

Kenya; Kalonzo Takes Campaign to Garissa

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ODM-Kenya presidential aspirant Mr Kalonzo Musyoka took his presidential nomination campaigns to Garissa on Wednesday despite his earlier demand that the party bans individual campaigns.

And Kalonzo went ahead and announced that he would not attend Thursday's joint rally scheduled for Wajir.

Muslim clergymen, who hold immense political sway in the conservative Muslim North Eastern Province, censured Kalonzo for launching a solo campaign.

While addressing a rally in Garissa, Kalonzo said he would not discriminate against Muslims if he becomes president and Muslims should not fear him owing to his strong Christian credentials.

"I will protect Muslim rights. My support for peace in Somalia proves I harbour no hatred for Muslims and all Kenyans will be safe with me because I am a devout Christian," he said, adding that Kenya should not be placed in the hands of people without religious convictions.

Kalonzo said he was ready for presidential nomination by delegates and asked the elections board and the secretariat to start putting in place modalities to pick delegates.

Kalonzo flew into Garissa on Wednesday and spent about two hours with Muslim clergymen trying to convince them that he had no vendetta against their religion. He said Kenya should resort to a federal system of government.

Former Butere MP Mr Martin Shikuku, Malindi MP Mr Lucas Maitha and Fafi MP Mr Ilyas Barre Shill accompanied Kalonzo

Maitha claimed the Kibaki regime is led by an ethnic cabal and claimed Mwiraria's return to the Cabinet proves Kibaki was committed to short-term ethno-political interests.