

What ODM split means for politics and the elections



Mwingi North MP Mr Kalonzo Musyoka could be ODM-Kenya's presidential candidate, while his Lang'ata counterpart Mr Raila Odinga could be ODM's.

POLITICS has taken a new dimension with the split of the ODM family.

With two ODMs, things will not be easy for the Orange parties. If the party had stuck together, it would have formed the next Government. Lang'ata MP Mr Raila Odinga could be ODM's flagbearer and the Mwingi North MP Mr Kalonzo Musyoka ODM-Kenya's.

It is nearly sewn up now that President Kibaki will romp back to State House though Raila will give him a run for his money.

Kalonzo only commands 11 per cent of the former ODM-Kenya and has only one presidential aspirant in his camp — Dr Julia Ojiambo — with the rest in Raila's camp.

Raila could have been Kenya's fourth President if the ODM family had remained intact. Kalonzo could form an alliance with Kanu, Shirikisho and the National Party of Kenya.

However, there is a tussle in Kanu, with secretary-general and Eldoret North MP Mr William Ruto in ODM, and chairman Mr Uhuru Kenyatta in the party.

Kanu could, too, split. Those loyal to Ruto could move to the Raila camp, and those in favour of Uhuru to an alliance with Kalonzo.

On their part, Kibaki friendly parties are doing fine. The Democratic Party is out for an alliance with Ford-Kenya, while Narc and Narc-Kenya are strategising on a pro-Kibaki front.

The problem is to campaign without cannibalising one another.

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