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# The New Dawn

**French Version Inside**

## TRULY INDEPENDENT

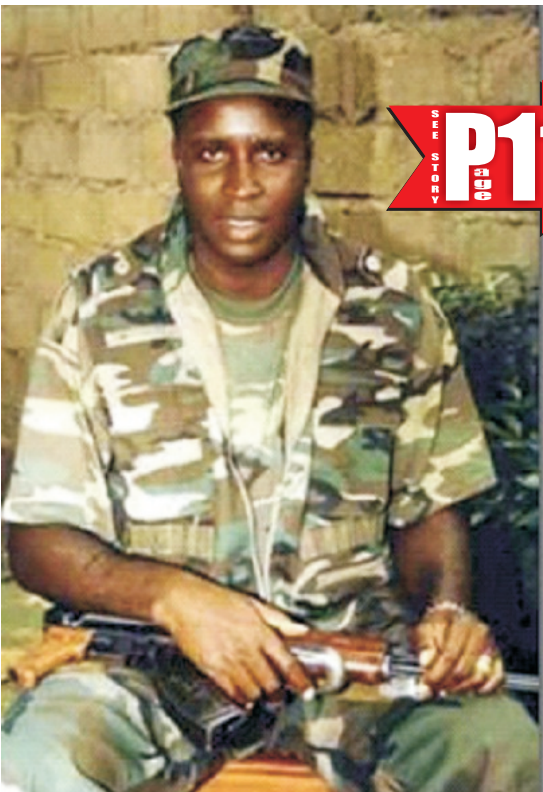
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# Who's next?



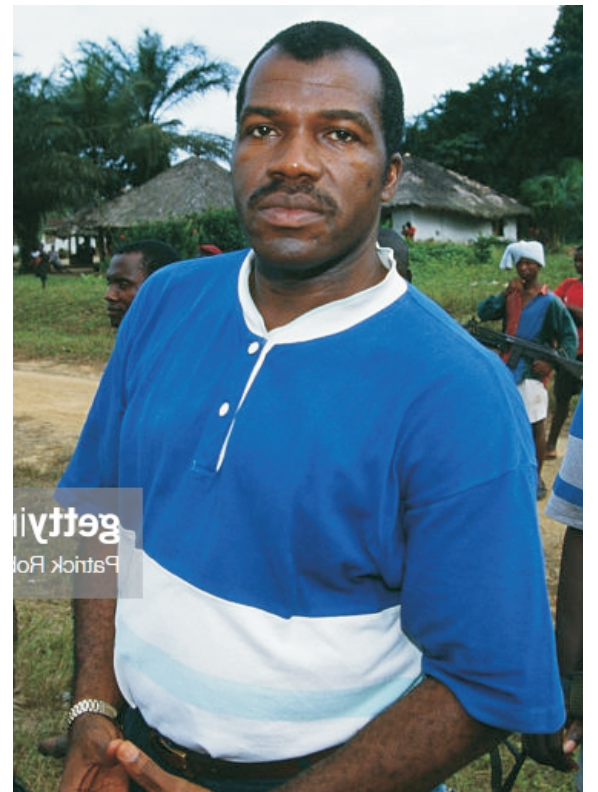
Sekou Damate Konneh



Prince Yormie Johnson

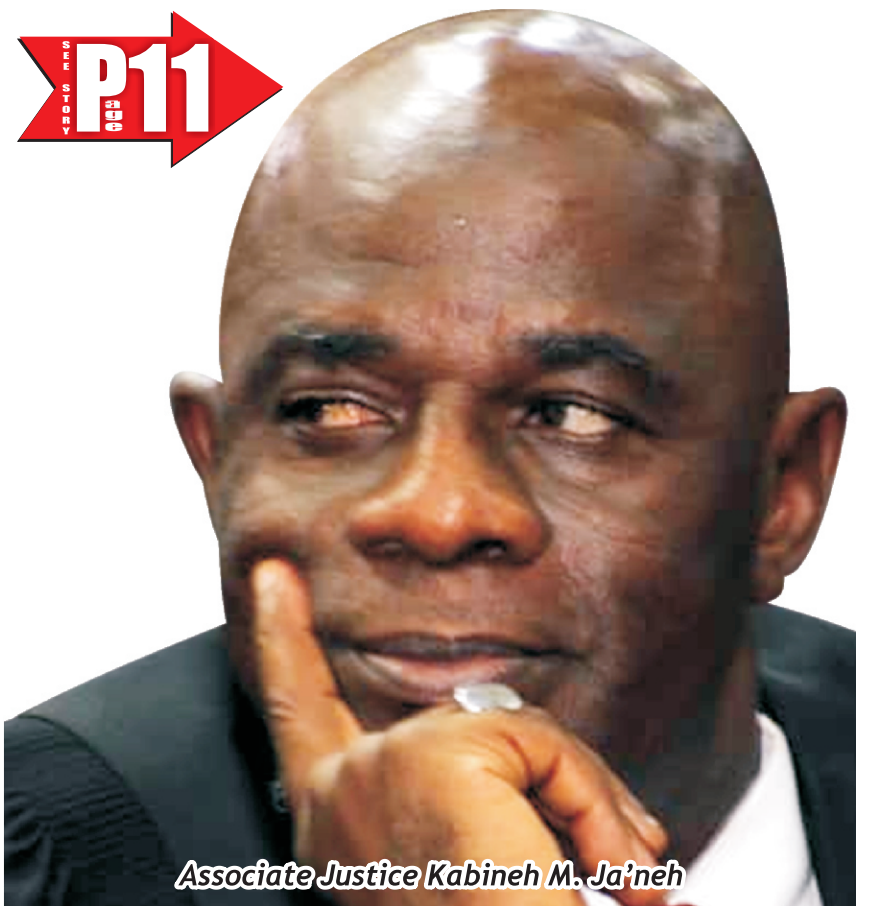


Alhaji Kromah



George Boley

# Justice Ja'neh's restless hours



Associate Justice Kabineh M. Ja'neh



# Continental News

## U.N. to investigate massacre of 157 Malian villagers

The United Nations has dispatched human rights experts to central Mali to investigate a weekend massacre of at least 157 villagers seen as one of the worst acts of bloodshed in a country beset by ethnic violence.

The attack, in which women and children were burned in their homes by gunmen, escalated a conflict between Dogon hunters and Fulani herders that killed hundreds of civilians in 2018 and is spreading across the Sahel, the arid region between the Sahara desert to the north and Africa's savannas to the south.

"A team of 10 human rights specialists, a child protection agent and two MINUSMA investigators have been deployed to the Mopti region to conduct a special investigation into Saturday's terrible events," U.N. mission spokesman Olivier Salgado tweeted on Wednesday. MINUSMA refers to the U.N. mission in Mali.

International Criminal Court chief prosecutor Fatou Bensouda said this week that the crimes could fall under ICC jurisdiction and that a delegation would be sent to Mali. A U.N. Security Council mission was already visiting the West African state to seek solutions to ethnic violence

when the massacre occurred.

An official from a nearby town said on Saturday that armed men dressed as Dogon hunters assaulted villages populated by Fulani herders. The Dogon suspect the Fulani of harboring Islamist militants, charges the Fulani deny. The attack came less

than a week after an Islamist assault on an army post that killed at least 23 soldiers, also in Mali's central region. That attack was claimed by an al Qaeda affiliate.

In a statement on Tuesday, MINUSMA said a Dogon village in the region was also attacked on the night of the Fulani massacre, leaving at least four people dead.

Tacit outsourcing of the fight against jihadists to vigilante groups with scores to settle has unleashed ethnic strife across the Sahel. In neighboring Burkina Faso at the end of December, ethnic Mossi militia killed dozens of Fulani in revenge for the killing

of a village chief by jihadists.

U.N. human rights spokesman Ravina Shamdasani said on Tuesday that 219 people had been killed by anti-jihadist vigilante groups in Mali since the start of this year.

Malian President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita responded to the attack on the Fulanis by disbanding an anti-jihadist vigilante group called Dan Na Amassagou, whose Dogon fighters are suspected of being behind the massacre.

The group has denied its members were involved and rejected the government's dissolution. -Reuters



## Youth minister tells child rapper to hang up his mic

A Ugandan child rapper has been told to put down his microphone because he is too young to perform.

Youth minister Florence Nakiwala told the BBC that the country's labour laws state that no-one under 18 should work.

In a television interview on Uganda's NBS channel, she also warned that if the seven-year-old rapper Fresh Kid disobeyed the law he could face juvenile prison.

Child labour has been hard for authorities to stamp out, reports the BBC's Catherine Byaruhanga from the capital.

Children are regularly seen working on farms, in small businesses and street vending, she says.

Ms Nakiwala expressed concern that Fresh Kid, whose real name is Patrick Ssenyonjo, missed school since he was always busy working when other children his age were studying.

But his manager insists that the child star has continued going to school.

Francis Kamoga told the BBC that the rapper only performs on Saturdays and Sundays and has only had two shows, one music video and three songs since the start of the year.



He added that he is not working and does not get paid.

"I discovered him in a rural village miming some songs, brought him to the city and started paying his school fees" he said.

The star addresses critics in his latest song Banteka where he raps in a mix of Luganda and slang about people gossiping about him not going to school:

"They underrate me because of my age, I hear what you are gossiping about: asking 'will he study?'"

"Losers are weeping, calling out to their mothers, If you are afraid of me, get me cash. I'm the judge, I do not discriminate. Even if you are from the Stone Age, I will floor you. -BBC

## Ebola disbelief widespread in DR Congo hotspots

More than a quarter of people surveyed in Ebola-hit areas of the Democratic Republic of Congo told researchers they do not believe the disease exists.

Some 36% of respondents also believed that the disease had been fabricated to destabilise the country.

The authors of the study, published in the Lancet, said this mistrust was a factor in

prolonging the epidemic.

The current outbreak started in August and more than 600 people have died, according to the health ministry.

More than 1,000 people have contracted the virus during the current outbreak, which is the second-largest ever recorded.

The study surveyed 961 people in the central

Congolese cities of Beni and Butembo.

Election officials cited the Ebola outbreak as a reason to cancel the December presidential elections in the affected regions.

Why don't people trust the authorities?

Distrust contributed to four violent attacks on Ebola treatment and transit centres in the past month, reports the BBC's Gaius Kowene from the capital, Kinshasa.

The lead author, Patrick Vinck, from Harvard Medical School, told the BBC's Newsday programme that people don't trust the authorities due to decades of conflict and this has an impact on the disease spreading.

"The lack of trust combines with the epidemic to really make people not want to follow advice, not want to listen to what authorities have to tell them to prevent the spread of the epidemic," he said.

Local militias are active in the area and health workers are often accompanied by police and soldiers for security.

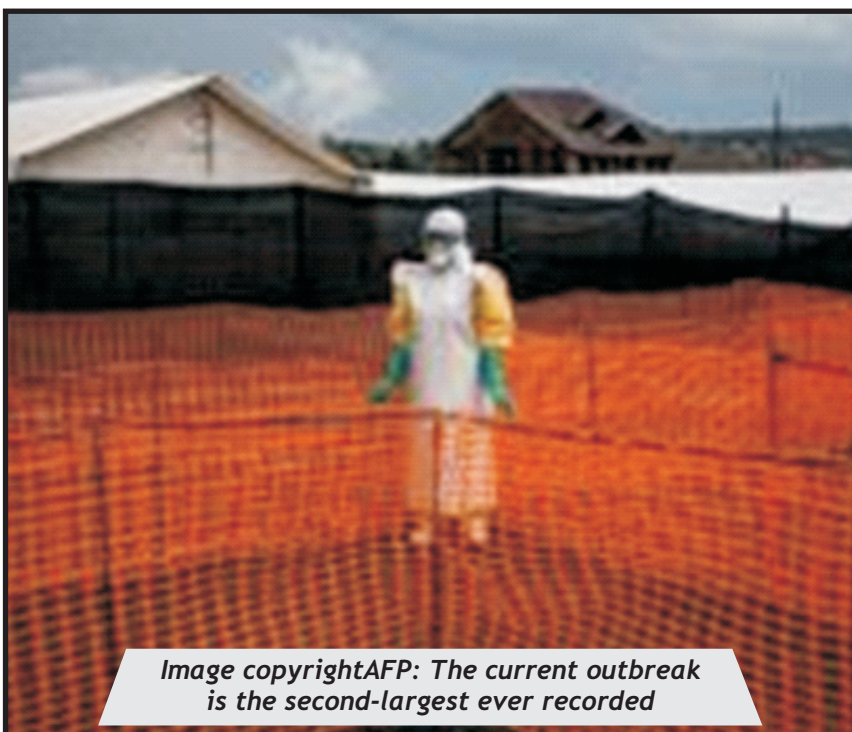


Image copyright AFP: The current outbreak is the second-largest ever recorded

This makes villagers suspicious, Jean-Philippe Marcoux, country director for international aid group Mercy Corps told Reuters news agency.

"We need to - as much as possible and rapidly - scale down the presence of security forces with response teams, because it is creating more

harm than good right now," he said.

# EDITORIAL

## NaFAA's gaffe

**WHATEVER DISCUSSIONS THAT** were held at the World Bank Headquarters in Washington, DC, between the Director General of the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) and the World Bank, may have been fruitful, but the outcome, as released to the Liberian populace thru a NaFAA's press release, particularly a reported commitment of US\$21 million to Liberia for a fisheries project underway which was promptly denied by the latter poses a serious image embarrassment not only for the government, but the entire country.

**WHATEVER WENT WRONG** with the dissemination of the information that clearly boomeranged, NaFAA Director General Emma Glassco, should learn some lessons from there to guide herself in future engagement with international partners, specifically multilateral financial institutions such as the World Bank.

**NAFAA HAD REPORTED** in Monrovia that Director General Glassco paid a follow up visit to the WB headquarters on a US\$21 million fisheries project in Liberia under the West Africa Regional Fisheries Project or WARFP.

**THE RELEASE DETAILS** that the money will be used to construct state of the art fishing and processing facilities and establish landing jetties in targeted five coastal counties, including Montserrado.

**BUT THE WORLD** Bank says it has made no commitment to fund a US\$21 million fisheries project in Liberia, contrary to the NaFAA's release. The Bank clarifies that whether Liberia will have a new project with focus on fisheries will be determined after its new Director for Regional Integration comes on board on May 1, 2019, and a strategic decision will be made to fit the country's priority needs.

**NOW, THE PUBLIC** relations package from NaFAA perhaps was not properly timed or strategic, disclosing financial commitment that has not been finalized. And this is where Madam Glassco should take cue from.

**IT IS NOT** outcome of all discussions held with bilateral partners that should be hurriedly brought to the public, particularly in matters that concern funding.

**WE KNOW THE** NaFAA boss may have out of anxiety, been unable to restrain herself in breaking a success story by being very circumspect. Perhaps it was in her strong quest to gain approval from the highest authority of the land.

**HOWEVER, WE CAUTION** Madam Glassco that when engaging bilateral and multilateral partners, bordering on financial commitments, make sure that all sides are in concert with any public statement on the outcome before running with it to avoid such embarrassment.

**THE INTENTION OF** the press release may have been good, particularly after the follow up meeting in Washington DC, but perhaps partners' reaction was not given a second thought, specifically if no written and signed commitment were made, which presupposes that negotiations could be still ongoing hence, issue about exact amount of money was not necessary at this time.

**The New Dawn**  
TRULY INDEPENDENT

# COMMENTARY

By Hans-Werner Sinn

## Let the People Decide on Brexit

*British voters now know far more about Brexit and its possible consequences than they did at the time of the 2016 referendum. Given the narrow majority for leaving the European Union back then, and the impasse at which UK institutions find themselves now, holding a new referendum is both appropriate and necessary.*

**M**UNICH - For a while, it seemed that British Prime Minister Theresa May and her government's supporters in Parliament could decide on Brexit by themselves. Through a long series of tactical votes on all manner of trivialities, and with the alternative of a hard "no deal" Brexit hanging over MPs' heads like the sword of Damocles, May's government tried to manipulate the Brexit endgame. And for a long time, her approach fooled the people of the United Kingdom and Europe.

But now the tide has turned. The speaker of the UK House of Commons, John Bercow, and the other 27 European Union member states have put an end to the undignified goings-on, forcing the government and Parliament to decide.

According to the speaker's ruling on March 18, the government cannot bring the UK's current EU withdrawal agreement back to Parliament again with a hard Brexit as the alternative. And, although the EU has extended the original Brexit deadline of March 29, it is not willing to amend this agreement.

As a result, Parliament now has until April 12 to choose among three options. It could accept the Brexit deal currently on the table, in which case the UK would leave the EU on May 22, one day before the European Parliament elections begin. Alternatively, the UK could decide to take part in the European elections and suggest a new plan of action, such as a second referendum on EU membership. In this scenario, the EU would grant a further, lengthy extension of the Brexit deadline, to allow time to prepare for what comes next. If Parliament chooses neither of these options, it will default to the third: a hard, no-deal Brexit on April 12.

Because May has been unable to secure any changes to the withdrawal agreement from the EU, Parliament cannot vote again between this deal and a hard Brexit if Bercow stays firm. And if the EU stands firm on the current withdrawal agreement, the alternatives in any new parliamentary vote would have to be either an orderly Brexit under the agreement's terms or a second referendum. And if there were a new referendum, British voters would probably have to decide between an orderly Brexit and remaining in the EU, because nobody will dare to offer a hard

Brexit as an alternative.

Until recently, a reversal of British voters' 2016 decision to leave the EU had seemed unlikely. But the interventions by Bercow and the EU have opened up a whole new game, dramatically increasing the chance that Brexit may not happen. This would foil financial-market speculators who were betting on a withdrawal, and is good news for both the UK and the EU.

Nearly three years ago, British voters did not really know what they were doing when they decided by a narrow majority to leave the EU. Few had clear ideas about what Brexit would mean, aside from some romantic notions about reviving the Commonwealth. But the situation today, after two years of negotiations on the UK's exit agreement, is very different.

For example, the withdrawal agreement implies a customs barrier in the Irish Sea - and thus within the UK - for people, services, and capital. Only goods may pass this barrier without controls. In Northern Ireland, however, all four of the EU's fundamental freedoms would continue to apply (with only a few exceptions): capital, services, people, and goods may move free of customs, duties, and controls.

This threatens the integrity not only of the UK, but also of Great Britain. After all, it cannot be ruled out that Scotland will hold another independence referendum in the medium term, once it realizes that Northern Ireland, which remains closely tied to the EU, got the better deal.

The British people are far better informed about Brexit and its possible consequences than they were at the time of the 2016 referendum. Given the narrow majority for Brexit back then, and the impasse at which UK institutions find themselves now, holding a new referendum is both appropriate and necessary.

For months, the British government has used the threat of a hard Brexit to play parliamentary games on an issue of huge national and European importance. This cannot continue. In a true democracy, political leaders must recognize the limits of their authority and capacity. That is why Parliament must submit to the people the decision whether to remain in the EU or accept the withdrawal agreement.



## Lord, Liberians and their mindsets, how interesting

*Dear Father:*

*You know, the other day a friend of mine called me to draw my attention to a critical paragraph in a story we had published about one big man in our village. To be honest, my friend was not happy and felt the paper was against this big man who happens to apparently have a tribal connection with him.*

*But Father, the interesting thing is neither my friend nor any other person connected to this big man have up to this point called one day to say ooh, we have seen how balance you have been on this case and have been keeping it up.*

*However, Father, in silence and with the way this big man's lawyer have been calling my boys up and down to produce documents it was obvious that they saw us as balance or anything to the contrary in their mind was their own responsibility to handle not ours.*

*So, Father, my friend was not too happy and whatever his conclusion was over the way that paragraph was phrased is obvious. You are a good town crier when the message is in their favor. But you are bad when it's critically against their interests.*

*Father, my friend is not alone in this. It appears like it's something that is ingrained in our village. We defined objectivity as something that is always in our favor. When it is not in our interest, the Town Crier has been bought or have compromised his or her integrity.*

*On Sunday, while sitting in church, a female friend came to me. She wanted to pick my brain or get information on the "25m" mopping up money for which two of the big men in our village council names have been paraded as more villagers called for their heads to roll.*

*Let me backtrack a little Father. Mind you, know there is this satire going around that the big man at our village money matters house, and the big man at the village big money house sat in a keke (a tri motorcycle) distributing the money to money changers around town and because of that they are unable to give account of the money.*

*So many people believe that by their mere modus operandi they are guilty and should be placed behind bars with the keys thrown away. This, for most people in our village is the final verdict that should not be compromised, any other contrary opinion is against the village interest.*

*Now Father, it is against this backdrop that my female friend had come to pick my brain as "big village town crier". The issue my friend and many like her have is while should the Footballer called for a 2nd investigation when the first one has already found the two big men guilty. And all we as Town Criers should be calling for all over the place with one voice is that the two guys should be arrested and thrown in jail. In fact for them the first investigation which says the people could not produce documents as to how the money was infused in the economy is a clear indication that the two men chopped our village money.*

*And so, Father, as an independent person, my friend was certain that I would have provided her my candid opinion, at least for once that is what I thought, but I was wrong.*

*You joking my son.*

*No, Father listen. And when my friend asked what do I think about the money issue and the call for this 2nd investigation, I said I think if we say we are a village of laws, it will be good for them to conduct this second forensic investigation and compel the people to produce the documents they could not produce in the first one, so that we can clearly see who is responsible. Because as things look we are only claiming that those who were are the head of this should go to jail, but before we send them there is a need to ensure that we cross all the "Ts" and dot all the "Is".*

*Father, my friend facial expression changed immediately. And I asked why, your facial expression has changed. Father she said and I quote, "the way you just spoke tells me that the people have bribed you. You people are the ones we are depending on for this country. But the way you explained to me now, just shows that the people have bought you to talk for them."*

*Now, Father, if I had said those two rogues need to be in jail now. I don't think this village council should spend the next few months in office because they all know about our money and they all spent it, you know talking loosely like that I would have been to her a patriot.*

*And Father this is how many of our people think- you are very objective when you get on the airwaves and call everybody criminal or write insulting articles about everybody in the papers. You are bribed when you try to tell people to allow the due process to take its course for the right action to be taken. To be continued.*

## OPINION

By Joschka Fischer

### Europe Needs a Global Strategy

**B**ERLIN - Donald Trump's election as president of the United States may have hastened the end of the "American Century" and of the US-led postwar international order. True, the world's political and economic center of gravity had been shifting toward East Asia well before 2016, and the idea of China rising to global power in the coming "Pacific Century" is not new, either. But Trump's actions, together with those of his Chinese counterpart, Xi Jinping, have brought the increasingly sharp superpower rivalry to center stage. Unfortunately, Europe has yet to produce a coherent response.

The current US-China trade dispute has the potential to trigger a global recession. But even this conflict is only part of a far larger power struggle, including in the technology sector, to determine whether the new rising star (China) or the incumbent (America) plays the leading global role.

For most of the period since China began its modernization drive under Deng Xiaoping in the late 1970s, its policy was not to challenge the existing geopolitical and strategic order, and to avoid a confrontation with the US at all costs. But Xi's speech at the Communist Party of China's 19th National Congress in October 2017, and the several current Chinese initiatives aimed at challenging US dominance, indicate that China will no longer hide its strength and bide its time, as Deng enjoined.

China's new assertiveness is evident in its military fortification of reefs and small islands in the South China Sea, as well as in the "Made in China 2025" strategy, which aims to make the country the world leader in the key industries of the future within a decade. And with its massive "Belt and Road Initiative" (BRI), China wants to use investments in trade and transport infrastructure to establish its geopolitical and commercial dominance in Eurasia, Europe, the Middle East, and Africa.

Faced with this increasingly obvious challenge to its leadership, the US has also changed its strategy and adopted a more confrontational stance toward China. Although Trump is leading this shift, American anger, fear, and frustration about China extend far beyond the White House and the Republican Party, and deep into Democratic Party ranks.

For starters, the US is taking a harder line on trade. In the past, the American market was generally open to Chinese exports - without such access, China's rapid economic growth would never have been possible. But the Trump administration wants to end this openness and turn the countries' bilateral trade from a tool into a weapon. The US is also toughening its stance toward the BRI, and has criticized Italy's recent decision to endorse the initiative.

Technology is another big American concern. The US and China are engaged in a bitter contest in the field of artificial intelligence and continue to clash over Chinese telecoms firm Huawei, one of the country's leading global companies.

Senior Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou, the daughter of the company's founder, is currently awaiting extradition to the US after being arrested in Canada last December for allegedly violating US embargo rules concerning Iran. At the same time, the Trump administration is putting heavy pressure on its European allies to exclude Huawei from their telecoms markets because of espionage concerns (although the US has yet to produce evidence of this publicly).

The arrival of this new twenty-first-century global order does not bode well for Europe, as these initial trade and technology skirmishes make clear. But, as per usual when confronted with a major global challenge, Europe is largely navel-gazing and preoccupied with internal problems, including Brexit.

But Europeans cannot afford to remain aloof. Europe will be one of the first casualties if the current dispute between China and the US turns into a full-blown trade conflict. Should that happen, the two superpowers will demand that Europe take sides - precisely the kind of choice it does not want to make, because the US and China are its two main export markets. Similarly, Europe would most likely face Chinese retaliation if it decided to shut Huawei out of its national markets.

Europe must forge its own strategic view about the new global order. And it will have to put enough weight on the geopolitical scales to continue to trade with both the US and China on its own terms.

This will require Europe to develop an industrial policy based on European interests and values.

In addition, Europe's leaders must recognize that China is rapidly building an alternative political system in which a single party digitally controls the masses. Whatever one's view of Trump, this will not happen in the US.

The global geopolitical balance is changing quickly, and Europe must adapt. Instead of looking inward, European leaders need a credible strategy toward the two superpowers - and China in particular.

## ARTICLE

## ARTICLE

# Democratic Governance and National Development in Post-war Liberia: A Lesson for Nigeria

By: Josephus Moses Gray

Assistant Professor of International Relations

Kindly permit me to start my presentation regarding the theme of today's forum: "Democratic Governance and National Development in Post-war Liberia--A Lesson for Nigeria," with the renowned quotes of three former Presidents of Liberia, Ghana and Tanzania. In the remarkable words of Mrs. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf of Liberia: "Africa is not poor; it is poorly managed" saying that conflicts and crises have affected the standard practices of governance and establishment of sustainable economic growth on the African continent. She recalled that: "Although some countries have recovered from civil wars, governance remains a challenge on the continent. This speech presents the highlights of the speech delivered at the Forum held at the University of Liberia Capitol Hill Campus, February 26, 2019.

In the famed words of ex-president of Ghana, Jerry John Rawlings (2008), "most of our peoples have already noticed that the new system of governance on the African continent is being severely tested by the lack of good faith in certain leaders and administrations". While the notable words of former of Tanzanian president Julius Nyerere (1998), "Africa needs to improve governance everywhere in Africa in order to enable our people to build real freedom and real development for themselves and their countries" He said: "Nation's constitution must provide methods by which the people can, without recourse to violence, control the

I am grateful to the University of Liberia for the honor to join distinguished professors and other individuals of high academic and professional disciplines. I graciously accepted the invitation not only because I felt that such an occasion should always be cherished. This is a cause that is so dear to my heart. I've been looking forward to this exceptional forum. I am therefore humbled by the opportunity to share some of my thoughts and convictions regarding the theme of today's forum: Democratic Governance and National Development in Liberia. A Lesson for Nigeria

Our presence here today bears a very great responsibility because we are representing our beloved countries, our histories, the ideals and with high demands and determination, our beloved and great institutions: The University of Liberia and the National Defense College of Nigeria. This paper consists of my reflection and convictions regarding the serious attention that is being placed currently on the practice of democratic governance in the country, as a result on the impact of government on national development.

Liberia, the first independence Republic in Africa, and Second black Independence Republic in the world, has strongly committed itself to promoting democratic governance on the continent. While the concept of democracy can be traced to the ancient Greeks and precisely the city-state of Athens in the fifth century B.C, democracy in Africa can also be traced to Liberia.

national capacity and political wills to avoid potential crises to multi-party democracy in the country. However, democratic governance and national development can be achieved by instituting the right policy at the right time by the right people at the right place through the right institutions.

## Summary of the Speech

My thoughts and convictions on the theme of the forum are being presented from the perspective of a power-point for the broad participation of all while a comparative analysis of the subject highlights, as concerns; the core concepts and principles of Democratic Governance and National Development in Liberia; it goes further to discuss Liberian political system and gives the overviews of the current Liberian electoral situation. Among other issues the presentation covers include the concept of democracy being practiced in Liberia and its intricacies, role of elections in the Liberian democratic society, while the significance of the rule of law and justice, human rights, and concludes with a summary of the government "pro-poor agenda", which is a new working development tool of the Liberian government and ends with recommendations.

## Brief background of Liberian political system:

For instance, Article 1 of the Liberian constitution provides that "All power is inherent in the people, while Article 3 states: Liberia is a unitary sovereign state. The article further states: The form of government is Republican with three separate coordinate branches: The Legislative, Executive and Judiciary, consistent with the principles of separation of powers and checks and balances.

Under our democratic governance system as relates the separation of powers and doctrine of check and balance, Legislative Power is implemented by the National Legislature as the legitimate representation of the people. The Legislature of Liberia consists of the Senate and the House of Representatives, both of which must pass on all legislations. In the present legislative period of 2019, the 54th National Legislature is composed of: 103 Members; out of these 29 Senators-(currently 28 males and 1 female, instead of 30 senators due to the recent passing of Senator Geraldine Doe-Sheriff); 73 Representatives (currently 9 females and 64 males), thus bringing the total males to females in the National Legislature are 93 to 10 or a ratio of ten to one.

In the Liberian presidential system of government, the president functions as Head of State, Head of Government and at the same time as Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL); the President is elected directly by the people every six years. Consistent with the principles of separation of powers and checks and balances doctrines, cabinet ministers are nominated and appointed by the President upon the confirmation by the Senate. Presently, the cabinet consists of 24 individuals of whom Three (3) are females and twenty-one (21) males.

According to the Liberian constitution, the Judicial power is vested in a Supreme Court and such subordinate courts, while the Supreme Court comprises: One Chief Justice and four Associate Justices; currently consists of two females and three males. The Judiciary is supposed to be independent. Article 1 of the Liberian Constitution provides that: "All power belongs to the people and noted that they have the right to call for a constitutional referendum when their safety and happiness so require. Article (2) provides that: This Constitution is the supreme and fundamental law of Liberia and its provisions shall have binding force.

## The Political History of Liberia

Liberia's political history as concerns democratic governance from the period of Independence to presence has experienced several difficulties resulting to several factors-both internal or external political maneuvering and arms twisting. The root of democracy on the African continent can be attributed to the founding Fathers of Liberia. The First Elections on the continent took place 21 September 1847 less than two months following Liberia's independence with Joseph Jenkins Roberts elected as the first President in 1847.

The opposition political party also has its root in Liberia--the first opposition political party was established in Liberia and participated in the 1847 election. The two parties that took part in the 1847 election were the Pro Administrative Party headed by J. J. Roberts and Anti-Administrative Party headed by Thomas Buchanan; interestingly, both served as governors of the Commonwealth of Liberia.



government which emerges in accordance with it and even specify the means for its own amendment".

The comparative analysis of the statements of the three illustrious African presidents, have shown that Liberia is no exception to both internal and external factors that pose serious threat to the practice of democratic governance on the continent; but at the same time Liberia is recognized for practicing democratic governance as the pioneer and touch-bearer of democracy on the African continent evidence by the 187 elections that brought the father of Liberian nation, Joseph Jenkins Roberts to power. While to some extent, the Liberian democracy has experienced numerous interruptions, purposely due to internal and external political elements.

Before continuing further, let me recognize the presence of Dr. Ophelia Inez Weeks, President of the University of Liberia, Vice Presidents of University of Liberia, Directors of the University of Liberia Graduate and Professional Studies Programs, Deans and Heads of Departments of the University of Liberia, Maj/Gen) Prince C. Johnson, III, Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL), Head and Members of Delegation of the Nigeria Defense College, Student Representatives of University of Liberia, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Before I go any further, let me recall that the First Elections that took place on the African Continent was held in Liberia, on 21 September 1847; Joseph Jenkins Roberts was elected as the first President upon Independence in 1847. Since then, Liberia has been judged by the world to be pioneer of democracy in Africa.

Also Liberia is the first country in Africa for Newspaper to appear on the Newsstand or to be published. The Liberian Herald first appeared on the newsstand on February 16, 1826. Again, Liberia is the first country in Africa to allow women to vote in a democratic election, while in 2005 Liberia made history to elect a woman's as president.

Unfortunately, two separated elections in Liberia have been recorded in the pages of history. In the 1927 Election, out of 15,000 registered voters, the incumbent Charles D. B. King garnered 243,000 votes against his opponent who received 9,000 valued votes. While in the 1975 Election, President Tolbert received 100% of the valid votes. Another unfortunately incident in the nation's democratic system took place in the year 1870, the undemocratic removal of former President Edward J. Roye through mob action from office.

Notwithstanding, the nation has undertaken several tangible interventions that have resulted to boosting

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**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

# 9 senators back Ja'neh -abstain from impeachment

By Ethel A. Tweh

Of the 29 Senators left in the Liberian Senate, nine say they will not vote to impeach Associate Justice Kabineh M. Ja'neh.

The Liberian Senate is composed of 30 senators from the 15 counties here, but the death of Montserrado County Sen. Geraldine Doe - Sheriff has shortened the number to 29.

Justice Ja'neh has been on trial following accusations by lawmakers that he blocked government access to a road fund, and used his influence as Associate Justice to secure a ruling in his favor at the Supreme Court to take possession of a land being claimed by 94-year-old Madam Annie Yancy Constance, among other charges.

But he denies all the accusations.

The nine abstaining Senators who on Thursday documented their opposition to the impeachment of Justice Ja'neh have termed the process "unconstitutional."

Those familiar with the

impeachment say Justice Ja'neh needs about 11 of the 29 Senators on his side to be saved from being impeached.

River Gee County Sen. Commany B. Wesseh says the anti - impeachment Senators are already 10 persons, and they need just one more Senator to vote in favor of Justice Ja'neh so that he

cannot be removed illegally and unconstitutionally from the Supreme Court Bench.

The Senators under the banner: "Senators for Justice in the Associate Justice Kabineh M. Ja'neh Impeachment Trial" say they have resolved not to support the impeachment trial.

The anti - impeachment Senators include Oscar A. Cooper, (Margibi County);

Nyonblee K. Lawrence, (Grand Bassa County); Comany B. Wesseh, (River Gee County); Armah Z. Jallah, (Gbarpolu County) and Sando D. Johnson, (Bomi County).

The rest of the anti - impeachment Senators are Dr. Henrique Togba, (Bong County); Daniel F. Naatehn, Sr., (Gbarpolu County); Stephen H. Zargo, (Lofa County) and J. Gble -bo Brown, (Maryland County).

The nine Senators contend that the impeachment was negatively influenced by the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights, Claims and Petitions Cllr. H. Varney G. Sherman of Grand Cape Mount County.

They therefore call on Sen. Sherman to resign from the chairmanship of the Senate committee to save the Senate from further embarrassment.

Reading the statement for the senators opposing Justice

Ja'neh's impeachment, Sen. Daniel Naatehn Sr., of Gbarpolu County cites relevant articles of the constitution that are being violated.

He cites Article 29, which he says defines the Legislature as the branch of Liberian government consisting of two houses.

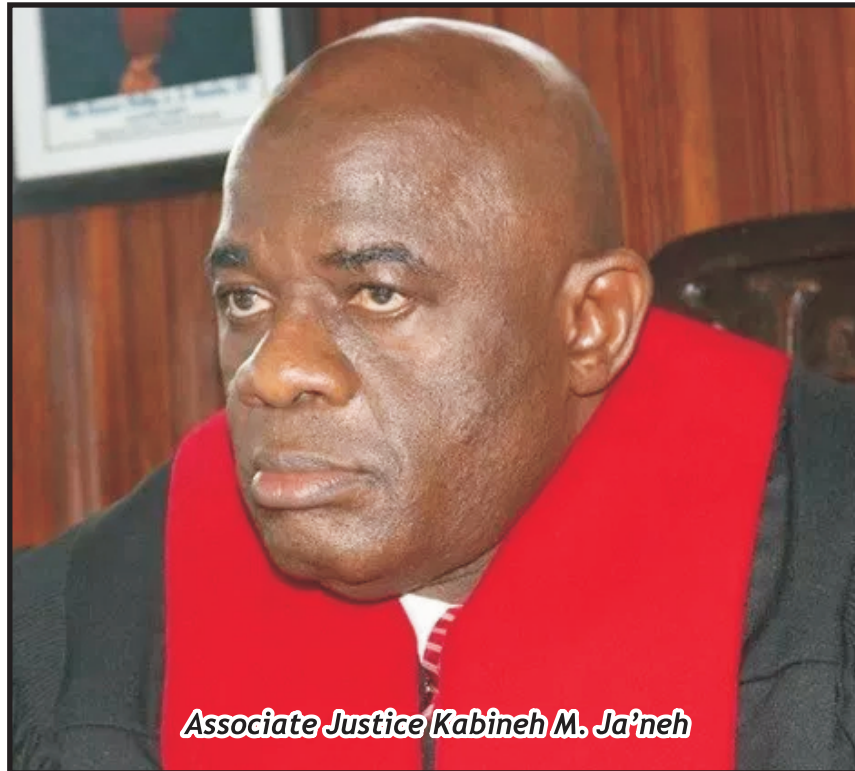
According to him, this provision require that the both houses of the Legislature must pass on all legislation, claiming that it was violated.

The group of Senators also say Articles 43, 71, 73 and 21(a) were violated as well.

The nine Senators are calling on the other senators to vote against the impeachment, terming it as unconstitutional.

They argue that none of the articles in the Constitution has cited in their statement has been proven against Justice Ja'neh to warrant his impeachment.

According to the nine Senators, they will not vote, saying they support halting the illegal and unconstitutional impeachment trial. --*Edited by Winston W. Parley*



Associate Justice Kabineh M. Ja'neh

## CHAP launches RISE project in Nimba -targets 5,000 farmers

Local Liberian Non-Governmental Organization called Community of Hope and Agriculture Project (CHAP) has formally launched a project in Ganta, Nimba County,

Officer (CEO) of CHAP, Robert S. M. Bimba encouraged farmers to invest their own money if they must succeed.

According to a press release, through the project, farmers are expected to benefit from the

willing to invest in their farms. Machines will be distributed to communities to brush their farms, according to the release.

The objective of the project is to build sustainable climate smart agriculture farming practices, to introduce user - friendly rental services, and increase farmers' income.

According to CHAP, this will reduce the importation of rice and increase the consumption of locally grown rice and ensure that there is supply.

The group's CEO Mr. Bimba says CHAP will provide 10 kilograms of seed rice to farmers who meet the requirements for one hectare and they must be willing to use an improved method and innovation.

"We will provide farmers advisory service (FAS) to provide service to their own fellow farmers. We will be building the capacity of the smallholder farmers and members of the work value chain," Mr. Bimba says.

"We will be purchasing rice from you for an agreed price, we will be providing small machines rental service, we will register our farmers," he says, and continues that farmers will be given ID cards. -*Press release*



targeting 5,000 farmers in eight of the 15 counties here.

Giving an overview of the project during the launching ceremony in Gompa City, Nimba County over the weekend, the Chief Executive

organization's Rice Investment Scheme for Empowerment (RISE).

A release issued by the Liberian Network says the RISE Project is about business and targets farmers who are

## Foreign Ministry suspends works at Bureau of Passport and Visas

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs here has announced the closure of its Bureau of Passport and Visas on Friday, March 29, 2019, due to a

Bureau of Passport and Visas will resume on Monday, 1 April.

The Ministry says it regrets the situation and also apologizes to the Liberian



fumigation exercise at the Ministry.

According to a Foreign Ministry release issued Thursday, 28 March, normal working activities at the

people for the inconveniences the abrupt closure of the Passport Bureau may have caused the general public. --*Press release*

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## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# Fire razes church, school, residence

Fire has gutted a church building, school, recording studio and a private residence in New Matadi Estate community, Fiamah Monrovia, destroying properties worth several thousand dollars.

The Word of Life International Ministries Inc, its recording studio and school building, including pastor's residence were razed to the ground recently after an electrical shock from a faulty generator.

Founder and General Overseer, Reverend Sondia Martha Tubman, attributes cause of the fire to a generator that suddenly blazed in flames while it power switch was being turned on.

Reverend Tubman narrates, "New Matadi Estate has been out of electricity for close to three months and I bought a generator to keep my home and ministry running, but it in no time [it] developed problem and it was repaired but surprisingly on 21st March at about 7:45 while trying to send current to the house by the powers switch, fire popped



up and I fell in the stairs and rolled down for safety."

She laments that had it not been intervention from God and neighbors, who came to her rescue, she and her entire household would have sustained serious injuries, as the fire in no time escalated, taking over the facilities: church, school, and home.

"I've lost everything; not even a suit, least to talk about the moneys I was keeping for

individuals and the community, and the interesting thing is that our ministry does not have external partners, who would help rebuild our damaged facilities."

She is currently seeking refuge at the 5th Street residence of her daughter in Sinkor, Monrovia.

"While my house was burning, those I thought were helping to save some of my

things, converted them into their use," she further explains in frustration.

With a membership of over 200 and about 150 tuition-free students, the ministries' operation is seriously challenged.

It would require intervention by philanthropists, humanitarian organizations and well-meaning Liberians to rescue the institution from collapse.

The incident at the Word of Life International Ministries Inc followed the death of five family members of Montserrado County District#11 Representative Richard Koon, after they inhaled carbon monoxide, a poisonous smoke from a generator at their residence in Hilltop community, Barnsville, outside Monrovia on 15 March.

*Editing by Jonathan Browne*

## World Bank extends loan payments for Liberian entrepreneurs

By Emmanuel Mondaye

The World Bank through local Liberian commercial banking institutions has extended loan payment of Liberian business entrepreneurs, who have borrowed money to invest in their businesses.

The extension of the loan payment was announced by Commerce Minister Wilson K. Tarpeh on 27 March at the end of a five-day intensive training on Loan Management held at the Monrovia City Hall.

The training, which was jointly conducted by the Finance and Commerce Ministries, was intended to educate business entrepreneurs in the management, payment and transactions of loans taken from some financial institutions in the country.

Minister Tarpeh discloses the World Bank through local banks in the country has agreed to extend the loan payment from three years to five years respectively to afford creditors the opportunity to have adequate time in settling their financial debts.

He says he is aware of the circumstances Liberian business entrepreneurs go through in settling their debts owed financial institutions due

to constraints.

He however advises debtors to work harder in returning money borrowed.

He warns the extension does not mean that debtors should stop settling their debts.

The pronouncement by the government comes as a relief for business entrepreneurs, some of whom find it difficult to settle their debts.

As Minister Tarpeh made the pronouncement, participants at the training went wild, applauding the World Bank, government and commercial banks for relieving them of the financial nightmare.

They promise to ensure that the money borrowed will be paid in time without any precondition.

For his part, Deputy Finance Minister Samora Wolokollie says with the extension of the loan payment period, local Liberian business entrepreneurs can now travel to foreign countries to purchase goods, sell and repay debts to commercial banks to avoid embarrassment.

He informs the gathering of government's continued commitment in seeking the interest of the Liberian people, who he says, are key to the implementation of the Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) led -

government's Pro - Poor Agenda for Development and Prosperity.

He thanks commercial banks that provided loan to Liberian business entrepreneurs.

Also speaking, Liberia Bank for Development and Investment (LBDI) President John Davis advises business entrepreneurs that have borrowed money from commercial banks like LBDI, Afriland Bank and GN Bank, among others, to repay their loans so as to allow the banks to re-loan them for future business transactions.

The participants expressed gratitude to the World Bank, the Government of Liberia and commercial banking institutions for the consideration afforded them.

Meanwhile, documents were signed by representatives of the businesses, Government, World Bank as well as heads of some commercial banking institutions during the ceremony.

The loan which was provided through the Small, Medium Enterprises (SMEs) section of the Ministry of Finance is intended to build the capacities of Liberian businesses in contributing meaningfully to the social and economic development of the country.--*Edited by Winston W. Parley*

## Gov't dismisses

*Starts from back page*

family for burial," says Minister Dean.

Flanked by officials at the press conference including Police Chief Col. Sudue, Solicitor General Cllr. Darku Mulbah and the head of the Drugs Enforcement Agency, Minister Dean narrates how the investigation finds that the deceased left his 72nd Broad Street residence on Saturday, 2 March 2019 for his Central Bank office.

He says the deceased was seen back in his community at 2AM Sunday morning, 3 March but did not return home directly.

Instead, Minister Dean indicates that the deceased passed his intersection and stopped his vehicle on the main road.

Justice Minister Dean reports that the late Innis disembarked his vehicle without shoes on, but only wearing socks while his car's engine was still beating.

Cllr. Dean claims that the deceased stood on the road looking at his vehicle when an unknown vehicle came from the 72nd direction, hit the deceased and escaped the scene.

The Justice Minister continues that a resident of 72nd known as Lucky Boy had witnessed the incident.

After Mr. Innis had been hit, Minister Dean explains that witness Lucky Boy decided to call the driver of the unknown vehicle to stop because he had hit someone.

However the Justice Minister says the unknown driver fled the scene with terrific speed.

Besides, Minister Dean indicates that Mrs. Lucky Richard and Henry F. Gaye, residents of the area, were also in the vicinity during the time the incident occurred.

According to him, these residents ran to the scene while the deceased was alive.

He reveals that Mr. Isiah T. Dickson also arrived on the scene with a blue Nissan vehicle, following which they preceded to the police checkpoint at Neezoe in Paynesville to report the situation.

When police responded to the incident via Dickson's vehicle, Minister Dean explains that the late Innis was placed in his own vehicle and was taken to a clinic which referred the case to a bigger clinic for treatment.

Afterwards he says Innis was rushed to the ELWA Hospital before Dr. Anthony D. Josiah pronounced the victim dead on arrival.

According to him, family members arrived and death certificate was requested before transferring Innis' corps to the Samuel A. Stryker Funeral Parlors for funeral arrangement.

Meanwhile, Minister Dean says items found in Mr. Innis' vehicle including Samsung Galaxy cell phone, working ID card, one Laptop computer and charger, a bag and face cap, two pairs of sneakers and 9 musical CDs were turned over to the deceased's families, while his vehicle was taken to the Zone 9 Police Station for processing.--*Edited by Winston W. Parley*

# Français

## Bientôt le dénouement de la procédure de destitution du juge Ja'neh

destitution du juge Jah'net sans l'accord du Sénat et le

Les arguments finaux dans le procès en destitution du juge associé Kabineh M. Ja'neh devraient commencer hier jeudi 28 mars. Le juge en chef Francis S. Korkpor, qui préside le procès, a annoncé mercredi 27 mars que les avocats représentant la Chambre des représentants et ceux de la défense commencent leurs plaidoiries jeudi.

Lorsque les arguments finaux seront conclus par les deux parties, les sénateurs seront appelés à se prononcer en faveur de ou contre la destitution du juge Ja'neh.

Les avocats des deux camps devraient tout faire pour convaincre les sénateurs pour voter pour ou contre la destitution du juge Ja'neh.

Selon le juge en chef Korkpor, tous les actes invoqués par les témoins et sur lesquels ils ont témoigné ont été présentés comme éléments de preuve et ont été versés au dossier. Il a aussi déclaré que les débats n'ont pas eu lieu mercredi afin de



Associated Justice Ja'neh

Pro-Temp Chie

permettre aux avocats des deux côtés de se préparer de manière conséquente.

Cependant, le juge en chef a exprimé mercredi sa frustration face à l'absentéisme des sénateurs lors des audiences. Il a dit regretter que la plupart du temps, les sénateurs aient été soit en retard ou simplement

absents au procès.

Pourtant ce sont ces sénateurs qui jugeront dans cette affaire, car ce ceux eux qui voteront soit pour ou contre la destitution du juge Ja'neh sur la base des preuves qui leur seront présentées.

Au juge en chef Korkpor de préciser qu'il est important que les sénateurs soient

présents lors des audiences pour écouter les témoignages et les arguments des avocats afin qu'ils puissent prendre une décision éclairée.

« Certes, nous ne serons pas sévères sur les règles telles que nous les appliquons au tribunal en ce qui concerne les membres du jury. Nous les prenons comme des honorables qu'ils sont, c'est à eux de se montrer respectueux à l'égard des règles », a insisté le juge Korkpor.

Entre-temps, la Chambre des représentants qui a déclenché la procédure de destitution à l'encontre du juge Ja'neh a retiré sa demande de rejet du témoignage de l'ancien juge associé de la cour suprême Philip A.Z. Banks.

Le juge Ja'neh est en procès au Sénat libérien pour conduite présumée, abus de pouvoir discrétionnaire, fraudes et corruption.

L'une des affaires ayant déclenché son procès en destitution concerne un litige foncier qui l'opposait à une certaine Madame Annie Yancy Constance.

Le parlement l'accuse d'avoir usé de son pouvoir en tant que juge adjoint de la cour suprême pour influencer un jugement en sa faveur devant la Cour suprême afin de prendre possession de manière frauduleuse du terrain qui faisait l'objet de conflit.

Son seul témoin dans le procès en destitution, le juge Banks qui est maintenant à la retraite, a clairement dit à l'audience que la procédure suivie par la Chambre des représentants pour commencer le processus de

## Côte d'Ivoire : la lettre de Charles Blé Goudé à ses concitoyens

De son exil néerlandais, Charles Blé Goudé s'est adressé aux Ivoiriens, mercredi 27 mars, dans une lettre lue sur Facebook. Acquitté avec Laurent Gbagbo en première instance à la Cour pénale internationale, et libéré sous conditions comme l'ancien président ivoirien qui vit en Belgique, Charles Blé Goudé, lui, est toujours à La Haye en attendant un pays

d'accueil. Dans son discours, il se pose en partisan de la paix et du pardon, et se défend de toute ambition politicienne.

Le ton est posé. Les mots sont choisis. « Je suis entré en prison nu. J'en ressors l'esprit en paix », déclare pour commencer celui qu'on appelait autrefois le « général de la rue », et qui haranguait la foule de son estrade « de la Sorbonne » au Plateau.

Dix ou quinze ans après, Charles Blé Goudé se pose ici en avocat de la paix, du pardon et de la réconciliation : « Je n'encouragerai aucune tentation de vengeance ni aucune velléité de revanche. De fait, quel que soit ce que chacun d'entre nous aura vécu, nous devons apprendre à nous pardonner les uns les autres. » « Mon engagement pour la paix et la réconciliation n'obéit à aucune démarche intéressée ni a aucune tactique politicienne », assure l'ancien codétenu de Laurent Gbagbo qui dresse ensuite ce constat : « Vous semblez à nouveau habités par la peur. Cette grande hantise qui accompagne, comme d'habitude, les processus électoraux ivoiriens semblent de retour. Est-ce une fatalité ? Non, absolument pas. Au Ghana voisin, l'organisation des élections est aujourd'hui un fait banal de la vie nationale. Nous devons travailler à doter notre pays d'institutions fortes et crédibles qui puissent traverser le temps et non des institutions assujetties aux intérêts du parti au pouvoir.





# Français

## La Banque mondiale prolonge l'échéance de paiement des dettes pour les entreprises libériennes

La Banque mondiale, par le biais d'institutions bancaires commerciales libériennes locales, a accordé beaucoup plus de temps aux entreprises libériennes qui ont emprunté de l'argent pour investir dans leurs activités pour le paiement leurs dettes.

Le ministre du Commerce, Wilson K. Tarpeh, a annoncé la prolongation de l'échéance du paiement des prêts le 27 mars, à l'issue d'une formation intensive de cinq jours sur la gestion des prêts, qui s'est tenue à la mairie de Monrovia.

La formation organisée conjointement par les ministères des Finances et du Commerce, avait pour objectif de former les chefs d'entreprises à la gestion, au paiement et aux transactions de prêts contractés auprès de certaines institutions financières du pays.

Le ministre Tarpeh a révélé que la Banque mondiale, par l'intermédiaire des banques locales du pays, avait accepté de prolonger la durée du paiement des dettes de trois à cinq ans, afin de donner aux créanciers l'occasion de régler leurs dettes financières.

Il se dit conscient des difficultés que rencontrent les entreprises libériennes en matière de réglage de leurs dettes envers des institutions bancaires en raison de contraintes. Il leur conseille toutefois de redoubler d'efforts pour restituer l'argent emprunté. Il les avertit ainsi que la prolongation ne signifie pas qu'ils doivent cesser de régler leurs dettes.

La déclaration du gouvernement est un soulagement pour les entreprises, dont la plupart avaient des difficultés énormes pour régler leurs dettes.

À l'annonce du ministre Tarpeh, les participants à la formation se sont déchaînés, félicitant la Banque mondiale, le gouvernement et les banques commerciales de ce buffet d'oxygène dont ils bénéficient dans ce cauchemar financier.

Ils ont promis de veiller à ce

que l'argent emprunté soit payé à temps. De son côté, le vice-ministre des Finances, Samora Wolokollie, a déclaré qu'avec l'allongement de la période de remboursement des prêts, les entreprises libériennes locales peuvent désormais se rendre dans des pays étrangers pour acheter des biens, vendre et rembourser leurs dettes aux banques commerciales afin d'éviter tout embarras.

Il a informé le rassemblement de l'engagement continu du gouvernement dans la recherche de l'intérêt du peuple libérien, qui, a-t-il dit, est le socle de la mise en œuvre du Programme pour les pauvres pour le développement et la prospérité du gouvernement de la Coalition pour un changement démocratique (CDC). Il a aussi remercié les banques commerciales qui ont fourni ces prêts.

Par ailleurs, le président de la Banque libérienne pour le développement et les investissements (LBDI), John Davis, a prié les entreprises qui ont emprunté de l'argent à des banques commerciales telles que LBDI, Afriland Bank et GN Bank, entre autres, de rembourser leurs dettes afin de permettre à ces banques de continuer à faire des prêts.

Les participants ont pour leur part exprimé leur gratitude à la Banque mondiale, au gouvernement du Libéria et aux institutions bancaires commerciales pour la considération qui leur a été accordée.

Entre-temps, des documents ont été signés par des représentants des entreprises, du gouvernement, de la Banque mondiale ainsi que par les dirigeants de certaines institutions bancaires commerciales lors de la cérémonie.

Le prêt octroyé par l'intermédiaire de la section des petites et moyennes entreprises (PME) du ministère des Finances est destiné à renforcer les capacités des entreprises libériennes afin qu'elles contribuent de manière significative au développement social et économique du pays.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Hans-Werner Sinn

## Laissons les électeurs décider du Brexit

MUNICH - On a cru, un temps, que la Première ministre britannique et les soutiens de son gouvernement au Parlement pourraient à eux seuls trancher la question du Brexit. Au fil d'une longue série de votes tactiques sur toutes sortes de questions de second plan, laissant pendre comme une épée de Damoclès au-dessus des têtes des députés la perspective d'un Brexit « dur » sans accord, le gouvernement May a tenté de manipuler l'issue du référendum sur la sortie du pays de l'Union européenne. Pendant longtemps, sa méthode a dupé les citoyens britanniques et européens.

Mais aujourd'hui, le vent tourne. Le président de la Chambre des communes, John Bercow, et les 27 autres États membres de l'Union européenne ont mit un terme à ces menées indignes, contraignant le gouvernement et le Parlement à décider.

Selon le rappel de la jurisprudence effectué le 18 mars par le président des Communes, le gouvernement ne peut pas proposer une nouvelle fois au Parlement l'actuel accord de retrait du Royaume-Uni hors de l'Union européenne pour éviter un Brexit dur. Et si l'UE a reculé la date butoir de la sortie des Britanniques au-delà du 29 mars, elle n'est pas disposée à retoucher l'accord.

En conclusion, le Parlement doit choisir, d'ici le 12 avril entre trois possibilités. Il pourrait accepter l'accord de Brexit actuellement sur la table, auquel cas le Royaume-Uni quitterait l'Union européenne le 22 mai, un jour avant le lancement de la campagne pour les élections des députés au Parlement européen. Sinon, le Royaume-Uni pourrait décider de prendre part aux élections européennes et proposer un nouveau plan d'action, par exemple un second référendum sur l'appartenance à l'Union. Dans ce cas, l'Union européenne accorderait un report prolongé de la date butoir du Brexit, afin de permettre la préparation de l'étape suivante. Si le Parlement ne retient aucune de ces possibilités, il en restera une troisième : un Brexit dur, sans accord, le 12 avril.

Compte tenu de l'impossibilité où se trouve May d'obtenir la moindre modification à l'accord de retrait hors de l'Union européenne, le Parlement ne peut voter une nouvelle fois pour choisir entre cet accord et un Brexit dur si Bercow maintient sa position. Et si l'Union européenne maintient la sienne quant à l'état actuel de l'accord, les députés britanniques ne pourront être consultés que sur une sortie ordonnée selon les termes négociés ou sur un second référendum. Si ce dernier devait être organisé, les électeurs auraient probablement à opter soit pour un Brexit ordonné soit pour le maintien dans l'Union, car plus personne n'oserait leur proposer un Brexit dur.

Récemment encore, un retour sur la décision

prise en 2016 par les électeurs britanniques de quitter l'Union européenne semblait improbable. Mais les initiatives de Bercow et de l'Union ont ouvert le jeu et permettent d'envisager la fin de partie d'une tout autre manière : les chances que le Brexit n'ait pas lieu sont désormais réelles. Cela déjouerait les plans des spéculateurs sur les marchés financiers, qui pariaient sur un retrait, et c'est une bonne nouvelle, tant pour le Royaume-Uni que pour l'Union européenne.

Lorsque les électeurs britanniques ont décidé, à une courte majorité, de quitter l'Union, voici bientôt trois ans, ils ne savaient pas réellement ce qu'ils faisaient. Peu d'entre eux, hors de la renaissance illusoire et romantique du Commonwealth, avaient une idée claire de ce que signifiait le Brexit. Aujourd'hui, après deux ans de négociations sur l'accord de sortie du Royaume-Uni, la situation est très différente.

Ainsi l'accord de retrait implique-t-il une barrière douanière en mer d'Irlande - c'est-à-dire au sein même du Royaume -, pour les personnes, les services et les capitaux. Seuls les biens pourraient passer cette frontière sans y subir de contrôle. Alors qu'en Irlande du nord, les quatre libertés fondamentales (à quelques exceptions près) auraient toujours cours : capitaux, services, personnes et biens pourraient circuler sans passer la douane ni acquitter de droits ni se soumettre à des contrôles.

C'est une menace, non seulement à l'intégrité du Royaume-Uni, mais aussi à celle de la Grande-Bretagne. Après tout, on ne peut exclure que l'Écosse organise, à moyen terme, un nouveau référendum sur son indépendance, lorsqu'elle aura par exemple compris que l'Irlande du Nord, qui demeure étroitement liée à l'Union européenne, a obtenu un compromis plus satisfaisant.

Les citoyens britanniques sont aujourd'hui beaucoup mieux informés du Brexit et de ses conséquences qu'ils ne l'étaient à l'époque du référendum de 2016. Étant donné la courte majorité qui s'était alors exprimée en faveur du Brexit et l'impasse où se trouvent désormais engagées les institutions du Royaume elles-mêmes, la tenue d'un nouveau référendum apparaît tout à la fois pertinente et nécessaire.

Pendant des mois, le gouvernement britannique a utilisé la menace d'un Brexit dur pour se livrer à des combinaisons parlementaires sur le dos d'une question d'importance capitale, tant au niveau national qu'européen. Cela ne peut durer. Dans une démocratie véritable, les dirigeants politiques doivent reconnaître les limites de leur autorité et de leurs capacités. C'est pourquoi le Parlement doit soumettre aux électeurs la décision de maintenir le pays dans l'Union ou bien d'accepter l'accord de retrait.

# CULTURE & ENTERTAINMENT

With Ben Polee Wese



## Movies Union open office in Monrovia



NPA managing Director William Twehway and movies industry president Frank Artus



The Liberian Movies Union opens its newly renovated office in Monrovia this week, officially dedicated by the Managing Director of the National Port Authority (NPA) Bill Twehway.

Mr. Twehway pledges government's continuous commitment to helping to cultivate hidden talents of Liberians.

He says exploring hidden talents of Liberians is in line

with President George Manneh Weah's promise of youth empowerment.

According to him, the President's promise is also intended to promote local organizations by helping them acquire offices.

Mr. Twehway continues that with collective efforts in the industry, Liberian films could become one of the best in the world. He assures that the Liberian government is

inclusive in its programming and activities for all Liberians.

In response, the President of the Liberian Movies Union, Frank Artus thanks the government for the level of support to the film industry in the country.

He says the Union is committed to producing quality movies that will tell the untold stories in Liberia, and stories that will be internationally recognized.

## LEA awards Liberian entertainers

The Liberia Entertainment Award based in the United State of America awards several local entertainers with hipco star Bucky Raw bagging Hipco Artist of the Year and Artist of the Year, respectively.

Amongst the so many winners, Lil AceCape walked away with Video of the Year from one of his most played club record "Work hard", featuring Sound of Greatness (SOG) record label artist JaReda, who also won his third "Best New Artist of the Year".

See below are full list of winners at The 2019 Liberian Entertainment Awards:

### Liberian Entertainment Awards

- Best Actor (ess) --- Korto Davis
- Liberian Entertainment Awards
- Best Film Maker---- Gerald Barclay
- Liberian Entertainment Awards
- Best Radio Personality----- Grace "Master Queen" Weah
- Liberian Entertainment Awards
- Best New Artist----- Jaredo
- Liberian Entertainment Awards
- Best Hipco Artist----- Bucky Raw
- Liberian Entertainment Awards
- Best Music Producer---- Kizzy W
- Liberian Entertainment Awards
- Best DJ--- Paul "VDJ 2Much" Yancy
- Liberian Entertainment Awards
- Best Model---- Aminata Jajua
- Liberian Entertainment Awards
- Best Fashion Designer---- Monsio Couture
- Liberian Entertainment Awards
- Best Artist----- Bucky Raw
- Liberian Entertainment Awards
- Best Gospel Artist---- Comfort Koon
- Liberian Entertainment Awards
- Song of the Year---- "Bounce" By Kobazzie
- Liberian Entertainment Awards
- Best Comedian----- Don Worry
- Liberian Entertainment Awards
- Best Film---- Brown Sugar
- Liberian Entertainment Awards
- Best Music Video----- "Work Hard" By Acecape

## Personality of the Week

Samuel Sonnyboy Tubman (born March 3), better known by stage name "Scientific", is a Ghanaian-

based Liberian rapper and songwriter. He released the Quincy B- assisted single "Shawty" in October 2014.

Between 2014 and 2016, he won Best Hip Hop Artist at the Liberian Music Awards.

Samuel Sonnyboy Tubman was born in Bong County, Liberia. He grew up in Ghana in a refugee camp during the first and second rounds of civil wars in Liberia, which lasted from 1989 to 2003.

Cheddar signed "Scientific" to his label Wonda World Entertainment (WWE) in Ghana. In 2011, "Scientific" performed his hit singles, "I like You Girl", with top Ghanaian acts such as EL, Sarkodie and Jayso at the American Musician Fabulous Concert in Ghana.

Scientific was nominated and won Artist of the Year and Hip Hop Artist of the Year at Liberia Music Award, USA in 2014. He also won the 2015 Edition of Liberia Music Award "Artist of the Year."



## Weekend Update

Faithvonic is preparing to drop her new song "Ginger" with what is expected to be dope video soon. The superstar shared some exclusive behind the scenes photos from her video shoot on her social media pages.

Liberty Entertainment queen Zoe's is out to drop her debut EP, "Rebellious" and it out on every Liberian music platform.

Bilikon Entertainment engineer and artist Killer

Beatz has dropped the video for his most recent song titled "Available" and it is on all platforms in the country.

Reggae/Dancehall artist, Beenieking BS2, teamed up with hitmaker, Boifatty, and his producer Flexzzbeatz to make a dope record. According to these superstars, their song "Whistle" is set to drop shortly.

Hipco Chief Cook hot freestyle on Nigerian Superstar Teckno Choko beat

and is out on every social platform.

After releasing last kiss with Child Solder Entertainment artist Bucky Raw, Rickslyn Myers, the radio presenter surprised her many loyal fans with her newest record title "Broken"

While awaiting the video from his latest song "Man Na God", featuring Liberian artist based in the U.S.A Cassi Money, Enoch Lil beshop Sniper again posted, informing fans that he

will be dropping song titled "Ta GeeAa"

MC Caro to drop the video for one of her most played songs "Listen", as the artist posted the teaser of the video.

For the first time ever BennyV record artist J Slught will be live in concert at Sports Commission in Monrovia on July 19, 2019.

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# Who's next?

At the time the Liberian Government remain indecisive over the establishment of a war crimes court here to prosecute perpetrators of war crimes, western nations continue to arrest and prosecute individuals alleged to have carried out war atrocities in Liberia.

One of the latest to face prosecution in foreign land for his alleged war crimes role here is Alieu Kosiah, a former top Liberian rebel commander.

Swiss prosecutors on Tuesday March 26, announced an unprecedented war crimes indictment against Alieu, accused of murder and rape during the first of the country's back-to-back civil wars, according to the AFP news agency report.

The French news agency reports that Swiss investigators were also looking at a dozen other cases for "war crimes, genocide and/or crimes against humanity", said prosecutors.

The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) said it had for



Sekou Damate Konneh

Prince Yormie Johnson

Alhaji Kromah

George Boley

the first time presented an "international criminal law-related indictment" to the country's criminal court.

"The suspect is being accused of violations of the laws of war as a member of a military faction in the context of the internal armed conflict that took place in Liberia between 1989 and 1996," it said in a statement.

He was accused of being a

former commander of the United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy (ULIMO), it added, without identifying the suspect.

Liberia was devastated by two civil wars that killed over 250,000 people between 1989 and 2003.

ULIMO was set up to fight a rebel force headed by warlord-turned-president Charles Taylor.

Taylor is himself currently serving a 50-year prison

due to the lack of cooperation by Liberia", and because the alleged crimes had been committed years before.

It finally submitted the indictment on March 22, accusing the man of having either ordered or taken part in the murders of civilians and soldiers not in a combat situation.

The indictment also alleged he had desecrated "a corpse of a civilian, raped a civilian, ordered the cruel treatment of civilians, recruited and employed a child soldier, ordered several pillages and ordered and/or participated in forced transports of goods and ammunition by civilians".

Since 2011, it said it had received more than 60 cases involving allegations of war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity, said the OAG -- but most failed to meet the legal requirements, and had had to be abandoned.

A dozen of criminal investigations were still being conducted into "war crimes, genocide and/or crimes against humanity", it added.

## Justice Ja'neh's restless hours

By Ethel A. Tweh

Members of the Liberian Senate are due to vote today, Friday, 29 March either to approve or disapprove the impeachment of Associate Justice Kabineh M. Ja'neh from the Supreme Court Bench.

The decision of the Liberian Senate today may end months of legal and political battles initiated in 2018 by the House of Representatives to remove Justice Ja'neh from the Supreme Court Bench.

Justice Ja'neh has been on trial following accusations by lawmakers that he blocked government access to a road fund, and used his influence as Associate Justice to secure a ruling in his favor at the

Supreme Court to take possession of a land being claimed by 94-year-old Madam Annie Yancy Constance, among other charges.

But he denies all the accusations.

Of the 29 Senators left in the Senate after the death of Sen. Geraldine Doe - Sheriff, 9 say they will not vote to impeach Justice Ja'neh.

Final arguments were heard Thursday at the Liberian Senate when lawyers representing Justice Ja'neh and his accuser, the House of Representatives battled intensely to convince Senators to vote in ways that either approve or disapprove Justice Ja'neh's removal from the Supreme Court Bench.

During the final arguments,

the House of Representatives' lawyers expressed fears that if the defendant is acquitted, there will be two warring factions on the Supreme Court bench.

The pro impeachment lawyers claim that Justice Ja'neh will stand against Chief Justice Francis S. Kporakor, Sr. who has presided over the impeachment trial, expressing fear that this will lead the Supreme Court Bench to split.

A pro impeachment lawyer, Liberia's former Solicitor General and former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, Cllr. M. Wilkins Wright says the Judiciary will get divided when Justice Ja'neh remains on the bench.

In an attempt to further scare the Senators, Cllr. Wright claims that if they vote to acquit Justice Ja'neh, they will not run to the Supreme Court anymore because it will be divided.

Cllr. Wright believes that acquitting Justice Ja'neh will also be an insult to the Senators' colleagues at the House of Representatives who initiated the impeachment proceedings against the accused.

He furthers that there will no longer be coordination between the two houses at the legislative branch of government if Senators fail to impeach Justice Ja'neh.

Cllr. Wright argues that impeachment is political, urging the Senators to vote the Associate Justice out even if

they are from opposition political parties.

Visit: [www.thenewdawnliberia.com](http://www.thenewdawnliberia.com)



Associate Justice Kabineh M. Ja'neh

# Gov't dismisses foul play

## -In CBL Innis' death



The late Matthew Innis

**By Lewis S. Teh**  
Liberia's Justice Minister Cllr. Frank Musa Dean says there is no criminal homicide established in the findings from a full investigation launched into the sudden death of Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) official Matthew Innis early this month.

Mr. Innis who was working as CBL's Deputy Director for Micro-Finance in the

Regulation and Supervision Department was mysteriously killed by an unknown hit - and - run vehicle at 2AM on 3 March at a time the public was demanding accountability for a controversial US\$25m spearheaded by the Finance Ministry and CBL to mop - up excess Liberian Dollars.

Tragically a reported failing truck has further killed a Montserrado County Representative Adolph

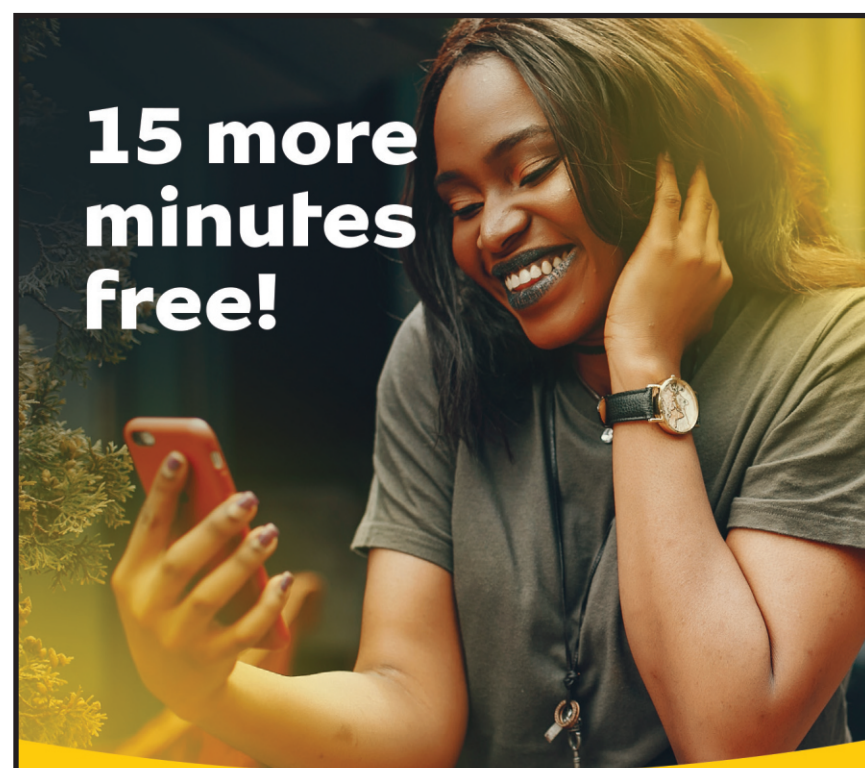
Lawrence who was demanding the appearance of Justice Minister Dean and Police Inspector General Col. Patrick Sudue to report on Mr. Innis' mysterious death in the 72nd Community where the deceased resided.

Mr. Innis' death has put some residents in a very difficult position to accept the narratives, particularly given the time of the incident, as they appear to harbor more suspicions on the incident.

However Cllr. Dean told scores of journalists Thursday, 28 March at the Ministry of Justice in Sinkor that findings from the investigation show that no criminal homicide has been established in the death of the late CBL official.

"During these findings, criminal homicide was not established. The Liberia National Police shall continue to pursue every lead geared at arresting the driver of the hit - and - run vehicle. The remains was

turned over to the



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## Solskjaer named permanent Man Utd manager

Manchester United appointed Ole Gunnar Solskjaer as the club's permanent manager on a three-year contract on Thursday, following a highly successful caretaker spell in charge.

The Norwegian has inspired a revival of United's fortunes since taking over from the sacked Jose Mourinho in December, winning 14 of his 19 games



and leading the Red Devils to the quarter-finals of the Champions League.

Solskjaer, who scored 126 goals in 366 appearances for

United, was already a hero to fans as the man who scored the stoppage-time winner in the 1999 Champions League final to complete the treble.

"From the first day I arrived, I felt at home at this special club," Solskjaer said in a statement on the club's website. "It was an honour to be a Manchester United player, and then to start my coaching career here."

## Get to know Cllr. Kuku Y. Dorbor

Counsellor Kuku Y. Dorbor is not only a former lawmaker, active legal practitioner, entrepreneur, but also a humanitarian. She is Chief Executive Officer of the Dorbor's Foundation situated in Coca-Cola Factory, Paynesville, Montserrado County. The Foundation is a non-for-profit organization that is engaged in charitable works such as Tuition-Free Program and Free Legal Services to Indigent people. It also provides basic social services, including hand pumps, construction of toilets, bus stops, micro-loans for market women, construction of market buildings and involvement with youth organizations in communities besides working with community leaders in ensuring that basic needs of the people are met, such as construction of hospital, schools, roads, town halls, pipe-borne water system, etc. The program also assists physically-challenged, shoe-shine boys, motorcyclists, and farmers.

The Foundation is involved in advocacy in areas such as rape, prostitution, early marriages, drug abuse and wayward children, including children selling in the streets.

As former Co-chair for the Monsterrado Legislative Caucus (2006 - 2011) she made sure County Developments Fund (CDF), Social Funding from Concession Agreement and Surface Rental Funding were expended on projects within the County. Hon. Kuku also ensured that projects implementation were in line with needs of the people, while providing oversight on the administration of the County Office through the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

The Caucus is a conglomeration of all members who are elected from Monsterrado County. Its role is to promote harmony all Monsterrado lawmakers.



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