



CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES

LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR BUYING SELLING DATE MONDAY, DECEMBER 02, 2024 L\$178.3755/US\$1.00 L\$180.0019/US\$1.00

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

Source: Research, Policy and Planning Department, CBL

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Continental News

BBC News, Dar es Salaam

olice in Tanzania are investigating the reported kidnapping of opposition youth leader Abdul

Police confirmed that a man was taken from the bus station in the early hours of Sunday by two individuals traveling in a white four-wheel-drive vehicle.

While the identity of the victim is



The ACT Wazalendo party said Nondo was abducted by unknown assailants from a bus station in the main city, Dar es

yet to be officially confirmed, the police said the abducted man left behind a bag containing items which are believed to belong to

This incident follows the kidnapping and killing of a senior leader from the main opposition party in September. In that case, Chadema's Ali Mohamed Kibao was taken from a bus, beaten and then doused with acid. President Samia Suluhu Hassan denounced the incident and called for an investigation into the murder.

On Sunday, ACT Wazalendo said Nondo was snatched minutes after he had arrived from the western region of the country where he had been campaigning for the party's candidates in recent local government elections.

The party has expressed concern and called for immediate action. The motive behind the abduction is unclear.

Zania opposition youth leader abducted from bus station when Nigeria's richest the youth leader. This incident follows the man takes on the 'oil mafia'?

Petrol production at Nigerian business tycoon Aliko Dangote's \$20bn (£15.5bn) state-of-the-art oil refinery ought to be some of the best business news Nigeria has had in years.

judge its success on two key questions - firstly: "Will I get cheaper petrol?"

Sorry, but probably no - unless the international price of crude drops.

And secondly: "Will I still have to spend hours watching my hair turn grey in a hypertension-inducing fuel queue?" Hopefully those days are gone

but it might partly depend on the behaviour of what Mr Dangote calls "the oil mafia". For much of the time since oil was first discovered in Nigeria in 1956, the downstream sector, which includes the stage when crude is refined into petrol and other products, has been a cesspit of shady deals with successive governments heavily involved. It has always been impossible to follow the money, but you know there is something dreadfully wrong when the headline "Nigeria's stateowned oil firm fails to pay \$16bn in oil revenues", pops up on your news feed, as it did in

ut many Nigerians will Oil revenue accounts for nearly 90% of Nigeria's export earnings but a relatively small number of business people and politicians have gorged themselves on the oil wealth.

Aspects of the business model have been baffling, including that of Nigeria's four previously existing oil refineries.

have fallen into disrepair. Last year Nigeria's parliament

Built in the 1960s, 70s and 80s, they

reported that over the previous decade the state had spent a staggering \$25bn trying and failing to fix the moribund facilities.

So Africa's largest oil producer has been exporting its crude which is then refined abroad, much to the delight of some well-connected traders.

It would be like a bakery with a broken oven. But rather than fix it, the owner sends balls of dough to another firm that shoves them in a working oven and sells the loaves back to the baker.

Nigeria is often hit by fuel shortages, causing long queues at filling stations The NNPC swaps Nigeria's crude oil for the refined products, including petrol, which are shipped back home.

Is Namibia going to elect its first female leader?

Frauke Jensen **BBC News**

f things work out as Namibia's long-time governing party hopes, the country will be electing its first female head of state this week.

But a mood of disillusionment with liberation movements in southern Africa, coupled with the anti-incumbency feeling in many parts of the world, may pose a threat to what would be an historic achievement.

Vice-President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, 72, is the flag-bearer for Swapo, which has led the country since independence from apartheid South Africa in 1990.

Tanzania's Samia Suluhu Hassan is currently Africa's only female president, so Nandi-Ndaitwah would be joining an exclusive club if she is victorious.

Her party, totally dominant for three decades, saw a large drop in its support in the last general election. It goes into Wednesday's vote amid an unemployment rate of 19% almost the same as it was 30 years ago - troubled government finances, questions about corruption and high levels of inequality.

Standing in Nandi-Ndaitwah's way is her main challenger among the 14 other candidates - Panduleni Itula of the Independent Patriots for Change (IPC) party.

She is also up against a traditional and maledominated political culture in the country.

But she is a trusted leader of this sparsely populated and peaceful country having served in high government office for a quarter of a century.

"I have always believed in teamwork, that is what made me achieve what I have achieved," she has said.

Known for her hands-on and pragmatic style of leadership. the vice-president is also fiercely loyal to the party, which she joined as a teenager.

At 14 she became part of the movement resisting rule from South Africa, which had governed the country - then known as South West Africa since the end of World War One and later introduced the racist system of apartheid.

Panduleni Itula worked as a dentist in the UK before returning to Namibia in 2013

She was recognised for her tenacity and organisational talent as leader of Swapo's Youth League, which became a stepping stone to her political

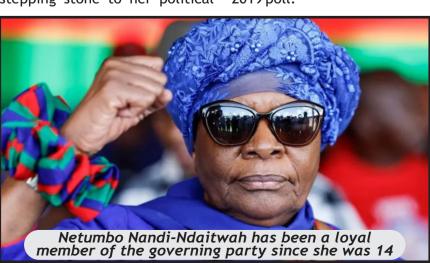
career, which has included ministerial roles in foreign affairs, tourism, child welfare and information.

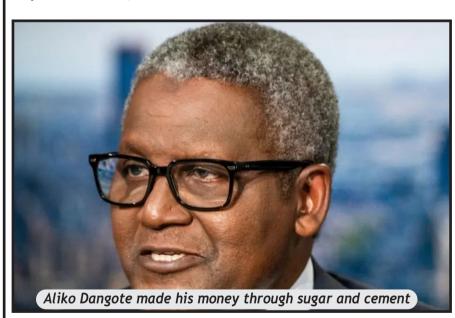
She has garnered a wealth of knowledge and experience that could stand her in good stead should she get into the driving seat.

"She seems so wise and sweet and kind, even in the way she tries to say everything in such a way that even like me will understand," Laimi, a potential voter, told the BBC in the capital. Windhoek.

Her friend Maria said: "Itula is like a new piece of jewellery with his glasses, his smart suit and his confident walk, but maybe he blinds you with his shine."

Both are young adults who have been unable to find jobs. A trained dentist, Itula, 67, was himself once a Swapo stalwart but was expelled from the party in 2020 after running as an independent candidate against then-President Hage Geingob in the 2019 poll.





that the state-owned Nigerian National Petroleum Company (NNPC) has been publishing accounts.

The Africa head at the Eurasia Group think-tank, Amaka Anku, hails the Dangote refinery, in which the NNPC has a 7% stake, as "a very significant moment" for the West African state.

"What you had in the downstream sector was an inefficient, corrupt monopoly,"

"What the local refinery allows you to do is have a truly competitive downstream sector with multiple players taxes."

who will be more efficient, profit making and they'll pay To put it bluntly, the population of this oil-rich nation has been

conned on a colossal scale for

many years.

Exactly how much money changes It is only in the last five years hands and who benefits from these "oil swaps" is just one of the unknowns in these deals.

> "No-one has been able to nail down who exactly has benefited. It's almost like a beer parlour gossip about who is getting what," says Toyin Akinosho of the Africa Oil+Gas Report.

The NNPC began subsidising the price of petrol in the 1970s to cushion the blow when global prices soared. Every year it clawed this money back by depositing lower royalty payments

- the money it received for every barrel pumped out of the ground with the Nigerian treasury.

"It's a convenient excuse." she adds. She points to other contributing factors causing the drop in production, including international oil companies selling their on-shore oil fields - some of which may no longer be viable having pumped oil for 60 years.

EDITORIAL

Giving coins to children is dangerous

Children in homes across Liberia are not safe enough. Not least with newly minted 5 and 10 Liberian Dollar coins in their reach. This is because most kids take these coins as toys and usually placed them in their mouths, and eventually swallow; them with health implications.

Children are exposed to coins both in homes, school campuses and outside where the metals are given as change when they go buy bread, juice, candy, biscuit and other snacks during recess.

The situation is scaring, leaving a health practitioner in Monrovia to alarm recently, alerting the public especially, parents. A concerned X-ray technician, Jackson Coleman, revealed that he has handled 28 cases, and 12 of them were children requiring surgery after swallowing coins.

The alarming discovery is sparking growing concern among l medical professionals and parents alike, as the ingestion of coins might lead to serious health risks, including choking, internal injury, or damage to the digestive system and other organs of the body.

As a parent, imagine yourself one day returning home from work or from business activity and being confronted with situation involving your little kid swallowing pieces of coins that could lead to unforeseen consequences. Surely this is not an experience you want to have.

The 5 and 10 Liberian dollar coins are part of a new family of currency issued by the Central Bank of Liberia, as part of a currency reform. The coins are made of nickel-plated steel and feature a latent image security feature.

Parents are being advised to be extra vigilant and ensure that these coins, which have become more common in daily transactions, are kept out of reach of children. This means they should not be kept or placed loosely in homes that children can easily access.

The Central Bank of Liberia is yet to comment on the situation, | but we think there is a need for public education on radio, in communities and schools about keeping coins from reach of children to minimize risks.

All hands should be brought on deck to advert a potential health problem for our children. Remember, 'a stitch in time saves nine.'

The coins are necessary to make daily transactions easier especially in market places and when riding taxi or commercial tricycles. But keeping them away from children especially minors, is safer.



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By Jayati Ghosh

Frump's Bad COP

crisis, leaving global leaders and damage. disheartened.

fossil-fuel production. During a meeting at (UNFCCC) is driven less by a commitment to Mar-a-Lago in May, he openly asked for \$1 multilateral cooperation and more by the billion in campaign contributions from oil pursuit of narrowly defined, self-serving and gas executives in exchange for goals. Moreover, the US frequently bypasses promising to roll back regulations the UN system, favoring bilateral deals that threatening their profits. His pick to lead align more closely with its economic and the Environmental Protection Agency, geopolitical interests. vowed to "deregulate" the EPA.

successor, Joe Biden. He is widely expected withdraw so that the US act as a spoiler.

escalating climate crisis disproportionately more frequent, solution-driven meetings." affects the world's poorest populations, and Trust between high-income and lowerincreasingly remote.

catastrophe will depend on the global climate-financing commitments. leadership.

fossil fuels.

Even under Biden, America's green policies goods and are accessible to all. a tool" to advance its national interests.

This helps explain many of America's policy realize it cannot afford to be left behind. positions. Over the years, the US has blocked discussions on climate reparations Jayati Ghosh, Professor of Economics at

EW DELHI - Donald Trump's victory in same time, it has sought to benefit American the US presidential election has cast a companies by prioritizing enforcement of dark shadow over the United Nations intellectual-property (IP) rights over the Climate Change Conference (COP29) in broader dissemination of green technologies. Baku. Having made no secret of his belief And it has favored vague, non-binding that climate change is a "hoax," Trump's language in international agreements on return to power threatens to undo much of national mitigation goals, adaptation the progress made in combating the climate support, and compensation for loss and

policymakers with ample reason to feel Given this reality, many negotiators believe that America's involvement in the UN Trump is expected to ramp up domestic Framework Convention on Climate Change

former Congressman Lee Zeldin, has already Paradoxically, Trump's anticipated withdrawal from the Paris agreement could During his first term, Trump withdrew the pave the way for more effective climate United States from the 2015 Paris climate negotiations - a dynamic that also could agreement - a decision later reversed by his prompt the Trump administration not to

to withdraw from it again. Notably, Irrespective of Trump's policies, it is now Argentine President Javier Milei, Trump's clear that the COP process is no longer fit for political ally, recalled his country's purpose. Earlier this month, I joined other delegation from COP29 - a move that may academics and climate advocates in sending signal Argentina's imminent departure from an open letter to UNFCCC Executive Secretary Simon Stiell and UN Secretary-The mood at COP29 was further dampened General António Guterres, arguing that the by the conspicuous absence of global current framework "simply cannot deliver leaders like Biden, French President the change" we need "to ensure a safe Emmanuel Macron, Indian Prime Minister climate landing for humanity." Instead of Narendra Modi, German Chancellor Olaf hosting grand annual summits that often Scholz, and Chinese President Xi Jinping, all serve as platforms for fossil-fuel lobbyists to of whom skipped this year's summit. As the broker side deals, we called for "smaller,

the ongoing wars in the Middle East and income economies is crucial for any <u>Ukraine</u> continue to generate massive collaborative climate effort. To promote greenhouse-gas emissions, prospects for transparency and accountability, meaningful climate action appear governments must prioritize feasible nearterm goals over distant, effectively But the fight against climate change is not meaningless targets, and rich countries must necessarily doomed. The ability to avert make genuine, well-defined, and transparent

response to Trump's obstructionism and Importantly, climate finance must not take whether other countries can come together the form of loans, which often trap to confront the crisis, even without US developing countries in perpetual cycles of debt and distress, exacerbating their It is also worth noting that the US has long external vulnerabilities. Equally pressing is been a reluctant participant in global the need to share the knowledge and climate initiatives, regardless of who technologies critical for both mitigation and occupies the White House. This reluctance is adaptation. To be sure, achieving this would hardly surprising, given its position as the require a re-evaluation - or even an outright world's <u>largest producer</u> and net exporter of waiver - of existing IP rules, so that these vital resources are treated as global public

have been primarily additive, focusing on Even if a second Trump presidency disrupts expanding renewable-energy production multilateral arrangements, there is still rather than replacing or reducing fossil-fuel significant potential for large international extraction. As Indian journalist Nitin Sethi coalitions to tackle climate change. The has noted, the US approach to climate clean-energy transition, led by China and negotiations has been to "retain, reinforce, other countries, is not just inevitable - it is and gain new competitive economic already underway. As this shift becomes advantage." wielding "climate language as harder to ignore, even a US administration fixated on getting the best "deals" may

and shifted the burden of mitigation and the University of Massachusetts Amherst, financing onto emerging economies like is a member of the Club of Rome's China and India while subjecting them to *Transformational Economics Commission* intense scrutiny. It has ensured that and Co-Chair of the Independent financing and mitigation measures remain Commission for the Reform of voluntary rather than enforceable. At the International Corporate Taxation.

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NEW DAWN



MONDAY

by Sophie Scherger

Carbon Farming Won't Save the Planet

ERLIN - Healthy soil is indispensable to life on Earth, sustaining nearly 60% of all living species. As the second-largest carbon reservoir after oceans, soil is also among our planet's most important natural assets in the fight against climate change.

But the world's soils are under immense strain. Droughts are increasingly turning fertile land into deserts, while pesticide use drastically reduces soil biodiversity, threatening our ability to produce healthy food. As high-quality agricultural land becomes scarcer, conflicts over shrinking topsoil - critical for crop growth - are

The Heinrich Böll Foundation's recent Soil Atlas highlights the many ways we are losing the ground beneath our feet. The current industrial agriculture system has been a major driver of soil degradation, accelerating biodiversity loss and depleting vital carbon reserves. Yet despite its impact, the agriculture sector has made little progress in advancing climate goals. Its global greenhouse-gas emissions have remained largely unchanged over the past decade.

As countries worldwide set new emissions-reduction targets under the 2015 Paris climate agreement, it is clear that achieving real emissions cuts will require developing strategies to reduce the agriculture sector's carbon footprint.

One approach touted as a potential solution is "carbon farming," which uses market incentives to reward farmers for storing carbon in their soil. By adopting practices like planting cover crops, farmers can earn certificates for increasing carbon storage. These certificates can then be sold as carbon credits in voluntary or government-mandated markets, providing farmers with an additional income stream.

This concept has gained traction in both public-policy circles and the private sector. Fertilizer and pesticide companies like Yara and Bayer have already rolled out their own certification programs, while major agriculture producers such as Canada and Australia have integrated these credits into their markets. The European Union is also developing a certification program for carbon farming, and global carbon markets are expected to follow suit.

Unfortunately, the newfound popularity of carbon farming risks perpetuating the false notion that emissions reductions and soil carbon storage are interchangeable. Even if we accept this premise, developing a system to offset emissions through carbon storage is extremely difficult. For such a system to be effective, storage must originate from a change in farm practices and be measurable and secure for at least a century. But given that carbon stored in soils is inherently unstable and can easily be re-released into the atmosphere by droughts, floods, or shifts in farming practices, long-term storage remains highly unreliable.

Previous attempts to address this instability in other natural reserves have been unsuccessful. For example, reserve credits set aside to offset unintended carbon releases from forests in California are being depleted faster than anticipated after the intense wildfires there. And there has been little interest in credits with expiration dates, which would require buyers to renew them periodically.

While it is possible to measure the carbon stored in soil, doing so is neither simple nor cheap. The accuracy of these measurements depends on several factors, including sampling depth, location, and timeframe. Alternative methods, based on limited sampling or mathematical models, have failed to overcome measurement challenges.

Since prices for soil-carbon credits have been too low to cover the costs of changing agricultural practices, farmers are unlikely to embrace them. In response, European regulators have opted to make credit generation easier, rather than adjusting price incentives, thus compromising the system's integrity.

Beyond methodological challenges, carbon farming can serve as a smokescreen for the livestock industry. Industry groups claim that carbon storage in grasslands can offset methane and nitrous-oxide emissions. But this scenario is unrealistic, given that it would require vast amounts of grassland. It is well established that the most effective way to reduce livestock emissions is to cut livestock numbers and consumption of meat and dairy.

The carbon-market approach views maintaining soil health and reducing emissions as an either/or choice. In reality, both are necessary, as healthy soil is essential for food production. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has found that sequestering carbon in soils - or anywhere else - cannot replace emissions reductions. Targeting emissions reductions, rather than relying solely on soil credits, could have the additional benefit of weakening the appeal of controversial technologies that aim to remove carbon from the atmosphere.

Simply put, a market-based approach to carbon storage cannot deliver the transformative change we need. We cannot offset our way out of the climate crisis. Instead, we should redirect public funds currently spent on agricultural subsidies to investments that improve soil health and support farmers as they undertake the transition to a climate-resilient food system.

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by Azalina Othman Said

| Can Technology End Corruption?

UALA LUMPUR - At the end of October, the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) held its annual meeting in Vienna. Representatives from 81 member states assessed progress on the organization's mission to fight corruption through education, capacitybuilding programs, and research.

Corruption disproportionately affects the poorest and most marginalized communities, making it an economic and social tragedy as much as a political issue. According to the World Economic Forum, corruption costs the world economy an estimated \$2.6 trillion annually, or about 5% of global GDP, leaving fewer resources for essential services in many developing countries.

Digital tools can and should play an important role in the effort to eradicate corruption. Governments can use them to increase transparency, promote accountability, and empower citizens. But, as the IACA assembly concluded, technology alone cannot guarantee success. Policymakers must also commit to anti-corruption measures, deliver leadership and vision, and uphold the rule of law.

For starters, technology can aid the fight against corruption by enabling the digitalization of government services. Cumbersome bureaucratic processes all too often become breeding grounds for graft and bribery. Digital platforms that streamline and automate such services would minimize faceto-face interactions and thus reduce opportunities for wrongdoing. For example, Estonia, a pioneer in e-government, has digitalized nearly all of its public services, from tax payments to business registration, providing greater transparency and making it harder for corrupt officials to demand kickbacks.

Governments could also use blockchain technology and artificial intelligence to identify and prevent corruption. Blockchain-based publicprocurement systems would create a transparent and immutable record of tender processes. Moreover, governments have begun using AI and data analytics to track illicit financial flows that often cost billions of dollars in lost tax and customs revenue. Al also could detect patterns and anomalies that might indicate corruption, such as suspicious financial transactions or inconsistencies in procurement data. Such tools enable early intervention, which can stop corruption from growing unchecked.

Some of the world's largest corruption scandals have been exposed by whistleblowers. To facilitate reporting of wrongdoing, policymakers should introduce encrypted systems that allow individuals to report incidents of corruption and bribery anonymously. These platforms, coupled with social media, enable citizens to speak up quickly and without fear of retaliation, putting pressure on governments and businesses to act.

Despite the advances in digital tools for uncovering corruption, however, technology cannot prevent bad actors from finding work arounds. Moreover, the digital divide between rich and poor countries means that citizens and officials in the developing world often lack access to anti-corruption tools, despite having the greatest need. This problem is especially pronounced in rural areas, where corruption tends to be more widespread and people may not have the digital literacy or resources to use e-government services or online whistle blowing platforms.

For digital tools to be effective in combating corruption, the people in power must have the skills to spot wrongdoing and be aware of best practices. To that end, the IACA has focused its efforts on education and training programs. Ethics and moral reasoning must be integrated into school curricula starting from a young age. And public officials, business leaders, and law-enforcement officers should receive regular training on the most effective and efficient anti-corruption measures.

Likewise, governments should uphold the rule of law by vigorously enforcing anti-corruption legislation and closing legal gaps. Convicting corrupt actors requires strong legal frameworks, an independent judiciary, and empowered law-enforcement agencies, without which even the best technology will fail to have any real impact.

Rooting out corruption is one of the defining struggles of our time, and we now have a new set of powerful digital tools at our disposal. But while technology can help detect and prevent wrongdoing, anti-corruption laws and the authorities tasked with enforcing them must be granted the authority to finish the job.

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eath is inevi[†]

eath is inevitable, they say. It will surely happen to everyone, -meaning it cannot be avoided. Death visits when it is least expected. Death comes in many instances as a shock, leaving mixed feelings and many unanswered questions when it takes away our loved ones.

Often, people say a person was aware of his or her death before passing on to the afterlife. Still, those are mere speculations because if the person had known, they would have put their houses in order, as King Hezekiah did in 2 Kings 20:1 and Isaiah 38:1-10.

A former Liberian playwright, Wilton G. S. Sankawulo, once wrote that nobody knows when he will die. That statement holds despite many empirical data and predictions about life expectancies in countries around the globe, with Liberia's life expectancy at 65.25 (UN report).

This was obvious on early Thursday morning, November 28, 2024, when Liberians woke up to the shocking death news of warlord turned politician and preacher Prince Y. Johnson.

The late Johnson had returned from his native Nimba County a day before his death, where he dedicated a hall at his university in honor of former Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema, a late African dictator he had held in high esteem.

Sen. Johnson may have had big plans and dreams for the future, including the university or even planning his retirement with his grand children in mind. But death had its own plan for Sen. Johnson.

The shocking death news of Sen. Johnson the day after his return from Nimba shows that death remains an unexpected guest to the living.

No one is promised tomorrow.

There is a common saying that no one is promised tomorrow, so live as if today is your last. Why the importance of this statement is overlooked in many conversations that saying holds.

Living one's life as if there were no tomorrow could be interpreted in many ways. However, one interpretation that stands tall among the rest is living a life leaving a memory for your loved ones and people you interact with every day. For some, these memories are fond, while for others, they are nothing but bad memories.

In the case of the late Sen. Prince Johnson, he comes across as a hero and a villain at the same time, depending on which side one belongs.

For his kinsmen, he was a hero—a man who revenged the blood of Nimbaians against former junta leader Samuel K. Doe.

In their memory, the events of the 1985 Nimba raid by soldiers loyal to slain President Doe after the failed coup in 1985 and the 1990 Lutheran Massacre pictured him as their liberator. Some would also argue that a fraction of Americo-Liberians also saw him as a hero for killing former President Doe.

But for others, he remained a villain. They have no heroic memory of him except for the pain and agony he put them through when he slaughtered their loved ones in cool blood during the country's decades of civil war for alleged crimes they did not commit.

For those who live in pain and agony, seeing him suffer unto death through, say, conviction by the War and Economic Crimes Court would have been viewed as sweet revenge.

But as it is now, Sen. Johnson will no longer face a War and Economic Crimes Court, and neither will those wishing that he rots in jail like former President Taylor, who is serving a 50-year jail term in a UK prison, ever see that come to

No, Sen. Johnson is gone. He died a peaceful death, contrary to what many of his victims would have wished.

The Lesson Learned.

Life is a gift from God, the Almighty. He has promised no one how long he or she will spend here on Earth before transitioning to the unknown. Live it as if there was no tomorrow. Live at peace with every man. Love your neighbor as yourself because he dwells near you for security. Owe no man anything. And above all, love God and honor him, for this is your greatest service.

To be given life is the greatest gift every person and living creature received, or will receive, from God, the Almighty. Life is years of opportunity to develop a relationship with God and others and serve the Lord and other people.

"It's a life where we walk out the plans and purposes for which God created us: loving God, loving others, and making disciples of Jesus. Yes, we must die to ourselves and our desires, but in so doing, we realize how much they only led to our unhappiness and dissatisfaction," one writer wrote.

The Liberian National Legislature Should Legislate a National Holiday for all Presidents' birthdays

he Republic of Liberia is 177 years old now. The country historically has had 26 presidents. I think it should be 27 Presidents because the present 26 excludes Hon. James Smith, who served as Vice President to E. J. Roye, whose death the history of Liberia is controversial about. Hon. James Smith is said to have served a "truncated term" as Acting President after the controversial death of Edwin James Roye (the issue is being researched and discussed in my upcoming peer-reviewed "Liberia's Presidential/Political History"). I have observed that Liberians individually like or love some presidents and dislike or hate others. As a Political Scientist, I understand that this is normal/usual about human beings. We all either hate/oppose or like/love certain people wrongfully or rightfully. This is about our feelings. For , whatever we think and will think about all our former, current, and future National Presidents hold the view that we should celebrate whatever gains they have made and will make for iberia. Imagine that Liberia had the first female elected president in Africa. She is former. President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. Imagine also, Liberia has had the singular African winner of the Ballon d'Or as the Country's President. He is former President George Manneh Weah. Don't we need to celebrate their birthdays too? Let us celebrate all our National Leaders for their service to the Republic of Liberia.

November 29th was celebrated once again as former President William V.S Tubman's 129th birth anniversary. Just after that, November 30 $^{
m th}$, 2024, was the 80 $^{
m th}$ birth anniversary of H.E. Joseph Nyuma Boakai's birthday anniversary also. President Boakai's birthday was quietly celebrated not only because it is not a national holiday but also due to the demise of former Senator Prince Y. Johnson from Nimba County and the death of Hon. John Gray, former Vice President from Grand Cape Mount, who served under President Moses Z. Blah from Nimba. President Boakai's birth anniversary also coincided with the resumption of the direct flight of Ethiopian Airlines to the Republic of Liberia's Roberts International Airport (RIA). Senator Johnson and Nimba County played a pivotal role in the election of President Boakai. Thank God the Hon. Jeremiah (pan Koon, Liberia's current Vice President, was politically groomed by the late Senator Johnson. Historically, President Blah served a shorter presidential term in recent times, just ike former Vice President Hon. James Smith. This could be one of the reasons Hon. James Smith should have been listed as a former President (to be discussed later in full).

While I was drafting this opinion on President Tubman's birth anniversary, a presenter on the ELBC morning show (name withheld) said that " President Tubman was a Grebo man." I was shocked by the open declaration on the state radio because this was a historic falsehood. I needed to make the correction promptly. Therefore, I posted on Facebook saying, "Happy November 29th. I just listened to a presenter on ELBC who said President Tubman was a Grebo nan. That is historically wrong because Tubman was not a Grebo Man." Surprisingly, the post attracted a lot of reactions. Some of the reactors displayed a deep-seated ignorance about Tubman's tribal origin, showing an adequate lack of knowledge about the History of Identity in iberia. Even some of my colleagues, that I expected to be aware of this historical piece of. nformation came arguing about Tubman's tribal lineage. What puzzled me most was not the argument and counter-argument but that some people I expected to know this did not know. Therefore, I am convinced that the scholars in the Liberia academic space need to do more esearch and publish peer-reviewed historical texts about Liberia's history. This History of iberia needs to be written and rewritten always. The current generation of Liberia may have. ome information gaps about the political history of the country. If that is the case just as this President's issue has unearthed, Then future generations stand to equally get misinformed about several historical facts on Liberia. Hence, there is a need to vigorously teach Liberian History and Civics with the Constitution in all our schools.

Briefly about former President Tubman, he was born in Maryland County, but that does not nake him a Grebo man. Any of the tribes could be born anywhere, but our law says you come from your father's lineage. Tubman's parents migrated from the United States of America. They were part of the founders of a free slave enclave called Maryland in Africa. There were tribal wars between the Americo-Liberian settlers and the Grebo people over land acquisition and territorial expansion (to be fully discussed another time). So, President Tubman was a , descendant of the settlers in Maryland. He was an Americo-Liberian, not a Grebo man like me as other people think and believe. Historically, there has been no Grebo man who became President of Liberia. I was born in Harrisburg, where my mother hails from, but my father originated in Maryland. He was a Grebo man. So, I am a Grebo man today. Presently, my nometown falls in Grand Kru County.

Interestingly, some people think I am a Kru man simply because my County is called Grand Kru. However, people need to know that the Grebo people are the majority in Grand Kru County. I am not a tribalist, but I strongly believe Liberia's History should be written and explained ightfully. The Truth remains my guidepost.

AS I SEE IT, and as it is, Liberia only celebrates the birth anniversaries of two of its former presidents as National Holidays. Liberia nationally celebrates the birth anniversary of former President Joseph Jekins Roberts, first President of the Republic, and that of former President William V.S Tubman, the 18th President of the Republic. Should we not celebrate the birthdays of the rest? All other Presidents' birth anniversaries are not legislated as National Holidays. Do we need to make all their birth anniversaries National Holidays? No! I do not think so. If we did so, we would have about a whole month for former Presidents' birth anniversaries as National holidays. Did all former Presidents of Liberia do something that the country should celebrate? Yes! I think all of them have done and will do good things. I therefore think and strongly recommend to the National Legislature to kindly legislate a single National Holiday to celebrate all our presidents up to now and in the future. This is why I am recommending the legislation of what I prefer to be called a "National Presidents' Day." If this were legislated, no president's birth anniversary would be left out now and in the future.

About the Author: Prof. Tom Kaydor, Jr. serves as an Assistant Professor at the IBB Graduate School of International Studies. He holds a PhD from the Department of Government and European Studies, the New University, Slovenia where he specialized in International Development and Diplomacy (with Security Aspects). His dissertation topic was Reconceptualizing Africa's Regional Integration for Peace and Sustainable Development'. He earned a Master of Public Policy (MPP) specialized in Development Policy or Development Economics with Distinction from the Crawford School of Economics and Government (now the Crawford School of Public Policy), Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. He also obtained a Master of Arts (MA) in International Relations (Highest Distinction) and Bachelor of Arts (BA) Magna Cum Laude in Political Science from the University of Liberia where his Minor was History with Masscom as is his Elective. Tom holds a Diploma in Leading Economic Growth from the Kennedy Graduate School, Harvard University, USA; and he holds other diplomas and certificates in professional fields from Italy, UK, Pakistan, China, and Israel. P



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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

November 26, 202

The General Auditing Commission (GAC) announces the commencement of the second phase of the Government of Liberia DOMESTIC DEBT audit covering all fifteen counties. The Audit period runs from January 1, 1980, to December 31, 2024.

CLAIMANTS from 1980 to 2024 are asked to report them to the Office of the Auditor General, Old Executive Mansion, Ashmun Street, Monrovia, Liberia from Monday to Friday - 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., with all relevant supporting documents.

All claims that were not submitted during the first phase of the validation period are required to be submitted to the GAC.

Additionally, claims that were deemed inadequate and not accepted for validation during the first phase of the validation period can be re-submitted with all relevant documents consistent with the qualifying criteria stated below:

Documents to be submitted are:

1. Goods & Services, Works and Professional Services

Original copies of Local Purchase Orders (LPOs), Invoices, Delivery Notes, Certificates of completion, contracts, business registration, tax clearance, etc.

2. Rental & Leases

Original copies of Contracts/Lease Agreements, Title Deeds/Letters of Administration, and evidence of Real Estate Tax Payment etc.

3. Instruments

Permanent Claims Commission/ Promissory note, confirmation letters from the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, Ministry of Justice (MoJ), and confirmation letters from the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL).

Designated sites for the submission of clams in the counties will be made public shortly in the various county capitals where GAC auditors will be conducting the audits.

No excuse will be accepted, this time around, as the exercise will be done only within the specified time frame of December 1, 2024, to February 3, 2025.

For any/all information regarding the Independent Audit of the Government of Liberia DOMESTIC DEBT AUDIT,

Or email the GAC @ domesticdebitaudit@gac.gov.lr.

Signed: THE MANAGEMENT **General Auditing Commission**

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

National Bar elects new leadership

The Liberian National Bar Association has a new leadership following its National Convention in Ganta, Nimba County

By Lincoln G. Peters

anta, Liberia, December 2, 2024—The Liberian National Bar Association elected a new corps of officials to govern the body's affairs for the next three years. Its National Secretary General, Cllr. Varmah M. Bornor overwhelmingly emerged as the new President of the Bar, replacing Cllr. Sylvester Rennie. The election was held at its 2024 National Convention in Ganta City, Nimba County.

Lawyers of the Bar elected the new president on Saturday, November 30, 2024, following a peaceful poll at Peace Empire Guest House, Wuo-Garbe Tarpia Intellectual Hall.

The LNBA National Convention, which brought the new officials onboard, ran from November 28 to December 1, 2024, and was attended by international and local partners as well as legal practitioners from across the country.

The Convention, supported and funded by the United States Government, UNDP, and Arish Aid, among others, reaffirms the LNBA's

Sheriff, 20 votes. The total valid votes cast was 447, and the invalid vote was one, bringing the total votes cast to 448.

Also, for the Secretary-General position, Cllr. Elijah T. Forkeyah obtained 228 votes, while Cllr. Fredrick M. Gbemie accumulated 220 votes.

Concluding the night, contestants for the National Treasurer post included Atty. Yaney K. Horton received 174 votes, and Atty. Yemi Shobayo-Williams received 269 votes. The total number of votes cast was 449, with six invalid votes.

President-elect Cllr. Varmah M. Bonor expressed appreciation and gratitude to his colleagues for electing him while committing to collaborate with the national government, international organizations, and local organizations to enhance the rule of law and access to justice in the country.

"Well, I think it's a victory for the Liberian National Bar Association, the rule of law sector, and victory for democracy because the LNBA normally says it's a national government in nature, and so, what



commitment to standardizing alternative dispute resolution in Liberia and providing pro-bono legal aid services by lawyers.

Meanwhile, following conclusion of the voting process, tallying, and subsequent release of the election result, the LNBA National Election Committee said that the cumulative votes obtained per presidential candidate included Cllr. Preston Chea Doe, 23 votes; Cllr. Wiefueh A. Sayeh, 115 votes; and Cllr. Varmah M. Bornor, 309 votes respectively.

The total number of valid votes was 447, and the total number of invalid votes was two, bringing the total

votes cast to 448. For the vice presidential candidate, Cllr. Evelyn Lah-Gongloe obtained 108 votes; Cllr. Juah F. Lawson, 191;

Cllr. Bobby F. W. Livingstone, 90

votes; Cllr. Swalliho A. Sesay, 38 votes; Cllr. Dr. Mohammed S.

has been demonstrated here without any chaos, protest, and confusion, it is enviable. We are going to work to improve the system at the LNBA. We will work with the Supreme Court, Executive, and National Legislature to ensure the rule of law is enhanced in the country" he noted.

According to him, he is not surprised about his election because lawyers have followed his activities and work in the Bar and the legal community and decided to vote for him as president of the Bar.

"The LNBA remains the common denominator for all of us. There is nothing like a team after the election because all focus on the LNBA. Therefore, we will work together to ensure the Bar moves forward because our role remains critical for the rule of law. Our priority is the concern of the lawyers and the Liberian people", Cllr. Bonor notes. *Editing by Jonathan*

Browne

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Starz graduates urged to transform their lives and the country

Starz University says it nurtures the leaders of tomorrow, empowering them with the knowledge and tools needed to make a lasting impact.

By Lewis S. Teh

onrovia, December 2, 2024: Ambassador Latim Da-Thong, the founder and Board Chairman of Starz University, has urged its graduates to use their innovation, excellence, and academic achievements to positively transform their lives and the country.

continue to work hard and seize every opportunity.

Additionally, the Starz Boss reiterated the official commencement of the University's new program, offering a Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Cybersecurity, which will begin in early 2025.

The program was formally launched on Friday, September 27, 2024, at Monrovia's university campus.

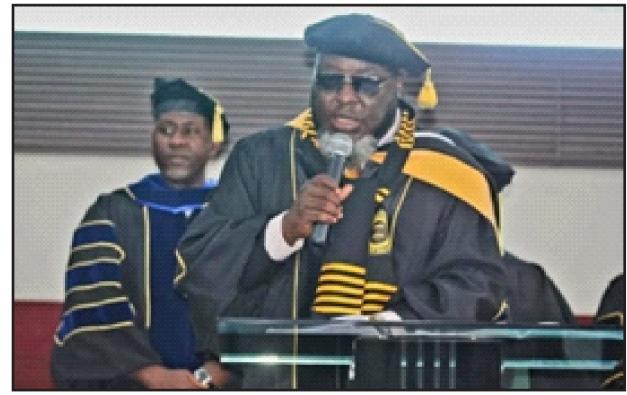
to Liberia's growth," he stated.

Ambassador Da-Thong also boasted of Starz University's continued commitment to positively shaping the futures of scores of Liberian citizens.

www.thenewdawnliberia.com

"Starz has always been a place where innovation thrives, where the dreams of young Liberians are fulfilled."

"We are more than an academic institution. We are a center for creativity and excellence, equipping you to think critically, challenge norms, and lead with innovation."



Da-Thong delivered a special statement during the commencement convocation of the University's 7th Bachelor's Class with 183 graduates and 1st Master's Class with 17 graduates.

The program was held on Tuesday, November 26, 2024, in Monrovia. Mr. Da-Thong reminded the graduates about the direct need for their talents and skills by the world.

"Liberia needs you to drive its progress. As you move forward, remember that success is not just about personal achievements-it's about the positive impact you make in the lives of others," he stated.

The former Deputy Education Minister also described the graduates as a proud legacy of Starz University.

"I have no doubt that you will make us proud as you go on to achieve even greater things," he added.

As ambassadors of Starz University, Mr. Da-Thong emphasized that the graduates now carry forward the values cherished by the institution, including innovation, excellence, and service to others.

He noted that the quality education received provides a foundation for growth and continued learning.

"I want to congratulate the Starz University Class of 2024 once again. This is only the beginning of your journey, and we are excited to see all the incredible things you will accomplish," the

veteran Liberian educator said. He urged them to dream big, worldview, contributing even more

It brought together key national stakeholders and authorities from the National Commission on Higher Education (NCHE), the Liberia National Police (LNP), the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA), and the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL), among others.

According to Ambassador Da-Thong, the new program highlights the institution's commitment to staying ahead of technological advancements and meeting the growing demand for cybersecurity professionals.

"With this initiative, we aim to train the next generation of cybersecurity experts who will protect and defend digital infrastructures locally and globally," he added.

According to him, Starz University has always been a place where innovation thrives, and young Liberians' dreams are fulfilled.

"We are more than an academic institution. We are a center for creativity and excellence, equipping you to think critically, challenge norms, and lead with innovation."

"Here, we nurture the leaders of tomorrow, empowering you with the knowledge and tools to make a lasting impact."

Furthermore, Da-Thong expressed excitement over the institution's tradition of sending two outstanding students abroad each

year to pursue further studies. "This tradition will continue," he said. He says the initiative reflects the administration's deep

commitment to global education. "Our graduates return with enhanced skills and broader He stressed that the institution nurtures the leaders of tomorrow, empowering them with the knowledge and tools to make a lasting impact.

"One core message I want to leave with you today is simple yet profound: Success is earned, not borrowed. Each of you here has earned your success," Ambassador Da-Thong stressed.

He further reminded the graduates that their success directly results from their commitment, long nights of studying, facing challenges head-on, and making sacrifices.

He added that their milestone also reflects hard work and resilience.

"This moment is yours-you've earned it, and no one can take that from you."

Additionally, Da-Thong stated that the year 2024 is particularly special, marking the first graduation of the institution's Master's College.

He described the ceremony as a historic moment for the graduates and the entire University.

Ambassador Da-Thong stated that the milestone demonstrates the continuous growth and progress the administration is making at Starz University in fulfilling their mission to provide world-class education and create opportunities for young Liberians to achieve their dreams.

"We are proud to call you graduates of Starz University. May you go forward with confidence, knowing that you are wellprepared for the future," Ambassador Da-Thong concluded.

Ethiopian Airlines resumes flights to Liberia

The airlines' renewed presence in Liberia is expected to enhance accessibility, promote trade, and strengthen ties between the two nations.

By Kruah Thompson

onrovia, December 2, 2024: Ethiopian Airlines has resumed passenger flights to Liberia, marking the second time that the airline has re-established operations in the country.

The airline, which first launched flights to Liberia in November 1966, has had a tumultuous history of suspensions.

It ceased operations during Liberia's civil war and resumed service briefly before controversially halting flights again in 2007.

Mr. Michael A. Gonqua has expressed gratitude for the resumption.

Gonqua is a prominent advocate for the airline's return and a leader of the Liberian diaspora in Ethiopia. In a live interview, he noted

that the 2007 suspension occurred without clear justification.

But he said he remained hopeful that this renewed commitment would bring lasting benefits to both nations.

On Saturday evening, an Ethiopian Airlines Boeing 787 Dreamliner with 293 seats landed in Liberia, following official celebrations marking the inaugural flight to Monrovia.

Dual ceremonies were held in Addis Ababa and Monrovia, with high-ranking officials and dignitaries attending.

Liberian President Joseph Boakai spoke at the Monrovia event, expressing his appreciation for Ethiopian Airlines' renewed operations.

He emphasized the mutual benefits, including expanded trade, tourism, and cultural exchange.

At Addis Ababa Bole International Airport, a

ceremonial cake-cutting marked the event, attended by Ethiopian Airlines executives and Liberian government officials.

Officials at the event included Transport Minister Sirleaf Ralph Tyler and Liberia's Ambassador to Ethiopia, Ms. Vivienne Titi Wreh. Minister Tyler described the occasion as "historic and monumental."

He highlighted its significance in fostering economic growth and global connectivity for Liberia.

"This flight symbolizes more than air travel," he said.

"It represents our commitment to economic advancement and cultural exchange."

Ambassador Wreh echoed these sentiments, noting that the airline's return aligns with Liberia's regional integration goals, particularly following the country's recent ratification of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA).

Ethiopian Airlines CEO Mesfin Tasew Bekele reiterated the airline's commitment to serving Liberia and strengthening its presence across Africa.

"We are proud to be a leading airline in Africa and are excited to reconnect with Liberia, offering opportunities for economic and cultural exchange," he said.

The Monrovia program concluded with President Boakai cutting a ceremonial ribbon at the airport, officially inaugurating Ethiopian Airlines' return.

The airlines' renewed presence in Liberia is expected to enhance accessibility, promote trade, and strengthen ties between the two nations, signalling a new chapter in their shared history.

Meanwhile, the occasion also served as an opportunity to celebrate the president's 80th birthday.



Français Les députés dans l'attente : la Cour suprême réserve sa décision

a Cour suprême du constitutionnel. affaire qui divise la Chambre des représentants depuis plus d'un mois, plongeant les deux camps dans une attente fébrile.

Au cœur de la controverse, le président de la Chambre, J.

Liberia a reporté son Le mercredi 27 novembre, les ■jugement dans une avocats représentant les deux factions ont présenté leurs arguments devant la Cour suprême. À l'issue de l'audience, la haute juridiction a annoncé qu'elle réservait sa décision sans préciser la date de son prononcé.

L'équipe juridique de J. Fonati



Fonati Koffa, conteste une tentative de destitution menée par un bloc majoritaire de députés absents. Ces derniers ont élu le député Richard Nagbe Koon comme nouveau président lors d'une session controversée. Koffa, appuyé par ses partisans, qualifie cette élection d'illégale et sollicite une intervention

Koffa, dirigée par Maître Arthur Johnson, a demandé à la Cour de statuer que la tentative de destitution viole la Constitution et les règlements internes de la Chambre. Ils ont déposé une requête en **mandamus**. exigeant une déclaration confirmant l'illégalité de la procédure menée par le bloc majoritaire.

De son côté, le bloc majoritaire, judiciaire pour rétablir ce représenté par Maître Varney qu'il considère comme l'ordre Sherman, ancien sénateur du

comté de Grand Cape Mount, a plaidé pour que la Cour se tienne à l'écart, affirmant que l'affaire relève strictement de la sphère politique.

« La Chambre des représentants a le pouvoir constitutionnel de destituer son président, et ce pouvoir a été exercé conformément aux règles. La Cour ne devrait pas s'immiscer dans des guestions purement législatives », a soutenu Maître Sherman.

Selon le bloc majoritaire, toutes les étapes procédurales ont été respectées. Une lettre aurait été envoyée à Koffa le 21 octobre 2024, l'invitant à une session extraordinaire. Bien qu'il ait accusé réception de l'invitation, il n'aurait pas assisté à la réunion, ouvrant ainsi la voie à sa destitution.

En revanche, le bloc pro-Koffa conteste cette version des faits, arguant que l'élection de Koon est nulle et non avenue. car seules les sessions présidées par un président légitime de la Chambre sont valides. Ils s'appuient notamment sur l'article 33 de la Constitution de 1986, qui stipule que le président de la Chambre doit présider les sessions conjointes.

« L'action du bloc majoritaire est inconstitutionnelle et met en péril la stabilité et l'intégrité des institutions législatives », ont déclaré les avocats de Koffa.

CONT'D ON PAGE 09

Le ministre Ngafuan publie sa déclaration de patrimoine

n réponse à l'appel (UBA)-Liberia: 8540 USD. du président Joseph ■ Nyuma Boakai à promouvoir la transparence et la gestion publique, le également déclaré: ministre des Finances, officiellement déclaré et rendu public son patrimoine.

Des copies de cette déclaration ont circulé sur les réseaux sociaux le mercredi 27 novembre, révélant des détails précis sur les actifs et passifs du ministre.

La déclaration indique que le patrimoine total du ministre s'élève à **533 850 USD**, répartis comme suit

- **Revenus annuels**: 69 000 USD (salaire brut).
- **Épargnes bancaires**:
- ECOBANK: 50 870 USD.

- United Bank for Africa

- Liberian Bank for bâtis. Development and Investment - **Prestations de retraite**: (LBDI): 440 USD.
- **Liquidités** : 4 300 USD.
- responsabilité dans la Le ministre Ngafuan a des Nissan Patrol Jeeps
- **Propriétés immobilières** : Augustine Ngafuan, a des résidences estimées à 276

000 USD et des terrains non

- 165 000 USD.
- **Véhicules**: notamment d'occasion (modèle 2017) évaluées à 21 000 USD.

CONT'D ON PAGE 09



Éditorial

La mauvaise COP de Trump

Par Jayati Ghosh

EW DELHI - La victoire de Donald Trump à l'élection présidentielle américaine a jeté une ombre sur la Conférence des Nations unies sur le changement climatique (COP29) à Bakou. N'ayant jamais caché sa conviction que le changement climatique est un « canular », le retour au pouvoir de Trump menace de réduire à néant une grande partie des progrès accomplis dans la lutte contre la crise climatique, laissant les dirigeants mondiaux et les décideurs politiques avec de nombreuses raisons de se sentir découragés.

On s'attend à ce que Trump accélère la production nationale de combustibles fossiles. Lors d'une <u>réunion à Mar-a-Lago</u> en mai, il a <u>ouvertement demandé</u> aux dirigeants des compagnies pétrolières et gazières de contribuer à sa campagne à hauteur d'un milliard de dollars en échange de la promesse de supprimer les réglementations qui menacent leurs profits. Le candidat qu'il a choisi pour diriger l'Agence de protection de l'environnement, l'ancien membre du Congrès Lee Zeldin, a déjà promis de « <u>déréglementer</u> » l'EPA.

Au cours de son premier mandat, Trump a retiré les États-Unis de l'accord de Paris de 2015 sur le climat - une décision sur laquelle son successeur, Joe Biden, est revenu plus tard. On s'attend à ce qu'il se retire à nouveau de cet accord. Notamment, le président argentin Javier Milei, allié politique de Trump, a <u>rappelé</u> la délégation de son pays de la COP29 une décision qui pourrait signaler le départ imminent de l'Argentine de l'accord.

L'ambiance à la COP29 a été encore plus morose en raison de l'absence flagrante de dirigeants mondiaux tels que Biden, le président français <u>Emmanuel Macron</u>, le premier ministre indien Narendra Modi, le chancelier allemand Olaf Scholz et le président chinois Xi Jinping, qui ont tous <u>fait l'impasse</u> sur le sommet de cette année. Alors que l'escalade de la crise climatique affecte de manière disproportionnée les populations les plus pauvres du monde et que les guerres en cours au Moyen-Orient et en Ukraine continuent de générer des émissions massives de gaz à effet de serre, les perspectives d'une action significative en faveur du climat semblent de plus en plus lointaines.

Cependant, la lutte contre le changement climatique n'est pas nécessairement vouée à l'échec. La capacité à éviter la catastrophe dépendra de la réponse mondiale à l'obstructionnisme de Trump et de la capacité des autres pays à s'unir pour faire face à la crise, même sans le leadership des États-Unis.

Il convient également de noter que les États-Unis ont longtemps été un participant réticent aux initiatives climatiques mondiales, quel que soit l'occupant de la Maison Blanche. Cette réticence n'est guère surprenante, étant donné que les États-Unis sont le <u>plus grand producteur</u> et exportateur net de combustibles fossiles au monde.

Même sous la présidence de Biden, les politiques vertes des États-Unis ont été essentiellement additives, se concentrant sur l'expansion de la production d'énergie renouvelable plutôt que sur le remplacement ou la réduction de l'extraction des combustibles fossiles. Comme l'a fait remarquer le journaliste indien Nitin Sethi, l'approche américaine des négociations sur le climat a consisté à « conserver, renforcer et acquérir de nouveaux avantages économiques compétitifs », en utilisant « le langage climatique comme un outil » pour promouvoir ses intérêts nationaux.

Jayati Ghosh, professeuer d'économie à l'université du Massachusetts Amherst, est membre de la Commission économique transformationnelle du Club de Rome et coprésidente de la Commission indépendante pour la réforme de la fiscalité internationale des entreprises.

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Starts from page 8 Les députés dans l'attente:

Ils ont également averti que représentant du ministère. l'absence d'une décision claire de Cette affaire délicate illustre les des abus similaires à l'avenir.

violée dans cette affaire.

« La question fondamentale est Les regards restent fixés sur la qu'il n'existe aucune infraction à démocratique au Liberia. ce niveau », a indiqué un

la Cour pourrait ouvrir la voie à tensions croissantes entre les pouvoirs législatif et judiciaire Le ministère de la Justice, invité au Liberia. La décision de la Cour par la Cour à fournir une suprême pourrait non seulement expertise juridique, a conclu régler ce différend, mais qu'aucune disposition également redéfinir les limites constitutionnelle n'avait été de l'intervention judiciaire dans les affaires législatives.

de savoir s'il y a eu une violation Cour, don't le jugement pourrait de la Constitution. Après avoir des implications profondes examen, le ministère estime pour l'avenir de la gouvernance

Starts from page 8 Le ministère des At

- **Autres actifs** : bateaux, En rendant public son biens immobiliers.

instaurer une gouvernance l'administration Boakai. transparente et exemplaire. Ce geste marque une étape

> « La déclaration des biens importante dans la mise en est une mesure essentielle œuvre des réformes visant à publique transparente et public dans les institutions responsible », a déclaré le gouvernementales. président Boakai.

avions, équipements patrimoine, le ministre industriels et plusieurs autres Ngafuan témoigne de son engagement envers les Cette déclaration s'inscrit principes de responsabilité et dans le cadre des efforts du de transparence, répondant président Boakai pour ainsi aux attentes de

pour garantir une gestion renforcer la confiance du

La LERC organise une réunion de validation du **Manuel d'Inspection du secteur de l'électricité**

secteur électrique libérien. électriques au Libéria. Ce document essentiel vise à M. Katta a également exprimé

d'inspection. Ministère des Mines et de ajouté. pour l'Énergie renouvelable Energy Power** (JEP), * * E N E R G I C I T Y * * , **Coopérative Électrique T Totota** (TEC), ainsi que des représentants académiques. Le Président du Conseil des Commissaires de la LERC, Claude J. Katta a souligné l'importance cruciale de ce manuel pour assurer une gestion rigoureuse et responsible du secteur. « Ce manuel constitue un outil

fondamental pour garantir que les titulaires de licences

a Commission de et de permis respectent des Régulation de normes techniques strictes à ■l'Electricité du Libéria chaque étape de leurs (LERC), en partenariat avec la opérations », a-t-il déclaré, Banque mondiale, a organisé ajoutant que cette initiative une réunion de validation de était indispensable pour deux jours pour finaliser le améliorer la qualité et Manuel d'Inspection du l'efficacité des services

structurer les processus sa gratitude envers les d'inspection, garantir la participants pour leur conformité des prestataires engagement, soulignant que de services et fournir des cette réunion démontre un listes de contrôle détaillées réel investissement collectif pour les activités dans la transparence et la collaboration. « Ces Près de 34 représentants, démarches proactives présents en personne et en assureront l'efficacité et la ligne, ont pris part à cette praticité des réglementations réunion. Ils venaient du de la Commission », a-t-il

l'Énergie (MME), de l'Agence Les représentants du **Ministère des Mines et de Rurale (RREA), des l'Énergie**, tels que **Kelvin opérateurs agréés tels que la Grubaye**, Directeur adjoint **Liberia Electricity de l'Efficacité énergétique et Corporation** (LEC), **Jungle de l'Environnement, et **Varney Garpue**, ingénieur civil à la RREA, ont réaffirmé * * LIBENERGY * * , la leur soutien à la mise en œuvre du manuel et des régulations associées.

> Cette réunion de validation marque une étape décisive dans le renforcement du secteur électrique libérien, garantissant des systèmes robustes, responsables et pérennes, essentiels pour l'amélioration continue des services électriques du pays.

cement des liens entre les ministères des Finances du Libéria et de la Sierra Leo



es ministres des Finances du Libéria, Augustine Kpehe Ngafuan, et de la Sierra Leone, Sheku Ahmed ■ Fantamadi Bangura, ont réaffirmé leur engagement à renforcer la coopération entre leurs deux ministères. L'objectif est de promouvoir l'échange d'expertise et de soutenir les efforts réciproques dans des domaines clés de la gestion des finances publiques, notamment la gestion de la dette, la budgétisation, la gestion du trésor, la mise en œuvre du système de gestion financière intégré (IFMIS) ainsi que la politique fiscale. Les ministres ont également convenu de relancer le **Partenariat Conjoint Libéria-Sierra Leone en gestion des finances publiques**, un cadre de coopération qui avait favorisé les visites réciproques et les échanges entre les responsables et les techniciens des deux ministères entre 2009 et 2012. Ce partenariat est perçu comme un modèle de coopération Sud-Sud ayant permis des bénéfices professionnels considérables pour les deux pays. Cette décision a été prise lors d'une rencontre qui s'est tenue le 25 novembre 2024 à Freetown, en Sierra Leone, où le ministre Ngafuan a été invité par son homologue sierra-léonais Lors de cette rencontre, étaient également présents - **M. Matthew Dingie**, conseiller principal du ministre Bangura en matière de politiques économiques et financières, et ancien directeur du budget de la Sierra

- **Mme Angela Von Ballmoos**, ambassadrice du Libéria Cette relance du partenariat Sierra Leone. Le ministre Bangura a exprimé son plaisir de recevoir son homologue libérien, soulignant la longue collaboration cruciale dans le renforcement entre les deux hommes > « C'est un véritable honneur de vous accueillir, ministre financières bilatérales, avec Ngafuan, à Freetown et dans mon bureau. Vous êtes un l'ambition d'améliorer les collègue estimé et un ami de longue date. Je suis conditions de vie des citoyens convaincu que nos relations professionnelles solides d e s d e u x p a y s contribueront à renforcer les efforts conjoints de nos

Leone

ministères en faveur développement de nos peuples.

Une vision commune pour le développement En retour, le ministre Ngafuan a exprimé sa reconnaissance pour l'accueil chaleureux et a insisté sur la nécessité d'un travail collaboratif > « Les attentes de nos populations en matière de développement sont immenses et urgentes. Elles comptent sur nous, en tant que ministres des Finances, pour trouver des solutions. Pour y répondre efficacement, nous devons nous appuyer sur nos forces respectives. L'objectif de ce partenariat est de garantir qu'un partenaire, plus avancé dans un domaine donné, puisse soutenir le renforcement des capacités de l'autre. » Les deux ministres ont également échangé sur leurs expériences respectives avec le programme de Facilité Élargie de Crédit (FEC) du FMI. Ils ont discuté des moyens d'améliorer la génération de recettes domestiques et de renforcer le soutien au développement, tant au niveau multilatéral que bilatéral. Enfin, les ministres Ngafuan et Bangura ont convenu des mesures concrètes à prendre pour donner suite à la récente visite du président Joseph Nyuma Boakai en Sierra Leone, à l'invitation de son homologue Julius Maada Bio. entre le Libéria et la Sierra Leone représente une étape · des relations économiques et



The Legacy We Leave: A Reflection on Choices, Power, and Redemption:

By: Austin S Fallah- A True Son of the Planet Earth Soil: for goodness while acknowledging that our Happy Thanksgiving to all of those in the land of Uncle Sam and prayer for all of humanity:

In the grand tapestry of history, the narratives we craft through our actions define our legacy, painting the picture that will be remembered long after we have departed from this life.

Contemplating what the history books will say about us invites a profound reflection on our values, choices, and, ultimately, our souls.

The duality of good and bad defines much of our existence. Yet, at the heart of these narratives lies

the critical question. What do we prioritize, earthly riches and

power, or the enduring significance of a soulful existence?

As we delve into the lives of critical Biblical figures Abraham, Moses, Saul (later Paul), and King David, a common thread emerges: the mercy and grace of the Creator, Elohim-God Almighty, as mediated through the Savior, Yeshua

Their stories are not merely tales of virtue and success but also chronicle immense failures, illustrating that regardless of our missteps, redemption is possible.

This is especially poignant in Liberia, a nation marred by conflict and strife, where the legacies of warlords and political leaders remind us of the choices that lead to both devastation and hope.

The Dilemma of Earthly Wealth vs. Spiritual Fulfillment:

Those who seek power, riches, and fame often find themselves at a crossroads between the fleeting pleasures of this world and the deep, abiding joy of a life lived in service to others.

The teachings of the Bible stress this dichotomy, suggesting that "What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his soul?" (Mark 8:36).

This verse encapsulates the unsettling truth that in pursuing material success, one risks the spiritual fulfillment that gives life its true meaning.

Take, for example, the story of King David, a man described as "after God's own heart" (1 Samuel 13:14), who experienced both glorious triumphs and grievous sins.

Extraordinary accomplishments marked his reign, yet it was also marred by his moral failures, notably the sin with Bathsheba. David's life reminds us that even the most revered figures are not exempt from errors, and their legacies are shaped by their successes and

capacity for repentance and growth.

This duality should encourage us to strive

imperfections do not define our ultimate fate.

The Importance of Repentance and Redemption:

The stories of Abraham and Moses further illustrate the theme of redemption.

Abraham, revered as the patriarch of faith, initially faltered when he doubted God's promises. His journey from doubt to faith underscores

the incredible potential for transformation within each of us. Similarly, Moses, who led his people out of slavery(Egypt), wrestled with his

insecurities and failures but ultimately fulfilled a divine purpose far beyond his lifetime. This concept of repentance is particularly relevant in Liberia's context, where the scars

etched into the collective psyche. The history of Liberia is fraught with examples of leaders who, in their quest for power, betrayed their people and ushered in

of civil war and the legacies of warlords are

Yet, the nation stands at a crossroads, and it can choose a different path that embraces hope, reconciliation, and a deeper appreciation for the sanctity of life.

For true healing, Liberians must call upon their leaders to lead with accountability and compassion to break the cycles of corruption that have historically plagued their nation.

Hope in the Face of Despair:

It is crucial for individuals, especially those in positions of influence, to reflect on the messages they send through their actions.

What will future generations inherit? Will it be a legacy of greed, turmoil, and disillusionment, or will it be one of rejuvenation, kindness, and hope?

The answer rests in our collective choices today.

Liberians, like all people, must recognize their power to reshape their destinies and inspire hope in those who disenfranchised and suffering.

In leadership, one must ask the vital question.

Are we leading for the people or power? The distinction here is paramount.

Authentic leadership reaches beyond the self, understanding that the measure of one's life will stem from how they have uplifted others.

Each act of kindness, every moment spent serving those in need, adds to the fabric of one's legacy, fostering a brighter and more just future.

The Eternal Perspective:

As we reflect on our choices and their implications for our souls, embracing the reality that our earthly existence is fleeting is essential.

The material possessions and accolades (education) we amass will ultimately fade away, leaving only our impact on others and our relationship with the divine.

Indeed, the day will come when our souls depart this body, a day no one can escape; my late mother (T.S. Kardu Fallah) and father (N.Taylor Fallah, the son of Conor Fallah of Foya Kama, Lofa County, Liberia) used to say to me in my native Kissi language.

This realization should compel us toward kindness, generosity, and the cessation of harmful behaviors.

Every warlord's story in Liberia echoes the fundamental reality of human existence.

We are all flawed, yet we have the capacity for immense goodness, as my big sister Fatu Fallah always reminded me as a little brother in Liberia.

The world may remember us for our mistakes, but the grace with which we navigate those mistakes holds the power to redeem us.

True justice, as written in the heavens, is not merely punitive but profoundly restorative.

A Call to Action:

I want to remind all of us that the legacies we leave behind and the narratives that history will preserve hinge not upon our material accomplishments but on the love, kindness, and justice we extend to those around us.

In the lives of Biblical figures, we find reflections of our potential for greatness and failure.

It is a stark reminder that mercy is not just a concept but a calling to act against the backdrop of human suffering.

For the people of Liberia and beyond, embracing hope and striving for reconciliation is a path illuminated by faith

and the pursuit of justice. By choosing lives of integrity over greed, compassion over indifference, and humility over pride, we carve our names into the annals of history as individuals and as part of

a collective striving toward a better world. What will the history books say about you

when you depart this life? The answer to this question is in our hands.

Let us choose wisely, with the awareness that our legacies extend far beyond personal achievements and instead rest firmly on the impact we have on the lives of others.

It is time for reckoning, a return to righteousness, and a revival of hope that resonates throughout Liberia and the world.

Starts from Back page

accountable for legal action, Minister Tweh suggested it should start with themselves by applying the law to the highest ethical standard.

He believes that justice system actors should first create an environment of trust where all Liberians can feel safe to seek redress through the court.

Additionally, Minister Tweh urged lawyers to further the rule of law in their respective capacities.

"Our role is to advance [the] system of justice. To enlarge the people's access to justice and to improve the

administration of justice," he explained.

by working toward preserving the rule of law," he continued.

To effectively advocate for the rule of law, Minister Tweh suggested that the citizens must not be afraid of lawyers.

Rather, he noted that they must respect lawyers and believe in them.

"Hence, we must set good examples by proper behaviour. It's our hope that what we do here will aid in the furtherance of the rule of law," he said.

Nimbaians oppose PYJ's deci

The people of Nimba County are enraged over decision by fallen Senator Prince Y. Johnson to name the hall of his PYJ Polytechnic University in honor of a foreign leader.

By Thomas Domah & Kruah Thompson

anta, Liberia, December 2, 2024-Controversial Nimba County Senator Prince Yormie Johnson succumbed to death here early Thursday, November 28th, 2024, but his last decision, a day before his passing, to name his university hall in memory of late Togolese President Gnassigbe Eyadema is upsetting many Nimbaians.

The late Senator, who was serving his third nine-year term in office, took the decision when he officially dedicated the GNASSIGBE EYADEMA Hall of the PYJ Polytechnic University in Ganta City on November 27, 2024, just a day before his death at 72, at his residence in Paynesville, outside Monrovia.

However, immediately after he made the pronouncement in the county, several Nimbaians appeared on local radio stations in Ganta, expressing disappointment and frustration over such a decision.

They lament that, having voted for and given the fallen senator 27 years in power, it was disappointing that he ignored prominent names from the county and instead named the facility in honor of a former President of a foreign country.

However, the late PYJ was said to have justified his decision by recalling that during the Liberian Civil War, the late Togolese President GNASSIGBE EYADEMA helped him launch his book on the war, "The Gun that Liberate Should Not Rule."

Several Nimbaians, who spoke with The NEW DAWN after his passing, described the death of the leader of the disbanded rebels Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia (INPFL) as a big tree that has fallen in the county.

The late senator and evangelist, who was dubbed as kingmaker in Liberian politics, reportedly collapsed during early hours of Thursday, November 28, 2024, at his residence in Paynesville and was rushed to Hope for Woman Medical Center, not too far from his residence, where he was pronounced dead by doctors, according to Vice President Jeremiah Kpan Koung.

News of his passing has evoked varied reactions across the country, with many Liberians taking to social media, radio programs, and public spaces to share their thoughts on the controversial figure's death

For some, the late Senator Johnson was a hero

who stood up for his kinsmen during the Civil War when they were accused of subversion and chased by the Doe regime.

Yet, others pointed to his execution of President Samuel K. Doe, including widespread atrocities committed under his watch as leader of the rebels INPFL.

Characterizations of the late U.S.-sanctioned politician are divided between those who remember him as a development-focused leader and those who recall his tumultuous wartime

The Saytown community on 11th Street, Sinkor, in Monrovia, was a scene of jubilation on Thursday morning when news broke of his passing.

But Bas Wahles, a resident of Sinkor who witnessed the jubilant atmosphere, expresses dismay, recounting her own traumatic experiences during Liberia's civil war.

"Why should people be happy about his death?" She asks. "Doe didn't kill, too! He Doe committed horrible killings; yes, including Nimbians and their children, but we should at least try to lay him (PYJ) to rest before rejoicing over his passing," she adds.

Wahles acknowledges Johnson's controversial legacy but notes, "He was a man who stood for his people and always sought development for Nimba. All of them killed during the war. Let us not act like he was the only one responsible for the atrocities of the civil war." She counters.

Princess Davis, another resident from Weaseh community in Sinkor, shares her personal grief, recalling how slain President Doe's forces killed an entire family during the war. "The whole family was killed before my eyes in a house near Dosomah Field," she reveals.

However, she expresses a broader sentiment about Liberia's political history, suggesting that justice and national healing will only come "When all three warlords including jailed former Liberian President Taylor, former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, and others like them pass off, then maybe this country can begin to fix itself."

Liberia's Truth and Reconciliation Commission Final Report lists late Senator PYJ and other former warlords for prosecution for various atrocities committed under their watch during

President Boakai has established an Office for War and Economic Crimes and appointed a head. Still, with major actors from the bloody civil crisis gradually dying, natural justice may elude many victims of the war. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**



PYJ death: Senate sends message of condolence to bereaved family

"We have to make a difference in society | The Liberian Senate has sent a message of condolence to the bereaved family of the late and former Nimba County Senator, Prince Y Johnson.

> Hope Hospital on A.B. Tolbert Road in Chairman on Internal Affairs, Paynesville, a suburb of Monrovia.

A Senate Press Release quotes the leadership of the Senate as describing the death of Senator Johnson as not the Country at large, noting that his death is an irreparable loss.

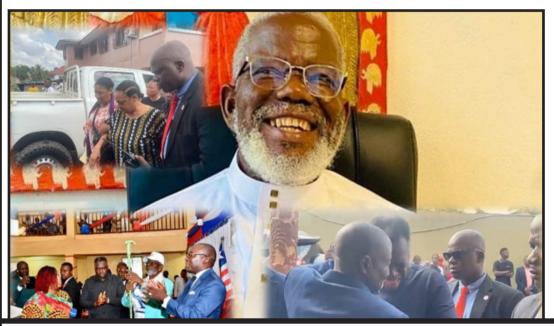
Prior to his death, the late and former Nimba County Senator Prince Y. Johnson served in various capacities in four Legislatures, including the 52, 53, 54, and now the 55.

Senator Johnson, the current longest-

onrovia, November 28, serving Senator, served as Chairman of 2024/Senator Johnson died the Senate Committee on Security, This morning at the Women of Intelligent, and Veteran Affairs and Governance, and Reconciliation during his tenure and was a longserving member of the ECOWAS Parliament based in Abuja, Nigeria.

only a blow to the Liberian Senate but Meanwhile, in its mournful reembrace of the fallen Senator, the Liberian Senate has suspended its Thursday, November 28, 2024, Plenary sitting to next Tuesday.

May his contributions to our Nation be remembered, and may his charitable legacy inspire future generations, the Senate said.



Invitation for Bids (IFB)

The General Auditing Commission Old Executive Mansion Building Ashmun Street, Monrovia, Liberia Procurement of Repair & Maintenance of Non-Residential Building (Design and Renovate) IFB No. GAC/NCB/010/2024

- The General Auditing Commission (GAC) has received funds for its operations and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this to payments under the Contract for Repair and Maintenance of Non-Residential Building (Design and Renovate) GAC/NCB/010/2024
- The General Auditing Commission now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Repair and maintenance of non-residential building. The delivery/construction period is three (3) weeks.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures approved by the Public Procurement & Concessions Commission specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement und IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, and is open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries (Liberia) as defined in the
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the General Auditing Commission Procurement Unit, Musa C. Kamara (mckamara@gac.gov.lr) and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address
- Qualifications requirements include:
 - Article of Incorporation (if applicable)
 - Valid Tax Clearance
 - Valid Business Registration Certificate
 - Past performance records- including the names, and contact numbers of at least three clients.

PPCC vendors registration form. A margin of preference for eligible national contractors/joint ventures shall not be applied.

- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be obtained when a written communication requesting for a copy (s) is submitted to the address below. The communication should include the name of the business, name of contract package, signature of authorized person and official stamp of the business. Copy of bidding document will be available from November 26, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 10:00 a.m. December 20, 2024. Electronic bidding shall not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened physically in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below at 11:30 a.m. December 20, 2024.
- All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Securing Declaration in the format indicated in the attached
- 9. The address referred to above is

General Auditing Commission (GAC) Attention: Musa C. Kamara Procurement Manager/Procurement Unit Old Executive Mansion Bldg. Ashmun Street Monrovia, Liberia

Interested bidders are encouraged to attend a Site Visit at the General Auditing Commission office at the address indicated above on Thursday November 28 and December 5, 2024. The costs of visiting the Site shall be at the Bidder's own expense.

Prepared by

Manager, Procurement Unit Secretary/Procurement Committee Approved by Hon. Foday G. Klazolu, FCCA, CPA(LIB)

Deputy Auditor General/Administration Chairman/Procurement Committee



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Charges lawyers to enhance confidence in Liberia's legal system

Cllr. Tweh has urged actors in the justice system to reflect on He reminded lawyers that the actions that may contribute to the distrust in the justice justice system in Liberia has a system here. responsibility to deliver

By Lincoln G. Peters

onrovia, December 2, 2024: Liberia's Justice Minister Cllr. Natu Oswald Tweh has been alarmed over distrust, lawlessness, and the lack of

have contributed to the

ourselves how each and every

Whether they are justices, judges, or lawyers, Minister Tweh said they must remember that life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, the protection of property through legal processes, and the dispensation of justice require the utmost professional standards from them.

Cllr. Tweh noted that

posterity demands exemplary

conduct from all those who

are part of the system.

justice.

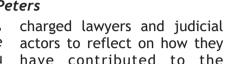
He believes that adherence to the rule of law starts with legal actors.

To consolidate efforts to strengthen quality judicial service, he urged lawyers to evaluate their actions whether they are fulfilling their duties to the court and the country.

He added that lawyers should purge themselves of acts that may have contributed to this distrust and lack of confidence in the legal system.

hold the public

CONT'D ON PAGE 11



distrust. "As we convene, let's ask



system of Liberia.

National Bar Association City, Nimba County. (LNBA) 2024 National Convention over the weekend, Minister Tweh

confidence in the legal one of us in our individual capacity ... has contributed to Addressing the Liberia this distrust," he said in Gompa

> He urged lawyers to prevent Liberians from taking the laws into their own hands.











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