-K appointed Musyoka as its candidate on August 31 and the ODM elected Odinga as its candidate on September 1. On September 16, 2007, Kibaki announced that he would stand as the candidate of a new alliance called the Party of National Unity (PNU), which included a number of parties, including KANU, DP, Narc-Kenya, Ford-Kenya, Ford People, and Shirikisho among others. He began his presidential campaign on September 30 at Nyayo Stadium in Nairobi. Odinga launched his campaign in Uhuru Park on October 6, 2007. In October, Odinga led Kibaki in most opinion polls. Two cabinet ministers, first Health Minister Charity Ngilu and then Regional Cooperation Minister John Koech, backed Odinga in October leading to Kibaki dismissing Ngilu from the cabinet.

Parliament was dissolved on Tuesday October 23rd, paving way for the Electoral Commission of Kenya (ECK) to announce the election

date. The date was officially announced on October 26, 2007 by the ECK, stating the elections would be held on Thursday December 27, 2007.

Opinion polls in late October put Odinga at 50% support, Kibaki at 39%, and Musyoka at 8%. The poll released in early November put Odinga at 45%, Kibaki at 41% and Musyoka at 11%, while on November 23 a poll placed Odinga and Kibaki at about the same level, with 43.6% and 43.3% support respectively.

Presidential candidates presented their nomination papers on the November 14th and 15th to the ECK and 9 candidates were cleared to be on the ballot in December.

Some of the issues of the election being discussed by the 3 main candidates were:

- Economy
- Infrastructure
- Corruption
- Majimbo/Ugatuji (federalism & devolution)
- Free High school Education
- Universal Health care
- Position of Muslims within Kenya
- Constitution (Odinga promised a new constitution within sixmonths).

Unlike previous presidential elections, the media (print, radio, TV, internet) was used extensively by the three main candidates, with cost of campaign adverts running into millions of shillings. There was also negative ethnicity especiallay fanned by venacular FM radio stations which led to the post election violence that followed annoucnent of the results on 30th December, 2007.

The Presidential voting

Raila Odinga held a strong lead in vote counting on December 28, and the ODM declared victory for Odinga on December 29. However, as more results were announced on the same day, the gap between the two candidates narrowed. Early on December 30, Odinga accused the government of fraud, urged Kibaki to concede defeat, and called for a recount. The Electoral Commission declared Kibaki the winner at about 5.30 pm on December 30, with 4,579,034 placing him ahead of Odinga with 4,352,860 (a difference of 225,174 votes). Results from Kamkunji constituency were cancelled due to an incident at the tallying centre. The announcement was carried by only the state owned KBC TV after the vote tallying venue at the KICC was taken over by paramilitary police and most people evicted.

The Chairman of the Electoral Commission, Samuel Kivuitu, said that while irregularities did occur, they were a matter for the courts, not the Electoral Commission. Following the Commission's declaration of his victory, Kibaki was sworn in for his second term later on the same evening at State House.

Full results for all 9 candidates according to the ECK:

PNU-Mwai Kibaki-4,578,034 (47%)
ODM-Raila Odinga-4,352,860 (44%)
ODM-K-Kalonzo Musyoka-879,899 (9%)

KPTP-Joseph Karani-21,168 (0.2%)
KPP-Pius Muiru-9,665 (0.09%)
WCPK-Nazlin Omar-8,624 (0.087%)
SSA-Kenneth Matiba-8,049 (0.081%)
CCUP-David Ng'ethe-5,976 (0.06%)
RPK-Nixon Kukubo-5,926 (0.06%)

Aftermath of the 2007 Presidential elections

ECK Chairman Samuel Kivuitu said that there were some problems in the vote counting, noting that in one constituency voter turnout was reported as 115%, this was later clarified by Kivuitu appearing in an interview by Nation Television due to a double entry of one polling station in Maragua Constituency on the parliamentary tally and not the presidential tally. According to the European Union's head observer in the election, Alexander Graf Lambsdorff, the election was "flawed" and the Electoral Commission failed to establish "the credibility of the tallying process to the satisfaction of all parties and candidates." The United Kingdom's Foreign Secretary, David Miliband, said that his country had "real concerns" about the election. While the United States initially congratulated Kibaki and called for the results to be respected, it also expressed concern, and on January 2, 2008 a spokesman for the U.S. State Department declined to confirm U.S. recognition of Kibaki's victory. Kivuitu said on January 2 that he had been pressured by PNU and ODM-K (Kibaki's and Kalonzo Musyoka's parties) into announcing the results without delay, declaring Kibaki as elected winner; claiming that he did not personally know who really won. Within minutes of the Commission's declaration of Kibaki's victory, ethnic-based rioting and violence, broke out across Kenya that lasted for over a month and resulting in the death of 1,333 people and displacement of 650,000, making this Kenya's worst crisis since independence. Following intervention of mediators led by former UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan, a power-sharing agreement, according to which Kibaki would remain President and Odinga would gain the new post of Prime Minister, was reached on 28th February 2008, and a coalition government, with an equal number of ministers for the PNU and the ODM, was named in April. The Electoral Commission of Kenya was later disbanded and replaced by the Interim Independent Electoral Commission of Kenya.

REFERENCE: WIKIPEDIA-THE ON-LINE ENCYCLOPEDIA and additional analysis from Systex Solutions team.

2013

2013: THE TENTH POST INDEPENDENCE ELECTION AND FIRST UNDER NEW CONSTITUTION

The 2013 General Elections were held on Monday, 4th March, 2013, electing the President, 47 Senators, 47 County Governors, Members of Parliament for 290 constituencies, 47 County Women Representatives in the National Assembly and 1,450 County Ward Representatives. These were first elections held under the new constitution, which was passed during the 2010 Referendum. There were also the first election run by the Independent Electoral and Boundries Commission (IEBC), which replaced the Interim Independent Electoral Commission (IIEC). The IIEC had been set up in 2008 to replace the defunct Electoral Commission of Kenya (ECK) which was dissolved after the disastrous 2007 General Elections.

Election date

Originally the dates of 14 August 2012 or December 2012 were planned for the election, depending on a court ruling to be issued. The court ruled that presidential and parliamentary elections should be held in March 2013.

The setting of this date also resulted in the resignation in September 2012 of several civil servants who wished to join politics as required by the elections Act.

Election schedule

On 28 December 2012, the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission announced the Notice of General Elections which confirmed the following:

General dates

General Election: 4 March 2013

Party Nomination Deadline: 18 January 2013

Submission of nominees of party lists for Nominated Positions: 31 January 2013

The IEBC also indicate that disputes relating to or arising from nominations will be determined within seven days of the lodging of the dispute with the Commission.

Dates for submission of nomination papers:

President-29th January and 30th January, 2013

Members of National Assembly-31st January and 1st February, 2013

Senate-31st January and 1st February, 2013

Women Representative (National Assembly)-31st January and 1st February, 2013

County Governor-31st January and 1st February, 2013

County Ward Representative-29th, 30th, 31st January 2013

Legislation and Rules

The IEBC in its Notice of General Election Cited the following Legislation as key to governing the process: Provisions of Part III-X of the Election (General) Regulations on the Presidential, Parliamentary and County Assembly Elections (Subsidiary Legislation)
First Schedule to the Leadership and Integrity Act No. 19 of 2012
Chapter Six of the Constitution of Kenya.
Electoral Code of Conduct set out in the Second Schedule to the Election Act with emphasis on: Applicability to every political party and person participating in the election
Penalties imposed (PART VI of the Elections Act (No.24 of 2011)
Disqualifications imposed thereof and under the Constitution of Kenya.

Presidential Election Disputes

On 13 January, the Judiciary indicated it would hear and determine within two weeks disputes on Presidential Election results. The Judiciary Working Committee on Election Preparations (JWCEP) announced that election petitions would be certified urgent. These rules were developed in pursuance of Article 163(8) of the constitution which mandates the Supreme Court to make rules for the exercise of its exclusive jurisdiction of hearing presidential election petition.

Voter Registration

Voter registration ran from 19 November 2012 for 30 days. Problems were reported during the first few days of the registration exercise included availability of electricity, military operations in some areas and logistical challenges caused by rains. Another subsequent challenge was the inability to register prospective voters who were still awaiting issuance of their formal identity documents by the government.

Diaspora Voters

On 27 November, the government announced that due to time and logistics constraints there would be no attempts to register Kenyan voters in the diaspora. The IEBC later announced a decision to register Kenyan diaspora voters living within the East African Community Countries. The ten-day exercise concluded on 25 December 2012 with low turnout attributed to logistical challenges. The IEBC estimate was that about 1,700 people registered.

BVR Kits

Voter registration was carried out using Biometric Voter Registration (BVR) Kits which would reduce certain incidents of fraud. The purchase of the BVR Kits was financed through a loan from Standard Chartered Kenya in a government-to-government deal involving Kenya and Canada made cheaper by a guarantee from the Canadian government. The Canadian government arranged to have its fully owned parastatal, Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC), sign a contract with the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission

(IEBC).

Registered Voter Numbers

After the 18 December deadline, the IEBC released the provisional voter numbers showing a registered base of 14.3 million voters. The IEBC indicated that they had missed their target of 18 million voters citing voter apathy as one of reasons for this. The IEBC began an exercise to cleaning up the voters' roll with a target of opening it for verification early January 2013.

On 13 January 2013 IEBC opened its voter register for inspection. Voters were to verify their details before 26 January to enable the commission clean the register ahead of the poll. The options include visiting respective registration centers, the IEBC website or the use of mobile phone numbers via an SMS service (using National Identity Card or Passport numbers used during registration).

The IEBC announced on 23 February 2013 that it had removed 20,000 voters who had registered more than once from the voter roll. The names were identified during continuing activities to clean up the register. The final voter registration number was given as 14,353,533 including 2,637 in the Diaspora.

Political Party Coalitions and Alliances

The law required all Kenyan political parties to register any coalition agreements with the Registrar of Political Parties by 4 December 2012. This resulted in several publicized discussions among key political players and their respective parties who aimed to form pre-election coalitions prior to the deadline. Another likely effect of the agreements was a reduction in the number of prospective candidates. Four coalitions formed by the deadline include:

The Coalition for Reforms and Democracy (CORD): ODM, Wiper Party, Ford-Kenya and other parties.

The Jubilee Alliance: TNA, URP and UDF Parties. UDF later left the coalition.

Eagle Alliance: KNC and POA Parties.

Pambazuka Coalition: New FORD Kenya, National Vision Party, Federal Party of Kenya and KADDU Parties. The coalition collapsed on 29 December 2012.

Amani Coalition: UDF, New Ford Kenya and KANU Parties (formed after the UDF exit from the Jubilee Coalition).

Nominations by Political Parties

The release of the calendar resulted in several parties opting to hold their nominations on 17 January 2013. The IEBC proposed public school shut down on 17 January 2013, as the schools would be the venue for a significant number of nomination activities across the country. The Government confirmed that public schools would not open on 17 January 2013. The government would later announce that Public primary schools would for the second day (18 January 2013) remain closed to allow party primaries to continue. On 19 January the

IEBC indicated that political aspirants who lost during respective party primaries are not allowed to defect and seek tickets on other parties after Midnight on 18 January 2013. By law, political parties were expected to nominate their candidates for an election at least 45 days before. While other parties and coalitions held their nominations early, the Jubilee, Amani and CORD coalitions chose to hold country wide their nominations 2 days before the deadline. These were marked with disorganization and chaos with protests arising in Nairobi, Nyanza and Central provinces.

The General Elections

The 2013 election was largely peaceful other than an incident in the early hours of 4 March 2013 just before polls opened where a gang killed at least six police officers in the region of Changanamwe, Mombasa and in Kilifi county. The authorities immediately blamed the Mombasa Republican Council (a fringe separatist group that had opposed the elections and believes that Kenya's coastal zone should be a separate country) and arrested some of its members over the incident. Nevertheless, turnout in the affected counties was still high.

Presidential Elections

Due to the terms of the new constitution, the presidential candidates can face a second round run-off between the first and the second if no-one achieves an absolute majority of more than half the valid votes cast in the first round as well as 25% of the votes in at least 24 counties.

Although the voting went on peacefully in most parts of the country, the ICT systems deployed by the IEBC to tally the Presidential elections failed and the IEBC had to revert to manual tallying, hence delaying release of the results.

On March 9th Uhuru Kenyatta was declared the president-elect of Kenya by the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission after five days of counting. Raila Odinga challenged this in the Supreme Court of Kenya. His petition challenging the results was dismissed on March 30, 2013.

Uhuru Kenyatta (TNA) was declared winner with 6,173,433 (50.07%) of the 12,330,028 valid votes, after achieving more than 50 % plus 1 threshold to avoid a run-off. Voter turn-out was 86%, the highest in Kenya's history. 2nd-

Raila Odinga (ODM)-5,340,546 (43.31%)
 3rd-Musalia Mudavadi (UDF)-483,981 (3.93%)
 4th-Peter Kenneth (KNC)-72,786 (0.59%)
 5th-Mohamed Abduba Dida (ARK)-52,848 (0.43%)
 6th-Martha Karua (Narc-K)-43,881 (0.36%).
 7th-James Kiyiapi (RBK)-40,998 (0.33%)
 8th-Paul Muite (SAFINA)-12,580 (0.10%)

Parliamentary Elections

2,098 candidates stood for the 290 constituencies created in 2012, an increase of 80 from the 210 in 2007. Out this number, 159 were women but only 16 were elected, an increase of only 1 compared to 2007.

Senate Elections

The Senate elections was being held for the first time since 1963 and 244 candidates stood for the 47 seats, out of whom 19 were women but none were elected.

Gubernatorial Elections

The election for the 47 County Governors were being held for the first time and 237 candidates stood, out of whom 7 were women but none were elected.

The Women Representative

The election of 47 County Women Representative in the National Assembly was being held for the first time and 303 candidates stood.

County Assembly Elections

Each of the 47 Counties has been split into 1,450 Wards, hence elections were held for County Ward Representatives to sit in the County Assembly. 9,885 candidates stood.

REFERENCE: WIKIPEDIA-THE ON-LINE ENCYCLOPEDIA and additional analysis from Systex Solutions team.
