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**MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES**  
**LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR**

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025	L\$200.0186/US\$1.00	L\$202.2598/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.

# The New Dawn

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VOL. 15 NO. 143      TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025      PRICE LD\$50.00

# UMC wins class action

**P11**

*-Court confirms UMC ownership of churches, schools, hospitals, and retains possession of its properties across Liberia*

# Boakai's Japan trip sparks Deja Vu debate

**P11**

*-Criticism mounts here against the size of President Boakai's official delegation to Japan*

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# Continental News

## M23 rebels suspend peace talks with DR Congo government

The main rebel group in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, the M23, has walked away from peace talks with the

as negotiations were set to resume, the M23 said its representatives were not present in Qatar.

M23 spokesperson Lawrence

However, the Congolese armed forces accused the M23 of launching attacks almost daily in the North Kivu and South Kivu provinces. The Qatar peace deal was supposed to be signed by Monday.

On Sunday, an unnamed official from Qatar told the AFP news agency that a draft agreement had been shared with DR Congo and the M23. The agreement runs alongside a peace deal between DR Congo and Rwanda, which was brokered by the US in June. DR Congo, the UN and numerous Western powers have accused Rwanda of backing the M23.

Despite participating in the Washington peace talks, Rwanda has long denied the allegations against it. The Washington peace deal, hailed by President Donald Trump as a "glorious triumph", could grant the US access to DR Congo's vast mineral wealth. However, it is the latest in a long line of failed peace deals in the region. During the ongoing conflict, thousands of people have been killed and hundreds of thousands of civilians forced from their homes, the UN says. BBC



The M23 has set up its own administration in areas it controls

government, saying it will not return unless the authorities adhere to a previous ceasefire deal. Fighting between the two sides escalated in January, when the M23 captured large parts of the mineral-rich east, including the regional capital Goma. In Qatar last month, the rebels and the government signed a ceasefire agreement, intended as a step towards a permanent peace deal. But on Monday,

Kanyuka told the BBC's Great Lakes service that the Congolese government "doesn't want peace". He accused the authorities of not respecting the provisions contained in the ceasefire deal, but DR Congo's military denies this charge.

Kanyuka alleged that government forces had continued to attack rebel positions, despite the agreement stating that both sides must refrain from assaults.

## Rescuers in Nigeria search for dozens missing after boat capsizes

Rescue workers in northern Nigeria are still searching for about 25 missing passengers after a boat accident in Sokoto state on Sunday, a local councillor has said.

The National Emergency Management Agency (Nema) said the boat was carrying more than 50 people to a local market when it capsized in the River Goronyo.

Aminu Bare, a councillor in Sokoto, said that 25 people had been found alive, as rescue efforts continued on Monday.

Earlier, Nema said it was "intensifying efforts alongside local authorities to locate [those] still missing". Boat accidents occur regularly in Nigeria due to overcrowding, poorly maintained boats and the failure to enforce safety regulations.

In December 2024, 54 bodies were recovered from the River Niger after a boat that may have been carrying more than 200 passengers capsized.

A month earlier, a wooden dugout canoe, packed with nearly 300 passengers, overturned and sank in the middle of the Niger killing nearly 200 people.

In another accident that

gained a lot of attention, more than 100 people drowned two years ago in the south-western part of the country.

The vessel they were in was carrying around 300 passengers travelling from Kwara state to Niger state after a wedding celebration. According to government regulations all passengers are supposed to wear life jackets, but they are not always available, especially in rural areas. BBC



Divers have gone out on to the river to try and find the missing passengers

## Sudan army torturing people to death, says rights group

A prominent Sudanese human rights group has accused the country's army and security forces of torturing people to death and operating "execution chambers".

The Emergency Lawyers group said it had documented hundreds of arrests in the capital Khartoum. It said that in the "worst cases", some captives had later been found dead with evidence of torture.

The Sudanese army recaptured the city from the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in March, against which it is fighting a bitter civil war that has killed tens of thousands in two years.

The army did not respond to the BBC's request for comment on Sunday. Throughout the war, the Emergency Lawyers group has documented atrocities by both the army

release in poor health," the statement said.

"In the worst cases, some are found dead after being killed or declared dead as a result of torture."

The use of torture was common during the oppressive rule of president Omar al-Bashir.

Throughout the current war, the RSF have also been found to have abused and executed prisoners.

The UN Independent International Fact-Finding Mission for the Sudan said in March that both sides were responsible for "a widespread pattern of arbitrary detention, torture and ill-treatment of detainees".

It said both both the RSF and the army had used "rape and other forms of sexual violence, arbitrary arrest and detention, as well as torture and ill-treatment".

The fighting has sparked one of the world's worst



Khartoum was a burnt-out shell of its former self after the army recaptured it in March

and the RSF. In a statement on social media platform X, Emergency Lawyers said it had observed a "dangerous escalation in violations". Some detainees were arrested at random and taken to large detention centres, the group alleged.

"Their fates range from continued detention in inhumane conditions, trials conducted by security agencies that lack the most basic standards of justice, or

humanitarian crises - 12 million people have been forced from their homes and famine has been declared in parts of the country.

Last week, medical charity Doctors Without Borders (MSF) said the war has fuelled the worst cholera outbreak the country has seen in years. There have been nearly 100,000 cases of the disease and 2,470 deaths over the past year. BBC

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# EDITORIAL

## Lack of responsible leadership in Liberia is dangerous!

Posture exhibited by the just ended leadership of the Liberian Judiciary under former Chief Justice Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh and the Executive, headed by President Joseph in boycotting each other does not demonstrate responsible leadership. This is not the kind of leadership Liberia deserve.

Former Chief Justice Yuoh had boycotted President Boakai's 2nd Annual Message delivered before the 55<sup>th</sup> Legislature in January this year under the gavel of then disputed Speaker Richard Nagbe Koon, without any official explanation. Justice Yuoh and the entire Supreme Court bench were conspicuously absent during the President's address with their seats visibly empty.

Now, in what is clearly seen as a payback, President Boakai and his entire Cabinet along with the leadership of the 55<sup>th</sup> Legislature, including Speaker Richard Koon and Senate Pro-Tempore Nyonblee Kangar-Lawrence boycotted Justice Youh's retirement program. What a play!

This is very irresponsible and does not send a positive image of our national leadership style. In other words, this is not sending any right example for our youthful population. It is disappointing that the Boakai Administration or the Executive and the Legislature would embark on the crab mentality by pulling one another down.

Although Justice Yuoh has exited government, but we pray that there would not be a repeat of such posture in our national leadership that will see one branch of government pulling down or disrespecting another branch, particularly in public glare.

The Supreme Court of Liberia under the Ex-chief Justice had termed actions taken by the then majority bloc led Speaker Koon during the leadership crisis in the House of Representatives over the speakership as “ultra vires”, instructing both sides to return to status qou ante, meaning preexisting state of affairs in law.

We believe it was under such condition that the Supreme Court bench, under Justice Yuoh, boycotted the Legislature, sitting in joint session during the President's Annual Message, presided over by Speaker Koon from majority bloc whose leadership it had deemed illegal. Granted that the former Chief Justice was not in the country, but that should have been communicated, both to the Executive and the Legislature, rather than the manner in which the situation played out.

More regrettably, we saw the two affected branches of government repeating the same attitude at the exit ceremony of retired Justice Youh over the weekend, when they conspicuously stayed away. This does not indicate maturity of our national leadership and should stop.

Politics aside, we believe the onus on President Joseph Boakai, as father and grandfather of the nation, to work with or relate with all three branches of government irrespective of who heads a branch at a particular time. This does not mean there wouldn't disagreements from time to time, but such divergence of views should not play out negatively, as it happened at the departure of Justice Youh last week.

# COMMENTARY

By Nilima Gulrajani,  
John Hendra

## Overcoming the Obstacles to UN Reform

LONDON - At the 80th United Nations General Assembly this September, participants will have to confront the escalating development finance crisis that is engulfing the UN system. So far, responses to financial pressures have focused on cutting costs, such as by reducing overhead and improving efficiency. But a lasting solution will require deeper changes, which begins with a fundamental question: What kind of UN does the world need today, and are current funding models fit for purpose?

This year, a liquidity crisis created by non-paying or late-paying governments means that the UN faces a shortfall of \$2.4 billion in regular UN budget dues, and \$2.7 billion in peacekeeping contributions. Moreover, if the UN fails to spend any funds before year’s end - say, because they were delivered late - it is required to return them to member states as credits, rather than rolling them over to the following year.

Despite plans to cut spending by 30% this year from its 2023 peak, the entire UN system is at risk of insolvency. Compounding the strain, aid cuts are undermining UN programs, with the consequences being borne disproportionately by the world’s most vulnerable people. Shrinking budgets among some of the world’s largest donors - the OECD expects a 9-17% year-on-year decline in foreign aid in 2025 - exacerbate these problems.

While the scale of the UN’s current funding and liquidity crisis is unprecedented, the underlying issues are not new. With its regular budget covering only a fraction of its needs, the UN is highly dependent on ad hoc, voluntary government funding. The UN Development System (UNDS) - comprising 43 funds, agencies, and programs that provide country-level development support and humanitarian assistance - is particularly dependent on voluntary contributions that can be quickly pulled back. Investment in the UNDS fell 16% in 2023 (nearly \$9 billion), with 93% of total funding coming from voluntary sources and 7% from assessed membership dues.

To meet this crisis, UN Secretary-General António Guterres has launched the UN80 Initiative, which comprises three “workstreams”: finding ways to improve efficiency, reviewing implementation of the UN’s mandates, and examining possible structural changes and program realignments. The findings and proposals of the first two workstreams are supposed to inform thinking on the third.

In fact, it is the third workstream that has the greatest transformative potential. If done right, the effort could mark a turning point for both the “what” and the “how” of the UN. But success will require the UN to avoid the mistakes of past reform efforts, which have sought to decentralize and improve coordination between agencies but avoided deeper questions about the UN’s purpose and financing.

As for purpose, the unique value of the UNDS

lies in its power to advance and sustain globally agreed norms. Country-level activities that advance norms like gender equality, sustainability, and human rights should be at the top of the list.

Fulfilling this function depends on the UNDS’s technical competencies, convening power, international credibility, and diplomatic relationships. But, importantly, it also rests on access to ample, predictable funding that sustains operations in support of these norms. While assessed contributions can provide this, in practice they currently account for a tiny fraction of total UNDS resources.

As a result, cash-starved UNDS funds, agencies, and programs end up accepting contributions attached to narrowly defined projects, which can fragment efforts and reflect the whims and preferences of a handful of major voluntary donors. This effectively turns the UN into a contractor accountable to its paymasters, instead of a trusted adviser to host governments and a global agenda-setter.

The UNDS is most effective when staff can steer policy strategically and deliver results where they are needed most, rather than where donors dictate. That is why two successive Funding Compacts called for more core financing for the UN’s development activities, and less dependence on earmarked contributions. In return, the UN committed to improving transparency, strengthening reporting, and boosting the efficiency of its operations. In 2023, UN agencies met 56% of their Compact targets - more than twice the 24% share met by member states. The inefficiency for which member states criticize the UN is thus at least partly the result of their own funding practices.

Ultimately, the Compact failed to gain traction among UN member governments because it did not make a sufficiently compelling case for the UN’s development role. One lesson of the Compact for the UN80 Initiative’s third workstream is that a revitalized vision for the UNDS that member governments can broadly support is a necessary first step for successful reform.

As for the financing itself, one solution would be to strengthen and expand the use of assessed contributions by re-examining the formula for allocating fiscal obligations among UN member states. The UN could also extend softer forms of earmarking, like joint and pooled funds; introduce more innovative forms of financing, such as replenishments and levies; and expand the scope for leveraging grant funds to crowd in additional investment.

Whatever happens next, one thing should be clear: countries get the UN they fund. Only with a robust and predictable financing framework, guided by a strong consensus on goals, can the UN serve as a credible channel for members’ investments in global development. These are the missing pieces of the UN reform jigsaw that must now be quickly found.



OP-ED

By David Benatar,  
Peter Singer

# When Philosophical Misunderstanding Turns Violent

MELBOURNE - On May 17, Guy Edward Bartkus blew up a fertility clinic in Palm Springs, California. Bartkus himself died in the blast, though whether he intended to is not known. No one else was killed. In the days that followed, attention focused on social media posts and a video that Bartkus had posted. He was described in media reports as an “anti-natalist” - that is, someone who thinks it is wrong to bring children into the world.

Some of these reports referred to the South African philosopher David Benatar, the author of *Better Never to Have Been: The Harm of Coming into Existence*, a scholarly work published by Oxford University Press in 2006. Benatar is the best-known anti-natalist philosopher writing today. In the dialogue that follows, Benatar and I discuss anti-natalism, and the problems philosophers face when our views influence people to act in ways we oppose.

Peter Singer: David, why do you think we ought not to conceive and give birth to children?

David Benatar: There are many good reasons, but fundamentally, coming into existence makes one vulnerable to awful fates. Even the very best lives contain much more harm than most people recognize, and nobody escapes death. Optimists like to note that many lives also contain a significant amount of good. But while the absence of goods for existing people is bad, the absence of goods is not bad for a person if the reason why those goods are absent is that the person who would have enjoyed them does not exist. Those who do not exist have no interest in coming into existence, but being brought into existence will result in serious harms. PS: The media reports about Bartkus and his views also referred to “pro-mortalism”. How does pro-mortalism differ from anti-natalism?

DB: Pro-mortalism is the view that death is generally, or even always, better than continued existence. While that view is not incompatible with anti-natalism, it is not an implication of it. This is because anti-natalists can think that it is both a harm to come into existence and also a harm to cease to exist.

PS: If it is wrong to bring children into the world, does it follow that it is justifiable to prevent others from doing that? To take a less violent act than bombing a fertility clinic, suppose instead that you had the opportunity to turn off the clinic’s electricity when it was closed for a weekend, and you knew that by doing that, many frozen embryos would be destroyed, but no other harm would be done to anyone. Would that act be justifiable?

DB: While I think that bringing children into existence is morally wrong, I also think that there are many good reasons not to interfere with people’s reproductive freedom. These include human fallibility, the likely negative consequences of interfering, including the hardening of pronatalist attitudes, and the possibility of failure. Not all interferences with reproductive freedom are equally bad, and the one you describe is much less bad than bombing a fertility clinic. But it would still constitute a significant interference with the reproductive rights of those whose embryos are destroyed.

PS: Some people will be surprised that you think that people have reproductive rights, while simultaneously holding that it is wrong to bring children into the world. What can you say to persuade them that that it is possible to hold both views?

DB: The important distinction is between the moral rights people have, and the legal rights they ought to have. My view is that while people have no moral right to reproduce, they ought to have a legal right to make their own reproductive decisions. It’s like a legal right to freedom of expression. People ought to have it, but it does not follow that everything they say under that right’s protection is morally defensible.

PS: Given what you have just explained, it’s not difficult to imagine your feelings when you read the MSNBC news story quoting from *Better Never to Have Been* and bearing the headline, “The fringe philosophy believed to have inspired Saturday’s domestic terror attack.”

DB: It is a serious misrepresentation of my views. Although the bomber referred to anti-natalism in his manifesto, there is no evidence that he had read my book, and other views he cited in his manifesto, especially pro-mortalism, are much more closely connected to his attack.

PS: I’ve faced similar misrepresentations. The Animal Liberation Front took its name from my book *Animal Liberation*, and many people associated the group with me, even though its members were willing to use violence, which I have always rejected. Is there anything we can do about our views being used in ways that we do reject? Or do we just have to accept that if we are prepared to argue for what we think is right, some people will, in pursuing goals that we think are good, cross a line that we believe should not be crossed?

DB: We need to be as clear as we can be, but the problem is that any view, no matter how clearly expressed, can be misinterpreted either ignorantly, intentionally, or because of mental illness. You and I could not have been clearer.

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OPINION

By Hélène Rey

# Currency Dominance in the Digital Age

PARIS - For more than 80 years, the US dollar has enjoyed unrivaled supremacy in world trade and finance, thanks to America’s unique combination of economic scale, credible institutions, deep and liquid financial markets, and geopolitical might, as well as, crucially, network effects. But a new variable is poised to reshape the global monetary order: data integrity.

As digital technologies increasingly act as the rails upon which money moves - through stablecoins, tokenized assets, and central bank digital currencies - the resilience and credibility of currency networks increasingly hinge not only on macroeconomic fundamentals, but also on the technological strength and security of the relevant infrastructure. Of course, macroeconomic fundamentals still matter, and digital currencies raise some conventional macro challenges. In particular, by privatizing seigniorage and facilitating tax evasion, stablecoins could shrink countries’ fiscal revenues.

Moreover, if a stablecoin breaks its peg - say, because its liquidity buffers prove insufficient - its credibility could collapse, triggering a run. If the stablecoin’s interconnections with other assets is sufficiently dense, this may have systemic consequences. A disorderly run on US dollar stablecoins - privately issued digital tokens that are backed significantly by US Treasuries and can theoretically be exchanged one-for-one with dollars - could prove particularly disruptive. Opacity in reporting and auditing, and insufficient regulations in some jurisdictions, compound the risks.

But such “classic” credibility issues are just the beginning. The world could also face a new kind of “cyber” run, triggered by weaknesses in the technological infrastructure underpinning digital assets. Mitigating this risk will not be easy: as the National Institute of Standards and Technology of the US Department of Commerce warned in 2016, quantum computers may soon be able to break many of the public-key cryptosystems currently in use. In other words, infrastructure that appears robust today may turn out to be flimsy tomorrow.

The implications for the global monetary order are far-reaching. As the issuer of the dominant international currency, the United States has long enjoyed an “exorbitant privilege,” which includes the ability to borrow at low interest rates even in times of economic stress and run persistently large trade deficits. President Donald Trump’s administration seems to be betting that the US will be able to retain this privilege, as the dollar’s existing global status translates into demand for US dollar stablecoins and, in turn, US Treasuries, thereby lowering the US Treasury’s financing costs.

Ultimately, America’s exorbitant privilege is based on trust in its institutions, legal frameworks, and fiscal capacity. In a world where money circulates on programmable platforms, however, the credibility and integrity of the code, the quality of cryptographic standards, and the resistance of systems to hacking are as important as any of these factors. This fundamentally changes the logic of monetary competition: if the technological gap is large enough, the currency that is best protected from cyber threats - not necessarily the one backed by the most powerful economy or the most credible central bank - becomes the most attractive.

As stablecoins are being used for a growing share of cross-border payments, and as an on- and off-ramp for speculative crypto investments, much about their security and governance remains unknown. Regulators and citizens should thus be asking questions. Who is responsible for governing the ledger? To what extent is the system protected from malicious actors? What happens if a currency’s cryptographic backbone is compromised by developments in quantum computing?

Answering these questions satisfactorily is a matter of national and international monetary stability. If policymakers fail to act accordingly, we might find ourselves with the kind of volatile and fragmented monetary system that characterized the nineteenth century, when the unfettered issuance of private money opened the way for panics, runs, manipulation, and collapse.

In any case, we may be headed toward a multipolar monetary system, in which some currencies - and their associated digital ecosystems - command an “integrity premium,” based on their ability to minimize their “attack surface” and maximize data verifiability. The most successful currencies will offer a very robust financial architecture, which covers every step, from the validation of transactions to the protection of user identities and transaction histories. So, a currency backed by a government with weak cyber defenses or opaque technological standards could lose ground, and a technologically sophisticated currency zone with high integrity standards could punch above its weight.

This new technological landscape could have significant geopolitical consequences. Just as naval supremacy once translated into trade dominance, control over payments infrastructure could increasingly determine economic sovereignty. The strategic value of payments data - not only for monetary policy, but also for surveillance, enforcement, and sanctions - means that digital currencies are not neutral technologies; they are contested spaces of power. The currencies that dominate tomorrow’s international system will be those whose digital ecosystems inspire the deepest trust - both in their institutions and in their code.

Preserving international monetary stability in such a landscape will require more than technological innovation. Global coordination on standards for tokenization, cryptographic interoperability, data privacy, and post-quantum resilience will be essential. The alternative - the proliferation of balkanized networks governed by conflicting rules and exposed to systemic shocks - is a recipe for instability.

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# Movement for Progressive Change

## Financial Report for the year period Aug. 16, 2024 - Aug. 16, 2025

Republic of Liberia  
Montserrado County

Office of the Notary Public  
Monrovia, Liberia

### NOTARY CERTIFICATE

Personally appeared before me in my office within the City of Monrovia, Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August A.D. 20 25 qualified and commissioned Notary Public for and in the County of Montserrado and in the Republic aforesaid, the parties to the attached documents.

### SWORN STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH REPORT FOR MOVEMENT FOR PROGRESSIVE CHANGE.

And did in my presence and in the presence of each other execute and sign their genuine signatures as on the instrument(s) to be the person(s) they represent and that the same was made in my presence and declared by each of them to be their voluntary acts and in their own hand writing.

Therefore, I Edwin C. Walker, Jr. Notary Public aforesaid, have attached my official signature Notary Seal to avail when and where necessary.

I have affixed my genuine Signature attesting to this Transaction by the power vested in me this

16<sup>th</sup> day of August A.D. 20 25

**WALKER JR.**  
EDWIN C. WALKER, JR.  
NOTARY PUBLIC, MONTERRADO COUNTY, R.L.

Republic of Liberia  
NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION  
TUBMAN BOULEVARD, 2<sup>ND</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> STREETS, MONROVIA - P.O. BOX 2044  
MONROVIA, LIBERIA  
Email: nec@nec.org

ALR 001:  
SWORN STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH REPORT

Name of Political Party / Alliance / Coalition: Movement for Progressive Change  
As of: August 16, 2024 - Aug. 17, 2025  
Name of Declarant: Ornel Pasewe Position: National Chairman

Bank Details:  
Name of Bank: Liberian Bank for Dev. and Investment  
Bank Address: Ashmun/Randall streets Monrovia  
Contact Person name & Number: Ornel Pasewe - 0886102307  
Account Number(s): 002,450,219,245,000/01

### ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND NETWORK

#### 1. ASSETS

##### a. Real Properties\*

DESCRIPTION (e.g., lot, house and acre, etc., and other assets)	KIND (e.g., residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, hotel, land, and other assets)	EXACT LOCATION	ASSESSED VALUE	CURRENT FAIR MARKET VALUE	ACQUISITION		ACQUISITION COST
					YEAR	MODE	
Building	H.P.	Airfield sinker	NO	\$85,000	2020	lease	\$90,000
Building	Buchanan Branch	Buchanan City	NO	\$20,000	2024	lease	\$25,000
Building	Gbarnga	Gbarnga	NO	\$15,000	2023	lease	\$17,000
Furniture		Monrovia, Buchanan, Gbarnga	NO	\$15,000	2024		\$15,000
Trip ends 2024		Monrovia, Buchanan, Gbarnga	NO	\$15,000	2024		\$20,000
Subtotal:							\$170,000

Examples of Real Properties: Buildings, Land, Machinery, crops, etc.  
Examples of Personal Properties: Vehicles, Furniture, stocks, bonds, money, livestock

##### b. Personal Properties\*

DESCRIPTION	YEAR ACQUIRED	Exact Location	ACQUISITION COST/AMOUNT	Assessed Value	Current Market Value
Jeep	2023	HP	\$4,000	\$5000	\$5,500
Pick up	2024	HP	\$10,500	\$1000	\$2,500
Cash/Bank	2024	HP	\$10,100		\$10,100
Loan/Debt	2024	Market	\$15,700		\$15,000
Medical aid	2025	Market			\$10,000
Office equipment	2025	Market	\$24,000		\$20,000
New Ceiling	2025	HP	\$5,000		\$5,000
Driveway/painter	2025	HP	\$10,200		\$10,000
Subtotal:					\$87,100

SWORN BEFORE ME  
ON THIS 15 DAY OF Aug  
A.D. 2025  
SIGNED IN THE COUNTY OF MONTERRADO

Page 1 of 2

Total Assets: \$170,000  
Total Liabilities: \$87,100  
NET WORTH: \$82,900

#### 2. LIABILITIES\*

NATURE	NAME OF CREDITORS	ORIGINAL DEBT	OUTSTANDING BALANCE
Na	Na	Na	Na

TOTAL LIABILITIES: \$0

NET WORTH: Total Assets less Total Liabilities = \$82,900

#### BUSINESS INTERESTS AND FINANCIAL CONNECTIONS

☒ I/We do not have any business interest or financial connection.

NAME OF ENTITY/BUSINESS ENTERPRISE	BUSINESS ADDRESS	NATURE OF BUSINESS INTEREST &/OR FINANCIAL CONNECTION	DATE OF ACQUISITION OF INTEREST OR CONNECTION
Na	Na	Na	Na

I/We hereby certify that these are true and correct statements of our Party/candidate's assets, liabilities, net worth, business interests and financial connections, and that to the best of our knowledge, the above-enumerated are names of partisans that are currently in the government.

I/We hereby authorize the National Elections Commissions duly authorized representative to obtain and secure from all appropriate government agencies, including Liberia Revenue Agency (L.R.A.) such documents that may show our assets, liabilities, net worth, business interests and financial connections, herein listed.

Date: August 16, 2025  
Ornel Pasewe (Signature of Party Chairman / Candidate)  
Ruth Thompson (Signature of Party/Candidate Treasurer)

Three (3) Witnesses & Signatures:  
Name: John D. Barone  
James Thompson  
Victoria Johnson

\* Additional sheet/s may be used, if necessary.



MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# “Frugality, Not Extravagance”

**-Cllr. Gongloe reacts to Boakai’s Trip to Japan**

**By Kruah Thomson**  
Counselor Tiawan Saye Gongloe has criticized President Joseph Nyuma Boakai’s recent trip to Japan, saying it reflects extravagance rather than the frugality expected of public officials.



Cllr. Tiawan Saye Gongloe

“I welcome Liberia’s responsibilities for those engagement with Japan at subjects?” he said Monday, TICAD and Expo 2025. These platforms can open doors for investment, technology, President Boakai recently led tourism, and jobs. We should a high-level delegation to be there. But we must also Japan to participate in the travel lean, lawful, and Ninth Tokyo International focused. It is a misstep for Conference on African Liberia, the tenth poorest Development (TICAD-9) and country in the world, to travel the World Expo 2025, which is with an official delegation of expected to last from August

16 to 23, 2025. The delegation included ministers, lawmakers, and additional staff. The trip aimed to strengthen Liberia’s international partnerships, attract investment, and showcase the nation’s development initiatives. However, Cllr. Gongloe believes that while the trip may open doors for investment opportunities, the size of the delegation reflects extravagance, especially given Liberia’s economic challenges. Extravagance, he explains, is the practice of spending more than what is reasonable or prudent, particularly for a government official responsible for managing public funds carefully. “The recent reports suggesting a very large delegation for this trip, with dozens of officials and a wider cohort of travelers, is frustrating to most Liberians. Let me be clear: I support the mission, but oppose the apparent extravagance. Liberia is a poor country with weak healthcare and education

▶ CONT’D ON PAGE 7

# Ruling UP warns Boakai’s officials

**-Create jobs for partisans President Boakai’s ruling Unity Party cries neglect and lack of jobs for its partisans**

**By Stephen G. Fellajuah**  
Monrovia, Liberia; August 19, 2025 - Ruling Unity Party (UP) Chairman, Rev. Luther Tarpeh, has sharply criticized government officials for neglecting the party’s grassroots supporters, describing lack of employment opportunities for partisans as “very degrading.” Speaking during a live appearance on state-broadcaster ELBC, on Monday, August 18, 2025, Tarpeh expressed frustration and issued a stern warning to officials who, according to him, have distanced themselves from those who fought tirelessly to bring the Unity Party to power. “We will confront you and let the President know that you are not serving in the best interest of the Liberian people,” Chairman Tarpeh threatened. Acknowledging growing

I will say this as a caveat to all government officials, that if you sit there and there [is dissatisfaction among UP an] opening, maybe partisans across the country, retirement, and you sit there he emphasized that many and neglect our partisans, loyal supporters are still we will not take it easy with jobless, while some you.” government officials Chairman Tarpeh reminded prioritize their own relatives government officials that it and friends. It is very was the ordinary people, degrading that some of the those who campaigned under party leaders up to now do rain, sun, and in the mud, not have a job, he added. who made their electoral He further warned, “I know victory possible. what these party officials go I twas the sweat and blood through, and I feel for them.

▶ CONT’D ON PAGE 7



PU Chairman, Rev. Luther Tarpeh

# 2,807 candidates pass UL entrance exams

**-From 13,130 registered candidates**

**The University of Liberia releases entrance results here, with 2,807 candidates making a successful pass.**

**By Lincoln G. Peters**

Monrovia, Liberia; August 19, 2025 - The University of Liberia through its Center for Testing and Evaluation (CTE) has officially released results for the July 12, 2025, entrance examination for 2025, with a disheartening Passed of 2,807, constituting 28.32% and a failure of 9,299 or 74.30%, from a total registered 13,130 candidates. Releasing the results on Monday, August 18, 2025, University of Liberia 16th President, Dr. Layli Maparyan, said the University of Liberia is

examinations at designated centers in Montserrado County, and the David Stratz-Sinje Technical and Vocational College in Sinje, Grand Cape Mount County. “Undergraduate Colleges: Total registered: 13,130 candidates. Total absent: 614 or 4.68% candidates. Total turned out: 12,516 candidates, or 95.32%. Total passed: 2,807 or 28.32% candidates. Total failed: 9,299 or 74.30% candidates. Total disqualified/Incorrect Shading of Number: 410 or 3.28% candidates”, she read. Commenting on categorization by gender, she disclosed that successful



pleased to announce results of the July 12, 2025, entrance examination for the academic year 2025. According to her, this year, they witnessed an impressive increase in applications, reflecting the dynamic growth and reputation of the institution, congratulating all applicants for their hard work and commitment, and welcoming the new cohort of students who will be joining the vibrant university community. Dr. Maparyan stated that these results are a reflection of both the Computer-Based Entrance Examination and the Paper-based Examination that were administered by the Center for Testing and Evaluation (CTE) from July 1, 2025, to July 5, 2025, respectively. She detailed that the Center for Testing and Evaluation administered the

female candidates who passed are 1,415 or 50.41%, while successful male candidates are 1,392 or 49.59%. “At Straz-Sinje: Total registered: 221 candidates. Total Absent: 33 candidates, or 14.93 %. Total turned out: 188 candidates, or 85.07% Total passed: 25 candidates, or 13.30%. Total failed: 85 candidates, or 45.21% Total remedial: 74 candidates. Total disqualified/Incorrect Shading of Number: 4 candidates, or 2.13%. The University of Liberia, through its Center for Testing and Evaluation, routinely conducts entrance examinations and aptitude assessments as part of the admission process for its undergraduate, graduate, and professional schools”, Dr. Maparyan concluded. Editing by Jonathan Browne



MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

*Starts from page 6* **“Frugality, Not Extravagance”**

systems, poor infrastructure, and high food insecurity. We cannot afford jumbo entourages. Our people are demanding medicine in hospitals, desks for schools, and clean water in communities. Every dollar must work for the people,” he said.

Cllr. Gongloe called on the government to publish the full delegate list, clarify who is funding what, and outline the purpose of each official. “If Japan or other partners are covering costs, say so, so Liberians can be at ease. We can represent Liberia with pride and prudence at the same time. Our message to the people of Liberia and the world should be that the Liberian Government is serious: serious about investment, serious about reform, and serious about protecting taxpayers’ money.”

He added, “Modesty stimulates public trust and international sympathy and support. Expensive travel, combined with the very high salaries of some Liberian government officials, which in some cases are even higher than officials holding comparable positions in the US, amounts to extravagance, not prudence. In fact, it amounts to legalized theft.”

In closing, Cllr. Gongloe emphasized, “I support international engagements that are strategic, lawful, and frugal. I oppose waste in any form, shape, or manner. Wasteful spending on high salaries, benefits, and foreign trips, whether budgeted or not, is a form of legalized theft. Government is a place to serve, not to steal.”

*Starts from page 6* **Ruling UP warns Boakai's officials**

of these young people that gave them the jobs. The sooner they realize it, the better for them, Tarpeh urged, directing his message to ministers and agency heads.

He had just returned from the African Political Summit in Ghana under the auspices of the African Union (AU), where he also engaged in discussions on pressing continental issues.

Speaking further, he acknowledged the growing drug problem and assured that the government is working to bring the crisis under control, assuring the public, “Every effort is being made in that direction.”Despite his strong remarks, Rev. Tarpeh himself is facing internal criticism. Some Unity Party partisans argue that he and other officials holding both government and party positions are violating Liberia’s Code of Conduct, specifically Section 5.8, which prohibits public servants from using official positions to influence political outcomes, as well as engaging in active political management while in office.Critics are demanding that such officials either step down from their government posts or relinquish their roles in the party.

Mounting frustration among the Unity Party’s base has sparked protests across the country. Recently, dozens of party supporters gathered at President Boakai’s residence in Rehab community, Paynesville, demanding jobs they say were promised them during the 2023 campaign. These protesters, many of whom were active campaigners for Boakai, expressed anger over being sidelined despite their sacrifices.

The internal rift within the ruling party highlights growing disillusionment among its base. As job expectations rise and promises remain unfulfilled, the Unity Party leadership faces mounting pressure to deliver, or risk losing the very foundation that brought it to power. Editing by Jonathan Browne

*Starts from page 11* **Boakai's Japan trip**

government statement, the President’s mission is to "showcase Liberia’s development vision and explore bilateral and multilateral cooperation opportunities."

Among those accompanying President Boakai are top government officials and business leaders, including Sara Beysolow Nyanti, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Augustine Kpehe Ngafuan, Minister of Finance and Development Planning; Magdalene Ellen Dagoseh, Minister of Commerce and Industry; Wilmot J.M. Paye, Minister of Mines and Energy; Dr. J. Alexander Nuetah, Minister of Agriculture, and Jerolinmek Matthew Piah,

Minister of Information.

Also on the trip are the President’s communications, protocol, and security teams, tasked with providing full logistical and operational support.

According to the government, the delegation’s presence at TICAD-9 and Expo 2025 is expected to strengthen Liberia’s international partnerships and attract vital investment. The President and his team are scheduled to return to Monrovia immediately after the conclusion of the engagements. Editing by Jonathan Browne

*Starts from Back page* **ML Commences Renovation Work on Makinto School**

citizens to impede the work will come with its own consequences on the town’s people.

Prior to erecting this building in Makinto, the town did not have a school. Children, according to residents, went to Sanniquellie to attend, and those who could not participate in remained without education.Patrick Beglar, Town Chief of Makinto, assured ArcelorMittal Liberia that he and the local leaders will work with the contractors to ensure that the work is done without any inconvenience.

Mr. Beglar stressed that they are on the watch for anyone who attempts to steal the materials brought for the work, noting that whoever is caught stealing them will face the consequences thereof.

He commended ArcelorMittal Liberia and said, “We have been without a school building for years now. Children must leave here to go to Sanniquellie before attending. We are grateful to ArcelorMittal for coming in to renovate the school with the assurance that, before the academic year commences, the building will be completed. We are happy for this news and what we are seeing.”

**Counsellors Momoh and Sims accused of falsification**

*Two prominent lawyers, Counsellors Johnny Momoh and Albert Sims face allegation of conniving to falsify an indemnity bond in the amount of US\$750,000.*

*By Lincoln G. Peters*

Monrovia, Liberia; August 19, 2025 - Activa International Insurances Company has filed a bill of information (compliant) with the Debt Court for Montserrado County, accusing Counsellors Johnny Momoh and Albert Sims of conniving with Mr. Tom W. Collie, the company Senior Underwriter General Business, to secure an indemnity bond in the amount of US\$750,000.

The bond was allegedly secured in favor of Western Cluster and Citadel Mining Services and Construction, a subcontracted Ghanaian Company (defendants), according to an affidavit dated June 22, 2023. The document also claimed that

International Insurance as a surety.Western Cluster was dropped from any liability since it had nothing to do whatsoever with the agreement between Citadel Mining and Hans Armstrong, but was added as a party defendant only because the equipment operated on its mining concession premises.

Activa got involved with the case when Mr. Tom W. Collie, the insurance company's Senior Underwriter General Business through an Affidavit of Surety dated June 22, 2023 obligated the insurance company, to the indemnity bond for Western Cluster and Citadel Mining Services and Construction. The bond was promptly verified and authenticated by the Debt



Citadel secured the bond thru its legal counsel, Cllr. Johnny Momoh of the Johnny Momoh and Associates Legal Chamber.

Western Cluster secured the bond by and through its legal counsel, Cllr. Albert Sims of the Justice Advocate and Partners law firm. But, the two lawyers have denied that they did procure the indemnity bond.Activa International Insurances Company filed the bill of information after they were held liable as a surety on behalf of Citadel to settle the judgment amount of US\$430,920 inclusive of interest prescribed by law to Hans Armstrong, a British investor.

Armstrong had earlier filed an Action of Debt by Attachment lawsuit against the defendants (Western Cluster and Citadel Mining Services and Construction).

Armstrong claimed the amount of US\$378, 000 as balance rental due and unpaid on an equipment lease agreement entered into with Citadel Mining Services and Construction.

As required by law, the defendants subsequently filed with the court an indemnity bond alongside a motion to vacate the attachment value at US\$750,000 allegedly proffered by the Activa

Court and the surety shall be fully responsible for identifying the judgment creditor.

Unfortunately, the judgment held Citadel Mining Services and Construction liable. And a payment order was issued, mandating Citadel Mining Services to pay the money, but the Sheriff’s return shows that Citadel Mining Service’s head office in Monrovia and operation site in Bomi County had been closed without knowing the whereabouts of the defendant’s management to satisfy the judgment render against it.It was based on the Sheriff’s return that prompted Armstrong to file with the court an application holding the surety liable for the judgment amount in keeping with law.

Prior to the enforcement of the judgment, Activa International Insurances Company filed the bill of information, alleging among others, that the said indemnity bond was never authorised by Activa international insurance company as a corporate entity considered with the scope of activities and operational modalities nor did it receive any consideration there under, nor notified or received any benefits

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7



# Français

## Boycotts lors de la cérémonie d'adieu de la juge en chef Yuoh

Le 15 août 2025, la cérémonie officielle de départ à la retraite de l'ancienne juge en chef de la Cour suprême du Liberia, Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh, s'est tenue dans la salle

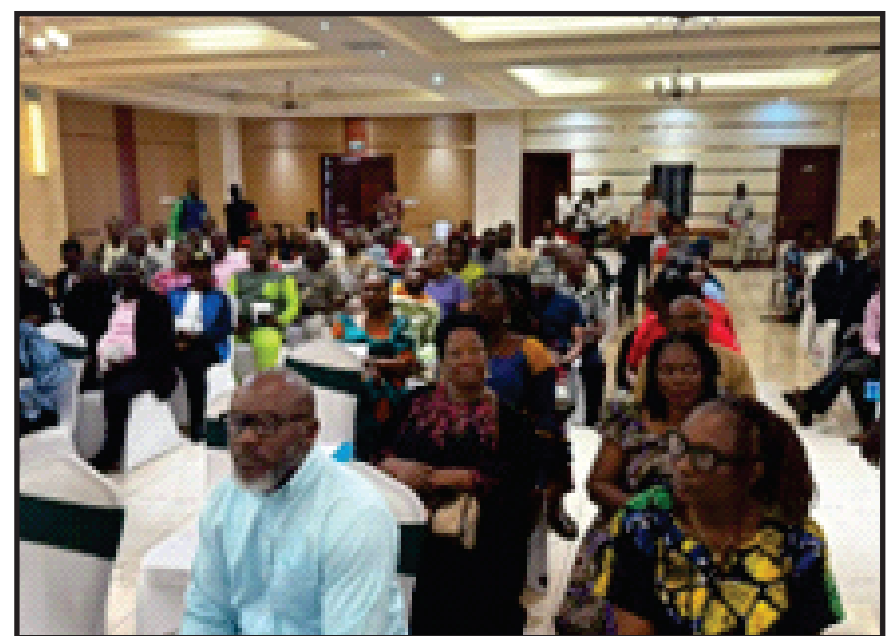
Boakai et de la haute direction du pouvoir législatif.

Ni le président Boakai, qui devait prononcer une allocution spéciale, ni les principaux responsables du Parlement - le président de la Chambre des représentants,

n'a non plus été dépêché par l'Exécutif. Le ministre de la Justice, Cllr. N. Oswald Tweah, initialement prévu pour rendre hommage, a également brillé par son absence, laissant in extremis le solliciteur général, Cllr. Augustine Fayiah, représenter le ministère.

Pour de nombreux observateurs, ce boycott constitue une revanche politique. En janvier dernier, lors du discours sur l'état de la Nation prononcé par le président Boakai, aucun membre du pouvoir judiciaire - y compris les juges de la Cour suprême - n'avait pris part à la séance, alimentant alors de vives spéculations. Si l'absence de la juge en chef Yuoh fut ensuite attribuée à sa participation à un symposium international au Caire, l'abs

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



d'audience suprême, mais elle a été marquée par une absence remarquée : celle du président Joseph N.

Richard Koon, et la présidente intérimaire du Sénat, Nyonblee Kangar-Lawrence - n'ont assisté à la cérémonie. Aucun représentant officiel

## Les communautés libériennes se mobilisent contre la drogue

Au Liberia, la lutte contre la drogue prend un tournant inédit : soutenues par le gouvernement, les communautés locales organisent désormais elles-mêmes des opérations visant à démanteler les ghettos et détruire les abris de fortune de présumés trafiquants.

Face à la lenteur de la réponse officielle à la crise des stupéfiants, des leaders communautaires, exaspérés, passent à l'action. Raids, destructions de repaires et confrontations directes avec des suspects se multiplient, illustrant une nouvelle dynamique de « justice populaire » appuyée par les forces de l'ordre.

Cette vague d'initiatives citoyennes fait suite à une vaste marche anti-drogue organisée le 11 août 2025 à Monrovia, où les habitants du comté de Montserrado avaient convergé vers le Capitole pour exiger une réaction immédiate des autorités.

Quelques jours avant cette mobilisation, le président Joseph Nyuma Boakai avait

exhorté les Libériens à dénoncer les distributeurs de drogue dans leurs quartiers. Depuis, plusieurs communautés se sont organisées pour cibler les ghettos et les suspects.

Le 15 août, une descente conjointe de résidents et de policiers a eu lieu dans le comté de Nimba. Des vidéos diffusées en ligne montrent des habitants affrontant des présumés trafiquants et démolissant des structures identifiées comme repaires de drogue. Dans l'une d'elles, une femme interpelle un consommateur présumé tentant d'échapper aux agents, criant : « La one there ! »

Ce type d'action n'est pas nouveau : dès avril, à Saye Town

et dans le quartier Sinkor, des résidents avaient rasé des ghettos, détruit des habitations précaires et remis certains suspects à la police.

Le 16 août, l'Agence libérienne de lutte contre la drogue (LDEA) a rejoint des habitants de Barnersville, dans le quartier de Chicken Soup Factory, pour mener des perquisitions maison par maison. Des matériaux saisis ont été incendiés sur place. Des opérations similaires ont également eu lieu sur Peace Island et dans d'autres localités.

Certains voix

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



## Éditorial

### L'absence de leadership responsable au Liberia est dangereuse !

La posture adoptée par la direction sortante du pouvoir judiciaire, sous l'ancienne juge en chef Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh, et par l'Exécutif dirigé par le président Joseph Boakai, en se boycottant mutuellement, illustre un manque flagrant de leadership responsable. Ce n'est assurément pas le type de gouvernance que mérite le Liberia.

En janvier dernier, l'ancienne juge en chef Yuoh avait brillé par son absence lors du deuxième discours annuel du président Boakai devant la 55e législature, alors présidée par le très contesté président de la Chambre des représentants, Richard Nagbe Koon. Sans explication officielle, l'ensemble de la Cour suprême avait également déserté la cérémonie, laissant leurs sièges ostensiblement vides.

En guise de revanche, le président Boakai, son cabinet ainsi que les dirigeants de la 55e législature - dont le président Koon et la présidente du Sénat, Nyonblee Kangar-Lawrence - ont à leur tour boycotté la cérémonie de départ à la retraite de la juge Yuoh. Un spectacle regrettable, indigne de l'image que doit projeter une classe dirigeante.

Ce comportement traduit non seulement une absence de maturité politique, mais envoie aussi un signal dangereux à la jeunesse libérienne. L'attitude du gouvernement et du Parlement, qui s'adonnent à un jeu de destruction mutuelle rappelant la « mentalité du crabe », ne contribue en rien au progrès national.

Certes, la Cour suprême, dirigée alors par la juge Yuoh, avait qualifié d'« ultra vires » les décisions du bloc majoritaire de la Chambre lors de la crise sur la présidence de l'institution, ordonnant un retour au statu quo ante. Ce contexte juridique avait probablement motivé le boycott du discours présidentiel par la Cour suprême, dirigée par une instance qu'elle considérait comme illégitime. Mais même dans ce cas, une communication officielle aurait dû être faite à l'Exécutif et au Législatif, afin d'éviter un tel affront public.

Le plus préoccupant est que, loin d'apprendre des erreurs du passé, les branches de l'État ont répété la même posture au départ de la juge Yuoh, en s'abstenant de participer à sa cérémonie d'adieu. Ce manque de respect institutionnel fragilise la crédibilité de nos dirigeants.

En tant que chef de l'État et figure morale, le président Joseph Boakai a la responsabilité de maintenir un dialogue constructif avec les trois branches du gouvernement, quels qu'en soient les dirigeants. Les divergences d'opinions sont inévitables en démocratie, mais elles doivent être gérées avec maturité et non par des affronts publics qui ternissent l'image de nos institutions.

Le Liberia a besoin d'un leadership digne, rassembleur et exemplaire - non d'un spectacle de divisions qui met en péril l'unité nationale.

Voulez-vous que je renforce encore plus le ton critique pour que l'éditorial paraisse plus incisif (style presse d'opinion), ou préférez-vous le garder équilibré et modéré comme dans cette version ?

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# Français

Starts from page 8

## Boycotts lors de la cérémonie

ence inexpliquée des quatre juges associés - Jamesetta H. Wolokolie, Yussif D. Kaba, Yamie Q. Gbeisay Sr. et Ceaineh D. Clinton Johnson - avait suscité un tollé public. La justice avait finalement justifié ce retrait par le différend entourant l'élection du président de la Chambre des représentants, opposant Cllr. Jonathan Fonati Koffa à Richard Koon du parti Unity. Un notable présent à la cérémonie a exprimé sa déception face au refus manifeste du président Boakai d'assister ou de déléguer un représentant à cet événement solennel. Plus surprenant encore, quelques minutes après la clôture de la cérémonie et l'ajournement de la session judiciaire de mars 2025, le nouveau juge en chef, Yamie QuiQui Gbeisay Sr., et le juge associé Boakai Kanneh ont discrètement quitté les lieux pour se rendre au Palais présidentiel. Ils y ont aussitôt été investis, aux côtés d'autres hauts responsables, par le président Boakai lui-même. La cérémonie d'investiture, qui a rassemblé des responsables gouvernementaux, des diplomates et des proches, a vu le président nommer officiellement Yamie Gbeisay au poste de juge en chef, Boakai N. Kanneh comme juge associé, et Victoria W. Duncan comme juge résidente du comté de Margibi. Le président a également commissionné plusieurs ambassadeurs : John Ballout (Nigeria), George S.W. Patten (Afrique du Sud), Mohammed M. Dukuly (Émirats arabes unis), Henry B. Fahnbulleh (Égypte), ainsi que Clarence K. Massaquoi, Ben A. Fofana, Emmanuel J. Payegar, Patrick R. Honnah et Angela Cassell Bush à la tête de la Liberia Telecommunications Authority (LTA). Dans son allocution, le président Boakai a exhorté les nouveaux responsables à servir « avec intégrité, responsabilité et résultats

», rappelant que « le service public est une mission, pas un privilège ». Fidèle à son appel récurrent, il a lancé : « Pensons Liberia, Aïmons Liberia, Bâtissons Liberia ».

Il a affirmé que l'ère du « business as usual » est révolue, avertissant que les performances des responsables seront désormais mesurées à l'aune de leurs résultats. « Ce moment est le vôtre. Votre pays vous appelle. Servez avec courage, intégrité et humilité », a-t-il insisté, ajoutant que la transparence et la déclaration de patrimoine ne sont pas négociables, mais des obligations légales et morales.

S'adressant au pouvoir judiciaire, il a martelé que la réforme est « urgente et non négociable », appelant à une justice transparente, rapide et équitable, socle d'une démocratie prospère.

Aux nouveaux ambassadeurs, le président a rappelé leur rôle stratégique, alors que le Liberia entame son mandat historique de deux ans au Conseil de sécurité des Nations unies : « Vous êtes appelés Excellence pour une raison. Représentez-nous avec dignité et efficacité : attirez les investissements, stimulez le tourisme, construisez des partenariats et faites entendre la voix du Liberia. »

Enfin, il a mis au défi la direction de la LTA d'exploiter pleinement les opportunités de l'ère numérique afin de favoriser l'innovation, la croissance économique et l'inclusion des jeunes dans une économie du savoir.

Martelant sa politique de tolérance zéro envers la corruption, le président Boakai a prévenu : « Tout détournement de ressources publiques entraînera des poursuites. Ceux qui violeront nos lois anti-corruption seront pleinement tenus responsables. »

Starts from page 8

## Les communautés libériennes

communautaires saluent ouvertement ces actions. À Fiamah, la responsable du marché, Byss Wallace, a déclaré : « Nous allons lancer notre propre opération ici pour chasser tous ceux qui sont impliqués. Si nous voyons quelqu'un mal habillé, nous le remettrons à la police. Au moins, cela les obligera à se laver. » Elle a désigné un centre de loisirs voisin, qu'elle estime devoir être le premier visé.

Selon elle, depuis l'appel du gouvernement, plusieurs jeunes consommateurs tentent de changer de comportement : certains se coupent les cheveux et portent des vêtements propres pour ne pas être pris pour cibles.

La question de la drogue figure depuis longtemps dans le discours présidentiel. Le 29 janvier 2024, lors de son premier message sur l'état de la Nation, Joseph Boakai avait déclaré la toxicomanie « urgence nationale de santé publique », qualifiant notamment la drogue synthétique « KUSH » de menace existentielle pour la jeunesse et la sécurité nationale.

Il avait alors mis en place un comité multisectoriel associant les ministères de la

Santé, de la Justice, de la Jeunesse et des Sports, de la Protection de l'enfance et du genre, des Finances, ainsi que la LDEA, et promis de se soumettre à un test antidrogue, en appelant ses collaborateurs à en faire autant.

Mais malgré les promesses, des critiques persistent. Plusieurs experts et acteurs de terrain dénoncent l'insuffisance des moyens concrets. Sur les 3 millions de dollars promis pour les initiatives anti-drogue, peu de fonds auraient été effectivement alloués, et de nombreux centres de réhabilitation privés, non réglementés, ont émergé faute de structures publiques adaptées.

Le 7 août dernier, à la réception du rapport du comité multisectoriel, le président Boakai a renouvelé son engagement contre ce fléau. Depuis, son appel semble galvaniser les citoyens, qui multiplient les initiatives locales pour reprendre le contrôle de leurs quartiers.

Si elles se poursuivent, ces actions communautaires, conjuguées à un accompagnement institutionnel renforcé, pourraient constituer un tournant décisif dans la lutte contre la drogue au Liberia.

## Liberia : la juge en chef Sie-A-Nyene Yuoh se retire, saluée pour son rôle dans la stabilité politique

La juge en chef à la retraite Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh a revendiqué, comme principal héritage de son passage à la Cour suprême du Liberia, la consolidation de la stabilité politique du pays. Lors de sa cérémonie de départ, vendredi 15 août, elle a également rendu hommage à l'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, dont le programme d'autonomisation des femmes a permis à de nombreuses Libériennes d'accéder à des postes de premier plan dans la vie publique.

Nommée juge associée en 2013, puis promue juge en chef en 2022 sous l'administration de George Weah, Mme Yuoh est la deuxième femme de l'histoire à occuper cette fonction et la troisième à siéger à la Cour suprême. Elle se retire après près de douze années de service, à l'âge constitutionnel de 70 ans.

« La loi reste la loi »

Dans un discours empreint de gravité, Mme Yuoh a rappelé que la justice libérienne « n'est pas un instrument politique, mais le gardien impartial de la loi ». Elle est revenue sur la période houleuse des élections générales de 2023, marquées par le transfert de pouvoir entre le Congrès pour le changement démocratique (CDC) et le Parti de l'unité (UP), affirmant que la Cour avait alors assuré la stabilité institutionnelle.

« Les élections ne sont jamais des événements ordinaires. Durant ces moments, les tensions s'exacerbent, mais à travers tout cela, la loi est demeurée constante. La loi reste la loi, quels que soient les changements au gouvernement », a-t-elle insisté.

Elle a exhorté ses successeurs et collègues à rester fidèles à la Constitution, soulignant que « la Cour suprême est et doit rester la gardienne de la loi, à tout moment et en toutes circonstances ».

Hommage à une carrière et à un engagement

Saluée pour sa rigueur et sa capacité à diriger la magistrature dans des



contextes politiques tendus, Mme Yuoh a décrit son ascension au poste de juge en chef comme « un moment décisif » de sa carrière. Citant le Psaume 18:29, elle a confié que sa foi l'avait guidée tout au long de ses années sur le banc, exprimant désormais son souhait de se consacrer à une vie plus calme auprès de ses petits-enfants.

« Aujourd'hui ne marque pas une fin, mais la continuation des idéaux qui nous unissent en tant que nation régie par les lois », a-t-elle déclaré.

Un passage de témoin

Son successeur, le juge Francis Korkpor Gbeisay, ancien juge associé reconnu pour sa solide expérience juridique et son tempérament mesuré, a promis de préserver l'indépendance de la justice et de poursuivre les réformes visant à renforcer l'accès équitable au droit.

Dans un témoignage personnel, il a raconté sa première rencontre avec Mme Yuoh dans les années 1990, alors qu'il était étudiant en droit :

« Je l'ai vue plaider avec une maîtrise impressionnante et je me suis dit : voilà le modèle d'avocat que je veux devenir. Cette impression m'est restée, et aujourd'hui, en prenant sa succession, j'ai le sentiment que c'était hier. »

Il a salué en elle une personnalité « vibrante et sociale », qui a marqué chacune de ses fonctions. Avec humour, il l'a encouragée à profiter de la retraite sans renoncer aux plaisirs de la vie : « Laissez un peu de temps aux chemins de fer et aux danses que vous aimez tant. »

Une empreinte durable

Les juges Jamesetta Howard Wolokolie, Yussif D. Kaba et Ceaineh D. Clinton-Johnson ont, dans des hommages séparés, salué sa précision dans les arrêts rendus et son engagement pour l'efficacité judiciaire et l'autonomie financière de l'institution.

« Merci, juge en chef. Par votre courage et votre détermination, vous avez laissé une feuille de route pour l'avenir du système judiciaire. Votre plan stratégique de cinq ans constitue un chef-d'œuvre qui, s'il est suivi, consolidera une magistrature forte, fière et respectée », ont-ils conclu.



LIBERIANSDEBATE

Topic: **President Boakai and delegation to Japan**

By Naneka A. Hoffman

The official size President Joseph Boakai's delegation to the Tokyo Summit in Japan has sparked public debate, as you may read below.



Leon B. Saydee

"I think that the delegation, those who are being included and the number is too high for an economy like this. The government isn't doing well with the U.S. (exchange) rate increasing to 200 with prices too increased. In fact, the country's economy is running like somebody said into a toilet. For me, I am saying that the economy is

wrapping into septic tank because for the fact that people can't even get their daily meals. If you follow the World Food Programme said the nutrition rate has increased, about 30% of children in Liberia are suffering from extra malnutrition that is a threat. It is done because there is no job for the ordinary people, who can't afford and people from the slum communities are fallen in that 30% of malnutrition. The President once told us that he came to rescue the Liberian people. He came in the slogan of rescue; I think the President should have known better to reduce the number because all of travelers. They have traveled on the expense of taxpayers. Those people will have DSA; do you know how much each person will carry in their DSA? The traveling is necessary but the number of people going isn't necessary in a country that is suffering, when it comes to the economy."

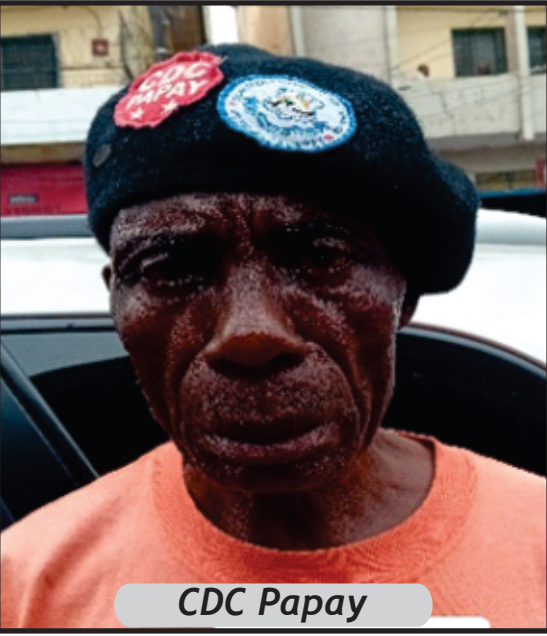


Geroqe Dankwan

"I think the 23-man delegation by the President to Japan is wasteful. Yesterday, we criticized Mr. George Weah for carrying huge number of delegation for program. Today, you are doing the same. The same thing President Boakai criticized, you are doing the same. President Boakai

admitted that the country is hard; you carrying those huge delegates. The live video we saw is more than 23 delegates; what is the role Darius Dillion is going to play in Japan that President Boakai carried him? President Boakai has all the ministers on the trip; what is the role of Queen Johnson in Japan? I said the delegation to Japan is a wasteful delegation, because it isn't in the interest of the Liberian people. The President has traveled on several occasions; what is the benefit and impact? All our country's resources are been spent on government officials, instead of the poor people. You have JFK hospital doctors are suffering; no medicines, people are protesting in the streets because of the living condition. It is embarrassing to focus on the bread-and-butter issues and forget about carrying huge delegation to a program."

"Place like Ghana that produce their own drugs and take drugs to their hospitals, they don't carry 23-man delegation. Ghana only carried 10-man delegation then Liberia where we need drugs, so they just take the money to waste it over there or they put drugs in their things to go sell; this is the reason they are many on the trip. I don't understand what President Boakai is trying to do; he said he is a rescue team, so this is how the rescue team looks? It is necessary to carry delegation but the number he carried surprises me and the number isn't necessary."



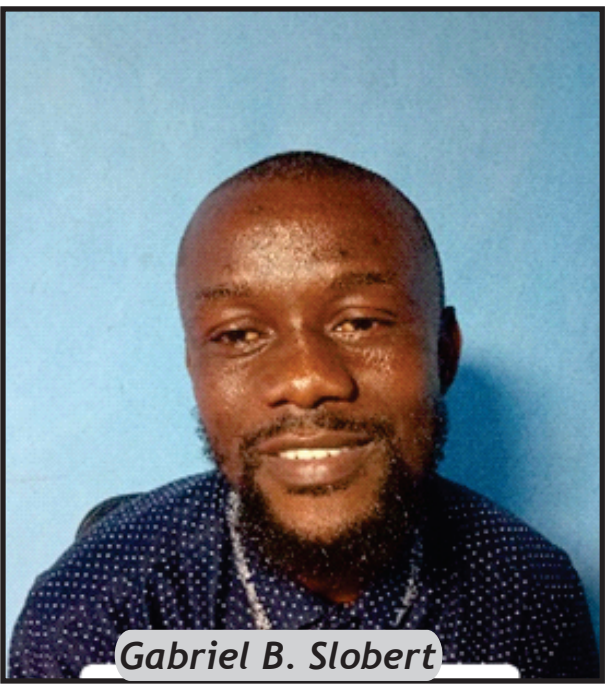
CDC Papay

"We have to do comparison analysis between former President Weah and President Boakai's regimes. What the difference can be found like former President Weah. President Boakai and his team have submitted their vision plan; if you look at the water and sewer, five years and other ministries have submitted their vision plans. If you look at the Liberia water and sewer, they have told us that they needed 156 million dollars, so if you are carrying that delegation based on their vision plan for the country, which means they justified that number to go along with the President. The reason we criticized former President Weah over time is carried this delegation without vision plan for the country, in terms of our economic development. So, for what President Boakai regime is doing, is the fact that they are



Leroy Archie Ponpon

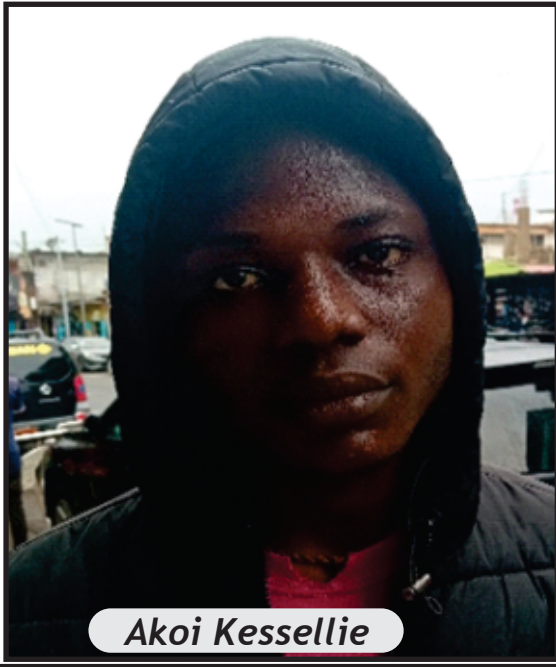
being able to give a vision plan and attaching money value to it. It means during our budget, the President has got to go out, and going out on economic diplomacy, we believe that it is justified to it; the 23-man delegation to Japan is necessary because they have given us a vision plan."



Gabriel B. Slobert

"Thanka to the Liberia delegation headed by President Joseph N. Boakai. You left the country to attend the Ninth Tokyo International conference on African Development (TICAD) in Tokyo, Japan. For me, I don't concern about how many persons on the trip. My own concern

is what will the return be? What do we stand to benefit as a country? I believe strongly that the President will use all his power and connection to attract foreign direct investors to our country. I think that is what Liberians want. So today, you seeing many ministers on the trip that along tells you that the President is concerned about the various sectors to ensure that he attracts investors to the country - Those who will come to help the government create jobs, so I think that is what is on the President's mind. So I want to thank the President for that."



Ako Kessellie

"The 23-man delegation to Japan the number is not significant, because my attention isn't about the number they are carrying, but what he will bring back to the country. What the country stands to benefit? President Boakai has traveled several times and what we Liberians stand to benefit in it that should be the main issue, not about the numbers we should be discussing."



# UMC wins class action

*The Liberian Civil Law Court has rendered a decisive judgment in favor of the Liberia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church (LAC/UMC). The historic ruling grants and affirms the Church's sole and perpetual ownership of all its properties, including churches, schools, hospitals, clinics, and any other institutions or assets across Liberia.*

Temple of Justice, properties, nor to remove August 19, 2025: In signs and inscriptions which granting the Petition mark the distinction of the for Declaratory Judgment, Liberia Annual Conference, Summary Judgment, His UMC.



Honor Judge George Smith of the Civil Law Court, Sixth Judicial Circuit, Temple of Justice, ruled decisively: “Churches, Schools, P a r s o n a g e s , Hospitals/Clinics, and preaching points belong to the Liberia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. When you leave a Church, you forfeit the rights and privileges over that Church.” Judge Smith, citing historical examples of church separations, including the Catholic and Anglican traditions, and John Wesley’s break from the Anglican Church, noted that in such cases, those who depart are not “distributees” of church property. He ruled that by seceding from and terminating their membership with the LAC/UMC, the Global Methodist Church and its leaders forfeit any beneficiary ownership of LAC/UMC properties. According to the ruling, they therefore have no right to occupy or transfer the

The Court’s ruling affirms and confirms that the Global Methodist Church and its leaders, 1st Respondent, the Global Methodist Church, and 2nd Respondents: Rev. Dr. Jerry P. Kulah, Rev. Dr. J. Sarwolo Nelson, Jr., Rev. Dr. George D. Wilson, Jr., Rev. Dr. Isaac Chuckpue Padmore, Rev. Julius Y.Z.K. Williams, I, Rev. Kenneth C. Jackson, Rev. Leo Mayson, Rev. Rodney Marshall, Rev. Elijah Dajue, Rev. Cooper Page Mondolo, Rev. Allen Paye, Fth. Johnson Jooju Kumeh, Cllr. Emmanuel T. Tomah, and Mr. L. Orlando Boyce, I., have no authority or ownership color of rights over sacred properties owned by the Liberian Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. The Judge further cited both Liberian and American jurisprudence, noting that since title was not in dispute, and the LAC/UMC had produced several valid deeds, the Court affirms and confirmed that the LAC/UMC is the legal and equitable owner and trustee of its properties for the use and

benefit of its members of the United Methodist Church in Liberia. The LAC/UMC reminds all Liberians inside and outside, and the international community, that it is one of the historic and iconic churches whose ministry contributed to the founding of this Republic. The Church categorically denies false propaganda a n d c r i m i n a l misrepresentation that it promotes same-sex marriage. The UMC said it remains a Bible-believing and Liberian law-abiding Church that upholds the biblical, cultural, and civil definition of marriage as a union between one man and one woman, authorized by the State and, when requested, solemnized by the Church. The LAC/UMC reiterates that recent disturbances at its churches, schools, and medical facilities are the result of illegal property grabs by 1st and 2nd respondents in this matter, who have broken away to form another denomination for selfish reasons, including power, property grabs, and positions. These actions are condemned, and the Church has rightfully turned to the courts to defend its rights. This ruling represents a victory for truth, law, and the preservation of sacred properties owned by the Liberia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church in perpetuity. Bishop Samuel Jerome Quire, Jr., Resident Bishop of the Liberia Episcopal Area, has called upon all members and leaders of the United Methodist Church in Liberia to continue praying for peace, reconciliation, and spiritual healing within our denomination. “Let us recommit ourselves to the teachings of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,” Bishop Quire urged.

Starts from page 07

## Counsellors Momoh and

therefrom. "Hence the said bond was obtained fraudulently and cannot be said to constitute ab act of Activa as a corporate entity for which the corporation can be bound," the insurance company contended. According to them, Mr. Tom W. Collie, who allegedly signed the indemnity bond on behalf of Activa, acted unilaterally and ultra vires, as he was not authorized to issue such a bond and didn't obtain any prior approval and couldn't have received or obtained any such approval to issue such indemnity bond. It is not within the scope or the authority and duties of his office as Senior

Underwriter. It is the chief executive officer alone who has the power to commit Activa in this matter, but that he CEO didn't authorized, nor does he know of any such bond as evidenced by the lack of his signatures; they argued. They further argued that Activa particularly receive no consideration under this fraudulent conduct nor did Activa ratify the said fraudulent conduct nor did Activa receive any benefits there under, the bond is not and cannot be binding on Activa. But, when Mr. Collin was contacted at his new entity, SUNU Insurances Company, he denied the allegations.

# Boakai's Japan trip sparks Deja Vu debate

By Stephen G. Fellajuah

Monrovia, Liberia; August 19, 2025 - President Joseph Nyuma Boakai faces mounting criticism for the size of his official delegation to Japan, mirroring the very practice of his predecessor, former President George Weah, that Mr. Boakai’s ruling Unity Party (UP) strongly condemned in the past. Sources reveal that the President’s recent trip to the Ninth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD-9) and Expo 2025 in Japan included more than 40 delegates. The visit comes at a time Liberians are grappling with economic hardship, including delayed salaries for public sector workers such as professors at the University of Liberia. Under former President Weah, the now ruling Unity Party frequently attacked the size and cost of presidential delegations, describing them as excessive and wasteful, ignoring national austerity. Now, many see Boakai following the same path, raising

presented to verify this claim. "It seems that all the justification of the Joseph Nyuma Boakai and Jeremiah Kpan Koung administration are not necessary," said a source close to the debate. The Unity Party used to criticize Ex-president Weah, not for how long he was abroad, but because the country was hard and he kept traveling with bloated delegations that cost taxpayers money", a source added. However, President Boakai’s Minister of Information, Jerolinmek Matthew Piah, dismissed the criticism, saying the focus should be on national progress rather than comparisons with the past. "President Boakai is not going to watch a football game. We have not left this country with a delegation of 50 persons, so we don’t want to go into those kinds of things. The country has to make progress. The variables are different," Piah said, despite soaring inflation and a volatile exchange rate. He further stated, "There are



concerns over double standards. In 2019, Senator Abraham Darius Dillon of Montserrado County was one of the loudest critics of President Weah’s foreign travels. In one memorable post, Dillon wrote, saying, "President George Forky Klon Weah and his 24-man delegation are going to boil in Senegal for a week. LRA na collects more of our taxes, hahaha." Now in 2025, Dillon is part of President Boakai’s delegation to Japan, prompting accusations of political hypocrisy and selective outrage. Critics argue that the government's justification for the large delegation lacks substance. While some officials claim Japan requested over 50 Liberian participants, and that the President reduced the number to 23, no official documentation has been

more substantive issues that need to be discussed, and the country needs to move forward."But critics contend that if such comparisons are no longer valid, they shouldn’t have applied to former President Weah either, especially when similar justifications were dismissed. President Boakai departed Liberia on Saturday, August 16, 2025, to participate in TICAD-9 and Expo 2025, hosted in Yokohama and Osaka, Japan. The events are high-level international platforms focused on African development, trade, and global partnerships, co-organized by the Government of Japan, the United Nations, the World Bank, and the African Union Commission.

According to an official



**A**rcelorMittal Liberia has begun renovation work on the only public school in Makinto. The renovation is being implemented by SORECCO, a construction company with an outstanding record work on the roof to do, with some intervention to be made on the floor. He added that his team has seven men, and they will certainly recruit some individuals from the community to serve as helpers. will do some touching on it before painting. Harrison Waydon, Community Relations Superintendent, told the contracted company to exert every effort to complete the work before school opens.



### Current state of the school

At a brief introductory program in Makinto on August 5, Daniel S. Sayon, Safety Officer overseeing the workers, said that the work is expected to be completed in two months. Sayon said they have major

While the structure itself remains relatively good and solid, Sayon said his team

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**New Dawn Sports**  
**OWAS raises red-flag**  
 ...  
**Uncertainty hangs over schools**  
 As authorities weigh options over closure of  
**Nephew butchered uncle**

A photograph showing two large Heidelberg printing machines in a workshop. The machine on the left is a smaller, older model with a yellow bed. The machine on the right is a larger, more modern model with a black frame. The text "2 Colors Heidelberg Machines" is overlaid in the center of the image.

A hand holding a stylus is shown pressing down on a tablet. The word "PRESS" is written on the tablet, and a large, vibrant splash of multi-colored paint (red, yellow, green, blue, purple) erupts from the point of contact. The background is a solid blue.

A collage of various New Dawn publications. It includes a newspaper with the headline 'New Dawn', a calendar titled 'New Dawn CALENDAR', a magazine titled 'New Dawn' with a large yellow circle and the word 'BROCHURE' below it, and another magazine titled 'New Dawn' with the headline 'JSS\$2.5m for Mont. by-elections'. The publications are overlapping and set against a background of colorful, abstract shapes.