



**Namutwikila v Republic (Miscellaneous Application
E050 of 2024) [2025] KEHC 4386 (KLR) (4 April 2025) (Ruling)**

Neutral citation: [2025] KEHC 4386 (KLR)

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA
IN THE HIGH COURT AT ELDORET
MISCELLANEOUS APPLICATION E050 OF 2024
RN NYAKUNDI, J
APRIL 4, 2025**

BETWEEN

CYRUS SIMIYU NAMUTWIKILA APPELLANT

AND

REPUBLIC RESPONDENT

RULING

1. Before me for determination is the applicant’s notice of motion filed on 15th April, 2024 in which he seeks leave to appeal out of time. He sought that the matter be given priority in hearing and determination. The applicant stated that he was charged and convicted with the offence of defilement contrary to section 8(1) as read with section 8(3) and sentenced to 20 years’ imprisonment and he seeks to appeal the decision out of time.
2. The Supreme Court in *Nicholas Kiptoo Arap Korir Salat v Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission & 7 others* [2014] eKLR set out the considerations to guide the court in exercising its discretion in cases seeking extension of time. It stated:
 - “i. Extension of time is not a right of a party. It is an equitable remedy that is only available to a deserving party at the discretion of the Court;
 - ii. A party who seeks for extension of time has the burden of laying a basis to the satisfaction of the court;
 - iii. Whether the court should exercise the discretion to extend time, is a consideration to be made on a case-to-case basis;
 - iv. Whether there is a reasonable reason for the delay. The delay should be explained to the satisfaction of the Court;



- v. Whether there will be any prejudice suffered by the respondents if the extension is granted;
 - vi. Whether the application has been brought without undue delay; and
 - vii. Whether in certain cases, like election petitions, public interest should be a consideration for extending time.”
3. Having considered the applicant's motion and the principles laid down in the cited case law. The right to appeal is a fundamental right, and the interests of justice would be best served by allowing the applicant an opportunity to challenge his conviction and sentence. There has been no demonstration of prejudice that would be suffered by the respondent if the extension is granted. The severity of the sentence imposed (20 years' imprisonment) warrants appellate scrutiny to ensure that justice was properly administered.
 4. Accordingly, the application for leave to appeal out of time is hereby allowed. The applicant is granted 30 days from the date of this ruling to file his appeal. The matter shall be mentioned before the Deputy Registrar on 9th May, 2025 for compliance on the typed proceedings and further directions.
 5. This file is marked as closed.
 6. It is so ordered.

SIGNED, DATE AND DELIVERED AT ELDORET THIS 4TH DAY OF APRIL 2025.

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R. NYAKUNDI

JUDGE

