

Near 'normalcy' is returning to the British political scene

## British Politics

Rishi Sunak was immediately put under pressure by his Conservative party colleagues:



S Africa army chief visits Moscow in wake of US weapons claim

Visit to Moscow follows US allegations that weapons were loaded on to a Russian ship in Cape Town in December.

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G7 summit: Taiwan looms large as Japan prepares to host leaders

Japan's Naha airbase in Okinawa

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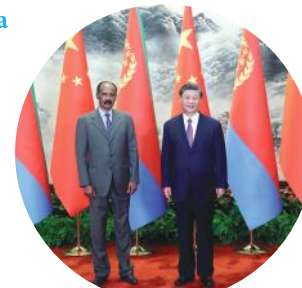


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China and Eritrea denounce hegemonic and interference acts

China and Eritrea

Sino-Africa



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### Crushing local elections defeat and ministerial resignations take a heavy toll: TORIES IN TURMOIL - TROUBLE AT THE TOP AS LEADERS STRUGGLE TO WIN BRITISH VOTERS' HEARTS

Near 'normalcy' is returning to the British political scene after all the niceties and diplomacies have cooled down following this month's celebrations of the Coronation of King Charles III and Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's memorable lunch at 10 Downing Street.

Barely 36 hours earlier, on May 4, as the nation prepared for the May 6 Coronation ceremony, there was hectic activity as Council elections were being held in 230 of England's 317 councils.

The results were a bad night for Prime Minister Rishi Sunak. The ruling Tory or the Conservative party lost 1,063 seats held by their councillors, leaving the opposition Labour Party to become the largest



Question time...Prime Minister Rishi Sunak at the House of Commons. Photo Jessica Taylor Parliament.

party in local government in Britain for the first time since 2002.

Rishi Sunak was immediately put under pressure by his Conservative party colleagues.

Labour gained 632 seats, making it the largest party in local government, and the second popular party Lib-Dems Party got 417 seats.

Rattled by these losses, Sunak joined the Coronation celebrations while in the background reflecting on the disaster, his party had endured. Now it's back to business! It's time to carry out a post-mor-

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Sahel 'at a crossroads' as armed groups gain sway in Africa: UN



### Senegal opposition leader Ousmane Sonko's rape trial adjourned

Ousmane Sonko, who denies charges, does not turn up for court appearance in Dakar

The trial of Senegalese opposition leader Ousmane Sonko for alleged rape has been immediately adjourned for a week, after opening in his absence at a court in the capital,

Dakar. Sonko, who is also the mayor of the southern city of Ziguinchor, was charged based on a woman's accusations that he assaulted her when she worked at a massage salon. The 48-year-old has denied the charges and has accused President Macky

Sall of trying to prevent him from running in elections next year. The government denies this.

"Sonko says he's not attending court because his rights are not being respected," Al Jazeera's Nicolas Haque reported on Tuesday from outside the court. "He doesn't believe in the

autonomy of the judicial system." A spokesperson for the government told Al Jazeera the trial was a "private matter" between two individuals

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## Book Review:

**POWER OF LOVE - HEARTY CONVERSATIONS  
WITH THE HEART**By: Diaspora Times Team  
xxxxxxxxxxxx**HEART-IN-HEART**

Kiranmala (Yaiphabi) Laishram & Dr. Bana Kamila  
Published by: AABS PUBLISHING HOUSE  
Kolkata, India-712121, India  
ISBN: 978-93-91146-31-3  
Price: USD 20 overseas. India. INR 599.

Reviewer: **SHAMLAL PURI, London**

Forget dollars, Pound Sterling, Yen or Euros – the world's most powerful currency is love and, for the broadminded, no caste, colour or creed. So, romantics say - It has no borders.

That's one side of long-lasting true love: touch, closeness, intimacy, and passion. Then there is the other side too: heartbreak...

Welcome to the world this beautiful book Heart-IN-Heart, penned by the excellent writers Ms Kiranmala (Yaiphabi) Laishram and Dr Bana Kamila.

This a fascinating book packed with a romantic feast of 81 poems on 167 pages, each better than the other! The reader will be spoilt for choice.

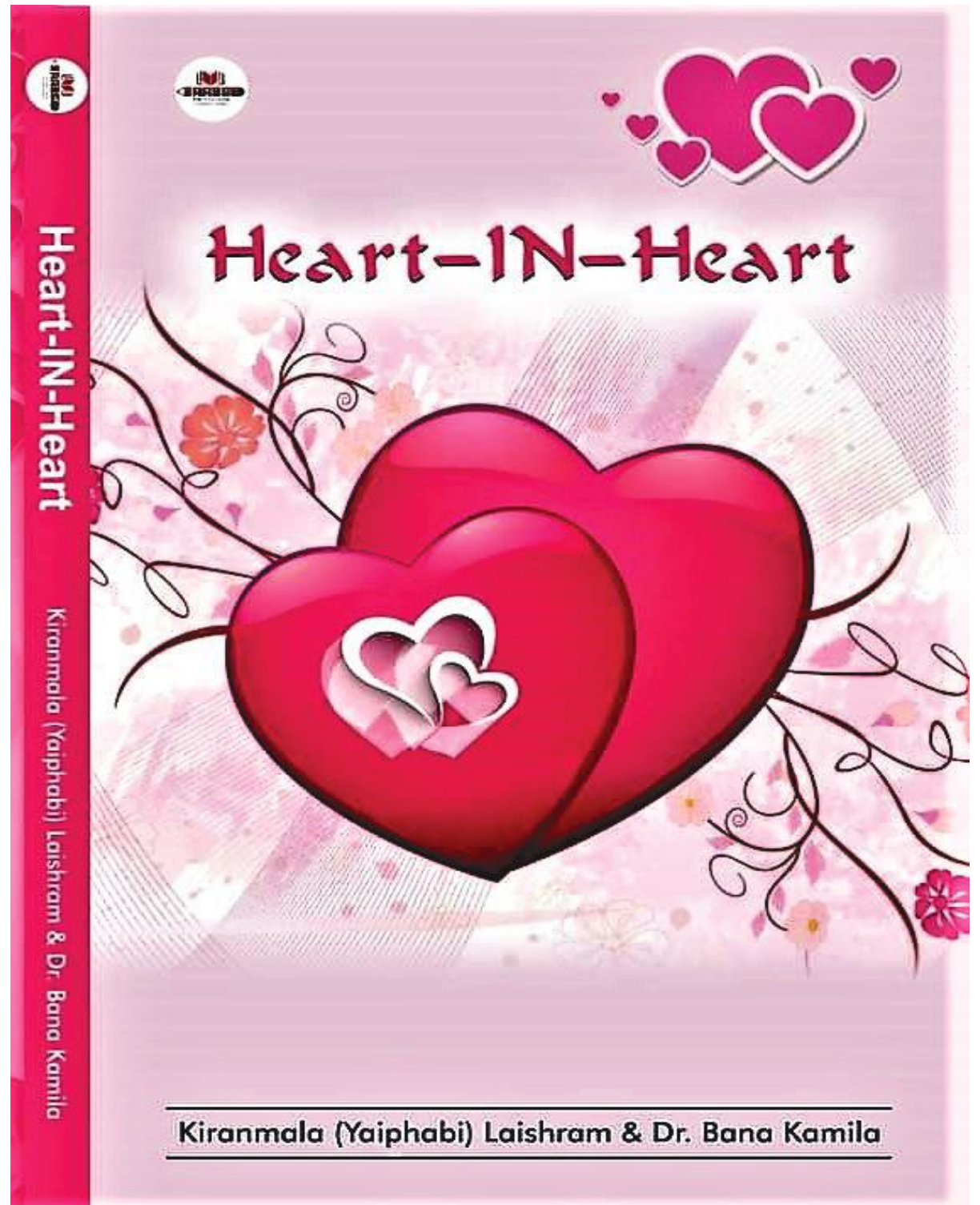
If the vibrant verses in this book don't stir and pull your heartstrings well, the reader's a robot or their heart is made of stone!

Two-Hearts, Kiranmala, she at the opposite pole with Dr Bana, She is a blossomed pink rose of a hill forest; he is a voyager of a few seas.

With the mathematically formulated mind, she felt feelings for the different types of bees could risk in choosing a bee that could be just right to nest that outlawed the formulation.

He felt feelings for different colours of roses develop on the voyage, but alas! no one came closer to pierce an arrow as he was a voyager on - ∞ path and an unlawfully chained hearted.

They are a very interesting duo. She-He with differently passionate

**Worth Noting:**

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If the vibrant verses in this book don't stir and pull your heartstrings well, the reader's a robot or their heart is made of stone!

Two-Hearts, Kiranmala, she at the opposite pole with Dr Bana, She is a blossomed pink rose of a hill forest; he is a voyager of a few seas.

and poled oppositely, with different path-in-life, nibbed a poetic field.

Could She-He break the nib???

Two-Hearts!  
Table of 2, 2x2, 2x2, 2x3....  
complexity in feelings multiplies...  
to impress each other, keep saying...  
the long waited three magic words  
--  
I... Z times

Is it just the purposeful echo of hypnotism?

Or is it the heartfelt feelings of true .... forever?

Yoy! Author, She-He!  
What have you felt???

“Maker make such a soul that's impossible to be affluence no-affair can win such spirited soul For the heart of such soul love is Authentic-Treasure then, how to hunt?????”

This is a beautiful offering that takes in all the stages of love – the search, the tensions, the joys of being loved, togetherness, the hopes, the dreams, and the heartbreaks of being away from your loved one

That's love! That's Life! That's the closeness of the heart! It makes the world of love tick along =- the good, better, best, and... the ugly.

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## Relationship

# Friendship Breakups Are Harder Than Romantic Relationships

By: Marion Sista Ombima  
xxxxxxxxxxxx

## Worth Noting:

I assumed everything and told her that I will help her get herself to him since I took our friendship as the first priority. So this aside because I took the conversation petty and what actually made me cry my eyes out and even regret being friends with her is that, she sent people who broke into my house and stole everything ... everything I mean everything since she knew where I kept my savings (remember I was doing a family saving thing) and also knew my password for my laptop and phones.

Having your friendships change is one of the most painful experience we go through. If left unhealed it impacts us personally and professionally.



Friendship a universal struggle, no matter how old you are. It is a devoted relationship between two individuals. They both feel immense, care and love for each other. Usually a friendship is where people with the same mental disorder meet. (Lucky are those who have friends they can trust.) Friendship is one of the greatest bonds anyone can ever wish for.

When friendships or seasons of relationships end, we can often be questioning our sense of reality. How we perceived that time and investment. Far too often we cast blame or maybe even

ask ourselves "Am I the problem?" Perhaps there is another perspective worth considering.

Bring a tissue. This one is close to the heart.

Kylie being my best friend and my closest decided to break my trust and made me come to the conclusion that not everyone is meant to stay. Let's talk about the stigma surrounding friendship breakups and how heartbreak is a real thing. Let's normalise being honest about our feelings when a friendship just doesn't workout.

Betrayal is defined as a 'violation of a person's trust

and confidence! Personally define it as the deliberate breaking of a spoken or unspoken rule within a relationship. Onto my sad story ... Kylie and I have been best friends for 4 years, since high school that is.

I won't cover the whole story but do you think friendships should involve expectations? When is it a good time to let go of a friend? Are friendships important to God? Can you be loyal to everyone? A lot of people make noise about our "friendship with God," but our friendships with each other are just as important. In fact, you will reap in heav-

en what you sow on earth Kylie knew that I could rely on her with my all heart and body and soul.

So this fine day she approached me and she was like I have a problem. So as the good friend I gave her my ears and opened my arms to give her company. She knew all this time that Marcus was my all time crush and maybe sneaky link if I can say but to my shock she was crying that she really finds Marcus attractive and actually wants him to be his boyfriend.

I assumed everything and told her that I will help her get herself to him since I took our friendship as the first priority. So this aside because I took the conversation petty and what actually made me cry my eyes out and even regret being friends with her is that, she sent people who broke into my house and stole every-

thing ... everything I mean everything since she knew where I kept my savings (remember I was doing a family saving thing) and also knew my password for my laptop and phones.

Having your friendships change is one of the most painful experience we go through. If left unhealed it impacts us personally and professionally.

Dr Debi Silber introduces the form of betrayal to breakthrough. I took a step and decided to report her to the police station and as obvious she was sentenced to jail for some months. All in all I was in pain since she was in jail because of me but

still no... She gave me all the excuses and pleaded me to bail her out, so as the kind hearted friend I did so but I decided to end the friendship.

The more we trust and are dependent upon the person who breaks the rules, the greater the harm, the deeper the hurt and the bigger the betrayal. She didn't hurt me, not once not twice. I struggled with the betrayal trauma for months but finally ready to come and accept the fact that one of my friendships is over.

But how do you begin moving forward? If you have experienced this, you know it isn't for the faint of heart, it is very painful.

**Advice to anyone: is very painful.**

Let toxic people go. You need to make space in your heart for someone who has the capacity to love you just as you love them. Don't loose yourself by trying to fix what is meant to stay broken. My relationship with Kylie was one sided but I decided to stay and it ended up destroying my mental state. We are no longer in good terms or bad terms with her, we are no longer anything.

Let's normalise saying NO and get the realization that not everyone is meant to stay in your life.

*Marion Sista Ombima is a student at Mount Kenya University*

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# International Bakhshilik festival in my beautiful land-Syr Darya...

Bakhshchilik is a legacy of our great ancestors who had the power to create civilizations between two great rivers, Jayhun and Sayhun. In the years of independence, our national identity was restored, and in recent years, this cultural and material heritage of ours has been widely celebrated all over the world.

In particular, Navroz has gained prestige in the UNESCO list as an international value. The 1000th anniversary of the Alpomish epic, which reached us thanks to the art of giving, was widely celebrated in the world under the auspices of UNESCO at the initiative of Uzbekistan. This year, the "International Bakhshichilik" festival, which embodies our national traditions, was held in the new Syrdarya, which is unique and exciting.

More than 30 music performers, 80 well-known culture and art representatives and honored guests, as well as about 50 mass media representatives from more than 40 foreign countries and international organizations who expressed their desire to participate in the festival, attended the festival. Preparations for this international festival were made in the region with great enthusiasm.

On May 6, an international scientific-practical conference was held on

the topic of "Modern Art of Bakhshiki: New Tones of the Golden Heritage" related to the development of the art of bakhshi and epic poetry, further increasing the role and importance of bakhshi-poet, poet and jirov in the culture and art of the East and other issues.

The program included solo concerts of foreign and Uzbek masters of bakhshiki art, evenings of stories and epics, an international competition of bakhshi-poets, poets and jirovs, and folklore teams.

In addition, there was a presentation of programs about the lives and creative activities of famous people of Uzbekistan in a modern way, an exhibition on the history of the art of baksheesh, a presentation of scientific research works and scientific and educational literature published in Uzbek, Persian, Arabic, English and Russian languages.

The festival ended with a solemn awarding ceremony and a gala concert with the participation of the winners and prize-winners of the competition.

**Author of the article: Mamatkasimova Sitora**

Mamatkasimova Sitora Bakhtiyar's daughter was born on May 8, 2000 in Mirzaabad district of Sirdarya region. One of the active students

of Gulistan State University. His creative works are published in the anthology "Parvoz", on the international site [synchchaos@gmail.com](mailto:synchchaos@gmail.com), in the republican magazine "Creators", in the international magazine "Raven Cage" of the German state, in the international newspaper "Page 3 news" published in America, Thailand, India, Canada, Australia, published in the international anthology "Charming pearls of Uzbek amateur poets and writers" of the state of Moldova. Currently, he works as a propagandist and teacher in the 34th school of Boyovut district on creative and cultural issues.



Mamatkasimova Sitora

## Ecuador

# Ecuador President dissolves parliament

BBC

Ecuadorean President Guillermo Lasso has dissolved the opposition-controlled parliament amid an impeachment trial.

He had been accused of turning a blind eye to alleged embezzlement and was facing an imminent vote that could have ousted him from office.

Mr Lasso, a conservative, said the charges were politically motivated.

He will now have up to six months to govern by decree - without the input from lawmakers - before fresh general elections are held.

The constitutional clause Mr Lasso invoked in order to disband the National Assembly and order early elections to be held is known as "muerte cruzada" (mutual death).

It was introduced in 2008 and has never been used in Ecuador before. It is seen as an extreme measure and is expected to trigger protests from opposition groups.

Mr Lasso argued it was necessary "due to a grave political crisis and internal commotion".

The conservative president accused the opposition-controlled National Assembly of obstructing reform.

He said it was impossible to "solve the problems of Ecuadorean families... when there is a National Assembly whose political mission it is to destabilise democracy".

But opposition groups said it was the president who was undermining democracy by invoking the "muerte cruzada".

Ecuador's influential confederation of indigenous groups, Conaie, has called the move "dictatorial" and convened a meeting for later on Wednesday.

Mass protests organised by Conaie, including the blockade of key highways, have paralysed parts of the country before.

The opposition Social Christian Party has also questioned whether the dissolution of the National Assembly is constitutional.

Its leader said he would ask Ecuador's constitutional court to suspend Mr Lasso's decree.

But Ecuador's military and police have backed the president, describing the move as constitutional.

The head of the armed forces, Nelson Proaño, also sent a message to anyone planning violent protests, warning that "the country won't accept any attempt to alter the constitutional order through violence".

Mr Lasso's announcement came just hours after the start of his impeachment trial, in which he stood accused of having been aware of an alleged embezzlement scheme involving a state-run oil transport company

On Tuesday, he had offered an impassioned defence, denouncing the



Police were dispatched to the National Assembly after the president dissolved the legislative body

allegations against him as politically motivated.

He told members of the National Assembly that his accusers, which hail from opposition parties, lacked evidence.

The president also said that the alleged embezzlement had occurred before he came into office.

The trial was due to continue on Wednesday and a final impeachment vote had been expected within days.

A two-thirds majority - 92 lawmakers out of a total of 137 - would have been needed to unseat the president. Analysts said that the fact that 88 lawmakers had previously voted in favour of the impeachment trial going ahead meant that the president was at considerable risk of being ousted.

Rather than wait for the vote which looked likely to go against him, the president chose what some have called "the nuclear option" of dis-

banding parliament.

Speaking after he had issued the decree, he insisted that the move would empower Ecuadoreans by bringing elections forward: "It is a democratic decision not only because it is constitutional but because it returns to the Ecuadorean people the possibility to decide."



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## Motivation

## Life Is Full Of Surprises

By: N. George  
xxxxxxxxxxxx

## Worth Noting:

• The veterinary medicine could turn to a farmer perhaps be supplying animal feeds and become passionate in it. Had he knew that such a venture could be lucrative to him perhaps he could have bothered studying veterinary medicine instead he could have ventured into it directly.

• Going to the market to purchase a certain cloth you may find a new arrival or a certain brand which you never knew about as well as the one that you wished to buy. Upon conversation with the seller he analyses for you the clothes he have stocked and you find that the unknown brand to you is superior than the one you had in mind.



*But instead of what our imagination makes us suppose and which we worthless try to discover, life gives us something that we could hardly imagine. .... Marcel Proust.*

Growing up in 1980's and 1990's we used to admire to be the best things we see around us and hear about with careers like teaching, veterinary medicine, human medicine, secretarial and legal studies being seen as highly esteemed in the community.

Parents motivated their kids to join such careers and the lucky kids worked towards them and they graduated in them. Over the years you can just count a few who have continued in these paths while others went into related as well as different

fields. This is due to new revelations that they have got along their way.

Some of the teachers have quit teaching instead become businessmen who have setup academies. Much as they are in education field they are serving other interest.

A law graduate may opt to become a lecturer in law school instead of practicing in hospital law firms and courts. He may also become a company secretary and restrict himself to this area only.

The veterinary medicine could turn to a farmer perhaps be supplying animal feeds and become passionate in it. Had he knew that such a venture could be lucrative to him perhaps he could have bothered studying vet-

erinary medicine instead he could have ventured into it directly.

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A farmer who encounters challenges transporting his farm produce like milk, eggs, hides and skins to the market may find a gap in

the market and venture into transport business where he could be offering services to those encountering a similar challenge. If it turns to be more profitable than agribusiness then he may specialize in to so you could be left wondering what converted him from a farmer to a logistics business.

A sportsman could easily become a coach and sport consultant once he masters the game and identifies the gaps in the industry which he works towards filling. What was seen as a short term career gives birth to a long term career which he will do even in his seventies and eighties.

The couple experiencing domestic conflicts in their home to an extent that they have become laughing stock

of the estate could be counseled and reconciled their differences thereafter turn to marital counselors citing their example as a practical case that the warring families could reunite becoming harmonious in their relationship.

Having worked in a foreign country, in the course of your stay learnt their language may make you attractive to the companies owned by natives of such people in your country as they seek someone who could easily understand their work ethics. The government could also consider offering to you an ambassadorial role in such countries as you will be easy to master their political, social and cultural landscape hence transact with them at ease.

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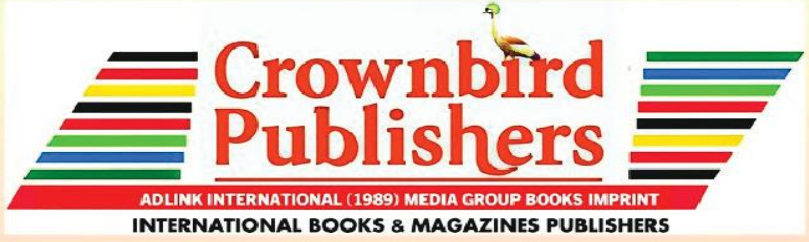
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Diaspora News

Crushing local elections defeat and ministerial resignations take a heavy toll: TORIES IN TURMOIL - TROUBLE AT THE TOP AS LEADERS STRUGGLE TO WIN BRITISH VOTERS' HEARTS



By: Shamlal Puri Associate publisher & Senior Editor - UK shamlalpur4@gmail.com

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Worth Noting: Three senior ministers resigned over their conduct in six months of damaging Sunak's bid to revive his Conservative Party's diminishing fortunes before local elections on May 4. This was a major embarrassment for Rishi Sunak, who had promised a government of integrity when he stood on the steps of Downing Street last October as the third Prime Minister in 2022. The latest to go was Deputy Prime Minister Dominic Rabb, Sunak's close ally, who also held the portfolios of Justice Secretary and Lord Chancellor resigned from the government on April 21 after an independent probe found that he had bullied his colleagues, staff and officials. Raab had called for the investigation when the initial allegations against him came to light and promised that he would resign if any bullying allegations were withheld. The 48-page report by independent lawyer Adam Tolley KC investigated more than 12 complaints about Raab's behaviour allegedly contravening the ministerial code. One of the complaints went as far back as when Raab was the British foreign minister from 2019 to 2021. He was accused of allegedly bullying colleagues, but the report said Raab made a "legitimate management choice" based on a genuine view of others' work. Defending himself, Raab said later that Tolley had concluded in his report that his behaviour

tem of the disastrous local government election. Politicians have returned to their old habit of throwing barbs, bricks, and bouquets, and the smouldering cauldron of mixed politics has returned to the boil again. Taking forward the political malaise within the party from last year, this has not been a good year for the Tories. Sunak is forced to look back at his score card and in the eyes of the public, it does not augur well for the ruling party. Three senior ministers resigned over their conduct in six months of damaging Sunak's bid to revive his Conservative Party's diminishing fortunes before local elections on May 4. This was a major embarrassment for Rishi Sunak, who had promised a government of integrity when he stood on the steps of Downing Street last October as the third Prime Minister in 2022. The latest to go was Deputy Prime Minister Dominic Rabb, Sunak's close ally, who also held the portfolios of Justice Secretary and Lord Chancellor resigned from the government on April 21 after an independent probe found that he had bullied his colleagues, staff and officials. Raab had called for the investigation when the initial allegations against him came to light and promised that he would resign if any bullying allegations were withheld. The 48-page report by independent lawyer Adam Tolley KC investigated more than 12 complaints about Raab's behaviour allegedly contravening the ministerial code. One of the complaints went as far back as when Raab was the British foreign minister from 2019 to 2021. He was accused of allegedly bullying colleagues, but the report said Raab made a "legitimate management choice" based on a genuine view of others' work. Defending himself, Raab said later that Tolley had concluded in his report that his behaviour

was not intentional. But it was found that Raab had acted intimidatingly with his "unreasonable and persistently aggressive conduct in the context of a work meeting." Tolley looked into the complaints against Raab in his recent role as Justice Secretary that in his dealings, the minister acted in an intimidating manner during meetings with his officials to discuss policy issues. Following his resignation, Raab, writing in the Daily Telegraph, defended his conduct, adding, "I never once swore or shouted at officials, let alone threatened, targeted or threw anything at them." He called his behaviour abrasive. Public opinion found it hard to swallow that Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, who initially defended his deputy Prime Minister, was forced to let him go. He had to accept the inevitable. Was Rabb sacked, or did he resign? Many observers are asking. One side says Rabb had promised to wait if any allegations in the Tolley report were upheld and then quit. Others say Sunak may have felt that Raab had to go to spare embarrassment to the government. Sunak's response to Raab's aggressive resignation letter appeared to be neutral and failed to reinforce the fact that he demanded proper ministerial conduct from those who were in his government. In his reply to Raab's letter, Sunak replied, "When I became prime minister in October last year, I pledged that the government I lead would have integrity, professionalism and accountability at every level. The Ministerial Code requires ministers to uphold the highest standards. "When formal complaints about your conduct in different ministerial posts were submitted last year, I appointed at your request an independent investigator to conduct a full investigation into the specific facts surrounding these complaints. Adam Tolley KC has now submitted his report, and I have carefully considered its findings, as well as consulting the independent adviser on ministers' interests.

Contd Page 11.

FT Weekend National Newspaper of the Year. Main headline: Tory recriminations begin after crushing losses in local elections. Sub-headline: Sunak strategy in crosshairs, Starmer hails key gains, Labour short of decisive blow. Other articles include: Simon Schama on the coronation of a king, WHO declares Covid pandemic over after three years and 20m deaths, and Fund chief wins \$200m after 10-year Bahamas feud.

Screaming headlines in the UK national press painted a gloomy picture of local election fiasco for Tories.



Prime Minister Rishi Sunak meets Labour Party supporters at the local election rallies

Diaspora News

# Crushing local elections defeat and ministerial resignations take a heavy toll: TORIES IN TURMOIL - TROUBLE AT THE TOP AS LEADERS STRUGGLE TO WIN BRITISH VOTERS' HEARTS



By: Shamlal Puri  
Associate publisher  
& Senior Editor – UK  
shamlalpuri4@gmail.com

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## Worth Noting:

- “When formal complaints about your conduct in different ministerial posts were submitted last year, I appointed at your request an independent investigator to conduct a full investigation into the specific facts surrounding these complaints. Adam Tolley KC has now submitted his report, and I have carefully considered its findings, as well as consulting the independent adviser on ministers’ interests.
- “As you say, you had - rightly - undertaken to resign if the report made any finding of bullying whatsoever. You have kept your word. But it is clear that there have been shortcomings in the historic process that have negatively affected everyone involved. We should learn from this how to better handle such matters in future.”
- Sir Keir Starmer, the opposition Labour Party leader, jumped into the issue, accusing Sunak of weakness for letting Raab resign rather than sacking him.

“As you say, you had - rightly - undertaken to resign if the report made any finding of bullying whatsoever. You have kept your word. But it is clear that there have been shortcomings in the historic process that have negatively affected everyone involved. We should learn from this how to better handle such matters in future.”

Sir Keir Starmer, the opposition Labour Party leader, jumped into the issue, accusing Sunak of weakness for letting Raab resign rather than sacking him.

Last November, Gavin Williamson, another of Sunak’s senior ministers, quit after bullying allegations.

In January, the Prime Minister was forced to sack Nadhim Zahawi, chairman of the Conservative Party, who was found to have breached the ministerial code over his openness about his personal tax affairs.

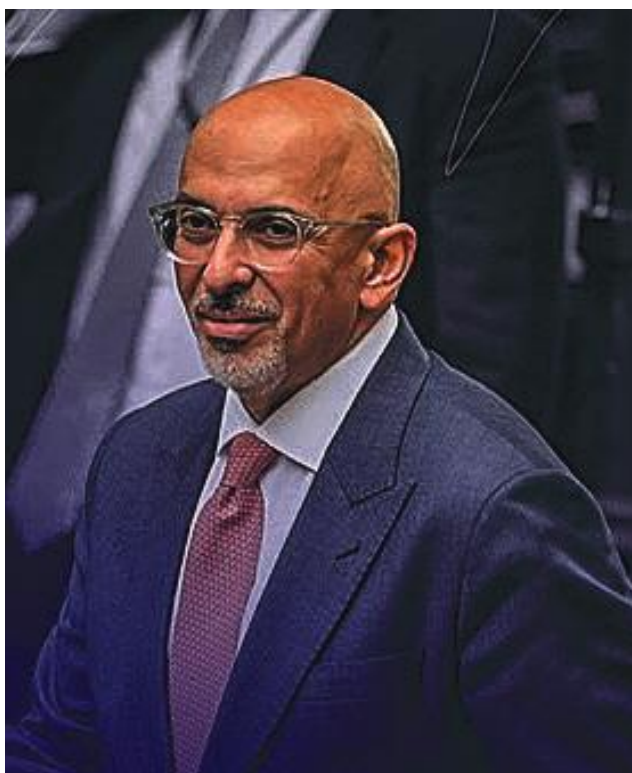
The irony of these resignations is that Sunak was trying his best to present his government as a clean break from the scandal-ridden leadership of the two former Prime Ministers - Boris Johnson and the chaotic economic policies that forced the resignation of the second prime minister within one year - Liz Truss - who had to quit just after 44 days in Downing Street.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak is under investigation by the parliamentary standards watchdog to see if he correctly declared his wife’s shareholding in a childcare

company that benefits from the new government policy. After the disaster of ministerial resignations and the probe on the Prime Minister, who believes he has done nothing wrong, public opinion came home to roost in the May 4 local elections. A total of 8,058 council seats were contested that day, excluding any by-elections being held on the day in England; councillors are elected for four-year terms to single or multi-party wards. This is the place where the Local Government or municipal councils take their decisions and implement plans by councillors to run the local services such as transport, keeping the streets clean, sewage, fire and public safety, planning services, social care, libraries, waste management and trading standards are offered to their residents.

With the problems they have been facing, such as the cost of living crisis, joblessness, increased energy costs, and the suffering caused by domestic events, the voters, still angry with the previous Tory Prime Minister Liz Truss’s disastrous handling of the economy which had put the country on the brink of bankruptcy, had already made their minds on where they would cast their votes. The Tories have taken a beating in the local elections

Contd Page 13.



Shown the door Nadhim Zahawi, top former Minister and Conservative Party chairman, was sacked over his personal tax issues.



Labour leader Kier Starmer is upbeat about his Party winning the next general election.



Sir Kier Starmer joins Labour Party supporters from all communities at a pre- election rally.



Gavin Williamson quit Sunak’s cabinet in November 2022

Moscow

# S Africa army chief visits Moscow in wake of US weapons claim

Visit to Moscow follows US allegations that weapons were loaded on to a Russian ship in Cape Town in December.

The commander of South Africa's ground forces has visited Moscow for talks with Russian counterparts just days after Washington accused South Africa of secretly providing arms to Russia.

The South African National Defence Force (SANDF) said on Monday that the meeting was "planned well in advance" as part of "a long-standing arrangement" and was a "goodwill visit" at the invitation of the Russian army.

In a statement, SANDF said it "confirms that the Chief of the SA Army, Lieutenant-General Lawrence Mbatha, is in Moscow for a bilateral between the two military establishments".

"It must be noted that South Africa has Military to Military bilateral relations with various countries in the continent and beyond," it said. "The SANDF receives numerous military delegations into the country and sends its own delegations to other countries to discuss matters of mutual interest."

Russian news agencies reported earlier on Monday that Mbatha was heading a delegation that discussed "issues relating to military cooperation and interaction". Mbatha had "visited educational institutions of the ground forces and enterprises of the military-industrial complex" of Russia, the agencies said.

"Agreements were reached to further increase cooperation between ground forces in various fields," Russian news agency Interfax said.

Last week, United States Ambassador to Pretoria Reuben Brigety said that the US believed weapons and ammunition had been loaded onto a Russian freighter that docked at a Cape Town naval base in December.

Brigety said he was confident that a Russian ship under US sanctions took on board weapons from the Simon's Town base in December, suggesting the transfer was not in line with Pretoria's stance of neutrality in Russia's war against Ukraine. South African officials swiftly rejected claims made by the US ambassador, who also said senior US officials had "profound concerns"



Russian, Chinese and military officials from other countries attend a South African Armed Forces Day parade in Richards Bay, South Africa, in February, 2023 [File: Rogan Ward/Reuters]

over South Africa's professed policy of non-alignment and neutrality over Russia's war in Ukraine.

The claims of secret weapons shipments to Russia drew an angry response from South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa, who did not deny the charge but said an investigation into the matter would be launched.

Several ministers, including the one responsible for arms control and the communications minister, as well as a foreign ministry spokesperson, have said South Africa had not approved any arms shipment to Russia in December.

Brigety was summoned on Friday to meet South African Foreign Minister Naledi

Pandor and he apologised "unreservedly" to the government and the people of South Africa, a foreign ministry statement said. "I was grateful for the opportunity to speak with Foreign Minister Pandor ... and correct any misimpressions left by my public remarks," Brigety said in a tweet that did not confirm whether he had apologised.

South Africa, which has abstained from voting on UN resolutions on Russia's war in Ukraine, says it is impartial. Western countries, however, consider it one of Moscow's closest allies on the continent.

South Africa has refused to condemn Russia's war on Ukraine, saying it wants to

stay neutral.

Following the US claims, Russian President Vladimir Putin spoke on the phone with Ramaphosa, where both leaders reportedly agreed to "intensify mutually beneficial ties", according to the Kremlin.

Ramaphosa reiterated on Monday that his country would not be drawn "into a contest between global powers" over Ukraine despite having faced "extraordinary pressure" to pick sides.

Ramaphosa also hinted on Monday that Putin would visit South Africa for a meeting of leaders of the BRICS economic bloc in August. The Kremlin has not confirmed that Putin plans to attend the BRICS summit.

Such a trip would entangle South Africa in another diplomatic mess because the country is a signatory to the treaty that created the International Criminal Court, which issued an arrest warrant for Putin in March for alleged war crimes involving the abductions of children from Ukraine.

Since the indictment, Putin has travelled rarely and only to countries that are close allies of Russia. Countries that are parties to the treaty would be obliged to arrest the Russian leader.

Source: Al Jazeera and news agencies

## Worth Noting:

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Russia's President Vladimir Putin and South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa attend a signing ceremony on the sidelines of the BRICS summit in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2018 [File: Alexei Nikolsky/Kremlin via Reuters]

Diaspora News

# Crushing local elections defeat and ministerial resignations take a heavy toll: TORIES IN TURMOIL - TROUBLE AT THE TOP AS LEADERS STRUGGLE TO WIN BRITISH VOTERS' HEARTS



By: Shamlal Puri  
Associate publisher  
& Senior Editor – UK  
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## Worth Noting:

- Two schools of thought emerge here: The Local Government elections may be the proverbial hiccup in the fortunes of the Conservative Party, and they are poised to win the next general election bringing back Rishi Sunak to Downing Street.
- Sunak, on his part, is leaving no stone unturned to ensure that his party wins the next elections.
- He is pulling all stops to jumpstart the fledgling British economy by introducing measures to halve inflation, ease the cost of living and give people financial security to plan for the future,
- He is creating better-paid jobs and opportunities nationwide and is determined to reduce national debt so “we can secure the future of public services”.
- He is determined to cut waiting lists in the National Health Service Hospitals (NHS) “so people will get the care they need more quickly.”

as the results proved that voters gave a thumbs down to the Conservative Party. The opposition Labour Party is riding high after a sweeping victory in the polls. What does this victory translate into? Who takes power after the next General Election in December 2024? Two schools of thought emerge here: The Local Government elections may be the proverbial hiccup in the fortunes of the Conservative Party, and they are poised to win the next general election bringing back Rishi Sunak to Downing Street. Sunak, on his part, is leaving no stone unturned to ensure that his party wins the next elections. He is pulling all stops to jumpstart the fledgling British economy by introducing measures to halve inflation, ease the cost of living and give people financial security to plan for the future. He is creating better-paid jobs and opportunities nationwide and is determined to reduce national debt so “we can secure the future of public services”. He is determined to cut waiting lists in the National Health Service Hospitals (NHS) “so people will get the care they need more quickly.” He is behind the controversial move to stop boats carrying illegal immigrants “, so if you come to the country illegally, you’re detained and swiftly removed”. He said, “The challenges we face today are as big as any challenges we’ve faced... but we can see them all through”.

There is no doubt Rishi Sunak is a hard-working Prime Minister as he has a busy diary most times, But despite this, the Local government election results have set the alarm bells ringing in the Conservatives Camp, and a publicity drive is underway to recruit more members. On its side, the opposition Labour Party, which has been out of Downing Street since 2010, feels emboldened that their day is drawing closer for the next general election victory because of their firm belief that the Tories have failed to deliver to the nation. Opinions are divided on this. The Tories are confident they will return to power after the 2024 general election as they still have work to do and deliver the results of their strategies to the British public. The third scenario is that British voters could be so undecided that they would probably bring about a hung parliament – with both Labour and Conservatives at the helm. Observers can foresee a hung parliament government as short-lived because of fundamental policy differences between the two. In a hung parliament, there have to be compromises to complete the full five-year term, but knowing divisive politics, each will try to demolish the other to create a reason for a new election that would bring one major party to power, This remains to be seen.



Deputy Prime Minister Dominic Raab, a close ally of Rishi Sunak, quit the government after a probe into his alleged bullying. Photo Institute of Govt.



Dominic Raab sent his resignation letter to Prime Minister Rishi Sunak.

### We're helping families with the cost of living by:

- ✓ **Extending the Energy Price Guarantee**  
Extended at £2,500 until July this year, saving the average household £160 across three months on their energy bills.
- ✓ **Supporting low-income households**  
First of three cost of living payments have hit bank accounts this spring, with some households receiving up to £1,350 of support.
- ✓ **Extending the Household Support Fund**  
Extended to over £2 billion to protecting the most vulnerable households, ensuring local authorities can support the most vulnerable in their communities.
- ✓ **Introducing 30 free hours childcare**  
Driving down costs for working parents with 30 hours of free childcare per week for children 9 months to 4 years.
- ✓ **Increasing the National Living Wage**  
The National Living Wage increased by 9.7 per cent, giving an average of £1,600 for two million low paid workers across the country.



Conservatives are saying they are delivering their promises as shown in this party leaflet.



Conservatives are pinning high hopes on the General Election, believing their party will win the polls. Here a group of Tory voters at the local election rally.

Senegal

# Senegal opposition leader Ousmane Sonko's rape trial adjourned

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### Contd from Page 1

als and it did not concern it. If convicted, Sonko faces up to 10 years in prison and would be barred from running for president. Protests erupted in Ziguinchor and the Dakar area on Monday, on the eve of Sonko's scheduled court appearance. The interior ministry said a policeman died after being accidentally crushed by an armoured vehicle that had been deployed at demonstrations in Ziguinchor. Crowds blocked roads with logs and burning tyres, throwing stones at police who responded with tear gas, according to reports. Last week, Sonko, a former tax inspector, received a suspended six-month sentence for libel stemming from his accusations that the minister of tourism had embezzled funds, a charge the opposition leader denies.

'Standstill'

The legal drama embroiling Sonko has spurred more than two years of tensions and sporadic unrest in Senegal as supporters – many of whom are disenfranchised urban youth – have heeded calls for protests that often spiral into violent clashes with security forces.

Haque said the trial has brought Senegal to a "standstill", citing incidents of violence, schools shutting down, stores burning and motorcycles not being allowed on the road. "This isn't just a trial over a rape case," he added. "For the opposition, the tribunal ... is used by President Sall to clamp down on the opposition."

The growing tensions raise the stakes ahead of next year's election which could see Sall vie for a controversial third term, which the opposition says is unconstitutional.

Sall, 61, has neither confirmed nor denied that he plans to run, amid widespread speculation.

His opponents accuse him of seeking to weaken the competition with false accusations and political trials before the polls. The government denies this.

Hundreds rallied in Dakar last week



Opposition leader Ousmane Sonko (C) has become the face of growing frustration among Senegalese people against Sall [File: John Wessels/AFP]

in the latest show of protest against Sall's potential bid for a third term. Senegal's new constitution, adopted in 2016, limits presidential terms to

two five-year mandates. However, Sall told French newspaper L'Express in March that he could technically run because the new consti-

tution reset the clock on his number of terms.

Source: Al Jazeera and news agencies

Hollywood

# Laayoune And Hollywood City Signs A Twinning City Partnership

By: Digital News

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Hollywood city in the state of Florida ( USA) and the Moroccan city of Laayoune has signed a twin-city deal, aimed at strengthening economic, cultural, educational and tourist sectors .

The deal was signed last Wednesday in Laayoune, where American officials visited several projects completed or under way in the Moroccan City to ascertain , efforts made to ensure progressive integration and development in the region.

Both Moroccan and their US counterparts exuded confidence in the deal which they termed as one which will open promising prospects for the consolidation of partnership ties in the involved sectors, besides sharing expertise and strengthening cooperation between the two countries separated by the Atlantic Ocean

The agreement was initiated by the President of the City Council, Moulay Hamdi Ould Errachid and the mayor of the city of Hollywood in Florida, Josh Levy, at Laayoune municipality head quarters last Wednesday in the presence of the Wali of the region Laayoune-Sakia El Hamra, governor of the province of Laayoune, Abdeslam Bekrate and

elected officials from both cities.

This agreement will offer the capital of the Moroccan Sahara international influence and partnership opportunities that can contribute positively to its socio-economic development.

"This agreement marks the beginning of a closer relationship between the two cities in the economic and cultural fields," said Mayor Josh Levy. This comes after the American delegation visited the women's municipal club, the Olympic pool and the sports village, as well as projects related to the construction of the Faculty of Medicine, the City of Trades and Skills and the University Hospital, in addition to the African Institute for Research in Sustainable Agriculture and the phosphate port in Foum El Oued that is a fort of Moroccan fertilizer output.

On his part Ould Errachid stressed that this agreement, which comes after Washington's decision to recognize the sovereignty of Morocco over its Sahara region.

The American delegation also visited the Regional Investment Center for presentations on the socio-economic potential and investment opportunities within the region.



Representatives from USA and Morocco display the twinning city deal

UFC heavyweight champion

# Former UFC heavyweight champion Francis Ngannou signs with PFL



Francis Ngannou will also serve as chairman and equity owner in PFL Africa [File: Gregory Payan/AP Photo]

## Worth Noting:

- It has been a long journey for the soft-spoken Ngannou who started working in a sand quarry at the age of 12, and then, in his mid-20s, embarked on a long and life-threatening journey from Cameroon to France – a trip he once described as “hell”.
- Ngannou crossed the Sahara Desert and spent a year in Morocco before entering Spain through the Mediterranean Sea. Upon reaching Spain, he was detained for entering irregularly and spent two months in custody before regaining his freedom and finally making it to France.
- In Paris, he was homeless until he found a fitness centre to sleep and start training. In 2013, he made his professional debut and two years later he was signed by the UFC.

The 36-year-old ex-UFC heavyweight champion will fight exclusively for the Professional Fighters League in new deal.

Former UFC star Francis Ngannou has signed a deal with the Professional Fighters League (PFL) to continue his reign as one of the top heavyweights in mixed martial arts (MMA).

The 36-year-old was still UFC heavyweight champion when contract talks with the leading promotion collapsed once the Cameroonian fighter said his demands for health insurance and personal sponsorships were rejected. UFC President Dana White stripped Ngannou of the belt in January.

The terms of Ngannou's deal with the PFL were not announced but a statement on Tuesday said he will fight exclusively in the franchise's pay-per-view super fight division. He is expected to make his debut in mid-2024. Ngannou (17-3) will also serve in a leadership role on the PFL global advisory board, as well as chairman and equity owner in PFL Africa.

“I believe in the PFL's ‘fight-

er first’ culture and global vision including developing the sport in Africa,” Ngannou said in the statement.

“With that, I am also proud to announce that I will serve as Chairman of PFL Africa which will be the leading MMA organisation on the continent providing great African fighters the opportunity to compete on a global platform,” added Ngannou, the first African-born UFC heavyweight champion.

PFL CEO Peter Murray said talks with Ngannou began when “he was no longer encumbered” and the fighter was expected to play a pivotal role in the company's planned global expansion.

Ngannou also wants to box and the PFL will not stand in his way, Murray told The Associated Press news agency. “We're supportive of Francis taking on boxing,” he said. It has been a long journey for the soft-spoken Ngannou who started working in a sand quarry at the age of 12, and then, in his mid-20s, embarked on a long and life-threatening journey from Cameroon to France – a trip he once described as

“hell”.

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### ‘Perfectly timed’

While the PFL has a unique MMA competition format that includes a regular season, a postseason and a championship event, Ngannou will only fight in a planned PPV division that includes other stars such as Kayla Harrison and Jake Paul.

“This is a new model and it's a transformational deal,” Murray said. “This is not just an athlete signing. This is a strategic partnership. Francis has all the capabilities

not only as an elite MMA fighter but as a businessperson and we're excited to be in business with him.”

Ngannou had dropped a teaser video on social media that he planned to make a big announcement on May 16. On Monday, he posted a picture of himself with the caption, “Looking at the bright future on the horizon.”

Ngannou rebounded from consecutive losses in the UFC to win six straight bouts that included a championship fight against Stipe Miocic and one successful title defence.

He has not fought since he defeated Cyril Gane by unanimous decision at UFC 270 in January 2022.

His relationship with UFC frayed to the point that White pledged that Ngannou would “never be in the UFC again”.

“I never say never, but I'll give you a never on that one. We tried,” White said.

Ngannou negotiated with ONE Championship but those talks flamed out shortly before the Singapore-based league made its United States debut last

week in Denver.

PFL has made a splash by signing outside stars before, with fighters such as Paul and Olympic gold medal boxer Claressa Shields. The PFL also last week signed French fighter and former kickboxing world champion Cedric Doumbe.

But none of the signings packed a punch quite like Ngannou.

“This is the No. 1 signing that this company in MMA has ever made,” Murray said. “It's perfectly timed. We're now focused on our next phase of growth and launching our pay-per-view business and expanding internationally with regional leagues.”

Murray said details on Paul's PFL debut would be announced after he fights Nate Diaz in August and that Harrison will indeed fight in 2023.

“I can assure you that fighters who want to get out of their contracts are looking to the PFL as a major global stage with the very best talent in the world,” Murray said.

Source: AP

## Illegal Immigration

## Problem of Illegal Immigration To U.S.A

By: Sukhrob Saidov  
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The westernmost edge of the U.S. border wall separates Tijuana from San Diego. Most undocumented immigrants in this country did not enter the U.S. at the Southern border.

Rebecca Blackwell/AP

## Introduction

Border security and undocumented immigration in the US have long been contentious topics. The issue is complicated and nuanced since there are millions of undocumented immigrants living in the US and a border that stretches for thousands of miles. Others support tougher border controls and greater enforcement, while some urge for more permissive immigration laws and a route to citizenship for illegal immigrants. With the Trump administration's initiatives to construct a border wall and enforce a "zero-tolerance" policy towards illegal immigration, the topic has grown even more divisive in recent years. In this article, I will analyze the popularity of legal and illegal portrayals in U.S mass media, including reflection to the speech of Mr. Trump that we studied in class. In the end of my work, I will provide some of the differences in coverage of migration and statements from leaders and locals in Canada vs European countries facing waves of migrants and refugees.

## Beliefs about immigration in U.S.A

According to a 2021 Gallup poll [1], 75% of polled Americans thought immigration was beneficial to

the country. However, the majority also believed that illegal immigration posed a serious threat to American national security.

In an another survey done the same year by Vox and Data for Progress [2], a majority of Republicans and 69 percent of Americans overall favored giving undocumented immigrants who met specific criteria a path to citizenship. The so-called "Dreamers," immigrants brought to the United States as minors, were backed by a larger percentage (72 percent).

## Reflection to "Fact check: Trump's speech on border 'crisis'"

The article demonstrates that a number of the President's assertions were overstated or false. For instance, despite data indicating a 20-year decline in illegal border crossings, the president said there was a catastrophe at the border. The President's allegations that drugs and criminals were flooding the country over the southern border were refuted by the article, which noted that the majority of immigrants do not have criminal records and that the majority of narcotics enter the country through authorized ports of entry [3].

The article serves as an

example of the value of fact-checking and the requirement for accuracy in public discourse. It emphasizes the obligation of the media to inform the audience of the truth and the facts, especially in the face of sensationalized or deceptive statements. By evaluating the accuracy of the President's statements and presenting the facts, the article helps readers to better understand the situation at the border and make informed judgments about policy proposals related to immigration.

## Discrepancies between the Politifact fact check article and President Trump's speech addressing undocumented immigration in the United States

President Trump's claims were thoroughly examined in the Politifact [4] fact-check article, which showed that numerous of his claims were untrue or deceptive. For instance, the story emphasized that the number of illicit border crossings was at a 20-year low and that the majority of drugs entered the country legitimately rather than illegally. These statistics run counter to the president's claim that there is a catastrophe at the southern border. In his speech, President Trump frequently portrayed undocumented

immigrants as criminals and a threat to national security, which has drawn criticism. The majority of immigrants are law-abiding and contribute to the US economy, thus the facts do not support this image. Through the formation of public opinion and the influencing of policy, President Trump's speech has the potential to influence how the US understands undocumented immigration and border security. His speech has caused division and added to the fear and prejudice that exists toward immigrants. Negative measures that further exclude and hurt unauthorized immigrants may result from this.

Therefore, in order to avoid promoting negative stereotypes and disinformation, it is crucial to carefully consider the facts and data surrounding unauthorized immigration and border security in the US. We can promote a better educated and fruitful conversation on these important problems by encouraging accurate information and unbiased analysis.

## Differences in coverage of migration and statements from leaders and locals in Canada vs European countries facing waves of migrants and refugees.

According to my research

that I did through different sites I found interesting facts and differences.

- Attitude towards refugees: Canada has a generally hospitable attitude toward refugees, as seen by the government's recent acceptance of over 40,000 Syrian refugees. On the other hand, many European nations have been less receptive to refugees, with some even closing their borders.

- Political discourse: In Canada, political leaders have typically refrained from employing rhetoric that demonizes immigrants or makes refugees out to be the problem. As a result, there has been an increase in far-right populist parties across Europe. On the other hand, some European leaders have utilized anti-immigrant rhetoric to appeal to their base.

- Media coverage: The majority of Canadian media coverage of migration has been fair and has centered on the relatable experiences of migrants. Comparatively, media coverage of migration in Europe has frequently been sensationalized and centered on the alleged harm that refugees have caused to local populations.

## Conclusion

To sum up, illegal immigration and border security are complicated problems that call for thoughtful thought and informed debate. The Pew Research Center has offered insightful information and analysis on these subjects, illuminating the characteristics and circumstances of unauthorized immigrants as well as the patterns of border crossings and enforcement. In order to prevent repeating negative stereotypes and false information, it is crucial to understand the personal stories and experiences that lie behind the statistics. We can promote a better educated and fruitful conversation on these important problems by encouraging accurate information and unbiased analysis.

Overall, by approaching undocumented immigration and border security with compassion, empathy, and a commitment to accuracy and fairness, we can work towards creating a more just and equitable society for all.

## Worth Noting:

- Attitude towards refugees: Canada has a generally hospitable attitude toward refugees, as seen by the government's recent acceptance of over 40,000 Syrian refugees. On the other hand, many European nations have been less receptive to refugees, with some even closing their borders.

- Political discourse: In Canada, political leaders have typically refrained from employing rhetoric that demonizes immigrants or makes refugees out to be the problem. As a result, there has been an increase in far-right populist parties across Europe. On the other hand, some European leaders have utilized anti-immigrant rhetoric to appeal to their base.

- Media coverage: The majority of Canadian media coverage of migration has been fair and has centered on the relatable experiences of migrants. Comparatively, media coverage of migration in Europe has frequently been sensationalized and centered on the alleged harm that refugees have caused to local populations.



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## Diaspora

## G7 summit: Taiwan looms large as Japan prepares to host leaders

By: BBC

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Amid tensions between China and Taiwan, Japan's role as a key player in building regional stability has grown

## Worth Noting:

- Prime Minister Fumio Kishida has certainly been making moves to reflect that. In March, Japan normalised diplomatic ties with South Korea after years of terse silence in what has been hailed as a “new chapter”.

- That same month, Mr Kishida met India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi and then made a surprise visit to Ukraine and pledged \$30m (£24m) in non-lethal military aid.

- Under him, Japan has announced the biggest military build-up since World War Two, pledging to double defence spending by 2027 - which would give it the third largest defence budget in the world. This illustrates both Tokyo's urgent need to show that it can defend itself, and also help its closest ally, the US.

- Any defence scenario will involve the US, and Okinawa is home to the biggest concentration of US troops in Japan, but the country also needs to show that it can put up a fight. The hope is that this would be enough to deter Beijing and avoid a conflict in the region.

At Japan's Naha airbase in Okinawa, the roar of F-15 fighter jets dwarfs the sound of commercial planes that share the same runway.

Three jets take off one after the other, to start the day's training - mostly scenarios involving combat and aircraft interception.

At least a couple of jets have gone on “real life scrambles” or emergency calls to intercept suspected Chinese aircraft, say those here.

These routine exercises have taken on a new sense of urgency, according to Lt Col Masatoshi Tanaka.

“We're very nervous,” he says. “We've been facing airspace violations of Japanese territory every day. Chinese activities have expanded in number and quality. They involve UAVs [drones], bombers and reconnaissance planes. There are many active aircraft carriers in this area.”

Naha is part of the Okinawa island chain, which is on the frontline of any potential conflict between China and the self-ruled island of Taiwan. The territory, which Beijing claims and has vowed to take by force if necessary, has become one of the biggest flashpoints in

the world, especially as tensions soar between the US and China.

As China becomes more assertive, Taiwan's security has become a growing concern for Japan, which is hosting the G7 summit in Hiroshima this weekend. And with China expected to dominate the agenda at the summit, Japan's role as a key player in building regional stability has only grown.

The war in Ukraine and an increasingly volatile Indo-Pacific has pushed Japan to a “crucial position in the alignment of powers,” according to Yoko Iwama, a professor of international relations at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies.

“We are the linchpin of the network of American alliances and partnerships in the region and I think the Americans are aware of that,” she said.

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But Japan is close enough to feel the ripples of a conflict that it does not want, but could be pulled into.

When China's military rehearsed “sealing off” Taiwan during three days of military drills in April, Japan's defence ministry said a Chinese aircraft carrier was some 230km (145 miles) south of Miyako Island, also

part of the Okinawa chain.

When a furious China fired missiles after former US house speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit last year, at least five landed less than 100km from the westernmost Japanese island of Yonaguni.

“Geographically speaking we're very close to Taiwan and South East Asia, we feel a sense of crisis,” says Yoshitaka Nakayama, the mayor of Ishigaki. The island is about an hour's flight from the Naha airbase and is a picturesque haven known for fishing and agriculture. Its white sands and crystal blue waters have long attracted holidaymakers and snorkelling fans.

Now, Ishigaki is also home to Japan's Self-Defence Forces' (SDF) newest military base. As farmers tend to their crops in the fields around it, soldiers man the gates and cranes and bulldozers move bits of earth as construction continues.

Mr Nakayama says they need to protect themselves: “Chinese ships are patrolling very closely. The equipment we have in terms of missile launchers is for defending ourselves. It's to protect us in case there are planes or ships that want to attack us. We're

not looking for war.”

Earlier this year nearly 600 troops moved here, including squads capable of launching land-to-ship and land-to-air missiles into the East China sea and beyond.

Ishigaki and the neighbouring chain of islands are in close proximity to two flashpoints. One is the uninhabited Senkaku Islands which Japan controls but China also claims under the name Diaoyu Islands. The other is Taiwan, which is 200km away.

And Russia's invasion of Ukraine has heightened fears of a potential Chinese attack. As the war rages on there, parallels have been drawn on this side of the world.

## Diaspora

## Owner of the “Islam Karimov” State Scholarship

Owner of the “Islam Karimov” State Scholarship.

(Gafur Ghulam)

Nozima Ulug'ova was born on October 13, 2001 in “Yosh gayrat” neighborhood, Shorchi district, Surkhandarya province. He graduated from the 37th general education school in the Shorchi district and at the same time, the Nukus branch of the State Institute of Arts and Culture of Uzbekistan “Art Studies” 3rd-level student of the department “Dramaturgy of Stage and Screen Art”. In 2022, his creative author collections “Mother for you” and “Salvation” were published and gained their readers. At the same time, his creative story is among the young artists of Uzbekistan. “Culture”, “Creative Flight”, “Women and Time”, “Surkhan Youth”, “Morning Star” are examples of creativity in our republic. It is covered in newspapers, “Gulkhan” magazine and “Nurli Jol” newspaper of Kazakhstan. The young penman did not limit himself to creativity, but participated in conferences and scientific meetings in prestigious journals with a factor recognized by OAC with about 20 scientific articles, pamphlets and theses.”Samarkand Youth Forum 2021” “Uzbekistan Development Forum 2021” Participant of several forums and conferences, festivals and seminars. Nozima Ulug'ova in Personal development & Step into the international sphere Course, because he was able to show his activity and interests in the fields of literature and art in this course .Creativity Forum for Culture, Arts and Peace International member, Active member, working Group of International writers “Jontous por las Letras” Iqra Foundation has received membership offers from several international organizations in its field.

HUMAN MEMORY IS SACRED

Dear moments of our dear age,

He asks for love from dear people.

Opportunity is a spoil, royal lines,

It's time to decorate your life notebook!

May 9 “Day of Remembrance and Appreciation”. Independence

years, this day is literally human memory and

who restored justice to the value, the original truth

became an important historical date.

It is known that there are more than 450 thousand Uzbek boys

more than 130,000 did not return from the war

the name is missing. The main layer of the population

taking into account that it consists of children and the elderly

60 percent of the working-age population is involved in the front

done No family is excluded from the war

did not pass. 450 thousand people of Uzbekistan are at war

His heroic deeds are made up of 34 stories

sealed in the book.

memory and appreciation are unique spiritual gifts of human intelligence, eternal criteria of living. Patronage, generosity and dedication, kindness and

virtues of kindness, memory and concepts of value

is in harmony with Because the heart

full of generosity, love, compassion

only people always remember their history and ancestors

and dedicated compatriots, work for a bright future

It is worth the people who have won over fascism in the Second World War

these days, when the 77th anniversary of the victory is being celebrated

Special attention is paid to the day of remembrance and appreciation in our country



Nozima Ulug'ova

It has a clear meaning that it is being celebrated with.

Consequently, the historic victory in the Second World War

services of our compatriots

was incomparable. Live and die in battles

thousands of Uzbek men who gave, spent the night behind the front

He who worked until morning, his sustenance will change

the love shared with our compatriots of the river

His courage and dedication

will never be forgotten.

The historic victory in the Second World War

the courage of our compatriots in providing

and his services were incomparable. To them and the family

providing material and moral support to its members

providing medical and social services together with

maintenance has become a tradition

is inevitable. Man, people and nation are historical

is alive and well with memory!

If you want to be a real child,

When you say bloom like a flower,

If you ask to pay a prayer,

If you want to do good deeds,

Start every morning with merit,

Live with respect for the elderly.

(R. Mirzaolimov.)

## Worth Noting:

- In 2022, his creative author collections “Mother for you” and “Salvation” were published and gained their readers.
- At the same time, his creative story is among the young artists of Uzbekistan. “Culture”, “Creative Flight”, “Women and Time”, “Surkhan Youth”, “Morning Star” are examples of creativity in our republic.
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CGTN

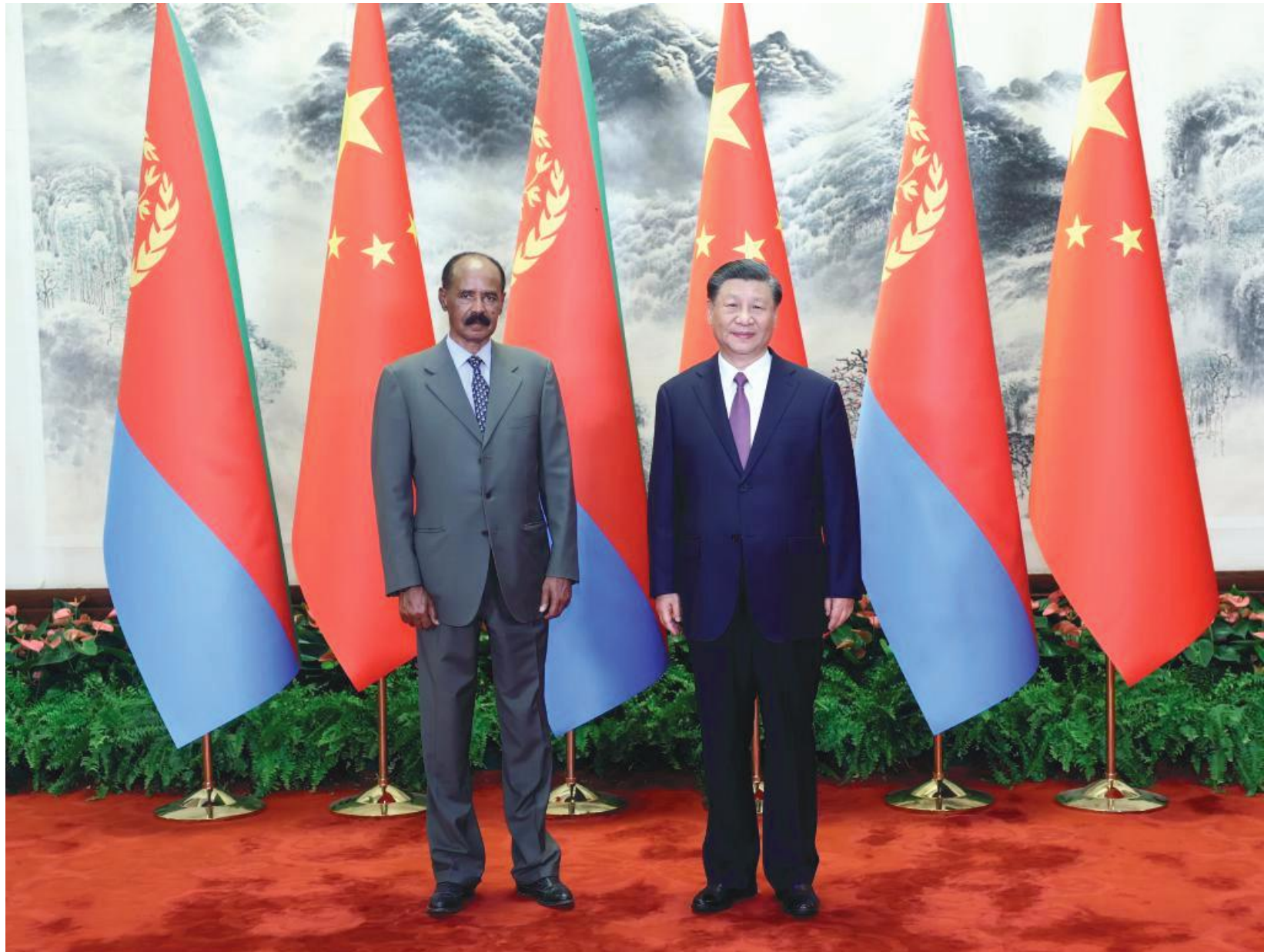
# China and Eritrea denounce hegemonic and interference acts

By: CGTN

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## Worth Noting:

- President Afwerki pointed out that the African countries are still facing hegemonism and various unfair and unjust treatments.
- “China is a great country,” said the Eritrean president. He stressed China has always proposed a Chinese solution to solve the challenges facing the world, and upholds fairness and justice.
- The international community believes that China will make greater contributions to human development and progress, as well as international fairness and justice, Afwerki added.
- 30 years of diplomatic ties
- China-Eritrea relations were elevated to a strategic partnership in 2022. The upcoming May 24 marks the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries.
- Noting that China and Eritrea enjoy a traditional friendship, President Xi said that over the past 30 years, China and Eritrea have always trusted and supported each other.



Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) holds talks with President Isaias Afwerki of the State of Eritrea at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, May 15, 2023. /Xinhua

China and Eritrea both expressed opposition to hegemonic and interference acts as the two leaders met on Monday.

At the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping, President Isaias Afwerki of the State of Eritrea is paying a state visit to China. A welcome ceremony was held before the two held talks at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

During their talks, Xi stressed that China appreciates Eritrea's long-term adherence to an independent foreign policy, adding that China firmly supports Eritrea to explore development paths suited to its national conditions and to safeguard its own sovereignty, security, and development interests. China opposes external interference in Eritrea's internal affairs and the imposition of unilateral sanctions against Eritrea, Xi told Afwerki.

He said China is willing to exchange experiences in governance with Eritrea, and called on the two sides to continue to support each other, jointly oppose unilateralism and bullying and safeguard the common interests of the two countries

and the developing countries.

President Afwerki pointed out that the African countries are still facing hegemonism and various unfair and unjust treatments.

“China is a great country,” said the Eritrean president. He stressed China has always proposed a Chinese solution to solve the challenges facing the world, and upholds fairness and justice.

The international community believes that China will make greater contributions to human development and progress, as well as international fairness and justice, Afwerki added.

30 years of diplomatic ties China-Eritrea relations were elevated to a strategic partnership in 2022. The upcoming May 24 marks the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

Noting that China and Eritrea enjoy a traditional friendship, President Xi said that over the past 30 years, China and Eritrea have always trusted and supported each other.

Xi stressed that China views and develops bilateral relations from a strategic and

long-term perspective, and is a trusted friend of Eritrea. Against the backdrop of the fast-changing international situation with many uncertainties, the development of China-Eritrea relations is not only in the common and long-term interests of both countries, but also of great significance to the maintenance of regional peace and international justice, he added.

Xi vowed to deepen bilateral close and friendly relations and promote the strategic partnership between China and Eritrea to a new level.

He pointed out that China is willing to work with Eritrea to promote cooperation by jointly building frameworks and platforms, including the Belt and Road Initiative, the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, and the Outlook on Peace and Development in the Horn of Africa.

China encourages and supports Chinese-funded enterprises to invest in Eritrea, and is willing to discuss strengthening infrastructure construction and cooperation in telecommunications, agriculture, mining and other fields, Xi added.

The Chinese president also thanked the Eritrean side for

the support and assistance it provided for the evacuation of Chinese citizens from Sudan recently.

This once again highlighted the deep friendship between China and Eritrea of sharing weal and woe, Xi said, urging the two sides to have closer people-to-people exchanges.

Afwerki, 77, has served as the president of Eritrea since 1993. He has visited China many times.

Recalling his special relationship with China for more than half a century, Afwerki told Xi that the Eritrean people will never forget the valuable moral and material support provided by the Chinese people in Eritrea's winning of independence and liberation.

Afwerki also voiced his country's willingness to strengthen cooperation with China, saying he believes that Eritrea-China strategic partnership will help Eritrea achieve national economic and social development. Building closer China-Africa community with a shared future

Xi highlighted that China is willing to work with the African side to promote China-Africa practical coopera-

tion to achieve more results and strive to build a closer China-Africa community with a shared future.

He also urged China and Africa to carry forward traditional friendship, and consolidate strategic mutual trust, adding that China's high-quality development and Chinese modernization will provide new opportunities for the African side.

No matter how the situation changes, mutual respect, mutual understanding, mutual support, and mutual help have always been the defining feature and guidance of the China-Africa friendship, Xi pointed out. He added China-Africa cooperation plays an important leading role in South-South cooperation and international cooperation with Africa.

Calling Africa a “land of great promise,” Xi said that under the new situation, it is more imperative than ever for China and Africa to strengthen solidarity and cooperation and overcome difficulties together.



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# Morphological Formation Of Nouns In Uzbeki, Russian And Karakalpak Languages

By: Usanova Qadema Muratbay  
xxxxxxxxxxxx



**Abstract.** This article examined the morphological way horses in Uzbek, Russian and Karakalpak languages are made, their comparison, similarities and differences.

**Keywords:** Noun, object, affix, thing, weapon, measure, object, work-action, verb, ravish, pronoun, number, imitation words.

In Uzbek, Russian and Karakalpak languages, the noun means an object. In all 3 languages, the meaning of the noun is different, it refers to living objects (dog-собака-iyt, cat-кошка-pishiq) (child-ребёнок-bala, bird-птица-qus), things, objects and events. (milk-молоко-sut), (rain-дожд-jawin), (notebook-тетрадь-da'pter, kitab-книга-kitar), (majlis-собрание-jijunalis). In the current Uzbek language, the noun group makes up the number of words in the tugat. Because the noun word group is a group that gets rich quickly due to new words compared to other word groups. In the Uzbek language, nouns are formed by morphological, syntactic and abbreviation methods. Below we will look at the morphological formation of nouns in the Uzbek, Russian and Karakalpak languages, as well as their similarities and differences.

In the Uzbek language, according to the morphological method, a new noun is formed by adding special noun-forming affixes to the base of the word. Noun-forming affixes are made from independent word groups such as noun, adjective, number, pronoun, verb, adverb, as well as modal and imitative word bases. Morphologically, noun-forming affixes semantically form nouns of the following group:

1. Affixes forming personal and professional nouns.
2. Affixes forming nouns of things, weapons, units of measurement.
3. Affixes forming place-time nouns.

4. Affixes forming abstract nouns.

Affixes forming personal and professional nouns are mainly added to the root of the noun to form personal nouns related to the object understood from the root and professional nouns engaged in a certain field and profession. These affixes include: -chi: o'qituvchi, -dosh: kursdosh, -gar,-kor: zargar, -bon,-boz: bog'bon, -paz: oshpaz, -kash: suratkash, -dor: chorvador, -shunos: tilshunos, -soz: soatsoz, -xon: kitobxon, -do'z: etikdo'z, -xo'r: choyxoxo'r. Among the personal and professional affixes, the affix -chi is one of the most frequently used affixes.

Affixes forming the nouns of a thing, a weapon, a unit of measurement, are mainly added to the base of the verb, which is the result of the action and situation understood from the base, or the thing that is used to perform the action, forms the noun of the weapon. These affixes include: -k, -ak, -q, -oq: kurak, teshik, so'roq, -gich: suzgich, -gi: supurgi, -m: to'plam, -ma: qiyma, -don: qalamdon, -indi: yuvindi, -qin: toshqin, -in: yig'in, -a: jizza, -os: chuvvos, -moq: quymoq, -cha: olacha, -chiq: yopinchiq, -ildoq: shaqildoq, -noma: taklifnoma

The affixes that make place nouns are mainly added to the noun root and form the nouns of place where there is an object understood from the root. These affixes include: -zor: olmazor, -loq: qumloq, -iston; O'zbekiston, -goh: oromgoh, -xona: choyxona.

Abstract noun-forming affixes noun, adjective, number, pronoun, verb, adverb are sometimes added to modal word bases to form a noun with an abstract meaning related to the concept represented by the base. These include affixes such as -liq(-lik): go'zallik, -ch(-inch): sevinch, -chilik: paxtachilik, -gilik: ko'rgilik.

In Russian, it is more possible to create new words by morphological method, because in Russian, in addition to suffixes, new words are created with prefixes or with the simultaneous use of prefixes and suffixes. For example: -ник: колхозник, -ак: рыбак, при-ход, запись, вы-крой-ка, под-готов-ка, etc.

The Russian language is very rich in suffixes. Even the same meaning is expressed by different suffixes. For example: -тель: писатель, -щик: стекольщик, -чик: лётчик, -ник: колхозник, -ист: тракторист, -ец: боец, -ак(-як): рыбак suffixes form the noun of a person engaged in a profession.

In the Russian language, it is possible to express unrelated meanings with the help of one suffix. For example: with the suffix -ница, nouns are formed as follows: a) a noun denoting a woman with a profession: колхозница-а, b) names of dishes: -сахар-ница-а c) names of special buildings used by the public: бол-ница-а, гости-ница-а, d) sick names: such as -груд-ница-а.

In the Russian language, when new words are formed with some suffixes, some phonetic changes occur in the word structure that are characteristic of Russian grammar. For example: друг-дружба, партия-партиец. In the Uzbek and Karakalpak languages, such phenomena are very rare: son-sana - san-sana, ulug'-ulg'ay, isi-issiq, -isi-issiqdash, etc.

In Russian, the formation of new words with suffixes depends on the grammatical stem category. Therefore, when expressing the same meaning, suffixes are added depending on the grammatical stem of the word. For example: мужской род: колхоз-ник, учи-тель; женский род: колхозница-а, учи-тельница-а etc. There is no rod category in Uzbek and Karakalpak languages. If it is necessary to

emphasize that the owner of the profession is a woman, the syntactic method is used, that is, one of the words girl, wife, woman is added to the personal word and it is written like this. For example: traktorchi qiz - трактористка - traktorshi qiz, kolxozchi xotin - колхозница - kolxozshi hayal.

In Russian, the relationship of a person to his place of birth and residence is expressed by suffixes such as -ец, -анец, -янец, -як, -ин, -ич, -анин, -янин, -чанин. For example: Испания-испанец, Грузия-грузин, север-северянин, etc. In the Uzbek language, instead of these affixes, the suffix -lik is used, and in the Karakalpak language, the affix -liq is used. For example: Amerika- Amerikalik - Amerikalik, Ispaniya - Ispaniyalik - Ispaniyalik.

In the Karakalpak language, as in other Turkic languages, one of the main methods of creating new words is the morphological method. In the Karakalpak language, noun-forming affixes are semantically divided into 3 different types:

1. Affixes forming personal and professional nouns.
2. Affixes forming nouns of things, weapons, units of measurement.
3. Affixes forming place-time nouns.

The affixes forming personal and professional nouns are -shi, -shi, which are added to the base of the noun and denote an object or a person engaged in some work: baliqshi, suwshi, etikshi, etc.

Added to a noun, it refers to a subject, a job or a person who works in social organizations: Leninshi, kolxozshi, bozshi, etc.

Added to the noun base, it means a person with a certain character: sedentary, stubborn, etc.

It is add o'tirikshi, urliqshi ad to the words that express the meaning of action or are related to the action by content, and is applied to the person who performs the action or performs this task: oqitwshi, boyawshi, terimshi, etc.

The affixes -ker, -ger, -kesh are very close in meaning to the meanings of the affixes -shi, -shi. Nouns formed with these affixes are also used to refer to a person performing a specific profession: zerger, pidaker, xizmetker, etc.

The suffix -man, -ban means a person who keeps or takes

care of the object represented by the noun root: bag'man, da'rwazaman, etc. The suffix -paz means a person who deals a lot with the object represented by the noun root or creates this object: aspaz, oypaz, etc.

The meanings of the affixes -das, -des, -las, -les are the same. That is, in all of these, it means partnership: joldas, kewilles, etc.

-purysh affix indicates a person engaged in the sale of an object understood through the root of a noun: shaypurish, otumpurish, etc.

The affixes -lik, -lik, -laq are also added to a number of nouns, indicating that the subject is abundant in this place: tawlik, togaylik, etc.

In short, the most productive of the methods of forming nouns in Uzbek, Russian and Karakalpak languages is the morphological method. Morphological formation of nouns is different in all 3 languages. Morphologically, in Uzbek, noun-forming affixes are semantically divided into 4 different types, in Karakalpak language into 3 different types. When forming a noun, suffixes and prefixes also form a noun in Russian. It is even possible to combine suffixes and prefixes to form words in Russian.

The Russian language is very rich in suffixes. Even the same suffix can have different meanings. There is no rod category in Uzbek and Karakalpak languages.

In the Russian language, the formation of new words with suffixes depends on the root category. In Uzbek, -lik and -liq affixes in Karakalpak indicate a person's relationship to the place of birth and residence, while in Russian there are several -ец, -анец, -янец, -як, -ин, -ич, -анин, -янин, -чанин suffixes are reported. The meanings of noun-forming affixes in the Karakalpak and Russian languages are shown in full. In the Uzbek language, it is understood only with the help of examples. This, of course, can cause some inconveniences, and in turn, it can cause certain difficulties not only for representatives of other nationalities, but also for ourselves in the comparative study of the language.

Usanova Qadema Muratbay Qizi is a Nukus State Pedagogical Institute named after Ajiniyaz First level student of Uzbek language foreign language groups

## Worth Noting:

Morphologically, noun-forming affixes semantically form nouns of the following group:

1. Affixes forming personal and professional nouns.
2. Affixes forming nouns of things, weapons, units of measurement.
3. Affixes forming place-time nouns.
4. Affixes forming abstract nouns.

In the Karakalpak language, as in other Turkic languages, one of the main methods of creating new words is the morphological method. In the Karakalpak language, noun-forming affixes are semantically divided into 3 different types:

1. Affixes forming personal and professional nouns.
2. Affixes forming nouns of things, weapons, units of measurement.
3. Affixes forming place-time nouns.

# Spiritual Heritage Of Abdulla Qadiri

By: Valijonova Nigora Bakhtiyar  
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## Worth Noting:

- “Abdullah Qadiri’s works raise the morale of the student,” we say. The content of meaning and the range of expressive language of the work “O’tkan kunlar” created by him is extremely wide. While reading this work, the writer as an intelligent person motivates the students to read the book.
- The reader who first read Fuzuli’s words from the Otabek language, “You should read Fuzuli carefully”, in addition to Kumush’s “Fuzuli is a good book, I couldn’t take my head off this book when I was alone...” not knowing what kind of artist he is or the “taste” of his poems it is possible, but it is clear that there will be interest in Fuzuli and his work. For some readers, it is a reason to get acquainted with Fuzuli’s work.

## АБДУЛЛА ҚОДИРИЙ 1894-1938



**Abstract.** In the article, the creativity of Abdulla Qadiri, one of the factors that raise the morale of the reader in the work “The Past Days” was devoted to the analysis of the pictures aimed at developing reading. The author also noted that the role of reading literary works in instilling the love of literature and national and universal values in the minds of the young generation is incomparable.

**Key words:** Spirituality, reading, reading, creativity, healthy environment

Literature is an endless ocean, it knows no boundaries. Along with many great personalities, small amateurs also create in it. Only some of the creators make a radical change in literature, update it. One of such geniuses is undoubtedly Abdulla Qadiri. With his works, he contributed to the spiritual development of the peoples of not only Uzbekistan, but also Turkestan.

Honor, honesty and truthfulness are one of the main principles of the life of Abdulla Qadiri, because the talent gifted by nature combined with true Uzbek hard

work, his pen created works that will not become obsolete for centuries.

His works are of special importance in the formation of the spiritual world of every student. The characters of Otabek, Kumush, Yusufbek Haji, Mirzakarim Kutidor created by him strengthen the feeling of appreciation of positive qualities in people. Although the author states with his own language that “the power of the pen is weak for the image...”, the goodness expressed in the words in the process of reading the work cleanses the human soul. The example of Kumush’s parents shows a truly healthy family atmosphere typical of the Uzbek nation, which is rarely found in works.

Mirzakarim answers to the suitors who came from Otabek: “I would consider myself one of the luckiest fathers if I could have the honor of making a boy like Otabek, but everything is up to me.” There is also a woman who is not in lim, but in the meantime she is breastfed...” the box worker’s wife advises the mother of the sun. Look how beautiful the environment is in this family.

This one word, said by Kutidar, shows mutual solidarity and respect in the family. Every father who reads the work reflects, maybe some of them take an example, and the mother who reads the work appreciates the author’s understanding and image skills. Why is this work so popular?

“Abdullah Qadiri’s works raise the morale of the student,” we say. The content of meaning and the range of expressive language of the work “O’tkan kunlar” created by him is extremely wide. While reading this work, the writer as an intelligent person motivates the students to read the book.

The reader who first read Fuzuli’s words from the Otabek language, “You should read Fuzuli carefully”, in addition to Kumush’s “Fuzuli is a good book, I couldn’t take my head off this book when I was alone...” not knowing what kind of artist he is or the “taste” of his poems it is possible, but it is clear that there will be interest in Fuzuli and his work. For some readers, it is a reason to get acquainted with Fuzuli’s work.

In the work, it is stated that Otabek was busy reading

not only Fuzuli, but also such a magnificent work as “Baburnoma”: “...Hasanali got dressed from his room and went to Otabek. Otabek was busy with the fabric “Boburnoma”

What aspects of Fuzuli’s book and “Boburnoma” fascinated Otabek. Adib wanted to show that his hero has matured to the level of “a young man worthy of a Khan’s daughter” by reading books and receiving spiritual nourishment from them. In a certain sense, the writer promoted book reading among the people.

He skillfully describes how interesting and enjoyable the process of reading a book is, during which the reader forgets his sufferings and life’s worries for a moment.” After the evening prayer, Otabek is in the mood to get rid of his marital worries, he sits by the oil pan and takes Fuzuli Divan in his hand.

For some reason, he had “a feeling of depression for some tragedy.” When a person is in pain, he tries to do some things involuntarily, not willingly. He also devoted himself to the reading of Fuzuli seriously,” he said, noting that reading the book not only gives a person spir-

itual nourishment, but also helps to forget life’s worries and depression for a while. One of the main factors that extended the life of “Days of the past” as a work of art, and gained value in the eyes of current fans, is the presence of artistic visual tools that encourage the reader to think and observe, as well as encourage his people to read the book. It is no exaggeration to say that there are exhorting and promoting aspects

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## Sahel 'at a crossroads' as armed groups gain sway in Africa: UN



02:32

Instability makes Sahel vulnerable to armed groups

International community criticised after joint force battling armed groups left without sufficient funding and other needed support. Efforts to combat armed groups linked to ISIL (ISIS), al-Qaeda, and others have failed to stop their expansion in Africa's Sahel region, a senior United Nations official has warned. Without greater international support and regional cooperation, the instability will increase towards West African coastal countries, UN Assistant Sec-

retary-General for Africa Martha Pobe said at a Security Council meeting on Tuesday. "Resolute advances in the fight against terrorism, violent extremism, and organised crime in the Sahel desperately need to be made," said Pobe. "The devastating effects of the continuing destabilisation of the Sahel would be felt far beyond the region and the African continent." A counterterrorism force – now comprised of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mauritania and

Niger – lost Mali a year ago when its ruling generals decided to pull out. Pobe said the force has not conducted any big military operations since January. She said the force is adjusting to new realities: France moving its counterterrorism force from Mali to Niger because of tensions with the military government, and Mali's decision to allow Russian mercenaries from Wagner Group to deploy on its territory. Burkina Faso and Niger have recently strengthened

military cooperation with Mali to counter a surge in attacks, but "despite these efforts, insecurity in the tri-border area continues to grow", she said. Pobe criticised the international community saying a lack of consensus among donors and partners left the joint force without sufficient funding and other needed support to become fully operational and autonomous so it could have "the capacity to help stabilise the Sahel region". An agreement between the

UN, European Union, and the force under which the UN peacekeepers in Mali supplied fuel, rations, medical evacuation, and engineering support is expected to end in June, she said, expressing hope the Security Council will consider the issue of UN financing for African peace operations.

### 'Threat to international peace'

Eric Tiaré, executive secretary of the force known as the G5 Sahel, said experts have finalised a new concept of operations, which will be submitted to its defence council and then to the African Union to be endorsed. "Given that the Sahel is at a crossroads, as it is seeing many threats to international peace and security, it's absolutely vital that we provide support to the force," he said. "The force needs what it has always lacked and what it has always sought – that is sustainable funding and equipment as we seek to counter terrorism."

UN counterterrorism chief Vladimir Voronkov told the Security Council in January that ISIL's expansion in Africa's centre, south and Sahel regions is "particularly worrying".

Last August, African security expert Martin Ewi said at least 20 African countries were directly experiencing activity by ISIL and more than 20 others were "being used for logistics and to mobilise funds and other resources".

Ewi, who coordinates a transnational organised crime project at the Institute for Security Studies in South Africa's capital, Pretoria, said ISIL is growing by the day in Africa and the continent could be "the future of the caliphate".

Is new strategy needed to fight armed groups in Sahel?

Source: News Agencies



02:37

Burkina Faso: Russia benefits from military coup in Ouagadougou

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