

De facto – today, civilians are bombed – de facto - Macron

Gaza Killings

These babies, these ladies, these old people are bombed and killed.:



Macron calls on Israel to stop killing Gaza's women and babies



L-R: French President Emmanuel Macron. Palestinians flee as Israeli artillery pounds northern Gaza

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Why Egypt is reluctant to allow all the refugees from Gaza: Ambassador Attiya

Gaza Refugees



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Iran accused of setting up a global terror network against Israel
The Jewish state is under siege

Europe



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Criminal Justice System

Legal Opinion



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China's Foreign Trade Rebounds, Setting a Positive Tone for Q4

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Sports Backpage

Kasairo Boys Rid Kampala City of the Venomous Vipers!



The Diaspora Times Global

Mwale hosts Vietnam's Hoa Binh on inaugural Africa visit

Hoa Binh Construction Group, a leading construction firm in Vietnam and one of the largest in Asian continent, was hosted by Mwale Medical and Technology City (MMTC) in Kenya.

Hoa Binh's delegation, led by the group's Chairman Le Viet Hai, was

on a benchmarking tour as it seeks to enter the African market.

"We received the delegation from Hoa Binh construction Group from Vietnam led by the chairman Le Viet Hai.

"Hoa Binh is one of the largest construction companies in Vietnam and

in Asia. It is a large-scale general contractor in civil, industrial and infrastructure projects and their visit is the first one in Africa, underscoring Mwale Medical and Technology City's (MMTC) leading position in smart cities development in Africa," MMTC said in a statement.

MMTC is a leader in development of smart cities and infrastructure across the African continent and it's targeting to build 18 cities in 12 Afri-

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The Moment I Glimpse At The Sky

By: Maria Teresa Liuzzo
XXXXXXXXXXXX

Worth Noting:

- **MARIA TERESA LIUZZO** is from Calabria, Italy. She was born in Saline di Montebello Jonico, and now lives in Reggio Calabria, the city where she studied at the local university.
- 1970 was the year of the first magazine publication of her poetry. Her collections of poetry are *Roots* (1992), *Psyche* (1993), *Apeiron* (1995), *Humanity* (1996), *Euthanasia d'Utopia* (1997), *Autopsy of an Image* (1999), and *The Slow Pulsating of Water* (2001).
- Her poems have been widely anthologised and translated into other European languages. A bilingual English/Italian book entitled *Genesis and containing translations of her poems made by the English poet Peter Russell* has been published in 1997.



MARIA TERESA LIUZZO

Return fish to the sea
Return birds to the blue sky
Let greenness extend from
one plant to the next
Let the beauty of youth
move from one face to another

Give wrinkles back to me,
and wind and snow back to me
Fill my cup of life with emptiness,
and take it away!
Youth, love, life, I have already
savored them all
Let me take on a black suit
instead of the purely white
wedding gown
Give the last kiss of the au-

turn cicadas to the final
maple leaf and the last chrysanthemum
Marry winter sweet plums
to the winter snow.

If it is destined to wither or
flourish--
Let me gladly embrace it
in my own way and depart
with joy
Replace the fervor of summer
with the tranquility of autumn
Replace the clamor of
spring with the cold charm
of winter

A loss? No!

Energy conserves. It transfers--
From one form to another
From one beauty to another
one
Just like pebbles, being
smoothed after eroding the
ruggedness of
Their new life

Woods By Christine Peiying Chen

Snow shines in the distance,
up high
Maple trees nearby glow
red, low down; silver ferns
emit faint light even lower
Snails diligently nibble on

the backs of leaves, devoting
their lives to a single leaf
Moss covers the stones, delicate
and intricate like tiny stars —
mini peonies
Cryptomeria trees grow
steadfastly in silence, their
roots forming intricate patterns
on the ground--
Perhaps their dream is to
reach the clouds with an
upright pen

Rain falls but doesn't wet
the clothes; trees provide
cover
Beside the road, a tall withered
pine tree lies, perfectly placed
within the path's edge
A good tree doesn't obstruct
the way
Its branches burst with reishi
mushrooms

Surroundings are quiet,
each occupied in their own
way, alive or dead
Rain rustles, birds chirp with
varying pitches and depths
Are they summoning souls
or granting them peace?
The woods is vast; it hosts
all kinds of birds and trees.
Even
Death can be a virtue

Petrified By Christine Peiying Chen (New Zealand)

Roaring like a tiger or resonating
like a dragon,
The howling thunder arrives
and the shooting stars depart.
Whether in exuberant vitality
or in heart-wrenching pain,
All fall into stillness with
the wilting of plants, transforming
into wonders after decay.
Finally, the secret technique
to resist weathering and
erosion emerges.

Possessing crystal clarity
and hardness,
Every inch of skin is gently
kissed by time, comforting

and preserving.
With clear bones, dynamic
interplay of light and shadow,
absorbing the essence of
sun and moon,
The body is filled with radiant
flowing light.

Oh darling, do not be afraid,
In this world, there are always
unexpected wonders--
From organic to inorganic,
to transcending the mundane,
how beautiful it is:
Falling leaves in flowing
water, moonlight and flying
birds, brushing against the
body like silk.
An invisible pair of hands,
renewing you completely,
Love or pain, forgetting or
memory, all become raw
materials--
Remember, you are destined
as a precious gem.

Christine Peiying Chen is a columnist of New Zealand newspaper 'Mandarin Page'. 2023 won 'The Best Foreign Author' Italy-- 30th 'Ossi Di Seppia' literature award, the first place of 2nd 'Literary Asia' (Chinese language) International Poetry Competition. In 2022, she participated in the organization and publication of Sydney Poetry Festival in Australia, received a special contribution award. She has won twice of New Zealand Literary Award (Chinese Literature) 2021 & 2019. 2023, she serves as the coordinator for World Poetry Movement Oceania. 2023 State own 'Kazakh literature' was published an interview to introduce her experience of translating and promoting of Central Asia literature. She serves as a committee member of New Zealand Chinese Writers Association. Her latest poems was published in 'China Language' (Taiwan, 2023).

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Poetry

Let It Be

By: Diaspora Times Team
xxxxxxxxxxxx

By Christine Peiying Chen

Return fish to the sea
Return birds to the blue sky
Let greenness extend from
one plant to the next
Let the beauty of youth move
from one face to another

Give wrinkles back to me,
and wind and snow back to
me
Fill my cup of life with emp-
tiness, and take it away!
Youth, love, life, I have al-
ready savored them all
Let me take on a black suit
instead of the purely white
wedding gown
Give the last kiss of the au-
tumn cicadas to the final
maple leaf and the last chry-
santhemum
Marry winter sweet plums
to the winter snow.

If it is destined to wither or
flourish--
Let me gladly embrace it
in my own way and depart
with joy
Replace the fervor of sum-
mer with the tranquility of
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Replace the clamor of spring
with the cold charm of win-
ter

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Energy conserves. It trans-
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From one beauty to another
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Just like pebbles, being
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Their new life

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By Christine Peiying Chen

Snow shines in the distance,
up high
Maple trees nearby glow red,
low down; silver ferns emit

faint light even lower
Snails diligently nibble on
the backs of leaves, devoting
their lives to a single leaf
Moss covers the stones, deli-
cate and intricate like tiny
stars — mini peonies
Cryptomeria trees grow
steadfastly in silence, their
roots forming intricate pat-
terns on the ground--
Perhaps their dream is to
reach the clouds with an up-
right pen

Rain falls but doesn't wet the
clothes; trees provide cover
Beside the road, a tall with-
ered pine tree lies, perfectly
placed within the path's edge
A good tree doesn't obstruct
the way
Its branches burst with rei-
shi mushrooms

Surroundings are quiet, each
occupied in their own way,
alive or dead
Rain rustles, birds chirp
with varying pitches and
depths
Are they summoning souls
or granting them peace?
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The howling thunder arrives
and the shooting stars de-
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Whether in exuberant vi-
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pain,
All fall into stillness with the
wilting of plants, transform-
ing into wonders after decay.
Finally, the secret technique
to resist weathering and ero-



Christine Peiying Chen

sion emerges.

Possessing crystal clarity
and hardness,
Every inch of skin is gently
kissed by time, comforting
and preserving.
With clear bones, dynamic
interplay of light and shad-
ow, absorbing the essence of
sun and moon,
The body is filled with radi-
ant flowing light.

Oh darling, do not be afraid,
In this world, there are al-
ways unexpected wonders--
From organic to inorganic,
to transcending the mun-
dane, how beautiful it is:
Falling leaves in flowing
water, moonlight and flying
birds, brushing against the

body like silk.
An invisible pair of hands,
renewing you completely,
Love or pain, forgetting or
memory, all become raw
materials--
Remember, you are destined
as a precious gem.

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3rd Edition Of Shri Ram International Literature Festival On 21-22 January 2024

3rd Edition of Shri Ram International Literature Festival (SRILF) will be organised grandly in Ayodhya, Bharat on Inauguration of Shri Ram Temple on 21-22 January 2024

Shri Ram International Literature festival is the festival dedicated to Lord Rama, his good deeds and the Ramrajya. The festival is the literary festival covering the picturesque memories of Ramayan will be organised with grandeur. This program will be organized Under the aegis of PIU trust on 21-22 January 2024 in Ayodhya. Prime Minister Of India Shri Narendra Modi will inaugurate the grand Temple in Ayodhya.

This festival is organized with the aim of enriching the cultural tradition and heritage of Rama and Ayodhya, the capital of Ram Rajya, witness to the picturesque streams of River Saryu river and many important pilgrimage centers of Vedic culture, religious and cultural centers situated on it's banks. Along with the presence of the Honorable Ministers as the chief guest, there will be the presence of other eminent intellectuals. The program will be presided over by Educationist Shri Dineshwar Verma, the President of PIU Trust. Dr. Suresh Singh Shaurya 'Priyadarshi', the founder of this festival told that there will be Rama Moment in Ayodhya. Special memotoes of Ram and sita along

with certificate and awards will be provided to participants, Ram Bhakats. Ram Band, Fashion of Ram period, poetic conference, classical dance, Bhajan, book launching etc are main attraction of this festival.

Ram Ratan Srivas "Radhe-Radhe" will also be present. Giving information about the program, Dr. Priyadarshi said that "Literary festival is righteous. Art, literature, culture is the service of humanity and communication of equality in society is the service of humanity.

There will be the presence of more than one litterateur and distinguished people from every province across the country and globe for poetry recitation, in which it is a golden opportunity for all of you to preserve it in golden letters of your life by providing participation. Many literary festivals have been organized in the past under the auspices of Trust, out of which New Delhi International Literature Festival 2021 Parliament Club North Avenue New Delhi, Jamshedpur Literature Festival Tatanagar, Ranchi Literature Festival Ranchi, Parshvanath etc. Priyadarshi has left an indelible impression in everyone's mind by conducting various programs like above and Matri Mahotsav etc. writers are coming from Kuwait, Shri Lanka, Nepal, Mauritius etc for participation.



China

China slams 'groundless' accusations by G7 bloc: China Daily

China's Foreign Ministry on Friday rejected Group of Seven nations' accusations of Beijing distorting the global economy and resorting to economic coercion, saying that it is the G7 which has exerted state powers to suppress specific companies and undermined the stability of global industrial and supply chains. Speaking at a regular news conference in Beijing on Friday, ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said it is actually the G7 countries that added more than 10,000 entities and individuals globally on sanction lists, and politicized and weaponized economic and trade issues.

Wang was referring to a joint statement issued after the bloc's foreign ministers' meeting that ended on Wednesday.

The statement also made groundless accusations over China's internal affairs, including those related to the Taiwan question, the Xinjiang and Xizang autonomous regions, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the South China Sea issue, he said.

Wang said China's domestic affairs brook no external interference and

the human rights situation of any country should only be judged by its people who have the most say.

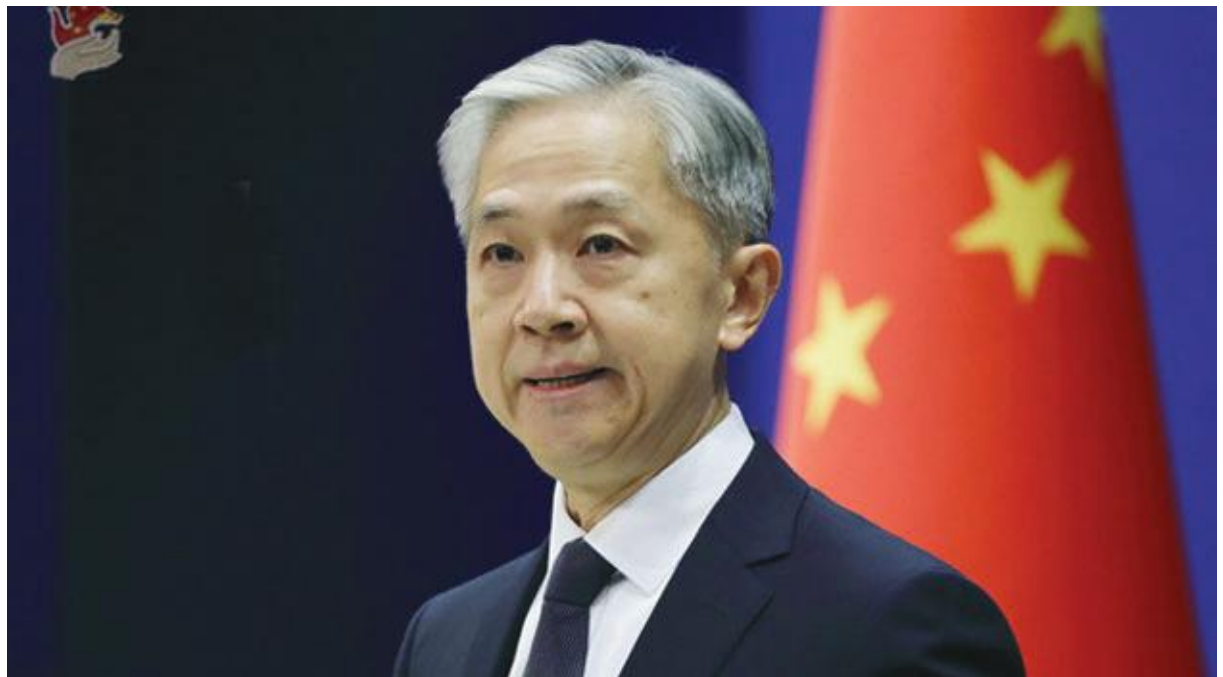
"We urge the G7 to focus on managing well their own affairs and cease interfering in the internal affairs of other countries under any pretext or guise," he said.

On the South China Sea issue, Wang said that G7 countries are stoking confrontation by bringing up the illegal and invalid "South China Sea arbitration award" rendered by the Arbitral Tribunal in 2016, which goes against the willingness of regional countries to maintain peace and stability in the region.

Biggest threat

Regarding the Taiwan question, Wang said the biggest threat to peace across the Taiwan Strait is currently posed by the Democratic Progressive Party authorities' insistence on pushing for "Taiwan independence" and the support that the DPP receives from external forces.

"Given that the G7 countries have clearly stated that 'there is no change in the basic position of the G7 members on Taiwan', then they should



Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin speaks at a press conference in Beijing, on Nov 10, 2023. [Photo/fmprc.gov.cn]

earnestly honor their commitment to the one-China principle without fail," Wang said.

G7 foreign ministers also said in the statement that they "stand prepared to build constructive and stable relations with China" and do not "seek

to thwart China's economic progress and development".

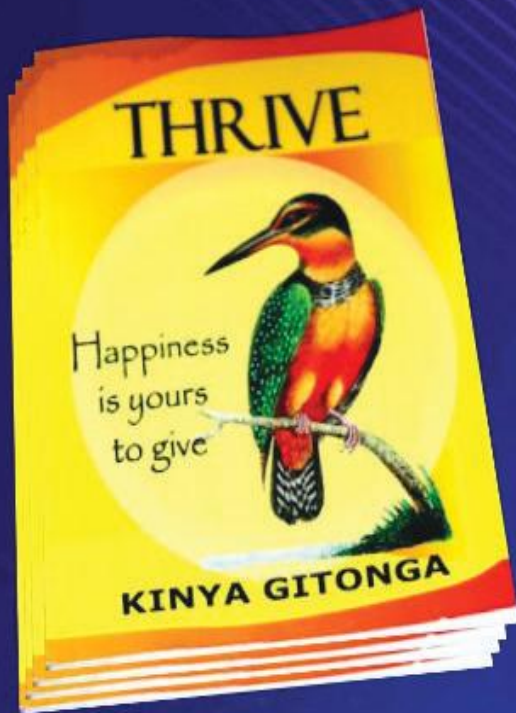
In response, Wang said it is hoped that the G7 will truly put into actions their words and promote the healthy development of bilateral ties with China on the basis of mutual

respect, equality and win-win results.

By: CHINA DAILY

Kingya N. Gitonga

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Motivation

We Are Moving Towards Our Goal



By: Raimboyeva Sevara
xxxxxxxxxxxx

Worth Noting:

- One goal creates another. When a person achieves his goals, his enthusiasm, strength, inspiration, and confidence in himself increases. And in this way, new goals and ideas will appear in a person. Keep going even further.
- As we mentioned above, we need to set the goals in a certain period of time and turn them into small plan-stages. The reason is that anything that seems big and difficult to us is actually composed of small pieces, parts.
- If we find strength and courage to do them in this way, we can definitely achieve results. Otherwise, the goal will be nothing more than a dream.



What's the goal? A goal is a premeditated result of human practical activity. Purpose gives meaning to this existence. Setting a goal is characteristic of people, and we can describe it as a project of the future or a future path.

Nowadays, there is hardly a person who has not set a goal for himself and has not lived his dreams in his future life. You feel sorry for people who are acting without purpose. Because a person living without a goal can be compared to a person who sets out on a road and does not know where he is going. In fact, living with a purpose in life is happiness itself. If a person has a goal, it is happiness to fight, toil, to hear insults and to burn on the way to achieve it. Of course, even when a goal is set, we need to make it based on plans. Because without a plan, a goal is just a dream. The greater the goals a person sets for himself, the more he strives and moves, if necessary, stumbles and continues moving again. First of all, the goal should belong to the person himself. A goal set for someone else's desire is not a goal. A person should not only like his goals, but also do other things with his liking. For example, if we take the goal of becoming the owner of a profession that he likes, a

person will develop in the place he likes, as well as in the profession. The reason is that he does it responsibly, wholeheartedly, from the heart. If the goals we are setting inspire us, we will start moving in that direction.

One goal creates another. When a person achieves his goals, his enthusiasm, strength, inspiration, and confidence in himself increases. And in this way, new goals and ideas will appear in a person. Keep going even further. As we mentioned above, we need to set the goals in a certain period of time and turn them into small plan-stages. The reason is that anything that seems big and difficult to us is actually composed of small pieces, parts. If we find strength and courage to do them in this way, we can definitely achieve results. Otherwise, the goal will be nothing more than a dream.

In some cases, it is natural that the work we are doing is different. A person who has reached the peak of success has also made mistakes, fallen, and been pushed to reach this level. In such a situation, it is necessary to work harder, more efficiently and mentally than before, without being depressed. In other words, if you don't like something, you should not leave it there, but think about how

to find a solution, what kind of work is similar, or which people should be able to help it. If our efforts towards the set goal do not work, we are different, we must move in another direction, not stop. Unproductive work gives a person only experience. This, in turn, encourages them not to repeat this mistake in their future work. After all, the fallen is not satisfied with the struggle.

The main thing is to take action and not back down from anything. Famous German poet I.W. Goethe: "Live a man a purpose worth living for, and he can survive any situation". In fact, the goal that keeps a person in this life is also his purpose. The most important rule is to look to the future with confidence and set the right goal.

Setting goals, writing them, trying to achieve them is not just a simple task. This is the starting point in building the life we envision.

My goals are also the same. In order to do this, I need to study, develop, invest in science, work, and complete tasks on time. And I'm working on it right now. I will definitely share with you again as soon as my goals are achieved. We have to do them in order to brighten the face of our parents, teachers. Because every child's achievement

is the greatest happiness for parents and they are proud of it. And the joy in their eyes invites us to do more, to set a bigger goal, to increase confidence in ourselves, and to do many good things. Words can't describe the pride and joy for a parent to be recognized when their child achieves their goals, to be recognized as the parent of this award winner.

The biggest goal of every child is to please their parents, to grow up to be a person needed for the country. This is one of my goals. Because a person cannot achieve anything without the prayers of his parents, without their consent, and even if he does, it will not be good. Every work done with their blessings will not fail to bear its fruit. My goal is to become a mature person in my specialty and a necessary person for the society. In order to develop the society, a person must first start the change from himself. A person who can change himself can also change society.

We have to learn to fight for our goal. True, sometimes a person can give up. If we continue like this, we will lose. But on the contrary, if we try to search more, sleep less, refrain from spending money on unnecessary things, and instead invest in ourselves in a wise way, if we learn knowledge after

knowledge, it will serve us well in the future. For example, now I am also studying in one course. Because this is necessary not only for me, but also for my future, for me to achieve my goals. Instead, I could spend it on clothes, a fancy meal somewhere, or something else altogether. But I am investing in science I chose to do. How we spend the money is up to us. Either in the way of lust, or in the way of knowledge. If you bet on science, it will pay off for you several times over the years. The opportunities given to us do not always remain as they are, that is, they are not always available. Therefore, learn to use the given opportunities in time. Take advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to get promoted. Or you can give that opportunity to someone else and stay behind yourself. After all, before the thinker thinks, the risk-taker finishes his work. True, not everything can be risked. But one must learn to take risks in the path of knowledge. The reason is that knowledge has never caused harm and will never cause harm. They say, "If you don't have a goal, you serve those who have a goal". What I'm trying to say is let them serve you, not you.

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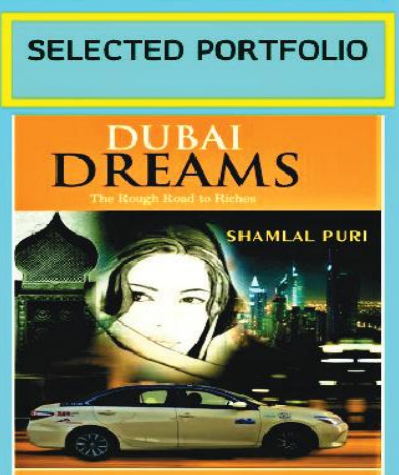
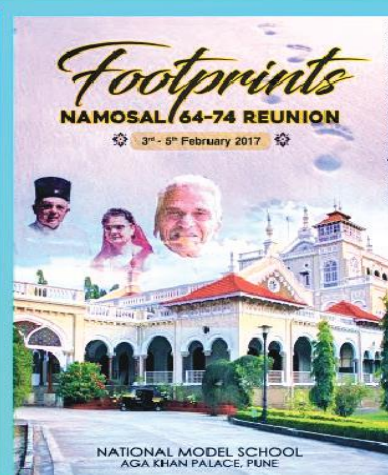
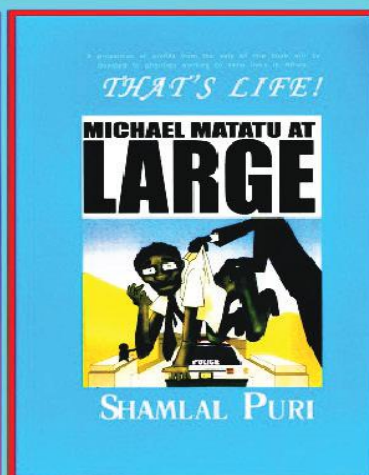
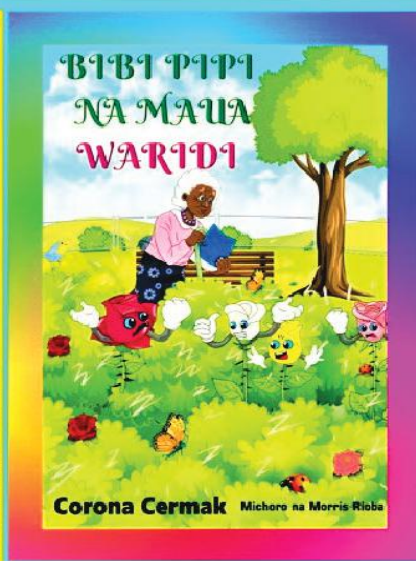
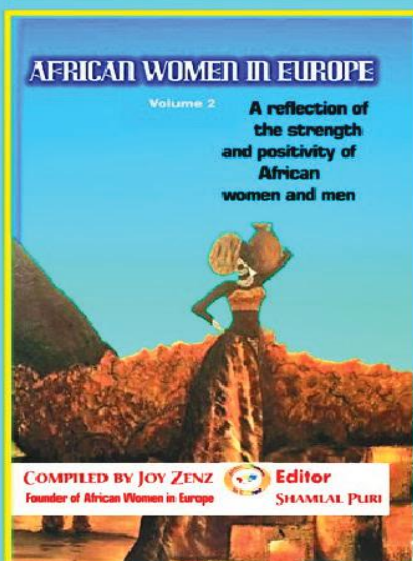
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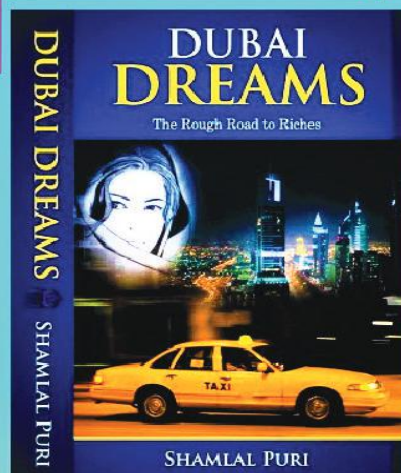
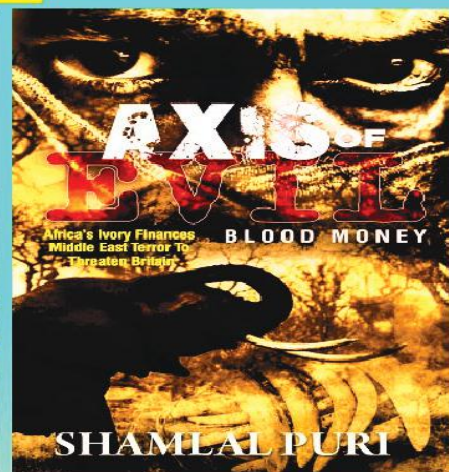
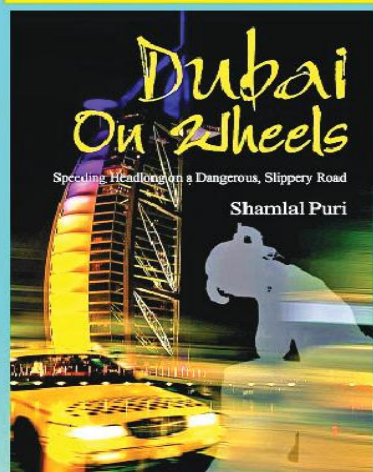
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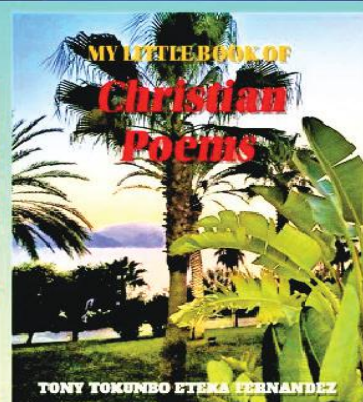
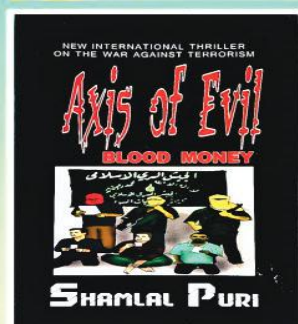
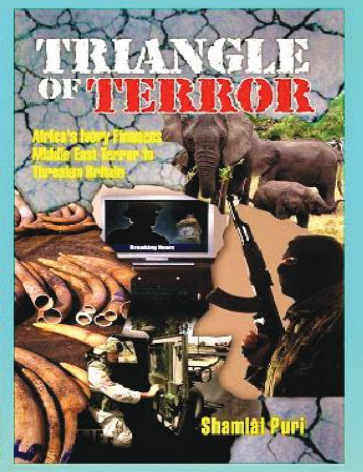
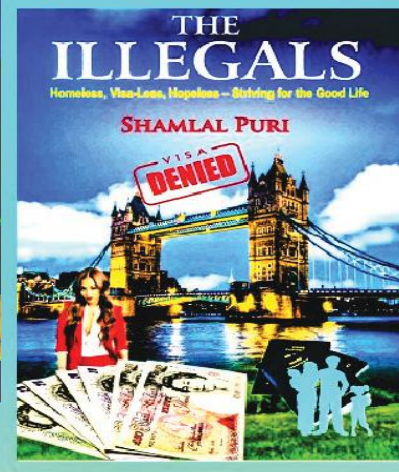
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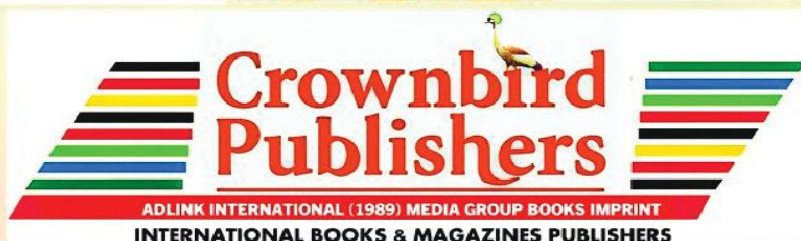


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Diaspora News

Dream or mirage: Can South Africa's white-led opposition win in 2024?

South Africa's largest opposition party believes it is the government in waiting, ahead of the 2024 election. Analysts doubt that.

By: Cystal Orderson



South African President Cyril Ramaphosa interacts with John Steenhuisen, leader of the opposition party Democratic Alliance ahead of National Assembly members' questions in parliament in Cape Town, South Africa, November 3, 2022. [Esa Alexander/Reuters]

Worth Noting:

- Africa's most industrialised nation is struggling to recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ripple effects of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. A third of the country is unemployed and crime rates have soared, boosting the rise of xenophobic militias which blame immigrants. Rolling power cuts, or load shedding, are now routine for up to six hours daily.
- Corruption scandals involving government officials have become a regular affair. Earlier this year, President Cyril Ramaphosa pardoned his predecessor Jacob Zuma who was jailed after refusing to testify about corruption and crony capitalism – which became known as state capture – during his tenure.
- The ANC is also facing a pushback as its support base gradually erodes due to a changing demographic. According to data from the Electoral Commission (IEC), there are about 27 million registered voters: approximately 10 million of those are in the age groups of 18-29 and 30-39.

On April 1, John Steenhuisen was re-elected leader of the Democratic Alliance (DA), South Africa's largest opposition party, in a triennial congress in Midrand, just outside Johannesburg.

In his speech to 2,000 party members, he made clear the DA's intent to wrestle power away from the governing African National Congress (ANC) in the 2024 national election and to prevent any possible alliance with another rival, the left-wing Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF).

"During the remaining months before next year's election, the DA will make it our number one priority ... to prevent an ANC-EFF coalition," Steenhuisen said in his speech.

Next year's election is seen as the most important one since the dawn of democracy and the end of apartheid in 1994. Already, there are fears among the ANC faithful that after three decades in power, the party may not garner the necessary 50 percent of votes needed to stay in power.

Africa's most industrialised nation is struggling to recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ripple effects of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. A third of the country is unemployed and crime rates have soared, boosting the rise of xenophobic militias which blame immigrants. Rolling power cuts, or load shedding, are now routine for up to six hours daily.

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who was jailed after refusing to testify about corruption and crony capitalism – which became known as state capture – during his tenure.

The ANC is also facing a pushback as its support base gradually erodes due to a changing demographic. According to data from the Electoral Commission (IEC), there are about 27 million registered voters: approximately 10 million of those are in the age groups of 18-29 and 30-39.

For voters in these age groups, the heroic status of Nelson Mandela, the iconic statesman and first president of post-apartheid era South Africa has taken a knock for his insistence on unity, not justice.

All of this has bolstered the DA to take a shot at unseating the governing party. Steenhuisen says the DA is the government-in-waiting and has a plan to clean up the country.

Still, the ANC's deep grassroots support could make it hard to defeat. Even without any merger, Ramaphosa and the EFF's charismatic leader Julius Malema separately pose a monumental challenge to the DA's inroads into the rural and urban areas.

Race still matters

Born in 2000 after a merger of the parties that were part of white minority rule, the DA describes itself as "broadly centrist". It governs the Western Cape – the third-largest province in the country which in the first quarter of 2022, contributed 14 percent to the country's gross domestic product (GDP) – and the City of

Cape Town, the legislative capital, which is seen as the best-run municipality.

The party is hoping to build on that base to snatch power at the national level in 2024. In parliament, the ANC remains the majority party with 230 of the 400 available seats. The DA has 84 seats, EFF has 44 and 11 other parties share the rest.

Steenhuisen who joined the DA from inception, has been a member of parliament since 2011. He was the party's interim leader from November 2019, having served as the chief whip of the DA in parliament for five years.

His supporters say the 47-year-old is the man to lead the party to victory in the 2024 election. The party's Gauteng province leader, Solly Msimanga, told Al Jazeera that Steenhuisen will "stabilise the party dynamics as we gear ourselves for the 2024 election".

Analysts are divided over whether the DA under Steenhuisen can make a serious mark in next year's election.

"I think the DA is projecting as a bigger player [than] it really is, but at the same time it remains the largest opposition party and has a footprint around the country," said political analyst Daniel Silke.

Levy Ndou, political analyst and politics lecturer at the Tshwane University of Technology, said it was too early to tell whether the party can indeed "defeat the ANC".

Historically, the DA's strongholds have been among the white demographic. An exodus of high-profile Black leaders from the party in the last decade has also hurt its

positioning as an inclusive institution in a multicultural nation like South Africa.

Former party leader Mmusi Maimane left in 2019 saying there was a "disagreement about the vision and direction" of the party. Current Tourism Minister Patricia de Lille, previously elected as Cape Town mayor under its platform, resigned in 2018, saying "when people abuse you, you must walk away".

However, DA leader in Gauteng Solly Msimanga dismissed what he called an "obsession".

"Why is it that when people leave the DA, then it's a Black issue? Our plan is very clear we want to build our own narrative and story, and we want to ensure we are able to carve out our value proposition to the people in SA and this is what matters," he said.

Nevertheless, race still matters heavily in South Africa, where more than a third of the population lives in poverty while most of the wealth is controlled by the white minority.

A game of numbers

In South African politics, like many other places, winning an election is also about the numbers.

According to the IEC figures, in 2019, the DA received 20.77 percent of the 2019 vote, a downswing from 2014 when it garnered 22.23 percent of the vote but an increase from 2009 when it received more than 16 percent of the vote.

But the governing party's support also declined from 62.15 percent in 2014 to 57.50 in 2019. In February, the ANC's internal electoral report predicted that the party's support will drop to 37 percent, keeping the DA at 27 percent and the EFF at 10 percent.

Multiple private polls have also weighed in. One by the market research organisation Ipsos shows that 43 percent of registered voters are likely to vote for the ANC, with the DA polling at only 20 percent.

Another poll released in early October by the think tank Social Research Foundation predicted that the ANC would garner 45 percent of the vote, while the DA would get 31 percent.

"It's a leap of faith for Steenhuisen to project himself as the next president as the DA has been a 20-25 percent

party, and I think we [are] looking at an uncertain 2024 election," Silke said.

Meanwhile, analysts say the DA's talk of a mooted alliance between the ANC and the EFF is a narrative driven by the latter's controversial pro-immigration stance and reallocation of land rights to instil fear among the electorate.

The DA is itself seeking a coalition with many smaller parties, but its history of failed partnerships could hinder its progress in that regard.

In 2016, it ran coalition governments in the major cities of Johannesburg, Tshwane in Gauteng, and the Nelson Mandela Metro in the Eastern Cape. Within three years, these coalitions collapsed and all the DA mayors were kicked out of office. Following the 2021 local government election, the DA again went into coalition with smaller parties to run Johannesburg but failed again.

Given that past, analysts say the DA's path to power remains complicated. The big question now, they add, is how many voters frustrated by the other heavyweights and looking for a new political home, can it attract into the fold?

Even the born-free generation (those born after 1994) will prove tough to convince, despite being disenchanted with the ANC. First-time voter 20-year-old Colby Adonis, a human resources student in Cape Town, is one of those who remain unimpressed by the DA, especially its pro-Zionist stance.

"I think they have a direction for the country, but at the same time they are contradictory; they speak on one thing, then they do another," he told Al Jazeera. "In terms of service delivery, they do a lot for the city of Cape Town and are very efficient but I cannot vote for a party that is supporting what is happening in Israel; innocent children are dying."

Source: Al Jazeera

Diaspora News

In Nigeria, youths seek 'happy hours' in laughing gas amid economic woes

Nitrous oxide, once used in clinical practice, is now a recreational drug of choice for an increasing number of Nigerian youths

By: Pelumi Salako



Used metal canisters of nitrous oxide, also known as hippy crack or happy gas, left on a floor following a lockdown party on June 27, 2020 in Cardiff, Wales [Matthew Horwood/Getty Images]

Worth Noting:

- One small business uses catchy hashtags on WhatsApp and Instagram to advertise its reach to parties across eight of Nigeria's 36 states for deliveries of canisters up to 10kg; another brags about its strawberry and coconut flavours.
- The calming effect from the balloons culminates in a euphoric feeling which gives users a fit of the giggles. But its effect is short lived and makes users sniff continuously. And although nitrous oxide seems harmless, experts say it could be consequential, even fatal for people with a history of seizures and respiratory problems.
- Drug culture has existed under the radar in Africa's most populous country for decades. But it has picked up in recent years, experts say. More than a third of youths are now involved in drug abuse, according to Nigeria's National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA). Yet there are fewer than 250 registered psychiatrists in the country of 220 million people.

One evening in July 2020, Seun [last name withheld], wearing his favourite vintage shirt, a baseball cap and sneakers, boarded a minibus from his home in Mushin to celebrate his 28th birthday with friends at Eleko beach in Lagos.

Midway between the drinks at the party, one friend brought out some balloons from a bag and a blue canister to inflate them. Soon, the entire group was sniffing the balloons.

It was Seun's first time doing laughing gas, also known as nitrous oxide. He felt unbelievably good and started laughing uncontrollably until the night turned on its head for him at about 10pm. "I always believed that I could handle any substance so I kept rushing it because it was just air," Seun, now 31, told Al Jazeera. "It made me smile a lot, then something switched and my head went off. I started running into the water and my friends had to come and carry me. They kept telling me to calm down but I was unable to do that."

Nitrous oxide, an odourless, colourless gas used by doctors in medical and dental surgery is fast becoming the recreational substance of choice at Lagos nightclubs and parties. In pictures and videos on Instagram, TikTok and Snapchat, users now hold inflated balloons, which to the uninitiated, are just symbols of celebration, not intoxication.

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Laughing gas abuse is not just a Nigerian problem; usage has been reported in Denmark, the Netherlands and France, just as the United Kingdom has mulled a ban on it. In June, the NDLEA announced a crack-down on marketers and users of laughing gas in the country. Stella Iwuagwu, executive director of the Centre for the Right to Health, a Lagos-based NGO campaigning against substance abuse in schools, blames the surge partly on a new moral code in which youngsters consider it cool to be filmed or appear in live videos using drugs and other banned substances.

But it is mostly due to frustration with the state of Nigeria, she said. Just three years ago, during Nigeria's second recession in as many years, the naira exchanged at an average of 380 to \$1; today, the naira has fallen to a third of that. A cost-of-living crisis has also hit Africa's largest economy, as reforms by a new administration stutter and push the price of basic commodities above the reach of millions.

A series of policy missteps has also led to the exit of several foreign companies and the collapse of a num-

ber of local ones, keeping as many as a third of the population jobless.

"There is a lot of pain and frustration and people take drugs to quench the pain they are feeling," Iwuagwu said. "Drug is their escape from hopelessness."

An expensive habit
The morning after his birthday, Seun's friends showed him clips of his misdemeanour. Their mocking singed his ego so bad that he asked for another balloon, to redeem himself.

"They were laughing at me that I spoilt my birthday by myself so I had to do it again to let them know my street credibility is intact," he told Al Jazeera.

But laughing gas is expensive, and neither he nor any of his friends make enough money to cater for their needs. A canister costs about 100,000 naira (\$124), equivalent to the monthly salary for Seun, a computer technician in Ikeja and breadwinner for his wife and daughter.

Still, once every two weeks, he would pool resources with three or four friends to get a canister from their supplier, Pablo, who makes deliveries with his car. They hole up in a room and play loud music, each holding a balloon. Sometimes, they'd fill up one balloon and pass it around to be inhaled.

While Seun also takes other substances like rohypnol (or rephnol), codeine and molly (MDMA or ecstasy), he says he prefers laughing gas because of the extreme escape it provides.

Unlike other drugs, laughing gas does not have its own colloquial name yet, mostly because it is expensive and has not become wildly popular among low-income users, who still get by on cheaper gateway drugs.

"All of these other drugs used to be very expensive but when they get more

popular and become cheaper," another user Abidemi [last name withheld] said, predicting a similar future for laughing gas.

In August, Arit Esangbedo was called to see a patient suffering from a cardiac arrest but she was unable to make an assessment until the patient's friends confessed he had overdosed on nitrous oxide. It was her first experience dealing with a case of overdose on nitrous oxide.

"He was unconscious ... when I examined him, I didn't see the classic opioid overdose signs and symptoms," she said. "It was when I started asking questions from his friends that I was told that he finished a canister of nitrous oxide alone." Esangbedo, a consultant psychiatrist at the addiction unit of the Federal Neuro-psychiatric Hospital, Yaba, managed to resuscitate him. Since then, there have been more cases, with four people brought in with seizures and in hallucinatory fits. But not everyone has been so lucky – in other cases, five youths died due to overdose.

"People fail to understand that it is not all substance they can use ... but people who are looking for this high are ready to do anything and before you know what is happening, the person is gone," she said.

Juwon Afolayan, a resident doctor at the anaesthesia department of the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, says clinical use of nitrous oxide is declining because of side-effects on patients such as disorientation and impaired memory. The substance, he adds, has become highly regulated in Nigeria because it can be used to make explosives.

Still, its suppliers have managed to find ways to distribute it.

The doctors say during clinical use, they administered oxygen to patients side by side with nitrous oxide to help wear off the effect of the latter. But recreational users of nitrous oxide do it solo and so feel the side-effects of the compound more, they added.

'Happy hours'

Iwuagwu said many users suffer from a lack of purpose and cannot find any reason to laugh which makes them resort to recreational drugs. Indeed, youth unemployment presently stands

at 42.5 percent in Nigeria, where the median age is 17.2.

"Apart from education, we need to find hope for our young people. A lot of youths are out of school and doing nothing. They don't have jobs, they don't have hope," she said.

Abidemi is one of Nigeria's infamous Yahoo Boys, internet fraudsters who assume fake identities online to lure unsuspecting victims through romantic and business propositions. He says he started using laughing gas in nightclubs, but says it is now a work ritual.

"I have heard that it is dangerous to my health but you know we street boys, we just want to do and take our drugs," the 30-year-old said. "I use it to maintain focus and stay awake because sometimes I feel sleepy at night, and to keep me active, I just take one of those balloons. I call it my happy hours."

The euphoric feeling he gets from it keeps him motivated and hopeful of success as he dispatches scam messages to potential victims, or clients as he calls them, on messaging apps.

Every other week, he gets a new canister to enjoy with a friend, a fellow Yahoo Boy who comes to his house to work overnight. Now, as the NDLEA works to arrest users, he says he is becoming increasingly discreet.

Femi Babafemi, NDLEA's director of media and advocacy says the agency has been trying to create awareness about the dangers of laughing gas abuse using traditional means and social media – including X (formerly called Twitter) Spaces. So far, the NDLEA has intercepted three containers bearing more than 64,000kg and 8,000 canisters of nitrous oxide from China at the Apapa seaport to be delivered to a 30-year-old man in July. It says it has also made other arrests elsewhere in Imo and Port Harcourt.

"I believe we've been able to nip it in the bud with the arrest of [that] major importer in July and subsequent arrests of others between July and September ... we made about 10 arrests in all," Babafemi said.

Source: Al Jazeera

Egypt

Why Egypt is reluctant to allow all the refugees from Gaza: Ambassador Attiya

By: Capital FM News
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Worth Noting:

- The Ambassador added that as much as Egypt wants to help its neighbors some of whom have intermarried with the Egyptians, El-Sisi's government does not want to risk its national security and sovereignty.
- The Egyptian Ambassador to Kenya further explained that it would be difficult to distinguish innocent civilians seeking refuge from the Hamas group whom, he argues could use the opportunity to flee to Egypt and risk the country's national security.
- "There have been calls that Egypt take in the Palestinians in Gaza until Israel finishes its operations in the strip and gets rid of Hamas. How do we know that the ones that we're getting in Egypt are not Hamas people? Who would be able to tell who is who at this point?" he posed.
- Ambassador Attiya added that Egypt does not want to be "dragged" into larger-scale hostilities by providing a safe haven for Hamas.



Egyptian Ambassador to Kenya Wael Nasr Eldin Attiya speaks to Capital FM's Bruhan Makong during an October 2023 interview in Nairobi. /Sharon Resian.

The Egyptian Ambassador to Kenya has shed light on why the Middle Eastern state is reluctant to fully open its borders to all the refugees from the besieged Gaza Strip as Israeli forces intensify its military offensive against the Hamas militant group.

In an exclusive interview with Capital FM News, the Egyptian envoy to Kenya Wael Nasr Eldin Attiya singled out national security concerns as one of the main reasons President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi's government is taking extra precautions. Ambassador Attiya explained that Egypt currently hosts close to 9 million refugees who have fled conflict in several countries including Syria, Yemen, Libya and Sudan noting that the Middle Eastern state is not in a good position to accommodate more than two million people from Gaza.

"There were calls in recent weeks since the eruption of the hostilities, that Palestinians in Gaza should move to Egypt. Yes, we are host to about 9 million guests from different countries. We have 5 million from Sudan, at least 1 million from Yemen, about half a million at least from Syria and others from Libya," he said, adding that Egypt is also struggling to maintain its own stability as a result of conflicts in the bordering states.

The remarks come even as

injured Palestinian victims and hundreds of foreigners began crossing from Gaza into Egypt on November 1, in the first government-sanctioned move from the Gaza strip, since Hamas surprise attack on Israel on October 7.

The attack left more than 1400 dead on the Israel side prompting an Israel response that has led to over 12,000 Palestinian casualties and displacement of over a million residents as a result of constant bombardment of the enclave by Israeli military. The figures always differ based on numbers from Israel and Hamas.

National security

The Ambassador added that as much as Egypt wants to help its neighbors some of whom have intermarried with the Egyptians, El-Sisi's government does not want to risk its national security and sovereignty.

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ones that we're getting in Egypt are not Hamas people? Who would be able to tell who is who at this point?" he posed.

Ambassador Attiya added that Egypt does not want to be "dragged" into larger-scale hostilities by providing a safe haven for Hamas.

He noted that Hamas could then potentially launch attacks against Israel from Egyptian soil which could risk relations with Israel and put them at risk of Israel response.

"What if those people (Hamas) started to use their existence in Egypt to launch attacks against Israel from within Egyptian borders at that point you know, Israel would say that it has the right to defend itself. We don't want to be dragged into a vicious cycle of violence," he added.

He added that Egypt cannot tell for sure if the Palestinians would be allowed back to Gaza at the end of the military offensive against Hamas.

Ambassador Attiya recalled a similar case in 1948 which he saw Palestinians forced out of historical Palestine with the promise of returning to their homeland after a few weeks but that never happened.

"At least 70 percent of Palestinians thought at the time that they would be leaving for a few weeks and then

they will return again which never came to pass. So, if they leave Gaza now, what makes them certain that they will be able to return to it? That will be another exodus for them."

He pointed out that the Gaza Strip has seven crossings to the outside world six of which are with Israel with only one with Egypt-the Rafa crossing.

Following the October 7 attack by Hamas, Israel closed all six crossings which has cut off the much-needed supplies including food, fuel, and medicine to Gaza. War has impacted Egypt economy

The Ambassador also weighed in on the devastating impact of the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine on its economy.

He added that Egypt gets at least 12 percent of its GDP from tourism adding that the conflict in the region has dealt a huge blow to the sector.

"There are many warnings for tourists in a number of countries of not going to the Middle East and North Africa and that is of course affecting Egypt, especially coming at a time between October and March which is usually the main season of tourism in Egypt," he said. Before the eruption of the hostilities in Gaza, Ambassador Attiya said that Egypt managed to get 12 million tourists in the first nine

months of the year.

He added that the Middle Eastern state was expecting at least 15 million tourists visiting Egypt by the end of the year.

"Now with the situation at our eastern border, we are not so sure how many tourists we will be able to receive," he said.

He added that Egypt also receives half a million tourists from Israel every year adding that the situation in Gaza would significantly impact the numbers.

To address the situation, Ambassador Attiya appealed to the international community to do more to pressure Israel and Palestine to return to the negotiating table in a bid to find a permanent solution to the decades of violence that has characterized the relations between the two states.

He noted that the deteriorating situation in Gaza calls for an immediate intervention by the international community which, he says "are not doing enough" to address the conflict.

He made reference to several unsuccessful attempts to pass a cease-fire resolution at the United Nations Security Council in New York.

This articles was first published by Capital FM News

Fentanyl-laced envelopes sent to US election officials

By: Muraya Kamunde

Suspicious envelopes, some laced with fentanyl, have been sent to election offices in at least five US states. The letters were reported in Georgia, Nevada, California, Oregon and Washington, where the letter included a warning to “end elections now”. Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger described the letters as “domestic terrorism” that “needs to be condemned”.

Fentanyl is a synthetic painkiller 50 times more powerful than heroin. It has been blamed for a rise in US drug deaths.

According to the FBI and US Postal Service, fentanyl was found in four of the letters. Some of the letters were intercepted before they arrived at their final destination.

“Law enforcement is working diligently to intercept any additional letters before they are delivered,” the FBI and Postal Service said in a statement.

In Washington, officials in Pierce County released images of a letter – postmarked in Portland, Oregon – which included the words “end elections now”.

A similar letter was received in Seattle’s King County, which reported another fentanyl-laced letter during an August primary election.



Mr Raffensperger lost a son to a fentanyl overdose in 2018

In Georgia, the letter appeared to be targeting an office in Fulton County. Authorities discovered the letter and found it contained fentanyl.

“Some people like to call fentanyl a drug,” Mr Raffensperger told reporters on Thursday. “It’s actually poison, it will kill you, it will kill you

very quickly, very easily.”

“My wife and I lost our son five-and-a-half years ago due to a fentanyl overdose, we know how deadly this stuff is.”

Brenton Raffensperger died in 2018 aged 38.

In Washington, election offices in

four counties – King, Pierce, Skagit and Spokane – received envelopes containing “unknown powdery substances”, according to Secretary of State Steve Hobbs.

The incidents took place as workers were counting ballots from the 7 November general election, said Mr

Hobbs, a Democrat.

“These incidents are acts of terrorism to threaten our elections,” he said, echoing Mr Raffensperger.

The Postal Service was able to intercept envelopes headed to Los Angeles and Sacramento, according to the Associated Press.

Fulton County in Georgia has been the target of repeated unfounded claims by former President Donald Trump of widespread ballot fraud.

He is now facing charges in that same county for allegedly conspiring to overturn Georgia’s vote results from 2020.

Mr Trump has pleaded not guilty. On Wednesday, Fulton County Commission Chairman Robb Pitts – a Democrat – said that officials there had been under threat since the 2020 election.

He added that there are “people out there who want to do harm to our workers and disrupt, interrupt, the flow of democracy”.

Mr Pitts added that officials are prepared for the 2024 election, which he said would be the “focal point” of tension and scrutiny.

“This was a good trial run for us,” he said.

Mafia

Prosecutors charge 16 alleged Gambino mafia members in US and Italy

By: BBC

Sixteen alleged leaders and associates of the Gambino crime family have been arrested in the US and Italy, American prosecutors said on Tuesday.

The charges against them include racketeering, extortion, witness retaliation, conspiracy and fraud.

Ten were arrested in the New York area and six by Italian authorities in Palermo in Sicily.

Another suspect is still at large, according to the US Department of Justice.

The US-based suspects were due to appear in court in New York on Wednesday.

In an indictment, prosecutors outlined a pattern of intimidation and violent assaults intended to embezzle funds and defraud unions and employee benefit plans.

The syndicate targeted demolition companies and the carting industry – also known as waste management or rubbish collection.

According to the indictment, members of the group threatened businessmen and demanded protection payments. They evaded union rules and rigged bids for lucrative demo-

lition contracts.

The defendants were also charged with threatening witnesses, money laundering and firearms offenses.

Among those arrested was a leader or “captain” in the Gambino family, Joseph “Joe Brooklyn” Lanni, alleged Gambino soldier Angelo “Fifi” Gradilone, and Francesco Vicari, also known as “Uncle Ciccio”, an alleged Sicilian mafia associate and Gambino associate.

The Gambino family is one of the five prominent New York-area mafia syndicates collectively known as La Cosa Nostra.

The family was led by boss John Gotti until his death in prison in 2002 and later by Frank Cali, who was killed outside his Staten Island home in March 2019.

His death marked the first targeted killing of a Mafia boss in the city since the death of the then head of the Gambino family, Paul Castellano, in 1985.

A number of recent investigations and police operations have targeted the group in the US and Italy.

The defendants face maximum sentences of between 20 and 180 years in prison.



Francesco Vicari in a photo released by prosecutors, who said it was sent to associates after the collection of extortion money

African Innovation

Mwale hosts Vietnam's Hoa Binh on inaugural Africa visit

By: Capital Correspondent
xxxxxxxxxxxx

Contd from Page 1

Worth Noting:

- Mr. Mwale and his delegation were on a week-long visit to explore investment prospects in Zambia with the specific aim of replicating their visionary US\$2 billion MMTC project in the country.
- Mwale's delegation to Zambia comprised of 12 American, European, African and Asian engineering and construction companies with expertise in the development of new smart cities.
- They explored opportunities in various sectors in the country, including building smart cities around mining, the electric vehicle battery value chain, agriculture, and agri-business, among others.
- President Hichilema said collaborations with innovative entities like MMTC can open new avenues for sustainable development in the country.
- The discussion between President Hichilema and MMTC's delegation holds the promise of bringing cutting-edge urban development and economic opportunities to Zambia, contributing to the country's development and enhancing the quality of life for its citizens.



Hoa Binh's delegation, led by the group's Chairman Le Viet Hai, was on a benchmarking tour as it seeks to enter the African market

can countries by 2050. Many global construction and engineering firms have recently joined MMTC in a quest to build the cities on the continent. In October, United States-based Kenyan billionaire and Founder of MMTC, Julius Mwale, held discussions with Zambia's President Hakainde Hichilema in Lusaka in his quest to introduce smart cities in the Southern African country. Mr. Mwale and his delegation were on a week-long visit to explore investment prospects in Zambia with the specific aim of replicating their visionary US\$2 billion MMTC project in the country. Mwale's delegation to Zambia comprised of 12 American, European, African and Asian engineering and construction companies with expertise in the development of new smart cities. They explored opportunities in various sectors in the country, including building

smart cities around mining, the electric vehicle battery value chain, agriculture, and agri-business, among others. President Hichilema said collaborations with innovative entities like MMTC can open new avenues for sustainable development in the country. The discussion between President Hichilema and MMTC's delegation holds the promise of bringing cutting-edge urban development and economic opportunities to Zambia, contributing to the country's development and enhancing the quality of life for its citizens. In September, MMTC was given a greenlight to expand to Ghana after a meeting between Mwale and President Nana Akufo-Addo during United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York. MMTC team also participated in many events on the sidelines of UNGA and

held talks with business, civil society and government leaders including with seven heads of state. "Many of the other events attended by our teams included the Africa business forum, global Africa business initiative, invest Africa, Milken Institute, Forbes 400 philanthropy, United Bank of Africa and many others where MMTC's team made a significant impact and struck many partnerships for investment and social impact programs," MMTC added. In April, the MMTC announced expansion of Hamptons Hospital to Botswana after a meeting with President Mokgweetsi Eric Masisi. During the talks, Masisi mentioned medical tourism as among possible areas of cooperation with MMTC. Mwale was in the country to attend Forbes Under 30 Summit. "Julius Mwale was feted at the event as one of the key-

note speakers, and as a successful global African leader having transformed a village into a sustainable metropolis," MMTC said. MMTC also secured a deal in July to expand to the Republic of Congo where the new Mwale City in the Brazzaville-Kinshasa metro area will be anchored by Hamptons Hospital and is expected to enhance universal healthcare and medical tourism in Central Africa. Mwale's success story serves as an inspiration to young entrepreneurs in Africa who aspire to make a difference and create a better future for themselves and their communities. His commitment to creating sustainable solutions that empower people and protect the environment is a testament to his vision for a better world. As Africa continues to grow and develop, the role of entrepreneurs like Mwale in shaping the continent's future cannot be overstated.

With his track record of success and his dedication to creating a better world, Mwale is a shining example of what can be achieved with hard work, determination, and a commitment to making a positive impact on society. During his interview at the Forbes Summit, he stated that his net worth is determined by how many people he has transformed from poverty. As the lead investor of MMTC, Mwale invested and mobilized over US \$2 billion to build the new city with a 100 per cent green concept. MMTC is a community owned sustainable metropolis located in Butere Sub County of Kakamega County. It is anchored around Hamptons Hospital which opened in 2019 and treats Kenyans and medical tourists.

Gaza

Iran accused of setting up a global terror network against Israel

Following a United Nations-sponsored cease-fire in 1991, the Polisario Front surrendered when Morocco had the upper hand.

Worth Noting:

- The Shiite dictatorship has constructed a global network of militias that it supports with weapons, money, and training, and which it then employs in its terror strategy – against the West in general, and the United States in particular.

- Tehran has been extending its network in recent years, as evidenced by intelligence reports and investigations by Western financial investigators, which WELT has had exclusive access to.

- As a result, Iran no longer only supports Shiite and Sunni organizations, but also others that have nothing to do with Israel or hardline Islam.

- The path leads to the Sahara. The Polisario Front, a socialist group centered in the Tindouf refugee camps in southern Algeria, is a great example of Tehran's strategy.

- The Algerian-backed independence movement sees itself as the real representative of the people of Western Sahara, the desert region that runs along the Atlantic coast.



Gaza terrorists launch surprise attack on Israel with rocket barrages and infiltrations

By: **Dismas Otuke**

The Jewish state is under siege not just by its neighbors, but also by a number of other countries.

WELT has got intelligence material demonstrating the existence of a trail all the way to the Sahara.

There is a militia gathering against Israel, and its commanders are discussing horrifying plans over the phone. Since the start of the Gaza war, Israel's opponents have competed with threats and extermination fantasies – and some are actively engaging to enable Hamas. Hezbollah, the Lebanese terrorist organization, launches missiles into Israel practically every day, and terrorists have attempted to penetrate the nation through the northern border. Israeli villages near Lebanon's border had to be evacuated.

According to reports, Syrian militants have stepped out to support the struggle against Israel. Yemen's Houthis have officially declared war on Isra-

el, targeting southern Israel with long-range missiles and drones that were previously shot down by an American Navy ship.

Shiite militias attack American military bases in Iraq. Algeria's parliament voted unanimously in favor of war against Israel.

Even in the depths of Africa, militias celebrate attacks on the Jewish state and lend support to its adversaries.

All of these activities are being carried out by Iran.

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Following a United Nations-sponsored cease-fire in 1991, the Polisario Front surrendered when Morocco had the upper hand.

The organization controls a tiny portion of Western Sahara and operates a camp in the Algerian province of Tindouf, near the Moroccan border, where approximately 150,000 Sahrawis live.

Morocco severed relations with Iran in 2018 due to its support for the Polisario Front.

Hezbollah, Iran's most powerful force, "sent military representatives to the Polisario, provided weapons to the front, and trained them

in urban warfare," Moroccan Foreign Minister Nasser Bourita told reporters at the time.

Tehran has sent surface-to-air missiles and drones to Polisario members in Western Sahara.

Hezbollah, which is aligned with Iran, has built up training camps in Algeria for Polisario fighters.

While officials of the Polisario Front and Hezbollah have refuted these charges, Morocco has stated that it possesses substantial intelligence on the Polisario Front and Hezbollah.

Last year, a Polisario Front representative alleged that Iran supplied them with "kamikaze" drones to deploy against Morocco via Algeria. New intelligence reports, which WELT was able to see, back up Morocco's claims.

Thus, the publication possesses recordings and transcripts of phone talks between Polisario representatives and an agent posing as a Hezbollah contact in Ivory Coast.

Mustafa Muhammad Lemine Al-Kitab is thus the

Polisario's liaison officer in Syria and is in charge of the Middle East.

The agent inquired about the situation. On October 23, almost two weeks after the attack on Israel in which Hamas slaughtered 1400 people.

The agent thus questioned about the issue with Lemine Al-Kitab in front of 140 individuals.

Hezbollah representative and the Polisario emissary discuss the possibilities of combined assaults against Israel with Hamas, Hezbollah, Algeria, and others during the conversation.

Lemine Al-Kitab offers to support the Polisario Front but emphasizes that its resources are not yet sufficient to attack the Israeli embassy in Morocco, for example.

In other conversations, he repeatedly asks for more support from Hezbollah and Iran.

Gaza

Macron calls on Israel to stop killing Gaza's women and babies



French President Emmanuel Macron

Worth Noting:

- Speaking the day after a humanitarian aid conference in Paris about the war in Gaza, Mr Macron said the “clear conclusion” of all governments and agencies present at that summit was “that there is no other solution than first a humanitarian pause, going to a ceasefire, which will allow [us] to protect... all civilians having nothing to do with terrorists”.
- “De facto – today, civilians are bombed – de facto. These babies, these ladies, these old people are bombed and killed. So there is no reason for that and no legitimacy. So we do urge Israel to stop.”
- He said it was not his role to judge whether international law had been broken.
- Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu responded quickly to Mr Macron's comments, saying nations should condemn Hamas, not Israel.

By: BBC

Israel must stop killing babies and women in Gaza, French President Emmanuel Macron has told the BBC.

In an exclusive interview at the Élysée Palace, he said there was “no justification” for the bombing, saying a ceasefire would benefit Israel.

While recognising Israel's right to protect itself, “we do urge them to stop this bombing” in Gaza, he said. But he also stressed that France “clearly condemns” the “terrorist” actions of Hamas.

France – like Israel, the US, the UK, and other Western nations – considers Hamas a terrorist organisation.

When asked if he wanted other leaders – including in the US and the UK – to join his calls for a ceasefire, he replied: “I hope they will.”

Israel says it attacks military targets in line with international law and takes steps to reduce civilian casualties, like issuing warnings ahead of strikes and calling on people to evacuate.

Speaking the day after a humanitarian aid conference in Paris about the war in Gaza, Mr Macron said the “clear conclusion” of all governments and agencies present at that summit was “that there is no other solution than first a humanitarian pause, going to a ceasefire, which will allow [us] to

protect... all civilians having nothing to do with terrorists”.

“De facto – today, civilians are bombed – de facto. These babies, these ladies, these old people are bombed and killed. So there is no reason for that and no legitimacy. So we do urge Israel to stop.” He said it was not his role to judge whether international law had been broken.

“We share Israel's pain” Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu responded quickly to Mr Macron's comments, saying nations should condemn Hamas, not Israel.

“The crimes that Hamas [is] committing today in Gaza will be committed tomorrow in Paris, New York and anywhere in the world,” a statement from Mr Netanyahu's office read.

In a wide-ranging interview at the end of the first day of an annual Paris Peace Forum, President Macron also discussed:

Fears of violence spilling over from the Middle East into France, urging citizens of all faiths to be “united against antisemitism”

Russia's invasion of Ukraine, saying it was France's “duty” to help Ukraine – but suggesting there may come a time for “fair and good negotiations” with Moscow



Thousands flee to south Gaza

deliver” on moderation And the dangers of climate change, saying it was pushing people around the world toward “terrorism”.

Starting by discussing Gaza, Mr Macron said France “clearly condemns” Hamas's attacks on Israel on 7 October which sparked the war. Hamas gunmen killed about 1,200 people and took 240 others hostage in its unprecedented cross-border assault it launched that day.

“We do share [Israel's] pain. And we do share their willingness to get rid of terrorism. We know what terrorism means in France.” But he said there was “no justification” for the ongoing bombing of civilians in Gaza.

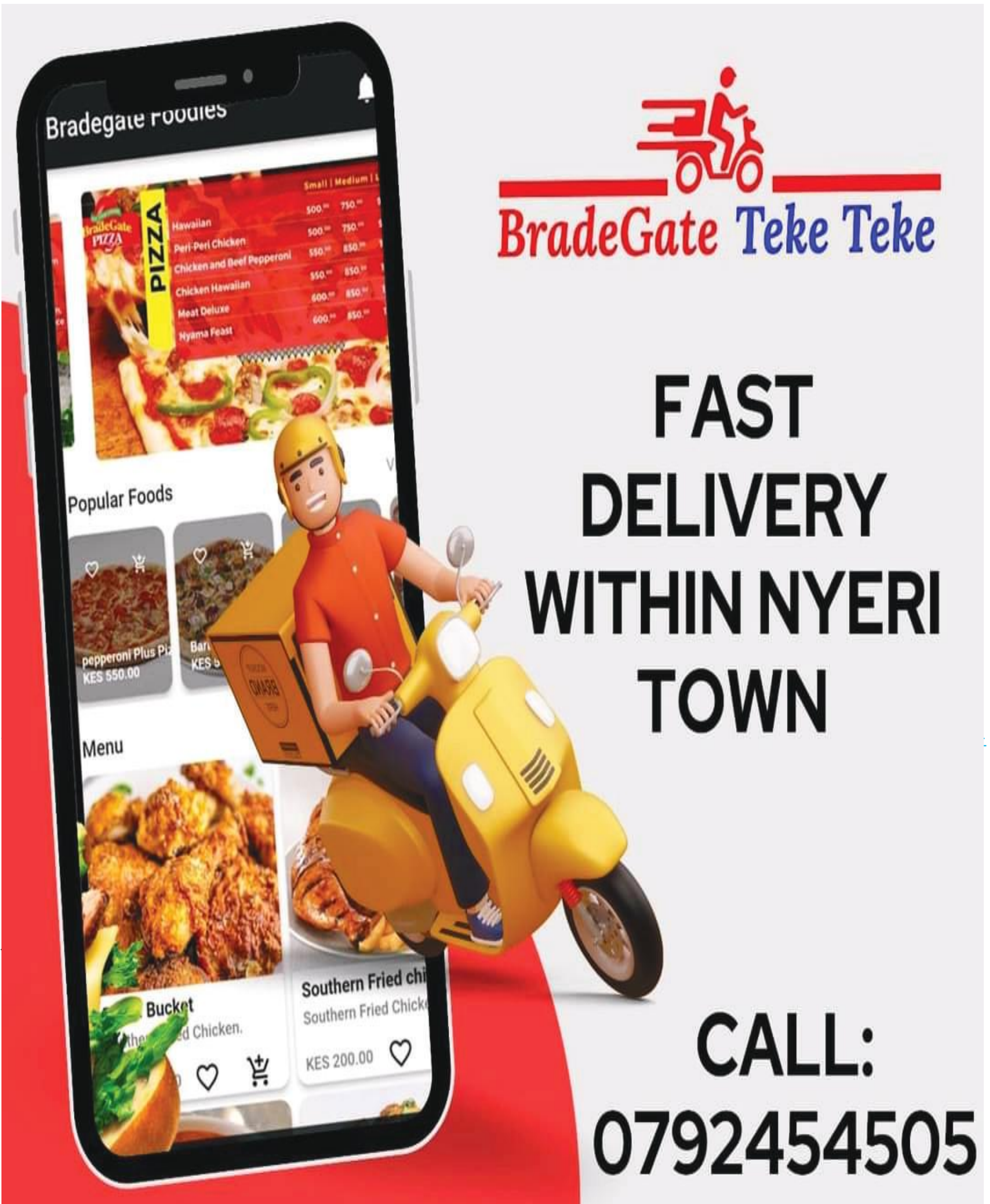
“It's extremely important

for all of us because of our principles, because we are democracies. It's important for the mid-to-long run as well for the security of Israel itself, to recognise that all lives matter.”

When asked, he refused to say that Israel had broken international law in Gaza. “I'm not a judge. I'm a head of state,” he said, adding it would not be right to criticise Israel in this way – “a partner and a friend” – just a month after it was attacked. But Mr Macron said he disagreed that the best way for Israel to “protect [itself] is having a large bombing of Gaza”, saying it was creating “resentment and bad feelings” in the region that would prolong the conflict. After a month of Israeli

bombardment and nearly two weeks after Israel launched a major ground offensive into the territory, Gaza's Hamas-run health ministry said on Friday that 11,078 people had been killed, while 1.5 million had fled their homes.

Israel has said it will start daily four-hour military pauses in parts of northern Gaza as it continues its offensive. Its defence minister however stressed the pauses would be “localised” and would “not detract from the war fighting”.



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Diaspora

Penal Law Reform to Promote Equality in the Criminal Justice System

By: Hon. Lady Justice Grace Ngenye

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Worth Noting:

- The proposed comprehensive amendments aim to enhance the protection of the human rights of vulnerable individuals in Kenyan society, including those with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities, individuals with mental illnesses, children, and intersex persons.
- The Audit identified that petty offenses constitute 70% of the cases processed through the criminal justice system. During the pre-trial stage, 68% of those arrested and detained are petty offenders, many of whom come from underprivileged backgrounds. Consequently, the rigorous enforcement of petty offenses and an overreliance on custodial measures have contributed to overcrowding in detention facilities, as most of these individuals cannot afford legal fees or fines.



Hon. Lady Justice Grace Ngenye is a Judge of Appeal & Chairperson, NCAJ Committee on Criminal Justice Reforms (NCCJR).

The effective and efficient functioning of the justice sector requires cooperation among various stakeholders to ensure justice is delivered. The National Council on the Administration of Justice (NCAJ) was established under Section 34 of the Judicial Service Act to serve as an umbrella body responsible for coordinating the administration of justice and leading efforts to reform the justice system. The NCAJ carries out its reform initiatives through officially designated multi-agency committees. One such committee, the NCAJ Committee on Criminal Justice Reforms (NCCJR), was established to lead the comprehensive review and reform of Kenya's criminal justice system. This initiative was prompted by the findings of an Audit of the Criminal Justice System published in 2017, which exposed systemic weaknesses and inconsistencies in criminal laws, some of which have persisted since colonial times. The NCCJR has achieved significant milestones, including the development of Guidelines on Law and

Practice on Arrests and Conditions of Pre-trial Detention, Guidelines for the Management of Petty Offenders, a Fair Trial Guide and Checklist, and the Sentencing Policy Guidelines for 2023. The NCCJR spearheaded the review of the Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code, leading to the formulation of the Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bills (2023). This review process, ongoing since 2020, has involved extensive consultations with stakeholders from justice sector institutions, legal experts, scholars, civil society organizations, mental health experts, the Justice and Legal Affairs Committee of the National Assembly, and grassroots communities through Court Users Committees. The proposed comprehensive amendments aim to enhance the protection of the human rights of vulnerable individuals in Kenyan society, including those with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities, individuals with mental illnesses, children, and intersex persons. The Audit identified that

petty offenses constitute 70% of the cases processed through the criminal justice system. During the pre-trial stage, 68% of those arrested and detained are petty offenders, many of whom come from underprivileged backgrounds. Consequently, the rigorous enforcement of petty offenses and an overreliance on custodial measures have contributed to overcrowding in detention facilities, as most of these individuals cannot afford legal fees or fines. For example, under the current Penal Code, individuals found guilty of the offense of "Idle and Disorderly" under Section 182 may face imprisonment for one month or a fine not exceeding KSh100 for the first offense, and imprisonment for one year for subsequent offenses. This category includes offenses such as "procuring or encouraging any person to beg or gather alms, publicly conducting oneself in a manner likely to cause a breach of the peace, committing any indecent acts without lawful excuse publicly, soliciting for immoral purposes in public places, and prostitution." These of-

fenses are often vague, with uncertain evidentiary requirements, leaving room for law enforcement officers to make arrests based on mere suspicion or intent. The Penal Code Amendment Bill proposes the repeal of Section 182 and its reclassification under different regulations to maintain the illegality of such behavior while ensuring that individuals are not automatically arrested, prosecuted, and imprisoned. Instead, alternatives such as issuing verbal sanctions upon arrest, community service, and attendance at rehabilitation centers are proposed. It is essential to clarify that this bill does not seek to legalize prostitution. Moreover, Sections 153, 154, and 155, which relate to prostitution and related activities, are already covered under Section 17 of the Sexual Offenses Act, rendering duplication unnecessary. Additionally, the bill proposes the repeal of the offense of bigamy since such matters can be addressed through civil proceedings in divorce cases rather than criminal proceedings. The Committee's recom-

mendations do not include lighter penalties for murderers. Instead, they suggest categorizing murder and robbery into first and second degrees to ensure that the punishment aligns with the gravity and circumstances of the crime. First-degree offenses would cover heinous crimes, with the death sentence as the maximum penalty. Second-degree offenses would result in a life sentence upon conviction. For other offenses that carry a mandatory death penalty, the bill proposes to make this penalty discretionary while retaining death as the maximum sentence. These proposed amendments, among others, aim to promote equality in the criminal justice system, regardless of an individual's social status. Should Parliament accept these bills, they will undergo the entire legislative process, which includes extensive public participation. Hon. Lady Justice Ngenye is a Judge of Appeal and chairperson, NCAJ Committee on Criminal Justice Reforms (NCCJR).

Xi Jinping calls for letting internet better benefit people of all countries

By: CGTN
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Chinese President Xi Jinping has called for letting the internet better benefit people of all countries when he addressed the opening ceremony of the 2023 World Internet Conference (WIC) Wuzhen Summit via video.

Xi said that the vision of jointly building a community with a shared future in cyberspace, which he proposed at the second WIC in 2015, has garnered widespread international recognition and positive responses.

The vision answers the questions of our times related to resolving the development deficit, addressing security challenges, and enhancing mutual learning between civilizations, Xi said.

Xi stressed that the international community needs to deepen exchanges and practical cooperation to jointly advance the building of a community with a shared future in cyberspace to a new stage.

He called for prioritizing development to let the fruits of internet development benefit more countries and people.

Xi emphasized the need to improve public access to information-based services, bridge the digital divide, and improve people's livelihood with internet development.

Calling for building a more peaceful and secure cyberspace, Xi stressed the need to respect cyber sovereignty and each country's way of internet governance and the need to oppose seeking hegemony, bloc confrontation and arms race in cyberspace.

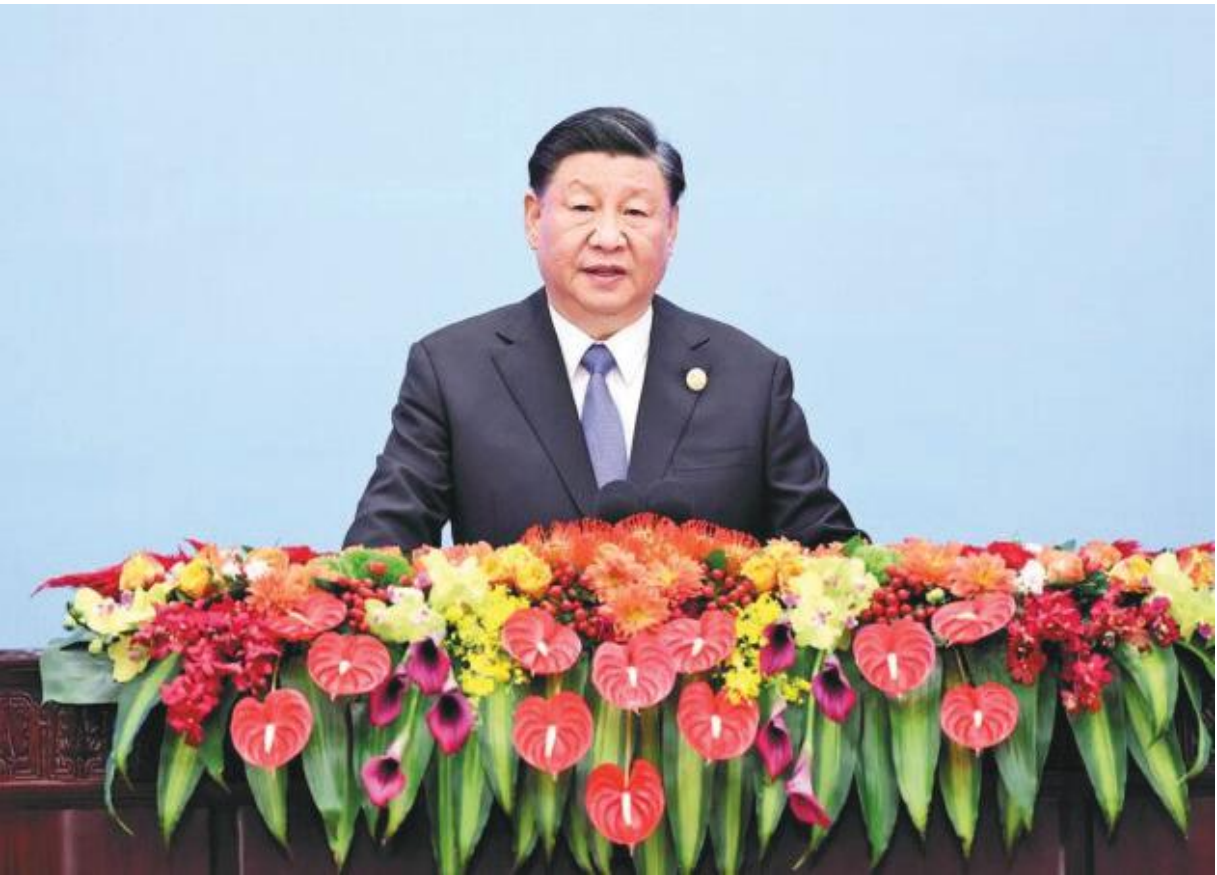
Xi went on to underscore the need to crack down on cyber crimes, strengthen data security and personal information protection, and properly respond to the risks and challenges brought by sci-tech development to rules, society and ethics.

China is willing to work with all parties to implement the Global Artificial Intelligence Governance Initiative and promote the safe development of AI, Xi added.

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He also called for building a more equal and inclusive cyberspace. He stressed the need to better promote the shared values of humanity.

Xi underlined more high-quality online cultural products and efforts to fully showcase the outstanding achievements of human civilizations



President Xi Jinping delivers a keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on Wednesday. WANG YE / XINHUA

and actively promote civilization preservation and development. ternet Conference Wuzhen Summit via video, November 8, 2023. /Xinhua)
(Cover: Chinese President Xi Jinping addresses the 2023 World In- Source(s): Xinhua News Agency

USA

FBI seize NYC mayor's phones in financing probe

By: Muraya Kamunde
-

The FBI has seized the phones of New York City Mayor Eric Adams in an apparent escalation of an investigation into campaign financing. His campaign said electronic devices, believed to be two iPhones and an iPad, were taken by agents on Monday night.

The search was first reported by the New York Times, which said the probe centred on whether the campaign had conspired with the Turkish government to receive illegal foreign donations.

Mr Adams, 63, denies wrongdoing. On Friday, Boyd Johnson, a lawyer for the mayor's campaign organisation, said Mr Adams had been approached by the FBI after an event. "[He] immediately complied with the FBI's request and provided them with electronic devices," he told the BBC's US partner CBS. "The mayor has not been accused of any wrongdoing and continues to co-operate with the investigation."

In his own statement, Mr Adams, a Democrat and former police captain, said: "As a former member of law enforcement, I expect all members of my staff to follow the law and fully co-operate with any sort of investigation, and I will continue to do exactly that."

"I have nothing to hide," he added. The probe became known last week

after an early morning raid at the home of Mr Adams' top campaign fundraiser.

The FBI searched the Brooklyn residence of Brianna Suggs, 25, a lobbyist and former Adams aide. Agents are said to have seized two laptops, three iPhones and a folder labelled "Eric Adams".

Teams of agents also searched other homes and businesses in New York. But the seizure of Mr Adams' electronics on Monday night appears to be the first time the investigation has involved him directly.

A search warrant reviewed by the New York Times reportedly indicates prosecutors are looking into whether the Adams campaign conspired with Turkey's government or individuals with ties to Turkey to violate campaign finance law.

Investigators also want to know if the Adams campaign kicked back any benefits to the country or these individuals in exchange for donations.

Foreign nationals are barred from making contributions to US election campaigns.

Law enforcement officials familiar with the matter told CNN that the alleged scheme being investigated by the FBI would have allowed money coming from foreign entities to be masked as donations from American citizens.



Eric Adams, 63, is the Democratic mayor of New York City and was elected in 2021

China

China’s Foreign Trade Rebounds, Setting a Positive Tone for Q4

By: Elijah Mwangi
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Worth Noting:

- One of the key takeaways from Shu’s press conference is China’s unwavering commitment to ensuring the security and stability of the global supply chain. This commitment was evident in China’s recent adjustments to graphite export restrictions. While these restrictions raised concerns in some quarters, Shu emphasized that they were implemented in accordance with the law, without any intention to target specific countries or regions.
- The clear message from China is that the restrictions are aimed at regulating the export of certain materials to ensure that they comply with relevant regulations. This approach not only reflects China’s adherence to international trade norms but also its commitment to maintaining a fair and transparent global trade environment.



Shanghai is China’s major economic hub.

In a recent press conference, Shu Jueting, spokesperson for China’s Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), delivered an optimistic outlook for China’s foreign trade in the coming months. Despite concerns surrounding China’s foreign trade performance during the first three quarters of 2023, Shu said the country has witnessed a remarkable recovery, bucking the trend of global trade challenges. Global trade has been under significant downward pressure since the beginning of the year, with many economies grappling with various trade-related issues. Notably, countries like South Korea and Vietnam have also experienced a decline in their foreign trade. These challenges are a result of multiple factors, including disruptions in supply chains, fluctuating commodity prices, and geopolitical tensions. However, China’s foreign trade has been steadily gaining momentum in recent months. In September, the nation’s foreign trade volume reached an impressive 3.74 trillion yuan (\$521

billion), marking a new monthly high for the year. Importantly, this achievement was accompanied by month-on-month growth for the second consecutive month, underscoring China’s resilience and adaptability in navigating the complex global trade landscape. One of the key takeaways from Shu’s press conference is China’s unwavering commitment to ensuring the security and stability of the global supply chain. This commitment was evident in China’s recent adjustments to graphite export restrictions. While these restrictions raised concerns in some quarters, Shu emphasized that they were implemented in accordance with the law, without any intention to target specific countries or regions. The clear message from China is that the restrictions are aimed at regulating the export of certain materials to ensure that they comply with relevant regulations. This approach not only reflects China’s adherence to international trade norms but also its commitment to

maintaining a fair and transparent global trade environment. China’s resurgence in foreign trade should be viewed as a welcome development with broader implications for the global economy. As the world’s second-largest economy, China plays a pivotal role in sustaining global trade flows. Its strong performance in foreign trade can help stabilize international markets and mitigate some of the challenges posed by the ongoing uncertainties in the global economic landscape. Several factors have contributed to China’s foreign trade recovery top on the list being the country’s robust manufacturing sector, supported by efficient logistics and infrastructure which has allowed it to quickly adapt to changing market dynamics. Additionally, China’s commitment to innovation and technological advancements has enabled it to maintain a competitive edge in global trade. Moreover, the Chinese government’s proactive policies and measures have facilitated this recovery. These

include targeted support for export-oriented industries, the promotion of e-commerce, and investment in research and development. Such policies have not only bolstered the domestic economy but have also had positive spillover effects on foreign trade. There is no doubt that China’s role as a global economic hub has been further underscored by its growing influence in regional trade agreements and organizations. The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), for instance, has expanded China’s economic reach and strengthened its trade ties with countries across Asia, Europe, and Africa. These initiatives have not only boosted China’s foreign trade but have also promoted greater economic connectivity among nations. While China’s foreign trade outlook appears promising, it is not immune to the ongoing challenges in the global trade landscape. Geopolitical tensions, trade disputes, and the evolving post-pandemic economic recovery will continue to shape the

international trade environment. China recognizes the need to remain vigilant and adaptable to these challenges, while also promoting dialogue and cooperation with its trading partners. China’s recent foreign trade performance, as outlined by Shu offers a ray of hope in a world grappling with trade uncertainties. The nation’s resilience and commitment to maintaining a secure and stable global supply chain should be lauded. China’s positive trajectory in foreign trade not only benefits its own economy but also has broader implications for global trade stability. As we move into the fourth quarter of 2023, China’s foreign trade success story serves as a beacon of optimism for the global economy. Elijah Mwangi is a scholar based in Nairobi; he comments on local and global matters.

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Wide Coverage Of The Subject “Ratio And Proportion” In High Schools

By: Diaspora Times Team
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Worth Noting:

- Mathematical education is a process and result that helps students acquire the system of mathematical knowledge, form their worldview based on knowledge, learning and skills, develop moral and other qualities of a person, creative power and other opportunities.
- Education is considered in two aspects: - social (reflecting society's demand for education); - personal (determines the goal intended for each person).
- An educated person will have the following characteristics: accuracy; breadth and flexibility of thought; being able to target a wide range of problems and strive to solve them; variety of needs; to be able to predict the development of events and to be able to model one's own activities; high efficiency. The main goal of mathematical education is to form students' ability to look at real life from a mathematical point of view, to see the practical directions of mathematics and its application.

Andijan State Pedagogical Institute, student of Mathematics and Informatics, daughter of Erkinova Odinakhan Kozimjan

ANNOTATION

This article describes the methods of using interactive methods in the teaching of ratio and proportion. In particular, in the article, a group of students divides into small groups and creates a competitive environment, and begins the lesson according to the following conditions. 1st group name “Real numbers” 2nd group “Fractions” 3rd group name “Sets”

For the first condition: quick math questions for the second condition: a crossword on the topic for the third condition: logical problems

Also, the use of ICT in explaining the new topic and the reference of problem solving examples along with theoretical and practical test tasks high efficiency is highlighted.

KEYWORDS: Real Numbers, Quizzes, Fun Problems, Fractions, Sets, Proportion, Ratio

ABSTRACT:

This article describes the methods of using interactive methods in the teaching of ratio and proportion. In particular, in the article, a group of students is divided into small groups, forming a competitive environment, and begins the lesson according to the following conditions. 1st group name “Real numbers” 2nd group “Fractions” 3rd group name “Sets”

For the first condition: Quick questions from mathematics. High efficiency is highlighted.

Ratio, the ratio of two numbers, is the division of the first number by the second. N. of fractional numbers can be replaced by N.i of whole numbers. The ratio of two homogeneous quantities (section, angle, face, etc.) is understood as their numerical measurements. If the ratio of the lengths of two sections is a rational number, they are called commensurate, and if it is irrational, they are called non-commensurate sections. Such concepts also apply to faces, angles, and others.

In everyday life, when we talk about proportions, we say “the ratio of this and that”. For example, if there are 4 apples and 2 pears in a vase, we say that the ratio of

apples to pears is the ratio of pears to apples.

In mathematics, ratio is often used as “the relationship of one thing to another.” For example, in mathematics, the ratio of four apples and two pears, which we discussed above, is read as follows. “the ratio of four apples to two pears” or “the ratio of two pears to four apples” if you swap apples and pears.

This ratio is expressed as a for b (where instead of a and b are any numbers), but often you can find a notation made using two points a:b. You can read this post in different ways:

A for b
A belongs to b
The ratio is a to b
We write the ratio of four apples and two pears using the ratio symbol:

4:2

If we replace apples and pears, we will have a ratio of 2: 4. This ratio can be read as “two four” or both “Two pears are equal to four apples”.

In the following, we consider the relation as a relation.

Lesson content

What is a relationship?

As mentioned above, the relation is written as a:b. It can also be written as a fraction. And we know that in mathematics such a record means division. Then the result of the relation will be the part of numbers a and b.

In mathematics, a ratio is the ratio of two numbers. This ratio allows you to determine how much one object is for another unit. Let's go back to the ratio of four apples to two pears (4:2). This ratio allows you to determine how many apples are per unit of pear. A unit means one pear. First, we write the ratio 4:2 as a fraction:

This ratio is the division of 4 by 2. If we do this division, we will get an answer to the question of how many apples fit into one pear. We have 2. Thus, four apples and two pears (4: 2) are related (related to each other), each pear has two apples.

The picture shows how four apples and two pears are related to each other. You can see that there are two apples for every pear.

The relationship can be changed by writing in reverse. Then we get the ratio of two pears to four apples, or “the ratio of two pears to four apples.” This ratio shows how many pears there are per unit of apples. An apple unit means one apple. To find the value of a fraction, you need to remember how to divide a smaller number by a larger number. I got 0.5. Let's convert this decimal to a simple fraction: Reduce the resulting simple fraction by 5

I got an answer (half a pear). Thus, two pears and four apples (2:4) are related (related to each other), so one apple makes half a pear.

Along with the modernization of the education system in our country, its structural reconstruction, the implementation of innovations in the teaching process taking into account the modern achievements of education, science, technology and technology, economy and culture at the world level, the opportunities and needs of the participants of the educational process today requires creating necessary and sufficient conditions for them. The adoption of the Decision PQ-4708 of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated May 7, 2020 “On measures to increase the quality of education in the field of mathematics and develop scientific research” is a clear proof of our opinion. According to the decision, the content and essence of the teaching-methodical program of mathematics must be adapted to the fields, the educational literature (textbooks) on mathematics will be prepared on the basis of various programs and general methodological basis, and on the basis of real examples, graphic materials, which will explain with the help of modern information technology tools, and mathematical issues of ensuring interdisciplinary integration in education are also defined as one of the main priorities. The purpose, content, methods of mathematical education and the laws of applying its tools to mathematics lessons are described in the manual from a psychological, pedagogical and didactic point of view. Because the mathematics teaching methodology course is one of the main specialty subjects. In this course, the

history of the development of mathematics and the general and special methods of teaching mathematics are studied. The methodology of teaching mathematics is closely related to the sciences of pedagogy, psychology, algebra, mathematical analysis, analytical geometry and simple differential equations. The theoretical knowledge and skills acquired within the framework of the textbook science program are used in the teaching of mathematics in higher and secondary special educational institutions (lyceum, college), general education schools on the basis of modern pedagogical technologies, and in the history of science. It is intended to be widely used in learning.

6 Organization of science lessons for students on some topics with the help of electronic tools, use of advanced and modern methods of teaching for students to master science, implementation of new information and pedagogical technologies, textbooks for mastering this science, the use of educational and methodical manuals, lecture texts, handouts, and virtual stands is of great importance. Appropriate advanced pedagogical technologies are used in lectures and seminars. In this regard, the use of brainstorming, discussion lesson and other methods of modern pedagogical technologies has been shown.

Mathematical education is a process and result that helps students acquire the system of mathematical knowledge, form their worldview based on knowledge, learning and skills, develop moral and other qualities of a person, creative power and other opportunities.

Education is considered in two aspects: - social (reflecting society's demand for education); - personal (determines the goal intended for each person). An educated person will have the following characteristics: accuracy; breadth and flexibility of thought; being able to target a wide range of problems and strive to solve them; variety of needs; to be able to predict the development of events and to be able to model one's own activities; high efficiency. The main goal of mathematical education is to form students' ability to look at real life from a mathematical point of view, to see the practical direc-

tions of mathematics and its application.

In general, if k and n are non-zero numbers, k : n is a division ratio, and k and n are called terms of the ratio. $K : n = q$ or $k : n = (k \cdot p) : (n \cdot p)$ or =

Proportion - means how many times the first number is greater than the second number or what part of the first number is the second number.

The equality of two ratios is called a proportion.

Hence, the equation = is a proportion. It can be written as $4 : 5 = 8 : 10$. From this we get the equation $4 \cdot 10 = 5 \cdot 8$, i.e. $40 = 40$. The numbers 5 and 8 are called the middle limits of the proportion, and the numbers 4 and 10 are its extreme limits.

In general, the equality $a \cdot d = b \cdot c$ is appropriate for the proportion $a : b = c : d$. Conversely, a, b, c and d are non-zero numbers for which the equality $a \cdot d = b \cdot c$ is valid, which implies the equality =, i.e. a, b, c and d numbers make up the proportion.

The main property of the proportion: The product of the middle terms of the proportion is equal to the product of its extreme terms.

$A : b = c : d$ $a \cdot d = b \cdot c$ a and d are called extreme terms of the proportion, and b and c are called the middle terms of the proportion.

Example 1.

The extreme terms of the proportion $3 : 5 = 9 : 15$ are 3 and 15, and the middle terms are 5 and 9. The product of the marginal terms is $3 \cdot 15 = 45$; the product of the middle terms is $5 \cdot 9 = 45$; hence, $45 = 45$, so the product of the extreme terms of the proportion is equal to the product of its middle terms.

Example 2.

Are the numbers 8,7,14,16 a proportion?

Solution: Since $7 \cdot 16 = 8 \cdot 14$, the given numbers form a proportion: = 3 – example.

Find the unknown term of the proportion: =

Solution: $3X = 6 \cdot 2$, $3X = 12$, $X = 4$

Finding the unknown term of a proportion is usually called solving the proportion.

Ukraine war: Grenade birthday gift kills army chief Zaluzhny's aide

Worth Noting:

- A source told Ukrainska Pravda that the bottle had been in a gift bag with grenade-shaped glasses and the explosion happened when he opened the bag. Other reports said that his colleague had handed over the bottle saying: "It's hard to surprise you: That's why I'm giving you combat grenades and a bottle of good whisky."
- Gen Zaluzhny spoke of the unspeakable pain and heavy loss to the Ukrainian military and to him personally, describing Maj Chastyakov as a "reliable shoulder" since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022.
- His death is the latest setback for the Ukrainian military, after a missile strike killed 19 soldiers in a Russian attack on an awards ceremony close to the front line in the southern region of Zaporizhzhia. There was widespread criticism that the ceremony had been allowed to go ahead in a dangerous area.



Similar grenades were later found during the search of an army colleague's office

By: BBC

A grenade given as a birthday present has blown up and killed a close aide of the head of Ukraine's armed forces Valery Zaluzhny. Maj Hennadiy Chastyakov, 39, had returned to his flat with presents from his colleagues and was opening them with his son when the grenade exploded. Maj Chastyakov was killed and his 13-year-old son left seriously wounded. Interior Minister Ihor Klymenko said the boy had started turning the ring on the grenade. "Then, the serviceman took the grenade from the child and pulled the ring, causing a tragic explosion." Prosecutors clarified later that he had accidentally set off the grenade while trying to take it away from his son. The blast has been described as a "tragic accident" and

the minister appealed to the public to await the outcome of an official investigation. Police said the explosion in the family flat at Chaiky in the western outskirts of Kyiv had been "as a result of careless handling of ammunition". But it soon emerged that another five grenades had been found in the flat. Mr Klymenko said that they had been a gift from a colleague in the army. Two similar grenades were later found in a search of the colleague, described as a colonel in the army. Pictures from the scene showed other grenades on the floor of the flat, along with other gift bags. Maj Chastyakov had apparently brought the grenades home in a bag with a bottle of whisky. A source told Ukrainska Pravda that the bottle had been in a gift bag with gre-

nade-shaped glasses and the explosion happened when he opened the bag. Other reports said that his colleague had handed over the bottle saying: "It's hard to surprise you: That's why I'm giving you combat grenades and a bottle of good whisky." Gen Zaluzhny spoke of the unspeakable pain and heavy loss to the Ukrainian military and to him personally, describing Maj Chastyakov as a "reliable shoulder" since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022. His death is the latest setback for the Ukrainian military, after a missile strike killed 19 soldiers in a Russian attack on an awards ceremony close to the front line in the southern region of Zaporizhzhia. There was widespread criticism that the ceremony had been allowed to go ahead in a dangerous area. Pro-presidential MP Mary-

ana Bezulha said Maj Chastyakov's death was down to negligence: "I would never have thought Hennadiy would die as a result of carelessness on his own birthday. Grenades are issued, not given as presents." However, the official cause of the explosion has been questioned by Ukrainian commentators, some of whom have speculated whether it was an attack targeting Gen Zaluzhny himself, on the assumption that he might have attended his aide's birthday celebrations. Last week the commander-in-chief gave a blunt assessment of the situation on Ukraine's front lines against Russia's invasion forces. "Just like in World War One, we have reached the level of technology that puts us into a stalemate," he told the Economist. "There will most likely be no deep and beauti-

ful breakthrough." Both the Kremlin and President President Volodymyr Zelensky denied the war had reached deadlock. "Today people are tired, everyone is tired, and there are different opinions. That is clear, but there is no stalemate," Mr Zelensky said at the weekend. In his regular nightly address on Monday night he appealed to Ukrainians to "pull ourselves together, avoid unwinding and splitting up into disputes or other priorities". He also announced that "now is not the right time" for presidential elections due to take place next spring, because Ukraine was at war and under martial law. He was elected in 2019.

Kasasiro Boys Rid Kampala City of the Venomous Vipers!



By: Nassur Tab'an El-Tablaz
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- At the restart, the newly confirmed KCCA head coach went to the deck and had Moses Waiswa replacing Gui Goncalo in the middle of the park. This substitution paid off in the 62nd minute as KCCA doubled their lead through a Muhammad Shaban strike, scoring inside the six-yard box off an Usama Arafat effort after being fed by Waiswa.
- The Capital was getting set ablaze! The Kasasiro Boys were sapping the venom out of the Vipers. The visitors dropped their guard, allowing Katenga to have a good show against them. He kept driving the ball through the central defense, running in from the left wing.
- This forced a double substitution from the Vipers' manager in the 75th minute. He threw Anukani and Watambala into the midfield to torment the Garbage Collectors. You could sense a goal coming... the KCCA fans obliged. There was near silence in the stadium!

The seven Kampala hills showed all signs of a heavy downpour on Friday evening as the Star Times Uganda Premier League pitied last season's near-champions, KCCA FC against the high flying Kitende-based defending champions, Vipers SC. But the skies persistently shied away and kept the pregnant nimbus clouds at bay as though in consonance with the ancestors to keep the full to capacity MTN Omondi stadium intact as the game got underway in Lugogo, a Kampala suburb. Having come to the game at the back of an eventless 1-all draw out of five games, the Kasasiro Boys seemed to be poised for a thrashing... all they needed to do was lie on their turf and take a thorough beating from the money-bags, Vipers SC!

However, the evergreen KCCA talisman, Muhammad Shaban harboured different ideas altogether as he got off his mark into the second minute of the game, with a glancing header from a wonderful assist by Haruna Lukwago, the brisk right winger! SC Vipers sucked in their stomachs; puffed and hissed but the Kasasiro Boys kept their guard, armed to the teeth with their spades... ready to shove the venomous snakes into the garbage collecting trucks! The Garbage Collectors couldn't settle with the ball. They panicked. They were devoid of their usual 'kawoowo' scintillating football. Their reward; two bookings in the opening fifteen minutes collected by the temperamental Shaban and the left-back, Obenchan. Matters weren't helped by the lose of their unlucky injury-prone skipper, Julius Poloto, in the 18th minute to what seemed a humstring injury.

SC Vipers kept the KCCA back four back-pedalling in attempt to find parity through their mercurial and continentally experienced front two, Erick Kambale and Yunus Ssentamu. It was a wonderful display from Yunus who kept darting into the middle of the park and put insurmountable pressure of KCCA's central defense while tough tackles kept flying in on Haruna Lukwago from Abdu Lumala, who couldn't survive a booking. The host were

overly lucky to take a 1-nil lead into half time!

At the restart, the newly confirmed KCCA head coach went to the deck and had Moses Waiswa replacing Gui Goncalo in the middle of the park. This substitution paid off in the 62nd minute as KCCA doubled their lead through a Muhammad Shaban strike, scoring inside the six-yard box off an Usama Arafat effort after being fed by Waiswa. The Capital was getting set ablaze! The Kasasiro Boys were sapping the venom out of the Vipers. The visitors dropped their guard, allowing Katenga to have a good show against them. He kept driving the ball through the central defense, running in from the left wing. This forced a double substitution from the Vipers' manager in the 75th minute. He threw Anukani and Watambala into the midfield to torment the Garbage Collectors. You could sense a goal coming... the KCCA fans obliged. There was near silence in the stadium! The KCCA manager obliged in the 87th minute; he brought on Loki and Abu for Mugume and Shaban to further hold the ball and run down a few minutes on the clock.

With a two-goal advantage at the end of regulation time, KCCA FC looked destined for their maiden win of the 2023/24 season in six attempts. They were having a field day and shining in their own backyard. The SC Vipers fans had had enough of it – they soon started exiting the stadium as the Fourth Official signaled 7 minutes of additional time. But the Kasasiro Boys weren't done yet. It is said that when you hit a snake, hit it into pulp. And pulp it would be for the Venoms. KCCA added a third goal on a counter attack setting the jubilant spectators into a frenzy! Even SC Vipers' late consolation goal almost went unnoticed! Bravo KCCA FC! Could this be a precursor to the good times ahead? Could the most decorated team in Ugandan football be on its way back to familiar territory in the top-half of the league table? It seems certain if the lads pick confidence from this win – a well deserved win at that!



SINCE 1963

EL-TABLAZ

I'm a **KCCA FC** fan!
I'm a **CONSTANT!**
The Players & Managers
will **LEAVE** some time!