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Continental News

Tanzania's Opposition Party Defies Oppression

Tanzania's main opposition group – the Party for Democracy and Progress, or Chadema – is speaking out against a call for a temporary suspension of the campaign of its presidential candidate Tundu Lissu, who is facing the incumbent John Magufuli in the coming general elections. Tanzania's National Electoral Commission has accused Lissu of violating several election regulations, and opposition members say they are observing the request even as they say it is unfair, illegal, and unacceptable.

A recent announcement by Tanzania's National Electoral Commission that it will suspend for seven days from October 3 the campaign of the outspoken opposition presidential candidate Tundu Lissu is being met with verbal protests from Tanzania's main opposition group.

The commission accused Lissu of violating some election regulations, including stopping to make unplanned addresses to

masses of people. Lissu says the commission's move is to silence him in a period of one week while President John Magufuli is taking a break from campaigning. "I know their intention. They do not want me to be on the campaign trail during the same week that Magufuli is resting," he says, adding that "they are wary of the issues that I will raise, for

which they have no adequate responses. It is a strategy to scare me, which I am not going to accept." According to the recent timetable released by the National Electoral Commission, Magufuli will be having an 8-day break during the same period that Lissu has been forced to put a pause on his campaign.

Lissu's supporters say this is

just one of a series of efforts to shut down the opposition.

Ibrahim Chawe, a member of Chadema and a communication officer for the Chadema youth organization, says the ruling party is guilty of the very violations for which Lissu and the opposition party are being unfairly accused.

Hellen Sisy, an activist and communications specialist with Youth Democrat Union of Africa, says the commission also should have the power to hold accountable the ruling party when violating the election regulations.

Hellen says Lissu has also sent to the National Electoral Commission his accusations concerning the ruling party violating the election regulations, which he says the electoral commission seems to be ignoring. Political analyst Azaveli Lwaitama says the national electoral commission is not independent.

Lwaitama says the commission has openly shown it is not as independent as expected and as many people

had been saying. He adds that he thinks people have now accepted that the commission is favoring the ruling party but will try to hide behind "public support" to justify its actions.

Clarifying the issue, the commission members say it is not their decision to suspend Lissu's campaigning, and that they're only implementing what the ethics committee had agreed upon.

Titus Mwanzalila, an education officer of the National Electoral Commission, says these were steps taken by the ethics committee, in which 90% of its members come from various political parties. He underscores that it is the members of myriad political parties, along with several from the government and the commission, who have made the decisions. In a statement Tuesday, October 1, by the U.S. Embassy in Tanzania on the upcoming elections, the U.S. government says it does not support any specific candidate or party in Tanzania's upcoming elections but supports the democratic process itself, including a genuinely free and fair election. VOA



Tundu Lissu, the presidential candidate of Tanzania's main opposition Chadema party

Coronavirus spreads more than six feet

Coronavirus is now airborne, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

There is evidence that under certain conditions, people with Covid-19 could infect those who are more than six feet away, CDC says in its updated guidelines.

The conditions listed include "enclosed spaces that had inadequate

ventilation" and when an infected person is "breathing heavily, for example while singing or exercising".

The American health body says some infections can be spread by exposure to virus in small droplets and particles that can linger in the air for minutes to hours.

It likened this update to how infections like tuberculosis, measles, and chicken pox spread.

This update states that reports show that those with Covid-19 infected others shortly after leaving an area.

"Under these circumstances, scientists believe that the amount of infectious smaller droplet and particles produced by the people with Covid-19 became concentrated enough to spread the virus to other people," the CDC statement read in part.

The World Health Organization says the main way the virus spreads is through close contact with virus-containing droplets - large and small - that are emitted when someone coughs, sneezes, sings, talks or breathes.

When people are in proximity, within six feet, they are exposed to the whole spectrum of spray that can cause infection, WHO says.

To avoid further spread of Covid-19, people have been advised to wear masks when in public settings, observe social distancing of at least two metres apart and sanitise. BBC



Enclosed spaces listed among conditions where Covid-19 can spread

Mali's military takes key posts in new government

Mali's transitional President, Bah N d a w , has appointed a 25-member government in which senior military personnel have been given several key posts.

According to a presidential decree read out on state television, the ministries of defence, security, territorial administration and national reconciliation are all to be led

after August's coup.

Col Sadio Camara, one of the leaders of the junta, will become the minister of defence, while the spokesman for the military junta, Col-Maj Ismaël Wagué, will be in charge of national reconciliation.

Some significant posts also went to civilians with the former prosecutor, Mohamed Sida Dicko, heading the



by colonels in the Malian military.

Mr N d a w - who had a career in the air force - was hand-picked to be president of the country by the coup leader.

Following the subsequent appointment of a civilian prime minister, the West African regional block - Ecowas - is expected to soon lift the sanctions it imposed

justice department.

Only four posts were given to women and just two posts to members of the opposition, M5, the group that led protests against President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita leading to his ouster by the military. BBC

EDITORIAL

Liberians should fear for their lives

ADMITTANCE BY THE Inspector General of Police Col. Patrick T. Sudue that officers of the Liberia National Police (LNP) contaminated the crime scene of two deceased employees of the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA) whose corpses were mysteriously found in a parked vehicle early Friday morning, 2nd October on Snapper Hill, Broad Street in Monrovia is very worrisome.

THAT SINGULAR CONFESSION by IG Sudue jeopardizes further investigation into the mysterious deaths of two citizens, who were diligently serving the Motherland up to their suspicious demise, leaving the entire nation hopeless about any possibility of finding their killer(s) or circumstances that led to their death.

WE ARE HIGHLY disappointed in the Liberia National Police for making such public confession of error over a major crime that has kept Liberians speechless and created a sense of insecurity in our society.

WHEN COL. SUDUE appeared at a news conference at the National Police Headquarters in Monrovia on Monday, 5 October with a flying sheet to address the public concerning the death of Albert Peters and Gifty Lama journalists had thought the Police was in possession of a lead.

HOWEVER, RESPONDING TO a reporter's question why police officers drove the car in which the two LRA employees' bodies were found instead of towing it or lifting it from the scene to protect evidence, Col. Sudue disappointingly replied, "This is what we call contamination of the crime scene."

"LOOK I MUST say publicly that there was some errors on the crime scene but those errors on the crime scene were not significant as to destroying the evidence that we had...."

LIBERIANS ARE APPREHENSIVE and rightly so, that this mysterious death case may never go to court or even if there were formal charges, probable suspect or suspects may find escape route within the law, and walk away because of this so-called "contamination of the crime scene."

THE STATE HANDLING of previous mysterious and suspicious deaths had left much to be desired and citizens seem to have mistrust for the system that should guarantee their security at all times.

IT IS ABOUT time the Police and the entire national security apparatus become robust in exercising professionalism during incidents that lead to loss of lives. Liberians expect nothing less because their taxes are paying for these services.

WE CAN BUT only hope that circumstances that led to the mysterious deaths of these two public servants would be established by the relevant authorities, particularly the Police so that perpetrators would face justice and members of the bereaved families can trust the system governing their peace and happiness.

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

COMMENTARY

By Kenneth Rogoff

The Stock-Market Disconnect

The best explanation for why stock markets remain so bullish despite a massive recession is that major publicly traded companies have not borne the brunt of the pandemic's economic fallout. But having been spared by the virus, they could soon find themselves squarely in the sights of a populist backlash.

CAMBRIDGE - Why are stock-market valuations soaring when the real economy remains so fragile? One factor has become increasingly clear: The crisis has disproportionately affected small businesses and low-income service workers. They are essential for the real economy, but not so much for equity markets. True, there are other explanations for today's lofty valuations, but each has its limitations.

For example, because stock markets are forward-looking, current stock prices may reflect optimism about the imminent arrival of effective COVID-19 vaccines and radically improved testing and treatment options, which would allow for a more limited and nuanced approach to lockdowns. This outlook may be justified, or it may be that markets are underestimating the likelihood of a severe second wave this winter, and overestimating the efficacy and impact of the first-generation vaccines.

A second, and perhaps more convincing, explanation for today's stock market performance is that central banks have pushed interest rates down to near zero. With markets convinced that there is little chance that rates will rise in the foreseeable future, prices of long-lived assets such as houses, art, gold, and even Bitcoin have all been driven upward. And because tech firms' revenue streams are tilted far into the future, they have benefited disproportionately from low interest rates.

But, again, it is not clear that markets are correct in anticipating a never-ending continuation of low interest rates. After all, the long-term adverse supply effects, particularly from deglobalization, may linger long after global demand has recovered.

A third explanation is that in addition to providing ultra-low interest rates, central banks have directly backed private bond markets - representing an unprecedented intervention in the case of the US Federal Reserve. These private bond purchases should not be thought of as monetary policy in a conventional sense. Rather, they resemble a quasi-fiscal policy, with the central bank acting as an agent for the Treasury in an emergency situation.

As such, this particular intervention is likely to be temporary, even though central banks have not yet succeeded in telegraphing that fact to markets. Despite sharply elevated macroeconomic volatility and a rising supply of corporate debt, interest-rate spreads over government debt have actually narrowed in many markets, and the number of major corporate bankruptcies to date remains remarkably low considering the magnitude of the recession.

At some point, markets will be disabused of the notion that taxpayers will cover everything indefinitely. Central banks are ultimately constrained in the amount of risk they are

allowed to assume, and the belief that they still have an appetite for taking on more could be challenged if a severe second wave arrives this winter.

While these three explanations offer some insights into why stock prices are rising at a time when the real economy is heading south, they tend to miss a big piece of the puzzle: the economic pain inflicted by COVID-19 is not being borne by publicly traded companies. It is falling on small businesses and individual service proprietors - from dry cleaners to restaurants to entertainment providers - that are not listed on the stock market (which leans more toward manufacturing). These smaller players simply do not have the capital needed to survive a shock of this duration and magnitude. And government programs that have helped keep them afloat for a while are beginning to lapse, raising the risk of a snowball effect in the event of a second wave.

Some small-business failures will be seen as part and parcel of the broader economic restructuring that the pandemic has triggered. But plenty of otherwise viable businesses also will fail, leaving large publicly traded companies with an even stronger market position than they already had. In fact, that is yet another reason for the market euphoria. (True, some large businesses have filed for bankruptcy protection, but most - not least brick-and-mortar retailers - were already in trouble before the pandemic.)

Further underscoring the unequal impact of the pandemic, government tax revenues have not fallen by nearly as much as one might expect, given the magnitude of the recession and record post-war unemployment levels (or, in Europe's case, the massive outlays to pay furloughed workers). The reason, of course, is that the job losses have been concentrated among low-income individuals who pay less in taxes.

But today's elevated stock markets face risks that are not only economic, including but not limited to the significant possibility of an unprecedented political crisis following the US presidential election this November. After the 2008 financial crisis, there was a widespread backlash over policies that seemed to favor Wall Street over Main Street. This time, Wall Street will again be vilified, but populist wrath also will be directed toward Silicon Valley.

One likely outcome, especially if the ongoing process of deglobalization makes it more difficult for corporations to shift their operations to low-tax countries, will be a reversal of the trend decline in corporate tax rates. That will not be good for stock prices, and it would be a mistake to think the populist response would stop there.

Until lofty stock-market valuations are underpinned by a broad-based recovery in both health and economic outcomes, investors should not get too comfortable with their outside pandemic profits. What goes up can also come down.

O-PED

By Joseph S. Nye, Jr.

Post-Pandemic Geopolitics

Estimating the long-term effect of the current pandemic is not an exact prediction of the future, but an exercise in weighing probabilities and adjusting current policies. When envisioning the international order in 2030, five scenarios stand out.

CAMBRIDGE - There is no single future until it happens, and any effort to envision geopolitics in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic must include a range of possible futures. I suggest five plausible futures in 2030, but obviously others can be imagined.

The end of the globalized liberal order. The world order established by the United States after World War II created a framework of institutions that led to a remarkable liberalization of international trade and finance. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, this order was being challenged by the rise of China and the growth of populism in Western democracies. China benefited from the order, but as its strategic weight grows, it increasingly insists on setting standards and rules. The US resists, institutions atrophy, and appeals to sovereignty increase. The US remains outside the World Health Organization and the Paris climate agreement. COVID-19 contributes to the probability of this scenario by weakening the US "system manager."

A 1930s-like authoritarian challenge. Mass unemployment, increased inequality, and community disruption from pandemic-related economic changes create hospitable conditions for authoritarian politics. There is no shortage of political entrepreneurs willing to use nationalist populism to gain power. Nativism and protectionism increase. Tariffs and quotas on goods and people increase, and immigrants and refugees become scapegoats. Authoritarian states seek to consolidate regional spheres of interest, and various types of interventions increase the risk of violent conflict. Some of these trends were visible before 2020, but weak prospects for economic recovery, owing to the failure to cope with the COVID-19 pandemic that increases the probability of this scenario.

A China-dominated world order. As China masters the pandemic, the economic distance between it and other major powers changes dramatically. China's economy surpasses that of a declining US by the mid-1920s, and China widens its lead over onetime potential contenders like India and Brazil. In its diplomatic marriage of convenience with Russia, China increasingly becomes the senior partner. Not surprisingly, China demands respect and obeisance in accordance with its increasing power. The Belt and Road Initiative is used to influence not just neighbors but partners as distant as Europe and Latin America. Votes against China in international institutions become too expensive, as they jeopardize Chinese aid or investment, as well as access to the world's largest market. With Western economies having been weakened relative to China by the pandemic, China's government and major companies are able to reshape institutions and set standards to their liking.

A green international agenda. Not all futures are negative. Public opinion in many democracies is beginning to place a higher priority on climate change and environmental conservation. Some governments and companies are re-organizing to deal with such issues. Even before COVID-19, one could foresee an international agenda in 2030 defined by countries' focus on green issues. By highlighting the links between human and planetary health, the pandemic accelerates adoption of this agenda.

For example, the US public notices that spending \$700 billion on defense did not prevent COVID-19 from killing more Americans than died in all its wars after 1945. In a changed domestic political environment, a US president introduces a "COVID Marshall Plan" to provide prompt access to vaccines for poor countries and to strengthen the capacity of their health care systems. The Marshall Plan of 1948 was in America's self-interest and simultaneously in the interest of others, and had a profound effect on shaping the geopolitics of the ensuing decade. Such leadership enhanced US soft power. By 2030, a green agenda has become good domestic politics, with a similarly significant geopolitical effect.

More of the same. In 2030, COVID-19 looks just as unpleasant as the Great Influenza of 1918-20 looked from 1930, and with similar limited long-term geopolitical effects. Prior conditions persist. But, along with growing Chinese power, domestic populism and polarization in the West, and more authoritarian regimes, there is some degree of economic globalization and a growing awareness of the importance of environmental globalization, underpinned by a grudging recognition that no country can solve such problems acting alone. The US and China manage to cooperate on pandemics and climate change, even as they compete on other issues such as navigation restrictions in the South or East China Sea. Friendship is limited, but rivalry is managed. Some institutions wither, others are repaired, and still others are invented. The United States remains the largest power, but without the degree of influence it had in the past.

Each of the first four scenarios has about a one chance in ten of approximating the future in 2030. In other words, the chances are less than half that the impact of the current COVID-19 pandemic will profoundly reshape geopolitics by 2030. Several factors could alter these probabilities. For example, the rapid development of effective, reliable, and cheap vaccines that are widely distributed internationally would enhance the probability of continuity and reduce the probability the authoritarian or Chinese scenarios.

But if Donald Trump's re-election weakens America's alliances and international institutions, or damages democracy at home, the probability of the continuity scenario or the green scenario would decrease. On the other hand, if the European Union, which was initially weakened by the pandemic, succeeds in sharing the costs of member states' response, it could become an important international actor capable of increasing the likelihood of the green scenario.

Other influences are possible, and COVID-19 may produce important domestic changes related to inequalities in health care and education, as well as spurring the creation of better institutional arrangements to prepare for the next pandemic. Estimating the long-term effect of the current pandemic is not an exact prediction of the future, but an exercise in weighing probabilities and adjusting current policies.

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OPINION

By Richard Haass

Learning from Rabin

The assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin 25 years ago by a right-wing Jewish extremist almost certainly was a turning point in the Middle East. A quarter-century later, Rabin's goal of a separate Palestinian state remains the only option that can ensure Israel's future as both Jewish and democratic.

NEW YORK - Assassinations are by definition significant because they involve the murder of a prominent individual for political purposes. But not all assassinations constitute turning points. World War I, for example, would likely have happened even without the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand. The stage was already set for what was to become The Great War, and something else would have provided the spark.

Nor is it obvious that the assassination of US President John F. Kennedy, as significant as it was, was a historical turning point. Some say that, had he lived, he would have limited US involvement in Vietnam, a war that in the hands of his successors ultimately claimed some 58,000 American lives. Obviously, there is no way of knowing. What can be said with some confidence, though, is that the US political system was sufficiently robust that the broad direction of domestic and foreign policy alike were not dependent on a single person.

By contrast, the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin 25 years ago by a right-wing Jewish extremist almost certainly was a turning point in the Middle East. The reason is clear: Rabin may well have been the only Israeli leader of his generation both willing and able to make peace with the Palestinians living under Israeli occupation. He saw the need to compromise and was strong enough to take calculated risks and persuade a majority of Israelis that it was wise to do so.

By contrast, Rabin's rival and successor, Shimon Peres, had the desire to make peace, but his very enthusiasm undermined his ability to rally skeptical Israelis behind him. Rabin's reluctance proved invaluable. And several subsequent Israeli prime ministers, including the incumbent, Binyamin Netanyahu, possessed the hardline credentials to make a deal with the Palestinians, in the sense that the anti-communist Richard Nixon could broker the US breakthrough with China a half-century ago. But, unlike Nixon, they lacked the desire to do so on terms that had any chance of being accepted.

This is not to say that Rabin would have succeeded had he lived. It takes two to make peace. It was Nelson Mandela's - and South Africa's - good fortune that President F.W. de Klerk was a willing partner in ending apartheid. Peace requires leaders who are both willing and able to compromise and sustain their commitments. And here it is not obvious that Rabin had a viable partner in Yasir Arafat, although it is instructive that Rabin ultimately judged that it was worth pursuing, because only Arafat possessed the authority to make a deal.

What also made Rabin remarkable was his openness to change. As Israel's defense minister from 1984 to 1990, he imposed harsh measures on Palestinians living in Israeli-occupied territories and cracked down on violent protest. I was working on the Middle East at the White House at the time. When I challenged Rabin on the wisdom of saying Israel would break the bones of the protesters, he responded, "What would you have us do? Kill them?"

For Rabin, it was a legal and political necessity to maintain order, but it was also a moral imperative to minimize the loss of life. Using non-lethal force was to him the right approach.

Over time, however, Rabin concluded that force alone would not succeed. He came to see political and economic incentives as essential as well. And in his second term as prime minister, he accepted the Palestine Liberation Organization as a negotiating partner despite its history of terrorism, and approved the 1993 and 1995 Oslo Accords that established a path designed to bring about ever greater political autonomy for Palestinians.

As we know, the Oslo Accords were never implemented in full. Rabin was assassinated, subsequent attempts at negotiating peace failed, Arafat died, and no Palestinian state materialized.

All this is relevant now given the recent diplomatic breakthrough between Israel and the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain. Arab governments, motivated by the threat from Iran and a desire for access to Israeli technology and US arms, have determined not to allow the unresolved Palestinian issue to stand between them and normal relations with Israel. Other Arab states eventually will do much the same.

The Palestinian reaction has been equal parts predictable and disappointing. Most Palestinians still seem unprepared to accept that the path to a state of their own does not run through the Arab League or the United Nations or even Washington, DC, but rather through direct talks with Israel.

As Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank continue to expand, time is running out. Israel's government has agreed to postpone annexation of significant portions of the West Bank for just three years. The question is whether the next generation of Palestinian leaders will, like Rabin, be willing and able to compromise for peace.

But Israelis would be wise to learn from Rabin as well. He believed that Israel must remain both Jewish and democratic, and understood that this requires separate states. The only alternatives are to make Palestinians citizens of Israel (thereby ending Israel's Jewish character), or deny Palestinians voting rights (thereby ending Israel's democratic character).

For good reason, Rabin rejected both alternatives. There would be no better way to honor his legacy than by reviving a diplomatic process leading to the creation of two separate states living side by side in peace.

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ARTICLE

ARTICLE

Intentional Mis-Education of Africa

“Education without interrogation, teacher don’t teach me nonsense”

CONTINUE FROM LAST EDITION

Walter Rodney posited that colonial education in Africa was an education for subordination, exploitation, the creation of mental confusion, and the development of underdevelopment; killing the communalist spirit in Africans and replacing it with a capitalistic one, corrupting the mental sensibilities of Africans by providing selective training to fill auxiliary positions in the colonial service, emphasizing vocational rather than a well-rounded education, disregarding the peoples’ cultures in the educational curriculum and fostered the underdevelopment of Africa’s intellectual resources.

For example, Nigeria is a society obsessed with titles, where they are addressed by various titles, such as their college degrees; architect, engineer, nurse, teacher, accountant, chartered accountant, surveyor, barrister, SAN, advocate, Pharm, along with other worthless and useless titles; Sir, Dame, Chief, Pastor, Alhaji, Alhaja, Elder, Imam, Prophet, Mallam, Prophetess, Igwe, Chief Dr. Sir, High Chief Alhaji, Double Chief Sir, Man of God, Merit, MD (not medical), PA, CSO, Chairman, etc., that does not enhance or advance the development of the country. Deplorably, they call their rouge politician(s), excellency(ies). Regrettably and unfortunately, Nigerians are exporting these useless attitudes to pollute other African countries, and hopefully, they will not succumb to these negative behaviors that have no relevance to the development of the continent.

Yet, most of these degrees are not advanced degrees, what a paradox, while Nigeria remains the poverty capital of the world and the number three most terrorized country (Global Terrorism Index 2020).
oted by the Justice and Empowering Initiatives director, Chapman Megan, 1.74% (10.6M) of the 610 million children in the world that cannot read and do basic mathematics are in Nigeria.

A country that imports foreign companies to help develop their infrastructures despite these fanciful degrees and titles. What is the essence or benefits of these fanciful theoretical degrees that do not advance the development of the country? In consequence, these fancy theoretical degrees require foreign partnerships to validate their competencies before they can embark on any major infrastructural developments.

How many foreign countries partner with African companies to develop their country’s infrastructures? On the other hand, Africa is constantly seeking foreign companies to help develop its infrastructures, yet, Africa has thousands of college graduates with so-called technical expertise in those areas for development.

These questions should be subject to investigation; why these so-called graduates are unable to develop their infrastructures independent of foreign companies?

That is why Ali Mazrui hypothesized that Africa produces what she does not consumes and consumes

and what she does not produce.

If Africa husbands her resources, she should have changed the trajectory of her western educational systems, and likewise, she does not need loans from any foreign countries or foreign partnerships to develop the continent. Consequently, Africa should start questioning or investigate these fancy theoretical degrees and how it relates to the development of Africa? Or are the answers about corruption and lack of trust in their academic institutions’ proficiencies?

Africa can do better and must do their best. However, if Africa does not change the course of her western education and religion, Africa will jeopardize its Africanness, thus Africa must protect and preserve its culture, and religion. Otherwise, Africa ways of life and the overall essence of what makes Africa intrinsically unique are at the verge of permanent destruction, if she continues on the path of western education without reforms.



Courtesy of Google Maps
From the desk of Dr. Bamidele Adeoye; September, 2020

And Africa should have listened and taken heed to the preaching and echoes of John Langalibalele Dube’s gospel of self-help and inner change.

Therefore, Africa is a continent where banks destroyed the economy, doctors destroyed health, the government destroyed freedom, judges destroyed justice, politicians destroyed accountability, the press destroyed information, religion destroyed morals and ethics, teachers destroyed education, and university destroyed knowledge.

The politicians are corrupt at will and deluded by their precipitous audacity of impunity, while they are impervious to the misery of the masses.

Why is this education system still acknowledged in Africa? Is Africa proud of this inherited academic system for Africa’s development? And who are the beneficiaries of this current academic system, Africans or colonizers? Why are Africans not enraged and repugnant against the systems (academic and religion) that failed Africa?

These and many other fundamentally intensely critical questions should be asked and investigated after roughly sixty years of the so-called independence in Africa. Therefore, Africa should question the concept of independence, independence from whom, and what? Were Africans not independent before the intrusion of those rogue colonizers?

Freedom is what we do with what is done to us, and man is nothing else but what he purposes, he exists only in so far as he realizes himself, he is, therefore, nothing else but the sum of his actions, nothing else but what his life is? Jean-Paul Sartre.

Unfortunately for the colonizers, the African race is like an Indian rubber; the harder you dash it to the ground, the higher it will rise – African Proverb.

Conclusively; western education in Africa was designed to indoctrinate and reinforce colonizer’s values and lifestyles while the foci were to prepare Africans for the service of the colonial state. On the other hand, the African system of education emphasized practicality, social solidarity, equal opportunity for all, homogeneity with culture, and religious focus. The damage by the colonial intervention and indoctrination in Africa is so entrenched that the status quo of the colonial interests is still perpetuated indirectly by Africa’s pseudo elites.

Africans have been in denial that western religion and education did not have calamitous effects on the psyche of Africans. Conversely, this western academic system and religion should be challenged and questioned for its practicality and the sustainability of Africa’s development for the 21st century.

Finally, the task for Africa is to collaborate with the academic and indigenous religious communities to research, document, and compile her religiously authoritative texts in a refined form – books, just like other religious books.

Likewise, the academic system should be redefined and reformed, to transform the learning experience that will incorporate a holistic perspective of Africa in terms of culture, history, language, religion, cultural space, and the people into consideration.

Then, Africa will wake up with a renewed consciousness, a long-overdue rebirth in cultures, education, history, languages, and the religions of Africa.

Africa, the motherland of humanity, a gift to the world that keeps giving, and it should be respected honorably by the comity of nations, no matter her state of affairs.

God Bless Africa!

Dr. Bamidele Adeoye
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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

LNP, NIR and LIS summoned

By Bridgett Milton

The House of Representatives has summoned the Liberia National Police (LNP), Liberia Immigration Service (LIS) and the Executive Director at the National Identification Registry (NIR)

alleged printing of ID cards that allegedly involves the IT operators at NIR.

Plenary took the decision to invite the LNP, LIS and NIR following a communication from Montserrado County Electoral District #2 Representative Jimmy W.

Liberia National Identification card at a compound name and styled Masco Clinic and Strong FM Radio station in the Double Bridge community, Jacob Town in Paynesville.

The lawmaker says there is no report from the police concerning this matter up to present.

He says evidences gathered from the compound by the LNP, some of which are available and could be shown in plenary if necessary, show the confiscation of items.

According to Rep. Smith, items confiscated by the police were an NIR machine assigned to Margibi County that was criminally brought in the compound by an employee of NIR.

He says multiples ID cards that were printed were found in the possession of one suspect Foday Kenneh, the IT Enrollment Operator at NIR.

Rep. Smith concludes that this act is intended to subvert the sanctity of the citizenship and democracy which is a felony, a serious capital offense that undermines confidence in the entire NIR process.--*Edited by Winston W. Parley*



to show cause why Liberians should have confidence in the NIR.

The three entities are due to appear in executive session on Thursday, 9 October following a concern raised against the discovery of

Smith.

According to Representative Smith, his request to invite those entities is based on an alleged syndicate that was discovered on 26 September regarding the alleged fraudulent printing of the

Tarpeh seeks teamwork at EPA

Former Minister of Commerce and Industry, Professor Wilson K. Tarpeh, who was recently transferred to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by President George M. Weah as executive director, has taken office,

while those who have issues to contact him first before seeking help from outside.

He said anyone taking gossip to him must be prepared to provide evidence because "it destroys institution". "Gossip is wrong. It's dangerous and people who promote it lack

their duties without interference.

The new EPA boss said although he has a background in Finance, he is of the conviction that technical entities like the EPA are easy to manage if technicians are allowed to do their work,



Prof. Tarpeh addresses staff of the Environmental Protection Agency

calling for teamwork among employees of the EPA.

"Let's work as a team. Forget politics. Leave the politics with me," he urged the employees.

Prof. Tarpeh cautioned the employees against disrespecting one another,

self-confidence." Prof. Tarpeh said.

Speaking at a senior management meeting following a brief turningover ceremony on Monday, 5 October he assured that technicians and scientists working at the EPA would be allowed to discharge

promising to use his over 35 years of experience both in the public and private sector to enhance the entity's operation.

Meanwhile, Prof. Tarpeh has lauded EPA deputy

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

ECOWAS lifts sanctions on Mali

The Heads of States and Government of the Economic Community of West African States or ECOWAS announces the lifting of sanctions imposed on the Republic of Mali following the 18 August 2020 military takeover in that country, which led to the arrest and detention of President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita and some members of his government.

The Heads of States and Government, under the chairmanship of Ghanaian President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, reached the decision in a Declaration dated 5th October 2020, calling for immediate release of former officials that were arrested, including military officers.

taking into account other Decisions of the Heads of States and Government was received by ECOWAS on 1st October 2020, which include the responsibility of the Vice-President of the Transition, responsible for security and defense; the remove of the provision whereby the Vice-President can replace the President of the Transition, and that the transitional period should last for 18 months.

"Once a civilian-led transition is put in place, ECOWAS will support the Republic of Mali towards the restoration of constitutional order, in line with its relevant Protocol."

The Declaration recalls that in conformity with Provisions of ECOWAS Protocol on Democracy and Governance of



ECOWAS Chair, Ghana Pres. Nana Akufo-Addo

At the same time ECOWAS calls for immediate dissolution of the National Committee for the Salvation of the People (NCSP) the military junta that executed the Coup d'Etat, which ousted the government of President Keita.

ECOWAS also welcomes the recent nomination and swearing-in of Mr. Bah N'Daw as a civilian President and Mr. Moctar Ouane as Prime Minister, respectively of the Transition.

"The nomination of the President and the Prime Minister of the Transition should lead to the formation of the government", the Declaration reads.

Besides, it notes that the Charter of the Transition published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Mali

2001, the Head of States and Government took important decisions during Extraordinary Summits on 20 and 28 August and noted that the Coup d'Etat occurred in the context of a social-political crisis after the parliamentary elections of March/April 2020, which took the form of violent protests organized by some political parties, civil society actors and religious groups.

"The Heads of State and Government requested the immediate release of H.E. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita and wished him well as he left the country", the Declaration says, while congratulating Mediator, former president Jonathan Goodluck of Nigeria for progress achieved in the political normalization in Mali. ECOWAS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Liberia, 27 other world poorest get IMF aid

Liberia has been listed among 27 other world poorest countries for an emergency aid approved by the International Monetary Fund on Monday to help them alleviate their debt and

for the next six months and "free up scarce financial resources for vital emergency medical and other relief efforts" during the pandemic.

The rest of the 28 countries receiving the second tranche of aid are Afghanistan, Benin,

Principe, Sierra Leone, the Solomon Islands, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Togo and Yemen.

Mali is also eligible for aid but has not yet been added to the list because "there is a lack of clarity as to whether the international community recognizes/deals with the current military regime as the government of Mali," the IMF said.

The debt relief is channeled through the Catastrophe Containment and Relief Trust (CCRT), which enables the IMF to provide grants to the poorest and most vulnerable countries hit by a natural disaster or public health crisis.

Subject to sufficient resources in the CCRT, grants could be provided for a two-year period through mid-April 2022 for an estimated total amount of \$959 million.

The IMF's goal is to endow the CCRT with \$1.4 billion so that it can also meet future needs.

To date, \$506.5 million has been contributed by several countries, including the United Kingdom, Japan, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Norway, China, Mexico, Sweden, Bulgaria, Luxembourg and Malta.



IMF Chief, Kristalina Georgieva

better cope with the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

The announcement follows a similar measure passed in mid-April for 25 countries. It is intended to help the countries cover their debt repayments to the IMF

Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and

Mental Health Network trains journalists

By Ethel A. Tweh

Mental Health Reporters Network here in partnership with Last Mile Health under the project "Reporting on COVID-19 Distilling Ep-surveillance for the media" has hosted a two-day workshop in Monrovia for both print and electronic media employees.

Mental Health Reporter and trainer Al-Varney Rogers said the initiative under the auspices of Last Mile Health was conceived to enhance journalists' knowledge on reporting mental health issues especially, during the Coronavirus pandemic.

He said amid the pandemic they are concerned if mentally-ill people have access to drugs, noting that at the government-run E.S. Grant mental home, patients struggle in getting supply regularly, which poses a challenge for them.

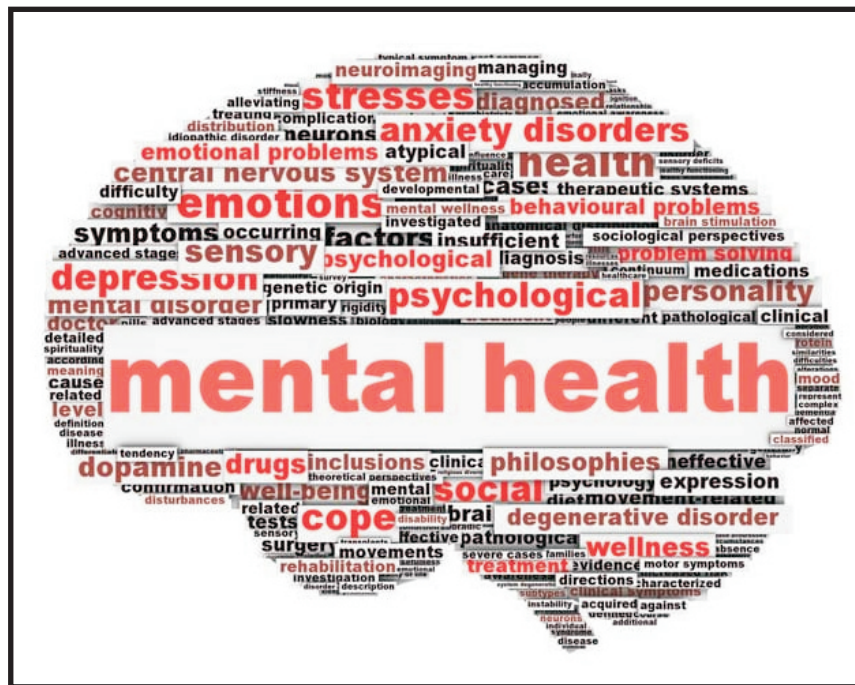
The communication manager at PREVAIL, Hansan Kaiwu, says during epidemics or pandemics and natural disaster, effective risk communication allows

people at risk to adapt protective behavior. He noted that it allows experts to listen to people's concerns and needs to provide pieces of advice that are relevant, trusted and acceptable.

He added that risk communication in every disaster has three phases; preparedness, response and recovery stage, noting that Liberia is still in the response stage, as the country still battles coronavirus, while stressing the need for accurate

and timely information.

A member of the Mental Health network and a facilitator, Zeze Ballah said the Catherine Mills Rehabilitation center is a government-owned facility located in ELWA community that provided care for people living with mental illnesses, but it has now been taken over by squatters, disclosing that since then there has been a case in court by the JFK to get those squatters off, which is proving difficult.



Mental health and epilepsy patients more vulnerable during COVID-19 crisis

The COVID-19 pandemic has created many challenges for mental health and epilepsy patients in Liberia, leading to greater social isolation and disrupting treatment in some cases, experts say.

Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) says it helps treat more than 1,400 people with epilepsy or mental illnesses in collaboration with five health facilities in and around the capital, Monrovia.

In a press release issued Tuesday, MSF explains that its clinical program is reinforced by teams of psychosocial workers and volunteers in the communities, promoting mental health services and supporting families in caring for patients. Many activities were disrupted, however,

home visits to more than 30 patients with severe conditions who could not come to health facilities.

"We are finding too many cases when patients went off treatment and relapsed while we could not see them," said Emmanuel Ballah, MSF mental health supervisor. "People who left the city because of COVID-19 initially could not return because of travel restrictions, while others did not have cell phones for us to reach them, so they could not pick up their medications when we organized a monthly distribution."

People with disorders as varied as epilepsy, depression or schizophrenia are at greater risk of harm when treatment is not available. Even before COVID-19, the World Health Organization found that three out of four people with a



after COVID-19 appeared in Liberia in March.

"We had to work differently to protect staff and patients because of the risks of COVID-19," said Justine Hallard, MSF mental health project coordinator. "Instead of seeing patients in homes and health facilities, we started giving consultations to most of our patients by phone and distributing medications each month outside."

Confirmed COVID-19 infections peaked in June, although testing remains limited. After a nationwide lockdown, the government lifted a series of restrictions, and MSF-supported health facilities resumed in-person care for most mental health patients in July and August. An additional 140 patients enrolled in treatment, while an MSF team began making

mental or neurological disorder did not receive medical treatment in low-income countries such as Liberia, which often leads to uncontrolled symptoms and exclusion from schools and workplaces. The appropriate medications are often not available in Liberia, even in the country's only psychiatric hospital. This is especially true this year, as COVID-19 has affected the overall Liberian economy, as well as medical supplies and services.

In Liberia, a leading cause of death among epilepsy patients is drowning caused by uncontrolled seizures while bathing or drawing water from a river. Others may suffer from inadequate care by their family members in times of increased hardship, isolation

Français

« La police libérienne a compromis la scène du crime », le Colonel Patrick T. Sudue

Des agents de la police nationale du Libéria (LNP) ont compromis la scène du crime de deux employés de la LRA (Liberia Revenue Authority) retrouvés morts tôt vendredi matin dans un véhicule garé à Snapper Hill, Broad Street à Monrovia, à en croire l'inspecteur général de la police, Patrick Sudue.

Lorsque le colonel Sudue est apparu lundi pour animer

un point de presse au siège de la police nationale concernant la mort d'Albert Peters et de Gifty Lama, les journalistes pensaient que la police était en possession d'une piste.

Mais malheureusement, répondant à la question d'un journaliste de savoir pourquoi les policiers ont conduit la voiture dans laquelle les corps des deux employés de la LRA ont été trouvés au lieu de la remorquer ou de la soulever de

la scène pour protéger les preuves, le colonel Sudue a répondu de manière décevante : « C'est ce que nous appelons la contamination de la scène du crime.

Il reste à savoir si les circonstances de la mort des victimes Albert K. Peters, auditeur interne de la LRA et Gifty A. Lamah, chercheuse à

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



The late Albert K. Peters

The vehicle in which the bodies were discovered

The late Mrs. Gifty A. Lamah

L'actrice ghanéenne Jackie Appiah serait enceinte du Président Libérien George Weah !

Selon une blogueuse très connue, la top actrice ghanéenne Jackie Appiah serait enceinte d'un président africain.

Cette révélation a été faite par une blogueuse Instagram populaire aba_the_great1. Cependant, avant cette révélation, il y

avait des rumeurs selon lesquelles Jackie Appiah est dans une relation amoureuse avec le président libérien, George Weah.

La blogueuse ghanéenne «Aba The Great» a révélé sur sa page de médias sociaux que l'actrice est enceinte dudit président, ce qui a déclenché

une nouvelle vague de commentaires. George MannehOppong Weah est l'actuel président du Liberia et un ancien footballeur professionnel.

L'actrice a félicité George Oppong Weah il y a quelque temps après avoir remporté les élections présidentielles de son pays et ce geste selon de nombreux internautes atteste l'allégation selon laquelle l'actrice serait «la femme» de Weah.

Cependant, durant le week end lors d'un événement, Jackie Appiah a démenti ces rumeurs. Selon elle, elle ne répond pas à de ragots inutiles et n'y prêtera aucune attention, ajoutant que ses fans devraient ignorer toutes ces rumeurs.

Elle a déclaré au blogueur Sammy Kay: «Veuillez ignorer toutes les rumeurs, ce n'est pas vrai, je n'entends pas de rumeurs inutiles, est-ce que je ressemble à une femme enceinte ici? Veuillez ignorer les rumeurs ... Je vous aime tous ... ignorez



Orange CEO, Mr. Mamadou Coulibaly

Pres.

Éditorial

Les Libériens ont-ils de quoi à vivre dans la peur ?

L'inspecteur général de la police libérienne, le colonel Patrick T. Sudue, vient d'avouer que des agents de la police nationale du Libéria (LNP) ont compromis la scène du crime de deux employés de la LRA (Liberia Revenue Authority) retrouvés morts tôt vendredi matin dans un véhicule garé à Snapper Hill, Broad Street, Monrovia.

Cet aveu est si inquiétant qu'il semble légitime de se poser la question de savoir si nous sommes vraiment en sécurité dans ce pays, d'autant plus cela met en péril une enquête plus approfondie sur la mort mystérieuse de deux citoyens, qui servaient avec diligence la patrie jusqu'à leur disparition suspecte.

Toute la nation est maintenant désespérée et doute que les meurtriers seront un jour connus et appréhendés. Pire, il semble impossible d'en savoir plus sur les circonstances qui ont conduit à leur mort.

La Police nationale libérienne nous a trop déçus en commettant une telle erreur sur un crime majeur qui a mis les Libériens dans un état de choc au point de n'avoir aucune énergie d'en parler, étant littéralement hypnotisés par un sentiment d'insécurité dans notre société.

Lorsque le colonel Sudue est apparu lors d'une conférence de presse au siège de la police nationale à Monrovia le lundi 5 octobre avec une feuille volante pour s'adresser au public concernant la mort d'Albert Peters et de Gifty Lama, les journalistes avaient pensé que la police était en possession d'une piste.

Cependant, répondant à la question d'un journaliste de savoir pourquoi les policiers ont conduit la voiture dans laquelle les corps des deux employés de la LRA ont été trouvés au lieu de la remorquer ou de la soulever de la scène pour protéger les preuves, le colonel Sudue a répondu de manière décevante : « C'est ce que nous appelons la contamination de la scène du crime.

« Écoutez, je dois dire publiquement qu'il y a eu des erreurs sur la scène du crime, mais ces erreurs sur la scène du crime n'étaient pas significatives quant à la destruction des preuves que nous avons... »

Les Libériens craignent, à juste titre, que ce mystérieux cas de mort ne soit jamais porté devant les tribunaux ou même s'il y avait des accusations formelles, des suspects ou des suspects probables pourraient trouver une voie de fuite dans le cadre de la loi et s'éloigner à cause de cette soi-disant « contamination de la scène de crime. »

La gestion par l'État des morts mystérieuses et suspectes précédentes avait laissé beaucoup à désirer et les citoyens semblent se méfier du système qui devrait garantir leur sécurité à tout moment.

Il est grand temps que la police et l'ensemble de l'appareil de sécurité nationale fassent preuve de professionnalisme lors d'incidents entraînant des pertes en vies humaines. Les Libériens n'attendent rien de moins car leurs impôts paient pour ces services.

Nous ne pouvons qu'espérer que les circonstances qui ont conduit à la mort mystérieuse de ces deux fonctionnaires seront établies par les autorités compétentes, en particulier la police, afin que les auteurs de ce crime crapuleux soient traduits en justice et que les membres des familles endeuillées puissent faire confiance au système pour la paix et le bien-être social.

Français

« La police libérienne a compromis

la LRA seront élucidées à l'allure où vont les choses.

Le colonel Suduen'avait qu'une feuille volante pour s'adresser au public concernant la mort d'Albert et de Gifty dans le cadre d'une conférence de presse au siège de la police nationale du Libéria.

« C'est ce que nous appelons la contamination de la scène du crime. Écoutez, je dois dire publiquement qu'il y a eu des erreurs sur la scène du crime, mais ces erreurs sur la scène du crime n'étaient pas significatives quant à la destruction des preuves que nous avions... », a affirmé M. Sudue. « Ce qui aurait normalement dû se passer, c'est que la personne qui se trouvait à bord aurait dû être extraite, la police aurait dû avoir une ambulance disponible et mettre les gens dans l'ambulance et continuer à rouler », a expliqué le patron de la police libérienne.

A l'entendre, c'est à cause de la foule immense qui s'est rassemblée sur les lieux du crime que la police a commis l'erreur.

« Mais encore une fois, nous avons eu beaucoup de gens là-bas..., regardez, nous

respectons la dignité de tout le monde, il y avait beaucoup de gens là-bas avec des gadgets. Les gens voulaient enregistrer et tout ça. Donc, nous avons jugé nécessaire de simplement laisser les cadavres à bord et de permettre à quelqu'un de conduire le véhicule », a-t-il dit.

Selon lui, les enquêteurs ne voulaient pas mener leur enquête en public. « C'était à cause de cela qu'ils avaient pris la décision de conduire le véhicule à l'hôpital John F. Kennedy (JFK) pour s'assurer que les corps des personnes mortes sont pris en charge ».

Il a fait savoir que la LNP a reçu un appel le 2 octobre indiquant que deux personnes apparemment inconscientes sont à bord d'un véhicule garé en face de la cathédrale catholique à Broad Street.

La police, selon lui, adépêché des agents sur les lieux du crime et transportées victimes à JFK où elles ont été déclarées mortes.

« Les deux corps ont été déposés à la morgue Saint-Moise pour y être conservés. Les enquêteurs mènent une enquête, après quoi un rapport sera transmis au ministère de la Justice pour demander une autopsie si nécessaire ».

Guinée : polémique suite au saccage du siège de l'UFDG à Kankan

Des affrontements se sont produits autour du siège du parti de l'Union des Forces démocratique de Guinée, l'UFDG dimanche à Kankan en Haute-Guinée. Ces heurts ont eu lieu entre militants d'opposition et sympathisants du parti au pouvoir, ces accrochages témoignent d'un climat délétère dans la région.

Les faits se sont produits dimanche, en fin de matinée. Une centaine de sympathisants de l'UFDG sont rassemblés dans le quartier Heremakono pour nettoyer une concession, destinée à abriter le siège du parti.

Mais très vite, des personnes encerclent le terrain. Des jets de pierre fusent de toutes parts. Une trentaine de motos du parti sont saccagées. Des maisons avoisinantes pillées, selon un cadre de l'UFDG, qui déplore au moins 11 militants blessés. Le tout, dans une campagne «

monotone », explique un autre militant.

« Un climat de peur »

« Nous n'avons pas pu faire un seul meeting depuis le début de la campagne à cause des actes d'intimidation don't nous sommes victimes », déplore Abdourahmane Diallo, le secrétaire permanent de l'UFDG à Kankan.

Des faits que conteste le RPG. Les responsables du parti du président Condé affirment ne pas « être au courant » des affrontements de ce dimanche. « Notre consigne à nos militants est d'observer le calme », assure Mamby Camara, le coordonnateur du RPG à Kankan.

« Rien de rassurant pour autant, commente un responsable politique, membre du FNDC local. Ces heurts témoignent d'une campagne tendue, marquée par des discours haineux et qui alimentent un climat de peur ».

COMMENTAIRE

Par Kenneth Rogoff

La Bourse et la pandémie

CAMBRIDGE - Pourquoi la Bourse grimpe-t-elle alors que l'économie réelle reste si fragile ? Une explication est de plus en plus claire : la crise frappe de manière disproportionnée les petites entreprises et les salariés à faible revenu du secteur des services qui jouent un rôle essentiel dans l'économie réelle, mais beaucoup moins dans les marchés boursiers. On peut donner d'autres explications de la hausse de la Bourse, mais chacune a ses limites.

1) Comme la Bourse est tournée vers l'avenir, le cours des actions peut refléter l'optimisme quant à l'arrivée imminente de vaccins efficaces contre le COVID-19, ainsi que de tests bien plus performants et de traitements efficaces, ce qui permettrait d'assouplir considérablement les mesures de protection. On ne peut balayer cet argument d'un revers de la manche, mais il se peut que les marchés sous-estiment la probabilité d'une deuxième vague cet hiver et surestiment l'efficacité et l'impact des vaccins de première génération.

2) Explication plus pertinente : les banques centrales ont abaissé les taux d'intérêt à un niveau proche de zéro. Les marchés estimant que ces taux n'augmenteront pas dans un avenir prévisible, le prix des immobilisations tels que les maisons, l'art, l'or et même les bitcoins a été poussé à la hausse. Et les revenus des entreprises technologiques étant orientés vers le long terme, elles ont bénéficié plus que d'autres de la faiblesse des taux d'intérêt.

Or les marchés se trompent peut-être en anticipant une prolongation sans fin des taux d'intérêt bas. Les effets négatifs à long terme des taux d'intérêt bas sur l'offre (notamment du fait de la démondialisation) pourraient persister longtemps après la reprise de la demande mondiale.

3) Non seulement les banques centrales fixent des taux d'intérêt ultra bas, mais elles soutiennent directement les marchés obligataires privés (une intervention sans précédent dans le cas de la Réserve fédérale américaine). Il ne faut pas considérer ces achats d'obligations privées comme une mesure monétaire au sens classique du terme. Ils relèvent plutôt de la politique budgétaire, la banque centrale agissant en tant qu'agent du Trésor dans une situation d'urgence.

Cette mesure particulière sera probablement temporaire, même si les banques centrales n'ont pas encore réussi à télégraphier ce fait aux marchés. Malgré une volatilité macroéconomique très élevée et une offre croissante de dettes d'entreprises, les écarts de taux d'intérêt par rapport à ceux la dette publique ont diminué sur de nombreux marchés. Par ailleurs, face à l'ampleur de la récession, le nombre de faillites de grandes entreprises reste très faible.

A moment donné, les marchés renonceront à l'idée que les contribuables payeront indéfiniment. Les banques centrales ne peuvent prendre des risques que jusqu'à un certain point, et la conviction qu'elles ont toujours envie d'en prendre plus pourrait être remise en

question en cas de deuxième vague d'ampleur cet hiver.

Ces trois explications permettent de comprendre au moins en partie pourquoi la Bourse est à la hausse alors que l'économie réelle se dirige vers le sud, mais elles ne prennent pas en compte un élément essentiel : ce ne sont pas les sociétés cotées en Bourse qui subissent l'essentiel de la souffrance économique infligée par le COVID-19, ce sont les petites entreprises et les entreprises individuelles (du nettoyage à sec aux restaurants en passant par le secteur du divertissement) qui ne sont pas cotés en Bourse (contrairement à une grande partie du secteur manufacturier). Ces petits acteurs n'ont tout simplement pas le capital nécessaire pour survivre à un choc de cette durée et de cette ampleur. L'aide publique qui les a aidés à se maintenir à flot pendant un certain temps diminuant peu à peu, il existe le risque d'un effet multiplicateur en cas de deuxième vague.

On verra sans doute certaines faillites de petites entreprises comme partie intégrante de la restructuration économique plus large déclenchée par la pandémie. Mais de nombreuses entreprises viables vont également faire faillite, ce qui laissera les grandes sociétés cotées en Bourse dans une position encore meilleure sur le marché. C'est d'ailleurs une raison supplémentaire de l'euphorie boursière. Il est vrai que certaines grandes entreprises se sont placées sous la protection de la loi sur les faillites, mais hormis ces dernières, la plupart d'entre elles, notamment les petits détaillants, étaient déjà en difficulté avant la pandémie.

Compte tenu de l'ampleur de la récession et du chômage record depuis la guerre (ou des dépenses massives en faveur des travailleurs impactés en Europe), les recettes fiscales n'ont pas diminué autant qu'on pourrait s'y attendre. Cela souligne encore davantage les conséquences inégales de la pandémie, les pertes d'emplois se concentrant essentiellement sur les personnes à faible revenu qui paient peu d'impôts.

Mais la Bourse, même si elle semble florissante, est confrontée à des risques qui ne sont pas seulement économiques, en particulier le risque non négligeable d'une crise politique sans précédent à l'issue de l'élection présidentielle américaine de novembre. Après la crise financière de 2008, les mesures qui semblaient favoriser Wall Street au détriment de l'intérêt général ont suscité un tollé. Cette fois-ci Wall Street sera à nouveau vilipendée, mais la colère populiste se dirigera également contre la Silicon Valley.

Conséquence probable : la fin, voire l'inversion, de la tendance à la baisse des taux d'imposition des sociétés, surtout si le processus actuel de transfert de leurs activités vers les pays à faible fiscalité. Ce ne sera pas bon pour la Bourse, et ce serait une erreur de croire que la réponse populiste s'arrêtera pour autant.

Tant que les valorisations boursières élevées ne s'accompagnent pas d'une reprise économique et sanitaire généralisée, les investisseurs ne devraient pas trop se réjouir de leurs profits démesurés liés à la pandémie. Ce qui monte un jour peut redescendre un autre jour !

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

YMCA Old Timers honor leader

The President of the YMCA Old Timers Basketball Association says rendering humanitarian and sacrificial services to less fortunate and needed Liberians should be the greatest desire of any well-thanking and well-meaning human being on earth.

Mr. Sam Wlue, also Minister of Transport quoted a popular proverb, which says to whom much is given, much is expected, challenging other well-meaning Liberians not to use their God giving resources or worth only for the betterment of themselves and their families but to share with the less-privileged in society.

He gave the challenge Saturday, 3 October 2020 when members of the YMCA Old Timers Basketball Association certificated and gowned him for his humanitarian and sacrificial services rendered the Association under his leadership amid difficulties.

Mr. Wlue said providing humanitarian assistance was his way of sharing to



Mr. Samuel Wlue, President of the Old Timers Basketball Association

demonstrating that people who have little more worth by God's grace can make a change in society by making the best out of what they have by touching and lending little helping hands to others to improve their lives and families.

Certificating and growing Mr. Wlue, two of Liberia's best National Lone Star Basketball Team Veterans Players, Benedict Blackie Sayer and Eric Watts said, the YMCA President has continued to show his able leadership in

steering the affairs of the association even in the wake of

the COVID-19 pandemic in Liberia.

They said had it not been for the capable leadership of the honoree, the YMCA basketball association would have seized to exist in the pandemic.

According to them, said since the outbreak of the Corona Virus, even when it was not fashionable to play basketball in Liberia, Mr. Wlue kept the YMCA Old Timers together through his many humanitarian gestures.

Also making remarks at the jubilant celebration with a cross section of Staff of the Ministry of Transport, Montserrado County district number 16 Representative Dixon Seboe challenged other well-meaning Liberians to see sharing as a positive change for society.

Rep. Sebo said he was inspired by the word "sharing" a little with others spoken by Mr. Wlue.

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River Gee Superintendent ordered to disengage from decision making in radio station conflict

By Bridgett Milton

River Gee County Legislative Caucus has called on the county's Superintendent Philip Nyenuh to disengage from any form of decision-making in the Radio Gee saga and respect the action and decision of the Board of Trustees of the radio station.

The caucus orders that the station return to status quo ante.

Speaking to this paper, the Chairman of the River Gee County Legislative Caucus Representative Francis S. Dopoh of District #3 says the caucus has received series of complaints from citizens of the county and the board of trustees, accusing the superintendent of undue

interference into the day - to - day operations of the radio station.

Dopoh says those complaints were verified based on the caucus' inclination of happenings in the county and Superintendent Nyenuh was advised to recognize the

existence of the Board of Trustees to whom the management team reports periodically and the ownership of the radio by its communities.

He says the action of the superintendent as contained in the complaint of the Board of Trustees of Radio Gee runs contrary to the protection of lives and properties and the protection of free press.

At the same, the River Gee Legislative Caucus in a press release says it recognizes no other authority of Radio Gee other than the station's Board of Trustees, the community and its incorporators. The caucus says going forward, all grievances from employees of Radio Gee should be channeled within the perimeter of the legal process and procedures in reference to the Board of Trustees of the station and its owners.--*Edited by Winston W. Parley*



SECTION I. INVITATION FOR BIDS FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS (101st Graduation Academics) IFB NO.: UL/SP/NCB/002/20/21

September 15, 2020

- The University of Liberia has allotted portion of its Convocation's budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 and intends to apply it towards the procurement of Academics for the 101st Graduating Class, 2020.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures specified in the Public Procurement & Concessions Act (PPCA), 2010 and approved by the Public Procurement & Concessions Commission (PPCC) of the Republic of Liberia.
- Specification and quantity:

ItemNo.	Description	Quantity
LOT # 1	Academics LOT 1- Graduate Programs/Visitor/Professors	Assorted
LOT # 2	Academics LOT 2- Undergraduate Programs	Assorted
- Qualification requirements include:
 - Valid Government of Liberia (GOL) Business Registration with **Code M7410**
 - Valid GOL Tax Clearance
 - Past Performance records including the names and contact numbers of at least 4 clients who had purchased same/similar goods in the last 4 years. They will be used as references to check the performance and quality of the offered model, if necessary.
 - Bank statement for the past three (3) years to present
 - Bids will be examined for proper signature and completeness before consideration for further evaluation.

- A set of bidding documents in English can be obtained by interested bidders for a non-refundable fee **US\$50.00 (Fifty United States Dollars)** from the Procurement Department, Fendall Campus beginning September 15 – October 14, 2020 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday.
- All bids must be accompanied by a Notarized Bid Securing declaration valid for 60 days after the opening of bids.
- Interested Bidders are advised to visit the Procurement Department (see address below) to view samples of the fabrics before submitting bids.
- Sealed bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 2:00 p.m., October 14, 2020 and will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend in the Administrative Conference Room (AC1-01), Right wing of the Administrative Complex, Fendall Campus, University of Liberia. All bids should be addressed as follow:

In the upper left corner of the envelop, print:
"SEALED BID FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF ACADEMICALS"
 LOT#: _____
 REF.: IFB NO.:UL/SP/NCB/002/20/21

Below the bid reference number, print the bidder's address.

In the middle of the envelop, print the address below:

Procurement Department
 Administrative Complex, Right wing, 1st Floor, Room #: AC1-09
 University of Liberia
 Fendall Campus, Liberia

- Note that Electronic bids will not be accepted, and that late bids will be rejected and returned unopened.

Signed: _____
 DIRECTOR/Procurement Dept.

Approved: _____
 ADMINISTRATION

Charles Sirleaf demands payoff

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

Former deputy executive governor of the Central Bank of Liberia, Mr. Charles Sirleaf, who was vindicated of all criminal charges months ago by the court, is demanding payoff from the Liberian government for illegally replacing him at the Bank, while he was battling lawsuit filed against him by the State.

Making the disclosure recently during her

government to make payment in six installments since the country's economy is in recession.

Mr. Charles Sirleaf is one of the sons of ex-President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. He argues that while facing indictment from the government, President George Weah announced Madam Pearson as his successor, creating a situation where he may not return even after a not guilty verdict was declared in his favor by the high court of the

Government of Liberia charged the experienced Liberian banker with economic sabotage in connection with the unlawful printing of excess local currency notes worth millions of dollars.

Four other ex-bank officials were also charged, but two are reportedly on the run. The accused have so far made no comments on the allegations. An independent report into the missing



Pres. George M. Weah

Mr. Charles Sirleaf

confirmation hearings in the senate's conference room at the Capitol, newly appointed deputy executive governor of the CBL, Madam Nyemadi Pearson said, Mr. Sirleaf argues that he was neither dismissed by the government nor his five years tenure service at the Central Bank has ended, but was replaced.

According to her, Mr. Sirleaf is requesting the

land.

He was serving a second term as deputy executive governor of the CBL before his indictment along with others by the Weah administration for alleged involvement in the reportedly missing LRD16 billion saga. He is seeking every available means to engage the authorities for his remaining salaries.

On March 05, 2019, the

millions was released last week.

Mr. Sirleaf, former executive governor Milton Weeks and bank official Dorbor Hagba were charged with economic sabotage, misuse of public money and criminal conspiracy. All other charged except Mr. Sirleaf were released earlier for lack of sufficient evidence.

Charles Gibson

Starts from back page

who was appointed to the Ministry of Justice had previously been suspended from practice by the Supreme Court for allegedly duping his client. President Weah withdrew his nomination on 7 February 2018.

However, the Supreme Court lifted his suspension from the direct and indirect practice of law within the bailiwick of Liberia after restituting an amount he had been held for.

The President's latest appointments of officials affect the Ministries of Commerce and Industry, Labor and the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA) with

immediate effect.

Those appointed by the President on Tuesday, 6 October and are subject to confirmation by the Liberian Senate where applicable include George D. Wolo, Deputy Minister for Commerce, Ministry of Commerce; and Thomas Goba, Deputy Minister for Industry, Ministry of Commerce.

At the Ministry of Labor, Zoe Mensah has been appointed as Assistant Minister for Trade Union Affairs and Liberia Civil Aviation Authority, Mr. Moses Kollie, Director General.

CBL wants more

Starts from back page

with value amounting to L\$1.5 billion dollars.

Executive Governor Tarlue further said the CBL met with commercial banks to inquire about complaints why customers are not being served the L\$500.00 denomination even though the CBL had made available the banknotes. "The CBL will continue to gradually make available the remaining banknotes consistent with cash demands largely by commercial banks," he assured the lawmakers.

On concerns why only series of banknotes was printed, Executive Governor Tarlue further said the L\$500.00 denomination was selected and printed due to budgetary constraints. The cost for printing the L\$500.00 banknotes, he noted, is lower than the printing of smaller denominations.

The Executive Governor informed members of the House that the Bank, through its Board of Governors, is exerting all efforts to sustainably address the liquidity situation. He implored the House to work

with the CBL in expediting the procurement process that would lead to the printing of additional denomination of banknotes.

Executive Governor Tarlue and his team were invited by the House of Representatives to explain why the recently printed L\$500.00 banknotes are not visible in the economy, and the continued supply of mutilated banknotes by commercial banks to customers, despite the printing of L \$4-billion banknotes last July.

The Governor was accompanied to the session by the Deputy Governor for Economic Policy, Dr. Musa Dukuly; the Director for Research, Jefferson S. N. Kambo; and the Director for Regulation & Supervision, Fonsia M. Donzo. Other members of the Governor's team included Mussah A. Kamara, Senior Technical Advisor to the Governor; Bushanda George, Chief of Staff; and the Head of Communications, Cyrus W. Badio.

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Mental health and epilepsy

and uncontrolled symptoms.

"The COVID-19 crisis put patients in an extremely vulnerable situation," Hallard said. "Families have been struggling even more to care for patients at home. We have unfortunately seen 22 deaths in the first nine months of this year among our cohort of patients, after we saw 17 deaths all of last year. These may be due to their medical conditions or to negligence by their caregivers."

The experiences of this year have only underlined the importance of supporting

families and communities in caring for people with mental health and neurological disorders. Following up with patients who stopped treatment prematurely is an urgent priority for MSF's mental health team.

"We recently saw an 11-year-old boy who was suffering from uncontrolled epileptic seizures," said Marieke van Nuenen, MSF's mental health activity manager. "The boy had stopped coming to the clinic in June. His family is very poor and they live in an abandoned

factory in a rural area. As we were talking to his family, he had several seizures and appeared very distressed. He could not walk, was suffering from malnutrition and needed to be hospitalized."

His condition improved with treatment at MSF's pediatric facility in Monrovia, Bardnesville Junction Hospital, but his seizures continued. Through home visits, the MSF team is still adjusting his medication to further reduce his seizures.

"We often need several weeks or sometimes a month or more, to adjust the treatment to prevent seizures," van Nuenen said. "We've been increasing the treatment with the advice of our hospital pediatrician, and the boy is doing better, having fewer seizures. His family is very happy now that they see the medication is working." - Press release

Tarpeh seeks

Cont'd from page 6

executive director Randall M. Dobayou, for managing the affairs of the entity and promised to improve the welfare of staff.

Earlier, Mr. Dobayou welcomed his new boss and thanked the staff, who worked with him while serving as acting executive director to ensure the smooth running of the entity.

Mr. Dobayou lauded President Weah for the

confidence reposed in him to act as executive director of the EPA. He promised to work with Prof. Tarpeh for the smooth running of the institution and recalled that he and the Professor have come a long way.

The transition at the EPA followed the dismissal of Dr. Nathaniel Blama by President Weah for alleged fraud, a charge Dr. Blama has challenged. -Editing by Jonathan Browne

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Charles Gibson resurfaces



Cllr. Charles Gibson

Cllr. Charles Gibson has again been appointed by President George Manneh Weah to head the country's Minister of Labor, more than two years after his first appointment to the Minister of Justice was withdrawn by

the Mr. Weah over allegations of integrity.

Cllr. Gibson was among the first batch of officials appointed by President Weah on 22 January 2018, following his (Weah's) inauguration.

In his latest appointment on Tuesday, 6 October President

Weah again renominated Cllr. Gibson, this time as Labour Minister.

Mr. Weah withdrew Gibson's first nomination as the Liberian Senate delayed his confirmation while reports concerning the nominee's past records circulated overwhelmingly.

When contacted for clarity on Tuesday, 6 October, Deputy Presidential Press Secretary Mr. Smith Toby indicated that the new appointee for the post of Labor Minister is the same Cllr. Charles Gibson that was earlier appointed for the post of Justice Minister.

"I think the first one they sent to Justice, you remember that time, yes, not the one to LEC [Liberia Electricity Corporation]," Mr. Toby says in response to this paper's inquiry on which of the Cllr. Charles Gibson had been appointed to head the Labor Ministry.

The Cllr. Charles Gibson

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CBL wants more money printed

The Executive Governor of the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL), Hon. J. Aloysius Tarlue, Jr., has said that unless additional Liberian dollar banknotes are printed, the country will continue to experience a rapid increase in the mutilation of existing banknotes. The lifespan of the enhanced and legacy banknotes, the CBL Executive Governor noted is three years, hence the need to print

additional banknotes.

Speaking recently during an Executive Session at the House of Representatives, Executive Governor Tarlue said, "central banks in many countries have their own currency in surplus to timely replace mutilated banknotes, but Liberia doesn't. The CBL would therefore work with other relevant authorities of the Government to sustainably handle this problem."

According to a press release,



the CBL Executive Governor disclosed that the L\$4-billion banknotes recently secured by the CBL in July was only intended to ease the liquidity pressure for the Independence festive season, henceforth, inadequate to address future liquidity needs of the country. He said about 37-percent have been infused into the economy, mainly through commercial banks,

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