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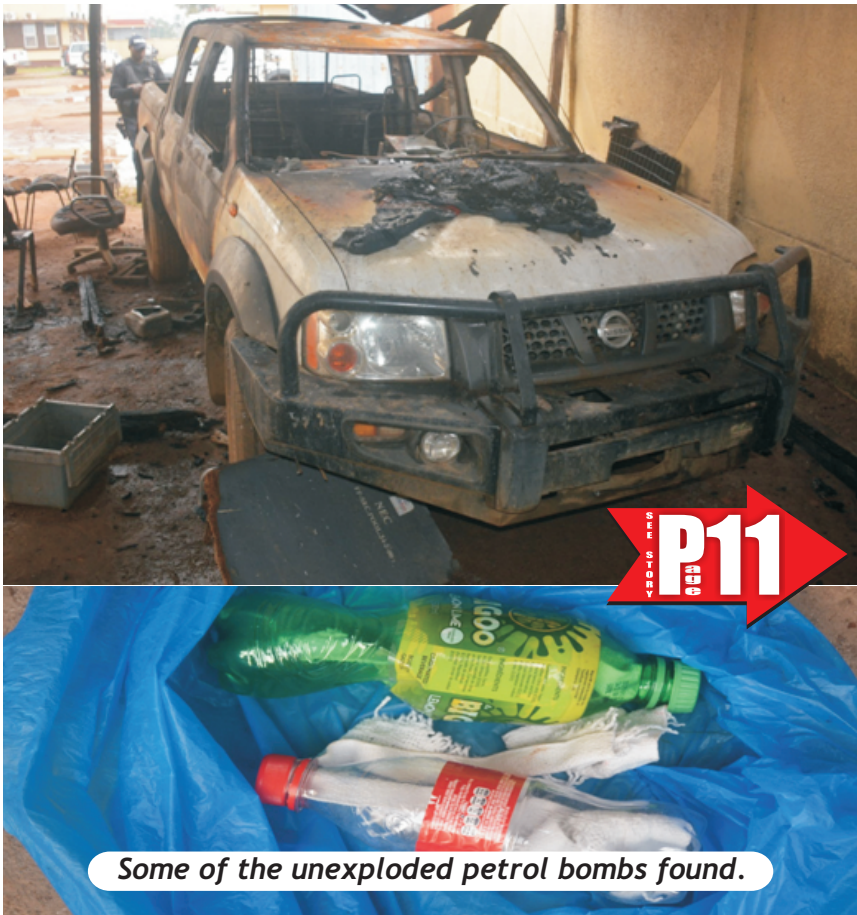
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Election house suffers arson attacks

-Amidst electoral disputes

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Continental News

Mozambique militants 'beheading children'

Aid agency Save the Children says Islamist militants are beheading children as young as 11 in Mozambique's northern province of Cabo Delgado.

One mother told the agency she had had to watch as her 12-year-old son was killed in this way close to where she was hiding with her

other children.

More than 2,500 people have been killed and 700,000 have fled their homes since an Islamist insurgency began in 2017. The militants have pledged allegiance to the Islamic State (IS) group.

In its report, Save the Children said it had spoken to displaced families who reported gruesome scenes in the gas-rich

province. One mother, whose name was withheld to protect her identity, said her eldest child had been beheaded near where she and her other children were hiding. "That night our village was attacked and houses were burned," she said. "When it all started, I was at home with my four children. We tried to escape to the woods but they took my eldest son and beheaded him. We couldn't do anything because we would be killed too."

Another woman said her son had been killed by militants while she and her other three children had been forced to flee. "After my 11-year-old son was killed, we understood that it was no longer safe to stay in my village," she said. "We fled to my father's house in another village, but a few days later the attacks started there too."

Chance Briggs, Save the Children's country director in Mozambique, said the reports of attacks on children "sicken us to our core". "Our staff have been brought to tears when hearing the stories of suffering told by mothers in displacement camps," he said. The United Nations special rapporteur on extrajudicial executions described the militants' actions as "cruel beyond words". The insurgents are known locally as al-Shabab, which means The Youth in Arabic. This reflects that it receives its support mostly from young unemployed people in the

predominantly Muslim region of Cabo Delgado. A group with a similar name has existed in Somalia for more than a decade. It is affiliated to al-Qaeda, unlike the Mozambican group which allied itself with the rival IS movement in 2019.

IS sees the insurgents as being part of what it calls its Central Africa Province. It released images last year showing fighters in Cabo Delgado with AK-47 rifles and rocket propelled grenades.

This alarmed counter-terrorism experts, as it suggested that global jihadists were exploiting a local insurgency for their own gains. Some analysts believe the insurgency's roots lay in socio-economic grievances, with many locals complaining that they have benefited little from the province's ruby and gas industries.

In a video last year, one militant leader said: "We occupy [the towns] to show that the government of the day is unfair. BBC



This couple fled their village after their oldest son was beheaded by jihadists

Headteacher 'made pupil dig in poo for lost phone'

A South African headmaster has been suspended over accusations he forced an 11-year-old boy to dig for a missing phone in a faeces-filled pit latrine.

He is alleged to have lowered the child by a rope into the hole used for a toilet, promising him 200 rand (\$14; £10). The boy's grandmother says he now fears going to

school as other pupils mocked him afterwards.

The local education body told TimesLive it learned of the matter with "shame".

Pit latrines are common in South Africa, where it was estimated last year that a sixth of all schools still use them, despite their dangers. The headteacher in question at Luthuthu Junior Secondary School is now being investigated

by the Eastern Cape department pending further action.

It is alleged he also encouraged other children to help retrieve the phone, which is understood to have been accidentally dropped into the staff pit toilet at the beginning of March.

Local media say the alleged incident came to light when a local NGO that works to promote school attendance heard about the incident.

Petros Majola, from Khula Community Development Project, posted a video that has gone viral, describing the incident in Xhosa, saying the hunt for the phone went on for an hour. After students had used buckets to remove some of the waste, Mr Majola is quoted as saying that boy was then lowered in until he was "knee-deep in the faeces".

"He used his own hands to search for the phone, with faeces going even above his hands and to his elbow."

According to News24, when the phone was not found, the headmaster gave the child 50 rand for his

Ghana grieves for group of teenagers who died at sea



Mourners gathered at the mass funeral on Tuesday

A mass funeral has been held for 13 teenagers whose bodies were found off the coast of Ghana just over a week ago. Twenty teenagers are believed never to have returned after going swimming off Apam beach in southern Ghana. Seven bodies have not been found.

Twelve out of the 13 children were buried on Tuesday, as one of the teenagers was buried on

Thursday because their body was badly decomposed.

Two teenagers survived the incident.

It's a tragedy on a scale the fishing community in Apam has never witnessed.

Ghana's coastline is notoriously dangerous because rip currents in the Gulf of Guinea are very strong, but this tragedy is a stark reminder for authorities to reconsider safety measures along the coast. BBC



The government has pledged to get rid of all pit latrines in state schools

efforts.

The boy's grandmother, who has not been named, told local media that her grandson felt ashamed after his

ordeal. In 2018, the government pledged to get rid of all pit latrines in state schools within two years after a five-year-old pupil drowned in one. BBC

EDITORIAL

Attack on NEC is an attack on democracy

MONDAY'S (MARCH 15) PETROL bomb attacks on the headquarters of the National Elections in Monrovia is a clear declaration of war on democracy in Liberia, and should be condemned by all who subscribes to rule of law and pluralistic democratic practices. They happened at a time when the nation just came from midterm senatorial election held in December 2020.

POLICE ARE CARRYING on investigation but we believe strongly that these attacks were carried out with motives. Whatever those motives are, they do not serve the common good of the country. Liberians should not forget that political violence in any form such as the one against the National Elections Commission sends out wrong messages with far-reaching consequences. It must be condemned by all peace-loving Liberians irrespective of sides.

WHAT WOULD LEAD a group or individuals to launch petrol bombs against the electoral house without any reason? Let those actors be told in no uncertain terms that violence would not give them what they did not get or cannot get at the ballot box.

POLITICIANS AND THEIR supporters should learn from the late Cllr. Charles Walker Brumskine that the way to get doubts on electoral matters cleared is by challenging the process in court, rather than resorting to hooliganism. The late founder of the opposition Liberty Party took his concerns before the law after the first round of the 2017 presidential election and got redress from the highest court of the land.

SADLY, SOME UNSCRUPULOUS buffoons believe they can take the law into their own hands to satisfy their selfish desires at the detriment of the entire population. This is unacceptable!

THEY WANT TO take Liberia back to the dark days, which it has not fully recovered from. The economy is in shambles with scarcity of cash exacerbated by serious insecurity. In such an environment, people are throwing petrol bombs at a key public institution. What do they hope to achieve?

THOSE BEHIND MONDAY'S attacks should rethink if this is the way they want us to proceed as a people. No one Liberian's desire should take paramount over the whole nation. The action can be equated to nothing else but terrorism! It is too unfortunate.

THE GOVERNMENT NEEDS to put its feet down firmly. Lawlessness and insecurity is gradually taking over our society. It must be nipped in the bulb immediately before it becomes too late.

THE MINISTRY OF Justice along with the Joint Security should leave no stone unturned in expeditiously bringing perpetrators to book to avoid a recurrence of the action that poses serious threat to national security and the already tumbling economy.

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

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COMMENTARY

By Giulio Boccaletti

Climate Constitutionalism

LONDON - In January, the Netherlands hosted a digital Climate Adaptation Summit where representatives of governments from around the world discussed their post-pandemic recovery plans. To take advantage of remarkably cheap public finance, many emphasized state-directed investments in green infrastructure to promote climate adaptation and stimulate the economy.

Given the increasing evidence that unavoidable shifts in the climate system are already underway, this focus on adaptation should be applauded. But the constitutional implications of increased state interventionism should not be underestimated. Any time a state promises to wield power on a society-wide scale - in this case, to climate-proof the entire economy - the sources and scope of its legitimacy will be hotly debated.

In many countries' courts, they already are. In 2015, Urgenda, a nongovernmental organization, sued the Dutch government on the grounds that it had failed to protect the Dutch people from the heightened risk that climate change poses to low-lying countries. The implication was that a failure to meet national emissions-reduction targets constitutes evidence of state negligence. In 2019, the Supreme Court in The Hague agreed; ruling in Urgenda's favor, it compelled the state to pursue larger emissions cuts.

Though the Urgenda case was initially framed as an application of tort law, it ultimately hinged on the obligations of the Dutch state under the European Convention on Human Rights. And because the focus shifted to risks experienced by the entire population, it became a constitutional issue. The Supreme Court's decision cast the effects of climate change (projected by the science) as an infringement on human rights, and thus ruled that the state has a duty to act. Presumably, the same duty that applies to climate mitigation (emissions cuts) will also apply to investments in adaptation.

Nonetheless, systematic climate adaptation implies a transformation of the physical landscape on a scale that is certain to provoke pushback. In the early twentieth century, the human population tripled with the shift from rural, agricultural societies to urban consumer economies. As a result, expectations changed. A wealthier, enfranchised population could no longer tolerate risks (namely, floods and droughts) that previously had been an accepted part of life.

When the Great Depression arrived, governments responded with infrastructure-led modernization programs designed to control an unruly environment and prevent it from threatening economic growth and stability. The proliferation of dams, embankments, and canals amounted to an extraordinary display of sovereignty. The essence of this technocratic crusade against economic insecurity was similar to what some would like to see in the state's response to climate change today.

In the United States, the Tennessee Valley Authority became the archetype of state-led modernization. Wielding extraordinary executive power as a federally owned corporation, the TVA could expropriate land in the name of the public interest and command substantial federal resources. Yet despite its

success in transforming one of the poorest regions of the US, the TVA faced such strong opposition from those who saw it as federal overreach that no project of its kind has been replicated in the US. Indeed, the response to the TVA sowed the seeds of an anti-infrastructure, anti-dam movement that swept the world in the second half of the twentieth century.

Without a shared understanding of where individual rights end and collective responsibility begins, any systematic transformation of the landscape will be an uphill battle, whatever the intent. Climate-adaption projects cannot become a staple of public policy if they are merely technocratic in nature. Rather, they must embody a new contract between the state and its citizens. There must be a constitutional arrangement that defines the risks a society is willing to endure, and that sets a threshold for taking collective action against intolerable threats.

Because modern constitutionalism developed alongside smallpox and yellow fever crises, public health offers a helpful analogy for how such arrangements arise. In its 1905 decision in *Jacobson v. Massachusetts*, the US Supreme Court ruled that a community's right to protect itself against a deadly epidemic allowed it to take action against individuals who refused to be vaccinated against smallpox - including by legislating compulsory inoculation.

In most democracies since then, a century of judicial review has produced a large body of constitutional doctrines conferring legitimacy on state policies to manage public health. These prerogatives have been on full display during the COVID-19 pandemic: government-ordered lockdowns have curtailed individual freedoms in ways that rarely happen without trial.

Citizens have largely accepted these interventions not just because of past jurisprudence, but because of all the social and political history that the legal system has metabolized to get to where it is today. We are the beneficiaries of decades of debate on the importance of public health; of large bodies of epidemiological data, which have won the confidence of both courts and politicians; and of huge investments in a complex web of institutions - government agencies, universities, regulators - that have built trust over time. These and other factors have helped citizens converge on a set of principles making public health a top collective priority.

Humanity has now reached the critical juncture where climate change is acquiring normative value. The evidence justifying concerted state action continues to grow. But while climate adaptation is as urgent and salient an imperative as public health, it has yet to gain the same level of broad-based acceptance.

For climate policy to become more than a technocratic project, governments will need to invest not just in infrastructure and land-use changes, but also in intellectual capital, regulatory institutions, research, and education. Now is the time to drive public engagement in the debates that will define the boundaries between individual rights and collective responsibility in the era of climate change. Insofar as limits on the exercise of state power are the bedrock of modern constitutionalism, the societal embrace of climate adaptation represents a significant constitutional moment.

OPINION

By Katharina Pistor

Green Markets Won't Save Us

NEW YORK - How can one make wise decisions about a perpetually unknowable future? This question is as old as humankind, but it has become existential in light of climate change. Although there is sufficient evidence that anthropogenic climate change is already here, we cannot possibly know all the ways that it will ramify in the coming decades. All we know is that we must either reduce our environmental footprint or risk another global crisis on the scale of the "little ice age" in the seventeenth century, when climatic changes led to widespread disease, rebellion, war, and mass starvation, cutting short the lives of two-thirds of the global population.

The British economist John Maynard Keynes famously argued that investors are driven ultimately by "animal spirits." In the face of uncertainty, people act on gut feelings, not "a weighted average of quantitative benefits multiplied by quantitative probabilities," and it is these instinct-driven bets that may (or may not) pay off after the dust settles. And yet policymakers would have us trust animal spirits to help us overcome the uncertainty associated with climate change.

Humanity has long sought to reduce uncertainty by making the natural world more legible, and thus subject to its control. For centuries, natural scientists have mapped the world, created taxonomies of plants and animals, and (more recently) sequenced the genomes of many species in the hope of discovering treatments against all imaginable maladies.

What maps, taxonomies, and sequences are to chemists and biologists, numbers and indicators are to social scientists. Prices, for example, signal the market value of goods and services, and the expected future value of financial assets. If investors have largely ignored certain assets, the reason might be that they were improperly measured or priced.

With the realities of climate change becoming increasingly apparent, major efforts are underway to identify and label "green investments." But as the appeal of such assets has grown, so has the problem of greenwashing - when investments are fraudulently labeled "green" or "ESG" (environmental, social, and governance) on the basis of some vague or meaningless benchmark.

Here, the latest gimmick is to "go green" by purchasing offsets against one's "brown" holdings, rather than actually divesting from them. Similarly, the European Union's new regulation on "sustainability-related disclosures in the financial services sector" looks like yet another attempt to address climate change without actually paying the full bill for it. Under the law, all financial market participants must publicly disclose their strategies for managing climate risk and their methodologies for labeling an asset sustainable, and financial-market authorities must do more to coordinate their supervisory efforts. But nowhere is there any word about liability or sanctions.

At the same time, big asset managers have been calling for more standardization, arguing that rational pricing is too difficult under today's alphabet soup of competing indicators. Clear, objective numbers convey certainty and transform complex tradeoffs into a simple calculus. Because the price mechanism allows apples to be compared to oranges, it follows that green assets should be comparable to brown. The more prices there are, the greater the role that markets can play as the ultimate decision-maker. With humanity's fate in the balance, politicians can wash their hands of the problem.

But the problem won't go away, because standard metrics and indicators do not merely increase legibility; they also mask underlying complexities. They do not only capture and organize information; they also alter behavior, exerting performative effects in light of the types of information that are included or excluded. Judging by the current excitement surrounding green investing, it is these effects that most financial-market participants are chasing.

Moreover, we cannot trust that changes we make to social systems will yield the expected results. Recall the fate of Long-Term Capital Management, the Nobel laureate-run hedge fund that tanked in 1998 after its animal spirits collided with the real world. LTCM placed huge bets on its prediction that global sovereign-debt prices would converge. But then Russia defaulted, creating spillover effects across emerging markets and driving sovereign-debt prices even further apart.

At the heart of this failure was the option-pricing model, which had been billed as the solution to volatility-driven uncertainty. By purporting to make option prices more predictable, it created a huge market for options and other derivatives. The sociologist Donald MacKenzie's book on this period was aptly titled *An Engine, Not a Camera*. Although the option-pricing formula drove behavior, it did not capture reality, because it failed to account for liquidity - finance's lifeline.

Nature is even less forgiving than a social system like the market, where a state or central bank can come to the rescue. Earth will not bail us out when things go wrong. By relying merely on disclosures and the price mechanism to deal with climate change, we are placing a huge bet on the basis of measurements and indicators that we know to be incomplete, if not outright misleading.

We can devise as many hedges against potential climate-change scenarios as we want, but there is no hedge for a systemic event. Lacking the political will to confront our own behavior, we are simply assuming that climate change can be addressed with a minimally disruptive and financially neutral - or even profitable - update to the current operating system.

The COVID-19 pandemic should have warned us against such hubris. Instead, governments in advanced economies have decided to double down on private property rights and markets, prioritizing pharmaceutical companies' patent protections over requests that they assist global vaccine production by sharing their technology. By denying a waiver under World Trade Organization rules, Big Pharma and its political allies are wagering that the virus will be contained before it can acquire mutations that will render the current vaccines ineffective.

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O-P-E-D

By Robert Skidelsky

Sequencing the Post-COVID Recovery

LONDON - John Maynard Keynes was a staunch champion of US President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal. The road to a civilized future, he wrote, went through Washington, not Moscow - a direct rejoinder to those idealists, including some of his students, who put their faith in communism.

But Keynes was not uncritical of FDR. Specifically, he faulted Roosevelt for mixing up recovery and reform. Recovery from the slump was the first priority; social reforms, "even wise and necessary," might impede recovery by destroying business confidence. Presaging today's debates about post-pandemic economic-policy priorities, Keynes argued that proper sequencing would be the key to the New Deal's success.

The advisers in FDR's "brain trust" were reformers, not Keynesians, and had a different view. Attributing the Great Depression to excessive corporate power, they thought that the route to recovery lay in institutional change. As a result, so-called Keynesian stimulus was a minor component of the New Deal - emergency treatment pending longer-run cures.

Keynes himself repeatedly argued that the New Deal's extra federal spending was insufficient to bring about full recovery. FDR's total stimulus package of \$42 billion - mostly spent in the first three years of his presidency, from 1933-35 - amounted to about 5-6% of US GDP at the time. Keynes, taking a rosy view of the fiscal multiplier, thought it should be double that.

The Nobel laureate economist Paul Krugman said much the same about President Barack Obama's 2009 stimulus of \$787 billion, which came to 5.5% of GDP. On the basis of such uncertain reckonings, President Joe Biden's \$1.9 trillion economic rescue plan, equivalent to 9% of current GDP, seems about right.

Keynes was talking about fiscal stimulus. He was famously skeptical of the monetary stimulus attempted by both President Herbert Hoover in 1932 and FDR in 1933 - now called "unconventional monetary measures," or, more simply, quantitative easing (QE). Then, like now, the goal was to bring about a recovery of prices by printing money.

The most controversial of these schemes, Roosevelt's gold-buying spree, was designed to offset the collapse in commodity prices. As FDR explained in one of his famous fireside chats, higher hog prices meant higher farm wages and buying power. In fact, large-scale gold buying by the US Treasury and the Reconstruction Finance Administration failed to move the price of hogs or anything else.

Keynes's reaction was scathing. Rising prices are an effect of recovery, not a cause of it, he argued, adding that trying to raise output by increasing the quantity of money was like "trying to get fat by buying a larger belt." All that FDR's gold-buying program did was to replace gold hoarding with currency hoarding. And yet economists continually reinvent the wrong wheel. The 2009-16 QE programs embodied the same misguided theory and similarly failed to boost the price level.

Likewise, Keynes criticized those provisions of FDR's National Recovery Administration that tried to engineer recovery by strengthening the position of labor. This, too, he thought, was the wrong way round: the time to saddle business with extra costs was after recovery was secure, not before. And while Keynes never challenged FDR's promise to drive the money changers out of the temple, he must have wondered about how this would affect the confidence of a paralyzed financial system.

Finally, Keynes worried that mixing up recovery and reform was giving FDR's administration "too much to think about all at once." This observation should serve as a warning to those who see in an economic crisis the chance to push all their favorite schemes, regardless of temporal consistency.

Keynes's stress on the importance of proper policy sequencing is highly relevant today. But, as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, the distinction between recovery and reform - and consequently between macro and micro policy and the short and long run - is less clear cut than it seemed to Keynes (and others) in the 1930s.

For starters, full-employment policy is now obviously linked to employability, which was simply not the case in the 1930s. The reason so many people were out of work back then was not that they lacked the skills required by industry, but rather that aggregate demand was insufficient.

Keynes thus wrote in December 1934 that the purpose of the government spending a "small sum of money" was to get "private individuals and corporations to spend a much larger sum." What they spent it on was of no further concern to policymakers.

But in today's age of automation, no government can afford to take such a cavalier attitude to the sustainability of employment. As early as 1930, in fact, Keynes foresaw technological unemployment as a problem that would be outside the scope of demand management.

Since then, the accelerating threat of job redundancy has enlarged what Keynes called the "agenda" of government. In particular, the state must be centrally concerned with the speed of technological innovation, the choice of technologies, and the distribution of the productivity gains that technology enables.

In the coming years, the uncomplicated Keynesian full-employment policy will need to give way not just to a training guarantee, but also to an income guarantee as the character of work changes and the quantity of necessary human labor falls. Sustainable employment may thus be very different from what we now think of as full employment.

Then there is environmental sustainability. Although Keynes understood that the state would need to account for a much larger share of investment, this was mainly a matter of smoothing out fluctuations in the business cycle, not plotting a sustainable ecological future. (Conferences on nutrition always bored him.) He was too much of a liberal, or perhaps simply too much of his time, to believe that the state's agenda should include deliberately shaping the future through its choice of investment and consumption projects.

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ARTICLE

ARTICLE

The Crime: African Americans

By *Bamidele Adeoye, DBA*
Research Consultant & Adjunct Prof.

"In the house of the brave man, there are tears, in the coward's house no one cries"
 – African Proverb

From the desk of Bamidele Adeoye, DBA. June 1996, updated March 2021.

Power leads to arrogance and arrogance leads to fall, it is very dangerous to be powerful and arrogant. Those in power never give it away and admit defeat. They plot and scheme to regain their lost power and privileges, as described by an African proverb.

If humans can accept that the earth is round, although our eyes tell us otherwise, why do some people continue to think of themselves and act as if they are "superior" to people of African descent and others or appearance despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary?

The race concept was an idea that early European scientists coined to categorize differences in appearance in peoples living in other parts of the world distant from their own. The word race began, therefore, as a geographically derived concept. Later, some scientists began to speculate about a hierarchy of capacity or worth associated with various races.

Whether due to error, bias, arrogance, fear of the unknown and or deliberate act of misrepresentation of history, European scientists concluded that their racial group was superior to all others. The notion of European racial superiority furnished a ready excuse or justification for conquest, colonialism, imperialism, and abuse.

In 1831, French historian Alexis de Tocqueville summed up the prevailing European's opinion of Native American Indians (The First Citizens): "Heaven has not made them to become civilized; it is necessary that they die." Albert Sarraut, French Colonial Secretary speech in 1923, stated that at the start, colonization was not an act of civilization, nor was it a desire to civilize. It was an act of force motivated by interests.

Like cancer, the fallacy that skin color is a substitute for talent, character, intelligence, and humanity. Even worse, the misconception that skin color matters, a legitimate distinction among people, signifies a lesser degree of humanity, was created and maintained. Over the years, that fiction became embedded in the social and political structures of the west. It established and nourished sharp limits on the opportunity, and therefore on achievement.

Maponga Joshua III challenged the Europeans to reference God for diversity issues based on the biblical creation stories or myths. Hating skin color is contempt for God's divine creative imagination. Honoring it is the appreciation for conscious, beautiful-love-inspired diversity? T.F. Hodge. While Stephanie Lahart emphatically pronounced that her skin tone is exquisite.

On August 20, 1619, "20 and odd" Angolans, kidnapped by the Portuguese, arrive in the British colony of Virginia and are then bought by English colonists. The arrival of the enslaved Africans in the New World marks the beginning of two and a half centuries of slavery in North America.

Jamestown was founded in 1607; the Virginia Colonist was home to about 700 people by 1619.

The first enslaved Africans landed at Point Comfort, in what is today known as Hampton Roads. Most of their names, as well as the exact number who remained at Point Comfort, have been lost to history, but their journey remained engraved in memory. Slavery, the original sin of America.

The 1807 Act prohibiting the importation of slaves into America did not impede the importation. However, according to smithsonianmag.com, the last known slave ship arrived in America and anchored on July 9, 1860, off Point of Pines in Grand Bay, Mississippi, near the Alabama border.

On July 9, 1860, one hundred and sixty-one years ago, slave traders stole Oluale Kossola (Yoruba name) or Cudjo Lewis (American name) and brutally ripped

the 1807 Act, which banned the importation of slaves. The find revives a story of unspeakable cruelty, but also the story of a people who somehow survived this indignity and many others like it – Richard Fausset (The New York Times).

The historical record shows how white Europeans conquered North America, destroyed the native population, and then built their new nation's economy on the kidnapped Africans turned into chattel, facts that can hardly be refuted. America was founded as a white society with Christian roots. Between 1700 and 1740, an estimated 75 to 80 percent of the population attended churches – Library of Congress.

Forgiveness is God's purpose, initiative, action



Courtesy: School of Arts, Nigeria

him from his homeland, of the Yoruba people in West Africa, along with 109 other Africans, and brought them to Alabama on a ship called Clotilda.

The Clotilda's survivors after the Civil War founded Africatown, a small community just north of Mobile, Alabama. Africatown was a reflection and a reminder of where they were kidnapped and stolen in the new world. They were very adamant about returning home someday – Africa. We call our village Affican Town. We say dat 'cause we want to go back in de Affica soil and we see we cain go. Derefo' we makee de Affica where dey fetch us – Oluale Kossola aka Cudjo Lewis Africatown; Mobile, Alabama.

The last known slave ship was found under a muddy stretch of the Mobile River, a wooden vessel of horrors that brought slaves more than a half-century after the

and gift to humanity, the bedrock of the Christian doctrine of truth, the triune God loves, offers the act of forgiveness, and seeks reconciliation. According to the Christian doctrine, "The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him." "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more ..." "Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more."

There are 44 biblical verses about forgiveness—KJV, the act, and power of forgiveness assuming there is an infraction or sin committed, however, twenty are listed for testimonial.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

LRA Customs turns over cartons of fake refrigerant gas to EPA

The Customs Department of the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA) has turned over twenty-eight (28) cartons of fake Maxron 134a refrigerant gas to the Environmental Protection

BlamoKofa, lauded efforts of the Customs Anti-Smuggling officers for building a strong intelligence network which culminated in the interception of fake Maxron refrigerant gas which was being imported into the country thereby ensuring

ensure the expansion of the revenue base for Liberia” he urged Anti-Smuggling officers”.

He called on members of the business community including importers to move away from importing harmful



A group photo after the presentation of the fake products to the EPA

Agency (EPA) for further scientific testing.

According to the LRA, the refrigerant gas was intercepted at Bo-waterside border post in Grand Cape Mount County by officers of the Customs Anti-Smuggling Unit in late February. The fake product was transported from Guinea through Sierra Leone to Liberia.

Speaking during the turning over ceremony in Paynesville, Assistant Commissioner for Customs Compliance and Enforcement, Atty. D.

goods admitted into the Liberian commerce are safe for public use.

He stated the customs have a duty to protect the Liberian people from harmful products that affect their health, or in this specific case, expose them to risk of fire.

Assistant Commissioner Kofa encouraged the anti-smuggling team to continue applying their professional skills in tracking smugglers who are bent on exploiting the country of lawful revenues.

“Keep being committed to duty in closing leakages to

and fake products into the country, warning, those caught in such act will be dealt with under the laws of Liberia.

The confiscated fake Maxron refrigerant gas was received by Charles H. Dennis and Eugene of the EPA who thanked the LRA for the collaboration and coordination in ensuring a holistic border security. - Press Release

LDEA sends 9 persons to court for drug trafficking

By: Joseph Titus Yekeryan in Bong County

The Liberia Drug Enforcement Agency (LDEA), Bong County Detachment has arrested nine persons allegedly linked to drugs trafficking in the County.

Four persons were earlier arrested with about 216kilogram of marijuana in Totota, lower Bong County while in route to market the drugs. The LDEA Officers made additional five arrests of persons said to be linked to the trafficking.

Barely 24hrs after they were arrested, the LDEA forwarded the suspected traffickers to the Liberia National Police Bong

Detachment which later charged them with drug trafficking and forwarded them to court.

Addressing a news conference Sunday in Gbarnga, LDEA Director of Communications and Public Affairs, Michael Jipply placed the street value of the 216 kilograms of marijuana to over two hundred thousand Liberian Dollars.

He said the LDEA has not slept on any issue of such in the County and that they will continue to be strong in making sure that Bong County becomes an illegal substance-free County.

The LDEA Communications Boss at the same time condemned the recent alleged drug users and hostile

community occupants brutality meted against officers of the agency in the rubber factory community while raiding alleged drug dealers.

He said officers of the LDEA had gone to ride the community following a tipoff from some of the community dwellers that their lives were in danger due to the alleged sale if marijuana but when they reached the community, some of the alleged suspects resisted the offices from checking their business areas.

Jipply described the act as dishonest and said it has the tendency of creating chaos and undermining the fight against illegal narcotic substances across the county.

He also urged inhabitants

Rep. Kolubah cries for development fund

Montserrado County District #10 Representative Yekeh Kolubah has alarmed that the lack of district development funding under President George Manneh Weah presidency is undermining development in the country.

Representative Kolubah noted that since President Weah came to power, District #10 has not received any development fund or scholarship fund.

The Montserrado County Lawmaker spoke over the weekend while addressing members of press on national issues confronting the nation.

According to him, central government continues to tell the Liberian people there is no money, but lamented that

Representative Kolubah disclosed he his has written the Office of President Weah to investigate his Ministers because donors money should be used for the intended purpose in the country rather than certain ministers pocketing said money.

He noted that the Liberian people are suffering amid serious economic challenges, while a Deputy Minister is building duplexes at the expense of the people.

He stressed that President Weah should consider a letter sent to him because tomorrow he will be held accountable for the Liberian people money.

Representative Kolubah said it is about time the President should be concerned about the people business and not allow his ministers to miss use public



Representative Yekeh Kolubah

some government officials are building duplexes across the country while the people live in abject poverty.

He alleged that the Deputy Minister for Fiscal Affairs at the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning is building four duplexes at the same time in his district, and asked, “Where is he getting the money from?”

money.

The lawmaker emphasized that his office will work along with President Weah, but he should be respected as the sitting Representative of District #10 in Montserrado County by having him notified of development projects implemented there.

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to cooperate with the LDEA officers in order to help fight track down drugs traffickers.

He said intensifying their strength at the various ports of entries as security officers is a

national concern with a call to central government for adequate budgetary support which according to him will help beef up their strength.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Liberians don't want liberators

-GOL reacts to PLP chairman Wilmot Paye

By Lewis S. Teh

The Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Information, Cultural Affairs and Tourism or MICAT has sharply reacted to comments attributed to the government by the national chairman of the newly certificated People Liberation Party, Wilmot

government as corrupt and evil people.

"How can you brand this government as corrupt and evil people when you served for 12 years with 16 Billion passing through and your government can't give proper account for that huge money, when there was no free tuition for universities, and colleges, when

your formed a liberation party, than you missed out, because gone are the days where people will liberate this country, we are on course with the tendence of democracy", he added in response to chairman Paye's statement.

According to Deputy Minister Fahgon, Liberia has made significance strides in the fight against corruption, and bad governance and at such, statement by chairman Paye was in the wrong place and at the wrong time, arguing, "we don't need any form, or group that calls themselves liberators, but if they choose to become one then they have to get prepared to bare the consequences that will come after such statement."

Mr. Wilmot Paye, formerly national chairman of the Ex-ruling Unity Party, now chairman of the People's Liberation Party late Sunday evening, while welcoming new members into the party urged Liberians to form a united front to democratically take back their country from those he called "evil and corrupt" forces existing in national leadership to suppress growth and development and accumulate ill-gotten wealth to the detriment of the citizenry.

Chairman Paye observed that for too long, Liberia has been faced with leadership

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Paye. Addressing reporters on Monday, March 16, 2021, in a special news conference held at the Ministry on Capitol Hill, Deputy Information Minister for Press and Public Affairs Eugene L. Fahgon, in his introductory remarks said, it was unfortunate for chairman Paye to brand the

there was no fees for students taking national exams?" He wondered.

"We don't want any form of Liberators to come and liberate our people, because our country has never been held hostage", Minister Fahgon noted.

"In your statement, you claimd that leadership is missing; if that is the reason why

Gbarpolu election

Starts from back page

investigation which the team fears, "may affect the announcement of the results."

Cllr. Arthur T. Johnson, representing sitting Gbarpolu County Representative and senatorial candidate, Alfred Koiwood, says the investigation conducted by the NEC on the election violence in Gbarpolu County will affect the result because there was also complaint from citizens of Gbarpolu in addition to complaint filed by his client.

He claims that there was complaint that Madam Kanneh brought in Sierra Leoneans to vote into the elections, adding that when the saw the town filled with strangers when they woke in the morning.

But in a query, Associate Justice Yussif D. Kaba asks Cllr. Johnson as to why he had to bring about complaints from the nine other precincts when he limited his complaint to what transpired in Nomodatahum without mentioning the case from the nine precincts.

In responding, Cllr. Johnson says they called for a rerun for the 13 voting precincts. But Justice Kaba notes that such call was made without the counsel making any reference to the other places, even though he is praying for the court to order rerun in places he did not reference.

Justice Kaba notes that Cllr. Johnson wants to further complicate the matter by adding the other nine areas.

However Cllr. Johnson says it is not to complicate the matter, arguing that it was illegal that the NEC had allowed a rerun when there was already a complaint filed before the same commission asking it not to go ahead with the election because there was violence.

According to Cllr. Johnson, the NEC went ahead and summarily dismissed the complaint, which led him to go to the Supreme Court.

Cllr. Johnson insists that no one participated in the preparation for the conduct of

the rerun.

In a communication dated 8 January 2021, Associate Justice presiding in Chambers of the Supreme Court of Liberia Madam Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh ordered the NEC to halt all actions, pronouncement or announcement on election from affected area (s) of Gbarpolu County, pending the hearing and decision of the complaint filed before the county's Elections Magistrate.

"By directive of Her Honor Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh, Associate Justice presiding in Chambers, you are hereby informed to stay all actions/or pronouncement or announcement on the election of the affected area (s) of Gbarpolu County, pending the hearing and decision of the complaint filed before the Elections Magistrate of Gbarpolu County, up to and including the hearing and disposition of appeal by any party even up to the Supreme Court," the order dated 8 January read.

Prior to the court's order, the rerun had already been conducted on 7 January, pending pronouncement of official results when the process was then halted by the Chamber Justice. However unofficial reports appeared to project Madam Kanneh to have maintained her lead over her rival Rep. Alfred Koiwood, though official results are pending the outcome of the election case.

The election violence emerged in Gbarpolu after angry youth acting on the instructions of the Clan Chief stormed voting centers on Election Day, 8 December and took away the boxes containing ballot papers and other voting materials.

Reports of voters' intimidation flared with many locals reporting the presence of a traditional (country) devil ordered in town by the Clan Chief, a diehard CDC supporter, which prevented many people from accessing the town.

In December, delegates of the main opposition Collaborating Political Parties

U.S. underscores detection and surveillance -in pandemics fight

United States Ambassador to Liberia Michael McCarthy says Liberia needs effective disease detection and surveillance to quickly identify infectious diseases when they occur and monitor the development of an outbreak in the country.

He says the surest way to counter potential epidemics or pandemics is to stop an outbreak where it starts, stressing that to do this, detection and surveillance are the keys to effectively prevent, respond and contain infectious diseases.

Ambassador McCarthy spokes when he handed over COVID-19 laboratory testing supplies to the Minister of Health, Dr. Wilhelmina Jallah, on behalf of United States Agency for International Development (USAID), according to the



Embassy of the United States near Monrovia.

The Infectious Disease Detection and Surveillance project, through funding from USAID, is supporting the Government of Liberia to accelerate COVID-19 detection efforts by supplying PCR testing

commodities. The PCR test is the "gold standard" test for diagnosing COVID-19, because it's the most accurate and reliable test.

The embassy says the donation includes 2,000 specimen collection swabs, extraction reagents for the

automated and manual system for 4,000 tests, PCR master-mix, PCR calibration and reaction plates, and dried swab pre-treatment buffer to enable detection of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes the coronavirus disease known as COVID-19.

The donation will enable the National Public Health Reference Laboratory to efficiently respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Our collective task is to

ensure that Liberia continues to be a safe travel destination that responds timely and effectively to emerging and reemerging infectious diseases. The United States through USAID's Global Health Security Agenda will continue to be your strong partner in this endeavor", Ambassador McCarthy assures Liberia's Minister of Health Doctor Wilhelmina Jallah on Thursday, March 11, 2021 during the ceremony.

Français

Le représentant Kolubah réclame les fonds de développement

Le représentant du district n° 10 du comté de Montserrado, Yekeh Kolubah, se plaint du manque de financement du développement des district sous le régime du président George Manneh Weah, estimant que cela compromet le développement du pays.

Selon le représentant Kolubah, depuis que le président Weah est arrivé au pouvoir, le district 10 n'a reçu aucun fonds de développement. Le législateur du comté de Montserrado a pris la parole ce week-end lors d'une conférence de presse, où il a mis un accent sur les problèmes auxquels est confrontée la nation.

« Le gouvernement central continue de dire au peuple libérien qu'il n'y a pas d'argent, mais certains fonctionnaires du gouvernement construisent des duplex à travers le pays alors que les gens vivent dans une pauvreté abjecte », a-t-il déploré.

Selon lui, le vice-ministre des finances et de la

Planification du développement chargé des Affaires fiscales est en train de construire quatre duplex en même temps dans son district. « D'où vient cet argent ».

Le représentant Kolubah a révélé qu'il avait écrit au bureau du président Weah pour lui demander de surveiller ses ministres, « car l'argent des donateurs doit être utilisé aux fins prévues dans le pays. Il ne faut pas que certains ministres

empochant cet argent », a-t-il mis en garde.

Il a exhorté le président Weah à agir comme le demande la lettre parce que demain, il sera tenu responsable de l'argent du peuple libérien. « Il est grand temps que vous vous préoccupiez des affaires du peuple. Il ne faut pas permettre à vos ministres d'utiliser l'argent public à

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UE-Libéria : Fin du 9edialogue politique

Le gouvernement libérien et l'Union européenne (UE) se sont réunis le vendredi 12 mars dans le cadre de la neuvième (9e) édition du dialogue politique UE-Libéria, au cours de laquelle les deux parties ont discuté d'un large éventail de questions d'intérêt mutuel.

Cette réunion s'est tenue dans le cadre de l'article 8 de l'accord de partenariat de

Cotonou entre l'UE et les États d'Afrique, des Caraïbes et du Pacifique (ACP), qui permet la mise en place d'une plate-forme de dialogue politique régulier et global.

Le 9edialogue politique UE-Libéria était coprésidé par le ministre des Affaires étrangères Dee-Maxwell SaahKemayah et le chef de la délégation de l'Union européenne au Libéria, l'ambassadeur Laurent

Delahousse.

Les discussions lors de la réunion ont également porté sur l'état de l'économie et des finances publiques et la mise en œuvre du PAPD, créer les conditions d'une croissance économique généralisée et de la création d'emplois grâce à des mesures relatives au climat des affaires et des investissements, la gouvernance, la responsabilité, la transparence et les mesures de lutte contre la corruption.

L'UE et le gouvernement libérien ont également discuté des questions relatives aux droits de l'homme, notamment les conclusions de la dernière session de l'Examen périodique universel (EPU) sur le Libéria et la lutte contre la violence sexuelle et sexuelle (SGBV), des élections (y compris les leçons tirées des élections sénatoriales de mi-mandat de 2020 et du référendum constitutionnel, ainsi que de la réforme électorale), des problèmes de santé publique (y compris la

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Éditorial

Le bureau du président de la Chambre des Représentants a déçu

Le bureau du président de la Chambre des Représentants veut vaille que vaille défendre ce qui est manifestement indéfendable et accuser la police d'être responsable du récent accident de circulation qui s'est soldé par une fausse couche et des blessures graves. Cela est triste et décevant.

Pire, le Bureau du président Bhofal Chambersa fait valoir que jusqu'à présent, aucun décès n'a été enregistré contrairement aux dires de certains médias, et qu'aucun véhicule officiel de son convoi n'était impliqué dans l'accident.

A bon ? C'est maintenant que le bureau du chef du parlement fait une distinction entre le détachement de la police nationale du Libéria qui assure officiellement sa sécurité et les autres voitures de son convoi ? Ces autres véhicules dits officiels sont-ils sa propriété privée ?

Ce qui est plus dégoûtant, c'est le fait que M. Walkinsnie qu'il y ait eu aucun mort à la suite de l'accident, même face à la confirmation des médecins de l'hôpital JFK selon lesquels la femme enceinte en question a fait une fausse couche, tandis que sa mère a eu les jambes cassées.

Dans un communiqué officiel publié le jeudi 11 mars, le bureau de presse de la Chambre, qualifiant l'accident de « malheureux », a indiqué que l'évènement s'est produit vers 6 heures du matin alors que des éléments de la garde rapprochée du Président de la chambre basse du parlement libérien se rendait au travail.

« Les victimes de l'incident sont hospitalisées à l'hôpital John F. Kennedy aux frais du président de la Chambre des représentants, le Dr Bhofal Chambers, qui s'est rendu à l'hôpital pour s'assurer que les victimes bénéficient d'un traitement adéquat », lit-on dans le communiqué.

Selon le communiqué, le président Chambers a invité la famille des victimes au calme et à la prière pour un prompt rétablissement de leurs proches, tout en les rassurant de son engagement à tout faire en vue d'un dénouement heureux.

Pour sa part, le Bureau du Président Chambers a affirmé que ni le véhicule officiel ni le convoi du Président n'a été impliqué dans aucun accident.

Dans un courriel adressé à ce journaliste jeudi, le porte-parole officiel du Président, George Watkins, a déclaré qu'aucun décès n'était survenu à la suite de l'accident, contrairement aux informations publiées dans les médias.

Donnant sa propre version des faits, Watkins a dit qu'un véhicule utilisé par le service de sécurité de la police nationale du Libéria affecté auprès du président de la chambre basse, conduit par M. Lawrence Williams, un agent de police, est entré en collision avec une Chevrolet Seden bleue blessant ainsi la victime, une femme enceinte et sa mère le mardi 9 mars 2021 sur la 20e rue à Sinkor Monrovia, tôt le matin. Le véhicule était allé chercher le personnel de la sécurité.

Ce que le bureau du Président aurait dû dire, c'est que le convoi n'était pas en service au moment de l'accident. La vérité est que le président Bhofal Chambers doit être tenu responsable de tous les véhicules qui sont officiellement sous son commandement, où qu'ils soient.

Le Bureau du Président dit-il qu'une fausse couche n'est pas une perte de vie ? Quand commence la vie ? Est-ce au moment de la naissance ou à la rencontre des spermatozoïdes d'un homme et d'un ovule d'une femme dans l'ovaire de celle-ci après un rapport sexuel ?

En disant qu'aucun décès n'est survenu à la suite de l'accident, le bureau du chef du parlement veut-il dire que la victime n'était pas enceinte et que les médecins de l'hôpital JFK ont menti ?

Une valeur fondamentale des relations publiques est la vérité, dire les choses telles qu'elles sont pour attirer l'attention du publique. A quoi bon mentir ou dissimuler ce qui est déjà connu ?

Français

Le représentant Kolubah

réponse du Libéria au COVID-19 et la préparation à la maladie à virus Ebola (MVE)), des recommandations de la Commission vérité et réconciliation (CVR), de la sécurité alimentaire, de l'éducation (y compris l'enseignement et la formation techniques et professionnels (EFTP)) et de la programmation du partenariat UE-Libéria sur la période 2021-2027 (après la période 2014-2020, au cours de laquelle le soutien de l'Union européenne au Libéria au titre du Fonds

européen de développement s'est élevé à environ 330 millions de dollars).

À l'issue du dialogue, les deux parties ont réaffirmé leur volonté de continuer à tenir des dialogues politiques réguliers sur des questions d'intérêt commun et de donner suite aux conclusions et accords conclus au cours de ces dialogues. Les parties ont également réaffirmé leur engagement à renforcer encore le partenariat UE-Libéria et exprimé leur souhait que la dixième édition du dialogue politique UE-Libéria ait lieu au second semestre 2021.

UE-Libéria :

leurs propres fins », a dit le législateur controversé, avant d'ajouter que son bureau travaillera avec le président Weah, s'il est respecté en tant que représentant en exercice

du district # 10 du comté de Montserrado en lui faisant notifier les projets de développement mis en œuvre là-bas.

Côte d'Ivoire : un hommage des artistes et de la jeunesse aux funérailles d'Hamed Bakayoko

La Côte d'Ivoire est toujours en deuil après la mort d'Hamed Bakayoko, qui a succombé à un cancer en Allemagne le 10 mars. Ce mercredi, le défunt Premier ministre recevra l'hommage solennel de la nation à la présidence. La suite se déroulera au stade d'Anyama, dans le nord d'Abidjan, avec l'hommage de son parti, le RHDP, et des politiciens qui le souhaitent. Enfin, les artistes et la jeunesse auront l'occasion de saluer la mémoire du populaire « Hambak » jusqu'au lever du jour.

La journée d'hommage national de ce mercredi se veut à l'image d'Hamed Bakayoko. Comme un grand écart entre la solennité due à son rang et la ferveur qu'il suscitait chez les jeunes et chez les artistes en particulier.

Après les cérémonies officielles qui se déroulent le matin au palais présidentiel, les Ivoiriens ont rendez-vous au stade Alassane Ouattara d'Ebimpé, à Anyama. D'abord pour des prises de paroles de ses amis politiques, qu'ils soient de son parti ou non, puis pour une nuit d'hommage

musical.

« Pour ce volet artistique, nous avons une soixantaine d'artistes locaux et des artistes venant de l'international. Ce sera l'occasion pour nous de le célébrer pour tout ce qu'il a apporté à la jeunesse », explique Mamadou Touré, ministre de la Jeunesse.

De nombreux artistes présents

Le très populaire Hambak était le parrain, le soutien et l'ami de nombreux artistes qui sont restés proches de lui une fois faites leur renommée et leur fortune. Nombreux sont ceux qui ont tenu à être présents ce mercredi.

« Pour ceux qui ont déjà confirmé leur présence au niveau international, nous avons Koffi Olomidé, Dadju, nous avons Maître Gims, Vegedream, Fallypupa, Sidiki Diabaté. Au niveau national, des artistes comme Alpha Blondy, Magic System. Je peux citer Serges Beynaud, Bilé Didier, Zougrou Markers, etc. », ajoute Mamadou Touré.

L'hommage artistique se poursuivra jusqu'à l'aube jeudi. Hamed Bakayoko sera inhumé vendredi à Séguéla « dans la stricte intimité familiale ».

COMMENTAIRE

Par Giulio Boccaletti

Le constitutionnalisme climatique

LONDRES - Au mois de janvier, les Pays-Bas ont organisé en ligne le Sommet pour l'adaptation aux changements climatiques, dans le cadre duquel les représentants de gouvernements du monde entier ont discuté de leurs plans de relance postpandémiques. Afin de tirer parti de coûts d'emprunt extrêmement faibles pour les finances publiques, beaucoup ont souligné la nécessité d'investissements directs des États dans des infrastructures vertes, pour promouvoir l'adaptation climatique et stimuler l'économie.

Les éléments de preuves se multipliant autour de changements inévitables et déjà en cours dans le système climatique, cet accent placé sur l'adaptation est à saluer. Pour autant, les implications constitutionnelles d'un interventionnisme accru de l'État ne doivent pas être sous-estimées. Chaque fois qu'un État promet d'exercer un pouvoir à l'échelle de la société - en l'occurrence pour armer l'économie entière face au climat - les sources et le champ de sa légitimité s'en trouvent vivement débattus.

C'est déjà le cas devant les tribunaux de nombreux pays. En 2015, l'organisation non gouvernementale Urgenda a attaqué en justice le gouvernement hollandais pour avoir échoué à protéger la population néerlandaise contre le risque accru que représente le changement climatique pour un pays de faible altitude. Il a été jugé que la non satisfaction des objectifs nationaux de réduction des émissions était constitutive d'une négligence de la part de l'État. En 2019, la Cour suprême de La Haye s'est prononcée dans le même sens ; dans une décision en faveur d'Urgenda, elle enjoint l'État de poursuivre de plus importantes réductions des émissions.

Si l'affaire Urgenda a été initiée dans le cadre d'une action en responsabilité, elle a en fin de compte reposé sur les obligations de l'État hollandais en vertu de la Convention européenne des droits de l'homme. Et dans la mesure où l'accent s'est reporté sur les risques encourus par la population entière, l'affaire est devenue une problématique constitutionnelle. La décision de la Cour suprême a considéré les effets du changement climatique (selon les projections scientifiques) comme une atteinte aux droits de l'homme, et a par conséquent jugé que l'État avait pour devoir d'agir. On peut aujourd'hui s'attendre à ce que ce devoir qui s'applique à l'atténuation du changement climatique (les réductions d'émissions) s'applique également demain aux investissements dans l'adaptation.

L'adaptation systémique face au climat implique une transformation du paysage physique dans une mesure vouée à susciter des oppositions. Au début du XXe siècle, la population humaine a triplé avec la transition des sociétés rurales agricoles vers des économies urbaines de consommation, avec pour conséquence une évolution des attentes. Plus riche et plus émancipée, la population a évolué vers une absence de tolérance des risques (montées des eaux, sécheresses) qui auparavant étaient acceptés comme faisant partie de l'existence.

Lorsque la Grande Dépression est survenue, les gouvernements ont répondu par des programmes de modernisation reposant sur les infrastructures, élaborés pour contrôler un environnement instable et empêcher celui-ci de menacer la croissance et la stabilité économiques. La prolifération des barrages, digues et autres canaux a constitué une spectaculaire démonstration de souveraineté. L'essence de cette croisade technocratique contre l'insécurité économique est comparable à ce que certains voudraient observer aujourd'hui dans la réponse des États face au changement climatique.

Aux États-Unis, la Tennessee Valley Authority est devenue l'archétype de la modernisation conduite par l'État. Exerçant un pouvoir exécutif extraordinaire en tant que société fédérale, la TVA a pu exproprier des terres au nom de l'intérêt public, et mobiliser des

ressources fédérales substantielles. Or, étant pourtant parvenue à transformer l'une des régions les plus pauvres des États-Unis, la TVA a rencontré une telle opposition, de la part de ceux qui la considéraient comme une toute-puissance fédérale, que plus aucun projet de ce genre n'a jamais été reproduit aux États-Unis. Les réactions d'opposition face à la TVA ont en effet semé les graines d'un mouvement anti-infrastructures et anti-barrages, qui s'est propagé au monde dans la seconde moitié du XXe siècle.

Sans une compréhension partagée de là où s'achèvent les droits individuels, et de là où débute la responsabilité collective, tout transformation systémique du paysage deviendra une bataille difficile, quelle que soit l'intention. Les projets d'adaptation au climat ne peuvent devenir un moteur des politiques publiques s'ils se contentent de revêtir une nature technocratique. Une démarche constitutionnelle doit avoir lieu pour définir les risques qu'une société est prête à endurer, et pour fixer un seuil d'action collective contre les menaces intolérables.

Le constitutionnalisme moderne s'étant développé à l'époque des crises de variole et de fièvre jaune, la santé publique offre une analogie utile pour étudier la manière dont ces démarches constitutionnelles s'opèrent. Dans sa décision *Jacobson v. Massachusetts* de 1905, la Cour suprême américaine a jugé que le droit d'une communauté à se défendre contre une épidémie mortelle lui conférait le droit d'agir contre les individus refusant de se faire vacciner contre la variole - notamment en légiférant pour la vaccination obligatoire.

Depuis, dans la plupart des démocraties, un siècle d'examen juridique a produit un vaste ensemble de doctrines constitutionnelles conférant de la légitimité aux politiques publiques dans la gestion de la santé publique. Ces prérogatives sont apparues au grand jour avec la pandémie de COVID-19, les gouvernements ayant ordonné des confinements limitant les libertés individuelles dans une mesure rarement observée sans action en justice.

Les citoyens ont largement accepté ces interventions, pas seulement en raison des jurisprudences passées, mais également de toute l'histoire sociale et politique que le système légal a métabolisée pour arriver jusqu'à son stade actuel. Nous sommes les bénéficiaires de plusieurs décennies de débat sur l'importance de la santé publique, d'importants organes de données épidémiologiques qui ont gagné la confiance des tribunaux et des dirigeants politiques, ainsi que d'investissements colossaux dans un tissu complexe d'institutions - agences publiques, universités, régulateurs - qui ont elles aussi bâti la confiance au fil du temps. Ces différents facteurs, et d'autres, ont contribué à faire converger les citoyens vers un ensemble de principes qui font de la santé publique une priorité collective majeure.

L'humanité a désormais atteint un stade décisif auquel le changement climatique acquiert une valeur normative. Les éléments de preuve justifiant une action publique concertée ne cessent de se multiplier. Mais si l'adaptation au climat constitue un impératif urgent et essentiel aux fins de la santé publique, il lui reste encore à recueillir le même degré d'acceptation généralisée.

Pour que les politiques climatiques deviennent davantage qu'un simple projet technocratique, les gouvernements vont devoir investir non seulement dans les infrastructures et la transformation de l'usage des terres, mais également dans le capital intellectuel, les institutions réglementaires, la recherche et l'éducation. L'heure est venue de promouvoir l'implication du public dans les débats qui définiront les frontières entre droits des individus et responsabilité collective à l'ère du changement climatique. À condition que les limites sur l'exercice du pouvoir étatique constituent le socle du constitutionnalisme moderne, l'adhésion sociétale à l'adaptation au climat peut représenter un moment constitutionnel important.

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The Crime:

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(1) "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."— Ephesians 4:32. (2) "For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."— Matthew 6:14-15. (3) "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."— Colossians 3:13. (4) "Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven."— Luke 6:37. (5) "Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?' Jesus answered, 'I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.'"— Matthew 18:21-22. (6) "You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you."— Psalm 86:5. (7) "And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."— Mark 11:25. (8) "Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered."— Psalm 32:1. (9) "But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."— Matthew 6:15. (10) "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."— 1 John 1:9. (11) "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."— Hebrews 8:12. (12) "Love prospers when a fault is forgiven, but dwelling on it separates close friends."— Proverbs 17:9. (13) "Hatred stirs old quarrels, but love overlooks insults."— Proverbs 10:12. (14) "As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us."— Psalm 103:12. (15) "The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him."— Daniel 9:9. (16) "I, even I, am he who blot out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more..."— Isaiah 43:25. (17) "Then he adds: Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more."— Hebrews 10:17. (18) "If You, Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You, that You may be feared."— Psalm 130:3-4. (19) "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence."— Ephesians 1:7-8 and (20) "He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins."— Colossians 1:13-14.

This freedom, the power and ability to forgive others, yet proves to be elusive for many, even the state. They preached the forgiveness of God, yet, they refuse to forgive others. Thus, they remain enslaved to the past, trapped in the sin of unforgiveness, and doomed to reap its whirlwind for ages to come.

Lamentably, unforgiveness always stems from a guilty heart, a darkness in the soul that either does not know the Gospel they preach or does not care. The Bible's teachings on forgiveness are very clear that salvation, depends on the forgiveness extended to others, while failing to see any connection between the citizens as a nation of one people. Even the Christian Bible commanded the act of forgiveness (Colossians 3:13), stating that forgiveness is not optional, and if you have been forgiven, you will forgive others.

"Pray then like this: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."—Christians' Lord's Prayers.

We do what we believe. And wonder what we do. The test of true religion is not how we treat the man who holds a high position in the society but how



Bamidele Adeoye, DBA Research Consultant & Adjunct Prof. "A Leader of Self"

we treat a man who has no position to hold; not how we respond to the call of the man who wields power, but how we respond to the call of the man who has no power to command us. Religion is not how we treat the rich, but rather what attitude we take towards the poor and the weak amongst us. No wonder there is a dichotomy between what we believe and what we do.

This bags the main theme and question of this paper on the crime along with the Christian doctrine.

What is the crime of omission or sin committed by African Americans that plagued them since 1619?

Is slavery African Americans' crime yet to be forgiven? If there is no crime or sin of omission, why the acts of injustice in every conceivable way? What are the Christian teachings on and about forgiveness?

Are there some people or groups of people that you do not want to forgive? Why do we resist forgiving certain people or groups?

That is why the sin of unforgiveness is a sin that needs forgiveness. Interestingly, Archbishop Desmond Tutu titled his book "No Future Without Forgiveness." Is American slavery one of the unforgivable crimes against humanity? A national crime that contributed, over time, to other crimes and forms of injustice — racism, race prejudice, lynching, exclusion, segregation, discrimination, and too many forms of inequality to name. Many of those crimes and forms of injustice, inequality, and race relations remain.

Nikki White, an African American woman in Memphis Tennessee, hypothesized that white men want to acquire some of the physical attributes of black men. While black men merely want the privileges open to white men. What a profound deduction from her observations.

I have lingered with this challenging question for over forty years without any substantive answers or resolutions for African America's crime.

What makes one culture or God superior to the other? There is no right or wrong culture, nor God. Furthermore, there is no one true religion, or whether the worship is the right One, done the right way. God is as the wind, that touches everything. The universal truth governing all cultures, Gods, and religions is the simple philosophy intrinsic in humans; do unto others as you wish done unto you. This essential principle (The Golden Rule) has either eroded, lost, selective or wishfully forgotten.

Africans in America should let their positive attitude shine in a way that invites people to come closer. The goal is to let others know that they are confident without acting superior. Hence, there is a thin line between arrogance and confidence. While confidence attracts, arrogance repels.

Sadly, Africans in America are unsympathetic to the position taken by African Americans after over 401 years of barraged devastating injustices. How can any group of people in the history of humankind survive the unrelenting and insidious forces without any toxic psychological consequences on their well-being? Therefore,

Africans in America must strike a balance between arrogance and confidence to attract African Americans closer to bridge the gaps of silence. And Africans must change the precedence of their relationship with African Americans in America.

A child is a child of everyone — Sudanese proverb.

Unfortunately, Africa Union has not officially addressed and apologized, or challenged the adverse effects of slavery on her many children in the diaspora. Nevertheless, Africa is always appealing to her children in the diaspora to come back home — Africa and help develop the continent. What a contradiction. Despite African Americans' enormous daily challenges, they are the most patriotic Africans and also the most advanced Africans in the world.

In conclusion, as African Americans demand reparation from the government for slavery, it is equally the responsibility of the African Union to take the initiative to formally apologize to Africa and her children in the diaspora for the sin of omission for our ancestor's contribution towards the accident of history. An overdue apology from the African Union. This action by the African Union will undoubtedly help bridge the gap of ignorance between Africa and Africans in the diaspora created by design.

And, we must continue the humanist African philosophy and in the spirit of Ubuntu, "I am, because you are."

God Bless Africa! And, God Bless America!!

"Courts are not

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judge that steps out of line, that doesn't constitute the judiciary," arguing that a whole lot of good judges are here.

He says everybody will not behave the way that the law says they should behave, admitting that "some step out of line."

"But this is not the pattern of activities or decisions of the judiciary, the entire judiciary," he says.

According to Chief Justice Korkpor, it was reported in a newspaper Tuesday, 16 March that the courts are causing problem.

"This statement is attributed to the Police Director. [If] you read it, it has no reference, whatsoever to the high court or even some of the other courts. I think the reference is to one particular judge who is alleged to have released hardening criminal," he narrates.

But Chief Justice Korkpor wonders how this can be that the courts are the ones causing problems, saying when he got the information and read it in the paper, he tried to commence an investigation.

"We will have full scale investigation, the Ministry of Justice will be represented, the judge will be there," he says.

Chief Justice Korkpor indicates that when judges take decisions, there is reason.

According to Chief Justice Korkpor, when someone is put in jail and the person remains there perpetually without trial, their rights are violated.

He expresses concern that local and international human rights groups are watching the system, and the public defenders here are authorized under the laws to file motions in appropriate cases for the release of people who are in detention beyond statutory period.

According to Chief Justice Korkpor, when you see that happening, it means that the legal system is working.

He notes that it's the government that prays for the writ for people to go to jail, saying if the court for good reason releases that person, it means the justice system is working.

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Enough is enough!

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

Liberia's main opposition Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) has termed as unacceptable, ongoing legal bottleneck against its Senator-elect, former minister of defense Brownie Samukai, stressing that enough is enough and it could no longer sit and watch the way and manner things are being handled, which has prevented his certification by the National Elections Commission.

Speaking at a press conference in Monrovia, Tuesday March 16, the chairperson of the Collaborating Political Parties, also Grand Bassa County Senator, NyonbleeKarnge Lawrence said, the duty to protect the

Samukai, without further delays," the CPP chairperson said.

Senator Lawrence noted that to the best of their abilities, the CPP will strongly resist, by a combination of political and legal actions, any nefarious effort to undermine the rule of law by cherry-picking decisions of the nation's highest court that are enforceable, and thereby risk the country's peace, security and democracy.

"Let it be known that the CPP stands with the gallant men and women of the Armed Forces of Liberia, who must be justly reimbursed as directed by the highest court. Similarly, we stand with the people of Lofa County whose overwhelming election of a senator of their choice is without legal dispute and has been finally determined by the Honorable Supreme

nationally compelling. Liberia cannot simply claim to be democratic, and at the same time, permit the actions of our courts and democratic institutions to bend the rule of law selectively, out of convenience, or be engaged in lawless behavior."

"Today, therefore, let the word go forth that the CPP will resist the continued corruption of our courts, and the continued use and/or abuse of our judiciary to the detriment of our country's peace, security and stability. As already indicated, we are commencing a number of political and legal actions against the continued abuse and corrosion of the independence and autonomy of the National Elections Commission, and have instructed the membership of our legislative caucus to begin the drafting of electoral reforms intended to address evolving issues in the qualification of candidates as well as protect the expressed will of the people in choosing their leaders, in a timely and credible manner that is not disruptive to the normal flow of government activities and functions," the CPP chairperson stressed.

She narrated that shockingly, to realize their unconstitutional conspiracy against the people of Lofa County, the Movement for Progressive Change (MPC), a 'moribund' political party, petitioned the court through Associate Justice Joseph Nagbe, the Justice in Chambers, to prohibit the enforcement of the final decision of the full bench of the highest court.

The CPP notes the MPC's petition is not only without legal basis but it offers no legal precedence nor does it cite any legal reliance for its claim. Chairperson KarngeLawrance points that even on the face of these blatant legal defects, Associate Justice Nagbe, acting apparently on instructions from the Executive, illegally, unprecedentedly and singularly issued an order to stay the enforcement of the final decision of the full bench, a decision to which he is a member-justice, signatory, and participated in deciding.

Court of Liberia."

She said it is also true that those in whose hands Liberians have entrusted the power to govern democratically will not likely do so without the willingness to continuously ensure that they respect the laws of the country, adding, that the painful fact is that too many in the country have suffered, bled and died for the creation of a democratic order in Liberia.

Chairperson Nyonblee Lawrence, who is political leader of the opposition Liberty Party, a constituent member of the CPP, continued that the Collaboration and all well-meaning Liberians cannot afford to stand idly by and watch the slaughter of the soul of the democracy and the duty to act is one "we consider to be



CPP Chair, Senator Nyonblee Karnge Lawrence

nation's democracy is not one the CPP takes lightly and commitment to the rule of law is not something the CPP will accept that anyone or group can either trivialize, or elect to disregard when it does not conform to their selfish political interests.

"Therefore, we announce today that we stand with the Supreme Court in a call for the full enforcements of both of its final decisions - the first to finally determine guilt and the satisfactory punishment therefore, and the second to finally determine the winner in the Midterm Senatorial Elections in Lofa County, as well as the attendant instructions to proceed to certificate the winner, Senator-elect Brownie J.

Election house suffers arson attacks

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

Amid various electoral disputes and court cases, the headquarters of the National Elections Commission (NEC) in Monrovia has suffered serious arson attack from petrol bombs certain premises of the commission and one of its vehicles. The attack occurred late Monday, March 15, 2021.

The day was officially observed here as a national holiday in memory of Liberia's first President, the late Joseph Jenkins Roberts, an American.

No casualty was reported, but information gathered so far indicates the petrol bomb attack came as a surprise after the entire managerial team of the electoral house had left

its compound which set ablaze a double-cabin pickup with license plate, LB-6868 and the roof of a garage inside the premises.

The Commission estimates cost of damages from the attack at US\$45,000.

Preliminary investigation proved additional unexploded petrol bombs were found near the NEC's fence on the 10th Street side of the vicinity.

The National Elections Commission is supporting the Liberian National Police in ongoing investigation to bring perpetrators to justice.

The attack against the electoral house is the first since the NEC headquarters was constructed in early 2005 by the United States Agency for



Some of the unexploded petrol bombs found.

the premises for home.

Early Tuesday, March 16, premises of the National Elections Commission were off limit to the public and employees, as security forces conducted preliminary investigation. Later, the NEC board of commissioners held an emergency meeting.

Investigators from the Liberia National Police and other security agencies are yet to name any suspect from the arson attack that occurred at about 10:30 pm on Monday. However, several pieces of unexploded petrol bombs were discovered during the preliminary investigation.

The NEC on Tuesday detailed that unknown persons threw petrol bombs on

International Development, USAID.

It comes at a time the commission is probing series of disputes from the December 8, 2020 special senatorial election in which a number of defeated candidates have alleged fraud with others demanding recount of votes officially announced. Yet still, in cases where the NEC hearing officer had adjudicated and ruled, aggrieved parties have taken appeals before the Supreme Court of Liberia, something that has prevent about half of the 30 members of the Liberian Senate from taken their seats. -Editing by Jonathan Browne

Cont'd from page 7

deficit, and as such, it is now time for citizens to roll up their sleeves and join the new political movement to help redeem the nation from evil hands.

He observed that for too long, selfless leaders have been lacking in the Liberian

Liberians don't

society, and as such, Liberians should not sit supinely and watch their country to go down the drain without taking decisive actions during this critical period in the history of the country.

He said, it is regrettable for

Liberia, as the oldest country on the African continent, to continue to be grappling with aged-old issues, while other countries are speedily progressing.

He specifically referenced roads, provision of basic social

services for the improvement of the living conditions of citizens, among others.

"To our suffering masses, the marginalized, our women who are in the markets and nobody pays attention to, our motorcyclists who are providing services and nobody values - the students, young people and farmers across this

country - we want to welcome you to this mass movement - the People's Liberation Party. This is the movement of the people; this is your movement. We have to roll our sleeves to work to take our country from the evil forces that continue to stop progress", the PLP chair rallied. Editing by Jonathan Browne

Gbarpolu election sparks battle at Supreme Court



Alfred Gayflor Koiwood

Madam Botoe Kanneh

By Winston W. Parley

Intense legal battle ensued Tuesday, 16 March when Liberia's Supreme Court began querying lawyers over Gbarpolu County's stalled senatorial election, amidst a series of legal actions that have disrupted pronouncement of final results by the National Elections Commission (NEC) since conducting a rerun on 7 January 2021 in a disputed

area.

A nationwide election was held on 8 December 2020 for 15 senatorial seats, but electoral violence in Nomodatahum, Gbarpolu County, bordering Sierra Leone, prompted a rerun to be held on 7 January in the affected area.

But final result for 7 January 2021 polls are yet to come out due to legal challenges that have emerged since.

The ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) on

behalf of its senatorial candidate Rep. Alfred Koiwood filed the petition before the Supreme Court for the writ of prohibition against the NEC.

Representing the presumed leading female senatorial candidate Madam Gbotoe Kanneh, a team of lawyers which includes Liberia's former Chief Justice Gloria Musu Scott, says "the final result was never announced by NEC."

Madam Gbotoe's team of lawyers contend that there is no way that the 8 December alleged election violence can affect the overall result of the election on grounds that the rerun in Nomodatahum was conducted on 7 January following negotiations and mediations to which both sides had allegedly agreed.

But the team states that it is before the Supreme Court because the NEC went beyond its preliminary findings and announced that it was due to conduct a full scale thorough

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"Courts are not causing problems"

-Chief Justice rejects police chief's statement

By Winston W. Parley

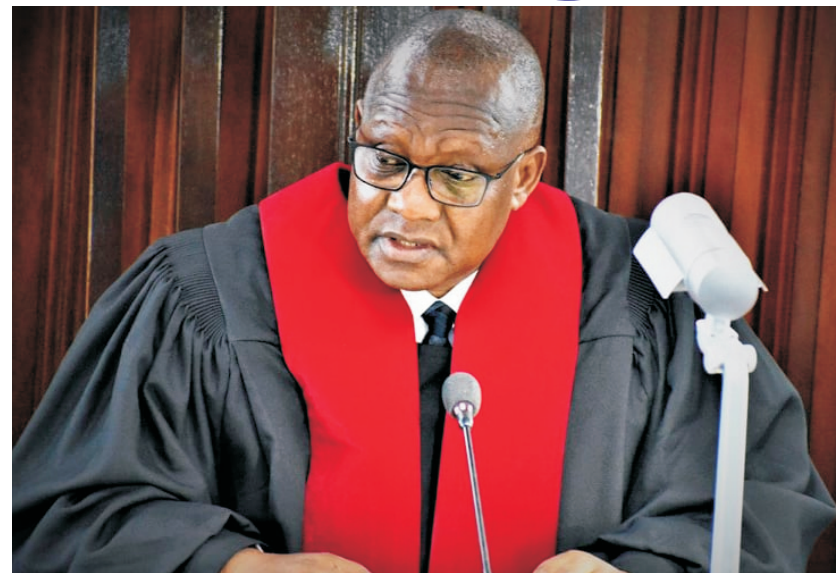
Liberia's Chief Justice Francis S. Korkpor, Sr., has rejected a statement attributed to Police Inspector General Col. Patrick T. Sudue, who is said to have accused the courts here of causing problems in reference to releasing hardened criminals into the communities.

"The Courts are not causing problems. Even if there is a judge who has

stepped out of line, that doesn't constitute the judiciary," Chief Justice Korkpor said at the Supreme Court Tuesday, 16 March before commencing a political case.

The Chief Justice's comments came Tuesday after a local daily attributed a statement to Col. Patrick Sudue as saying that "The release of these criminals by the court is causing serious problems for the Police and the community."

Col. Sudue is quoted as



saying that one Kessely Mulbah was released by the court in the same way, when he came back in the community and allegedly killed a member of Kapaukapau night watch team in Kebbah.

According to the report, Col. Sudue stated that when Mulbah was again shot by the LNP anti-robbery squad in the leg, treated and sent back to the court, he was sent to South Beach prison.

But Chief Justice Korkpor explains that "even if there is a

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