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# The New Dawn

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## TRULY INDEPENDENT

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# Nimba Lawmakers open Pandora box



Representative Jeremiah Koung

**-On missing 16 billion Liberian Banknotes**



Dr. Laurence K. Bropleh

# They're paid for stealing

**-Dr Bropleh on gov't workers**



# Continental News

## Police still investigating Bobi Wine over stoning Museveni's car

The Gulu Magistrate Court has again adjourned the treason case against Kyadondo East MP Robert Kyagulanyi alias Bobi Wine and 34 other suspects due to unfinished police investigations.

Mr Kyagulanyi, Arua Municipality Member of Parliament Kasiano Wadri, and 26 others on Monday appeared before Grade One Magistrate Isaac Imoran Kintu for mention of their case.

The state contends that the accused and others still at large pelted stones at one of President Museveni's car, smashing its hind windscreen on August 13 during Arua Municipality by election campaigns. Prosecution led by Mr Paul Weponde on Monday told court that they were not ready to proceed with the case because police are still gathering evidence against the suspects.

"My lord as usual, the police is not yet done with the investigation, we pray for adjournment," Mr Weponde told Court. One of the defence lawyers, Mr Henry Komakech

Kilama however said the accused persons are incurring a lot of expenses in travelling to attend the court sessions since most of them stay in Kampala and Arua District.

He asked court to compel the state to expedite investigation adding that a lengthy period of adjournment be given to them [state] to wind up with their

investigations. Mr Kilama also asked court to issue fresh summon against officers in charge of Criminal Investigation Departments [CIDs] in Arua and Gulu Districts to appear in court and explain about his clients' (suspects') property which include vehicles, iPads, phones, laptops and money still in police custody.

Earlier in October, Magistrate Yunus Ndiwalana who had been handling the treason case had ordered the CIDs to appear before the court to explain why they are still holding the said property which were allegedly being used by SFC soldiers to track and con money from unsuspecting persons.

Magistrate Kintu, who presided over the case in his

ruling concurred with the defence team and tasked prosecution team to speed up their investigation.

"I therefore urge the prosecution team to speed up inquiries. I also observed that most of the accused persons come from outside of this jurisdiction and in fact none of them comes from within the locality of this jurisdiction," he said. Reuters



Ugandan pop star-turned-lawmaker Kyagulanyi Ssentamu, also known as Bobi Wine

## 11 S.African peacekeepers convicted of abusing boy in DRC

Eleven South African soldiers have been convicted of mistreating a teenage boy during a UN peacekeeping deployment to the Democratic Republic of Congo, the military said in a statement.

The men, who were convicted of common law assault by a military court, dragged the 17-year-old into their base in southern Kasai province after he was caught allegedly stealing buckets in January, the military said Monday.

said the statement. South Africa is one of the leading contributors to the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), according to a UN briefing note.

The conflict-torn former Belgian colony is heading for long-delayed presidential and parliamentary elections on December 23.

The government, which has a thorny relationship with the UN, has rejected all forms of international

## Gabon president appears in video

LIBREVILLE (Reuters) - Gabon President Ali Bongo on Monday made his first appearance since falling ill nearly six weeks ago, in a video shared by the presidency from his medical leave in Morocco.

Bongo suffered a stroke while at a conference in Saudi

Arabia on Oct. 24, sources told Reuters.

The presidency initially said he was struggling with severe fatigue and later said he had some "bleeding" that required medical attention.

Bongo's wife last week said he was traveling to Morocco to continue his recovery. No one,

however, has shared specific details on Bongo's condition. With his exact condition and whereabouts unknown, unsubstantiated rumors have swirled that he was incapacitated or dead.

Gabon's top court ruled last month that the vice president would chair the cabinet in Bongo's absence.

In the short video clip shared with journalists, Bongo appears sitting down in a blue and white robe alongside his old friend, Moroccan King Mohammed VI. The two men are seen chatting briefly, though the video has no sound.

At one point, Bongo, who is seated at a right angle to the camera, the right side of his face obscured, sips on what appears to be a glass of milk. The Bongo family has ruled the oil-producing West African country for nearly half a century. Bongo has been president since succeeding his father, Omar, who died in 2009. His re-election in 2016 was marred by violent protests amid claims of fraud. Reuters



PHOTO: Gabon's President Ali Bongo Ondimba addresses a meeting on climate change at the 30th Ordinary Session



Sixteen men were originally charged under anti-torture legislation over the incident but five were subsequently cleared of all charges, and the other 11 were not convicted of torture.

"The chief of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF), General Solly Shoke, welcomed the speedy trial and the successful conviction of those guilty of assault and tarnishing the good name of the SANDF peacekeepers in the DRC,"

financial or logistical assistance for the election in a country nearly five times the size of France.

MONUSCO had suggested using its helicopters and planes to ferry imported voting machines to polling stations nationwide.

But Kinshasa wants to see MONUSCO gone by 2020, ending a 20-year presence that has seen 16,000 troops deployed at an annual cost of more than a billion dollars. AFP

# EDITORIAL

## The LEC against itself

SERVICES PROVIDED BY the Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC) to the public leave much to be desired despite huge investment in that entity. Current situation at that entity is characterized by managerial in-fighting at the detriment of customers. As the LEC continues to raise fist against itself, business entities, residential homes, ordinary Liberians and the general public are left alone with little or no services at all.

**NEWS THAT** ESB International, the private company contracted by the Government of Liberia to manage the LEC is alleging the existence of a rogue element within the corporation that is deliberately, and in many cases, bypassing control procedures and necessary organizational changes is a stab in the back of the corporation.

**IN CLEAR TERMS,** ESB International has reportedly written an official complaint to the Board of Director against Deputy Managing Director, Joseph Howe for thwarting initiatives aimed at bringing major breakthroughs to LEC.

**ESB INTERNATIONAL IS** a private company hired by the Government of Liberia under the Millennium Challenge Compact Agreement to manage the LEC. In accordance with the agreement, the former is to create an operationally efficient and profitable utility that is financially viable. But nine months into the management of the LEC, ESB International complains the appointment of Mr. Howe as Deputy Managing Director, poses hindrances to the efficient execution of its duties and meeting objectives planned.

**FROM THE ONSET,** the LEC has had serious problem with power distribution to communities across Montserrado County and the rest of Liberia, denying thousands of residents and businesses access to electricity. Meanwhile, elements within the corporation are often in cohort with some unscrupulous members of the public to carry on theft or steal from the entity.

**POWER THEFT HAS** robbed the corporation of badly needed funds, and denied services to the rest of the public. But few individuals at various levels continue to line their pockets with cash that could help in boosting the financial base of the entity to enable it distributes power proportionally.

**"THE FUNDAMENTAL REASON** for the delay in breakthrough is the undermining of those change initiatives that are essential to improve the culture of non-payment for electricity supplied by LEC in Liberia," ESB International further notes in its complaint.

**WHEN A PUBLIC** corporation such as LEC cries wolf, while self-destroying or stealing from itself, it is nothing but a disservice to the State and its people. We recommend a major shakeup in that public entity to get things right.

**FORMER PRESIDENT ELLEN** Johnson Sirleaf was constrained to change the entire LEC management team in 2016 after she inaugurated the entity due to the lack of accountability.

**IT IS NOT** only a disgrace, but complete disappointment that after partners had spent several millions of their taxpayers' moneys to help restore electricity to Liberia, we Liberians are undermining ourselves. It is too bad.

# COMMENTARY

By Mariana Mazzucato

## Putting the Public Back in Public Health

*As pharmaceutical companies continue to ratchet up drug prices, the burden on public health agencies like the UK's National Health Service is becoming unsustainable. Rather than looking on as public investments are channeled into private profits, governments need to step in to guide innovation toward collective goals.*

**L**ONDON - The United Kingdom's National Health Service marked its 70th birthday this year, so this is a good time to reflect on the NHS's past and consider its future. The NHS has long been a source of inspiration in health-care debates around the world. But if it is not put on a more sustainable footing, it could become a cautionary tale.

When the NHS was founded in 1948, its mission, to provide universal high-quality health care, was daringly radical. In time, though, it came to represent a fundamental pillar of the modern welfare state, alongside education and public provision for old age.

Today, however, the NHS faces mounting challenges, owing to the years of "austerity" after the 2008 financial crisis, as well as to larger changes in the pharmaceutical industry's business model. With corporate governance increasingly oriented around narrow financial indicators such as quarterly earnings, drug companies have hiked up medicine prices, and the NHS is bearing the costs. Making matters worse, many drugs would not even exist if not for public investment. Last year, the NHS in England spent £1 billion (\$1.28 billion) purchasing medicines that have received investments from the UK Medical Research Council and other public bodies. In the United States, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) spends more than \$37 billion on biomedical research every year, particularly in areas that are too risky for the private sector. And, worldwide, the public pays for an estimated two-thirds of all upfront costs for pharmaceutical research and development.

High drug prices can have ripple effects beyond public health around the whole world. It creates a huge barrier to access to medicines for two billion people and pushes 100 million people into extreme poverty every year. Beyond the human suffering, this imposes high economic costs. The lost human capital includes not only those who are forced out of the taxable workforce by personal illness, but also those who must drop out to care for them.

Most crucially, it is increasingly difficult to balance the goals of ensuring patient access to effective medicines, managing rising health-care expenditure, and incentivizing innovation. Even if access to health care were assured, and pricing well managed, there would still be a problem with the current direction of health innovation. Diseases that do not create potential growth markets are largely ignored. Between 2000 and 2011, only 4% of newly approved drugs were for neglected diseases that affect predominantly lower- and middle-income countries. Meanwhile, in the US, 78% of new medicine patents between 2005 and 2015 were related to drugs that are already on the market. And in Europe between 2000 and 2014, 51% of newly approved drugs were modified versions of existing medicines, and thus offered no additional health benefits.

With health-care systems often failing to provide patients with the treatment they need at a price they can afford, and with health innovation not addressing public health needs, the status quo is not sustainable. But to restore public purpose to health-care provision and innovation will require the kind of transformation that the NHS's founders ushered in 70 years ago.

To that end, the first step is to acknowledge governments' vital role in the development of new treatments and drugs. Rather than simply funding innovation, governments need to start directing it with the same level of involvement that they bring to defense spending. That means aligning upstream research funding with downstream applications and public objectives.

The pharmaceutical industry will no doubt argue that government engagement stifles innovation. But it was a state-led, mission-oriented approach that put a man on the moon, created the Internet, and paved the way for self-driving cars. Governments and the societies they serve should be ambitious, while always asking themselves a practical question: What are we trying to achieve?

Once we know that, legislation and regulatory measures can be brought to bear to advance our collective goals, and to encourage bottom-up experimentation. For example, prizes might be better than prices for stimulating private investment. And government procurement processes could surely be better aligned to steer the direction of innovation.

Even more to the point, policymakers need to address the financialization of the pharmaceutical industry, which is focused solely on shareholder value, rather than on all stakeholders. Between 2007 and 2016, the 19 pharmaceutical companies in the S&P 500 as of January 2017 spent \$297 billion repurchasing their own shares to boost their stock price, and thus the value of their executives' stock options. That is 61% of their combined R&D expenditures over the same period.

As long as this business model prevails, price gouging will continue. As happened recently with one antibiotic, CEOs will say that they are serving shareholders by letting prices rise to whatever the market will bear and abusing intellectual-property rights to extract monopoly rents. Patents have become too difficult to license, and they are too often acquired for strategic reasons than for novelty, as was originally intended.

To bring health care back into line with the public interest, we can still find inspiration in the NHS. Its founders' mission was to create a system that serves everyone, is free at the point of delivery, and caters to patients' needs, not their ability to pay. Today's policymakers should reaffirm that basic mission. Only by aligning innovation with the priorities of a civilized society can we finally take health care to the next frontier.

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## O-PED

By Daoud Kuttab

## A World of Khashoggis

**A**MMAN - For two months, the brutal murder of the US-based Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi in Saudi Arabia's consulate in Istanbul, and its geopolitical repercussions, has dominated headlines worldwide. But his case is far from an anomaly. In fact, according to the International Press Institute, violence against journalists and impunity for the perpetrators are "two of the biggest threats to media freedom in our world today."

Governments often use both carrots and sticks to keep journalists in line. They might reward journalists for toeing the official line, using financial or other kinds of bribes. Those who refuse to be bought, however, may suffer the loss of basic rights (such as passport renewal), or have their reputations destroyed.

To this end, some autocratic regimes emulate US President Donald Trump, calling journalists "enemies" who disseminate "fake news." This is a bleak reversal for the United States, a country that has historically set a powerful positive example with its formal and informal mechanisms for protecting freedom of the press and its robust culture of investigative journalism.

Imprisonment is another favorite way for autocratic regimes to silence journalists who dare to speak truth to power. In Egypt, Al Jazeera's Mahmoud Hussein has been detained for two years without trial. In the United Arab Emirates, the Jordanian journalist Tayseer al-Najjar is serving a three-year sentence, which will be prolonged if his family is unable to pay the massive \$136,000 fine imposed on him for a post he made on social media. In Turkey, more than 150 journalists have been imprisoned since the failed coup in July 2016, making the country the world's biggest jailer of journalists.

And then, of course, there are the journalists who are forced to make the ultimate sacrifice in service of the truth. By one count, 73 journalists have been killed so far this year, and in, 12 countries five or more murders of journalists went unresolved in 2017. This includes not only violence-plagued countries like Iraq, Somalia, and Syria, but also democracies (and quasi-democracies) like Brazil, India, Mexico, Nigeria, and Russia.

Such countries - many of which are allies of the US and other Western countries - have often faced no political or diplomatic price for their actions. In this sense, Khashoggi's murder sends a powerful message.

Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman is widely believed to have ordered the killing. Yet journalists and human-rights activists in developing countries that benefit from or depend on financial support from Saudi Arabia are being politely (or not so politely) requested to keep quiet as MBS tours the region in order to restore his image.

In many Arab countries, for example, it is a crime to carry out any action or publish anything that could hurt the reputation of "a brotherly or friendly country." So, while Tunisian human-rights activists protested MBS's recent visit, many Arab activists had to refrain, despite strongly opposing the Saudi leader's actions, in order to avoid imprisonment.

Even some Western countries have failed to take a stand. Trump, for example, has declared that he "stands with" Saudi Arabia, a close US ally, largely in order to protect large arms deals with the Kingdom.

Among the few who have been courageous enough to speak out are Palestinian journalists living under Israeli occupation. More than 150 independent Palestinian journalists have signed an Avaaz petition stating that his murder sets "a dangerous precedent that threatens the lives of journalists, their right to free expression, the freedom of journalistic work, and the right of the public to know."

The petition also looks beyond Khashoggi's case, calling for the enactment of "binding laws that protect journalists, guarantee their right to work in freedom, and punish those who violate this right."

Given how widespread crimes against journalists are - and how vital their work is to our societies - the petition's demands deserve the support of all citizens where press freedom is restricted or under threat.

## OPINION

By John A. Mathews  
& Mark Selden

## The Rise of the "Petroyuan"

**S**YDNEY/ITHACA - It is now just ten months since China launched its oil futures contract, denominated in yuan (renminbi), on the Shanghai International Energy Exchange. In spite of forebodings and shrill alarms, the oil markets continue to function, and China's futures contracts have established themselves and overtaken in volume terms the dollar-denominated oil futures traded in Singapore and Dubai.

Of course the volume of trades on the Shanghai INE still lags behind that of the Brent oil contracts traded in London and the West Texas Intermediate oil futures traded in New York. The Chinese oil futures contract is, however, being taken seriously by multinational commodity traders (like Glencore) and is priced in a manner that is comparable to the Brent and WTI indices. As we argue in *The Asia-Pacific Journal*, these results suggest that China's oil futures could bring the renminbi to the core of global commodity markets.

The launch of the oil futures contract can be anticipated to widen the scope for renminbi-denominated commodity trading. As more of China's oil imports come to be priced in its domestic currency, foreign suppliers will have more renminbi-denominated accounts with which they can purchase not only Chinese goods and services, but also Chinese government securities and bonds. This can be anticipated to strengthen Chinese capital markets and promote the renminbi's internationalization - or at least the progressive de-dollarization of the oil market.

For the past decade, China's strategy for internationalizing the renminbi has involved greater reliance on the International Monetary Fund's Special Drawing Rights as an alternative international reserve currency. The People's Bank of China's then-governor, Zhou Xiaochuan, spelled out the strategy in an essay in 2009. With new allocations of SDRs to emerging industrial powers like China, the SDR, based on a basket of currencies including the renminbi, could serve not only as a development tool, but also as a means of international payment to rival the US dollar. In the wake of the 2008 global financial crisis, an SDR-centered international financial system became an enticing prospect for other countries as well.

Zhou's 2009 essay galvanized these efforts, as he pointed to the evident inadequacies of the dollar-centered system (such as the impact of chronic US deficits) and outlined the SDR's advantages as an alternative means of international financial settlement.

The establishment of renminbi-based oil trading at a time when China and many other economies confront aggressive US tariffs, and possible further development of renminbi-based trade in other commodity markets, suggests that the US dollar could face an unprecedented challenge to its hegemony. It may in the near future no longer be seen as the anchor of the international monetary system, bringing to an end to what Valéry Giscard d'Estaing famously called the "exorbitant privilege" enjoyed by the US as a result of the dollar's centrality in international trade.

If China's ultimate goals include internationalizing the renminbi, its more immediate objective, prompted in part by US tariffs or sanctions on China and other countries, is de-dollarization of the international system. This is reflected in the shift to promoting an oil futures contract traded in Shanghai, which represents a decisive break with China's SDR-focused strategy.

It is also a way for China to capitalize on the US trade sanctions imposed against it - exposing liabilities in these sanctions. Both Russia and Iran, for example, are selling oil to China and accepting payment in renminbi, in response to actual or potential sanctions imposed on them by the US. They also have extensive imports from China, as well as other reasons for seeking strengthened ties.

China no doubt views the emergence of renminbi-denominated oil contracts as a means for Chinese companies to buy oil and gas in their own currency, thereby avoiding exposure to foreign currency fluctuations and firing a shot across the bow of US dollar supremacy. The fact that China is now the world's largest oil importer, as well as its leading trading and manufacturing economy, lends weight to its "petroyuan" and other initiatives to internationalize the renminbi. If China can withstand US counterattacks, its efforts will lay the financial groundwork for the emergence of a multipolar world.

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**Local journalists attend training on Land Reporting**

By George Kimbah/ Nimba

A two-day regional training for local journalists in southeastern Liberia on reporting land issues ends in Ganta City, Nimba County under the auspices of the United States Agency for International Development or USAID.

The training was organized by the Land Governance Support Activity or LGSA in collaboration with the Liberia Land Authority LLA with funding from USAID.

It brought together over 55 local journalists representing various media institutions from Maryland, Sinoe, Grand Kru, River Gee, and Grand Gedeh Counties, respectively.

Speaking recently at the opening ceremony, the communications and outreach specialist at LGSA, Richlue O. Burphy lauds the participants for the long distances they covered amid challenges especially, bad roads condition faced by people in the southeastern region.

Mr. Burphy notes that journalists play very important role in promoting the land sector of Liberia, so it is important to continuously provide training which will help refresh their minds and



reporting skills in the region.

The participants were drilled on several topics; including, media in the Liberia land reform process, reporting land reform in Liberia, ways in writing an empowered land stories, and accessing land information, among others.

The training also focused on the critical role of the media in good land governance and impacts of the media role whether performed well or not and its reflection on national development.

The LLA Public Relations Officer urges journalists to acquaint themselves with the Land Right Act in order to report and write properly on

the sector.

He also commended President George Weah for signing into law the Land Right Act on 19 September 2018, adding that the law will now make locals take ownership of their Lands.

Arthur Tucker said LLA relies solely and wholly on the local media to push the agenda, noting that they have been pushing for the passage of the act into law through their reportage.

He also promises the LLA fullest support to the local media in covering the land sector of the country, but cautions local journalists to be careful in how they report land

issues because it has the propensity to spark conflict that could lead to problems ranging from family, region, and sectional disputes.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the South Eastern Journalist Association of Liberia or SEJAL lauds the LLA and partners for the training, noting the refresher training has provided them vast knowledge on reporting on the land sector.

Mr. Lloyd Farley pledges the local media commitment in working with the LLA and LGSA including its partners in highlighting land issues in the media positively.

“We will continue to air the land related programs on our local radio stations in the southeastern region whether it is paid for or not, because the issues of land is very serious in our country. For the people to understand these issues, it takes the work of the local media”, he says.

He urges media colleagues

to remain focus on land issues something, he notes, has the propensity to shift the destiny of land dispute positively.

Reporter Aletha H. Weah of TOP FM, a local radio station in Zwedru City, Grand Gedeh County says her knowledge in reporting the land sector of Liberia has become more vibrant as a result of the training, and calls on her colleagues to put in practice knowledge acquired through radio programs that will talk about land related issues.

“I think our role is very critical to the land sector; that is the reason we were trained on how to report on the land sector. It is the local stations we are working with that the locals listen to as such, it is prudent for our capacity to be built in order to report positively on the land sector” she points out.

The local journalists were sent into communities of Ganta to put in practice what they were taught, including the roles of surveyors, criminal conveyance of land, the role of Civil Society Organizations, Land Rights law, Land dispute resolution, steps to acquisition of land, among others.

Wilfred Weah Duosi of Cape Rock radio in Maryland, Prince Copland of Radio Gee in River Gee County are among local journalists who attended the two days training and appreciated the organizers, but challenged them to do more in building the skills of local journalists in the country. -

Editing by Jonathan Browne

**Red Cross applauds volunteers sacrifices**

The Liberian National Red Cross (LNRCS) says it is pleased to join the rest of the world in recognizing the celebrating the bravery and achievements of its community - based volunteers whose selfless efforts are reassuring the institution’s commitment to humanity.

In a statement released Tuesday, 4 December ahead of the International Volunteer Day (IVD) which is 5 December,

the LNRCS says it is present in every district of Liberia’s 15 counties through its network of over 3,500 community-based volunteers often on the frontline of humanitarian emergencies.

“Their tireless efforts in the toughest times of emergency and life threatening circumstances, and hours of work in the rain and sun to bring relief to the dying have not gone unnoticed,” the Red Cross says.

The Red Cross recognizes that some of its volunteers have died while on duty, and many more have suffered physical and emotional injuries while helping affected communities.

From social mobilization to building capacity for resilient communities, providing first aid and health care services, improving access to sanitation and safe water, among others, the LNRCS says its community-based volunteers are always passionate, motivated and committed to serve and restore hope and dignity for the most affected.

According to the LNRCS, this international volunteer day is an opportunity to recognize and appreciate the roles of its community - based volunteers are playing in enabling their society to become the largest local humanitarian service provider in Liberia.

The Red Cross reaffirms that its commitment is to work with governments and partners to better protect, promote and recognize the critical role its volunteers play, often in the face of great personal sacrifice.

“The courage and sense of

**#Stop prioritizing foreign businesses over Liberian businesses!#**



solidarity it takes to put one’s own suffering aside and take action to help others is quite remarkable. Time and again, it’s the volunteers who roll up their sleeves, wrap reassuring arms over the shoulders of distressed neighbors and put their hearts into meaning things better,” the Red Cross continues.

It notes that as humanitarian environments around the world become more complex, volunteering in

these contexts become more challenging and dangerous, adding that volunteers in these contexts often make a significant and meaningful difference and yet they come from some of the poorest communities and are often facing their own significant challenges and trauma.

“They are often as vulnerable as the people they support. This is why we need to protect them,” the Red Cross concludes.

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**Weah suggests tax cuts from officials' salaries**

President George Manneh Weah says "another reasonable way to ensure tax compliance" of his officials and government workers is to effectuate the deduction of taxes owed from the salaries of delinquent individuals.

"While the government is reaching out to multilateral and bilateral partners for support, we as citizens and particularly officials of government [must] contribute to the domestic revenue envelop by paying our taxes. That's the only way we can fund these community projects," he said Monday, 3 December during inspection of projects in Montserrado County.

President Weah calls on members of his cabinet and other officials of government to honor their tax obligations as to financially equip Government execute its mandate consistent with the Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development.

President Weah's administration has initiated dozens of community projects, principally the construction of paved roads which are largely funded from government's

meager domestic revenues.

An Executive Mansion release says President Weah wants officials of government to lead by example by paying their taxes.

He believes that it will encourage ordinary citizens to also honor their tax obligations, reminding government officials about their tax commitments and how it is significant to transforming the nation and

the lives of the people of Liberia.

President Weah pleads with Liberians not to relent in paying their taxes because without paying their taxes, government cannot carry on development.

Meanwhile, he expresses appreciation with the progress contractors are making to meet deadline for the completion of projects.

The President particularly

acknowledges the significance of the Doe Community and Clara Town road to the residents, describing it as milestone achievement.

"I am glad that these two communities are being connected today with a paved road," he says.

"The residents of these two slum communities will no more walk through the mud and swamp again as we were used to doing several years ago," he continues.

Monday's daylong tour, a continuation of his vigorous road inspection promise, took him to the Chucky road and Pipeline-Johnsonville road projects; the Patience Shop-Barnersville road, Doe Community-Clara Town and the Sawmill Community road

projects. He also inspected the New Kru Town Coastal Defense project.

He says he is convinced that government can do more when citizens pay their taxes, and when officials of government lead by example by meeting their tax obligations.

He says all over the world, "tax payment is a legally binding obligation for all, both in private and public life."

He notes that delinquent or deviant elements do go to jail for failure to pay their taxes.

President Weah warns officials of government to always be on the side of the law by paying their taxes regularly or he would be compelled to take the appropriate action.--*Press release*



**Lawmakers urged to invest more in Education**

A member of the 54th National Legislature, Montserrado County Electoral District #1 Representative, Lawrence Morris, has implored his colleagues of that august body to increase budgetary support for the education sector.

Speaking at the ongoing 99th Commencement Convocation of the University of Liberia in Fendall on the "Importance of Teachers' Education to National Development," Rep. Morris said the professional

challenges faced by Liberia are numerous and enormous, but not insurmountable.

"While there is not much that you can do to affect the economy, you can be tough-minded and vocal about what it means to teach, because it emulates from you, how the minds of the young people will be developed in curving and shaping development and how things will improve or deteriorate." Rep Morris said when he served as a keynote speaker at the 99th Commencement Convocation

of the Williams V.S. Tubman Teachers College, University of Liberia.

The college graduated 221 teachers with females making up the majority.

Rep. Morris said teachers play a central role in the development of young people's lives, adding that the graduates are entering the profession at a time when educational authorities are striving to balance their budgets through cuts.

"Teachers are universally praised for finding solutions to educational problems; they are also condemned as the root causes for all of the problems with schools in Liberia," he said.

He acknowledged that there is an ideological battle to give befitting definition to teaching, contending that this rests with those who go through the pedagogical training to teach.

The guest speaker then called on the graduates to cherish their calling as teachers, saying, "Teachers are knowledge delivery mechanism whose effectiveness will be determined primarily by how literate and civilized a society is."

According to him, educational authorities should

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Liberians, enforce  
the exclusive  
Liberians business  
act. #**

encourage young Liberians to take to teaching as an intellectual journey that will transform the country for the better.

He noted that teaching is a profoundly intellectual activity that shapes development in all walks of life, and as such, the need to support teaching in every society including Liberia cannot be overemphasized.

"The good primary teacher knows about child development and how to engage young people across a range of subjects; he or she listens to see who needs help; thinks on his or her feet; knows how to answer wrong questions and provide an art example or comparison to guide towards clearer thinking," said Rep. Morris to much applause from the graduates.

In her opening statements, the Dean of the William V. S. Tubman Teacher's College, Dr. Cecelia Cassell, pointed out that Liberia needs to invest in education.

Dr. Cassell said inrder to achieve the Pro-Poor Agenda of

the government, the efforts of the Teacher's College at the University of Liberia need to be buttressed with funding and requisite logistics.

"Our students need to have hands-on training to practice the pedagogical skills we are impacting in them, so a fully equipped and well functional demonstration school is needed to sustain the effort we are making," said Dean Cassell, who is presiding over her first commencement as Dean of the college.

She stressed, "it is through Teachers education that teachers acquire the knowledge and skills needed to help transform the lives of citizens for the better of any nation," mentioning that teachers who in training need to know how theory and practice are interwoven.

Also marking special remarks was Dr. Ophelia Inez Weeks, President of the University of Liberia, who urged the graduates to see themselves as ambassadors charged with the responsibility of molding young children into proud citizens.



Some Graduates Of The Williams V.S. Tubman Teacher's College

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**Man held for son's murder**

By Winston W. Parley

Police here are looking into claims that suspect Marfee G. Musa allegedly murdered his 16 year - old son Marfee G. Musa, Jr., and subsequently buried the deceased without informing the police.

The incident allegedly

son before reporting himself to the police.

But he denies killing his son, narrating that he did not also beat on the boy.

Suspect Musa on 20 November, he left Marfee at the house with children and gave the deceased a phone for communication because of

return, Mr. Musa says he asked the victim where he came from.

In response, he says the victim replied that he was beaten by a criminal gang known as "spirit" with whom the deceased was also a friend.

Suspect Musa explains that the late Marfee cried that "spirit beat on him," adding that when day broke, he saw his son dead.

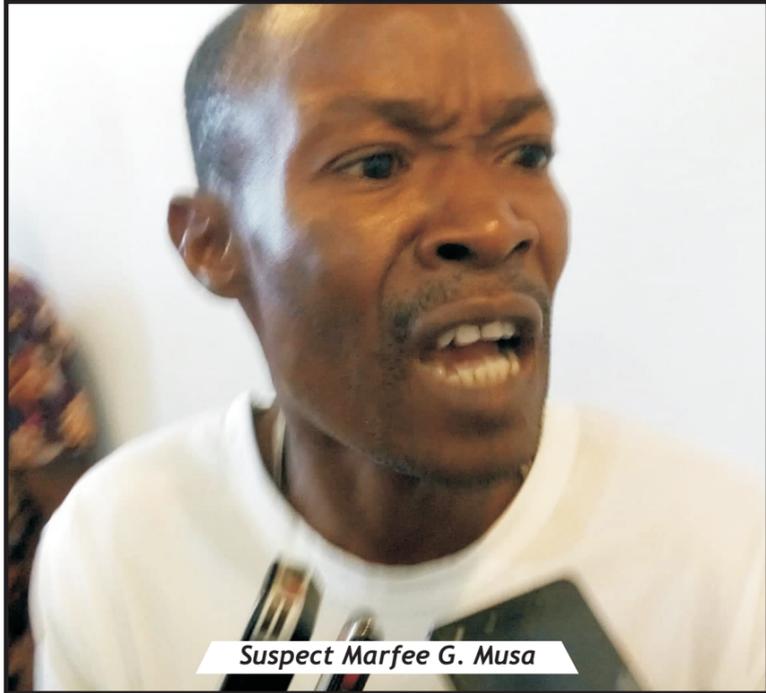
He also denies claim that he escaped after the incident.

In another development, police say they are making progress in the investigation involving the alleged secret burial of three bodies by officials of the Abraham Roberts Funeral Home located in Gardnersville.

Suspect Abraham Wenyu, an executive of the Abraham Roberts Funeral Home is being investigated at the LNP headquarters, according to police.

Police say they have made contacts with family of the deceased female and they have identified the deceased as Sasanna Kawroteh.

According to police, the other two bodies are skeletons and they have been deposited at the John F. Kennedy Hospital in Sinkor.



Suspect Marfee G. Musa

occurred on 20 November in the 72nd Community of Paynesville at the suspect's residence.

In an interview with the suspect at the Liberia National Police (LNP) headquarters Monday, 3 December, he told journalists that he buried his

the.

"So I came back I never saw him. He locked the children up, he went," Mr. Musa explains.

According to him, it did not take long when Marfee returned home. Upon Marfee's

**Bong Superintendent settles dispute between MNG Gold and citizens**

By Joseph Titus Yekeryan in Bong

Bong County Superintendent Esther Walker has initiated a daylong peace conference between Kokoyah Statutory District citizens of Bong County and the MNG - Gold company recent following tension.

The peaceful initiative was as a result of serious tension that erupted between the citizens and the MNG company after the death of four citizens who were accidentally killed by the company's hired vehicle.

The victims were riding on a motorbike when the company's hired vehicle and the bike collided, instantly killing the bike operator and the three passengers on 5 November.

The incident prompted a retaliatory action of angry citizens who then stormed the compound of the company in David Dean Town and looted several of the company's materials and burned the pickup.



Several police officers rushed on the scene to maintain peace, but it further escalated the violence.

The incident has resulted to the interruption of normal activities including closure of some learning institutions.

Several citizens and

institutions of the county have been calling on the leadership of the county to quickly intervene.

Over the weekend, Superintendent Walker invited officials of MNG Gold, CGGC and the citizens of Kokoyah to forgo the disunity and work

**Liberian engineers yearn for contracts**

By Emmanuel Mondaye

The president-elect of the Engineering Society of Liberia (ESL), Mr. Thomas Konkawon vows to seek the interest of professional engineers of the society.

He said for too long Liberian engineers have been downplayed in terms of obtaining contracts from relevant institutions and companies in Liberia.

Speaking recently after his election, Mr. Konkawon disclosed there are trained,

engineers, equally so, his administration will only work with recognized and licensed engineering firms in buttressing government's re-construction drive.

Mr. Konkawon defeated his opponent Mr. Victor Smith 28 to 11 votes, while his vice president Joseph Nyum won Madam Ruth Collins 23 to 16 votes. Mr. David Wounuah and Madam Cecilia Davies were elected as Secretary General and Assistant Secretary,



Mr. Joseph S. Nyuma, Vice President Elect, Engineering Society of Liberia

qualified and professional engineers in the country, who must be given first preference in road and infrastructural contracts by the Government of Liberia.

The ESL president says he strongly believes the government will closely work with the society in having Liberians meaningfully contribute to the social infrastructure development of the country.

He notes that while he does not hate substandard construction entities and

respectively.

The Engineering Society of Liberia election was conducted by a five-member committee headed by Mr. Moses Abu, who declared the process free, fair, and transparent.

The election exercise held at the premises of the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) was closely monitored by several observers, including the Advisor at the German International Corporation (GIZ) Madam Wanda Moeining. -Editing by Jonathan Browne

**#Revoke rock and sand mining licenses from Chinese and Lebanese#**

together peacefully in Dolo Town.

Citizens who attended the forum and spoke in separate remarks, joined Superintendent Walker to appeal to the company to pardon them and live together to improve their lives.

Also making remarks, the government liaison officer

Eugene Kollie pledged the company's commitment to better the conditions of the people of Kokoyah.

Kollie thanked the citizens for honoring the call by the superintendent to re-unite them for a progressive Liberia.--Edited by Winston W. Parley

# Français

## Des manifestants affrontent la police à Caldwell

Les habitants à quelques mètres du barrage hydroélectrique d'où est produit le courant électrique du pays qui est distribué dans les autres localités par le biais des lignes de transmission qui passent au-dessus de leurs maisons, sans qu'eux-mêmes en bénéficient.

Il y a près d'un an, la société « Liberia Electricity Corporation » a installé des poteaux électriques à travers tout le township pour, dit-on, connecter les foyers au réseau électrique. Mais jusqu'à présent, ils n'ont pas de courant.

Cette situation, les habitants du township de Caldwell en ont marre. C'est pourquoi pour la deuxième fois de suite en moins d'un an ils descendent dans la rue pour exprimer leur ras-le-bol et réclamer ce qui leur revient de droit.

Réveillés très tôt à 4 heures du matin, les manifestants, sous la bannière de « Concern



Citizens of Caldwell », ont pris d'assaut la principale route de leur localité, érigeant des barrages et bloquant totalement la circulation.

La police a dû faire recours à l'usage des gaz lacrymogènes pour disperser les manifestants en colère, qui étaient allés réclamer de l'électricité à la direction de

la société d'électricité du Liberia Electricity. Il s'en est suivi un affrontement entre habitants et agents des forces de l'ordre. La scène était chaotique ce lundi 3 décembre 2018.

Le porte-parole de la police, Moses Carter, a confirmé l'utilisation du gaz lacrymogène par la police,

accusant les manifestants de s'être livrés des actes de vandalisme.

Moses a révélé qu'une femme enceinte souffrant de douleur se rendait dans un centre de santé pour accoucher. Mais elle a dû accoucher dans le véhicule qui la transportait, et malheureusement le bébé n'a pas survécu, ce, à cause des barrages routiers qui ont été érigés par les manifestants. Les habitants, eux, accusent la société d'électricité du Libéria d'être insensible à leurs souffrances, car le manque de courant électrique a eu un impact négatif sur les activités commerciales dans cette

localité et entraîne la fermeture de nombreuses entreprises.

« Nous sommes dans l'obscurité la plus totale depuis plus de deux ans maintenant et la LEC refuse de résoudre notre problème », a dit Arthur F. T. Teah, un habitant du quartier qui s'est exprimé au micro de ce quotidien.

« Les habitants des autres communautés comme celles des townships de Johnsonville, de New Kru Town et de Saint-Paul Bridge, profitent de l'électricité, mais pour nous à Caldwell, la situation est totalement différente. Nous implorons donc la LEC de nous connecter », a-t-il ajouté.

La route traversant le township est l'un des axes économiques en croissance du pays, car elle relie la société Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation (LWSC) et le barrage hydroélectrique Mount Coffee à la capitale Monrovia.

Les habitants ont dit avoir du mal à comprendre que, bien que le township abrite le barrage hydroélectrique et d'autres services essentiels qui génèrent des recettes pour le gouvernement, il n'a pas accès au courant.

Ils ont menacé de manifester leur colère, cette fois-ci, devant le bureau du président Weah dès son retour dans le pays, si l'Etat de se penche pas sur leur problème.

## L'Allemagne fait un don de 15 millions d'euros au secteur de la santé du Libéria

Les gouvernements du Libéria et de la République fédérale d'Allemagne vont bientôt signer un accord de subvention d'une valeur de 15 millions d'euros pour renforcer le secteur de la santé du Libéria.

Le projet intitulé « Projet de renforcement du système de santé » sera mis en œuvre par Deutsche Welthungerhilfe dans

la région du sud-est du pays.

Selon les informations recueillies lors d'une réunion tenue récemment au ministère des Finances et de la Planification du développement dans le cadre de la coopération germano-libérienne pour le développement, les Allemands, via la banque KFW, fourniront une subvention (contributions financières) au Libéria lorsque

l'accord de subvention sera finalement conclu entre les deux gouvernements.

KFW est une banque gouvernementale allemande pour le développement. Elle est basée à Francfort. Elle finance et soutient des programmes et projets impliquant principalement des acteurs du secteur public des pays en développement et des économies émergentes.

Le gouvernement allemand a, grâce à un soutien financier antérieur, déjà réalisé neuf (9) établissements de santé dans le sud-est du Libéria.

L'objectif de la récente réunion était d'améliorer la compréhension mutuelle des processus et structures régissant la coopération pour le développement entre les deux pays. Selon les informations recueillies lors de la réunion, les deux pays estiment que cette réunion contribuera à améliorer l'efficacité et à accélérer les processus de planification et de mise en œuvre de l'aide au développement fournie par l'Allemagne au Libéria, ce qui permet ainsi un meilleur mécanisme de coordination

entre le gouvernement du Libéria et le gouvernement de la République fédérale d'Allemagne.

L'Allemagne est l'un des principaux donateurs dans les secteurs de l'énergie et de l'environnement du Libéria et a apporté son soutien au projet de construction du barrage hydroélectrique de Mount Coffee ainsi qu'au projet de conservation de la biodiversité de six millions d'euros dans le sud-est du pays.

On peut rappeler que la République fédérale d'Allemagne a prévu un montant total de 105,5 dollars américains à titre de soutien au Libéria. Sur ce montant, 33,5 millions USD étaient prévus pour l'exercice 2016/2017, 39,8 millions USD pour

l'exercice 2017/2018 et 32,2 millions USD pour l'exercice 2018/2019. Les décaissements totaux pour l'exercice 2016/2017 se sont élevés à 46,5 millions USD et les décaissements du dernier exercice (2017-2018) s'élevaient à 18,3 millions USD.

La subvention de 15 millions d'euros constituera un soutien supplémentaire du gouvernement de la République fédérale d'Allemagne au Libéria. Il réaffirmera l'engagement significatif des Allemands à soutenir les aspirations du gouvernement actuel en matière de développement, notamment dans le domaine de l'amélioration du secteur de la santé.



Articles traduits  
Par Valéry G. Guhénéa  
E-mail: valeryghn10@yahoo.com  
Tel: 076 589 44 0881483394

# Français

## Éditorial

### Il faut une restructuration au sein de la société d'électricité

Les prestations de services de la société d'électricité du Libéria (LEC) laissent beaucoup à désirer, malgré les investissements colossaux injectés dans cette compagnie.

Pire, il y règne actuellement des conflits internes au détriment des clients. Pendant que la LEC continue de se battre contre elle-même, les entreprises commerciales privées et les populations libériennes ordinaires sont privées d'un service minimum.

ESB International, la société privée engagée par le gouvernement du Libéria pour gérer la société d'électricité, a fait état de l'existence d'un « élément indésirable » au sein de la société, qui, dans de nombreux cas, a délibérément contourné les procédures de contrôle et les changements organisationnels nécessaires.

En termes clairs, ESB International aurait adressé une plainte officielle au conseil d'administration contre le directeur général adjoint, Joseph Howe, qui est soupçonné de saper les initiatives visant à apporter des avancées majeures dans la société.

ESB International est une société privée recrutée par le gouvernement du Libéria en vertu de l'accord du Millenium Challenge Compact pour gérer la LEC. Conformément à l'accord, la société est chargée de créer un service public financièrement viable et performant sur le plan opérationnel. Mais après neuf mois de gestion, ESB International se plaint que la nomination de M. Howe au poste de directeur général adjoint entrave le bon fonctionnement de l'entreprise et la réalisation des objectifs fixés.

Depuis le début, la LEC avait de graves problèmes de distribution du courant électrique dans le comté de Montserrado et dans le reste du Libéria, empêchant des milliers de foyers et d'entreprises d'avoir accès à l'électricité. Au même moment, des éléments de la société comptent avec des personnes sans scrupules pour voler la société.

Le vol de courant électrique a privé la société des fonds dont elle avait cruellement besoin et empêché le reste de la population d'avoir accès au courant, pendant qu'un certain nombre d'individus qui occupent des postes de responsabilité continuent de se remplir les poches avec l'argent qui aurait pu contribuer à renforcer le pouvoir financier de la société et lui permettre de distribuer du courant.

Selon ESB International, le retard est dû à la tentative de la part de certains cadres de miner les initiatives qui visent à encourager les usagers à payer l'électricité qu'ils consomment.

Lorsqu'une société publique comme la LEC crie au loup et s'autodétruit, c'est l'État et les citoyens qui en pâtissent. Nous recommandons donc qu'il ait un remaniement majeur au sein de cette entreprise publique pour que les choses se passent bien.

L'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf a été contrainte de changer toute la direction de la LEC en 2016.

C'est non seulement une honte, mais aussi une déception totale, car après que nos partenaires ont dépensé plusieurs millions de l'argent de leurs contribuables pour aider à rétablir l'électricité au Libéria, nous, Libériens, minons ces efforts. C'est dommage.

### COMMENTAIRE

Par Mariana Mazzucato

### Rendre au public la santé publique

LONDRES - Le service national de santé britannique, le National Health Service (NHS) fête cette année son soixante-dixième anniversaire ; le moment est donc opportun de réfléchir à son passé et de considérer son avenir. Le NHS a été pris en exemple, à travers le monde, dans de nombreux débats sur les soins de santé. Mais si l'équilibre n'en est pas plus durablement rétabli, il pourrait ne plus servir que de contre-exemple.

Lorsque fut fondé le NHS, en 1948, sa mission - fournir une couverture universelle de soins de santé de haute qualité - était aussi audacieuse que radicale. Le temps passant, il en est cependant venu à représenter l'un des trois piliers de l'État-providence, avec l'éducation et les prestations publiques pour les personnes âgées.

Aujourd'hui, le NHS doit pourtant faire face à des difficultés croissantes, dues aux années d'« austérité », après la crise financière de 2008, ainsi qu'aux évolutions considérables du modèle économique de l'industrie pharmaceutique. La gouvernance d'entreprise étant de plus en plus dépendante d'indicateurs financiers à court terme, comme le bénéfice trimestriel, les compagnies pharmaceutiques ont augmenté les prix des médicaments, et c'est le NHS qui en supporte les coûts. Nombre de médicaments n'auraient pas même vu le jour sans investissements publics - ce qui complique encore le tableau. Le NHS a dépensé l'an dernier en Angleterre un milliard de livres sterling (1,28 milliard de dollars) en achats de traitements ayant perçu des fonds du Conseil médical de la recherche du Royaume-Uni (Medical Research Council) et d'autres organismes publics. Aux États-Unis, les Instituts de santé nationaux (National Institutes of Health - NIH) dépensent plus de 37 milliards de dollars par an pour la recherche biomédicale, dans des domaines, notamment, que le secteur privé considère comme trop risqués. Et l'on estime que les budgets publics financent globalement les deux tiers des coûts initiaux de recherche et de développement du secteur pharmaceutique.

Le prix élevé des médicaments a des effets, qui se propagent au-delà de la santé publique, dans le monde entier. Pour deux milliards d'êtres humains, il se traduit par d'énormes difficultés d'accès à la médecine, et il précipite chaque année dans l'extrême pauvreté 100 millions de personnes. Outre toutes ces souffrances, les coûts économiques sont considérables. Le capital humain perdu concerne non seulement celles et ceux qui se trouvent exclus par leur maladie de la main-d'œuvre imposable, mais aussi tous ceux qui doivent quitter leur travail pour prendre soin des premiers.

Une chose est plus grave encore : il devient de plus en plus difficile d'arbitrer entre l'accès pour les patients à une médecine efficace, la maîtrise des dépenses croissantes de soins de santé et l'incitation à l'innovation. Même si l'accès aux soins était assuré et les prix correctement contrôlés, le cap actuel de l'innovation sanitaire continuerait de poser problème. Les maladies qui ne créent pas de marchés à fort potentiel de croissance sont largement ignorées. Entre 2000 et 2011, 4 % seulement des médicaments nouvellement autorisés étaient destinés au traitement de ces maladies négligées, qui affectent majoritairement les pays à bas et moyens revenus, alors qu'entre 2005 et 2015, 78 % des nouveaux traitements brevetés aux États-Unis concernaient des médicaments déjà présents sur le marché et qu'en Europe, entre 2000 et 2014, 51 % des nouveaux médicaments autorisés n'étaient que des versions modifiées de produits existants, n'apportant donc aucun avantage sanitaire supplémentaire.

Dès lors que les systèmes de soins de santé ne parviennent plus ou pas assez à fournir aux malades les traitements dont ils ont besoin à des prix pour eux abordables, dès lors que l'innovation ne répond plus aux besoins de la santé publique, le statu quo n'est plus tenable. Pour réorienter vers les besoins publics l'offre de soins de santé et l'innovation thérapeutique, il nous faut opérer le genre de transformation que les fondateurs du NHS surent mener à bien voici soixante-dix ans.

Pour ce faire, le premier pas est de reconnaître le rôle crucial de la puissance publique dans la mise au point de nouveaux traitements et médicaments. Plutôt que de se contenter de financer l'innovation, les États doivent commencer à la conduire, en s'y impliquant avec autant d'énergie qu'ils en consacrent à leur budget de défense. Ce qui signifie mettre en phase les découvertes de la recherche, en amont, avec les applications, en aval, et les objectifs de santé publique.

L'industrie pharmaceutique prétendra sans aucun doute que l'intrusion des pouvoirs publics étouffe l'innovation. C'est cependant grâce à des politiques publiques et à des méthodes dictées par un but préalablement défini que l'homme est allé sur la lune, qu'Internet a été créé et que s'ouvre aujourd'hui la voie de l'automobile autonome. Les gouvernements et les sociétés qu'ils gouvernent doivent faire preuve d'ambition et se poser toujours cette question pratique : à quoi voulons-nous parvenir ?

Dès lors que la réponse est donnée, la loi et les mesures de régulation peuvent porter et faire avancer nos buts collectifs, mais aussi encourager les expérimentations partant de la base. Ainsi les récompenses et la reconnaissance peuvent-elles s'avérer plus efficaces que les prix pour stimuler l'investissement privé. Et des procédures publiques d'achat parviendraient certainement mieux à fixer le cap de l'innovation.

Les responsables politiques doivent aussi, et c'est encore plus important, s'attaquer à la financiarisation de l'industrie pharmaceutique, qui ne se préoccupe que de valeur actionnariale en négligeant les parties prenantes. Entre 2007 et 2016, les 19 compagnies pharmaceutiques prises en compte en janvier 2017 par l'indice S&P 500 ont dépensé 97 milliards de dollars dans le rachat de leurs propres titres afin de valoriser les options d'achat de leurs cadres, ce qui représente 61 % de leurs dépenses combinées de R&D sur la même période.

Aussi longtemps que prévaudra ce modèle économique, les prix continueront d'être fixés à des niveaux exorbitants. Comme ce fut récemment le cas pour un antibiotique, les dirigeants des compagnies prétendront qu'ils servent les intérêts de leurs actionnaires en laissant les prix monter, quel que soit le niveau atteint par le marché, et en abusant des droits de propriété intellectuelle pour en tirer des rentes de monopole. Les brevets sont devenus trop difficiles à accorder et sont trop souvent acquis pour des raisons stratégiques plutôt que pour les découvertes qu'ils sont censés protéger.

Afin de remettre les soins de santé en phase avec l'intérêt public, nous pouvons nous inspirer du NHS. Ses fondateurs avaient reçu pour mission de créer un système utile à tous, gratuit sur les lieux où sont délivrés les soins, et tourné vers les besoins des patients, indépendamment de leur capacité à payer. Les responsables politiques d'aujourd'hui devraient reprendre à leur compte cette mission essentielle. Ce n'est qu'en harmonisant l'innovation aux priorités d'une société civilisée que nous parviendront à porter les soins de santé vers de nouveaux horizons.

# PERSPECTIVES

With Bai M. Gbala, Sr.  
November 28, 2018

Public Policy . Economics . Democratic Politics . Political/Economic Decentralization . Public Dishonesty . Dual Citizenship

## SOURCES OF LIBERIA'S MAJOR POLITICAL CALAMITIES: ETHNIC TRIBAL BIGOTRY AND DUAL CITIZENSHIP

CONT'D FROM LAST EDITION

### Observations and Comments

The most, profound impacts of (1), Ethnic Tribal Bigotry and (2), Dual Citizenship are felt in Liberia in the following areas of Liberian society:

- 1) Ethnic Tribal Bigotry.
  - a) Administration of Social, Economic Entitlements. This is found mostly in the administration of lawful entitlements such as training, education, employment, housing, choice of location, etc.
  - b) The right to stand for election to some state offices are denied by unwritten but effectively-enforced rules of exclusion.
- 2) Dual Citizenship.

- a) National Security. Regarding National Security, the word "*allegiance*" means that we promise Loyalty, exclusive and unrestrained, with lawful, binding obligation. Because citizenship carries with it, also, the responsibility and obligation to be exclusively loyal to one country at a time, the concept of Dual citizenship raises questions about which of the dual citizenships have priority. This is extremely important when and where the two countries have opposing interests. In the case of a declared war or real threat of a conflict, for example, our loyalty, allegiance and patriotism to the Republic preclude, *should and must preclude* any other interest, be it another country or political ideology.

It can be a deadly problem when and where a dual citizen occupies a high position in our Liberian Government. Can one imagine a dual citizen of an opposing foreign country serving in the Ministry of National Defense during a conflict with that country? Today's conflicts are at Liberia's door-steps. Liberia is surrounded by nations with governments dominated by militant Muslim-Islamist BOKO Haran, with "*weapons of Mass Destruction*" which Liberia does not possess. But Liberia is sinking in the Cesspool of Ethnic Tribal Bigotry & Dual Citizenship.

- b) Political/Economic. Historically, Dual Citizens dominated and controlled Liberia's Political Economy and political decision-making power through absolute control/domination of Liberia's Politics and Economics during the 171 years of Country's political independence and continuing. Fabulous salaries and related incomes generated in Liberia by Dual Citizens have been and, are being transferred, regularly, out of Liberia and purchased homes, maintain families and educate children in foreign countries, the simultaneous, second home-countries of these Liberian, dual citizens. They travel, very often, to and from these countries to which they owe *exclusive loyalty, allegiance and patriotism*, and in which they hold and maintain fabulous bank accounts.

### Cllr. Korkoya as NEC Chairman

The most recent case, in point, of dual citizenship is the example of Cllr. Jerome Korkoya who was appointed Chairman of the National Elections Commission (NEC) by former President Sirleaf, although she (President Sirleaf) knew, very well, that Cllr. Korkoya was, and is, ineligible to hold the position because he (Cllr. Korkoya) is citizen of a foreign country, a violation of Liberian statutory and constitutional law. But she did so, apparently, because of her desire and plan to control and manipulate the functions of the NEC through malleable Cllr. Korkoya.

Moreover all, almost, registered, recognized Political Parties, Leaders and practicing politicians and attorneys, including the Nation's Supreme Court, supported and continue to support the illegal appointment of Cllr. Korkoya as Chairman of the NEC, for obvious reasons.

In fact, our recent research information of the declared/approved candidates for President of Liberia and the sitting, retiring President showed the following, for obvious reasons:

Retiring President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, UNITY Party (?), Doubtful

- 1) Vice President Joseph Boakai, UNITY Party, Liberian Citizen
- 2) Cllr. Charles Brumskine, LIBERTY Party, Doubtful
- 3) Senator George Weah, CDC COALITION, US Citizen
- 4) Mr. Benoni Urey, ALP Party, Doubtful
- 5) Dr. Mills Jones, MOVEE Party, US Citizen
- 6) Mr. Alexander Cummings, ANC Party, US Citizen
- 7) Dr. Henry Fahnbulleh, Jr., LPP Party, Doubtful
- 8) Senator Prince Johnson, MDR Party, Liberian Citizen
- 9) Ms. Macdella Cooper, LRP Party, US Citizen
- 10) Jeremiah Whapoe, VOLT Party, US Citizen
- 11) McDonald Wenton, UPP Party, US Citizen

Of the 11 politicians seeking the presidency of Liberia and the retiring, sitting President, 6 or 50% are US citizens, 4 or 33% are in doubt, while 2 or 17% are

Liberian citizens. Thus, the reason that "*politicians*" were, and are, in support of the illegal appointment of Cllr. Jerome Korkoya as Chairman of the NEC. To protect and secure the self-interests of the very few!!

### Dual Citizenship versus the Masonic Craft

In the Liberia of today, Dual Citizenship has replaced the Masonic Craft as the symbol of preferred social standing, economic and political success within the socio-political Class for the rising, ambitious politicians. Anyone who is somebody in the Liberian socio-economic and political system is a dual citizen with Liberian and foreign passports; and anyone, who wants to be somebody in the Liberian socio-economic and political system, strives to be dual citizen.

But, the on-going, heated national debate and arguments for adoption of *dual citizenship* in our country are logically-fallacious in general terms, at least, up to the present. Almost all leading proponents are, already, citizens of foreign countries who left Liberia for greener pastures and others who took up naturalized citizenship willingly, upon their own choice (the old "been-to" social class hopefuls) or applicants for naturalizations with advocacy/arguments based on "what's in it for me", not for the nation and people.

Indeed, no one, none of the leaders/advocates has yet presented a relevant, thought-provoking, micro/macroeconomic and political argument/analysis in support of dual citizenship. These advocates/proponents failed, miserably, to dislodge the age-old Truth that "*no one can serve two masters at the same time*", nor the proven natural Science Theory (Physics) that "*no object can occupy two spaces at the same time*", other than the usual, worn-out clichés of "*western union remittances, political persecutions due to our unfortunate tragedy of the civil war and that there is a pool of highly trained/experienced, former Liberian citizens-professionals in the Diaspora who can be utilized in the nation's reconstruction/development effort*".

But those issues have been effectively debunked as "*deceitful ploys for government (of Liberia) positions and corrupt practices*". Recall the *Liberia-rush* by the Philadelphia job-seekers; they are back in the USA (mostly in Philadelphia) in new homes and flashy SUVs, with some indicted for stealing public resources.

### All-Inclusive National Menace

This analysis drags us to the politicians and journalists decked out in Ethnic Tribal and Dual Citizenship Robes and newly-adopted African attire (Lappa suits, etc.), particularly, the journalists who should, must improve and continue the awesome responsibility of Institutional Investigative Reporting to *inform, educate and entertain the nation's un-informed, un-educated and poor citizens*, the pre-condition to a functioning democracy.

We note, particularly, the self-anointed "leading newspapers of Liberia" Journalists who are unreasonably arrogant and find pleasure in badmouthing and accusing persistently, viciously and falsely the late President Samuel Doe and the Krahn People, *although the President has been dead for about 30 years and not around for response to the vicious charges*.

While we admit that the late President was not above the shenanigans, maneuvers and manipulations of the law and was, in fact, in violations of law, a characteristic "learned" from the Liberian system and African heads of state, but we argue, based upon validated evidence, that as "*compared to former President Charles Taylor (the leader of Mrs. Sirleaf's ACDL-Civil war now serving the 50-year prison term for Crimes against Humanity) and retired former President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf (the senior ACDL warlord and leading war & economic crimes suspects), Samuel Doe is a saint*", in the words of a US Diplomat involved in the "Peace Process" with us, in the search for peace out of the deadly war.

We argue, moreover, that the late President and the Krahn People did not cross the Cestos River to wage tribal war against historical, ageless, tribal brothers and sisters of friendly people of Nimba County, including, particularly, the Gio or Dan, tribal, family relatives (*the Towehs, prominent family of the late Paramount Chief Gblorzuo Toweh*). The name or term "*Toweh*" is Krahn, "*tohe weh-ye*", in the Krahn dialect and translates to "*tribal war is finished or over*".

But the problem of the "*Field Marshall, General*" Prince Yormie Johnson's civil war excesses were the result of and due to the unfortunate exploitation/manipulations of Liberia's (also unfortunate) traditional Ethnic Tribal bigotry by the warmongers with the *now senior Senator* of Nimba County still running lose as a threat to some Nimba citizens, peace and security of the nation.

Finally, we pray the Journalists to leave the dead President Doe and the Krahn People alone and focus attention on the nation's economy already in the great beyond, while the exchange rate has been, and is, in hot pursuit.

Meanwhile, there is stealing, stealing and stealing from the Citizens, and the-now thriving Liberian Government monopoly of the universal vice of corruption (public dishonesty) with lawyers, law-makers and top Executive Branch officials as the most-often, major law-breakers with impunity and moral decadence in Liberia.

Where will this end with no one listening but arrogant? Recall the Biblical history of Sodom and Gomorrah?

# Nimba Lawmakers open Pandora box

By Thomas Domah/Nimba

**N**imba County District One Representative Jeremiah Kpain Koug openly accuses several of his colleague lawmakers here of receiving bribe from the Central Bank officials prior to the printing of the new Liberia Banknotes of which 16 billion reportedly went missing in the country.

Although the Nimba lawmaker was unable to detail how much money was allegedly received as bribe, but speaking on Radio Kergheamahn [94.5FM] in Ganta, Nimba County, he accuses Representative Larry P. Younquoi and others whose names were not mentioned on the radio that during their tenure as chairman and co-chair on Ways and Means in the House under the 53rd Legislature, they demanded huge amount of money from the Central Bank before giving



Representative Jeremiah Koug

approval for the printing of the new banknotes.

Speaking further, Representative Koug claims he is not part of those

lawmakers that Journalist Philipbert Browne accused of dividing money at the back of the Central Bank of Liberia's compound in central Monrovia

and at the T-Five Academy campus in Nee-Zoe Community, Paynesville respectively.

He vows that if documents showed that he was seen in the compound of the Central Bank and at Representative Thomas Fallah's school as has been reported, he would resign.

For his part, Representative Larry P. Younquoi told the same radio state when he was contacted for response that the allegation by the District One Lawmaker is false.

According to Representative Youngquoi, he represented the county on the budget committee under the leadership of criminally indicted former Speaker Alex Tyler.

He confirms they wrote the Central Bank of Liberia to print the new banknotes, but those who replaced him on the Ways and Means Committee were the ones that received the alleged bribe.

He vows to closely follow the investigation of the missing 16 billion Liberian Banknotes in

making sure those involved are brought to justice.

Lawmakers on Capitol Hill and the entire government have been giving conflicting accounts about the printing of the new banknotes and the missing 16 billion with the Minister of Finance Planning and Development Samuel Tweah and the Central Bank of Liberia Executive Governor Nathaniel Patray denying money went missing.

House Speaker Bhofal Chambers has vowed that they would not be subjected to probe despite a Presidential Investigative Team set up to probe the issue.

They recently ended their own investigation and turned over some of the key players in the saga, including former executive governor Milton Weeks, Deputy Executive Governor Charles Sirleaf and current Executive Governor Nathaniel Patray to the Executive Branch of Government for further action. *-Editing by Jonathan Browne*

## They're paid for stealing

Winston W. Parley

**F**ormer Information Minister Rev. Dr. Lawrence Bropleh says the biggest avenue of corruption here is the corruption of wasted time, alarming that government employees, including officials are being paid for stealing [time].

The former Information Minister who worked in the administration of ex-President

corruption in our country. If we can correct that, there will be more proficiency," he advises.

According to Dr. Bropleh, employees in government circle here actually work, for about two and a half hours daily, even though he did not provide any scientific evidence to support this claim.

"The rest of the time we're doing foolishness, but at the end of the month, the Liberian people don't cut that from us,"

at 9:30 or even 11:00 O'clock which "is very wrong."

"I said to people that the biggest avenue of corruption in our country is the corruption of wasted time," Dr. Bropleh says.

The former Minister recalls how during former President Sirleaf's regime, she shun her officials for leaving their offices to welcome her at the airport when they should have been at offices working.

He admits that in spite of former President Sirleaf's warning, there were still occasions when her officials had to welcome her.

But he argues that those welcomes were done for instance, when she returned from Paris and the World Bank and Liberia's over four billion debt was promised to be waived, among others.

With the exception of key persons that are needed including the official left in charge to chair cabinet, Dr. Bropleh recommends to President George Manneh Weah to order his cabinet ministers not to leave their offices to go and stand at the airport to welcome him.

According to him, when these officials leave their offices, they shut down the entire government.

Due to this situation, Dr. Bropleh wants government to start clocking workers in and out.

Meanwhile, Dr. Bropleh is also cautioning the Weah administration to see the need to have a synchronized communication strategy so that government messages are not distorted when too many people tend to speak for the



President Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf told OK FM in Monrovia Tuesday, 4 December that when people are not committing their time to work, a particular project that an entity is working on will not be finished on time.

"They're stealing from the Liberian people; they're being paid for stealing. That's one of the biggest avenues of

he explains.

Out of eight working hours, he says about an hour is allotted for lunch, but others would take two hours or even fail to return to work after lunch.

Besides, Dr. Bropleh observes that workers are required to get to work at 8:00 AM as the starting time in Liberia, but many get to work

**SURVEY NOTICE**

December 3, 2018

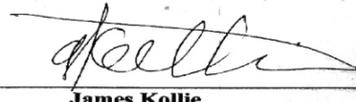
The general public is hereby informed that the undersigned Registered/Licensed Land Surveyor has been authorized by Richard Steward Diggs to resurvey one lot (1) parcel of land situated in Banjor, the Township of Virginia, Montserrado County.

This resurvey will commence on **Saturday, December 8, 2018 at 12:00 PM.**

Therefore, all adjoining property owners and interested person(s) who name is not mentioned in this notice are requested to be present on the day of the resurvey with their deeds, diagrams (maps) or technical representative (surveyors) to substantiate their claims.

This resurvey should claim the immediate attention of the following persons and initial:

1. Ramatu T. Newland
2. Maima Kanneh
3. R.K.

Signed:   
**James Kollie**  
 Authorized Surveyor  
 Contact #: 0886556644/0777110116

Approved:   
**MacArthur Z. Beyan**  
 Registered/Licensed Land Surveyor  
 Contact #: 0886301241/0777985788

SURVEYOR'S LICENSE  
 Name: MACARTHUR Z. BEYAN  
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government. He says the danger in having officials misinforming the people is that it creates

chaos. *-Edited by Othello B. Garblah*

# U.S. Embassy closes to public

## -To mourn former President George Bush



As America mourns the passing of former President George H.W. Bush, Sr., the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia is shutting its doors to the public today, Wednesday, December 5, as a mark of last respect to the passing President.

A press release posted on the U.S. Embassy's official

website Tuesday, 4 December says members of the public are invited Thursday, December 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to sign the Book of Condolence at a specially installed tent at the U.S. Embassy main entrance on Benson Street, in Monrovia.

Meanwhile, the release says consular appointments that had previously been scheduled

for December 5 have now been moved to the same time on Friday, December 7. The Embassy however notes that applicants who are unable to appear on Friday will be able to reschedule their appointments themselves using their existing receipts at [www.ustraveldocs.com/lr](http://www.ustraveldocs.com/lr).

Former President Bush passed off peacefully at aged 94 on Friday, 30 November at his home in a gated Houston community, surrounded by several friends, members of his family, doctors and a minister, according to The New York Times.

As the end neared on Friday night, his son George W. Bush, the former president, who was at his home in Dallas, was put on the speaker phone to say goodbye. He told him that he had been a "wonderful dad" and that he loved him, the Times reports.

"I love you, too," Mr. Bush told his son, and those were his last words. *-Press Release*

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## Public Service Announcement

The New Dawn will take its usual annual break beginning December 24, 2018 to return on the newsstand immediately January 4, 2019. We thank our many loyal readers and subscribers for standing by us in 2018 despite a rather tough business climate. We look forward to a very peaceful and prosperous New Year. Merry Christmas.

The Management

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