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MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR		
DATE	BUYING	SELLING
TUESDAY, JULY 05, 2022	L\$152.0458/US\$1.00	L\$153.8166 /US\$1.00

These are indicative rates based on results of daily surveys of foreign exchange market in Monrovia and selected cities of Liberia. These rates are collected from the Central bank, commercial banks, parallel market and the license forex bureaux. The rates are not set by the Central Bank of Liberia.
Source: Research, Policy and Planning Department, CBL.

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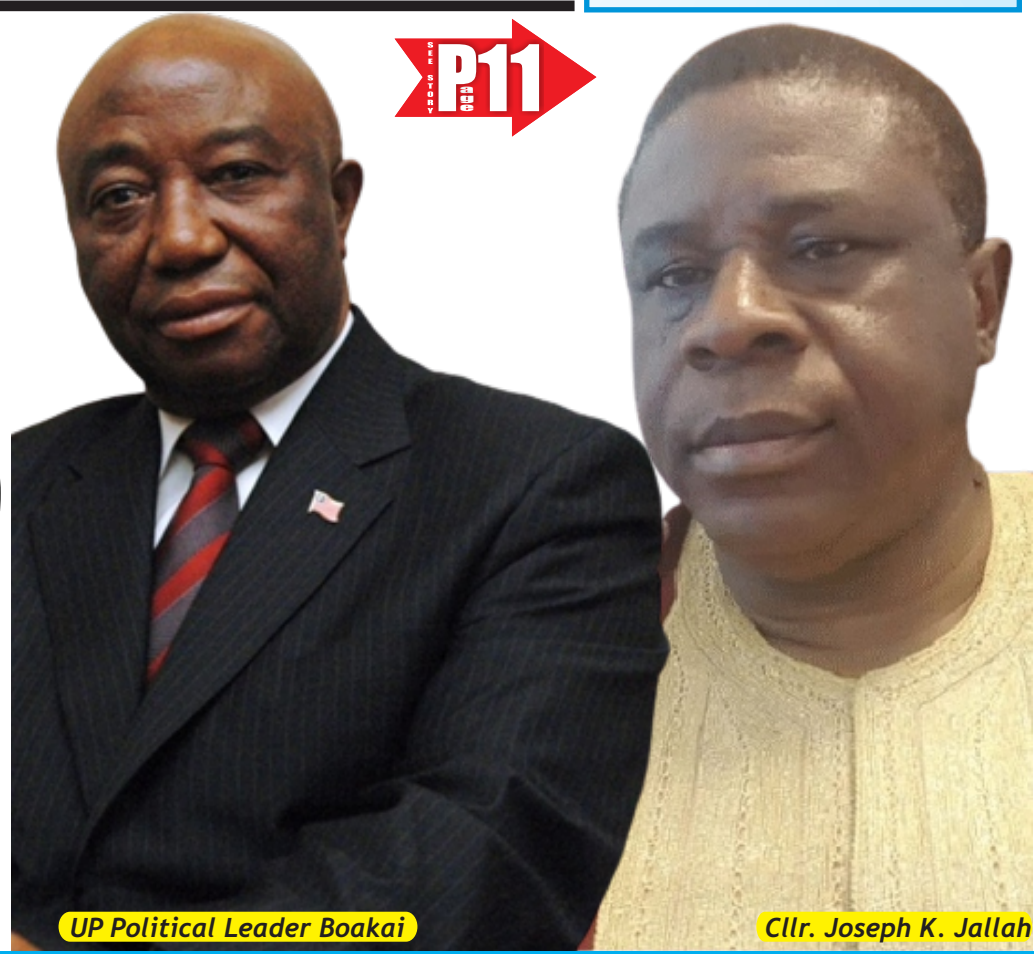
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UP plans to block Jallah's certification

-Turnout proves Lofa rebuffed by-election



NEC: result reflects turnout

MTN MoMo

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Dial *156#

MTN



Continental News

ECOWAS Lifts Sanctions Against Mali

central market, slowly comes to life.

On Sunday evening, regional bloc ECOWAS announced the immediate lifting of economic and financial sanctions against Mali following a summit in Accra, Ghana.

The sanctions, imposed in January after military leaders delayed elections until 2026, were lifted after leaders

neighbors for trade. The economic sanctions prohibited the trade of goods and closed borders between Mali and its neighbors, with exceptions for food, fuel and medicine.

Moussa Souare sells clothing in Bamako's grand marché out of a small kiosk. He says his merchandise comes from Senegal, Benin and Nigeria — all countries that were cut off from Mali during the sanctions.

Taking a small break from speaking to clients, he says the sanctions made an already difficult situation worse. Everyone works a little bit here and there to make a living, he says. Especially here, it's a poor country. Our merchandise, it's not made here. We don't have those factories here.

In Bamako's ACI 2000 neighborhood, a group of motorcycle taxi drivers gathered near a roundabout waiting for dispatches. Seydou Coulibaly says he only began driving a motorcycle taxi, which pays little, because of a lack of available work in Mali. He says he hopes the lifting of sanctions will open up the country to more investment,

and more jobs.

He says the sanctions were implemented, and we had a lot of difficulties. Different products became expensive, and there was also the rise in gas prices.

Though fuel was not subject to sanctions, gasoline prices have risen in Mali recently as they have worldwide.

Political analyst and political science professor Kalilou Sidibe says that though the lifting of sanctions is a turn in the right direction, it's too early to say how the 2024 elections plan will play out.

For the moment, he says, the sanctions have been lifted. But the international community is watching the government. How will they proceed? How will concrete progress be made on the

ground? It's only after all of this that confidence can be re-established, he says.

The military government, which first took power in a 2020 coup, originally promised elections in February of 2022. It delayed elections in December 2021, citing lack of security.

Sidibe added that the management of Mali's rampant insecurity will be an important issue for the junta and their ability to hold elections as promised.

With the lifting of sanctions, ECOWAS member states' ambassadors will be able to return to Bamako. During the summit, ECOWAS leaders also agreed to a 24-month transition to civilian rule in neighboring Burkina Faso, which has also been under military rule since January. Burkina Faso and Mali have both seen increasing Islamist violence under military rule. VOA



Ghana's President Nana Akufo Addo, ECOWAS Commission President Jean-Claude Kassir Brou and Ivory Coast's President Alassane Ouattara attend the ECOWAS summit to discuss transitional roadmap

struggling under the restrictions and the global rise in fuel and food costs.

Early Monday morning, Bamako's grand marché, or

announced a new election timetable in June with elections in 2024.

Mali is a landlocked country and depends on its ECOWAS

A mother's struggle to feed six children as prices soar

Some families in Kenya are eating just once a day, or not at all, because of rising food prices, writes the BBC's Catherine Byaruhanga in Nairobi.

Early in the morning, I find Florence Kambua hunched over, digging through the dump site outside her front door to collect plastic, glass, clothes - anything she can sell in Kenya's capital.

The 40-year-old is dressed in a black sweater and knee-high plastic boots. Her job is not for the faint-hearted. It is hazardous too. Rotting food and filled nappies squelch under her feet in the Mukuru Kwa Njenga slum.

"Sometimes you end up with diarrhoea, sometimes you get a chest infection. I have persevered, because I don't have an alternative," Ms Kambua tells me.

The mother of six has fallen on hard times. She first moved to Nairobi, East Africa's biggest metropolis, 19 years ago hoping for a bright future.

In that time, she lost a job, the father of her children left

her and the small food stall she set up was demolished for a new expressway that cuts across the city. So what she is doing now is the only option she has to put food on the table. She makes around 100 Kenyan shillings a day (\$0.85; £0.70).

Even with such meagre earnings Ms Kambua says she could still manage to feed her family twice a day before food prices went up. "My children love rice, I would go with 50 shillings [to the shop] and get half a kilo

of rice and cook for them. Now, you cannot." Ms Kambua has turned to a well-known staple, maize flour, a cereal that's often cooked into a thick dough called Ugali that can fill you up but even its price has gone up.

So now she feeds her family once a day, sometimes not at all. "I used to buy the cheapest flour at 85 shillings. Right now, flour is 150 shillings. When I am not able to make money, we sleep



Florence Kambua (left) picks through rubbish looking for anything she can sell

Ugandan army denies training Ethiopian rebels

The army in Uganda has denied reports that it is attempting to destabilise Ethiopia by training and providing support to the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which has been at war with the Ethiopian government since 2020. The reports seem to have first emerged around May on Ethiopian online outlets.

Ugandan Army Spokesperson Brigadier Felix Kulayigye tweeted on Sunday that the alleged attempts by Uganda to destabilise Ethiopia were a total fabrication.

A detailed article appeared last week in an online outlet based in New Zealand, along with a list of Ugandan senior army officers and others from across the security forces, who are allegedly spearheading the training operation in the central Ugandan district of Masaka.

The document indicates that over 4,000 Tigrayan soldiers were to be trained in four separate facilities in Uganda.

It further claims that the



training operation is being supported by the US and Egypt.

One of the senior officers named in the report is the President's son and commander of the Ugandan land forces General Muhoozi Kainerugaba, who in 2021 tweeted in support of the Tigrayan forces, referring to them as "brothers".

It is not clear yet if the document is authentic or part of a fake news campaign. The New Zealand website, known as Scoop, said it could not verify the source or whether the details were accurate or not.

But there are some inconsistencies. It names James Kabarebe as a former defence minister in Uganda, but the country has never had a minister by that name in the position. BBC

hungry." A couple of weeks since we met, there is more bad news for Ms Kambua, the average price for two kilograms of maize flour is now above 200 shillings, a 25% increase. The latest data from the Kenya Bureau of Statistics shows annual food inflation is in double digits

with prices 12.4% higher in May 2022 than they were in May 2021. Maize, which is grown in Kenya and also imported from neighbouring countries, is consumed by most households. It is a cheaper option during lean times, but Kennedy Nyagah, chairman of the United Grain Millers Association, says there is now a shortage. BBC

EDITORIAL

Misinformation in election is dangerous

POLITICAL LEADERS AND stakeholders in Liberia are condoning a bad and very ugly precedent in Liberian elections, involving rival parties and candidates releasing disinformation and misinformation to the public, announcing victory prior to the National Elections Commission, the constituted body that is clothed with the authority to declare a winner in a particular poll.

SUCH WAS THE unpleasant experience from the just-ended senatorial by-election conducted in Lofa County where the opposition Unity Party and the governing Congress for Democratic Change mobilized their respective partisans and supporters into the street in the county for pre-victory celebrations when the NEC had released no official results.

WHILE TALLIED BALLOTS are posted in polling places after polls have ended, they do not officially translate that a candidate has won, and doing so is not only a serious disservice to the general public, but it creates a recipe for chaos and violence that we do not need in our elections.

REPORTS GATHERED FROM Foya District in Lofa a day after the by-election indicate said scenario played out between rival supporters of the CDC and the UP, which resulted to bloody clashes, but Joint Security forces intervened and dispersed the rival crowd.

SIMILAR UGLY EXPERIENCE occurred after the December 8, 2020 Special Senatorial Elections, particularly in Montserrado County between now Senator Abraham Darios Dillon and CDC Representative Thomas Fallah when a pro-CDC radio station broadcast its own results, presenting Rep. Fallah as winning the race, which were totally different from what the NEC posted in polling places across the county.

WHEN THESE DELIBERATE scams are happening, leaders of the particular party involved turned blind eyes. What is even of more concern is that the NEC that presides over the polls does not rebuke those involved or tell them to immediately desist, which is highly disappointed.

MIND YOU, THESE are instances just from senatorial elections, and they send a signal of what to expect, as the nation goes to Presidential and General Elections in 2023. Such negative and anti-democratic practices should have no place in our electoral processes neither now nor in the future.

WE CALL ON both the government and the National Elections Commission not only to condemn those attempting to reverse our democratic processes thru misinformation and disinformation campaign, but to ensure that they are brought to book to face the law.

IT IS IMPORTANT that the NEC sounds a serious caveat before, during and after an election that any candidate or party caught release false results and declaring self-victory would be harshly dealt with to deter would-be actors.

IT IS IMPORTANT that we as a nation do everything to keep our elections free of violence and acts that would cast dark cloud on the entire process just for selfish political interest at the detriment of the greater good. Election is a democratic exercise and democracy should allow to take its course rather than cheating or scamming to gain undue advantage that leaves room for unimaginable

COMMENTARY

By Werner Hoyer

Climate Consensus in the Middle East

LUXEMBOURG - This week, I met a teenager in Ramallah named Miriam, who shared how much she has benefited from one of the 450 solar-powered schools that the European Investment Bank has financed in the West Bank. Speaking in perfect English, Miriam was fully aware of the challenges her region faces because of climate change. But she was also full of optimism and extraordinarily articulate in explaining why the Middle East needs to do more to harvest sunshine, one of the few clean-energy resources that it enjoys in abundance.

The following day, Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett reminded me that the EIB helped finance four of Israel's six desalination plants, including one that will be the world's largest when it becomes operational in 2023. He joked that almost two-thirds of the water in our glasses came from those EIB-backed projects. In a region with a growing population, Israelis know that water scarcity can easily lead to new conflicts. They want to develop greater desalination capacity so that they can potentially trade water for clean energy.

Changing rainfall patterns, water scarcity, and increasingly frequent and intense extreme weather events - including heatwaves and wildfires - affect Israelis and Palestinians equally, and the need to address the problem appears to be one of the few issues on which both parties agree. This was confirmed to me in talks with Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh. In a context of conflict, where most policies are viewed as zero-sum, climate projects are an exception.

In a speech this past February, Israeli President Isaac Herzog pointed to the intensification of extreme weather events as a wake-up call for the region. "For anyone who does not understand what this means, let me explain: this spells a genuine catastrophe," he warned. "The climate crisis is a crisis for the whole world, and we in the Middle East must understand it chiefly at the regional level, because its implications will be dramatic."

Herzog then called for a regional partnership to create a "renewable Middle East." His vision would include the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Jordan, Bahrain, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, and Israel's "Palestinian neighbors." Yet while the Palestinian Authority has advanced some climate policies, it will take massive investment for these ideas to translate into large-scale yields of clean

water from the Gaza Central Desalination Plant and solar energy in the West Bank.

These landmark mitigation and adaptation projects will be needed to manage the humanitarian, environmental, and economic issues caused by climate change. Having returned to Luxembourg from my visit to the region, it is clearer to me than ever that we need to bank on the current "climate consensus" to build momentum behind the kind of transformational climate projects envisaged in the European Green Deal. While making Europe carbon neutral by 2050, such investments can also help to foster stability and improve economic conditions in the Middle East.

My belief in the transformational power of smart climate investments has grown only stronger with time. Over the past few years, the EIB has become the world's largest multilateral financier of climate projects, with commitments to support at least €1 trillion (\$1.05 trillion) of investment this decade. However, in a region as complex as the Middle East, it will take more than just finance to make many of these projects happen. We will need much more cooperation among countries and key external stakeholders such as the United States and the European Union.

The EIB's new Jerusalem-based Representation for the West Bank and Gaza, which opened this month, can help foster such cooperation. It will develop partnerships and stronger cooperation in the West Bank and Gaza while also supporting transformational cross-border climate projects across the region. As such, it will be instrumental for the EU's climate diplomacy in the Middle East.

We aim to complement and scale up, from a European perspective, what US Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry has started with his diplomatic push for Middle Eastern countries to phase in renewable energy. That means financing the development of large-scale renewable energy and water cooperation in the region and building an even stronger climate consensus.

I am convinced that if climate diplomacy is backed by high-quality, innovative projects of regional significance, it can open up promising new avenues to pursue stability, growth, and peace in the Middle East. It's time to give climate finance a chance.

Werner Hoyer is President of the European Investment Bank.

Trump's Lessons for Defending the Rule of Law

CAMBRIDGE - A new show currently airing gives fresh meaning to the term reality TV. Call it American Democracy: Clear and Present Danger. It should be required viewing. Almost 18 months after the January 6, 2021, storming of the US Capitol, a House of Representatives select committee is publicizing the findings of its detailed investigation into the event. The committee has interviewed over 1,000 witnesses and examined 125,000 documents. It has held six hearings so far in June, with a view to trying to bring former President Donald Trump to justice.

Vice Chair Liz Cheney, the committee's senior Republican (and one of only two GOP representatives willing to serve on it), summed up the panel's conclusion: "President Trump summoned the mob, assembled the mob, and lit the flame of this attack." Showcasing evidence implicating the former president more directly in the insurrection than was previously known, the committee has documented his failure to call in National Guard units or additional police officers to help at the Capitol, and that he ignored his advisers' pleas to ask his supporters to stand down. Trump appeared to be directly encouraging violence. The picture the committee paints is one of a premeditated attack on democracy, rather than a spontaneous crowd combustion.

Former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani and John Eastman, a conservative lawyer and academic, appear to have been the "brains" behind the attempted coup (cooking up a plot that Trump knew to be illegal), while the far-right Proud Boys and Oath Keepers provided much of the brawn. The focus of their efforts was to pressure then-Vice President Mike Pence to refuse to certify the 2020 presidential election, which Trump lost to Joe Biden. There is also evidence of ongoing attempts to coerce officials in some states to reverse the result. A shocking revelation from the hearings this week indicates that Trump, himself, sought to join the mob.

Several former Trump loyalists have testified against him. Former Attorney General Bill Barr dismissed Trump's election lies as "bullshit." Trump's daughter, Ivanka, and his son-in-law, Jared Kushner, effectively stated that they accepted the result (prompting a vitriolic rant from Trump). Capitol police officer Caroline Edwards' description of "carnage" and "slipping in people's blood" was a chilling reminder that five people died and 140 law-enforcement officers were injured in the attack.

The conservative federal judge Michael Luttig warned that Trump is "a clear and present danger" to American democracy - a plea addressed to the Republican Party, which continues to close ranks around the former president. House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy is boycotting the hearings; most Republicans are ignoring them and stonewalling. Trump remains the GOP's central figure, retains the support of a majority of the party's base, and may well run for the presidency again in 2024.

Trump's political modus operandi contains a lesson about the power of emotional engagement. Back in 2016, many pundits were skeptical about Trump's electoral prospects, given his lack of a strategy that they could recognize. They searched in vain for logic and facts in his incoherent speeches, but missed the emotional thread in his messages that bound voters to him.

The psychologist Paul Ekman identifies six basic emotions: fear, anger, sadness, joy, disgust, and surprise. Trump is to one of those - anger - what Mozart was to G Minor. And he seems to have an innate capacity to transmit his anger to his supporters. That was Trump's masterstroke in 2016: substituting feelings for facts.

The debate about the primacy of "feeling" versus "thinking," including a heated and high-profile exchange between the social psychologist Robert Zajonc and the psychologist Richard Lazarus, was central to psychology in the 1980s. Zajonc made a compelling case for "affective primacy," establishing that, in many cases, including in decision-making, affect (roughly speaking, emotion) appears to precede cognition, with justifications often being produced ex post.

More recently, the psychologist Jonathan Haidt of New York University has argued that "moral action covaries with moral emotion more than with moral reasoning" - or, as he famously put it, the emotional dog wags its rational tail. For many Americans, Trump has all but put this dog on a leash. By contrast, and despite growing evidence, most American liberals remain determined to bury emotion and focus on the rational. That's like bringing a knife to a gunfight.

Emotional responses are, by design, quick, automatic, and pervasive - and tend to overpower conflicting judgments. In his seminal 1872 work, The Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals, Charles Darwin argued that our affective responses are on a continuum from nonhuman animals and derive from split-second reactions that emerged as existential requirements of survival (for example, to escape a predator). As psychologists currently understand it, "organisms had reflex-like responses that allowed them to respond to environmental threats ... and emotional expressions were residues of these responses." It is this survival instinct to which Trump appeals.

But our nonhuman ancestral inheritance does not condemn us to be ruled by our baser instincts. The philosopher David Hume argued that moral sentiment was a better guide than reason alone. We may know that a particular action might harm many people, but unless we care about those people or about human well-being, that awareness does not guide our action.

With both interest in the Capitol riot and perceptions of Trump's culpability declining, the January 6 Committee faces an uphill task. But by taking a leaf out of Trump's book and courting public opinion, the panel has got its priorities right. The production value of the hearings has been excellent, and instead of relying solely on logical arguments, the committee is creating a compelling narrative in a multi-part docudrama that is more likely to elicit moral engagement.

About 20 million Americans tuned in for the first hearing, similar to the number that watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade on TV and well above the 4.6 million to 7.6 million who saw the season finale of Trump's The Apprentice. At the moment, the score looks like Trump: 0, Rule of Law: 1. But the key to this all-important drama's success will be keeping viewers hooked.

Antara Haldar is Associate Professor of Empirical Legal Studies at the University of Cambridge.

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The Fight of Our Lives

DAVOS - Since the last Davos meeting, the course of history has changed dramatically. Russia invaded Ukraine. This has shaken Europe to its core. The European Union was established to prevent such a thing from happening. Even when the fighting stops, as it eventually must, the situation will never revert to the status quo ante. Indeed, the Russian invasion may turn out to be the beginning of World War III, and our civilization may not survive it.

The invasion of Ukraine did not come out of the blue. The world has been increasingly engaged over the past half-decade, or longer, in a struggle between two diametrically opposed systems of governance: open society and closed society. Let me define the differences as simply as I can.

In an open society, the role of the state is to protect the freedom of the individual; in a closed society, the role of the individual is to serve the rulers of the state. Other issues that concern all humanity - fighting pandemics and climate change, avoiding nuclear war, maintaining global institutions - have had to take a back seat to this systemic struggle. That's why I say our civilization may not survive.

I became engaged in what I call political philanthropy in the 1980s, a time when a large part of the world languished under Communist rule. I wanted to help people who were outraged and fought against oppression. I established one foundation after another in rapid succession in what was then the Soviet empire. The effort turned out to be more successful than I expected.

Those were exciting days. They also coincided with a period of personal financial success that allowed me to increase my annual giving from \$3 million in 1984 to more than \$300 million three years later.

After the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001, the tide began to turn against open societies. Repressive regimes are now ascendant, and open societies are under siege. Today, China and Russia represent the greatest threats to open societies.

I have pondered long and hard why this shift took place. Part of the answer is to be found in the rapid development of digital technology, especially artificial intelligence.

Technology with Fangs

In theory, AI ought to be politically neutral: it can be used for good or bad. In practice, the effect is asymmetric. AI is particularly good at producing instruments of control that help repressive regimes and endanger open societies. COVID-19 also helped legitimize such instruments of control, because they really are useful in dealing with the pandemic.

The rapid development of AI has gone hand in hand with the rise of Big Tech and social-media platforms. In short order, these conglomerates have come to dominate the global economy, their reach extending around the world.

These developments have had far-reaching consequences. They have sharpened the conflict between China and the United States. China has turned its tech platforms into national champions. The US has been more hesitant, because it has worried about the effect of these technologies on individual freedom.

These different attitudes shed new light on the conflict between the two different systems of governance. President Xi Jinping's China, which collects personal data to surveil and control its citizens more aggressively than any other country in history, ought to benefit from these developments. But, as I shall explain, that is not the case.

Putin and Xi Pair Up

Let me first turn to recent developments, in particular the meeting between Xi and Russian President Vladimir Putin on February 4 at the opening ceremony of the Beijing Winter Olympics. They issued a long statement announcing that the cooperation between them has "no limits." Putin informed Xi of a "special military operation" in Ukraine, but it is unclear whether he told Xi that he had a full-scale invasion in mind. US and British military experts certainly told their Chinese counterparts what was in store. Xi approved, but asked Putin to wait until the conclusion of the Winter Games.

For his part, Xi resolved to hold the Olympics despite the appearance of the highly contagious Omicron variant, that was just beginning to spread in China. The organizers went to great lengths to create an airtight bubble for the competitors, and the Olympics concluded without a hitch.

But Omicron established itself in the community, first in Shanghai, China's largest city and commercial hub. Now it is spreading to the rest of the country. Yet Xi persists to this day with his zero-COVID policy, which has inflicted great hardships on Shanghai's population by forcing residents into makeshift quarantine centers instead of allowing them to self-quarantine at home. Shanghai's inhabitants have been driven to the verge of open rebellion.

Many people are puzzled by this seemingly irrational approach to the pandemic, but I can give you the explanation: Xi harbors a guilty secret. He never told the Chinese people that they had been inoculated with a vaccine that was designed for the original Wuhan variant of the disease, but which offers little protection against new variants.

Xi cannot afford to come clean about this, because he is at a very delicate moment in his career. His second term in office expires this fall, and he wants to be appointed to an unprecedented third term and eventually become ruler for life. He has carefully choreographed a process that would allow him to fulfill his life's ambition, and everything must be subordinated to this goal.

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

United Methodist Volunteers Donates Vehicle

A group of volunteers that aimed to empower young people and support the elderly in the United Methodist Church and the religious community has donated a vehicle to a church.

The vehicle was donated following the commissioning

of the Volunteers in Mission (VIM), Willie Benson Administrative Council Chair said the ceremony of the volunteers was to continue the works of Christ in his vineyard.

"The local VIM has carried out meaningful projects and we must all be glad that they are being commissioned

church.

Meanwhile, the co-team lead, Bettie Johnson-Mbayo, said the vehicle was donated to the church to strengthen the church' evangelical arm.

Madam Mbayo said there is a need to consistently volunteer as it helps struggling families in and out of the Christian faith.

"We are aware of many hurdles that the church is faced with but our team will be willing to help."

The Everett Jonathan Goodridge United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (EJGUMVIM) is a group of volunteers who engages in outreach either in their community as United Methodists or to a neighbor in Christian faith, religious or non-religious grouping.

Our vision is supported by the LAC/UMVIM and supervised by the St. Paul River District VIM. In late March the E.J.G Volunteers in Mission held an optical medical outreach that assembled over 120 attendants resulting in ten persons undergoing free surgery at J.F.K at the expense of the volunteers.

During the medical outreach, medical examiners did assessments for diabetes and hypertension for walk-in patients named the Everett Jonathan Goodridge.



ceremony of the volunteers at the E.J. Goodridge UMC in Barnesville.

Before the donation, the senior pastor, Theophilus Geddeh preached on the theme "You are not a waste" from the text Jeremiah 1.

During the commissioning

today."

He urged VIM' to render services to God and humankind," we urge you serve with humility, diligence in anticipation that God will reward you," said Benson.

Father thanked members of E.J G Volunteers in Mission for their support of the

Lutheran Church consecrates new Bishop

By Naneka A. Hoffman

The newly consecrated Bishop of the Lutheran Church of Liberia identifies fear, complacency, self-centeredness and lack of discernment as locusts eating the fabrics of the Liberian society.

Bishop/Rev. G. Victor Padmore says fear and indecision have caused Liberians to lack of integrity, and unable to do the right thing, saying "We are afraid to do the right thing, we have become indecisive. Our fear is not fear of God but man. We see the truth but decide the opposite."

Speaking Sunday, July 3, 2022 at the St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Monrovia after his consecration as the 5th Presiding Bishop of the LCL, he noted that Liberians are complacent or satisfied with doing wrongs.

"We do not want to make positive moves. Even if the wrong things are happening, we are satisfied", Bishop Padmore adds.

He notes that Self-Centeredness (I, me, and myself) is not only found in the social structure but even

in the church, adding "Even though others are crying from neglect and abandonment, we refused to hear."

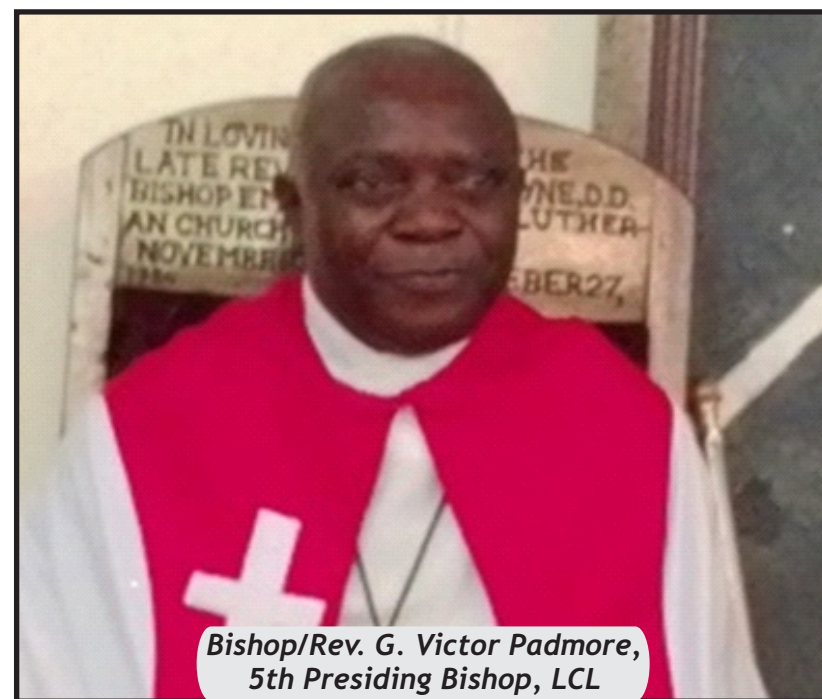
He explains that these are locusts eating the fabrics of both the society and the church.

The Lutheran Bishop continues that a lack of discernment between what is important and what can wait is another locust impeding the growth of the country. "If the church should go forward, we must

discern what we can do now and what later."

"Moving forward needs all of us. It needs our time, talent, and possession, but more importantly, it needs our integrity. Those who want to help us, those who want to accompany us are grading our integrity. The lack of discernment leads to Spiritual Immaturity."

According to him, the lack of fear of God leads to lack of spiritual maturity thus, he says Liberians are spiritually immature. "So, we do not see



Bishop/Rev. G. Victor Padmore,
5th Presiding Bishop, LCL

PATEL seeks US\$20m government loan

By Lincoln G. Peters

The National Chairman of the Patriotic Entrepreneurs of Liberia (PATEL), Mr. Dominic Nimely, wants the Government of Liberia to support local Liberian - owned businesses through the allocation of US\$20m annually as loan.

In an exclusive interview with this paper at his office in Central Monrovia during the weekend, Nimely suggested that the loan will boost and ensure the economic viability of Liberian - owned businesses.

The Liberian entrepreneur said supporting and prioritizing Liberian - owned businesses are critical for the growth of the Liberian economy. Nimely told this paper that this will capacitate Liberian - owned businesses across the country and vastly empower local businesses. He also believes that it will create a competitive market environment between Liberian business and their foreign counterparts. Additionally, Nimely wants the Ministry of Commerce to effectively monitor the business environment to ensure that foreign businesses are not doing both retail and wholesale.

The PATEL Boss intoned that these acts are undermining the growth of the local businesses.

"There are several businesses set aside to be done only by Liberians, but foreigners are venturing into [them] with no remorse," Nimely lamented.

"This is seriously affecting us as local businesses, the Liberalization Policy," he continued.

He expressed frustration that banking institutions and other money lenders allegedly continue creating bottlenecks.

He believes this is also strangulating businesses. He alleged that foreign businesses are the ones directly benefiting from loans and other privileges as opposed to Liberian - owned businesses.

"Loans are not given to local



businesses, if by any chance you get it, the interest rate is so very high that to pay back becomes challenging," he said.

Nimely stated that you are placed at the point of death due to the pressure from the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA), the banking institutions, and APM Terminals.

He complained that APM Terminals does not accept Liberian dollars in its business operations.

According to him, if the business community was represented during the APM Terminals deal which states that the company should not receive taxes in Liberian dollars, that would have been rejected.

"How can you give 100% right to APM Terminals and agree in an agreement that they should not accept Liberian dollars currency?"

"That agreement and many others are things that we want to ratify because it's killing us and we have no voice in our country. He maintained that PATEL has petitioned the Legislature to ratify some of the business agreements to improve the business climate in Liberia. But Nimely said the lawmakers are the biggest problem to economic growth due to their quest to prioritize personal interest over national interest. "Our legislators are poor and hungry, therefore, they sign all kinds of mess that is killing the business community and call it [an] agreement," Nimely said.

Mr. Nimely urged Liberians to stop voting for hungry people in power. He said these are some of the reasons the country is poor because officials are not afraid of compromising their integrity for little or nothing. --Edited by Winston W. Parley

ourselves as a locust that has eaten up the good years of our church and country."

Bishop Padmore recollects that Liberia was once a place considered as the Grain Coast, and people from other land found the country as a place of rest.

He says Lofa and Nimba counties were once referred to as the bread baskets of Liberia and pointed to the Lutheran Training Institute in Zorzor, Lofa County of the institutions that once championed the cause of education here.

He adds that people came

from across the country to acquire education, moral character and integrity at the LTI, but asks, "Where are these important legacies that put us on the map? Where?"

Bishop G. Victor Padmore is 5th Presiding Bishop of the Lutheran Church in Liberia.

He notes that today, everyone in Liberia is a pastor, adding that from president to senator, from nurses to doctors even the zogoes are preaching, yet still the country's morality and integrity is constantly under question. "Where is our integrity?" he asks.

Editing by Jonathan Browne

**Press Statement by Chairperson, Madam Davidetta Browne Lansanah
for the Announcement of the Second Provisional Results
2022 Lofa County Senatorial By-election.**

James M. Fromayan Conference Hall – NEC HQ

1 July 2022

**Madam Co-chair and fellow Commissioners;
Fellow Liberians;
Partners of the NEC;
Members of the Press;
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.**

INTRODUCTION

Welcome again to the Headquarters of the National Elections Commission. Today's press conference is in continuation of the announcement of results from the 28 June 2022 Senatorial By-election in Lofa County.

Before proceeding to the reading of the results, our attention has been drawn to attempts by some to misinform the public with fake reports. Suffice it to say that those fake reports do not represent the official results. The election process is such that the agents of the candidates and independent observers are at the polls from the start through the counting of the votes. After the counting of the votes at each polling place, the results are recorded on a carbon-copy document known as the record of the count which has five pages. The information that is written on the top page appears on all of the bottom pages. Party agents sign the record of the counts and one copy each is given to the two agents of the candidates that obtained the first and second highest votes. A copy of the count is then pasted on the wall for public viewing. One is placed in the ballot box while the original is placed in the Tamper Evident Envelope (TEE-3). The original of the records of the counts are taken to the magisterial office for tally where they are opened in the presence of party agents and independent observers present for the electronic tabulation of the results. The tallied results are then transmitted to NEC Headquarters for public announcement. Hence, any person who believes that the official results are different from what he or she has can avail him or herself of the legal process in keeping with Article 83(c) of the Liberian Constitution.

All of the records of the counts and the tallied results are a matter of public record and we will make them available for journalists who are interested in viewing them.

RESULTS

As you will recall, of the **454** polling places In Lofa County, we, on 30 June 2022, reported the tallied results of **381**, constituting **83.92%**. We are pleased to announce that since yesterday's conference, the tally team has tallied the results from the remaining **73** polling places, thus constituting **100%**.

The results are as follows:



Republic of Liberia
NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION (NEC)
FINAL TALLY REPORT (CONSOLIDATED)
SENATE

Friday, July 1, 2022 10:14 AM



Form ET-04

County: Lofa

454 Polling Place(s) of 454 Polling Places (100.00%)

Candidates	Votes Obtained	Percent of Valid Votes
CYRUS, MOMO TARNUEKOLLIE (IND)	5,687	9.42%
FOFANA, MARIAMU BEYAN (IND)	6,010	9.95%
JALLAH, JOSEPH KPATOR (IND)	22,019	36.46%
KORTIMAI, GALAKPAI W. (UP)	21,229	35.15%
KUPEE, SUMO G. (PUP)	2,828	4.68%
SAMAH, GEORGE BEYAN (IND)	2,621	4.34%
Total Valid Votes:	60,394	100.0%
Total Invalid Votes:	2,125	
Total Votes:	62,519	



Republic of Liberia
NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION (NEC)
DECLARATION OF PRELIMINARY TALLY RESULTS
SENATE

Thursday, June 30, 2022 11:22 AM

** Elections falls under jurisdiction of multiple Magisterial Offices, consolidated tally report to be provided by National Tally Center **



Form ET-05 (b)

Magisterial Area: Lofa (Lower), Team 1 of 2

Candidates	Votes Obtained	Percent of Valid Votes
CYRUS, MOMO TARNUEKOLLIE (IND)	473	3.0%
FOFANA, MARIAMU BEYAN (IND)	553	3.5%
JALLAH, JOSEPH KPATOR (IND)	8,834	55.2%
KORTIMAI, GALAKPAI W. (UP)	5,770	36.0%
KUPEE, SUMO G. (PUP)	173	1.1%
SAMAH, GEORGE BEYAN (IND)	212	1.3%
Total Valid Votes:	16,015	100.0%
Total Invalid Votes:	460	
Total Votes:	16,475	



Name of Magistrate ROBERT SELE JR
Signature of Magistrate [Signature]

Name and Signature of Party/Candidate Representatives

1. <u>James C. K. K. K.</u>	13.
2. <u>Augustine E. K.</u>	14.
3. <u>James K. K. K.</u>	15.
4. <u>James K. K. K.</u>	16.
5. <u>James K. K. K.</u>	17.
6. <u>James K. K. K.</u>	18.
7. <u>James K. K. K.</u>	19.
8. <u>James K. K. K.</u>	20.
9. <u>James K. K. K.</u>	21.
10. <u>James K. K. K.</u>	22.
11. <u>James K. K. K.</u>	23.
12. <u>James K. K. K.</u>	24.



Republic of Liberia
NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION (NEC)
DECLARATION OF PRELIMINARY TALLY RESULTS
SENATE

Thursday, June 30, 2022 12:06 PM

** Elections falls under jurisdiction of multiple Magisterial Offices, consolidated tally report to be provided by National Tally Center **



Form ET-05 (b)

Magisterial Area: Lofa (Lower), Team 2 of 2

Candidates	Votes Obtained	Percent of Valid Votes
CYRUS, MOMO TARNUEKOLLIE (IND)	823	5.5%
FOFANA, MARIAMU BEYAN (IND)	1,309	8.8%
JALLAH, JOSEPH KPATOR (IND)	8,528	57.2%
KORTIMAI, GALAKPAI W. (UP)	3,475	23.3%
KUPEE, SUMO G. (PUP)	116	0.8%
SAMAH, GEORGE BEYAN (IND)	856	4.4%
Total Valid Votes:	14,907	100.0%
Total Invalid Votes:	428	
Total Votes:	15,335	



Name of Magistrate ROBERT SELE JR
Signature of Magistrate [Signature]

Name and Signature of Party/Candidate Representatives

1. <u>Hubbard P. Thakath Ind.</u>	13.
2. <u>Samuel M. K. K.</u>	14.
3. <u>Henry T. K. K.</u>	15.
4. <u>Johnny J. K. K.</u>	16.
5. <u>Johnny J. K. K.</u>	17.
6. <u>Johnny J. K. K.</u>	18.
7. <u>Johnny J. K. K.</u>	19.
8. <u>Johnny J. K. K.</u>	20.
9. <u>Johnny J. K. K.</u>	21.
10. <u>Johnny J. K. K.</u>	22.
11. <u>Johnny J. K. K.</u>	23.
12. <u>Johnny J. K. K.</u>	24.



Republic of Liberia
NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION (NEC)
DECLARATION OF PRELIMINARY TALLY RESULTS
SENATE

Thursday, June 30, 2022 2:01 PM

** Elections falls under jurisdiction of multiple Magisterial Offices, consolidated tally report to be provided by National Tally Center **



Form ET-05 (b)

Magisterial Area: Lofa (Upper), Team 1 of 2

Candidates	Votes Obtained	Percent of Valid Votes
CYRUS, MOMO TARNUEKOLLIE (IND)	2,094	13.1%
FOFANA, MARIAMU BEYAN (IND)	2,084	13.0%
JALLAH, JOSEPH KPATOR (IND)	2,941	18.9%
KORTIMAI, GALAKPAI W. (UP)	6,107	39.5%
KUPEE, SUMO G. (PUP)	1,399	8.9%
SAMAH, GEORGE BEYAN (IND)	689	4.5%
Total Valid Votes:	15,313	100.0%
Total Invalid Votes:	687	
Total Votes:	16,000	



Republic of Liberia
NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION (NEC)
DECLARATION OF PRELIMINARY TALLY RESULTS
SENATE

Thursday, June 30, 2022 2:02 PM

** Elections falls under jurisdiction of multiple Magisterial Offices, consolidated tally report to be provided by National Tally Center **



Form ET-05 (b)

Magisterial Area: Lofa (Upper), Team 2 of 2

Candidates	Votes Obtained	Percent of Valid Votes
CYRUS, MOMO TARNUEKOLLIE (IND)	2,297	15.2%
FOFANA, MARIAMU BEYAN (IND)	2,094	14.5%
JALLAH, JOSEPH KPATOR (IND)	1,715	12.1%
KORTIMAI, GALAKPAI W. (UP)	5,877	41.5%
KUPEE, SUMO G. (PUP)	1,140	8.1%
SAMAH, GEORGE BEYAN (IND)	1,055	7.5%
Total Valid Votes:	14,158	100.0%
Total Invalid Votes:	550	
Total Votes:	14,709	



Name of Magistrate Albert F. Smith
Signature of Magistrate [Signature]

Date June 30, 2022

Name and Signature of Party/Candidate Representatives

1. <u>Sekou B. K. K.</u>	13.
2. <u>Tekel E. K. K.</u>	14.
3. <u>Victor M. K. K.</u>	15.
4. <u>Victor M. K. K.</u>	16.
5. <u>Victor M. K. K.</u>	17.
6. <u>Victor M. K. K.</u>	18.
7. <u>Victor M. K. K.</u>	19.
8. <u>Victor M. K. K.</u>	20.
9. <u>Victor M. K. K.</u>	21.
10. <u>Victor M. K. K.</u>	22.
11. <u>Victor M. K. K.</u>	23.
12. <u>Victor M. K. K.</u>	24.



Name of Magistrate Albert F. Smith
Signature of Magistrate [Signature]

Date June 30, 2022

Name and Signature of Party/Candidate Representatives

1. <u>Augustine E. K. K.</u>	13.
2. <u>Augustine E. K. K.</u>	14.
3. <u>Augustine E. K. K.</u>	15.
4. <u>Augustine E. K. K.</u>	16.
5. <u>Augustine E. K. K.</u>	17.
6. <u>Augustine E. K. K.</u>	18.
7. <u>Augustine E. K. K.</u>	19.
8. <u>Augustine E. K. K.</u>	20.
9. <u>Augustine E. K. K.</u>	21.
10. <u>Augustine E. K. K.</u>	22.
11. <u>Augustine E. K. K.</u>	23.
12. <u>Augustine E. K. K.</u>	24.

With **100%** of the polling places having been tallied, the Commission hereby declares **Independent Candidate Jallah, Joseph Kpator** as the winner of the 28 June 2022 Senatorial By-election in Lofa County.

Please note that these results will be available on NEC's website (www.necliberia.org/results).

The NEC wishes to thank the people of Lofa County, the Government of Liberia for providing the funding, the Joint Security, other stakeholders and the over **2,000** temporary staff who helped in making the conduct of the 28 June 2022 Lofa Senatorial By-election successful.

THANK YOU

Français

Élection partielle de Lofa : Un avant-goût de 2023

La Commission électorale nationale (NEC) a déclaré le candidat soutenu par le parti au pouvoir Me. Joseph K. Jallah, vainqueur de l'élection partielle sénatoriale de Lofa, et c'est définitif.

Il a remporté la victoire en obtenant 36,46 % du total des suffrages exprimés, tandis que Kortima Galakkpai, son rival le plus proche, candidat du Parti de l'unité, ancien parti au pouvoir, a obtenu 35,15 %, du moins selon la commission électorale nationale qui se dit ouverte à toute sorte de contestation judiciaire contre le résultat.

L'élection a fait suite à des mois de batailles juridiques sur tous les fronts : premièrement, délégitimer le résultat de l'élection de décembre 2020 de l'ancien ministre de la Défense J. Brownie Samukai sur la base de sa condamnation pénale ; la bataille juridique entre les membres de la Collaboration des Partis politiques (CPP) désormais fragmentés ; le procès pour contrefaçon du leader politique de l'ANC, M.

Alexander B. Cummings et les luttes intestines amères au sein du Liberty Party de feu Me Charles Walker Brumskine.

Par conséquent, c'est une opposition profondément divisée qui a pris part aux élections. Cela est normal car pendant que les leaders d'opposition s'affrontaient entre eux, le parti au pouvoir lui était resté engagé auprès du peuple, vendant son candidat.

En dépit de la quantité de ressources dont elle disposait,

l'opposition n'avait aucune chance, car une élection se prépare sur le temps et exige une utilisation opportune des ressources. Il n'est pas seulement question de popularité. Ce qui est le plus important, c'est le fait que la défaite ait eu lieu dans le bastion de l'ancien parti au pouvoir de M. Joseph N. Boakai. En fait, le couronnement du sénateur

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Installation d'African Women Leaders Network en Guinée

Créé en 2017 à New York (aux Etats-Unis) sur initiative de Ellen Johnson Searlif, ancienne président de la République du Libéria, African Women Leaders Network (AWLN) existe déjà dans 29 pays en Afrique. Il compte aussi s'installer en Guinée où la mise en place de son "30ème chapitre" est prévue pour le 06 juillet prochain. Et, c'est en prélude de cette installation que les femmes leaders politiques de

Guinée ont tenu hier, mardi 28 juin 2022, une rencontre à Conakry. Une rencontre qui a permis à ces femmes de mettre en place un cadre de concertation dénommé "réseau des femmes leaders politiques de Guinée (RFLPG)", rapporte Guineematin.com à travers un de ses journalistes.

Le présent cadre de concertation va travailler sur six (6) axes stratégiques. Il s'agit notamment de la participation des femmes en politique,

l'inclusion financière, la mobilisation sociale, le leadership des jeunes filles et l'autonomisation des femmes rurales.

« Il faut savoir qu'on a adopté pas mal de stratégies ; mais, celles qu'on a privilégiées, c'est d'appeler chaque leader politique pour leur expliquer d'abord le bien-fondé de la mise en place du réseau AWLN, ce qu'est AWLN, quels sont les avantages de AWLN pour les femmes et pour toute une nation. Ensuite, leur dire que AWLN a décidé de lancer son 30ème chapitre en République de Guinée... Donc, le chapitre guinéen sera lancé le 6 juillet prochain. AWLN a décliné six axes stratégiques, c'est-à-dire six domaines : la participation des femmes en politique, l'inclusion financière, la mobilisation sociale, le leadership des jeunes filles, l'autonomisation des femmes rurales. Donc, chaque domaine doit s'organiser à l'interne pour avoir un seul répondant AWLN. Ce qui a fait aujourd'hui qu'on a eu toutes

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Éditorial

La désinformation lors des élections est dangereuse

Les partis politiques du Libéria sont en train de tolérer un précédent mauvais et très laid lors des élections. Ils ont la manie de diffuser la désinformation, annonçant la victoire de leur candidat avant la Commission électorale qui est investie du pouvoir de proclamer des résultats officiels.

L'élection partielle sénatoriale qui vient de se terminer dans le comté de Lofa en un exemple. Le Parti de l'Unité et la Coalition au pouvoir ont mobilisé leurs partisans respectifs dans la rue du comté pour célébrer la soi-disant victoire de leur candidat alors que la NEC n'avait pas encore entamé l'annonce des résultats officiels.

Quoique les bulletins de vote comptés soient affichés dans les bureaux de vote à la fin des scrutins, cela ne signifie pas qu'ils ont une valeur officielle. La désinformation est une recette pour le chaos et la violence.

À en croire des informations en provenance du district de Foya à Lofa après l'élection partielle, il y a eu des affrontements sanglants entre des partisans rivaux de la CDC et de l'UP, avant que les forces de sécurité conjointes n'interviennent et dispersent les groupes rivaux.

Un acte similaire s'était produit après les élections sénatoriales spéciales du 8 décembre 2020, en particulier dans le comté de Montserrado entre le sénateur Abraham Darius Dillon et le représentant Thomas Fallah du CDC, lorsqu'une station de radio pro-CDC a diffusé ses propres résultats, présentant le représentant Fallah comme vainqueur de l'élection, en donnant des résultats totalement différents de ce que la NEC a affiché dans les bureaux de vote du comté.

Lorsque cette malhonnêteté délibérée se produit, les dirigeants du parti concerné ferment les yeux. Ce qui est encore plus préoccupant, c'est que la NEC qui préside le scrutin ne réprime pas les personnes impliquées ou ne leur dit pas d'arrêter immédiatement.

Remarquez, ce ne sont que des exemples d'élections sénatoriales, et ils envoient un signal de ce à quoi s'attendre aux élections présidentielles et générales en 2023. De telles pratiques négatives et antidémocratiques ne devraient pas non plus avoir leur place dans nos processus électoraux, ni maintenant, ni dans le futur.

Nous appelons le gouvernement et la Commission électorale nationale non seulement à condamner ceux qui tentent de renverser nos processus démocratiques par une campagne de désinformation, mais à veiller à ce qu'ils soient traduits en justice pour faire face à la loi. Il est important que la NEC émette une mise en garde sérieuse avant, pendant et après une élection.

Il est important que nous, en tant que nation, fassions tout pour que nos élections soient exemptes de violence et d'actes qui jetteraient une ombre noire sur l'ensemble du processus uniquement pour des intérêts politiques égoïstes au détriment du bien commun. L'élection est un exercice démocratique et la démocratie devrait permettre de suivre son cours plutôt que de tricher ou de tromper les autres pour obtenir un avantage indu qui laisse place à des conséquences inimaginables.

Français

Élection partielle de Lofa :

élu a eu lieu dans la ville natale de Boakai, Foya.le réveil

L'élection partielle de Lofa qui vient de se terminer est un avant-goût de ce qui risque de se passer en 2023. Tant que les partis politiques de l'opposition continueront de se faire la guerre en public, les chances d'arracher le pouvoir des mains de la Coalition pour le Changement Démocratique seront minimes, voire farfelues.

N'oublions pas non plus que l'euphorie qui avait accueilli les victoires de l'opposition en décembre 2020 a disparu.

Beaucoup voudraient que le public croie que l'effondrement du bloc d'opposition de la CPP a été orchestré par des éléments du parti au pouvoir. Mais disons que cet argument devait être tenu avec une pincée de sel qu'il mérite, car les membres du bloc de l'opposition, en particulier la CPP, n'étaient pas honnêtes les uns avec les autres en premier lieu. La Bible ne dit-elle pas que l'ennemi d'un homme est issu de sa propre famille ou comme diraient les Libériens « si votre maison ne vous vend pas, la rue ne vous achètera pas ».

Par conséquent, on pourrait dire que l'effondrement de la CPP était principalement le résultat de la malhonnêteté de ses membres. Elle était vouée à l'échec dès le départ. Elle n'avait aucune base solide.

Ses idées et ses idéaux ont beau être bons, elle a

manqué des hommes honnêtes aux idéaux similaires pour réussir ensemble.

Ainsi, l'opposition ne devrait s'en prendre qu'à elle-même. Elle a tué l'élan qui a salué sa victoire en décembre 2020 immédiatement après cette élection de mi-mandat qui a laissé le parti au pouvoir si confus.

Maintenant, cette élection partielle devrait être une sonnette d'alarme. La campagne pour 2023 vient de commencer et la seule voie à suivre pour l'opposition est de commencer à assembler ses actes, enterrer ses hachettes et se renforcer, si elle veut vraiment que la CDC ne bénéficie que d'un seul manda.

Faire naître l'espoir du CDC

La victoire du candidat soutenu par le parti au pouvoir, Jallah, a ravivé l'espoir de la Coalition pour le changement démocratique au pouvoir avant les élections générales et présidentielles de 2023. L'espoir est si grand d'autant plus que la victoire a été remportée dans le fief de l'opposition.

Le leader politique de l'UP, Boakai, le leader politique du All Liberian Party (ALP), Benoni Urey, et d'autres membres de l'opposition, parmi lesquels le Sénateur Dillon et le Représentant Yekeh Kolubah ont fait le déplacement à Lofa. Le président George Weah n'y a pas été. Cela signifie également que la CDC n'a pas besoin de la présence de son chef politique sur le terrain pour faire le travail ; en termes simples, ses messages passent mieux que ceux de Boakai et de ses partisans. Il pourrait concentrer cette énergie sur d'autres domaines.

Installation d'African Women

ces femmes politiques, c'est parce qu'on est passé par les leaders politiques pour leur donner la quintessence même de la nécessité à créer l'unique cadre de concertation pour les femmes en politique afin qu'il soit le seul répondant à travailler avec AWLN, les partenaires au développement et le gouvernement. Il faut dire qu'AWLN est un réseau qui a été lancé par l'ancienne présidente du Libéria, Ellen Johnson Searlif et d'autres personnalités des Nations Unies. AWLN voudrait que les femmes participent de façon efficiente, effective et qualitative dans le développement de l'Afrique. C'est vraiment un réseau qui voudrait rassembler toutes

les femmes afin qu'elles participent au développement durable », a indiqué Mme Yanssané Bintou Touré.

Présente à cette réunion, Hadja Aïssata Daffé, ancienne ministre, a livré ses sentiments sur cette organisation qui regroupe les femmes venues de plus de 30 partis politiques.

« C'est pour une première en Guinée que nous mettons un réseau de femmes leaders en politique dans notre pays. C'est une occasion propice sur laquelle nous sommes tombées et nous avons décidé de nous mettre ensemble, de faire le réseautage de toutes ces plateformes afin que les femmes politiques puissent parler d'une même voix. Aujourd'hui, c'est chose faite. Étaient présents dans la salle plus de 30 partis politiques.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Werner Hoyer

Consensus climatique au Moyen-Orient

LUXEMBOURG - À Ramallah, la semaine dernière, j'ai parlé avec une adolescente nommée Miriam, qui souhaitait faire savoir combien lui a été utile l'une des 450 écoles alimentées en électricité par l'énergie solaire que la Banque européenne d'investissement a financées en Cisjordanie. S'exprimant dans un anglais parfait, Miriam était tout à fait consciente des défis posés par le changement climatique à la région. Mais elle était aussi pleine d'optimisme, et extraordinairement éloquente lorsqu'elle expliquait pourquoi le Moyen-Orient a besoin d'en faire plus pour capter les rayons du soleil, l'une des rares sources d'énergie propre dont il dispose en abondance.

Le lendemain, le Premier ministre israélien, Naftali Bennett, me rappelait que la BEI avait contribué à financer quatre des six usines de désalinisation d'Israël, dont celle qui, lorsqu'elle deviendra opérationnelle, en 2023, sera la plus importante au monde. Ce qu'il illustra d'une métaphore plaisante : presque les deux tiers de nos verres d'eau provenaient de projets soutenus par la BEI. Dans une région où la population croît, les Israéliens savent que des pénuries d'eau pourraient facilement déboucher sur de nouveaux conflits. Ils souhaitent développer des capacités de désalinisation plus importantes, afin d'être en mesure d'échanger de l'eau contre de l'énergie propre.

Les régimes de précipitation perturbés, les pénuries d'eau, et les événements météorologiques extrêmes de plus en plus fréquents - notamment les vagues de chaleur et les incendies - touchent aussi bien les Israéliens que les Palestiniens, et la nécessité de s'attaquer au problème semble l'une des rares questions sur lesquelles les deux parties sont d'accord. C'est ce que m'ont confirmé mes conversations avec le Premier ministre de l'Autorité palestinienne, Mohammad Shtayyeh. Dans un contexte de conflit, alors que presque toutes les mesures sont considérées comme profitant aux uns dans la mesure où elles nuisent aux autres, les projets liés au climat sont une exception.

Lors d'un discours au mois de février, le président israélien, Isaac Herzog, faisait observer que l'intensification des épisodes d'extrême chaleur constituait pour la région un avertissement. « S'il en est qui ne comprennent pas ce que cela signifie, laissez-moi leur expliquer : cela s'appelle une catastrophe, une authentique catastrophe », a-t-il lancé. « La crise climatique touche le monde entier, et nous autres, au Moyen-Orient, devons d'abord la comprendre au niveau régional, car ses conséquences seront terribles. »

Herzog s'est alors fait l'avocat d'un partenariat régional pour la création d'un « Moyen-Orient renouvelable ». Le projet comprendrait les Émirats arabes unis, l'Égypte, la Jordanie, Bahreïn, le Maroc, l'Arabie saoudite et les « voisins palestiniens » d'Israël. Néanmoins, si l'Autorité palestinienne a donné une impulsion à des mesures en faveur du climat, il faudra des investissements considérables pour que ces idées se traduisent par des collectes à grande

échelle d'eau potable provenant de l'usine centrale de désalinisation de Gaza et d'énergie solaire provenant de Cisjordanie.

Ces grands projets d'atténuation du changement climatique et d'adaptation à ses conséquences seront nécessaires pour gérer les problèmes humanitaires, environnementaux et économiques qu'il va poser. De retour au Luxembourg après ma visite dans la région, il m'apparaît plus clairement que jamais qu'il nous faut miser sur le « consensus climatique » pour profiter de la dynamique qui a lancé les projets de transformation en faveur du climat conçus au titre du Pacte vert pour l'Europe. Ces investissements, qui permettront à l'Europe d'atteindre la neutralité carbone d'ici 2050, peuvent aussi contribuer à renforcer la stabilité au Moyen-Orient et à y améliorer la situation économique.

Ma foi dans le pouvoir de transformation que peuvent avoir des investissements climatiques adaptés n'a fait que s'affermir avec le temps. Au cours de ces dernières années, la BEI est devenue le premier financeur multilatéral de la planète pour les projets en faveur du climat, et s'est engagée pour au moins 1 000 milliards d'euros (1 050 milliards de dollars) d'investissements sur cette décennie. Néanmoins, dans une région aussi complexe que le Moyen-Orient, il faudra plus que des financements pour faire aboutir ces projets. Nous aurons besoin d'une coopération renforcée entre les pays concernés et avec des parties prenantes extérieures comme les États-Unis et l'Union européenne.

La nouvelle représentation de la BEI pour la Cisjordanie et Gaza, installée à Jérusalem, qui a ouvert ses portes de mois-ci, peut contribuer à dynamiser ces efforts communs. Elle développera des partenariats et une coopération plus solide en Cisjordanie et à Gaza, tout en soutenant des projets transfrontaliers dans la région, qui ont vocation à transformer les choses. Ainsi sera-t-elle un élément clé de la diplomatie climatique de l'Union au Moyen-Orient.

Notre objectif est de contribuer à amplifier, dans une perspective européenne, ce que John Kerry, l'envoyé spécial du président des États-Unis pour le climat, a entrepris avec sa campagne diplomatique en faveur de la mise en place progressive d'une capacité de production d'énergie renouvelable. Cela signifie le financement du développement à grande échelle des renouvelables, la coopération hydrique dans la région et la construction d'un consensus climatique encore plus solide.

Je suis convaincu que si la diplomatie climatique est soutenue par des projets innovants à vocation régionale, de haute qualité, elle peut ouvrir de nouvelles voies vers la stabilité, la croissance et la paix au Moyen-Orient. Il est temps, désormais, de donner leur chance aux fonds pour le climat.

Traduit de l'anglais par François Boisivon

Werner Hoyer est président de la Banque européenne d'investissement.

LIBERIANS

DEBATE

By Naneka Hoffman

Liberians are still debating results of the 28 June senatorial By-election in Lofa County, won by CDC-supported Cllr. Joseph Kpartor Jallah against Unity Party Candidate Galakpai Kortimai.

In this random interview, The New Dawn gaged the opinions of several residents in Monrovia about the poll result particularly, from a county that is dubbed as stronghold of UP Standard Bearer, former Vice President Joseph Nyumah Boakai, as compiled below.



J. Forkpa Quoika

The By-election in Lofa was real freedom for the young people of Lofa. Time in memorial there has been a saying that for every time Lofians want to exercise their democratic right, the issue of tradition and custom always interplay. I started taking part in political activities in Lofa since 1985 with the National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL). At that time the forerunner was Action Party (LAP). Today, the county is still underdeveloped. So, the result was like an eye-opening; if you see

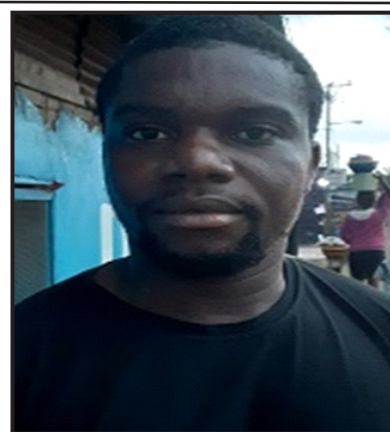
“I am satisfied with the result from Lofa County and I want to thank the Lofians there for exercising the right to vote their choice. And my view about the result from Lofa I’m very excited because other people were saying that Lofa County is a traditional area; different party

the margin, 22,019 votes is a clear indication. I like the way the Lofians really conducted themselves and I enjoy the result. I welcome the result hundred percent (100%). And the result is not only for the winner, but also for the young people of Lofa. We were in a political prison that we couldn’t make any decision but to say our uncle say. Yet, the uncle that kept the children for so many years without feeding them. The result will make the uncle to know that next time when he is going to Lofa, he will go as an uncle from his traveling bag and we will welcome him and say uncle coming.”



Romeo Johnnie

can’t go Lofa and win. So, the Lofians proved to us that Lofa is not only about tradition, but all about development and that is the result the people voted for.”



Nyanforh D. Nyanforh

“The result from Lofa County I think it is a lesson to Ambassador Joseph Boakai and the folks from Unity Party (UP) who always said

“Well firstly, I want to appreciate the people of Lofa County for the form and manner in which they conducted themselves during the By-election and I also want to commend the National Elections Commission for the good holding of the election. All those that participated in the election we want to say kudo to them and to the winner we want to say congratulation and those that lost we want to encourage them to keep working for their people. They shouldn’t be discouraged; it is democracy, let them respect the will of the people and collaborate with Cllr. Jallah for the betterment of Lofa county. The result is a boost for the CDC, ahead of the 2023 election because as you may be aware, Lofa County is a strong hope of the Unity Party especially, Ambassador Joseph N. Boakia, which is evidenced by his role in election activities in the county.

“Let me commend the people of Lofa for exercising their rights; in my mind, the Lofa By-election was not free and fair. I know the governing political party which I am a member of, the Congress for Democratic Change (CDC) what we observed in past by-election in District #15 in Montserrado County in 2019 between Abu Kamara and Senator Darius Dillon went bloody. But it was also followed by cash similarly; I hope the opinion that cash was dished out Vahun and Kolahun out because these are districts that far-to- reach districts in Lofa County. Results that came from there and each information came to our desk informed us that Unity Party

constantly that Mr. Cummings doesn’t have popularity. We always told them in the CPP that number wasn’t waiting for a particular person. Number changes based on the reality and they have seen it. Now they are pulled out of the CPP and we still remain there - ANC and LP. Now they’re getting to know that individual or one party can’t win without collaboration. So, based upon the result, they know that ANC and other political parties are key for us to collaborate and make George Weah a onetime President or to make the opposition a strong force to win election in this country.”



Emmanuel Paye Gonotee

So, to see Lofa County and judging from the amount of votes the CDC claimed and win over the opposition. Though CDC didn’t put out a candidate, but we supported Cllr. Jallah so, it is a boost for us. I think the people of Lofa County are grateful and we said constantly that our people will go for development over tradition. So, if Ambassador Boakai will only sit in Montserrado County and be living in utopia to say our people will always be in the line of tradition, it is saddening.”



Morris Gayboe

poll watchers were bribed and chased out, and they couldn’t get the actual votes. I recommended few days ago that there should be a re-run in those two districts and straight representation must be there to know the actual votes cast in Vahun and Kolahun.”

UP plans to block Jallah's certification

Executives of the former ruling Unity Party (UP) have been meeting as they gather evidence to prove that the just ended Lofa Senatorial by-election was rigged, sources told the New Dawn Monday.

The UP Executives including political leader Joseph N. Boakai, along with opposition sympathizers



Liberty Party Nyonblee Karnga-Lawrence and All Liberian Party-political leader Benoni Urey met on Monday, with another meeting scheduled for today Tuesday July 5, to announce their next plan of action.

The UP and its sympathizers, according to sources are alleging that the by-election was rigged in favor of government backed candidate Cllr. Joseph K. Jallah. Cllr. Jallah who immediately declared his membership to the ruling

party following the announcement of the official result by the National Elections Commission over the weekend.

NEC on Friday July 1 declared the heavily backed government candidate Cllr. Jallah as the winner of the Lofa County Senatorial by-election, after it said 100% of the polling places had reported.

due to his conviction in a criminal trial.

"As you will recall, of the 454 polling places in Lofa County, we on June 30, 2022, reported the tallied results of 381, constituting 83.92%," Madam Browne - Lansanah told a press conference over the weekend.

She detailed that the tally team has tallied the results from the remaining 73 polling places, constituting 100%, which put Cllr. Jallah at 36.46% and UP Kortimai at 35.15%.

But the UP, though yet to make it official, is contesting the result and has planned to announce their next plan of action today. Meanwhile, report emerging from Lofa indicates that the poor turned out on election day was a complete rebuffed of the entire process by majority of the people.

Out of a total of 187,775 registered voters in the county only 62,519 representing 33.29% of the voters turned out on June 28 to cast their votes. Out of this number, the Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) backed candidate obtained 22, 019 votes which summed up his 36.46%.

But experts say the 22,019 votes obtained by the CDC backed Jallah is just 11.72% of the total number of registered voters in the county-187,775, while his closest rival obtained 11.30% translating into 11.30%. They claimed that with such a low percentage of the total number of registered voters Jallah does not have the require majority vote and therefore he is illegitimate-but that is an argument for another time.

NEC: result reflects turnout

By Jonathan Browne

The National Elections Commission says results it released from the June 28, 2022, senatorial by-election in Lofa County in which Independent Candidate Joseph Kpator Jallah was officially declared as winner reflect the turned out.

NEC Chairperson Davidetta Browne Lansanah explains that the results came from Lower and Upper Lofa, containing a total of 454 polling places in the entire county.

She says initial preliminary tallied results from 381 polling places, constituting 83.92 percent released on June 30, 2022, came from both Lower and Upper Lofa County, contrary to public perception that only one region was being reported.

She details that Upper Lofa reported a total of 30709 votes, representing 100

percent with valid votes at 29,472 and invalid votes totaling 1,237, while total votes that came from Lower Lofa were 31,810, representing 100 percent with valid votes at 30,922 and 888 invalid votes recorded.

"All of the records of the counts and the tallied results

are a matter of public record, and we will make them available for journalists who are interested in viewing them", Madam Browne-Lansanah assures.

However, the NEC Chair says any person who believes that official results from the senatorial by-election are different from what he or she



Starts from back page

EPS officer kills

2022, when an alleged white Hyundai Jeep with security lights in front of the bonnet stopped, and the driver called out to two bystanders; for what exactly, Philips couldn't account.

But he continues that while the two bystanders attempted responding to the driver's call, one of them noticed that the driver was allegedly pulling out a gun from the side pocket of the car's door, so he immediately alarmed his three friends and they fled. According to Philips, the driver of the white Hyundai Jeep then disembarked and allegedly put his gun in readiness and discharged a warning shot in the air which "accidentally" hit Motorcyclist Valentine Teck Johnson, who was heading from inside Police Academy Community in the head, instantly killing him.

He adds that two passengers on the bike fell to the ground and sustained minor injuries, while the driver of the Hyundai Jeep, who allegedly discharged the firearm, drove off the scene towards the Police Academy-Boulevard route dubbed as Lover Street at a high speed.

He says Police arrived on the scene thirty minutes later and allegedly found the empty shell of the bullet fired but saw no weapon with Victim Johnson.

Philips continues that the Police then quickly condoned the scene, pending arrival of coroners to commence investigation, saying that few hours later, the Liberia National Police announced that it has arrested an alleged perpetrator, Patrick

Kollie.

Following the incident, the Executive Protection Service (EPS) issued a statement Monday, extending condolences to family of the late Valentine T. Johnson.

The EPS confirms that the late Johnson died because of a shooting incident involving one of its agents, Patrick Kollie. "The incident reportedly took place on the Police Academy Road during the early hours of July 4, 2022," said the EPS. "Upon the order of Director Trokon N. Roberts, Agent Patrick Kollie has, with immediate effect, been disrobed and turned over to the Liberia National Police for investigation," it concluded. When contacted Monday evening, Police spokesman Moses Carter confirmed that the suspect is in police custody.

Carter said the accused is being investigated in connection with the shooting incident.

"He has not spoken to us yet; he has been acquainted with his rights and so we are hopeful of hearing from him ... tomorrow," Carter said. He explained that the accused has the right to remain silent until his lawyer appears.

Meanwhile, family of the late Valentine Teck Johnson is demanding justice.

An elder brother the deceased, Hence D. Bryan in a press conference described the late Johnson as a humble person and student of the STARZ College in Sinkor. Bryan expressed frustration and sadness over the incident but called on the Liberian National Police to speed up investigation so that the perpetrator can face justice. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

has, may use legal means to challenge the process in keeping with Article 83© of the Constitution of Liberia.

The NEC on Friday, July 1, 2022, released final tallied results from the remaining 73 polling places in the county, constituting 100 percent of the total votes cast and declared Independent Candidate Joseph Kpator Jallah, who received 22,019 votes, representing 36.46 percent, as winner against opposition Unity Party Candidate Galakpai W. Kortimai with 21,229 votes or 35.15 percent of the total votes.

"With 100% of the polling places having been tallied, the Commission hereby declares Independent Candidate Jallah, Joseph Kpator as the winner of the 28 June 2022 senatorial By-election in Lofa County", the NEC announced here on Friday.

Candidate Jallah was heavily supported by the ruling Congress for Democratic Change (CDC) that has been celebrating victory even before the official results were announced.

Six candidates including one female contested in the Lofa Senatorial By-election, but the race was tight between the CDC-endorsed candidate Jallah and Kortimai of the UP.

Prior to the preliminary results, the UP issued a statement in Monrovia, saying it

would accept the results once the polls were considered free and fair.

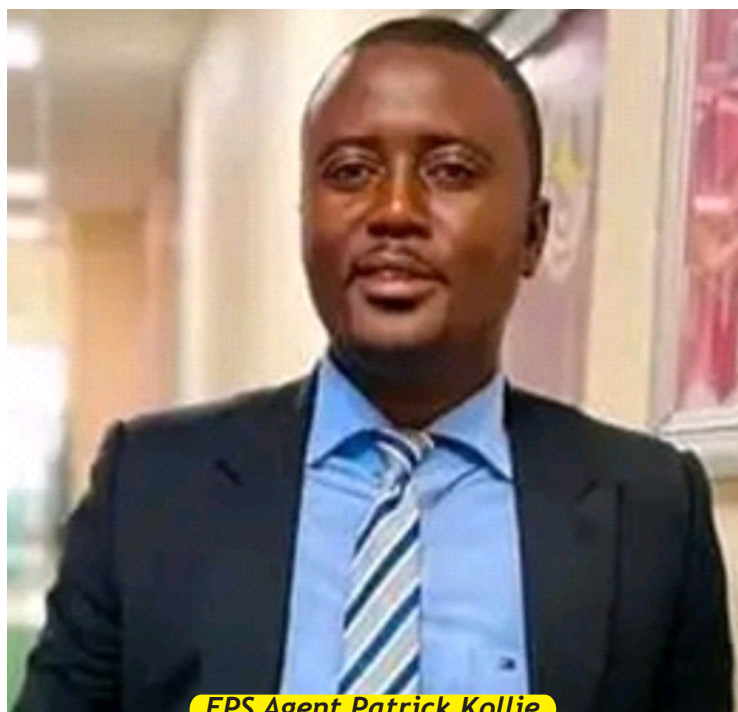
The Elections Coordinating Committee (ECC) that deployed 168 observers in all five electoral districts of Lofa County to observe the by-election noted that voters turned out peacefully on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, to vote with no serious critical incident.

It has commended all voters of Lofa in protecting the peace and democratic stability of Liberia during the senatorial by-election, adding that voting generally commenced on time in most of the observed polling places and all sensitive voting materials were present.

However, it reported that 48% of observed precincts and polling places were not accessible to people with disabilities or the elderly due to the use of stairs and pointed to inconsistencies in how NEC staff addressed issue of voters whose names were missing from the FRR.

"For instance, in 11% of polling places observed by the ECC, voters with valid voter cards but whose names were missing on the FRR were permitted to vote. In keeping with the NEC Polling and Counting Manual Chapter 4 on 'Determining Who May Not Vote' sub-section € states that "A person may not vote if she/he cannot be found in the voters' roll", ECC explained.

EPS officer kills motorcyclist



The late Valentine Teck Johnson

EPS Agent Patrick Kollie

By: Emmanuel wise Jipoh

An agent of the Executive Protection Service (EPS), the elite guards of the Liberian Presidency has shot and killed a man identified as Valentine Teck Johnson. The shooting occurred here on late Sunday, June 3, 2022, near Police Academy Junction in Paynesville.

The EPS Officer has been

identified as Patrick Kollie, reportedly assigned with the Managing Director of the National Port Authority (NPA) Bill Tweahway.

The victim, a motorcyclist, was reportedly a resident of Police Academy Community in Paynesville, outside Monrovia.

Eyewitnesses narrate that the late Valentine Johnson was also a student of STARZ

College of Science and Technology in Sinkor, Monrovia. He was shot while riding his motorbike towards the route of the Police Academy Junction.

One eyewitness, Philips Martin, narrates those four unidentified men were refreshing at an entertainment center around the Police Academy Junction during midnight hours on Sunday, July 3,

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