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TRULY INDEPENDENT  
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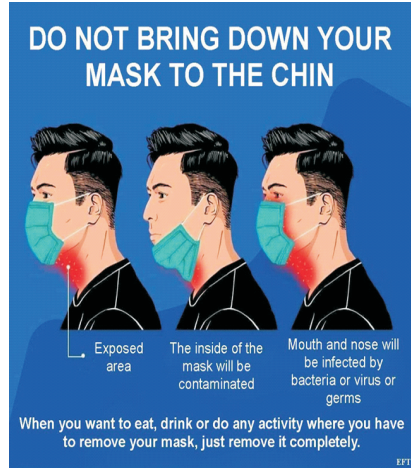
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# The New Dawn

**French Version Inside**

TRULY INDEPENDENT



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# Women fight over Rep. Sloh's body



**-As wife seeks to prevent burial ceremony in court**



Rev. Dr. Simeon L. Dunbar

# Standing in stolen wealth

**-173rd Orator cites factors dividing Liberians**

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# Continental News

## Cameroon Dispatches Healthcare Workers to Find, Treat Hepatitis Patients

Healthcare workers in Cameroon are marking World Hepatitis Day (July 28), to raise awareness of the virus, which causes inflammation of the liver and kills about 300 people per day in Sub-Saharan Africa. While global coverage of a birth dose vaccine for Hepatitis B is 43%, according to the World Health Organization, only 6% receive it in the WHO's African Region, which does not include Egypt, Eritrea, Libya, Somalia, or Sudan. In Cameroon, health officials have begun dispatching healthcare workers to find hep B patients who are avoiding treatment and getting the vaccine for their newborns.

Farmer Valerie Mbappe, 52, said she was diagnosed with hepatitis in April.

But she was reluctant to go to a doctor because her uncle told her she should be treated by a traditional healer.

After going to the healer, Mbappe's abdominal pain, fatigue and fever have gotten worse. She said now that she knows that she can be treated at the hospital, her advice is



that people should not be reluctant to visit health facilities for their hepatitis screening. She said she was told by the nurse that she should stop drinking and smoking heavily because it may lead to complications during her treatment. Mbappe was brought to the General Hospital in Yaounde by members of SOS Hepatitis, a charity group that helps patients seek treatment.

Spokesman for the group Samuel Yamissi said the efforts are part of this year's World

Hepatitis Day activities, marked annually on July 28. He said their main target is the majority of patients who refuse to go to hospitals and prefer traditional treatments. Everyone who tests positive for hepatitis can get help from his group and the government, said Yamissi. He said those who test negative will be given their first dose of the hepatitis vaccine. People who take the first dose of the vaccine should come for the second

dose after three months and the last dose after six months, said Yamissi, to be free of the disease.

In 2019 Cameroon reported 12,000 new cases of hepatitis B, up from 9,600 in 2018. But Cameroon's Ministry of Health says 13 percent of people are living with hepatitis B in the country of 25 million. Despite the high rate of infection, the ministry says less than 1,500 Cameroonians are receiving treatment. The Ministry of Health's Dr. Simon Eyong treats hepatitis B patients. He said to encourage patients to go to hospitals, the

government reduced the cost of treatment from \$250 per month to less than \$50.

"Since it is a slow killer disease, which symptoms only appear when it has already reached its climax, get tested, get vaccinated. Keep away from unprescribed medications like anti-inflammatories like Paracetamol," said Eyong.

Cameroon's 360 government hospitals this year for the first-time dispatched health workers to track patients and ensure they get their treatments and vaccines.

The health ministry's Dr.

## Ecowas demands release of Mali opposition leader

West African presidents have demanded the release of one of Mali's opposition leaders, Soumaila Cissé.

He was kidnapped by an unknown group just days before the now-disputed parliamentary elections on 25 March.

The demand was made as part of a plan by the West African regional bloc Ecowas to resolve Mali's ongoing political crisis.

Tens of thousands of people have taken part in protests since June, with at least 11 protesters dying. The protests started after the Constitutional Court threw out 31 results from

parliamentary elections in April, benefiting President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita's party.

On 5 June, thousands of people went out onto the streets in the first of a series of demonstrations. The protests turned deadly on the second weekend of July, when at least 11 people were killed. On Monday, after meeting up by video conference, the West African heads of state made a series of recommendations, hoping to bring the unrest to a close.

They insisted that the Malian authorities "intensify efforts" for Mr Cissé's release, while also asking for an inquiry into the protesters' deaths on 10-12 July. They further asked that 31 MPs whose results are contested should resign and allow for new elections, and recommended a unity government, which includes the opposition, be formed.

They said their plan should be implemented within 10 days and recommended sanctions against people who

## Zimbabwe's ruling party threatens to expel US envoy



US ambassador Brian Nichols has had run-ins with the government

Zimbabwe's ruling Zanu-PF party has accused the US embassy of sponsoring Friday's planned anti-government protests and has threatened to expel its ambassador.

Party spokesperson Patrick Chinamasa said the protests, intended to condemn corruption in government, were an attempt to overthrow the government and suggested they could be met with force.

Mr Chinamasa accused the US ambassador Brian Nichols of "acting as a thug".

It is a sign of deteriorating relations between the two countries. The US maintains targeted economic sanctions against Zimbabwe over what it says is its poor human rights record. The US embassy has previously rejected

allegations that it is trying to destabilise the country.

The Zimbabwean government has tightened lockdown measures, imposing a dusk-to-dawn curfew as the number of Covid-19 cases rises sharply.

However, opposition groups have accused the government of using the pandemic to clamp down on fundamental freedoms, including the right to peaceful assembly.

Last week an opposition politician was arrested for organising the protests, as well as a freelance journalist for supporting the call.

Both the UN Human Rights office and the US have warned that the pandemic should not be used to restrict freedoms. BBC



Soumaila Cisse - seen here in a protester's picture - was voted into parliament days after he was kidnapped

get in the way.

They did not, however, recommend the protesters' main demand - that President Keita resign.

The proposals are similar to previous plans, which the opposition coalition - a group called M5-RFP - has rejected.

The BBC's Ishaq Khalid says it is not clear if they will reject these resolutions as well.

Mali's neighbours are afraid that the crisis could slide into chaos as many are concerned that the situation could play into the hands of armed groups if not properly managed. BBC

# EDITORIAL

## Fighting divisiveness and injustice

THE ORATOR FOR the 173rd Independence anniversary of Liberia, Rev. Dr. Simeon Dunbar of the Liberty Christian Fellowship Center in Johnsonville provoked a national sense of consciousness in Liberians on Monday, July 27 when he lay bare problems that confront us and how we can, individually and collectively, emancipate ourselves to progress and prosperity.

THE THEME FOR this year's July 27 Independence Day Celebration was **STANDING TOGETHER IN TIME OF PANDEMIC**, but Bishop Dunbar looked beyond the COVID-19 crisis and unraveled Liberia's deep-seated lapses, ranging from systemic corruption, nepotism, dependency syndrome, governance deficit, and culture of impunity, among others.

FROM THE GOVERNMENT down to ordinary citizens in the street, everyone has a role to play in transforming the country to the standard we envisage for ourselves. But the government has responsibility to take the lead in line with the social contract signed at the ballot box during elections.

HOWEVER, THE INDEPENDENCE Day Orator stressed, "We cannot and will not stand together to win any battle in a society that condones injustice, rampant corruption, disobedience or non-adherence for the rule of law, nepotism and tribalism, sexual violence and gender-based violence, lack of genuine reconciliation, lack of patriotism, lack of accountability, lack of integrity and with no fear of God..."

WE AGREE WITH Rev. Dr. Simeon that Liberia will not make any serious progress if we continue to nurture these vices as business as usual. We need a national revival that would direct us to doing the right thing.

TO BEGIN WITH, Liberians should roll up their sleeves and get to work, for there is dignity in labour. The Orator, who is a clergyman, reminds us from the Holy Bible specifically in Proverbs 10:4, "He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand". He said the only substitute for hard work is hard life.

WE ARE GRADUALLY becoming to be known as a people who wake up in the morning and complain the entire day, blaming government for all of our challenges, without endeavoring to face them head-on in faith that with God above our rights to prove, we can overcome.

THERE ARE PROBLEMS everywhere globally. But what makes some to succeed, while others fail is will power. If we don't elevate our faith and believe in ourselves as Liberians, our country would remain stagnant for long.

GOVERNMENT SHOULD ADDRESS issues of police brutality against lawful citizens by promptly applying laws of the Land. It is important to uphold the Constitution and enforce it without favoritism to have a stable society. But when officials are silent on gruesome crimes such as rape and murder, the country descends to lawlessness.

PRESIDENT GEORGE WEAH and his government should listen keenly and take actions to bring about remedies to the problems that confront us, for the role of national orators is to do an honest assessment of our national life challenge us to take steps that would allow us to introspect and muster the courage to reform for better living standard.

**The New Dawn**  
FULLY INDEPENDENT

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+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan

# COMMENTARY

By Jean Pisani-ferry

## The Challenges of the Post-Pandemic Agenda

*The pandemic has highlighted the vulnerability of human societies and fortified support for urgent climate action. But while the small government, free-market template of the last four decades suddenly looks terribly outdated, history suggests that transitions between phases of capitalist development can be harsh and uncertain.*

PARIS - There is a growing possibility that the COVID-19 crisis will mark the end of the growth model born four decades ago with the Reagan-Thatcher revolution, China's embrace of capitalism, and the demise of the Soviet Union. The pandemic has highlighted the vulnerability of human societies and fortified support for urgent climate action. And it has strengthened governments' hand, eroded already-shaky support for globalization, and triggered a reappraisal of the social value of mundane tasks. The small government, free-market template suddenly looks terribly outdated.

History suggests that transitions between phases of capitalist development can be harsh and uncertain. The postwar growth model took shape only after the Marshall Plan catalyzed its emergence. And the transition from the stagflationary 1970s to the market-dominated growth model took a decade. The years ahead will most likely be tough ones.

The challenge is not only one of uncertainty. It is also that the emergence of a new coherence usually requires something or someone to give way. In the late 1940s, European rent-seekers gave way to the forces of modernization. And in the 1980s, organized labor gave way to financial capitalism. The same will be true this time, because the coherence among the emerging priorities is all but obvious.

Start with climate change. Although the transition to carbon neutrality is probably the only way to preserve our wellbeing, it is bound to unsettle the lifestyle of households accustomed to driving SUVs or relying on outdated heating systems.

A stark reminder of the social consequences of carbon taxes was recently provided by the French Yellow Vests uprising. While these taxes were ill-designed and regressive, the problem runs deeper: as the green transition entails replacing "brown" capital with "green" capital, it will require additional investment - conservatively estimated to be 1% of GDP per year in the coming decades - in more efficient industrial systems, buildings, and vehicles. Keeping public consumption and net exports constant, this will translate into a decline in private consumption of 1% of GDP - or roughly a 2% decline in level.

Next comes less reliance on global markets for essential supplies. Although China's participation in the global economy has been disruptive for workers, it has benefited consumers massively. As Robert Feenstra of the University of California, Davis and his colleagues have shown, China's entry into the World Trade Organization in 2001 lowered US manufacturing prices by 1% per year - a 0.3% gain in purchasing power. Using a different methodology, Lionel Fontagné and Charlotte Emlinger of CEPII (Paris) have found that by 2010, imports from low-wage countries had made the median French household 8% richer.

By now, the boon to consumers could have reached 10% in Europe and the US.

How much would higher economic autonomy cost? Let us assume that it would imply giving up one-fourth of an 8% gain from globalization. This would cut real consumption by another 2%.

But there is more: projections by the International Monetary Fund and the OECD indicate that by 2021, the GDP share of public debt in advanced economies will have increased by at least 20 percentage points. In a zero-interest-rate environment, most countries can afford this, but after the pandemic is over, governments will have to start reducing their debt ratios in order to create the necessary fiscal space to confront the potential recurrence of disruptive shocks. Assume, conservatively again, that half of the increase is reversed over ten years through taxes on households. This would imply another 1%-of-GDP cut in income and, other things being equal, another 2% consumption drop. In total, this would lower the decade's annual consumption growth by 0.6%.

Real income, however, is not expected to increase by much more. As a comprehensive World Bank study recently emphasized, annual productivity gains - the engine of economic growth - have stalled globally since the 2008 financial crisis, with annual increases below 1% per year in advanced economies. Stagnant productivity, if it continues, will, along with demographic aging, leave no room for increasing individual household consumption over a ten-year period.

The public-health crisis, however, has triggered a renewed awareness of the importance of the mundane tasks many workers perform. In most advanced societies, it is believed - at least for now - that the income of these workers should better reflect their contribution to the common good. It would be odd to tell them that the best they can hope for in the coming decade is to keep their income constant.

So, who and what will give in? Implicitly or explicitly, this debate will probably dominate policy discussions in the years to come. For sure, the likes of US President Donald Trump will claim that sovereignty and consumption growth take precedence over climate preservation and debt. Those who think differently will have to find a way out of what looks like an incoherent set of objectives.

To that end, efficiency will have to be given high priority. This implies fostering productivity, rather than dreaming of de-growth; emphasizing an economic approach to the green transition, rather than wasting resources in ill-chosen decarbonization investments; and defining precisely what economic security entails, rather than aiming at a reshoring of production for which developed countries have no comparative advantage.



July 21, 2020  
PSA/LRA-04/FY-20/21

## REVENUE NOTICE

**Attention :** Taxpayers Medium Category & General Public

**Subject :** Online Tax Clearance Certificate Request

The Liberia Revenue Authority wishes to announce that all medium taxpayers are required to be enrolled to its online E-filing platform. This will afford the opportunity for the LRA to offer e-services to medium taxpayers and facilitate the movement from manual filing of returns to mandatory e-filing of returns. Once enrolled, taxpayers can file electronically from the comfort of their offices, homes or just anywhere with internet connectivity.

All medium taxpayers are required to enroll between now and December 31, 2020 for use of the E-filing platform. After December 31, 2020, manual filing process for medium taxpayers will be halted. All medium taxpayers will be required to use the platform to file and no manual return will be accepted after this date.

Training on the use of the E-filing platform for all taxpayer representatives/tax practitioners will run August 10 to 14, 2020 in the LRA Training Center at the University of Liberia's Capitol Hill Campus, beneath the FQ Building. Trainings will be conducted in five (5) days with two sessions per day, taking into account the Ministry of Health pronouncement on social distancing.

Taxpayers are strongly encouraged to bring their laptop computers to the training in order to do practical examples on their own computers and to be enrolled immediately after the training.

The e-filing platform is available on the LRA website at [www.lra.gov.lr](http://www.lra.gov.lr). The LRA is also encouraging taxpayers to use the e-filing training video to self-enroll and train themselves on the use of the platform. Training video is available on the LRA website.

You can call the LRA toll free number 0888572572 or 0770572572 and we will guide you through the installation, enrollment, and filing process. Please take advantage of the process and enroll and begin to file your taxes electronically. Remember: **NO MEDIUM TAXPAYER WILL BE ALLOWED TO FILE MANUALLY BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021.**

Signed: 

Darlingston Y. Talery  
Commissioner  
Domestic Tax Department, Liberia Revenue Authority

## No fear for War

Starts from back page

supposed to have been perpetrated by her.

"Well thanks be to God, the truth, you know they say hard, the hard evidence does not lie. There was not a single mention of any of these accounts," she says.

She says despite her protestation of innocence, she was taken into a police station by British authorities and questioned about issues that she had never, ever heard about.

Concerning calls for a war crimes court here, Dr. Taylor says it is an issue for the Liberian people to decide whether they want restorative justice or retributive justice.

"We have a fragile country. What would be best in the interest of peace I would go ahead with any position that the Liberian people adopt," she says.

She believes that guilt by association appears to be the focus in cases to Liberia, disclosing that she will be seeking legal advice regarding lies which have tinted her character.

"I came to Liberia to face my so-called accusers in an environment where they claim these crimes occurred," Dr. Taylor says, and trashes claim that she encouraged rape during the civil crisis here during the 1990s.

She argues that she is a woman and a mother who knows that rape is one of the most heinous crimes that can

be perpetrated against a woman.

All though all charges are dropped against her, Dr. Taylor, however, notes that there is still speculation out there that maybe she may have done it.

But she warns that "this concept of guilt by association needs to stop," adding that the fact that she was married to Charles Taylor does not make her a criminal.

She recounts that during the civil war, she set up a charity called National Emergency Relief Organization that delivered rice, medical supplies and subsequently coordinated the affairs of the NGOs that came into the country at the time.

"That was my role and I served as a mother and friend to all who came to me. That was my role. I had no military role ever," she explains further.

"During the Liberian civil war, I was the wife of Charles Taylor. That does not make me a criminal," she says.

"At no point in time did I ever or would ever carry out torture or any form of inhumane or degrading treatment to anyone," she argues.

While expressing regrets that people died during the war, Dr. Taylor says as wife of Mr. Taylor and a mother, she did as much as she could to minimize any kind of difficulties that civilians and Liberians in general faced.

Initially before her incarceration which began early June 2017 by the

## OPINION

By Howard Davies

## Will COVID-19 Kill Cash?

*Reports that the coronavirus could be transmitted by handling cash has given people another reason to steer clear of banknotes. Although untrue, the damage has been done, and a recent survey found that 75% of respondents expect to use cash less in the future.*

**L**ONDON - Four years ago, Kenneth Rogoff, a former chief economist of the International Monetary Fund, made a powerful case for phasing out paper money. In his book *The Curse of Cash*, Rogoff argued that much paper money, especially high-denomination banknotes, facilitated tax evasion and fueled the drug trade - all the way down the supply chain: a British study in 1999 found that only four of 500 notes tested in London had no traces of cocaine.

Furthermore, the existence of cash constrains monetary policy. It is harder for central banks to implement negative interest rates when investors have the alternative of keeping a safe full of \$100 bills. That seemed an abstruse point to some at the time, but the COVID-19 crisis has placed negative rates firmly on the policy agenda in several countries, albeit not yet in the United States.

Since Rogoff wrote, cash has been in retreat as a payment mechanism. In Sweden, for example, the demise of the paper krona seems within sight. The mobile payment system Swish dominates the small-denomination landscape. As anyone who has recently tried to buy a beer in Stockholm knows, you will remain thirsty if all you have is a wallet full of cash.

And the COVID-19 crisis has given people another reason to steer away from banknotes. It was widely reported that the virus could be transmitted through handling them, prompting many outlets to put up "no cash" signs. In my village, even the traveling fish and chip van will now accept only a contactless card. In fact, there is little or no validity in that scare story. The World Health Organization has said there is no evidence that currency notes transmit coronavirus. The virus lasts just as long on plastic cards, and Christine Tait-Burkard, an infectious disease expert at the University of Edinburgh, said that cash is not a vector of disease "unless someone is using a banknote to sneeze in."

But the damage was done, and in the first month of the crisis cash usage in the United Kingdom fell by over 60%. Transaction volumes halved. In a survey, nearly 75% of respondents said they expect to use cash less in the future.

That trend, which has been replicated across the developed world, has given a further boost to digital banking and non-bank payment system providers. Apple Pay and PayPal are doing well. Fintech neobanks have continued to expand their user base, though many question whether they have yet found a sustainable business model. Facebook's Libra currency is waiting in the wings, with its backers trying to persuade regulators that its model is safe and compliant with anti-money laundering protocols.

The further decline of cash has also given greater impetus to central banks' own work on digital currencies. Through banknotes, citizens and businesses have for centuries been able to hold a direct claim on the central bank. If cash were to disappear, is there not an argument for a central bank digital currency, whether wholesale, retail, or both? The Bank for International Settlements reports that several central banks are actively considering introducing one, though none has yet taken the plunge. The Swedish Riksbank may well be the first, with an e-krona ready to roll.

So, is a farewell to cash at hand? Will even the greenback go the way of all flesh?

The answer is not so clear. In the first place, while the number of transactions fulfilled through cash transfers has indeed been falling, even at the bottom end of the range, the volume of cash in circulation has in fact continued to rise in many countries. Since the end of last year, according to the BIS, the value of currency in circulation has increased by 8% in Italy, and 7% in the US. Precautionary holdings of cash have risen. It is not only drug dealers and tax evaders who see the attraction of cash as a store of value and who value privacy. Of the largest economies, only China has begun to see an absolute decline in the ratio of physical currency to GDP.

There are also signs of a political backlash against the withdrawal of cash handling facilities. The Bank of Canada has asked retailers to continue to accept cash, citing concerns about financial exclusion, as people without access to bank accounts and cards find themselves unable to shop. New York City, San Francisco, and the state of New Jersey have barred retailers from refusing cash. Even in Sweden, the Swishers are not having it all their way. An activist group called Kontantupproret (Cash Rebellion) is now campaigning to sustain poorer consumers' ability to use paper money. In the UK, the government has published an "access to cash" review, which recommends the mandatory maintenance of a large national fleet of ATMs, even though utilization is falling fast.

In sum, it may be too soon to write Dollar Bill's obituary. Demand for his services remains strong. It may make sense for central banks to offer digital services to nonbanks, perhaps partly to avoid the loss of seigniorage income, which would enrich Facebook, rather than governments, in a Libra-dominated world. But unless central banks wish also to enter the credit allocation business, they will want to avoid large-scale disintermediation of the banking system.

I suspect that, for the foreseeable future, we will live in a kind of mixed-economy payment system. Cash will continue to play a role, albeit a more modest one than in the past, alongside a variety of cards and direct digital transfers.

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With Jones Mallay

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**Dec. 8th, 2020 Midterm Senatorial Race:  
Is It A Referendum on Pres. Weah's Popularity, or  
A Challenged to Sen. Dillon's Western-Style Political Concepts?**

The profound enlightenment surrounding the pending December 8th, 2020, Senatorial Midterm election is causing colossal bustling nights for both stewards of Sen. Dillon and Pres. Weah's CDC Ruling Coalition. The Senatorial race could be the first brimming test of President's Weah inherent, unchallenged, unwavering, and untested nationwide adoration. It will also be a referendum on Sen. Dillon's peculiarity of Western-style politics that has made his colleagues in the Liberian Senate insupportable and uncomfortable at creating a well-calculated and tense political atmosphere in the Liberian Senate. But no sooner, Sen. Dillon had been named by his opponents as: "white sheep in the Liberian Senate."

President's Weah's popularity has been termed by his stewards as indisputable for five reasons: First, the President ran his presidential campaign based entirely on his popularity which resonated with his base and the downtrodden youths/some adult Liberians including Cedecian politicians who saw their future in his future. Second, the downtrodden youths/some adult Liberians and Cedecian politicians welcome the President for emphatically and blatantly rejecting calls for the establishment of a War Crime Court in Liberia. Third, the downtrodden youths/some adult Liberians have 100% confidence in Pres. Weah's political ability to head Liberia irrespective of the President's alleged ineptness. Fourth, the downtrodden youths/some adult Liberians hold the view that President Weah's huge popularity will always ensure political victory for all die-heart Cedecian politicians who may contest future elected seats in Liberia and Montserrado County as well. Fifth, the downtrodden youths/some adult Liberians and Cedecian politicians are convinced that President Weah will always be their guy, who thinks like them, sympathize with them and welcomes them even during thought times.

The irony is that the downtrodden youths/some adult Liberians and Cedecian politicians depend heavily on President Weah's popularity to win elections in Liberia at any time. In the case of PaulitaWie versus opposition Dillon, the Cedecian politicians did relax substantially, hoping that President Weah's usual popularity would have put PaulitaWie across the finished line to annihilate Dillon, but to the agitation and disappointment of the downtrodden youths/some adult Liberians including Cedecian politicians, the tide turns in favor of opposition Dillon which desperately infuriated CDC's base.

Interestingly, the downtrodden youths/some adult Liberians and Cedecian politicians are now beginning to ask some mind teasing questions: "Is President Weah still popular like before during his Dec. 2017 presidential elections that made him President? Can the downtrodden youths/some adult Liberians and Cedecian politicians continue to rely on President's Weah popularity to win elected seats in Liberia including the pending senatorial midterm election for Montserrado County on 8th Dec. 2020? Should Cedecian politicians start to generate their brand of political popularity and reduce their dependency on President Weah's huge popularity? Did Cedecian politicians who won seats in the past in Montserrado County and elsewhere in Liberia over the last few years on President Weah's popularity did perform properly to the President's expectations? These are some of the heated underbelly questions Cedecian politicians should be asking themselves as they focused on the midterm senatorial elections on the 8th. Dec. 2020.

On the split side of these competing analyses, Sen. Abraham Darius Dillon for his part is definitively fighting for the souls of his political life. The good news is that Sen. Dillon has seen what is in the political cookies' jar and its valuable contents therein. Emphatically, little was known about Dillon before his triumphant victory in 2019 which quickly annoys die-hard Cedecian politicians who have long considered Montserrado County their political stronghold as well as their main pepper farm. But angry Cardician politicians have vowed to recapture the Senate seat from Sen.

Dillon in the midterm senatorial race comes 8th. Dec. 2020. Dillon's senatorial victory brought him political prominence for the first time within his very small constituent's circles. Such constituent includes the Liberty Party, the Legislature where he once worked as a staffer, and the Ministry of Justice where he worked. Aside from that, Sen. Dillon's popularity before he became Senator didn't match up with President Weah's huge popularity, this is because, when President Weah ran for the Montserrado county's senate seat, after the President did sideline the late Jerry Doe-Sheriff in Montserrado County, and won that Senate seat by 78% of the votes in 2004, the President's popularity by then was an all-time much higher.

Dillon for his part won his senatorial race against PaulitaWie with 55.74% of the votes and Wie had just 34.77% of the total votes which was a crushing defeat for Cedecian politicians. Dillon did not capture the Senate seat on a silver platter, he may have worked assiduously with the unquestionable backing of four formidable giant political war machines namely the Liberty Party, All Liberian Party, Alternative National Congress Party, and the Unity Party. These political parties worked tirelessly and miraculously overnight to unleash the most needed thunderous political firepower that helps Sen. Dillon to deliver a onetime knock-out blow to the Cedecian Paulita Wie.

But it appears the political marriage between Dillon and the four political parties has either ended or is dead in principle probably due to Sen. Dillon's style of politics. But Cedecian politicians have vowed to recapture the Senate seat in the midterm senatorial election on 8th. Dec. 2020.

▶ TO BE CONT'D

**STATEMENT ON THE OCCASION OF THE CELEBRATION  
OF LIBERIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY, JULY 26, 2020**



Our fellow citizens, Sunday, July 26, 2020, is a special day for Liberia. On this day, in 1847, our nation declared its independence and proclaimed the freedom of its people. Today, after 173 years of existence, we remain determined and courageous even after a 15-year civil war and two public health disasters - Ebola and Covid-19.

The Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) is proud of the perseverance and tenacity of Liberians through this rich, but challenging, history.

This is why the CPP extends happy Independence Day greetings to all residents and citizens of Liberia, wherever they may be.

The CPP also extends happy Independence Day greetings to the President and Government of Liberia; the Christian and Islamic communities; our Elders, Zoes, Bodeos and Traditional leaders.

We wish all of you joyous Independence Day celebrations. As we reflect on this day, let us remain united, remembering that in union strong, success is sure.

Let us also remember and reflect on the road we have traveled and remind ourselves of the journey ahead of us as a nation.

We are challenged by the difficulties of Covid-19, and many of us face daily challenges to live the lives we desire and fulfill our dreams. In spite of these difficulties, let us remain determined and stand united to defeat Covid-19, for it cannot and must not defeat us. Don't forget, Covid-19 is real.

Continue to observe all health protocols - wear your mask, wash your hands, and keep social distance.

Finally, we must also remain determined and stand united in working for a better society that will provide opportunities for all of us to live the lives we desire and fulfill our dreams.

God bless Liberia, and God bless the people!

"STRONGER TOGETHER"

Alexander Cummings

**Vacancy Announcement**

The Searchlight Communications Inc., Publishers of the New Dawn newspaper is seeking applications from young females between the ages of 18-28 for an internship placement within the business department of the paper as sales agents.

The internship runs for three months. Interns who demonstrate excellent marketing skills will be hired permanently after the three months.

The applicants must be at least high school graduates and above, have good communication skill, must be able to market the New Dawn to potential advertisers etc.

**All interested persons should direct their communications to:  
The Management of Searchlight Communications Inc.  
P.O. Bo 1266  
UN Drive  
Monrovia-Liberia**

Email: info@thenewdawnliberia.com  
For further details call: +231777529/886484201

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# Weah complains decline in revenue generation

By Winston W. Parley

President George Manneh Weah says the economy here and the people are still severely affected by the negative consequences of the coronavirus pandemic, saying it has caused a drastic downturn in business activity and a consequent decline in revenue generation.

In a special statement

our lives in no small manner, and will continue to have a negative impact on our well-being and prospects for growth and prosperity in the years to come," he says.

Due to the challenges posed by the health crisis here, Mr. Weah says the country has commemorated its 173rd Anniversary without the usual pomp and pageantry, but in a somber and sober manner.

the extent that it has overwhelmed the sophisticated public health systems of many advanced countries, and threatens to completely collapse the already fragile health systems of less developed countries.

According to President Weah, Liberia has not been spared the ravishes of this deadly disease. However, he says due to Liberians' previous experience with the Ebola epidemic and their careful and professional management of the coronavirus, they have been able to keep their numbers of infected persons and deaths relatively low.

"We declared and enforced appropriate health regulations at the onset of this pestilence, including quarantines, contact tracing and tracking, testing, social distancing, and the washing of hands and wearing of masks. These were later reinforced by the declaration of a State of Emergency and carefully calibrated curfews," he recalls.

Over time, he says these measures have resulted in sufficiently satisfactory results to have encouraged the government here to gradually adjust the curfews and recently lift them altogether.

"We have also lifted the State of Emergency, although the country remains under the vigilance of very stringent

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11



President George Manneh Weah

delivered during observance of Liberia's 173rd Independence Day Monday, 27 July, Mr. Weah said this has also resulted in food shortages, rising inflation and negative projections of gross domestic product (GDP) growth, among others.

"There is no doubt that this unfamiliar, deadly, and invisible enemy has changed

"We should all take this occasion as an opportunity to ponder and to reflect upon a realistic, sensible, and united approach to the crisis that we face at this time as a Nation and a People," he pleads with citizens.

He notes that this plague continues unchecked, spreading its destructive path to every corner of the globe, to

Cont'd from page 4

British authorities, Dr. Taylor says she spoke to former President Taylor, saying he called constantly to speak to his two daughters.

"...I have spoken to former President Taylor when he was ... initially before my incarceration, he would call to speak to his two daughters, because I have two daughters for him," she says.

Following her release from detention, she says Mr. Taylor sent her a message, but notes his phone calls are being monitored constantly.

However, Dr. Taylor indicates that realizing that things could be misconstrued, Mr. Taylor thought it was best that he did not maintain contact while she was in the United Kingdom.

# No fear for War

According to her, the UK authorities monitor you 24 hours and you are photographed about 360 times per day, noting that CCTVs monitor you from the time you step out of your house until you get back into your house.

Additionally, she says the conversations between she and Mr. Taylor didn't touch on war crimes court or politics, but they were about their children and their grandchild.

She laments being accused about torturing people she had never ever met and she still does not know.

She argues that under normal circumstances, you would have assumed that a country of that nature - the UK, would have carried out intensive investigation before

carrying out an arrest.

"Unfortunately it worked slightly different in the United Kingdom. They were given statements, concocted by a group that purports to be a human rights group - Global Justice and Research Project, headed by a one Hassan Bility," she laments.

According to her, Bility and his group works with Swiss charity Civitas Maxima which was allegedly set up by a gentleman who served on the prosecution team of Charles Taylor.

"Seeing how much money they were able to make during that period ..., they felt that this was a gold mine. So they set up ... a so-called charity to go after alleged ... perpetrators of war crimes,"

# CPP storms Maryland

Starts from back page

parties of the CPP, said the Collaborating Parties have agreed unanimously to support Eric WleaGiko, as their candidate for the senate come December, indicating that the Liberty Party, Unity Party, the Alternative National Congress and the All Liberians Party are not putting forth separate candidates for the senatorial race.

He said the best way to improving Maryland and the entire Liberia is by citizens making right choices at the ballot box in electing development-oriented leaders.

A native of the county himself, the CPP chairman stressed that Maryland County deserves better and that can be achieved if voters supported the CPP during the impending poll, adding, with Mr. Giko, the county can move forward.

The arrival of Mr. Cummings and his entourage in the county was greeted by cross-section of citizens, including partisans of the Collaboration Political Parties, market women, motorcyclists, traditional chiefs and elders from the three districts in Maryland, and among others.

The huge tuned out was colorful and later followed by special programs held in Cavalla Fish, Pullas, Wartiken, Native Webbo and Jacksonville Township, respectively in Harper, Electoral District #1, Maryland County.

Similar reception was also held in Pleebo, Electoral District # 2, at the Pleebo District Youth Center, followed by Karluway, Electoral District #3, with another huge turnout by citizens, celebrating the 173rd Independence anniversary of Liberia.

Speaking during tour of districts, towns, and villages by Mr. Cummings and his guests, traditional leaders and elders welcomed the CPP chairman and party to the

county, the produced Liberia's 18th President, late William V.S. Tubman.

They described the visit to the county by Chairman Cummings amid celebrations of the July 26 Independence as a blessing.

In remarks, the CPP leader said though he is a son of Maryland County but his visit there was to identified with his people during the Independence Day festivities and formally introduce the senatorial candidate on the ticket of Collaboration Political Parties.

Also speaking, Representative YekehKoluba of Monsterrabo County District# 10 noted that the best way to hold the George Weah-led government to its promises is to elect someone like Mr. Giko to the Liberian Senate, stressing that he alone in the House of Representatives can't make the difference.

"My people of Maryland County, we can make the difference when we are two or three persons in this government; because this government has failed you", Kolubah, a stern critic of this administration, noted.

"If you accept my request to elect Mr. Giko, he will join me to ask the government about some of the donors' funding that is coming into the Country. As you can see, the southeastern road conditions, it is very bad but who will talk for you; so if you want good roads in the southeastern part of Liberia, please join me to elect Mr. Giko", he pleaded.

Senatorial candidate Eric Giko, lauded Chairman Cummings and Representative Koluba as well as citizens and partisans for their support, demonstrated by the warm reception.

He said the CPP could achieve a lot for the county if Marylanders joined hands and worked for their common good.

Editing by Jonathan Browne

she claims.

Dr. Taylor contends that she is not on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) report, neither is she cited as a perpetrator in any capacity of war crimes.

Quizzed if she has any plan to make claims against Mr. Bility, his group and others connected to the allegations made against her, Dr. Taylor notes that she is speaking with her lawyers because she thinks

it is about time that this issue is laid to rest.

"And I'm talking about not just for me; I was fortunate God on my side that charges were dropped. But how many others are they going to do this to and how many other people will be victims and not be so lucky or not have the grace of God and get thrown into jail for things that they did not do" she concludes. -Edited by Othello B. Garblah

# Women fight over Rep. Sloh's body

By Othello B. Garblah

Two women believed to have been married to the late Representative J. NagbeSloh Sr., are said to be engaged in a fight over the remains of the late lawmaker.

One of the women, Mrs.

remains of her late husband be handed over to her brother in law Mr. NyensuahSloh, who is her Power of Attorney in fact instead of Mrs. Kou Sloh who is also claiming the body of the late Rep. Sloh.

In her letter dated July 16,

she posted a tribute to her husband on Facebook.

The post was accompanied by several photographs of her and Mr. Sloh along with their children back in the days before migrating to the United States.

"My husband stayed in touch over the years and even wrote telling me thanks for taking good care of the children." She continued. "I am writing this letter as a widow because while my husband was away, he entered into an extra-marital affairs and it is the woman that is masquerading as the wife of my late husband Mr. NagbeSloh Sr."

"Assuming that my husband was married to this woman, said marriage is illegal and unlawful under the laws of Liberia since we were never divorced." She added.

"The purpose of this letter is to ask the House to grant me



had earlier agreed to turn the remains of the late Rep. Sloh over to Kou due to her

presence here and the fact that she also have kids for the late lawmaker. The date of the marriage between the late lawmaker and Kou could not be established by this paper also.

However, according to our source the move was halted by Speaker Boahfal Chambers who insists that once the late lawmaker did not divorce his former wife before marrying Kou, the law will honor the request of the first wife Ruth.

The source said the House is therefore going by the request of the first wife and are now dealing with her through her designated Power of Attorney.

There are also speculations that Mrs. Ruth Doe-Sloh is willing to seek legal redress against the House if that august body refuses to grant her wish under the Civil Law.

*Photos of Ruth with late Rep. Sloh. Photo credit: Mrs. Ruth Doe-Sloh*



Ruth Doe-Sloh in disputing the body asserted that she had made several sacrifices for Rep. Sloh to become the man he was over the years. Mrs. Doe-Sloh has filed an application before the Civil Law Court to prevent the burial of her husband days after she wrote the House.

"I made several sacrifices for him to become the man that he has become over the years," Mrs. Doe-Sloh narrated in a letter to the House of Representative requesting that the mortal

2020, Mrs. Doe-Sloh said she and her husband got married on May 8, 1993 in Monrovia and both have remained husband and wife, never divorced during the 27 years period until his recent demise.

"We met when we were teenagers," Mrs. Doe-Sloh wrote. I never said anything over the years because I did not want to hurt my husband political career. We have four children and our oldest is 35 years and my youngest is 20." Mrs. Doe-Sloh explained in her letter to the House days after



rightful permission to my husband's body and ensure that the law is upheld under this matter. Please see attached Power of Attorney letter granting Mr. NyensuahSloh, brother of my late husband, full rights to act on my behalf since I cannot travel out of the United States due to COVID-19.

I have stayed quiet enough but my civil rights as Mrs. Sloh are being violated by a marriage of a lie that has gone too far. These are not the best circumstances but I am requesting this body of the Government to acknowledge and immediately implement my rights as the rightful Mrs. Sloh who stood with my husband as he developed his career as a journalist." She added. Though this paper was unable to get to Mrs. Kou Sloh as at press time, but sources in the corridors of the House of Representatives hinted this paper that the law makers



# Français

## Mme Laymah Gbowee s'en prend à l'administration Weah

**M**a dame Laymah Gbowee, co-lauréate du prix Nobel de la paix de 2011, n'a pas été tendre avec le président George Manneh Weah, l'accusant de n'avoir fait aucune preuve de bon leadership dans le cadre de la lutte contre de la pandémie mondiale qui

continue de faire des ravages.

On assiste actuellement à un dysfonctionnement total dans le pays, car d'une part le président a du mal à parler à son peuple et d'autre part les législateurs adoptent des projets de loi sans prendre le temps de les lire proprement afin de savoir de quoi il est question, a-t-elle fait observer.

« Nous avons un pays dysfonctionnel. Je suis désolée. Le Libéria ne fonctionne pas comme il se doit », a-t-elle déclaré mercredi lors d'une émission en direct par mobile sur la radiolocal OK FM.

Mme Gbowee, dont le discours en tant qu'oratrice nationale pour la célébration de la 172e fête nationale de l'indépendance du Libéria (en 2019) a touché presque tous les secteurs, s'en est pris aussi aux législateurs, leur reprochant le fait de signer des projets de loi sans en faire la moindre lecture pour prendre des décisions éclairées.

« Je veux dire, laissez-moi parler d'abord par exemple du pouvoir législatif qui signe des documents et adopte des projets de loi, et une fois que les conséquences se font ressentir, ils se rendent sur les réseaux sociaux pour dire qu'ils n'avaient pas anticipé que les choses se passeraient comme ça. La question que nous nous posons tous est de

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



## Côte d'Ivoire : Henri Konan Bédié donne les raisons de sa candidature à l'issue de la convention du PDCI

Le Parti démocratique de Côte d'Ivoire (PDCI), ses conventions locales « éclatées » ce dimanche 26 Juillet 2020.

Ces conventions ont principalement consisté à l'élection du candidat du plus vieux parti de Côte d'Ivoire en vue de la présidentielle d'Octobre 2020. A Abidjan, Henri Konan Bédié son incontestable président et candidat unique a voté au siège du parti à Cocody.

Henri Konan Bédié, 86 ans, le candidat unique à l'investiture du Parti Démocratique de Côte d'Ivoire dans la perspective de l'élection présidentielle du 31 octobre 2020 a au terme de son vote, félicité le processus électoral au sein de son parti.

Il a par ailleurs profité de cette occasion pour justifier les raisons de sa candidature jugée déraisonnée par ses détracteurs. « Il s'agit pour moi de remplir une mission de salut public pour restaurer la Côte d'Ivoire. En effet, le constat que je fais de la situation de notre pays est plutôt amer dans tous les

secteurs. Nous subissons une dégradation au plan démocratique, c'est la perte des libertés collectives et individuelles, la mise à l'écart de l'état de droit », a expliqué le vétéran de la politique ivoirienne.

Au moment où le camp présidentiel traverse une zone de turbulence faite du décès de son candidat, de démission du vice-président et d'invalidité en raison de maladie de ses cadres et non

des moindres tels que les présidents de l'Assemblée Nationale et celui du Sénat, sur les réseaux sociaux, des rumeurs font état qu'Henri Konan Bédié, aurait été évacué dans un centre hospitalier. Cette information démentie par son service de communication a été balayée par son apparition publique à la faveur de cette convention de son parti.



## Éditorial

### La Relance de l'économie libérienne passe par des mesures d'austérité

Un groupe d'économistes expérimentés dirigé par l'ancien ministre de la planification et des affaires économiques, le professeur d'économie Togba Nah Tipoteh, a récemment fait une série de recommandations au gouvernement du président George Manneh Weah, en vue de renforcer le dollar libérien et relancer l'économie du pays dans son ensemble.

Le Groupe Économique du Libéria (LEG) a pointé du doigt la corruption endémique dans le secteur public qui avait été décrite par l'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf comme un vampire qui aspire les ressources nationales et pousse les populations dans une pauvreté abjecte, l'analphabétisme et la maladie. Le LEG a dit craindre que la pauvreté généralisée ne soit devenue un problème de société avec plus de deux tiers des enfants Libériens en âge d'aller à l'école n'ont pas accès à l'école.

Il pointe également du doigt la prise des décisions sur la base des valeurs culturelles américaines et non libériennes, ce qui a amené la population à préférer les produits occidentaux aux produits « Made in Liberia ».

L'exportation des produits bruts (caoutchouc, bois, minerai, entre autres) à l'étranger, complique davantage les choses. « Il serait préférable que nous transformions nos matières premières ici afin que nous y ajoutions de la valeur et les vendions plus cher à l'étranger », a dit M. Tipoteh.

Mais peut-être que le problème fondamental auquel les Libériens sont confrontés depuis l'indépendance est la dollarisation de l'économie. Les impôts sont prélevés et payés en dollars américains et les fonctionnaires reçoivent leurs salaires en monnaie américaine plutôt qu'en dollar libérien. Cette pratique n'a pas seulement affaibli la monnaie locale, mais elle a fait monter les prix en flèche, rendant la vie très insupportable pour le citoyen ordinaire.

Après avoir identifié les problèmes, le LEG a recommandé plusieurs mesures d'austérité qui, à notre avis, stabiliseraient l'économie et renforceraient le dollar libérien si cette administration les prenait en considération.

Il s'agit, entre autres, d'encourager à la fois le gouvernement et les citoyens ordinaires à acheter plus de produits fabriqués localement plutôt que d'importer tout ce que nous mangeons et utilisons ; s'engager dans plus d'épargne tant publique que privée - au niveau de la famille, de la communauté et de la société civile, ce qui pourrait générer environ 100 000 000 USD (cent millions de dollars américains) par an. L'argent pourrait être réinvesti. En outre, il a suggéré que les salaires des hauts fonctionnaires, y compris les chefs des trois pouvoirs de l'Etat, soient payés en dollars libériens.

Le LEG a recommandé également que le budget national soit rédigé en dollars libériens, comme l'exige la Constitution du Libéria, et que les allocations, les cartes de bon des véhicules pour les fonctionnaires, à l'exception des chefs des trois pouvoirs de l'Etat, soient supprimées, et que les dons des entreprises publiques et des agences autonomes du gouvernement soient également dirigés vers le trésor public.

Enfin, il estime que si ces mesures d'austérité sont fidèlement respectées, cela pourra permettre au gouvernement d'économiser environ 345 millions de dollars USD, qui pourraient être utilisés dans divers secteurs de l'économie pour relancer le développement et la croissance.

Nous saluons ces idées et encourageons sérieusement l'administration Weah à mettre de côté son ego, la politique et l'intérêt personnel afin de commencer immédiatement à mettre en œuvre certaines de ces mesures d'austérité qui non seulement relanceront l'économie, mais sortiront la grande majorité de la population de la pauvreté.

En effet, il est temps de changer radicalement et d'avalier quelques pilules amères, si la Coalition au pouvoir pour le changement démocratique et le président Weah lui-même veulent laisser derrière eux un héritage louable dont la postérité bénéficiera.



# Français

## Mme Laymah Gbowee s'en prend

savoir s'ils lisent du tout ces documents ».

Mme Gbowee n'a certes pas cité d'exemple en ce qui concerne le refus des législateurs de lire les projets de loi qui leurs sont soumis, mais les Libériens se souviennent encore du projet de budget de la distribution de la ration alimentaire adopté par le parlement dans le cadre de la lutte contre le COVID-19. A noter que certains des législateurs avaient par la suite commencé à critiquer le document après l'avoir adopté.

Pour elle, les législateurs ne sont simplement préoccupés que par une seule chose : protéger leur propre intérêt, fut-il même au détriment de l'intérêt général de la nation.

Mme Gbowee se portera pas candidate aux sénatoriales de 2020 pour se donner entièrement à ce qu'elle fait actuellement, mais elle n'exclut pas cette possibilité à l'avenir, lorsque le moment sera venu d'entrer en politique.

Sur le plan sanitaire, Mme Gbowee s'est dite inquiète, surtout après avoir lu le rapport d'enquête d'un groupe de la société civile selon lequel environ 40% des centres de santé au Libéria ne disposent pas d'équipement de protection individuelle (EPI), avec une pandémie mondiale qui ne cesse de défier et d'endeuiller même les grandes puissances du monde.

Elle s'est dite convaincue que si l'on ne voit pas des cadavres dans les rues et dans les maisons partout dans le pays du fait du COVID-19, c'est parce que Dieu protège particulièrement le Libéria. Selon elle, si cela ne tenait qu'aux leaders pour lutter contre cette maladie, tout serait fini pour les libériens. « Il n'y a pas de leadership. Combien de fois avons-nous entendu la voix du président depuis cette crise du coronavirus ».

Mme Gbowee : « chaque citoyen doit entendre le chef car sa voix représente le leadership même si ce qu'il dit est écrit par quelqu'un d'autre. Où est cette voix pour ce qui concerne le Libéria ? Pendant la crise d'Ebola, et je ne veux pas faire de comparaison ici, mais je veux dire tout simplement que la présidente Sirleaf a été cohérente dans ses conversations avec le peuple. Si vous suivez les informations

du monde, tous les présidents et tous les dirigeants des différents pays du monde parlent à leurs populations. Qu'en est-il pour le Libéria ?

Où est la voix du président Weah ? Le leadership est important en ces temps, et en tant que père, il doit se lever et faire preuve d'autorité, car les Libériens ont l'impression de voir aucune autorité ».

Elle s'offusque face au fait que, le président, après avoir déclaré la fin de l'état d'urgence et demandé à l'armée de retourner dans les casernes, n'ait pas jugé nécessaire de s'adresser au peuple pour dire où nous en sommes en ce qui concerne les progrès réalisés dans la lutte contre le coronavirus.

L'armée a aidé la Force conjointe de sécurité à faire appliquer les mesures imposées par les autorités pour contrôler la propagation du virus.

Pendant, les cas de virus sont maintenant beaucoup plus élevés dans le pays qu'ils ne l'étaient initialement lorsque M. Weah a déclaré pour la première fois l'état d'urgence au début du mois d'avril.

Jusqu'au mardi 21 juillet, le Libéria disposait de 452 cas actifs de coronavirus sur 1114 cas confirmés signalés depuis que la crise a frappé le pays.

Les autorités sanitaires avaient affirmé qu'un total de 70 victimes avaient été tuées par le virus tandis que 592 autres s'étaient rétablies.

Le président Weah avait ordonné aux hommes et aux femmes des forces armées du Libéria de retourner dans leur caserne.

Selon lui, il n'y avait plus de base légale pour la présence continue de l'armée dans certaines régions du pays pour aider à la lutte contre le Coronavirus étant donné que la fin de l'état d'urgence avait été déclarée. Il avait toutefois souligné que vu que l'armée dispose de capacités logistiques et humaines spéciales, elle pourrait être sollicitée en cas de besoin.

Pendant ce temps, M. Weah avait instruit la ministre de la Santé, Dr Wilhelmina Jallah, et les autres autorités compétentes d'utiliser scrupuleusement les lois sur la santé publique pour réduire la propagation du COVID-19 dans le pays.

Il avait exhorté les autorités sanitaires à veiller au respect strict des mesures prises, dont le port de masques, la distanciation sociale, le lavage des mains et d'autres mesures barrières.

M. Weah avait exhorté le

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Jean Pisani-ferry

## Les défis du monde d'après

**P**ARIS - Il est de plus en plus probable que la pandémie de Covid-19 marquera la fin du modèle de croissance né il y a quatre décennies avec la révolution Reagan-Thatcher, la conversion de la Chine au capitalisme et la disparition de l'URSS. L'épidémie de coronavirus a révélé la vulnérabilité de nos sociétés et renforcé la volonté de répondre à l'urgence climatique. Elle a aussi conforté les États, érodé un soutien déjà fragile à la mondialisation, et induit une réévaluation de la valeur sociale des tâches jugées banales. La combinaison État minimal-économie de marché libre apparaît tout à coup terriblement datée.

L'histoire suggère que les transitions entre phases du développement capitaliste peuvent être dures et incertaines. Le modèle de croissance de l'après-guerre n'a réellement pris forme qu'après que le plan Marshall a catalysé son émergence. Et il a fallu une décennie pour passer de la stagflation des années 1970 à un régime centré sur le marché. Les années qui viennent seront certainement dures.

Le défi n'est pas seulement celui de l'incertitude. En général, pour qu'une nouvelle cohérence émerge, il faut aussi que quelque chose ou quelqu'un cède. À la fin des années 1940, les rentiers européens ont dû céder à la modernisation. Et dans les années 1980, le travail organisé a dû céder devant le capitalisme financier. Le même phénomène se produira cette fois-ci, car la cohérence entre les priorités émergentes est tout sauf évidente.

Commençons par le changement climatique. Bien que la transition vers la neutralité carbone soit probablement le seul moyen de préserver notre bien-être, elle ne manquera pas d'affecter le mode de vie de ménages habitués à se déplacer en SUV ou tributaires de systèmes de chauffage obsolètes.

Le récent mouvement des Gilets jaunes a brutalement rappelé les impacts sociaux d'une taxation du carbone. Bien sûr, la taxe mise en cause était mal conçue et régressive. Mais le problème est plus profond : à mesure que la transition verte imposera de jeter au rebut du capital « brun » pour le remplacer par du capital « vert », il faudra investir davantage dans des systèmes industriels, des bâtiments et des véhicules plus efficaces.

Selon des estimations prudentes, l'investissement supplémentaire requis serait de l'ordre d'un point de PIB par an au cours des prochaines décennies. À consommation publique et exportations nettes constantes, cela se traduira par une réduction de la consommation privée d'un point de PIB, soit une baisse de 2% en niveau.

Vient ensuite l'ambition d'une moindre dépendance aux marchés mondiaux pour les fournitures essentielles. Si l'entrée de la Chine dans l'économie mondiale a eu des conséquences déplaisantes pour les travailleurs des pays avancés, elle a massivement profité aux consommateurs. Comme l'ont montré Robert Feenstra de l'Université de Californie-Davis et ses collègues, l'entrée de la Chine à l'Organisation Mondiale du Commerce a entraîné une baisse du prix des produits manufacturés aux États-Unis de 1% par an - soit un gain de 0,3% de pouvoir d'achat. En utilisant une méthodologie différente, Lionel Fontagné et Charlotte Emlinger, du CEPII, ont calculé qu'en 2010, les importations en provenance de pays à bas salaires enrichissaient de 8% le ménage français médian. Aujourd'hui, l'avantage pour les consommateurs pourrait avoir atteint 10% en Europe et aux États-Unis.

Quel serait le coût d'une plus grande autonomie économique ? Supposons que cela implique de renoncer à un quart d'un gain de 8% induit par la mondialisation. Cela réduirait encore la consommation réelle de 2%.

Mais il y a plus : les projections du Fonds Monétaire International ou de l'OCDE indiquent que d'ici 2021, la dette publique des économies avancées aura augmenté d'au moins 20 points de PIB. Dans un environnement où les taux d'intérêt sont proches de zéro, la plupart des pays peuvent se le permettre. Mais une fois la pandémie terminée, les États devront commencer à réduire leurs ratios d'endettement pour se recréer la capacité de répondre à l'éventuelle récurrence de chocs de grande ampleur. Supposons, de façon conservatrice encore une fois, que la moitié de l'augmentation soit effacée sur dix ans en jouant sur la fiscalité des ménages. Cela impliquerait une nouvelle réduction du revenu d'un point de PIB et, toutes choses égales par ailleurs, une autre baisse de la consommation de 2%. Au total, la croissance de la consommation en serait abaissée de 0,6 points par an.

Le problème est qu'on ne s'attend pas à ce que le revenu réel augmente beaucoup plus. Comme l'a rappelé récemment une étude approfondie de la Banque mondiale, les gains de productivité - le moteur fondamental de la croissance - ont marqué le pas à l'échelle mondiale depuis la crise financière de 2008, avec des augmentations annuelles inférieures à 1% par an dans les économies avancées. Ajoutons le vieillissement, et si la tendance se poursuit, il n'y aura pas de marge pour augmenter la consommation des ménages au cours de la décennie.

Or la crise sanitaire nous a aussi fait prendre conscience de la valeur des tâches quotidiennes des gens ordinaires. Les sociétés avancées estiment - du moins pour l'instant - que la contribution au bien commun des travailleurs du quotidien doit mieux se refléter dans leur rémunération. Il serait étrange de leur dire que le mieux qu'ils puissent espérer dans la décennie à venir est de maintenir leur revenu constant.

Alors, qui va céder, qu'est-ce qui va céder ? Implicitement ou explicitement, ce débat dominera probablement la discussion sur les politiques publiques dans les années à venir. À coup sûr, Donald Trump et ses épigones prétendront que la souveraineté et la croissance de la consommation passent avant tout la préservation du climat et la dette. Ceux qui pensent différemment devront trouver un moyen de sortir de ce qui ressemble à un ensemble incohérent des priorités.

Il faudra pour mettre l'efficacité au premier rang des objectifs. Cela impliquera de favoriser la productivité plutôt que les rêves de décroissance ; de promouvoir une approche économique de la transition verte plutôt que de dilapider des ressources dans des investissements mal choisis ; et de définir précisément ce qu'implique la sécurité économique implique, plutôt que de viser une relocalisation des productions pour lesquelles les pays avancés n'ont aucun avantage comparatif.

En soi, cependant, l'efficacité ne suffira pas à relever les défis qui ont émergé. Les nouvelles priorités - la préservation des biens publics, la sécurité économique, l'inclusion - devront occuper le devant de la scène, reléguant la valeur actionnariale au second plan. Et au lieu de considérer la croissance comme la solution ultime aux inégalités, les sociétés avancées devront s'attaquer de front aux problèmes de redistribution. Il faut espérer qu'elles s'épargneront les convulsions qui accompagnent souvent des changements d'une telle ampleur dans les régulations économiques et les politiques publiques.

# Liberia's 173rd Independence Day Message

## Standing Together In Time Of Pandemic

**H**is Excellency, Dr. George Manneh Weah, President of the Republic of Liberia, Mrs. Clar M. Weah, First Lady, Republic of Liberia, Her Excellency Chief Jewel Howard Taylor, Vice President of the Republic of Liberia, HonourableBhofal Chambers, Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives, Honourable Albert Tugbeh Chie, President Pro Tempore and Members of the Liberian Senate, His Honour Francis SayeKorkpor, Snr., Chief Justice and Associates Justices of the Supreme Court, Officials of Government, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Former Government Officials, Present, Religious Leaders, Traditional Chiefs and Members of the Traditional Council, Foreign Guests, Members of the Fourth Estate, Fellow Citizens, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I count it all Joy to have been selected in such a time as this among many noble sons and daughters of Mama Liberia to partake in the discourse of national and global events requiring specialized knowledge.

I most respectfully and humbly say that I understand the magnitude of this noble task on such a historic day. I do understand, it is by the grace of the Almighty God that I have come thus far, because the scriptures say in 1Cor. 1: 26-28 "God chooses the foolish things of this world to confront the wise and the weak things of this world to shame the things of the mighty", so I give all the glory to God.

To the Governments of our beloved nation, past and present, we appreciate your efforts in maintaining the peace, stability and our national developmental goals. Also, for the dedication of our present government in prioritizing infrastructures development in Monrovia and around the nation. The construction of the 14 Military Hospital in Margibi County, and the paving of community roads in Monrovia and other major roads in the various counties. We stand together for these applaudable achievements.

Also, to the United Nations Family, our Foreign Partners and Stakeholders, especially our West African brothers who sent intervention forces that play major roles in facilitating the peace that we enjoy today, we will continue to remember and appreciate your contribution; for, "You Were The First To Come and The Last To Leave". We remain grateful to our foreign partners and the international community; you deserve our utmost gratitude.

I am of the utmost conviction that the wisdom of my preferment from the religious sector is not only intended to hear the word of God that heals wounds and brings deliverance, but to discuss national problems that make us vulnerable as a nation and finding the way forward to setting the right priorities.

Our dialogue regarding the current state of affairs of our nation summarized under the Theme: "STANDING TOGETHER IN A TIME OF PANDEMIC", on this 173rd Independence Anniversary Celebration today, presents some complex questions for our consideration.

My fellow Liberians, we all are aware that since the advent of the Corona Virus Disease, code name COVID-19 early this year, the world has changed drastically by threatening the very existence of the human race and attacking our belief, economic and governing systems as well as our way of life.

**Every aspect of the human endeavours is under attack:**

- Our way and manner of worshipping God is under attack.
- Our means and nature of earning our living, the economy is under attack.
- Our culture of association and how we relate to one another in good times and period of challenges is also under attack.
- And the lists go on.



*Delivered By Rev. Dr. Simeon L. Dunbar*

Great nations of the world as we know and call them, appear to be struggling with all their sophistications and achievements in science with no definite answer to the threat this pandemic poses to humanity.

The Scriptures according to the Book of Deuteronomy Chapter 28: 1 to 14, God speaking through Moses to the children of Israel, outlined conducts that attract blessings for obedience to His commandment and in the same chapter outlines conducts that attract curses for disobedience from verses 15 to 68.

Fellow Liberians, from the inception of this great nation, like others around us, there has always been battles for every generation and so COVID-19 battle is not and should not be a surprise:

- We fought and won the Ebola battle.
- Prior to Ebola, we fought and placed under control tropical diseases including Measles, Tuberculosis, Smallpox, Polio, Malaria, etc., etc.

Previous battles were won by "STANDING TOGETHER IN A TIME OF EPIDEMIC" and this Pandemic battle too shall be won sooner than later, if we stand together.

However, to win these battles certain requirements must be met. You cannot go to war and expect to subdue the enemy and win the war without the appropriate war winning plan and strategies.

**Factors of Disagreement that Divide and Weaken Togetherness**

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, we are still at war with far greater pandemics than COVID-19. We cannot and will not stand together to win any battle in a society that condone injustice, rampant corruption, disobedience or non-adherence for the rule of law, nepotism and tribalism, sexual violence and gender-based violence, lack of genuine reconciliation, lack of patriotism, lack of accountability, lack of integrity and with no fear of God; for God hates these vices.

Your Excellency, Mr. President, after you informed me of my selection by your Administration to be the Orator for this year anniversary celebration, while meditating on the request, a couple of questions came to me that I believe will form the integral part of our dialogue:

- What does it mean to stand together? The gospel of Mark 3:25 says "...if a nation be divided against itself, that nation cannot stand".
- Where do we stand together, when there's no equal platform for all? While some are standing in the trenches of Bokon Jeadea, others are standing in unmerited riches and stolen wealth. While majority are standing in the swamps of Gbayhdin, others are relaxing on the top of Mt. Nimba. In Liberia we have a common saying... "Empty Bag Cannot Stand," how do we stand together when some bags are empty and other bags and bellies are full and overflowing?
- Is it possible to stand together when some are standing on the sandy beaches of West Point and New Kru Town

with daily sea incursions and growing cases of homelessness, while others are standing in luxurious hotel lobbies and reporting to work on Monday afternoon.

- How do we stand together? When everyday our future female leaders are crying and living in constant fear of abuse? A country where RAPE is no longer an abomination but now a culture and way of life.
- How do we stand when at 173 years old as a Nation we are still dependent on donor monies that are no longer coming in, and meanwhile corruption has become the standard way of life for the vast majority?
- And most importantly, how do we stand together, when we are one nation, very divided with no liberty or justice for all?

We've sung numerous songs as a people over many years of democracy that align with our national situation. Even to the most recent electoral process and smooth transition of power to a new government, our people sang the praises of our leader and the very famous slogan; "CHANGE FOR HOPE". Your Excellency, indeed the Change has come, now where is the Hope?

Our people from the Kru tribe will say "Ta bawuolo-kpaili ne wa" in Gio we say "Qwaa Zoe dui-ameh" the Mandingos say "Ja- yee-see- Nah Meni", our Bassa people say " Dehwodoe con day-dehor da" the Kissi will say " or te da num doe" and the Kpelle people will say "Lallah-ca-Muh".

As a people of different tongues, we ask this question daily in expectation of some answers. However, the fate of our nation does not only rest in the hands of the Government but rather we as a united people. It is in our hands, in order to stand together in these troubling times, we need to consider the following underlying factors and re-examine them carefully.

**What do we need as a people?**

- We need to stand together in fighting the battle of discrimination and injustice in our society, irrespective of the status of the perpetrator.
- We need to remind ourselves of our past negative, dark and distorted history not to repeat the past mistakes that continue to divide us rather than unite us to focus on righting the wrongs of the past rather than using the wrongs to gain political power.
- We need to do away with deep seated hatred for each other, that only provides a platform for denying opportunities reserved by our laws for Liberians to foreigners. Can a nation love her neighbours more than herself? I say no as an answer. Empower Liberians first and foremost.

**What cannot make us to stand together?**

- We cannot stand together when rumours of illegal exploitation of our God given mineral resources by foreign nationals sponsored by unpatriotic Liberian citizens go without redress to the whistle blower complaint. The government will only be undermining itself if such conduct is allowed to go unchecked.

Mr. President, the Pandemic has negatively affected every Liberian; no one is left untouched and we applaud your government's effort for distributing food to Liberians but please remove the adjective, "vulnerable Liberians" and say all Liberian citizens so we can stand together.

- We cannot stand together when we as religious leaders do not fulfil God given mandate to preach the gospel fearlessly about the ills in society, no matter who is or should be involved, without compromising the truth. By speaking the truth, we may be hated; but souls will be saved and the good of society will be maintained.
- We must respect the retirement age and policy. Discourage recycling politicians who outlive their time in government as a means to providing equal opportunities to our prepared youths into public service.

# Standing in stolen wealth

By Winston W. Parley

Liberia's 173rd National Orator, Rev. Dr. Simeon L. Dunbar says while some Liberians are standing in the trenches here, "others are standing in unmerited riches and stolen wealth," suggesting that Liberians remind themselves of their past negative, dark and distorted history not to repeat what continue to divide them. "While some are standing in the trenches of BokonJeadea, others are standing in unmerited riches and stolen wealth. While majority are standing in the swamps of Gbayhdin, others are relaxing on the top of Mt. Nimba," Rev. Dunbar, Founder and President of the Liberty Christian Center said in the Independence Day Oration Monday, 27 July in Monrovia.

Speaking on the theme: "Standing Together In a Time of Epidemic," the Orator reminds President George Manneh Weah and his

old when the nation is still dependent on donor monies that are no longer coming in, "and meanwhile corruption has become the standard way of life for the vast majority"

"And most importantly, how do we stand together, when we are one nation, very divided with no liberty or justice for all" he continues.

He notes that Liberians have sung numerous songs as a people over many years of democracy that align with their national situation.

Even to the most recent electoral process and smooth transition of power to a new government, he recounts that Liberians sang the praises of their leader and the very famous slogan: "Change for Hope."

"Your Excellency, indeed the Change has come, now where is the Hope"

Our people from the Kru tribe will say "Ta bawuolo-kpailine wa" in Gio we say "Qwaa Zoe dui-ameh" the Mandingos say

opportunities reserved by their laws for Liberians to foreigners.

"Can a nation love her neighbours more than herself" I say no as an answer. Empower Liberians first and foremost," he notes. He warns that Liberians "cannot stand together when [rumors] of illegal exploitation of our God given mineral resources by foreign nationals sponsored by unpatriotic Liberian citizens go without redress to the whistle blower complaint," saying the government will only be undermining itself if such conduct is allowed to go unchecked.

Additionally, Rev. Dunbar cautions Liberians that they need to understand that Monrovia is not Liberia and America is not Heaven, adding that they should cherish what they have and help to make it better and transform the nation through their own hands.

As a people, he says Liberians must never forget that the peace they enjoy today came at a very high price of sweat, blood and tears by Liberians and their brothers and sisters and from intervention forces in the sub-region and other nations.

Therefore, he suggests that Liberians must deal cautiously in the maintenance of this peace which is more valuable than gold, diamond or any precious stone. According to Rev. Dunbar, it's on record that United Nations/UNMIL invested 7.5 billion over a 15 - year period in keeping and maintaining the peace here.

To Liberians in the Diaspora, he reminds them that it has been over 400 plus years since Africans and Liberians have contributed immensely to the growth and civilization of other nations, noting that it is now time to return home.

"I say this to buttress the fact that every single conflict in Liberia in the past 50 years has been sponsored directly or indirectly by those in the Diaspora. Equally so, the current growth and development in our political and economic landscape is also being supported by you Liberians in the diaspora," he observes.

The Orator cautions that never again must Liberians rebel against God and allow themselves to be divided along religious lines because they are all interrelated.

"We need to learn to be a cohesive nation with one mind, and put Liberia First. Never again must we be divided along tribal, political and sectional lines," he pleads.

# FIB gives to 4 orphanages, Group of 77

By Lewis S. Teh

A local charity, Future is Bright has distributed food among several orphanages, including members of the Group of 77, old folks at Vamuma House, and physically-challenged people, as a means of identifying with them during the 173rd Independence celebration.

Future is Bright is a newly established charity that has opened its doors to the public, putting smiles on faces of underprivileged children, old folks and other less-fortunate citizens from several communities in Montserrado County.

Items donated include rice, beans, vegetable oil, and cash.

The organization is being run by a group of Liberians who reside both here and abroad, putting resources together to buttress national government's efforts in tackling poverty and economic hardship faced by citizens.

Speaking to journalists following the distribution exercise in New Kaymah town, Soul Clinic, Paynesville, and at the Group of 77 in Central Monrovia, FIB coordinator in Liberia, Pastor Patience

Sherman said, the vision was given birth by the chairman of the organization MoleekKpana, currently living in the United States. Pastor Sherman said after Moleek realized that giving back to his country was cardinal, he immediately engaged few friends and they began putting their little resources together and bringing FIB into being.

"Our donation is not intended to run campaign for anyone, but to help the older people who can't afford to feed themselves", she said, adding, "we are aware that donations are all over the place but ours is different."

Institutions that benefited from the exercise include the Group of 77, old folks at Vamoma House, disable group, Era Supermarket, older folks at Kaymah town, and the Liberian Children Rescue and Educational Foundation orphanage in Bassa town, New Georgia Estate, respectively.

At the same time spokesperson Varmah Bobby Gray said FIB started with one person, who came up with an idea of helping citizens back home in Liberia in the midst of hardship and the devastating COVID-19.



Rev. Dr. Simeon L. Dunbar

administration of a saying in Liberia: "Empty Bag Cannot Stand," before questioning how do we stand together when some bags are empty and other bags and bellies are full and overflowing"

"Is it possible to stand together when some are standing on the sandy beaches of West Point and New Kru Town with daily sea incursions and growing cases of homelessness, while others are standing in luxurious hotel lobbies and reporting to work on Monday afternoon" he asks further.

Rev. Dunbar wonders how Liberians can stand together when everyday future female leaders are crying and living in constant fear of abuse in a country where rape "is no longer an abomination but now a culture and way of life."

Moreover, Rev. Dunbar ponders as to how Liberians can stand when at 173 years

"Ja- yee-see- Nah Meni", our Bassa people say " Dehwodoe con day-dehor da" the Kissi will say " or te da num doe" and the Kpelle people will say "Lallah-ca-Muh," Rev. Dunbar asks.

However, he reminds Liberians that the fate of their nation does not only rest in the hands of the Government but rather in their hands as a united people.

"It is in our hands, in order to stand together in these troubling times, we need to consider the following underlying factors and re-examine them carefully.

What do we need as a people" We need to stand together in fighting the battle of discrimination and injustice in our society, irrespective of the status of the perpetrator," he proposes.

Further, Rev. Dunbar suggests that Liberians need to do away with deep seated hatred for each other that only provides a platform for denying

## Weah complains

Cont'd from page 6

health emergency regulations," he says.

President Weah says he is sure that Liberians have all been inspired by the powerful and eloquent oration from the Orator of the day, the Rev. Dr. Simeon L. Dunbar.

"His analysis was constructive, his message was instructive and encouraging, and his conclusions and recommendations give us hope that if we stand together as one united people, with focus, discipline, and determination, we will not be defeated by this deadly disease. Thank you, Rev. Dr. Dunbar," President Weah says.

He calls on citizens to put their differences aside, whether they be political, religious, or social, and join together to fight this deadly disease, saying: "We are one people, who pledge allegiance to the same flag."

"We offer our deepest sympathy to the families of those who have lost their lives to COVID-19, and to all those who remain afflicted by the disease, we wish them a full and speedy recovery," Mr. Weah continues.

He assures that his administration will continue to exert every effort to help mitigate the impact of this pandemic on the people here, saying the healthcare practitioners have done a remarkable job to keep the disease under control so far, and will continue to do so, even in the face of rising numbers.

"But it is heartwarming to see that the number of survivors is increasing, which is a testament to the enormous sacrifices of healthcare workers. We cannot thank them enough. They are our heroes!" he adds.

President Weah says under his instructions, healthcare workers will do all in their powers, with the backing of law enforcement agencies, to ensure strict compliance with the protocols meant to curtail the spread of the disease.

"These measures apply to all, regardless of status. We must stand together and take responsible actions that protect ourselves and our loved ones," he concludes.

# CPP storms Maryland County

## -presents senatorial candidate



By Patrick N. Mensah, Maryland

The chairman of the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) has presented its candidate for the December 8, 2020 midterm senatorial election to the people of Maryland County, southeast Liberia, asking them for their votes.

Chairman Alexander B. Cummings named Eric Wlea Giko, a son of Maryland

County as the CPP's senatorial candidate for the county.

Accompanied by Montserrado County Electoral District 310 Representative Yekeh Kolubah, Cummings defied deplorable roads leading to the southeast and arrived in the county on Friday, July 24, to a rousing welcome from citizens and supporters.

"Marylanders, you have seen what have come to you in those nine (9) and 12 years past; if you

will stay here and elect these same people to power, who have not done anything for you, you will get the same thing again; because you can't be doing one thing over and over and expect different results", he told the citizens.

Mr. Cummings, who is also leader of the opposition Alternative National Congress - one of the four constituent

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# No fear for War Crimes Court

## - Agnes Taylor

By Winston W. Parley

One of the estranged wives of imprisoned ex-president Charles Ghakay Taylor, Dr. Agnes Reeves Taylor says she has no fear of the establishment of a War Crimes Court here, arguing that she is not a perpetrator of war crimes and she is not listed in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission

(TRC) report.

"I personally have no fear of a war crimes tribunal; I am not a perpetrator [of] war crimes, I was not put out. I am not on the TRC report," Dr. Taylor told a press conference in Monrovia Monday, 27 July.

Dr. Taylor recently returned to Liberia after British authorities dropped all charges of seven counts of torture and one count of conspiracy to



torture and released her from about two years of detention in a maximum female prison that she says is meant for terrorists and other hardcore criminals.

According to her, the British police went to where the achieves of all the statements were kept from the proceedings of the TRC report that included statements taken in the diaspora, searching for any account or any activities that were

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