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MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES
LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2024	L\$192.0703/US\$1.00	L\$193.9305/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

French Version Inside

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Tolbert's killing continues to hinder Liberia's growth



--Slain former president's son says



Fire guts Speaker's house

-CDC alarms witch-hunt

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Continental News

Chibok girls feel let down 10 years after Nigeria kidnapping

We had to meet Lisu in secret as she says the local Nigerian authorities are trying to prevent her from talking to journalists.

She was one of the 276 girls abducted from their school in

through the government rehabilitation programme, before being placed in group accommodation with other escapees.

"I do regret coming back," she says, shuffling in her seat.

Not exactly the message the

under state care; basic provisions like food and soap are not enough, her movements are closely watched and restricted by security guards and she has been subjected to verbal abuse from staff at the group home.

"They yell at us all the time, I am deeply unhappy," she says.

"I had more freedom at the Boko Haram camp than I do here."

This is a characterisation that the Borno state government said it did not recognise. In a statement to the BBC, it said there were no restrictions on the movements of the young women in its care except when there were issues of their personal safety. The authorities said they were also providing enough food and nutrition for the former captives and their children.

Though the experiences of those who fled or were freed are varied, and they are all at different stages of rehabilitation, a theme that promises made to them over the years had been broken emerged from those we spoke to. In 2016, Amina Ali became the first of the Chibok captives to escape since the immediate aftermath of the kidnapping.

She too is dissatisfied with her treatment.

The last time she saw the sprawling school campus that now stands in front of her, it was on fire - that was the night of 14 April, 2014. BBC

authorities want coming out.

The Borno state government has denied limiting the former captives' freedom of speech.

Lisu feels the way she is now treated is worse than what she lived through before.

"Sometimes I cry when I remember. I ask myself: 'Why did I even leave Sambisa to come back to Nigeria, only to come and face such degrading treatment, being insulted almost daily?' I never experienced such heartache while I was in Sambisa."

Lisu says she is barely surviving



Amina Ali became the first Chibok girl to escape prolonged captivity in 2016

the town of Chibok exactly a decade ago - a kidnapping that shocked the world and sparked a global campaign to #BringBackOurGirls, which included former US First Lady Michelle Obama.

More than 180 have either since escaped or been freed, including Lisu, who gave birth to two children while she was a hostage of the militant Islamist group Boko Haram, living in a hideout in the Sambisa forest.

After escaping, Lisu - which is not her real name - went

Somali pirates free Bangladesh-flagged vessel, MV Abdullah

Somali pirates have released a Bangladesh-flagged vessel and its 23-member crew after a ransom was reportedly paid.

The MV Abdullah was carrying coal from Mozambique to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) when it was hijacked off Somalia's coast about a month ago.

The pirates alleged that they received \$5m (£4m), but there is no independent confirmation of the claim.

A spike in hijackings has been reported off Somalia's coast in recent months.

More than a dozen vessels have been targeted since late November.

Security experts said a security vacuum had developed off Somalia's coast after foreign navies patrolling its waters turned their attention to the Red Sea, where Yemen's Houthi rebel group have been attacking ships.

Between 2005 and 2012,

pirates off the Horn of Africa raked in between \$339m and \$413m by holding crew members hostage and demanding ransom payments, the World Bank has estimated.

Reuters news agency reported that it was told by two pirates that a \$5m ransom was paid for the release of MV Abdullah and its crew.

"We checked whether the money was fake or not. Then we divided the money into groups and left, avoiding the government forces," Reuters quoted one of the pirates, Abdirashiid Yusuf, as

saying.

The vessel's owner, the KSRM Group, said the vessel and its crew were freed following negotiations.

"We struck a deal with the pirates," Mizanul Islam of SR Shipping, the group's maritime arm, told AFP news agency.

"We cannot say more about the money," he said, adding: "All the crew are safe and secure."

The ship has since sailed to UAE, escorted by two warships. BBC



Pirates have been operating off Somalia's coast for about two decades

Iranian-Made Drones Help Sudan Army Recover Territory

A year into Sudan's civil war, Iranian-made armed drones have helped the army turn the tide of the conflict, halting the progress of the rival paramilitary Rapid Support Force and regaining territory around the capital, a senior army source told Reuters.

Six Iranian sources, regional officials and diplomats—who, like the army source, asked not to be identified because of the sensitivity of the information—also told Reuters the military had acquired Iranian-made unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) over the past few months.

The Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) used some older UAVs in the first months of the war alongside artillery batteries and fighter jets, but had little success in rooting out RSF fighters embedded in heavily populated neighborhoods in Khartoum and other cities, more than a dozen Khartoum residents said.

Iranian drones in the country.

The senior Sudanese army source denied that the Iranian-made drones came directly from Iran, and declined to say how they were procured or how many the army had received. Reuters was unable to determine those details independently. The source said that while diplomatic cooperation between Sudan and Iran had been restored last year, official military cooperation was still pending.

Asked about Iranian drones, Sudan's acting foreign minister Ali Sadeq, who visited Iran last year and is aligned with the army, told Reuters: "Sudan did not obtain any weapons from Iran."

The army's media department and Iran's foreign ministry did not respond to requests for comment.

The RSF acknowledged it had suffered setbacks in Omdurman. Its media office said the army had received Iranian drones and other weapons, citing intelligence it had gathered. It did not respond to requests to provide evidence.

Tehran's backing for Sudan's



FILE In this photo released by the Iranian army on Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2023, camels graze as a drone is seen during the air force nationwide drone drill centered in northern Semnan province, Iran

In January, nine months after fighting erupted, much more effective drones began operating from the army's Wadi Sayidna base to the north of Khartoum, according to five eyewitnesses living in the area.

The residents said the drones appeared to monitor RSF movements, target their positions, and pinpoint artillery strikes in Omdurman, one of three cities on the banks of the Nile that comprise the capital Khartoum.

"In recent weeks, the army has begun to use precise drones in military operations, which forced the RSF to flee from many areas and allowed the army to deploy forces on the ground," said Mohamed Othman, a 59-year-old resident of Omdurman's Al-Thawra district.

The extent and manner of the army's deployment of Iranian UAVs in Omdurman and other areas has not been previously reported. Bloomberg and Sudanese media have reported the presence of

army is aimed at strengthening ties with the strategically located country, the Iranian and regional sources said.

Sudan lies on the coast of the Red Sea, a key site of competition between global powers, including Iran, as war rages in the Middle East. From the other side of the Red Sea, Yemen's Houthis, armed in part by Iran, have launched attacks in support of Hamas in Gaza.

"What does Iran get in return? They now have a staging post on the Red Sea and on the African side," said a Western diplomat, who asked not to be named.

Recent territorial advances are the most significant for the army since the fighting began in Sudan's capital last April.

The war, between army head General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and RSF head General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, has pushed millions into extreme hunger, created the world's largest displacement crisis, and triggered waves of ethnically driven killings and sexual violence in the Darfur region of western Sudan. VOA

GUEST EDITORIAL

COMMENTARY

By Daron Acemoglu

The Importance of Respecting Authorities: A Adda Study of Liberia

Are We Ready for AI Creative Destruction?

In every society, across all strata and societies worldwide, there lies a fundamental tenet that is the very bedrock of societal coherency and order, respect for authorities.

This notion, however, is multifaceted.

Not only does it entail public reverence and deference to those in power, but it also necessitates a reciprocal conduct from the authorities themselves.

The public's display of respect is contingent upon the quality of conduct exhibited by the authorities.

Integrity, dignity, and professionalism must underscore their actions, both in public and private spheres.

It is within this virtuous cycle of respect that societies can thrive towards enlightened discourse and progressive development.

This principle is not only crucial to the direct participants but also instrumental in instilling the values of respect in the succeeding generations.

A probing look into the current Liberian society will illuminate this assertion.

Liberia, a small country on the West African coast, offers a compelling adda study to elucidate this point.

In recent times, it has become apparent that exhibitions of disrespect among some members of the Liberian National Legislature have resulted in a pervading public alarm.

This unfortunate development vividly illustrates the implications of an authority that appears to disregard respect, leading to a detrimental ripple effect on the public's regard for them.

Those in positions of power in Liberia, particularly those holding constitutional authority, have a cardinal role to play in shaping public attitudes.

They have a moral obligation to demonstrate high professionalism, dignity, and integrity at all times - the vanguard of public respect and trust.

Any failure to uphold these values, as is witnessed in certain quarters, can lead to a significant erosion of public confidence, which in turn could undermine the very fabric of societal order.

The evidence and implications of such defiance to professionalism and respect are rife in Liberia, and they are captivating.

Take, for instance, the growing public alarm around the conduct of some members of the National Legislature.

Whatever the causes might be, such behavior is contributing to a disquieting public perception.

It sows the seed of mistrust and disrespect in the hearts of the public, subsequently affecting vital aspects such as cooperation between the populace and the government, social harmony, and national solidarity.

If we are to consider that respect breeds respect, then it stands to reason that any deviation in the conduct by those in authoritative positions presents an alarming precursor to societal discord.

For this reason, it is paramount for these individuals to encapsulate the ethos of respect in their engagements and leadership style.

By doing so, they model a pattern of respectful interaction that is integral to societal functionality, imprinting a lasting impression on future generations.

Public figures' adherence to this principle is not just a matter of expectation but a sacrosanct commitment that bolsters the entire societal edifice.

Instances of its non-adherence, as seen in Liberia, provide a cautionary tale that underscores how this neglect could chip away at societal respect for authority.

It also affirms that this respect is a reciprocal responsibility: authorities must first exhibit respect to earn it.

The dynamics of respect between the authorities and the society they serve is a delicate equilibrium that would do well to hinge on the principle of respect begets respect.

Through the lens of the unfolding scenario in Liberia, it is clear that any neglect of this symbiotic relationship poses a profound threat to societal harmony and, consequently, the proviso for development.

The country's situation emphasizes the paramount importance of upholding respect for authorities and, in turn, the authorities' obligation to act respectably for societal well-being.

It serves as a strong reminder that we must be mindful of the values and lessons that we impart to future generations, who will one day hold the reins of authority themselves.

BOSTON - The ancient Chinese concept of yin and yang attests to humans' tendency to see patterns of interlocked opposites in the world around us, a predilection that has lent itself to various theories of natural cycles in social and economic phenomena. Just as the great medieval Arab philosopher Ibn Khaldun saw the path of an empire's eventual collapse imprinted in its ascent, the twentieth-century economist Nikolai Kondratiev postulated that the modern global economy moves in "long wave" super-cycles.

But no theory has been as popular as the one - going back to Karl Marx - that links the destruction of one set of productive relations to the creation of another. Writing in 1913, the German economist Werner Sombart observed that, "from destruction a new spirit of creation arises."

It was the Austrian economist Joseph Schumpeter who popularized and broadened the scope of the argument that new innovations perennially replace previously dominant technologies and topple older industrial behemoths. Many social scientists built on Schumpeter's idea of "creative destruction" to explain the innovation process and its broader implications. These analyses also identified tensions inherent in the concept. For example, does destruction bring creation, or is it an inevitable by-product of creation? More to the point, is all destruction inevitable?

In economics, Schumpeter's ideas formed the bedrock of the theory of economic growth, the product cycle, and international trade. But two related developments have catapulted the concept of creative destruction to an even higher pedestal over the past several decades.

The first was the runaway success of Harvard Business School professor Clayton Christensen's 1997 book, *The Innovator's Dilemma*, which advanced the idea of "disruptive innovation." Disruptive innovations come from new firms pursuing business models that incumbents have deemed unattractive, often because they appeal only to the lower-end of the market. Since incumbents tend to remain committed to their own business models, they miss "the next great wave" of technology.

The second development was the rise of Silicon Valley, where tech entrepreneurs made "disruption" an explicit strategy from the start. Google set out to disrupt the business of internet search, and Amazon set out to disrupt the business of book selling, followed by most other areas of retail. Then came Facebook with its mantra of "move fast and break things." Social media transformed our social relations and how we communicate in one fell swoop, epitomizing both creative destruction and disruption at the same time.

The intellectual allure of these theories lies in transforming destruction and disruption from apparent costs into obvious benefits. But while Schumpeter recognized that the destruction process is painful and potentially dangerous, today's disruptive innovators see only win-wins. Hence, the venture capitalist and technologist Marc Andreessen writes: "Productivity growth, powered by technology, is the main driver of economic growth, wage growth, and the creation of new industries and new jobs, as people and capital are continuously freed to do more important, valuable things than in the past."

Now that hopes for artificial intelligence exceed even those of Facebook in its early days, we would do well to re-evaluate these ideas. Clearly, innovation is sometimes disruptive by

nature, and the process of creation can be as destructive as Schumpeter envisaged it. History shows that unrelenting resistance to creative destruction leads to economic stagnation.

But it doesn't follow that destruction ought to be celebrated. Instead, we should view it as a cost that can sometimes be reduced, not least by building better institutions to help those who lose out, and sometimes by managing the process of technological change.

Consider globalization. While it creates important economic benefits, it also destroys firms, jobs, and livelihoods. If our instinct is to celebrate those costs, it may not occur to us to try to mitigate them. And yet, there is much more that we could do to help adversely affected firms (which can invest to branch out into new areas), assist workers who lose their jobs (through retraining and a safety net), and support devastated communities.

Failure to recognize these nuances opened the door for the excessive creative destruction and disruption that Silicon Valley has pushed on us these past few decades. Looking ahead, three principles should guide our approach, especially when it comes to AI.

First, as with globalization, helping those who are adversely affected is of the utmost importance and must not be an afterthought. Second, we should not assume that disruption is inevitable. As I have argued previously, AI need not lead to mass job destruction. If those designing and deploying it do so only with automation in mind (as many Silicon Valley titans wish), the technology will create only more misery for working people. But it could take more attractive alternative paths. After all, AI has immense potential to make workers more productive, such as by providing them with better information and equipping them to perform more complex tasks.

The worship of creative destruction must not blind us to these more promising scenarios, or to the distorted path we are currently on. If the market does not channel innovative energy in a socially beneficial direction, public policy and democratic processes can do much to redirect it. Just as many countries have already introduced subsidies to encourage more innovation in renewable energy, more can be done to mitigate the harms from AI and other digital technologies.

Third, we must remember that existing social and economic relations are exceedingly complex. When they are disrupted, all kinds of unforeseen consequences can follow.

Facebook and other social-media platforms did not set out to poison our public discourse with extremism, misinformation, and addiction. But in their rush to disrupt how we communicate, they followed their own principle of moving fast and then seeking forgiveness.

We urgently need to pay greater attention to how the next wave of disruptive innovation could affect our social, democratic, and civic institutions.

Getting the most out of creative destruction requires a proper balance between pro-innovation public policies and democratic input. If we leave it to tech entrepreneurs to safeguard our institutions, we risk more destruction than we bargained for.

Daron Acemoglu, Institute Professor of Economics at MIT, is a co-author (with Simon Johnson) of *Power and Progress: Our Thousand-Year Struggle Over Technology and Prosperity* (PublicAffairs, 2023).

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OP-ED

By Peter Doyle

Leaving Africa's Colonial-Era Currency Will Be Hard, But May Be Wise

LONDON - Exiting a longstanding currency union - as Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger propose to do by leaving the CFA franc zone, comprised of West African states that use the French-backed currency pegged to the euro - is not a decision to be taken lightly. For the departing members, in particular, alternative monetary arrangements could prove elusive and better solutions may be overlooked.

Furthermore, while other former French colonies - including Tunisia in 1958, Algeria in 1964, and Mauritania and Madagascar in 1973 - successfully left the franc zone, the context was Bretton Woods. Accordingly, the order of the day was comprehensive capital controls, strong international support for decolonization (notably from the United States), and symbolic, rather than substantive, shifts in currency pegs - propitious circumstances which no longer apply.

Nevertheless, exiting from the CFA franc zone may be wise. The zone has long stagnated, uncertainties are already elevated by the security and governance issues these countries face, and the deep sense of the currency's illegitimacy as a symbol of continued French hegemony constitutes a permanent vulnerability.

In particular, according to the International Monetary Fund's Fall 2023 World Economic Outlook, while the CFA franc zone's inflation rate averaged around 3% between 1990 and 2019, annual real GDP growth per capita was just 0.7% - 2.2 percentage points below the best performing countries at the same level of GDP per capita. Over the course of three decades, that huge income shortfall has spurred jihadism, a spate of coups, and an exodus of migrants. But that shortfall is not mainly due to monetary union.

For example, real GDP per capita in Eswatini, part of the Common Monetary Area in southern Africa, was at parity with Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger in the early 1960s but is now five times higher than theirs. The divergence can be partly attributed to the Common Monetary Area inflation rate, which averaged 7% between 1990 and 2019. But it mainly reflects differences in fiscal policy. Eswatini ran a modest average primary deficit, similar to that of its best-performing peers, between 1990 and 2019, and therefore also grew at their robust pace. The CFA franc zone by contrast - except for Burkina Faso, the union's lone fiscal spendthrift - recorded primary balances during the same period that were, on average, nearly two percentage points of GDP tighter than that of its best performing peers, stifling its long-run growth.

That excessively restrictive fiscal policy in the CFA franc zone is a byproduct of the grossly inadequate debt relief provided under the IMF-World Bank Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative. But given that creditors appear unlikely to provide CFA franc countries with the relief needed to implement pro-growth fiscal policies now, policymakers there are forced to seek other, secondary, sources of growth - including currency reform - or to resign themselves to stagnant, insecure futures.

Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger are evidently not so resigned. All three recently mounted coups to displace governments which, while formally democratic, were unable or unwilling to deliver prosperity or to defeat Sahelian jihadism. In that context, the three - the Alliance of Sahel States - announced a study of a new common currency to express their collective sovereignty. Currency scolds - averse to any tampering with French governance - are of course quick to criticize. But it is better to consider how and when new currency arrangements might actually work.

Given these countries' external-financing constraints and capital outflows, adopting a new monetary regime will require shoring up budgets and securing an adequate stockpile of international reserves to avoid fiscal dominance and offering a one-way bet to currency speculators. To that end, policymakers will need to address security challenges, resolve governance issues, and strike a deal early on to split the balance sheet of the Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO) between those departing and those remaining.

In the interim, Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger should retain the CFA franc, with any unresolved, short-term financing issues minimized and expressed through arrears on external debt. If the BCEAO withholds lender-of-last-resort facilities during this period, these countries should impose carefully designed limits on bank-deposit withdrawals to buttress stability. Moreover, efforts to strengthen medium-term revenue, including resets to mineral contracts, should take high priority.

The main benefit of establishing a joint currency is mutual surveillance of budgets to boost the credibility of fiscal policy in the long run. On the other hand, idiosyncratic trade shocks, different monetary preferences, and residual governance uncertainties call for separate currencies.

Regardless, Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger will need to establish new monetary and financial supervisory institutions before launch. Many countries in similar circumstances have introduced currency boards or exchange-rate pegs, at least at the outset to keep things technically manageable. And absent a credible regional currency with a moderate inflation rate to serve as an anchor, there is limited scope to raise the inflation target without a crawling peg.

If the three proceed down this path, international cooperation will help to ensure a smooth transition. For example, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), from which they withdrew earlier this year, recently lifted sanctions against them.

Likewise, the countries remaining in the CFA franc zone should continue to provide lender-of-last-resort facilities during the transition period, as they have nothing to gain from regional monetary disorder and orderly exits could even strengthen the legitimacy of the CFA franc zone for those who choose to remain in it. Lastly, international organizations and developed countries should offer enough debt relief so that all current members of the CFA franc zone have the fiscal space to introduce the best pro-growth policies.

Leaving the CFA franc zone is clearly a challenging endeavor. But it is not impossible, nor necessarily unwise - so long as, most critically, the authorities in Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger are committed to the necessary fiscal rigor.

OPINION

By Eswar Prasad, Caroline Smiltneks

A Weak, Uneven Global Recovery

ITHACA - A world burdened by geopolitical conflicts, protectionist policies, and persistent inflation is weighing heavily on economic growth. But while the latest update of the Brookings-Financial Times Tracking Indexes for the Global Economic Recovery (TIGER) shows that global growth has plateaued, some countries' economic rebounds offer glimmers of hope for the year ahead.

The pace of economic growth varies significantly between countries, particularly the world's major economies. While the United States and India have maintained strong performance, China's economy is slowing. Such divergences are also evident within the eurozone, with Germany teetering on the brink of recession while the Italian and Spanish economies perform better than expected.

The second divergence is between actual economic outcomes and financial markets, as stock markets rally even in countries with lackluster growth and tight monetary policies. Moreover, household and business confidence is rising around the world despite the heightened uncertainty caused by geopolitical shifts and volatile domestic politics.

Stock-market gains and rising confidence could signal a slight uptick in global growth in 2024, especially if inflation continues to fall, enabling central banks to cut interest rates. But this optimistic outlook is jeopardized by escalating geopolitical tensions, domestic political turmoil in a number of countries, and persistent inflationary pressures. Moreover, China and Germany's reliance on external demand instead of stimulative domestic policies could undermine their trading relationships and global economic growth.

The US economy has proven remarkably resilient, with a red-hot labor market and rising equity prices boosting business and consumer confidence and stimulating domestic demand. Although the Federal Reserve has maintained high interest rates, productivity gains and immigration have enabled the American economy to sustain growth without exacerbating inflation. While the Fed has the flexibility to delay monetary easing, inflation dynamics continue to make it difficult to determine the optimal timing for a policy shift.

Meanwhile, Japan has finally begun to normalize its monetary policy. With its stock market booming and confidence rebounding, the country appears set for another year of moderate growth. By contrast, the United Kingdom is on the verge of a prolonged, albeit mild, recession, owing to persistent inflation, limited fiscal flexibility, and domestic political instability.

While China's economy remains beset by challenges, the government has delivered additional macroeconomic stimulus and taken measures to prop up the struggling property and stock markets. But the effectiveness of these measures is undermined by the absence of comprehensive reforms needed to rebuild private-sector confidence. A more robust policy package, including further fiscal support, could counter weak household demand and deflationary pressures, thereby boosting confidence among domestic and international investors.

India, for its part, is poised for another year of strong growth, buoyed by a surging stock market that reflects optimism among households and businesses. But despite lower inflation and the government's fiscal discipline, the outlook is not entirely rosy, as reflected in lackluster employment and foreign direct investment. To maintain its growth momentum, Indian policymakers must implement governance and education reforms, along with infrastructure investments.

There are other bright spots in Asia. Indonesia - which, like India, is about to reap a demographic dividend thanks to its young population - is also expected to grow rapidly in 2024.

Although the Russian economy has demonstrated unexpected resilience over the past two years, the economic impact of Western sanctions should not be overlooked. The boost from the Ukraine war effort, while significant, is artificial and may not be sustainable or translate into productivity growth.

Argentina and Mexico are projected to grow by 2-3% in 2024, while Brazil's growth is expected to be slightly lower. But political divisions in these countries could curb domestic demand and discourage foreign investors. Meanwhile, the possibility of interest-rate reductions in the US and other developed economies has alleviated some of the pressure on low-income countries grappling with debt distress, resulting in improved but still weak growth outlooks.

Crucially, a slight uptick in global growth may mask significant problems, such as geopolitical rifts, political unrest, trade protectionism, climate-related disruptions, and inadequate protections for vulnerable populations and countries. The adverse effects of economic nationalism and trade protectionism are likely to hit smaller developing countries the hardest.

The challenge facing policymakers, particularly in major economies, is to develop policy frameworks that reduce uncertainty and boost business and consumer confidence. At the same time, central banks must remain focused on restoring price stability, and governments on sound fiscal policies and supply-side reforms.

ON 2ND THOUGHTS



with Othello B. Garblah

How racism has kept Liberia poor and underdeveloped

In his 2020 article “What Racism Cost Us All,” written for the International Monetary Fund, Joseph Losavio bemoaned the significant economic cost associated with racism.

“Systemic racism is a global problem. It is real, and a robust moral argument for addressing it exists. However, one factor that is often ignored in this critical conversation is the broader economic dimension.

Because it prevents people from making the most of their economic potential, systemic racism carries significant economic costs. A less racist society can be an economically stronger one.” Mr. Losavio wrote.

This is exactly the situation Liberia is facing. The country’s racist clause enshrined in its 1986 Constitution has made many non-negros or persons of non-negro decent rethink their investment in the country.

It is non-debatable that Liberia has been and remains a racist country since its independence in 1847, at least according to Article 27 (b) of its Constitution, which excludes non-black or anyone who does not have a black ancestry from becoming a citizen.

Article 27 (b) states that: “To preserve, foster and maintain the positive Liberian culture, values, and character, only persons who are Negroes or of Negro descent shall qualify by birth or by naturalization to be citizens of Liberia.”

The law discriminates based on race. To say that only persons who are “Negro” (black), regardless of whether they were born on Liberian soil, jus soli, or abroad to Liberian parents, jus sanguinis, “shall qualify by birth or by naturalization to be citizens of Liberia,” is racist- plain and simple.

According to Wikipedia, “Racism is discrimination and prejudice against people based on their race or ethnicity.” It further explained that racism can be present in social actions, practices, or political systems that support the expression of prejudice or aversion in discriminatory practices.”

Unlike Western countries, Liberia’s racism is institutional because it is written boldly in its constitution. It perpetuates discrimination against non-negros and people of non-negro descent on the basis that they are not black or have no black ancestry. Legal institutions and systems do this.

This not only discourages non-negros or persons of non-negro descent who have lived all their lives in the country from making significant investment decisions but also prevents non-negros who were born here and have no other place as a home from becoming citizens.

These individuals, despite their strong family and economic ties with Liberia, would rather choose to invest in countries that are more welcoming and embracing than Liberia for fear that their descendants will always be denied the right to succeed them because they are not citizens.

Today, neighboring Ivory Coast, Sierra Leone, and others have opened their countries, granting citizenship to non-negros in their pursuit of economic growth and development, while Liberia lies at the bottom due to its racist laws.

From its early foundation, the clause was inserted into the Liberian constitution by the colony’s founding fathers as a refuge for free people of color and, later, former slaves to prevent economically powerful communities from obtaining political power.

However, today, this law has no significance, but it remains in place to protect a privileged few while impoverishing the entire country.

In 2022, the law was amended to remove discrimination in granting citizenship to children born outside Liberia. However, the amended law retained the statutory attribution of citizenship to every child born in Liberia (if of “negro descent”); the 1986 Constitution, meanwhile, provides explicitly for attribution of citizenship at birth only if either the father or mother is a Liberian citizen.

This law intends to prohibit dual citizenship for adults at all costs. A referendum to amend the Constitution to permit dual citizenship in all cases (among other propositions) failed in 2020. However, many blame the past regime for not doing much to publicize the proposition.

The 2022 amendments to the law allow a Liberian citizen who acquires another citizenship to retain Liberian citizenship. This amendment follows a 2019 Supreme Court decision that ruled that the statutory provision for automatic loss of citizenship was unconstitutional.

However, in the case of a person with one Liberian and one foreign parent, the Constitution requires the person to renounce the other citizenship when he or she turns 18 to retain his or her Liberian citizenship.

ARTICLE

ARTICLE

A Commentary Tribute

The 1979 Liberian Revolution: A Tribute to Liberian Heroes and Heroines

By: Austin S Fallah: A True Son of the Soil

On April 14, 1979, Liberia experienced a colossal uprising that would mark a radical turning point in its history.

This day, which is etched in the memory of Liberian patriots, is an emphatic testament to the fight for freedom, civil rights, and national identity.

This struggle was not exclusively for political rights but for the very essence of recognition and dignity of the indigenous Liberians.

As the history of Liberia unfolds, it is found scarred by prolonged years of oppression and human rights abuses directed toward the indigenous community.

Characterized by questions questioning their lineage, their parental background, and a plethora of un-nationalistic queries, indigenous Liberians faced an existential identity crisis.

This prejudice was initiated by hierarchical social structures that questioned their credibility as legitimate citizens of Liberia, hindering them from assuming leadership positions like being President, Senator, Representative, or Cabinet Minister.

Against this backdrop, the uprising on April 14, 1979, became a symbolic gesture of resistance and reclamation of national identity.

It marks a remarkable shift in Liberian history, paving the way for a democratic future where an indigenous man or woman could claim his or her rights without any apprehension or fear of judgment.

As we saw or see many on the council of state, a Weah as President, a Boakai as President, a Koffa as Speaker, a Kangar as President Pro-tempore, and many more in the seats of authority making national decisions for the good of every Liberian including those who suppressed the indigenous for 133 years.

This resistance displayed the bravery of men and women who risked their lives to change the narrative of their existence and assert their place in the socio-political arena of Liberia.

The heroes of this resistance, whether departed or living, deserve the respect and honor of the Liberian people.

Their variance and resilience marked the inception of a radical transformation in Liberian history.

The heroes of April 14 not only fought for their rights but also laid the foundation for a democratic future where the indigenous community could partake in leadership roles without any discrimination or bias.

Today, Liberia is a sovereign nation with a democratic system that allows indigenous people to stand tall and proud in positions of influence and authority.

Today, we can confidently say, “Yes, I am a President, a Senator, a Representative, a Cabinet Minister. and a positive contributor to the social and economic development of Mama-Liberia.”

They do so, not under the shadow of their ancestors’ embarrassment but in the light of their ancestors’ pride and the tremendous sacrifices made on one fateful day in April 1979.

In appreciation of these remarkable contributions in shaping Liberia’s history, it is befitting to dedicate a monument to honor these brave individuals.

This monument will not only serve as a symbol of Liberia’s struggle for freedom but also as a standing testament to the courageous souls who dared to challenge the status quo and fight against oppression and discrimination.

It is only fitting that all patriotic sons and daughters of Liberia pay homage to these gallant individuals who played a pivotal role in shaping our nation’s identity.

The significance of April 14, 1979, provides an avenue to express our gratitude to the heroes and heroines of that revolutionary day.

It allows us to reflect on their bravery, to appreciate them for their sacrifices, and to remember them for the freedom we now enjoy.

It is, without a doubt, a “fantamaglorious” tribute to our Liberian heroes.

The struggle and sacrifice of these heroes are a stepping stone for the democratic and national identity that Liberia proudly upholds today.

Therefore, it is our responsibility to ensure that their legacy never fades into oblivion.

We must remember them as game-changers who took bold steps to rewrite Liberian history.

As bearers of this history now, we must protect, preserve, and celebrate our past’s honor to build a prosperous future for Liberia.

The true tribute to our heroes/heroines lies not in mere words, but in living the life of dignity and freedom they strived for; a life that says, “Yes, I am a President, a Senator, a Representative, a Cabinet Minister,” without anyone questioning one lineage or the land he/she belongs to.

This is the essence of appreciating those who have written the pages of our freedom story.

In doing so, we do not merely honour them; we define our national identity through national reconciliation for the good of every Liberian.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Kinjor protest report forwarded to MoJ

--IGP Coleman discloses

The deadly protest is said to have killed at least three persons and destroyed several properties in Grand Cape Mount County, where Bea Mountain has been mining gold for years.

By Lincoln G. Peters

Monrovia, April 15, 2024: The Liberia National Police (LNP) says it has completed its investigation and forwarded the deadly protest report from Kinjor, Grand Cape Mount

press conference over the weekend in Monrovia after forwarding the report to the MoJ. The Justice Ministry is expected to review the report before further action is taken by the authorities.

"The LNP has completed its investigation into the protest of Kinjor, Grand Cape Mount County, that led to the death of three of our citizens and injuries of several," said Col. Coleman.

"The report has been forwarded to the Ministry of Justice. We recommended in the report that the



Col. Coleman

County, to the Ministry of Justice (MoJ). Approximately three persons died in the protest, several others were injured, and properties were destroyed. Police Inspector General Col. Gregory O. W. Coleman addressed a major

Ministry of Justice forward the report for further probe," IGP Coleman continued. The bloody protest in Tawore District early Thursday morning, 29 February 2024, was one of many brutal

incidents between residents and Bea Mountain mining company as dissents grew among residents in the company's host community.

Coleman suggested that the Civilian Oversight Complaint Board, which has oversight over the LNP, validate the level of accountability and independence in the report.

The top law enforcement official continued that the body is intended to conduct a second review before the report is released to the public. He stated that the Civilian Oversight Complaint Board comprises the Barack Associate, the Association of Law Enforcement Professionals, the Federation of Liberia Youth, and the Independent Human Rights Commission, among others.

The Police IGP detailed that the investigation conducted is in two phases, including criminal investigation and the shooting or discharge of live bullets that led to the death of three persons. IGP Coleman stated that they are more concerned about the shooting incident because it led to the death and injuries of others.

"We are doing this second review by an independent body ... to prove accountability because anyone could say that we are a party and they can't trust our Investigation," said Col. Coleman.

CECPAP plants reconciliation seed in Porkpa District

Grand Cape Mount County, Liberia, April 15, 2024 - Center for Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding (CECPAP) plants a seed of reconciliation in Porkpa District, Grand Cape Mount.

The Center for Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding (CECPAP) has planted a seed of peace, reconciliation, and unity in Porkpa District, Grand Cape Mount County, by bringing together rival groups (Hard Work and Moifengan) in the 2023 presidential and legislative elections.

According to a press release, Porkpa District has always become a hotspot during electioneering period. During the 2020 special senatorial election, the district became the hub for violent acts in Liberia. Properties such as vehicles and other values were set ablaze while people sustained serious injuries due to the deadly riot that rocked the entire district. Supporters of the incumbent Senator Victor Watson and Mr. Simone Taylor, the two main rivals for Grand Cape Mount

lawmaker Bindu Massaley.

As the report goes, during the 2017 presidential and legislative elections, Mr. Shrieff sought and received businessman Massaley's financial and moral support to win the district seat in the legislature. Following Shrieff's ascendency to the House of Representative, he began to pay back Mr. Massaley with the act of deceit and ungratefulness, something that made the business tycoon's supporters to petition Bindu to contest against Bob Shrieff during the 2023 legislative election.

Even though the elections are over and Ms. Bindu Massaley won the race to become Representative of Porkpa district in the current 55th legislature, notwithstanding the district remains divided. Against this backdrop, the Center for Conflict and Peacebuilding moved into Bamballah Town, Porkpa district headquarter, on last Thursday to plan the seed of peace, reconciliation, and unity.



Participants of the two-day

County sinoatrial seat, were the ones going against each other in the riot. Following the casting of votes in Grand Cape Mount County, Mr. Simone Taylor won the contest to become the county's Senator.

Unfortunately, the act of electoral violence was once again repeated in Porkpa district during the 2023 presidential and legislative elections. The contestation for the district's only seat in the House of Representatives was between Ms. Bindu Massaley and the incumbent Representative Bob Sheriff. The group supporting Mr. Sheriff under the banner of Moifengan (a Mendy word meaning ungratefulness, deceitful, and unappreciative) went against the group named Hard Work that strongly supported Ms. Massaley in the race for the House of Representative. According to reports, the Hard Work group chose to call former Representative Bob Shrieff and supporters moifengans because of his (Shrieff) ungratefulness exhibited against Mr. Idarsah Massaley, a business mogul in the Grand Cape Mount County and father of Porpka District's

But, before reaching the decision to trash out their differences and unite, Hard Work and Moifengan supporters benefited from a two-day lecture/training on conflict resolution. Having been highly touched and moved by the training, the former rivals grabbed the vision to reunite for the betterment of the community and the future of their kids.

The women from the two groups vowed to convene a large gathering of women on Friday in Bamballah town to stress the need of embracing peace and reconciliation in Porkpa district. Following Friday's meeting of females, the women will also go on a tour to all the towns and villages that constitute Porkpa district to spread the message of love, peace, reconciliation and unity.

Meanwhile, addressing the participants at the closed of the two-day reconciliation dialogue session, CECPAP's Executive Director Charles Crawford, expressed happiness over the reunification of the people of Porkpa District and admonished them to keep watering the seed of peace, reconciliation and unity planted in Porkpa District, Grand Cape Mounty.

House concurs with Senate on war crime court resolution

The approval of the resolution by both chambers of the 55th Legislature would now allow the Executive to proceed with its plan to pursue the necessary steps to establish a war and economic crimes court.

Monrovia, April 15, 2024: Liberia's two legislative chambers have agreed on a resolution to establish a War and Economic Crimes Court.

In a historic move on Thursday, 11 April 2024, the House of Representatives concurred with the Liberian Senate on the resolution establishing the court.

House Speaker J. Fonati Koffa said signing of the resolution for the establishment of the court marks a significant step towards ensuring accountability and justice for past atrocities and economic crimes committed in the country.

The plenary's decision to concur with the Senate's resolution follows a thorough review and consideration of the Senate's communication transmitting the joint resolution, which was recently signed.

The House of Representatives

acknowledged the Senate's amendment to the House's original resolution, titled "Joint Resolution # jr-001/2024 of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia on the mechanism for the establishment of an extraordinary criminal court and domestic corruption court for war and economic crimes, respectively.

The Senate's amendment,

adopted on Tuesday, 9 April 2024, reflects certain provisions to enhance the proposed courts' effectiveness and efficiency.

The House of Representatives expressed its commitment to ensuring timely concurrence with the Senate's amendments, reaffirming its dedication to advancing the cause of justice and accountability in Liberia.

The Joint Resolution, now endorsed by both chambers of the Liberian Legislature, will be forwarded to the President for his signature. I signal a unified legislative effort toward addressing the legacy of war crimes and economic malfeasance in Liberia.—Press release



MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

President Boakai praises Liberia's Surfing potential

The surfing event will be held for five days, and it is expected to bring to Liberia more than 100 persons including 60 athletes.

Monrovia, April 15, 2024: President Joseph Nyumah Boakai has expressed excitement over Liberia's rise to a place among the top 10 surfing destinations in the world and the choice to host the Africa Tour: Surf to Rise competition.



President Joseph Nyumah Boakai

An Executive Mansion release says the event, which is scheduled to take place in West Africa for the first time, will be held in Robertsports, Grand Cape Mount County.

It will be a five-day event, bringing in more than 100 persons, including 60 athletes, all of whom will be staying in

Robertsports for the duration of the event from May 23-28, 2024.

This initiative is a significant moment for Liberia's tourism sector, which aims to rebrand the country and attract visitors worldwide.

It also comes as the President prepares to submit the Tourism Bill to the Legislature as part of his legislative agenda.

As part of the transformative agenda outlined in the Agriculture, Roads, Education, Sanitation, and Tourism (AREST) Agenda, President Boakai reaffirmed Liberia's commitment to harnessing its natural assets for sustainable development.

He emphasized the significance of this event in showcasing the country's rich cultural heritage and untapped potential in the realm of tourism.

He stated that this event presents an unparalleled opportunity for Liberia to be showcased internationally.

Liberia can usher in a new era of prosperity by harnessing the power of the country's coastline and embracing initiatives that promote adventure tourism.

The Liberia Surfing Association is organizing the event under the leadership of its President, Ms. Naquetta Ricks, in collaboration with Hesta Baker, the CEO of tourism marketing company Unchain Africa, and Dr. Clarice Ford-Kulah, the CEO of Liberia's historical preservation NGO, Providence Preservation Foundation.

According to the Association's President Naquetta Ricks, the African surfing industry is a multi-billion-dollar industry, and Liberia's participation in this event will drive the development of the country's surfers and sportsmanship and promote the spirit of healthy competition.

President Boakai is extending a warm invitation to all Liberians to participate in and support this landmark event, emphasizing the pivotal role that businesses and communities play in driving Liberia's economic growth.

Allen White a certified war criminal

-Chief Cyril Allen

Monrovia, Liberia, April 15, 2024- Chairman emeritus of the National Patriotic Party (NPP) Chief Cyril Allen descends on war crimes investigator Allen White, describing him as a certified war criminal.

By Naneka A. Hoffman

National Patriotic Party (NPP) chairman emeritus, Chief Cyril Allen, has described the former chief investigator for the United Nations-backed Special Court of Sierra Leone, Allen White, as a 'certified war criminal.'

Speaking in an interview with reporters in Monrovia over the weekend, he noted that Mr. Allen White, does not deserve to be seated in the plenary of the Liberian Senate, like he did recently when senators were signing a resolution in support of the establishment of war and economic crimes court for Liberia.

Chief Allen said although he welcomes the establishment of a war crimes court in the country,

establishment of War and Economic Crimes Court that contravenes the Supreme Court of Liberia will create constitutional crisis in the country.

According to him, he trusts the ability of Speaker J. Fonati Koffa on this matter, based on his experience as one of the best lawyers in the country.

However, Chief Allen said if the court were established in Liberia, former Liberian President Charles G. Taylor, currently serving 50-yr. jail sentence in Britain, should be brought back home to face trial on his own soil for crimes he allegedly committed during the Liberian Civil War.

Mr. Allen White was the chief investigator of the UN-backed Special Court of Sierra Leone that indicted, tried and convicted former President Taylor for aiding

Information Minister defends Assets recovery process

The Assets Recovery and Property Recovery Team is back on duty after initially being halted by a court case due to its first attempt to seize vehicles belonging to past officials.

By Kruah Thompson

Monrovia, April 15, 2024: Information Minister Jerolinmek Matthew Piah has underscored the government's unwavering commitment to the asset's recovery process, dismissing suggestions that it resembles a witch hunt.

Speaking during the Ministry's recent regular briefing in Monrovia, Minister Piah addressed concerns that some political figures in the country were misconstruing the efforts to recover stolen government assets.

According to him, they know that it appears to be some kind of fight between the opposition and the government, but their approaches to retrieving the government's stolen assets remain unbending, and they will do everything in their power to retain those assets.

"We are resolute in our pursuit to recover stolen government assets. This is not a witch hunt,

as some quarters have suggested. Our approach is steadfast," Minister Piah affirmed.

Acknowledging the perception of a political rift surrounding the assets recovery endeavors, Minister Piah emphasized the importance of accountability in governance.

He stated, "Our fight for accountability, whether through asset recovery or establishing a war crimes court, is integral to our nation's progress."

"These efforts are interconnected; we cannot prioritize one over the other," he explained.

Despite challenges and criticism, Minister Piah assured the public of the government's

steadfastness in ensuring the success of the asset recovery process.

"Regardless of the obstacles we face, our resolve remains unyielding. We will continue to pursue what is right for our country," he stated.

In conclusion, Minister Piah reaffirmed the government's commitment to its rescue mandate, citing President Boakai's leadership as a guiding principle. "President Boakai's administration is dedicated to the rescue mission. Every action we take, including the comprehensive audit and accountability measures across all government entities, is with the intent of advancing this cause," he said.



Minister Jerolinmek Matthew Piah



Charles Ghanley Taylor, Prince Yormie Johnson and Selou Damati Conneh

Alhaji G.V. Kromah, George Boley and Jungle Jabbah

but the presence of Mr. White in the legislature was unacceptable, arguing that Liberia is a sovereign state and should not be controlled by anyone or group of people when it comes to decision-making.

"Allen White presence in the Senate Plenary was meant to intimidate senators, who may have refused to sign the resolution", he said, and noted that senators were afraid of being placed on sanction list.

He said Mr. Allen White does work for the United States of America, and that he is on a criminal spree here, allegedly to extort money from institutions and individuals for his personal use, when the court is established.

He continued that both houses of the 55th Liberian Legislature should be men and women enough to make decision on their own, instead of being controlled or influenced by self-seeking individuals who do not mean well for the country and its citizens.

He explained that if any bill is proffered, calling for the

and abetting RUF rebels of Sierra Leone.

Meanwhile, Chief Allen suggested that President Joseph N. Boakai should hold palaver hut meetings with citizens across the country to better explain the significance of the establishment of War and Economic Crimes Court in Liberia.

He also wants some foreign companies that operated in Liberia investigated for economic crimes during the civil war for allegedly defrauding the country of its needed revenue.

He named some of the companies as Firestone Rubber Plantations, steel giant ArcelorMittal and Lebanese nationals who, according to him, were engaged in business activities during the 14-year-old civil crisis without paying taxes.

Editing by Jonathan Browne

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Français

Le sénateur Nimely ravive les blessures ethniques au Liberia

Malgré des engagements de coexistence, la guerre civile brutale au Liberia a laissé des années de relations difficiles entre les citoyens des comtés de

blessures ethniques lors d'une sortie contre le mauvais traitement de ses compatriotes par le peuple du comté de Nimba.

Dans la salle du Sénat cette semaine, M. Nimely a expliqué

habitants de Nimba dans le comté de Grand Gedeh. Ils sont dans tous les villages et villes, creusant de l'or, posant des pièges, épousant nos sœurs, aimant nos femmes - ils sont partout », a déclaré M. Nimely.

Il a adressé sa plainte au « parrain » politique du comté de Nimba, le sénateur Prince Yormie Johnson, un autre ancien chef de guerre libérien sous le commandement duquel l'ancien président Samuel Kanyon Doe a été brutalement assassiné.

« Le comté de Nimba ne répond pas. Vous n'acceptez pas les Krahn dans le comté de Nimba. C'est un problème grave pour moi », s'est plaint le sénateur Nimely.

« Si nous vous acceptons, vous et vos enfants, si vos frères achètent des terres et vivent chez nous, et si nous nous marions entre nous, vous devriez avoir l'obligation morale et religieuse de nous accepter », a-t-il poursuivi.

Le sénateur Nimely a déclaré que tout Krahn vivant à Nimba devra mentir en prétendant être Grebo ou Kru.

Il a raconté l'histoire d'une femme de Nimba tellement amoureuse d'un homme Krahn qu'elle a décidé de le présenter à ses parents.

Selon le sénateur Nimely, en

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Bonne intention de la résolution, mais...

Monrovia, Liberia, 11 avril 2024 - Un éminent avocat libérien, Cllr. Jonathan T. Massaquoi, qualifie la résolution signée par la 55e législature pour la création d'un tribunal pour les crimes de guerre et les crimes économiques au Liberia de document de bonne intention, mais pas d'instrument contraignant pour la création dudit tribunal.

Cllr. Massaquoi affirme que les procédures d'établissement d'un tel tribunal devraient émaner du président Joseph Boakai lui-même.

S'exprimant lors d'une interview avec des journalistes à Monrovia à l'assemblée de l'Association du barreau national du Liberia, il a souligné que les Libériens doivent être conscients du fait que les actions de la Chambre et du Sénat sont bienvenues car elles indiquent une expression d'intention, bien qu'elles ne soient pas contraignantes.

« La résolution adoptée par la chambre basse et celle attendue du Sénat est de bonne foi. C'est juste une expression d'intention de vouloir le tribunal, mais ce

n'est pas contraignant pour autant. Donc, même si la chambre haute est d'accord, ce n'est toujours pas contraignant tant que le Président ne suit pas la procédure établie », note-t-il.

Expliquant les procédures de création du tribunal pour les crimes de guerre et les crimes économiques, l'associé de l'International Law Group (ILG) révèle que le président Boakai devra écrire une lettre au Secrétaire général des Nations Unies soulignant l'intention du pays d'avoir le tribunal et signer un décret présidentiel établissant le bureau du tribunal.

« Voici les procédures pour établir le tribunal pour les crimes de guerre et les crimes

économiques. Le président Joseph Nyuma Boakai doit signer une lettre au Secrétaire général des Nations Unies, António Guterres, et également signer un décret présidentiel établissant le bureau chargé de créer le tribunal. Cette lettre à l'ONU est une intention qu'ils aient besoin du tribunal », poursuit Cllr. Massaquoi.

Il explique que le Secrétaire général du Conseil de sécurité transmettra ensuite l'instrument au Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU, qui adoptera une résolution l'autorisant (António Guterres) à convenir avec le

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Cllr. Jonathan T. Massaquoi

Éditorial

Le gouvernement libérien doit agir pour stopper l'extraction de sable noir

Le gouvernement libérien, par l'intermédiaire du ministère des Mines et de l'Énergie, semble garder le silence sur l'extraction, l'exportation ou la contrebande de sable noir du Liberia par une compagnie d'extraction de sable chinoise.

Des images vidéo récentes obtenues par le NEW DAWN montrent des centaines de sacs de sable noir collectés par des mineurs chinois de Virginia, dans le comté de Montserrado, prêts à l'exportation.

Dans la vidéo, un habitant de la communauté de Waterside, en Virginie, tire la sonnette d'alarme : des tonnes de sacs de sable noir sont exportées du Liberia chaque mois par des mineurs chinois. Ces derniers se livrent également à l'extraction de sable de plage, destiné à la vente aux personnes et aux institutions du secteur de la construction.

Or, l'extraction de sable noir à des fins d'exportation soulève des questions au sein de la population quant à savoir si les autorités du ministère des Mines et de l'Énergie sont au courant et ont donné leur accord pour une telle exportation.

Les autorités du ministère des Mines et de l'Énergie affirment enquêter sur la question. Cependant, on observe des lenteurs ou un manque total d'enthousiasme, alors que les plaintes des riverains se font de plus en plus pressantes.

Le sable noir, également appelé sable de magnétite ou sable de minerai de fer, est un minéral lourd que l'on trouve couramment dans les zones côtières. L'exploitation du sable noir, qui peut sembler banale à première vue, a de nombreuses applications importantes dans de nombreuses industries.

Les experts soulignent l'importance du sable noir dans l'industrie de la construction. En raison de sa teneur élevée en fer, il est utilisé comme additif dans la production de béton et d'asphalte. L'ajout de sable noir améliore la résistance et la durabilité de ces matériaux, les rendant plus résistants à l'usure. De plus, ses propriétés magnétiques le rendent utile pour la fabrication d'aimants utilisés dans les projets de construction.

Le sable noir joue également un rôle important dans la production d'acier car il contient des quantités importantes d'oxyde de fer. Le minerai de fer extrait du sable noir est une matière première essentielle pour la sidérurgie.

Grâce à des techniques de fusion et d'affinage, le minerai de fer est transformé en acier, largement utilisé dans le développement des infrastructures, la construction automobile et de nombreuses autres industries. Les propriétés uniques du sable noir en font un excellent milieu pour les systèmes de filtration de l'eau.

Les riverains et les propriétaires des terrains sur lesquels les Chinois opèrent illégalement qualifient ces agissements de désastreux et appellent le gouvernement à se « réveiller » et à protéger la zone du pillage. Les ravages environnementaux causés par l'extraction de sable noir suscitent de graves inquiétudes économiques parmi les populations locales.

Selon eux, les activités de ces mineurs illégaux ne font pas seulement détruire leurs terres, mais ont également un impact dévastateur sur l'environnement, ce qui, déplorent-ils, constitue une parodie de l'État, car le dragage sillonne la mangrove, zone humide pourtant préservée pour le bénéfice environnemental du Liberia.

Nous pensons que cette situation est importante et nécessite l'attention immédiate du gouvernement afin d'éviter que notre population ne se fasse voler ses richesses naturelles en plein jour, pendant que quelques fonctionnaires assis quelque part en profitent aux dépens de la majorité.

Français

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Le sénateur Nimely

réalisant que leur fille avait amené un homme Krahn, on lui a ordonné de le renvoyer de Nimba. Il a ensuite rapporté que l'homme était mort d'un empoisonnement à l'alcool en une semaine après que la femme ait refusé qu'il parte.

De plus, le sénateur Nimely a affirmé qu'un autre homme Krahn était également mort d'un empoisonnement à l'alcool à Nimba.

En réponse, le sénateur de Nimba, Prince Yormie Johnson, a déclaré que ce que son collègue avait fait n'était pas bon et revenait à discréditer le peuple de Nimba.

M. Johnson a indiqué qu'il venait juste d'apprendre de M. Nimely que quelqu'un de Grand Gedeh avait été empoisonné. Il a souligné qu'ils se rendaient visite mutuellement dans leurs bureaux et qu'il n'était pas juste d'en parler en public.

« Ce que vous avez dit aujourd'hui a été une honte pour le peuple de Nimba. Je suis ici depuis longtemps, cela n'est pas venu à votre

attention, ni à la nôtre », a déclaré M. Johnson.

Il a interrogé le sénateur de Grand Gedeh, Zoe Emmanuel Pennue, lui demandant pourquoi il n'avait pas révélé cette information s'il était au courant d'empoisonnements de Grands Gedehs par des habitants de Nimba.

Le sénateur Johnson a soutenu que lors de la dernière élection, le sénateur Nimely avait exhorté la population de Grand Gedeh à ne pas voter pour ses parents de Nimba.

M. Johnson a déploré que M. Nimely ait de nouveau accusé le peuple de Nimba de ne pas autoriser les habitants de Grand Gedeh à migrer vers Nimba.

« Tout le monde est autorisé à migrer vers le comté où il le souhaite. Si vous restez conservateur et ne voyagez pas pour vous y installer, eh bien, c'est votre choix », a déclaré M. Johnson.

Il a appelé son collègue, le sénateur Nimely, à maintenir la paix dans ses paroles et dans tout ce qu'il fait.

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Bonne intention de la

gouvernement du Liberia.

Il ajoute qu'une fois cet accord signé par le Secrétaire général des Nations Unies et le Président du Liberia, il sera transmis aux deux chambres (Chambre des représentants et Sénat) pour approbation et ratification.

Il sous-entend qu'une fois que le Président signe cet instrument et qu'il est publié dans un avis officiel, le tribunal est prêt à fonctionner.

Le célèbre avocat international note que cette procédure a été utilisée en Sierra Leone, au Rwanda, en Afrique du Sud et dans d'autres pays du monde.

Il souligne que le Liberia a ratifié la Convention de Genève de 1949, qui définit les crimes de guerre et les crimes contre l'humanité, y compris plusieurs autres traités et conventions internationaux.

Selon lui, le document cite le viol, les enfants soldats, les exécutions extrajudiciaires, le meurtre et la mutilation, entre

autres, comme des crimes de guerre.

Commentant sur le sénateur du comté de Nimba, Prince Y. Johnson, et plusieurs autres seigneurs de la guerre, qui prétendent avoir reçu l'amnistie, Cllr. Massaquoi rétorque qu'aucune loi ou aucun acte ne peut accorder une amnistie dans le contexte de la compétence universelle. Par conséquent, toutes les personnes qui devraient être tenues responsables de la guerre civile libérienne doivent être appelées à répondre de leurs actes.

Il souligne que la responsabilité et la justice devraient être la marque de fabrique de l'avenir du Liberia, ajoutant que le pays a la capacité de sécurité pour établir le tribunal sur la base d'un engagement de Mme Beth Van Schaack, ambassadrice itinérante des États-Unis pour la justice pénale internationale, auprès du gouvernement libérien.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Daron Acemoglu

Sommes-nous préparés à la destruction créatrice de l'IA ?

BOSTON - L'antique concept chinois de yin et de yang témoigne de la tendance humaine à interpréter le monde qui nous environne par des archétypes de contraires imbriqués ; cette prédilection a inspiré diverses théories des cycles naturels appliquées aux phénomènes sociaux et économiques. Tout comme, Ibn Khaldoun, le grand philosophe arabe du Moyen Âge voyait s'inscrire dans l'essor d'un empire sa chute ultérieure, l'économiste Nikolai Kondratiev, au XXe siècle, affirmera que l'économie globale moderne se déploie sur des cycles longs, où la récession succède à l'expansion.

Mais aucune autre théorie n'a connu une aussi grande fortune que celle qui relie la destruction d'un ensemble de rapports de production à la création d'un autre, et qui remonte à Karl Marx. En 1913, l'économiste allemand Werner Sombart note : « De la destruction surgit un nouvel esprit de création. »

C'est à l'économiste autrichien Joseph Schumpeter qu'il revient d'avoir divulgué et étendu l'idée selon laquelle les innovations viennent sans cesse remplacer les technologies qui dominaient avant elles et renverser les vieux béhémoth industriels. L'idée schumpétérienne de « destruction créatrice » a beaucoup été utilisée dans les sciences sociales pour expliquer le procès de l'innovation et de ses conséquences. Ces analyses identifient aussi les tensions inhérentes au concept. Par exemple, la destruction porte-t-elle en elle la création ou bien n'est-elle que l'inévitable sous-produit de la création ? Ou encore, plus pertinemment peut-être, la destruction est-elle inévitable ?

En économie, les idées de Schumpeter forment le socle des théories de la croissance économique, du cycle de vie des produits et du commerce international. Mais au cours des dernières décennies, deux évolutions connexes ont propulsé la destruction créatrice à une gloire plus grande encore. La première revient au succès de librairie fulgurant du Dilemme de l'innovateur, de Clayton Christensen, professeur à la Harvard Business School, qui lance, dès 1997, l'idée d'« innovation disruptive ». Les innovations disruptives viennent d'entreprises qui adoptent des modèles économiques que les entreprises en place ont jugés sans intérêt, souvent parce qu'ils visent exclusivement les segments inférieurs du marché. Comme ces entreprises demeurent fidèles à leur modèle économique établi, elles passent à côté de la nouvelle « vague » technologique.

La seconde évolution tient au développement de la Silicon Valley, dont, dès le départ, les entrepreneurs ont fait de la « disruption » une stratégie de développement explicite. Google a entrepris de « disrupter » le modèle des moteurs de recherche sur internet, et Amazon, celui de la librairie, avant de s'étendre à presque tous les autres secteurs de la vente de détail. Puis est venu Facebook, avec son mantra : « Va vite et casse les codes » (« move fast and break things »). Les réseaux sociaux ont transformé tout d'un coup nos rapports sociaux, en un raccourci saisissant des deux termes : destruction et disruption.

L'attrait intellectuel de ces théories réside dans leur pouvoir de transformer en bénéfiques évidents les coûts apparents de la destruction et de la disruption. Mais si Schumpeter reconnaissait que la destruction était douloureuse et potentiellement dangereuse, les innovateurs disruptifs d'aujourd'hui n'y voient que des gagnants. Ce qui fait écrire à Marc Andreessen, capital-risqueur et ingénieur de la tech : « La croissance de la productivité, nourrie par la technologie, est le principal moteur de la croissance économique, de la croissance des salaires et de la création de nouvelles entreprises et de nouveaux emplois, à mesure que de la main-d'œuvre et du capital sont continuellement libérés pour faire des choses plus importantes et mieux valorisées qu'auparavant. »

Aujourd'hui, alors que les espoirs suscités par l'intelligence artificielle sont encore plus vifs que ne l'étaient ceux qu'avait permis le Facebook des débuts, nous ferions bien de réévaluer ces idées. Certes, l'innovation est parfois intrinsèquement disruptive, et le procès de création peut être aussi destructeur que le pensait Schumpeter. L'histoire montre que la résistance obstinée à la destruction créatrice mène à la stagnation économique. Mais il ne s'ensuit pas qu'il faille encenser la destruction. Nous ferions mieux, au contraire, de la considérer comme un coût, susceptible, parfois, d'être réduit, notamment grâce à l'action d'institutions rajeunies afin d'aider les laissés-pour-compte et, de temps à autre, d'encadrer le procès de changement technologique.

Prenons l'exemple de la mondialisation. Si elle génère d'importants bénéfices économiques, elle détruit aussi des emplois, des entreprises et des sources de revenus. Dès lors que nous magnifions ces coûts, nous n'allons pas envisager de les atténuer. Et nous pourrions pourtant faire beaucoup plus pour aider les entreprises touchées (qui peuvent investir pour se diversifier dans de nouveaux domaines), pour secourir celles et ceux qui ont perdu leur emploi (grâce à la formation continue et à la protection sociale), pour venir en aide aux collectivités dévastées.

Faute d'avoir émis ces nuances, nous avons ouvert la porte à un excès de destruction créatrice et de disruption, tel que nous l'a imposé la Silicon Valley au cours des dernières décennies. Si l'on considère l'avenir, trois principes devraient guider notre ligne de conduite, eu égard, notamment, à l'intelligence artificielle (IA).

En premier lieu, comme pour la mondialisation, il est de la plus haute importance d'aider celles et ceux qui en pâtissent, et cela ne saurait être considéré comme contingent. En deuxième lieu, nous ne devrions pas poser que la destruction est inévitable. Comme je l'ai déjà soutenu, l'IA ne conduit pas nécessairement à une destruction massive de l'emploi. Si elle n'est déployée qu'au nom de l'automation (comme le souhaitent nombre des géants de la Silicon Valley), la technologie ne fera que créer encore plus de misère pour les travailleuses et les travailleurs. Mais elle pourrait emprunter des voies différentes et plus séduisantes. Car il y a dans l'IA un immense potentiel de croissance de la productivité de la main-d'œuvre, à qui elle peut fournir une meilleure information et permettre d'exécuter des tâches plus complexes.

Le culte rendu à la destruction créatrice ne doit pas nous masquer ces scénarios plus prometteurs ni occulter que nous nous sommes engagés sur une route incertaine. Si le marché ne peut canaliser les énergies innovantes dans une direction socialement bénéficiaire, le procès démocratique et les politiques publiques peuvent y parvenir. Exactement comme on a vu de nombreux pays consentir des aides afin d'encourager encore plus d'innovation dans les énergies renouvelables, il est possible d'en faire plus pour atténuer les effets dommageables de l'IA et des technologies numériques.

Troisièmement, nous devons nous souvenir que les rapports sociaux et économiques sont excessivement complexes. Quand ils sont disruptés, toutes sortes de conséquences imprévues peuvent s'ensuivre. Facebook et les plateformes de réseaux sociaux n'ont pas eu l'intention d'empoisonner le discours public avec l'extrémisme, la désinformation et l'intoxication. Mais dans leur course à la disruption de nos modes de communication, elles sont demeurées fidèles à leurs principes de vitesse avant de chercher à se faire pardonner.

Nous avons instamment besoin d'accorder plus d'attention à la façon dont la nouvelle vague d'innovation disruptive pourrait affecter nos institutions sociales, démocratiques et civiques. Pour tirer le meilleur - et même le maximum - de la destruction créatrice, il nous faut établir l'équilibre idoine entre les politiques publiques d'encouragement de l'innovation et l'apport démocratique. Si nous confions la sauvegarde de nos institutions aux entrepreneurs de la tech, nous risquons une destruction plus importante que nous ne l'avions acceptée.

Traduit de l'anglais par François Boisvion

Daron Acemoglu, professeur d'économie au MIT, est co-auteur (avec Simon Johnson) de Power and Progress: Our Thousand-Year Struggle Over Technology and Prosperity (PublicAffairs, mai 2023, non traduit).

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USAID indicts Liberian pharmacies

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by USAID. Instead, Mr. Wright stated that partnerships are the key to overcoming these challenges, and every stakeholder has a role to play. He indicated that the Civil Society Health Coalition has already identified where the problems are, and this is helpful to them in understanding what they need to do to improve the supply chain system. "We proudly support these efforts through USAID's Civil Society Activity. In fact, I would like to take a moment to recognize the extraordinary Liberian organizations that form the Coalition," Wright said. The six CSOs include Community Health Education and Social Services, Efficient Research and Development Institute, and Humanity Above One-Self Foundation. The others are Public Health Initiative Liberia, Volunteers United for Development, and Youth Network for Positive Change. Mr Wright told the audience that these CSOs have worked tirelessly to monitor distributions, resolve issues, advocate for system improvements, and raise awareness that donated medicines are free and should not be sold. Mr. Wright termed the campaign launch as a pivotal moment in their collective efforts to address a critical issue affecting every Liberian's health and well-being. He used the occasion to thank the government, urging the need to recognize the tremendous efforts of Liberian healthcare workers. Mr. Wright acknowledged the invaluable work of community health assistants in Liberia, adding that they play a crucial role in detecting and treating diseases like malaria. They contributed to Liberia's success in cutting childhood malaria cases in half, with support from the U.S. Mr. Wright indicated that in the president's Malaria Initiative last year, life-saving medicines and other medical supplies worth 14 million US dollars were donated to the people of Liberia by the (USAID) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. He pointed out that those essential health products significantly reduce preventable deaths. The USAID envoy expressed conviction that the Government of Liberia will also benefit from constructive partnerships

with the Coalition, citing the example of Liberia's National Public Health Initiative.

"To make a meaningful and sustainable impact on reducing fraud, the Government of Liberia must also assume more responsibility for ensuring accountability," he said.

He added that the recent indictment of former Margibi County Health Team members and other complicit parties for corruption is a step in the right direction.

Mr. Wright stated that the next important step that the government should embark on is prosecution, and if the accused are found guilty, they must be punished by the law.

Reacting to the USAID Mission Director's allegations, Bong County Pharmacist Mr. George Dokie said it was unfair for the USAID mission head to have accused pharmacies of selling stolen medicine in the country.

"Pharmacists are not criminals. I want to debunk the USAID mission head's characterization of pharmacies. At no point in time [was] any pharmacist ... caught stealing or selling donated medicine," said Mr. Dokie.

He challenged the USAID mission head to bring forth his evidence pointing to pharmacists stealing.

"We can't be criminals; this is the second time these people have referred to us in this manner," he lamented.

He recalled that former US Ambassador Michael McCarthy similarly accused them.

"I want our people to know that statement is a blanket statement because we pharmacists are not criminals," he added.

Making a short PowerPoint presentation, a member of the Civil Society Health Coalition, Ms. Joyce Kilikpo, said the CSA health coalition comprises six different CSOs that are working across six of Liberia's fifteen counties. She named Montserrado, Bong, Margibi, Lofa, Nimba, and Grand Bassa Counties.

The campaign launch brought together delegates from the six counties, government officials from line ministries and agencies, and partners.

Tconflicting accounts over UP stalwart's death

Kakata, Liberia, April 15, 2024 - The mysterious death of a businessman and supporter of President Joseph Nyuma Boakai has left residents dumbfounded.

By Ramsey N. Singbeh, Jr.

The mysterious death of a staunch supporter of President Boakai and the ruling Unity Party has left Margibi County in disbelief with various accounts circulating among residents.

The people of Margibi woke up on April 11, 2024 to shocking and conflicting news of the death of a renowned businessman-turned politician, who was also a stalwart of the ruling Unity Party.

The late Jacob Q. Ketteh, popularly known as 'Uncle J', was a resident of Kakata City and operated the Uncle J. Foreign Auto Parts Business Center.

He contested the 2023 elections on the ticket of the Unity Party, but lost to incumbent Representative Clarence Gleekan Gahr. Family sources, who confirmed his death during early April 11th to the NEW DAWN, said the late Jacob was pronounced dead upon arrival at hospital. Inside sources gave conflicting information regarding his demise. One source says he was never

sick and that he even watched the match between Barcelona and PSG via television on the night of April 10, 2024 with some folks from Kakata at his residence.

Another source said the deceased had been battling pressure since the elections



The late Mr. Jacob Q. Ketteh popularly known as Uncle J

and he was seen breathing heavily with foam oozing from his mouth, minutes before he died. There was no medical report provided up to press time, but this paper was also hinted that a very strong and hard-to-penetrate substance came out of his mouth after his death.

Fire guts Speaker's house

Starts from page 11

after he criticized the Boakai administration's insensitive and failed Assert Recovery Team. Please come out on April 19, 2024 to enable the government answer to these contradictions. It was Senator Saah Joseph, now it's Speaker Koffa", Foday writes. Since 2024, fire disasters continue to affect homes, churches,

schools and vehicles across the country, as victims endure pain without any hope of restarting their lives. As concerns continue to mount over the multiple fire situations, there is a need for urgent attention from national government to help address the situation and keep citizens and residents safe. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE (CARI)
SUAKOKO, BONG COUNTY
 P.O BOX 3929
 REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

Project Title: Smallholder Agriculture Development for Food and Nutrition Security (SADFONS)
IFB NO.: CARI/NCB/006/24

March 19, 2024

Invitation for Bid

The Government of the Republic of Liberia through the Ministry of Agriculture Smallholder Agriculture Development for Food and Nutrition Security (SADFONS) Project has received grants from the Global Agriculture Food Security Program (GAFSP) of the World Bank Group and the African Development Bank Fund of the African Development Bank (AfDB) to finance the Central Agricultural Research Institute (CARI) for Agriculture activities in Liberia.

Therefore, the Central Agricultural Research Institute (CARI) now invites sealed Bid(s)/Quotations from eligible bidders for **supply of Motorbikes**. The needed Motorbikes are as follow:

Specification & Quantities

No.	Description	Quantity	Bid Security
1.	MOTOR_BIKES	9 Units	Bid Security Declaration

The Central Agricultural Research Institute (CARI) now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Motorbikes** for CARI's SADFONS Project 2024.

Bidding will be conducted through the **National Competitive Bidding (NCB)** procedures specified and approved by the PPCC and open to all eligible bidders. A complete set of Tender documents in English may be purchased by interested Bidders at the **CARI's Sub-office, Ministry of Agriculture Annex, (PMU), old LPRC Road, Japan Freeway**, from March 20, 2024 - April 19, 2024, Monday to Friday, from 8:00 am-4:00 pm, at a nonrefundable fee of **Twenty-five (25) USD**.

Tenders must be delivered to **the Main Office of the Central Agricultural Research Institute (CARI), Suakoko, Bong County**, on or before **April 19, 2024, by 1:00 pm**. Tenders shall be valid for 90 days after the deadline for Tender submission. All Tenders must be accompanied by a Bid Security Declaration as described in the bidding document. Late Tenders will be rejected. Tenders will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the Main Conference Room of the Central Agricultural Research Institute (CARI), Suakoko, Bong County, Liberia, on April 19, 2024 at 1:00 pm.

For any further clarification, please contact:
 Project Focus Person
 P.O Box 3929
 Central Agricultural Research Institute,
 Suakoko, Bong County.
 Republic of Liberia
 Email Address: josephwoah@gmail.com; macarthur404@yahoo.com
 0886888621/0770464860

SIGNED BY:

MACARTHUR PAUL
 PROJECT PROCUREMENT OFFICER
 0770464860/0886874863

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Tolbert's killing continues to hinder Liberia's growth

Fire guts Speaker's house

-CDC alarms witch-hunt

It has been over four decades since then-sitting President Tolbert and some of his officials were assassinated on 12 April 1980 for corruption and misuse of public offices.

Dr. Tolbert read a special statement at the grave site during their weekend visit to the Palm Grove Cemetery.

Paynesville, Liberia, Fire razes Speaker Kofa's residence here, just months after Montserrado County Senator Saah Joseph, suffered similar fate.

By Lincoln G. Peters
Monrovia, April 15, 2024: Dr. Richard V. Tolbert, the son of slain Liberian President Dr. William Richard Tolbert, says

misuse of public offices, among others. In the coup's aftermath, Master Sergeant Samuel Kanyon Doe of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) seized

He lamented that it was exactly 44 years ago when a great evil was perpetrated not only against the Tolbert family but also the destiny and people of Liberia.

He stated that for those who have not yet recognized the great harm that was done, "I can only say, I leave your own with God."

As painful as this day was and still is to many, he said every minute is fresh in their memories, as if it was just yesterday.

"We say we bear no grudge in our hearts against our enemies past or present," but instead pray to the Almighty with all sincerity for the uplifting of his judgment, if there be any against the perpetrators of those wicked deeds and this nation," Dr. Tolbert pointed out.

As a family, he said they begged God's forgiveness for those and all the sins and the sins of those who orchestrated those evil acts.

He prayed that the soul of President Tolbert and all those killed with him during the coup of 12 April 1980, including A.B. Tolbert and Varney Dempster ... find true repose and rest in perpetual peace and light.

He also recalled how on 12 April 1975, Finance Minister Steve Tolbert mysteriously died in a plane crash.

"And since sometime in 1980, when A. Benedict Tolbert and former Police Director Varney Dempster were taken out of prison cell at night and murdered, their bodies never to be found," he stated.

By Lincoln G. Peters
The home of the Speaker of the 55th Liberian Legislature engulfs in flames here, leaving property valued more One million United States Dollars destroyed.

the flames prevented them. With no actual cause yet established for the saddening incident, the modern white solid and beautiful flat top structure gradually razed to ashes, as Fire fighters struggled to contain the heavy raging flames in the Rehab Community.

There has been no immediate report of casualty, the fire incident that occurred late Sunday, April 14, 2024 has caused Speaker Cllr. Jonathan Fornati Koffa and family to become the latest victims of fire disaster in the country,

Speaker Kofa is a close neighbor of President Joseph Nyuma Boakai and former President George M. Weah. Based upon the incident, a member of the former ruling Coalition for Democratic Change Council of Patriot, Foday N. Massaquoi, announced on his



his father's assassination brought a dark cloud that continues to hinder Liberia's growth and progress.

"It's exactly 44 years since this great evil was brought against the state. Surely, those who cannot see except those who wish not to see, that there has been a dark cloud," he said at the Palm Grove cemetery on 12 April 2024.

The families of Tolbert and 11 other officials who were killed in the 1980 coup went out on 12 April 2024 to pay homage to their deceased relatives.

The 19th Liberian president was killed in cold blood in his apartment at the Executive Mansion, and his government was overthrown on accusations of alleged rampant corruption and

power.

But roughly ten years later, in September 1990, Doe would suffer a gruesome murder by other rebel fighters who were opposed to his rule, plunging the nation into additional years of carnage.

"In fact, on April 22, 1980, it was literally a very dark cloud over this land since April 12, 1980, when President Tolbert was assassinated," he narrated tearfully.

For many Liberians, the 12 April 1980 coup was a necessary change of the guard and a much-needed opportunity to right the wrongs of the past.

But this historic day continues to remind Liberians, especially families of the deceased, of the barbaric murder of those officials.



especially outside Monrovia. Dozens of residents of Rehab Community in Paynesville gathered at the home of Speaker Koffa's in amazement, as they painfully watched the premises gutted by fire.

Facebook page has announced a mass peaceful gathering slated for Friday, April 19, 2024.

According to him, the rally is intended to call President Boakai's attend to alleged witch-hunt against members of the CDC.

Residents coordinated efforts to contain the fire or prevent it but, server heat from

"Cllr. Koffa, Liberian Speaker's house is burning to arches, just day

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JUDICIAL BRANCH
 REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

OFFICE OF THE CIVIL LAW COURT
 JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, SITTING IN ITS
 MEMBER TERM A.D. 2023.

BEFORE HIS HONOR:..... OIASSIGNED CIRCUIT JUDGE

THE COURT: THE COURT: MR. SHERIFF CALL THE CASE, IN RE: PETITION OF ANTOINETTE DAWOE GWIQUOLAYE PETITIONER, OF THE CITY OF MONROVIA, MONTSERRADO COUNTY, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, PRAYING THIS HONORABLE COURT FOR A DECREE OF CHANGE OF NAME IN FAVOR OF HER MINOR CHILD ARCHIE JAMAL SONII TO BE KNOWN, REGARDED AND CALLED AS "ARCHIE JAMAL KAIZEA"

COURT'S DECREE OF CHANGE OF NAME 00012331

THE PETITIONER BY AND THRU HER LEGAL COUNSEL FILED A PETITION BEFORE THIS COURT REQUESTING THIS HONORABLE COURT TO ORDER THE CHANGE OF HER NAME FROM ARCHIE JAMAL SONII, TO "ARCHIE JAMAL KAIZEA".

During the hearing, the Petitioner testified that the Change of his name requesting this Honorable Court is intended to claim the appropriate name that conforms to his religious belief. After conducting the necessary interrogations required by law in these proceedings, the Court observed that the intention is just and legal and that there is no objection to the change of name proposed by him.

That the Petitioner having shown with justification and satisfaction that he was born on May 16, 2011 in Monrovia, Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia, and that he was born unto the union of Mr. Archie Sonii (Father) and Madam Antoinette Dawoe Gwiqulolaye (Mother) and that the Change of her name will substantially promote her interest in all of the understandings and more firmly and that he has met all legal requirements for the Change of her name in this jurisdiction.

The Petition having been heard, same is hereby ordered granted and we now render that the name Archie Jamal Sonii be changed to "Archie Jamal Kaizea" beginning this 20th Day of February, A.D. 2024. That all documents signed by the Petitioner herein prior to this decree remain valid.

THIS DECREE shall be registered in the Office of the Registrar of DEEDS and other Official Documentations within(10) days from this date and also be published twice in any recognized Newspaper operating in the Republic of Liberia within twenty (20) days from this date. AND IT IS HEREBY SO ORDERED.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THIS HONORABLE COURT, THIS 20TH DAY OF FEBRUARY A.D. 2024.

HIS HONOR OUSMAN F. FEIKA
 ASSIGNED CIRCUIT JUDGE PRESIDING
 SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CIVIL LAW COURT

COURT SEAL: REGISTERED ACCORDING TO LAW IN VOLUME 03-02 PAGES 00012331
 REGISTRAR, NATIONAL ARCHIVES CENTER/MONT. CO, R.L.
 March 2024 3:00 6

SURVEY NOTICE April 8, 2024

The Public is hereby notified that, the undersigned Registered and Licensed Surveyor has been duly authorized by Administrator Vaani O. Baker of the Intestate Estate of the Late Christian Baker to conduct a re-survey of a parcel of Land containing one lot.

The Land in question is situated opposite the John F. Kennedy Medical Center, 22nd St., Sinkor, Montserrado County, Liberia.

Said survey will commence on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at the hour 10:30 AM.

Therefore, all adjacent property owners and persons interested in the said survey should be present with his/her Deed(s), Diagram(s) and any relevant legal document(s) they may have, accompanied by their Technical Surveyor(s) to substitute their claims to avoid future land dispute.

This Notice should claim the attention of the following individuals:

1. Her Honor Jamesetta Howard-Wolokolie, Associate Justice, Supreme Court of Liberia
2. Madam Mercy Mulbah
3. The Roland Family
4. The Scott Family
5. Mr. Alfred G. Troyah
6. Mr. Ben Gartay
7. The Russia Family
8. The Late William Howard
9. The Community Chairperson
10. The Nearest Police Station

Signed:
 Kempson S. Murray, Sr.
 Reg. & Lic. Land Surveyor

Contact: 0777-750-002

USAID indicts Liberian pharmacies

--Says 90% of Pharmacies sell stolen medicine

The USAID Mission says that pharmacies selling donated medicines means that medicine is only available to patients who have enough money to buy it.

By Lewis S. Teh

Monrovia, April 15, 2024: The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) 2023 assessment

Monrovia over the weekend, USAID Mission Director Mr. Jim Wright said the assessment discovered that about 90% of pharmacies sell stolen medicine that is being donated

money to buy them.

"In fact, an assessment last year showed that well over 90% of the pharmacies in Liberia sell stolen medicine," said Mr. Wright.

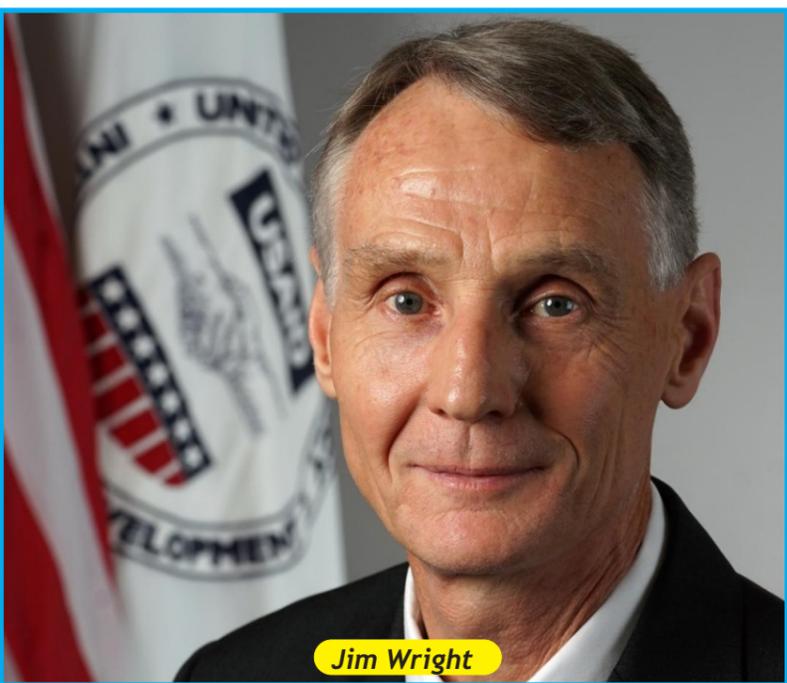
"That is unacceptable. That means that medicine is only available to patients that have enough money to buy them," he said.

Mr. Wright spoke at the launch of the "Campaign to Improve Supply Chain for Donated Medicines" Organized by USAID Liberia Civil Society Activity (CSA) Project in collaboration with the Civil Society Health Coalition.

Due to the pharmacists' alleged sale of stolen drugs, the USAID mission head detailed that patients who don't have enough money are left to suffer.

"This is unfair and immoral. USAID is committed to ending corruption and mismanagement within the public health supply chain for donated medications and stopping drug stockouts," he continued.

According to him, ending the corruption in the public health sector can't be carried out alone



Jim Wright

indicted most pharmacies here for allegedly selling stolen medicine.

to Liberia. Wright said this means that medicine is only available to patients that have enough

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