

More than 150 pubs in Wales and England have shut down in the first three months of last year

Brews For British Pubs

According to the British Institute of Inn Keepers, three in four pubs were not profitable in 2023 :



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Director of Aslina Wines Africa



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Anti-Semitism is a plague

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No fizz in the UK pub trade, punters stay away, as closures hit a record high:

TROUBLE BREWS FOR BRITISH PUBS HIT BY CRIPPLING COSTS AND CASH CRISIS

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



The good old days... Pulling a pint is an art that needs to be mastered along with a smile. Here, this bartender serves a customer

Hit by a major cash crisis and loss of customers, an increasing number of pubs are closing their doors permanently in the United Kingdom as the industry fights for survival, losing its fizz, and all the Government is giving is verbal froth with lacklustre action or incentives to boost their business.

More than 150 pubs in Wales and England have shut down in the first three months of last year.

In 2023, according to officials, 194 pubs were lost forever due to conversion demolition, including venues like Crooked House in Himley.

In that year, a total of 386 pubs were lost permanently.

A shocking 1,293 pubs close their doors to their communities, depriving them of social meeting venues.

According to the British Institute of Inn Keepers, three in four pubs were not profitable in 2023.

The total closures have lost £100 million to local economies and over 20,000 jobs, and a staggering 64 million fewer pints sold,

A disturbing 51 pubs are closing each month, a significant jump from 32 lost pubs monthly throughout 2022.

It is early to calculate the figures for the first quarter of this year until the next couple

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Commonwealth Family P 4

Politics Page 8 Senegal's top opposition leaders released

News Backpage Forms Of Educational Organization



'Russia's African lab': How Putin won over Burkina Faso after French adieu

In the heart of Burkina Faso's capital, Ouagadougou, a poster advertising free Russian language courses has been attached to the large, iconic model of a globe on a road intersection which locals refer to as the "United Nations roundabout". In the 1980s, the Soviet Union

(USSR) had a strong presence in Africa through diplomatic representation and cultural centres, including in Burkina Faso. Three decades since Russia left large parts of Africa amid the breakup of the Soviet Union, however, signs of its return are visible in Burkina Faso, where the capi-

tal's walls are adorned with pro-Russian graffiti, and Russian flags fly in the streets. "Something has changed, and it is eye-catching. You can feel it immediately, walking the streets and the roundabouts," said a resident who asked to remain anonymous for fear

of repercussions from the government, which has been controlled by the military since a coup in January 2022. In the aftermath of that coup,

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MAGICAL Kenya

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Higher taxes will not cure fiscal shortfalls

By: Zipporah Kuria
xxxxxxxxxxxx

Worth Noting:

- The scale of illicit trade in Kenya is nothing short of alarming. According to the National Baseline Survey on Counterfeit and Other Forms of Illicit Trade in Kenya released in 2020 by the Anti-Counterfeit Authority (ACA), the total value of illicit trade was KES 826 billion in 2018, a 14% increase from KES 726 billion from 2017. In terms of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) share, this represents an increase from 8.9% in 2017 to 9.3% in 2018.
- Currently, ACA estimates that the numbers may have hit more than KES 1 trillion in 2023. While manufacturing currently contributes 7.8 % to GDP, the negative extraction from GDP by illicit trade cancels out the contribution by the manufacturing sector. Research by the Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) shows that members lose about 40% of their market share to counterfeits.



In the face of growing strong economic headwinds, the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) has grappled with slow growth in tax revenue, highlighting the need for innovative solutions rather than resorting to higher taxation.

Despite the introduction of new higher taxation measures, the current fiscal year's first quarter registered its slowest pace of increase since 2018, excluding the COVID-19 pandemic year.

Recently, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) expressed concerns over recent shortfalls in tax revenue collection for quarter one of 2023/24 target that was missed by KES 79.0 billion, in its 6th review of Kenya's extended arrangement program. In its latest forecast, the Treasury projects a KES 133.5 billion shortfall in projected revenue for 2023/24.

The Treasury's budgetary outlook paper of September 2023 cites a drop in motor vehicle and fuel imports as well as lower-than-forecast sales of beer, spirits, and cosmetics, as significant factors in this slowdown as the spiraling cost of living takes its toll.

Like most countries, Kenya is feeling the reverbera-

tions of a global poly-crisis. Lingered fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic, Russia/Ukraine war, Israel/Hamas conflict and the challenges caused by climate change are all having a significant impact.

Despite this, focusing on problems that are controllable locally can help to alleviate the wider malaise. The growing menace of illicit trade is one such area that deserves increased attention from our lawmakers.

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facturing sector. Research by the Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) shows that members lose about 40% of their market share to counterfeits.

Illicit trade is damaging our nation's economic development. While criminals orchestrate these activities, the impacts are borne by ordinary citizens and legitimate businesses.

In Kenya, counterfeiting is the most prevalent form of illicit trade. It not only takes away the citizen's right to quality and genuine products but also puts lives at risk by infiltrating the market with substandard and, in many cases, very dangerous goods. There have been media reports of illicit food and beverage products causing illnesses, disability, and death.

Case and point, counterfeit alcoholic products whose consumption has in the past resulted in tragic outcomes. The safety of Kenyans must come first.

KAM continues to work with the Government through its agencies such as ACA to create awareness among consumers on the presence of counterfeit products in the market while advocating for interagency collaboration, coordination, and cooper-

ation among the national enforcement institutions mandated to combat various forms of illicit trade.

In addition to counterfeiting, illicit trade includes tax evasion, which deprives KRA of billions in tax revenue annually. This substantial loss – last measured at over KES 153 billion a year and rising – limits the government's ability to finance crucial public services such as education and infrastructure development.

To fill this fiscal black hole, there are often calls to increase the taxes which consumers pay on goods, including excise duty. However, when imposed indiscriminately, high taxes only exacerbate this issue by driving consumers toward cheaper, often illicit alternatives.

Smugglers can buy cheaper untaxed or lightly taxed products such as alcohol, cigarettes, or sugar in neighbouring countries or from illegal sources and sell them in Kenya at prices below the legal market rate, but still at a hefty profit. The significant rewards for such criminality can encourage corrupt practices within law enforcement agencies, customs, and other government bodies, making it even more challenging to combat

these illegal activities.

In essence, the illicit trade menace jeopardizes Kenya's society, economy, and overall well-being, demanding urgent attention to prevent the loss of vital tax revenue exceeding Sh150 billion annually. Therefore, concerted efforts must be made to combat the illicit trade scourge, safeguard the rights of consumers, protect the integrity of businesses, and bolster the nation's economic prospects.

Addressing the challenges posed by high excise taxes and illicit trade requires a multi-faceted approach that combines fiscal, regulatory, enforcement and public awareness measures. Simplifying tax structures and implementing fair and transparent tax policies can help address illicit trade. Further, collaborating with neighbouring countries to harmonize tax policies and regulatory measures can help tackle smuggling. Enhancing border security and customs enforcement to detect and deter illicit trade is also crucial. This includes investing in technology and training for law enforcement officers. Implementing robust track-and-trace systems for certain products, such as cigarettes and alcohol, can help authorities monitor the supply chain and combat illicit trade.

In conclusion, the battle against illicit trade requires collective efforts from all stakeholders – government bodies, law enforcement agencies, manufacturers, and vigilant consumers. It is imperative to work collaboratively, considering the unintended consequences of taxation policies, to safeguard the nation's economic prospects and well-being.

The writer is the Chairperson of the Anti-illicit Trade Committee at the Kenya Association of Manufacturers. She can be reached at info@kam.co.ke.

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Commonwealth Family

Commonwealth Family: A Call for Unity and Action in Addressing Global Challenges

By: David Cameron
xxxxxxxxxxxx

David Cameron.

On 11 March, some 2.5 billion of us will come together to celebrate the Commonwealth family. 75 years after the London Declaration, I will join this family's many nations, faiths and communities at a service at Westminster Abbey. I was Prime Minister when the Commonwealth agreed a new Charter, a milestone in our family's history. For the first time, we had a single document setting out our core values and shared goals. Today, as Foreign Secretary, I want our family of nations working in partnership to uphold these values and fulfil these goals. I am proud of the work Commonwealth members do in partnership in areas ranging from the

rule of law to protecting the environment. We are bound together by our many connections and inspired by our incredible diversity. This makes us a strong and respected voice in the world, capable of addressing global challenges. It means all our citizens can benefit from belonging to this family in their daily lives. Thanks to our strong ties, the cost of trade between Commonwealth members is more than 20% lower than the costs of trading with non-Commonwealth members. We have made enormous strides in recent years in empowering women and girls, backing 4000 businesses owned by women across the

Commonwealth to become more competitive. And we are working hard together to promote our values. The Commonwealth came together to stand by Guyana when it was threatened. And Commonwealth missions have observed dozens of elections since we agreed our new Charter. The bonds our family shares matter all the more as we face great global challenges. I believe this is especially true for our small island members. Our Charter recognised their particular needs in building their resilience, especially in the face of climate change. This global challenge impacts these states relatively more given their geography. It is to our families that we

turn when we are most in need. I want these states to know they can turn to their Commonwealth family today. We have a major opportunity this year. The Commonwealth Heads of Government will be meeting in a Pacific island country for the first time, gathering in Samoa this October. This gathering takes place a few months after the once-in-a-decade UN Small Island Developing States Conference in Antigua and Barbuda this May. These states are already harnessing the power of nature to tackle the causes and impacts of climate change. Just look at Papua New Guinea, protecting some of the world's most important forests, on which we all depend. Or take the sixteen Commonwealth small island states working as part of the global coalition committed to protecting at least 30% of the world's ocean by 2030. We can offer much more support to these efforts. Britain is doubling its provision of international climate finance. And last autumn the Prime Minister made our biggest ever contribution to the Green Climate Fund, the largest global fund to support developing countries in responding to climate change. This will help. But the biggest challenge these states face is accessing the international funding itself. Despite being low emitters uniquely exposed to the threat of climate change, they receive

a minuscule proportion of such funding. So many of these states said to me at COP – 'we keep hearing announcements about green finance, but it seems so hard to get hold of the money and get projects financed.' That is what I want to fix. A dedicated Commonwealth hub has helped to mobilise more than \$310m of climate finance for our small island members since 2016. This year, as members of the same Commonwealth family, let's build on this and go much further. Britain has particular leverage as a major donor to the big multilateral development funds and banks. We are working particularly closely with these banks to scale up by hundreds of billions of dollars the funding they offer developing states. But all members can play a role. Many of us are donors. Others have experience to share in accessing finance from such funds and banks themselves, and making best use of them on the ground. This year, in Samoa, we have a chance to show them and our other small island members just what the Commonwealth means. An effective association. A unique network. A reliable source of support. In short, a family.

The author is UK's Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs.

Worth Noting:

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- We have made enormous strides in recent years in empowering women and girls, backing 4000 businesses owned by women across the Commonwealth to become more competitive.
- And we are working hard together to promote our values. The Commonwealth came together to stand by Guyana when it was threatened. And Commonwealth missions have observed dozens of elections since we agreed our new Charter.

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State Sets Aside Sh250 Million For The Upcoming Wildlife Census

By: AGENCIES
xxxxxxxxxxxx

Kenya has allocated 250 million shillings (about 1.86 million U.S. dollars) for undertaking the 2024 wildlife census, an official said Friday.

Patrick Omondi, chief executive officer and director of the state-owned Wildlife Research and Training Institute, told journalists in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, that the exercise, which will end by June 2025, will seek accurate data for the population of all aquatic and land-based wildlife species in the country.

"We have begun preparations for conducting the 2024 wildlife census which will be the second national scale census since 2021," Omondi said during the inception meeting for the 2024 wildlife census which marks the commencement of the pivotal initiative aimed at conducting comprehensive wildlife enumeration across various regions of Kenya.

Omondi noted that the counting exercise will deploy the use of aircraft, boats, cameras as well as geographic information systems that target wildlife species in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. The census will ensure continuous monitoring of wildlife resources to obtain data on the status of wildlife including trends, threats, challenges, and opportunities.

He said that the planned census is particularly important following the devastating drought in 2022 that impacted wildlife resources heavily including endangered species such as elephants and grevy's zebra.



Elephants are seen in Taita Hills Wildlife Sanctuary, Taita-Taveta County, Kenya, Oct. 28, 2023. (Xinhua/Han Xu)

Climate Change

Europe is creating an agricultural sinkhole for Africa, to uphold the politics of pseudo science

By: Jenny Luesby
xxxxxxxxxxxx

It seemed a sweet political move for the European Commission at the time, following countless distorted campaigns from environmentalists exploiting the membership and revenue power of claiming food and drink contamination and environmental catastrophe.

Facts weren't a necessity in this: the point was scary headlines. Just one example, now impacting most of Africa, were claims that one of the world's newest and cleanest insecticides was wiping out bees, essential to the pollination of human food. It made a powerful narrative, creating images of a future world devoid of pollinated fruits.

It just didn't happen to be true. The pesticides don't affect bees and the bee population is rising rapidly everywhere, including in nations still using the targeted pest controls. But the bee campaign, and many others claiming far-fetched health and environmental risks, had, by then, driven public opinion and pseudo science into a frenzy of opposition to pesticides.

The timing couldn't have been worse, as climate change began inexorably increasing the range and



Jenny Luesby

volume of plant pests and diseases. Thus, as Europe rolled out ever more bans of pesticides deemed low risk elsewhere, its agricultural production began stagnating and declining. It gave farmers rounds of compensation, rising to now half their income. But, as the pest losses mounted, European producers began protesting

against 'unfair' competition from imports still allowed to use pest protection, very often from Africa. This saw Europe turn to the mission of enforcing its extra pesticide 'precautions' in Africa too. It began by moving most of the Maximum Residue Levels for these risk-approved pesticides to a technical zero. This

triggered a World Trade Organisation dispute that is still running, driven by the US and India, but including multiple African nations, decrying the effective pesticide bans as trade barriers.

The EU then additionally introduced new lists of quarantine pests, most of which required the banned pesticides to control.

African agricultural exporters were caught in an effective pincer movement, locked out by pests they could no longer control.

In West Africa, the impact on the cocoa sector, which alone accounts for over a third of all African agricultural exports to the EU, has been so severe, cocoa prices have now soared. Coffee has also been hurt, while, in Southern Africa, the fruit and nut industries, which account for another 14 percent of Africa's total agricultural exports to the EU, are hanging on a thread. Last year, Europe demanded South Africa chill all oranges for export at below 2 degrees Celsius for 20 days before shipping instead of using pest protection, triggering industry warnings of a 20 percent fall in exports and thousands of job losses.

But, in Kenya, efforts to maintain flower, fruit and vegetable exports to the EU have triggered even greater extremes, with the local banning of pesticides targeted by Europe drawing warnings from the CEO of the

Kenya Fresh Produce Consortium of a \$1bn food production loss per year. More recent estimates show the country will move into a food crisis from 2025 as a result.

For Africans cannot survive if maize is left for the Fall ArmyWorm that destroys up to 70 percent of crops, or cocoa is given up to mirids that also damage over 70 percent, wheat to complete destruction from leaf rust, and coffee to coffee berry borer. African governments are juggling between limiting their export collapse – to maintain import funds without which all development slows – and ensuring food production and food security at home.

It is a dire trade-off – being driven by a policy so divisive in Europe that the European Parliament, last October, voted against a new bill to further halve its own pesticide use, while EU President Ursula von der Leyen has said pesticide withdrawals have now become "a symbol of polarisation" for the EU.

In Africa, they are creating poverty, hunger and reversed development, and now the solution to Europe's newest political protests over them is to hit Africa harder still.

Jenny Luesby is a development consultant specialising in climate change, and the publisher of FarmBizAfrica.com

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Senegal's top opposition leaders released from prison as elections loom

Freedom for Ousmane Sonko and Bassirou Diomaye Faye could dramatically alter the election race.

Senegal's top opposition leader, Ousmane Sonko, has been released from prison, triggering jubilant celebrations outside the prison as well as across Dakar, the capital.

State broadcaster RTS reported Sonko was freed along with key ally Bassirou Diomaye Faye late on Thursday.

Their release comes after a crisis triggered by President Macky Sall's decision to postpone the February 25 presidential vote and was expected following last week's passage of an amnesty law for acts committed in connection with political demonstrations since 2021.

The election, which authorities wanted to postpone for 10 months, is now due to take place on March 24.

"They came out in front of us," said lawyer Cheikh Koureyssi Ba. Sonko was at the heart of a bitter two-year standoff with the state and has been in prison since July.

The legal case against him, along with rising economic and social tensions, led to deadly unrest between 2021 and 2023.

Sonko came third in the 2019 presidential election but was barred from running as a candidate in this year's poll.

News of his release brought thousands of supporters onto the streets

of Dakar, chanting Sonko's name on the street outside his house. Some lit flares, danced or blasted their motorbike and car horns.

"We've been waiting for this day for so long. Prayed for it," said 52-year-old health worker Fatima, who gave only her first name. She had rushed to join the crowd when she heard Sonko and Faye were free.

"I believe Sonko can change the country," she said.

The opposition leader is popular among young people and his fiery campaign to tackle corruption has resonated in a country where the cost of living is rising and many people are struggling.

"It's a joy. It's incredible. They released Ousmane Sonko!", said 31-year-old Mamadou Mballo Mane.

After he was disqualified from contesting the election, Sonko endorsed Faye to replace him on the ballot.

Faye, who was jailed in April 2023, has been unable to address voters in person since campaigning kicked off on March 9.

Incumbent Macky Sall is not standing for re-election this year. His last-minute decision to defer the February presidential vote led to unrest in which four people were killed.

Bouts of unrest since 2021 have left



Thousands took to the streets to celebrate Sonko's release [Seyllou/AFP]

dozens dead and led to hundreds of arrests in a country often viewed as a pillar of stability in West Africa, where there have been dozens of coups and attempted coups in recent decades.

Sonko has always maintained there

was a plot to keep him out of the 2024 election, while his camp and the government have traded blame for the violence.

He had been jailed since the end of July on a string of charges, including provoking insurrection, conspiracy

with terrorist groups and endangering state security.

His political party was also dissolved.

Source: News Agencies

Politics

Niger suspends military cooperation with US: Spokesman

The suspension follows an earlier move that has seen thousands of French soldiers exit the West African nation

Niger has suspended its military agreement with the United States "with immediate effect", according to the ruling military spokesman Colonel Amadou Abdramane, in a blow to US security interests in the region.

The pact allowed US military personnel and civilian defence staff to operate from Niger, which plays a central role in the US military's operations in Africa's Sahel region and is home to a major airbase.

The decision, announced on Saturday, came after senior US officials – led by Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Molly Phee and US Africa Command head General Michael Langley – visited the West African country earlier this week to discuss democratic transition.

Speaking on local television, Abdramane said the US delegation did not follow diplomatic protocol, and that Niger was not informed about the composition of the delegation, the date of its arrival or the agenda.

"Niger regrets the intention of the American delegation to deny the sovereign Nigerien people the right to choose their partners and types of



The Niger junta spokesman said the US tone was condescending and threatened Niger's sovereignty [File: Souleymane Ag Anara/Reuters]

partnerships capable of truly helping them fight against terrorism," Abdramane said.

The US military had some 650 personnel working in Niger in December, according to a White House report to Congress. The US military operates a major airbase in the Niger city of Agadez, some 920km (572 miles) from the capital of Niamey,

using it for manned and unmanned surveillance flights and other operations.

A drone base known as Air Base 201 near Agadez was built at a cost of more than \$100m. Since 2018 the base has been used to target ISIL (ISIS) fighters and Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen (JNIM), an al-Qaeda affiliate, in the Sahel re-

gion.

'A huge blow to the US'

Reporting from Washington, DC, Al Jazeera correspondent Shihab Rattansi said the move is "a huge blow to the US".

"Niger is the centre of US operations in west and north Africa, notably at its Air Base 201, the most expensive construction project ever undertaken by the US government. It's there for war on terror operations but it's really there also for great power projection against countries like Russia and China."

Last October, Washington officially designated the military takeover as a coup. But in December, the top US envoy for Africa, Phee, said the US was willing to restore aid and security ties if Niger met certain conditions.

The military said the delegation had accused Niger of partnering with Russia and Iran on "secret" deals, which the government denies. Officials also said the US had "threatened" action against Niger if the Niamey fails to cut ties with both countries.

The military government "forcefully denounces the condescending attitude accompanied by the threat of retaliation from the head of the American delegation towards the Nigerien government and people", spokesman Abdramane added.

A US official, speaking on the condition of anonymity to the Reuters news agency, said the officials had "frank discussions" in Niamey earlier this week about the trajectory of Niger's ruling military council – known by its French initials CNSP. "We are in touch with the CNSP and will provide further updates as warranted," the official added.

Niger has been under military rule since July 2023 when an elite guard force led by General Abdourahmane Tchiani detained President Mohamed Bazoum and declared Tchiani ruler.

Like the military rulers in neighbouring Mali and Burkina Faso, Niger has also kicked out French and other European forces. Both Mali and Burkina Faso have turned to Russia for support.

Source: Al Jazeera and news agencies

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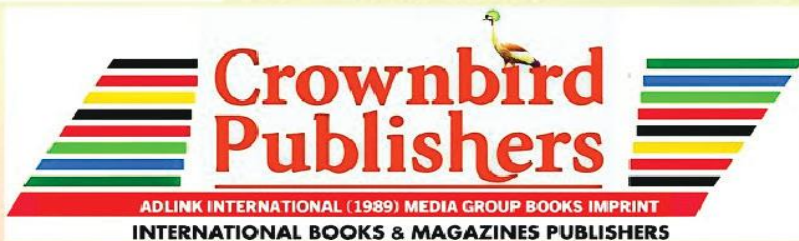
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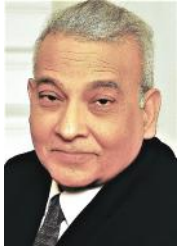
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UK News

No fizz in the UK pub trade, punters stay away, as closures hit a record high:

TROUBLE BREWS FOR BRITISH PUBS HIT BY CRIPPLING COSTS AND CASH CRISIS



By: Shamlal Puri
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Worth Noting:

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- A disturbing 51 pubs are closing each month, a significant jump from 32 lost pubs monthly throughout 2022.
- It is early to calculate the figures for the first quarter of this year until the next couple of months.
- Soaring energy costs, staffing costs, high taxes and lack of customers are killing the industry so severely that even the commercial value of pubs is plummeting so badly that buildings which have run pubs for decades are being demolished for redevelopment or used for other purposes.

of months.

Soaring energy costs, staffing costs, high taxes and lack of customers are killing the industry so severely that even the commercial value of pubs is plummeting so badly that buildings which have run pubs for decades are being demolished for redevelopment or used for other purposes.

Official Government data from commercial real estate sources proves that as high as 60% of buildings are gone or redeveloped for other purposes, including offices, homes, or nurseries.

When the pubs close, they rarely reopen, even under new management. The business, which once was very lucrative, is losing its fizz.

The brewing industry is begging the Government for relief and to act.

Rishi Sunak's administration is busily fighting its own battle for survival in the forthcoming general elections, internal political squabbles within the Party and the opposition that it does not have much time and desire to think of the plight of the pubs.

It is not only England but also the rest of the United Kingdom bearing the brunt of the battering the pub industry is getting.

In Wales, media sources say, the number of pubs lying vacant or being offered to let dropped to 39,634 in the first quarter of last year.

High energy costs and the Government's failure to boost the industry are among the many reasons for the closure of an increasing number of pubs in the United Kingdom.

Pub landlords are under immense pressure as they struggle to keep their doors open despite a dwindling number of customers who avoid visiting their favourite bars because of rising food prices as they struggle to feed their families.

Pub owners have lashed out at the Government's failure to address their problems.

The British Beer and Pub Association warns that the average energy bill for a pub would rise by £18,400 a year with little sign of relief from the Government.

The situation is so desperate that some pubs are forced to hike the prices of a pint (of beer) to a whopping £15 to £20 to stay afloat.

Pub landlady Miranda Richardson gave up her

village pub after her energy bills soared to £30,000 a quarter, totalling £120,000 per year.

Additionally, to run her big pub, she employed six bar staff, a wait staff, and a chef, adding to her running costs.

The business cost her £5,000 a week just to keep the doors open.

Her pub, aptly named Live and Let Live, in Harpole, Northampton, received a gas bill of more than £7,000 and an electricity bill of around £20,000.

The previous year these costs were £6,000 less. Her gas bill was around £1,500 for three months or £6,200 less per annum.

To break even, Miranda said she would have to sell "roughly 1,400 pints of lager" to pay her costs.

Though she loved her pub, she could not sustain running it, so she put her hands up and decided to shut the door.

The writing was on the wall, and she found it impossible to keep it open.

The pub tucked away in a small village was no doubt popular, but people had a cost-of-living crisis to afford to visit this pub—clients who came to her pub three or four times a week before were staying away.

Miranda is one of the thousands of pub owners struggling for survival, even in 2024, as the costs continue to soar, and the Government is giving nothing but merely lip service sympathy.

Those holding on to their pubs are finding they must fund their activities with their resources or bank loans in the hopes that the sign of recovery will soon come.

Unfortunately, businesses grappling with the energy crisis cannot predict their monthly energy bills as no price cap is imposed on this sector.

For every Budget, they hope the Government will offer them some incentives, but they are minuscule and far in between coming, only probably around election times.

The relationship between the Treasury, alcohol and cigarette makers and tobaccoists is always riddled with higher taxation at every



MPs are increasingly demanding 20 percent relief. Here, MP Steven Crabb, centre, joins the campaign for justice for brewers



Scotland pubs are also suffering and are demanding protection from the Government by cutting the tax burden, says Stuart Malcom of CAMRA above



Nik Antona, CAMRA National Chairman, says the Government save the pubs and the brewing industry

Contd Page 11.

UK News

No fizz in the UK pub trade, punters stay away, as closures hit a record high:

TROUBLE BREWS FOR BRITISH PUBS HIT BY CRIPPLING COSTS AND CASH CRISIS



By: Shamlal Puri
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Worth Noting:

- Pub landlords are under immense pressure as they struggle to keep their doors open despite a dwindling number of customers who avoid visiting their favourite bars because of rising food prices as they struggle to feed their families.
- Pub owners have lashed out at the Government's failure to address their problems.
- The British Beer and Pub Association warns that the average energy bill for a pub would rise by £18,400 a year with little sign of relief from the Government.
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- Pub landlady Miranda Richardson gave up her village pub after her energy bills soared to £30,000 a quarter, totalling £120,000 per year.

Budget.

Smokers and drinkers are clobbered with high taxes that help raise funds for the Treasury.

Besides the energy costs hitting the pubs, the culprit has also been Covid and the lockdowns of recent years when customers were stopped, by law, from going to the pubs during the pandemic.

Desperate drinkers who had gathered at one local watering hole in Britain were forced to hide in the pub's cabinets when there was a raid during a lockdown.

Many pubgoers would instead go to the supermarkets and buy their drinks to sip at home plopped in front of the TV.

Johnny was a regular at a local pub in his village every weekend to catch up with his work friends. He stopped going there for the last two years and says he has no desire to return.

Their confidence in running these pubs has been seriously dented.

The recent Spring Budget delivered by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Jeremy Hunt, angered the brewing industry.

The post-budget hangover has not yet gone among pubgoers.

Nik Antona, Chairman of Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA), slammed the Government, saying, "The Budget was a missed opportunity to show 'backing for the Great British pub' by not significantly cutting tax on draught beer and cider served in pubs.

He noted the slight relief in the Budget, the freezing alcohol duty until February 2025," which will be welcomed by consumers and breweries, helping mitigate an additional hike in costs to be passed on to pubs and pubgoers."

CAMRA, considered one of the most successful European consumer organisations, represents beer drinkers and pubgoers across the UK.

Making duty on draught beer and cider significantly lower would promote drinking in the regulated setting of a local community and help small and independent producers who sell mainly into pubs and taprooms to compete against the global brewing giants and supermarket alcohol.

CAMRA said it would

continue to campaign for the Treasury and all political parties to back their demand of making the tax on pints in pubs 20% lower than the general duty rate.

Mr Antona said the Government should have cut VAT on alcohol.

"Cutting VAT on all sales in the hospitality sector would have been a simple way to support consumers and beer and pub businesses in all parts of the UK – helping to keep the nation's pubs, social clubs and breweries alive and thriving at the heart of communities and local economies.

"The Chancellor should still consider cutting VAT for these businesses to ease the significant financial burdens on the sector and help to reduce the rate of pub and brewery closures, which deprive consumers of community pubs and choice of local beers."

There was a time when there was no business like the pub business in the United Kingdom, where one couldn't enjoy a stiff drink in the saloon bar, and a cloud of smoke from cigarettes, cigars, and pipes floated in the bar. In exchange for one Pound coin fed into it, jukeboxes were churning out loud music of the day, or there was live entertainment.

Public house landlords were raking in money not only from alcohol sales but also from the tobacco vending machines in the corridor or by the washrooms, which were ringing with falling coins that ejected cigarette packets. In the early 1960s and 1970s, many former residents of Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda went into the lucrative pub business, buying thriving pubs from retiring local Britons and joining the Irish, pioneers in the industry. They made their money while the going was good.

The British pub is a distinctive socialising centre which has played a vital role in the UK's urban and rural communities.

Sadly, times are now changing, and the pub owners are fasting, down on their knees, and struggling for survival.

The pubs are so bad these days that London has no nightlife. The streets are dead most nights at a time when revellers used to crowd in central London and the outer suburbs going to pubs to enjoy the friendly atmosphere and socialise.



Gone down... a popular pub building lies in ruins in northern England



Forced to shut down...Miranda Richardson says she loves running the pub, Live and Let Live, but cannot sustain the rising costs and energy bills. Photo Courtesy



Few customers wait outside this London pub

Weekends were particularly overcrowded in the past, but one pub said it was soul-destroying to see just one customer in one London pub.

The staff had come prepared to receive their regular customers but had just one at around 7 in the evening.

Some publicans were

forced to shut their pubs earlier and keep them closed throughout the day when the British culture saw them open throughout the week.

CAMRA said the increase in energy prices would cause pub running costs to increase by 500-600%, threatening many establishments with closure.

Pub landlords know that

they cannot pass the high costs of the pint to their customers who are already struggling with their cost-of-living crisis, and high costs would prevent them from coming to drink at

Contd Page 13.

South Africa

Meet Ntsiki Biyela, the first black female winemaker in South Africa

By: Soni Adriance
xxxxxxxxxxxx



Ntsiki Biyela, the Director of Aslina Wines

Worth Noting:

- Ntsiki remembers her fondly, a strong woman who worked hard for her family. Ntsiki grew up in Zululand and remembers not having much, but seared in her memory is her grandmother's visit to her school, interrupting her Standard Ten Chemistry class and giving her 20 cents.

- Ntsiki remembers feeling moved even though her grandmother felt a little hurt she didn't have more to give, "I was excited, and she was hurt, and the gesture really moved me. I loved seeing her." Ntsiziki recounts.

- The love Ntsiziki received from her grandmother, she pours into everything she does.

Aslina wines have six wines in their portfolio; a Methode Cap Classique (also known as MCC, South Africa's sparkling wine), a Sauvignon Blanc, a red blend named Umsasane (The Acacia Tree), a Chardonnay, a Cabernet Sauvignon, and a Chenin Blanc.

Ntsiki Biyela, the Director of Aslina Wines, is a trailblazer. A woman of many accolades, Ntsiki is the first female black winemaker in South Africa, the winner of the Diversity and Transformation Award at the 2021 Wine Harvest Commemorative Event, and she was listed as the world's top 10 most Innovative Women in Food and Drink by Fortune's Food & Wine in 2017, to name a few.

It's not just Ntsiki who's taking home awards, so are her wines. Aslina's wines have won awards in the 2022 Veritas Wine Awards, Sakura Japan Women's Awards 2022, Decanter World Wine Awards 2022 and more. Walking into Aslina's newly opened tasting room I was immediately struck by three things: Ntsiki's maternal, loving, energy, her passion for wine, and the aroma of traditional South African dishes to accompany our wine tasting – a welcomed change from the typical cheese board.

Aslina is a brand that pays tribute to Ntsiki's beloved late grandmother.

Ntsiki remembers her fondly, a strong woman who worked hard for her family. Ntsiki grew up in Zululand and remembers not having much, but seared in her memory is her grandmother's visit to her school, interrupting her Standard Ten Chemistry class and giving her 20 cents.



Wine consumption in India has risen from negligible levels in 1995 but volumes still stood at just 20 million litres in 2021, according to the International Organisation of Vine and Wine

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The love Ntsiziki received from her grandmother, she pours into everything she does. Aslina wines have six wines in their portfolio; a Methode Cap Classique (also known as MCC, South Africa's sparkling wine), a Sauvignon Blanc, a red blend named Umsasane (The Acacia Tree), a Chardonnay, a Cabernet Sauvignon, and a Chenin Blanc.

These award-winning wines

are paired with Bobotie, Chakalaka, and Pap, incredibly flavourful traditional South African dishes.

Ntsiziki notes that opening the tasting room is just the beginning for Aslina. Here, she hopes to be able to share her story, grow the business, and eventually open her own wine cellar.

She continues to grow her business through bureaucratic setbacks as she believes in doing the hard work and paving the way for the next generation of black South African winemakers. When Ntsiziki isn't building her business or public speaking, you can find her at the Pinotage Develop-

ment Academy teaching and training.

A few of the graduates from these programs get the opportunity to work with Ntsiziki at Aslina. When I ask how she keeps her spirits high, she says she's a spiritual woman and leans on her faith.

She sees herself in the students at the Pinotage Development Academy and it encourages her to keep going, keep growing, and keep encouraging change.

As for the future of the black winemaking industry in South Africa, Ntsiziki seems hopeful. She appreciates that change is hard and believes that for the industry to

change for black people, it's going to need those who are in the forefront to be able to admit they're not doing it for themselves, they're doing it for those to come.

She wants to leave the next generation in a better position than where she was at their age.

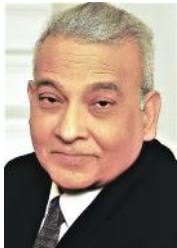
Through all this work, Ntsiziki lives by the motto, "do everything from a place of love". That love is certainly apparent in her passion, her wines, and her brand. On your next trip to South Africa, you should take a moment to experience it yourself.

Article written by Soni Adriance

UK News

No fizz in the UK pub trade, punters stay away, as closures hit a record high:

TROUBLE BREWS FOR BRITISH PUBS HIT BY CRIPPLING COSTS AND CASH CRISIS



By: Shamlal Puri
Associate Publisher
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Contd from Page 11

Worth Noting:

- The relationship between the Treasury, alcohol and cigarette makers and tobacconists is always riddled with higher taxation at every Budget.
- Smokers and drinkers are clobbered with high taxes that help raise funds for the Treasury.
- Besides the energy costs hitting the pubs, the culprit has also been Covid and the lockdowns of recent years when customers were stopped, by law, from going to the pubs during the pandemic.
- Desperate drinkers who had gathered at one local watering hole in Britain were forced to hide in the pub's cabinets when there was a raid during a lockdown.
- Many pubgoers would instead go to the supermarkets and buy their drinks to sip at home plopped in front of the TV.



For sale.... The owner of this pub decided to put it on sale rather than bear the costs of running it

their pubs.

The current average cost of a pint of beer in London is £5.90, and in the rest of the UK £4.21 instead of £1.25 a pint, but some drinkers say these are fictitious figures. Some posh pubs in London can charge anything from £16-£20 a pint.

Drinkers say these are “rip-off prices”,

George, another drinker, said, “If these prices continue to rise, people will stop going to the pubs, adding, “Not only will the Government lose considerable money in the taxes they impose, but there will even be more social damage as people would vent out their frustration and there could be street violence.”

These high costs kill the drinks trade and close pubs.

Some estimates say that a pub must sell 1,000 pints to gain £310, not considering the costs of broken beer glasses and restroom repairs.

Taxpayers believe by adding the burden of taxation on beer drinkers; the Government has another option to fleece and drain the working taxpayer as the pub must pass the cost to the customer,

Some people say the tax on one pint of beer is double the price of the production cost.

Without the Government's

incentives and intervention, it seems unlikely that pub businesses will survive, and breweries will close the way things are now.

If the Government fails to act and cut taxes, says one regular pubgoer, pubs will close, and it will be an open season for bootleggers who make a comeback.



For sale...This pub had no choice but to put it on sale due to the crisis

Shut its doors in this crisis, Blacks was a popular pub in the UK



FEATURES

'Russia's African lab': How Putin won over Burkina Faso after French adieu

Russia has been increasing its influence in Burkina Faso, where disillusionment with French politics has left a void

By: Justin Yarga
xxxxxxxxxxxx

Contd from Page 1



Supporters of Burkina Faso's military government leader, Ibrahim Traore, hold the national flags of Burkina Faso and Russia during a demonstration in Ouagadougou on October 6, 2022. Traore was appointed president of Burkina Faso a day earlier following the West African country's second coup in less than nine months [Issouf Sanogo/AFP]

Worth Noting:

• A football tournament, a graffiti festival, a photo exhibition, film screenings, a public conference, and a daily radio show called "Russian Time", during which hosts speak in a mixture of French and Russian, are some of the events that take place in Ouagadougou every day, as local frustration for former coloniser France has been exploited by Russia to secure influence in the country.

• Organisations such as the African Initiative – which describes itself as "an association of Burkinabè and Russians whose aim is to strengthen friendship and mutual understanding, peace and harmony between the peoples of Burkina Faso and Russia" – and Russia's cultural centre, The Russian House, are working to promote Russia's image in the country.

This charm offensive began in early 2022 and has gained ground significantly since a grand Russia-Africa summit was held in Saint Petersburg at the end of July 2023.

which overthrew the elected president, Roch Marc Christian Kabore, Russian flags began to appear during anti-French protests.

At a time when Russian President Vladimir Putin, who is seeking re-election for a fifth term as leader of the country this weekend, is no longer welcome in many parts of the world following the invasion of Ukraine, Moscow is seen as a friend in Ouagadougou.

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mote Russia's image in the country.

This charm offensive began in early 2022 and has gained ground significantly since a grand Russia-Africa summit was held in Saint Petersburg at the end of July 2023. During that summit, Russian President Vladimir Putin promised to send aid to Burkina Faso and duly followed up on January 26 this year with an official donation of 25,000 tonnes of wheat as part of that promise.

In spite of France

Dissatisfaction with French influence has grown on two fronts. One of these is cultural. One researcher who did not wish to be named explained that many people in Burkina Faso do not identify with what they see as the West European country's progressive policies, such as same-sex marriage, and see less permissive Russian attitudes as more in line with their own.

"Russia is popular in Burkina Faso today because people are fed up with French politics," explained a Burkinabe university professor and researcher who also requested anonymity. "The Russians sensed that France poorly negotiated its turn

with Africa. It has arrived in a country in the throes of a divorce with France," the researcher added.

"In the case of Burkina Faso, Russia is making significant diplomatic gains by repositioning itself in areas that have traditionally been Western strongholds. And the best part is, it can achieve this at a lower cost," said Newton Ahmed Barry, a Burkinabe journalist currently in exile in France.

Like Mali and Niger – two neighbouring countries led by military governments – Burkina Faso's primary complaint against the former coloniser, however, is its inability to curb threats from armed groups in the Sahel region since 2013.

France had been providing military support to Sahel countries in this fight, with troops deployed in Mali since 2013, in Niger since 2014, and special forces that have been based in Ouagadougou since 2009. Despite this, armed groups have remained powerful, and protests filled with Russian flags and images of Vladimir Putin took place in Ouagadougou in January 2023 to demand the departure of the French military and its ambassador.

Russia has tried to step into

the void. Under the leadership of Captain Ibrahim Traore, who took power in a second coup in September 2022, Burkina Faso has strengthened its military cooperation with Russia, seeking support from Moscow in its fight against armed groups. "It is an official and assumed option to make Russia the partner, replacing all other partners, namely, Westerners and mainly France," Barry said.

He added that the move is not a "diversification of partnerships", but rather a clear choice to rely on Russia to equip the army and protect the regime – similar to Russia's involvement in Syria, the Central African Republic and Mali.

In November 2023, the first group of Russian soldiers landed in the capital city of Burkina Faso, followed months later by another group of about 100 Russian military advisers.

A 'laboratory' for Russian expansion

Since then, the signs of a shift from French to Russian influence have become increasingly apparent. In Ouagadougou, large French-owned companies like the telecom giant Orange or the brewer Brakina are still

present. But, apart from these businesses, significant changes are happening politically, diplomatically and, lately, increasingly culturally.

These "influence initiatives" recall the ones in the Central African Republic (CAR), where Russia, through the Wagner mercenary group, expanded its influence in the country in 2018 and, from there, onto other countries in the region, such as Mali.

Observers refer to the CAR as a "laboratory" for expanding Russian influence in sub-Saharan Africa through Wagner. While Wagner has no current official presence in Burkina Faso, they say this process is being repeated there, too.

"Burkina is becoming the laboratory of the post-Prigozhin Russian presence, where the dominant actor is the Russian state," Maxime Audinet, a French researcher and expert in Russian information influence, said. He was referring to Yevgeny Prigozhin, the leader of Wagner who was killed in a plane crash north of Moscow in August 2023, two months after openly criticising Russia's invasion of Ukraine and staging a rebellion.

On February 24, four large flags, including Russia's, were displayed in front of the stands at the Sports Complex of August 4 Stadium where a martial arts tournament was taking place. Competitors from Russia, Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger competed in a combat sport almost unknown to the public – sambo, a martial art originally from the Soviet Union and similar to mixed martial arts (MMA). The tournament, dedicated to Vladimir Putin, was organised by the Sambo Sports Association and African Initiative.

"The fact that it is the sambo is not trivial," said Audinet. "This martial art was developed during the Soviet Union and was popular among the Soviet military and intelligence service members. It's a hyper-Soviet sport, and it's mind-blowing to see it is being promoted in Ouagadougou."

Source: Al Jazeera

NEWS PAPER



IN BUSINESS

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OPINION

The never-ending war on truth

Journalists speaking truth to power are under attack in Zimbabwe and across the globe.

By: Tafi Mhaka
xxxxxxxxxxxxxx



Reporters take part in a protest against the killing of Palestinian journalist Yasser Murtaja, in the southern Gaza Strip, April 8, 2018 [Ibraheem Abu Mustafa/Reuters]

Worth Noting:

- Sixteen years earlier, in January 1999, two journalists, Mark Chavunduka and Ray Choto, who worked for the Standard newspaper, were forcibly disappeared for 10 days. While under illegal detention, they suffered electric shocks to their hands, feet, and genitals and their heads were submerged in drums of water. When they eventually appeared in court, they both had burn marks on their bodies. Their alleged crime was to publish a story about 23 army officers being arrested for plotting a coup against President Mugabe.
- In 2008, Jestina Mukoko, a prominent former TV journalist, who also runs an NGO, was abducted from her home in the middle of the night, detained incommunicado for days and tortured by alleged state agents, for her alleged involvement in planning anti-government protests.
- She thankfully survived her horrific ordeal, and returned to her family and advocacy work.

On March 9, 2015, five men driving a white truck with a concealed number plate abducted Itai Dzamara, a Zimbabwean journalist and activist, from a barbershop in the Zimbabwean capital Harare. Within seconds, he was bundled into the unmarked car and driven to an unknown location. Dzamara has not been seen ever since. Eight days before his enforced disappearance, he had called on Zimbabweans to demonstrate against the tough and deteriorating socioeconomic conditions in their country. And he had called on then-President Robert Mugabe to resign. His forced disappearance was not an extraordinary event in a country where journalists were (and still are) routinely harassed and detained by authorities for publishing stories deemed to be “politically sensitive” or damaging to those in positions of power. Sixteen years earlier, in January 1999, two journalists, Mark Chavunduka and Ray Choto, who worked for the Standard newspaper, were forcibly disappeared for 10 days. While under illegal detention, they suffered electric shocks to their hands, feet, and genitals and their heads were submerged in drums of water. When they eventually appeared in court, they both had burn marks on their bodies. Their alleged crime was to publish a story about 23 army officers being arrested for plotting a coup against President Mugabe. In 2008, Jestina Mukoko, a prominent former TV journalist, who also runs an

NGO, was abducted from her home in the middle of the night, detained incommunicado for days and tortured by alleged state agents, for her alleged involvement in planning anti-government protests. She thankfully survived her horrific ordeal, and returned to her family and advocacy work. But Dzamara has not been as lucky. He has never returned home to his wife and two young children. Every year on the anniversary of his disappearance, Zimbabweans take to social media to remember him and to vent their frustrations about Zimbabwe’s seemingly never-ending war on journalists, and truth. Despite efforts by civil society and the main opposition party, the state appears extremely reluctant to solve Dzamara’s case and finally deliver justice to his long-suffering family. Mugabe has been out of power since 2017, and Zimbabwe is supposedly a changed country, but to date, the Zimbabwean government has not even bothered to launch a high-level investigation into Dzamara’s violent abduction. This speaks volumes about Harare’s unrelenting contempt for the truth, and war on those who dare to speak truth to power. Whoever disappeared Dzamara clearly intended to instil a great deal of fear in media practitioners and kill journalism in the small southern African country. To some extent, they have succeeded. As recently as this February, a local paper, the NewsHawks, was forced to abandon its investigations

into the Zimbabwe National Army after subtle threats from senior army officials. Journalists who dare to investigate military and government corruption in Zimbabwe still expect to be harassed, unlawfully arrested, tortured or worse to this day. Regrettably, Zimbabwe is not an outlier. This proclivity to threaten or kill the messenger to conceal bitter truths appears to be endemic across Africa and around the globe. Joao Chamusse – a veteran Mozambican journalist, and the co-owner and editor of online newspaper Ponto por Ponto – was found dead in the backyard of his house in KaTembe, Maputo City, on December 14, 2023. His neighbours said they heard him scream for help before falling silent. His horrendous murder came on the back of a wave of intimidation against journalists and media outlets in the run-up to this year’s general election. In Lesotho’s capital Maseru, Ralikonelo “Leqhashasha” Joki, who was a prominent reporter for Ts’enolo FM radio station, was shot at least 13 times by unknown assailants as he left the studio after a show in May 2023. Joki was highly critical of state officials, and his death appears related to his endeavours to expose the truth and hold government officials accountable for their actions. It would be amiss to speak of the war on truth tellers without paying homage to the Palestinian journalists killed in Israel’s war on Gaza. At least 88 Palestinian media workers have been killed as they braved shelling to ex-

pose Israel’s genocidal violence. Israel’s war on journalists who expose the injustice of its occupation and its abuse of Palestinians did not begin with this latest war, either. Shireen Abu Akleh, a Palestinian-American journalist and correspondent for Al Jazeera, was shot dead in May 2022 while reporting on an Israel raid in the Jenin refugee camp. And Israel had killed dozens of media workers before her. I despair at the loss of Abu Akleh, and all the other brave, admirable Palestinian journalists who had been silenced by Israeli bombs and bullets. I mourn for Leqhashasha, Chamusse and all the others who have been slain for exposing corruption or speaking truth to power. My heart bleeds for the family of Dzamara, and those of other “disappeared” journalists across the globe, who will likely never learn what actually happened to their loved ones. I feel the deepest pain, however, for those journalists who I fear will meet similar fates in the coming months and years. Indeed, in the absence of strong legal repercussions, there is every chance that other journalists will go missing or be killed by “unknown” people in Zimbabwe. The same is true for those working in Lesotho, Mozambique and elsewhere. And we know Israeli bombs continue to fall on Palestinian journalists as I write these lines. When a journalist is killed or disappeared, people are quick to express sympathy and voice condemnation. Following such news, our social media timelines always fill with messages honouring their lives and achievements. Governments, NGOs, and international institutions issue statements, and vow to hold those responsible to account. Words of empathy and condemnation are of course commendable, but what is needed above all is simple: justice. In the case of Zimbabwe, the African Union and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) have to stop paying lip service to press freedom and demand answers from President Emmerson Mnangagwa. And they should take

immediate action to prevent the repeat of this atrocity. To this end, all relevant regional bodies and the African Union should move to harmonise national media regulations and ensure member states do not enact laws that impede fundamental freedoms. For a long time, unrepentant rogue states have subjected independent-minded and principled journalists to state-orchestrated repression, violence and murder. That is why the International Criminal Court (ICC) must investigate and prosecute the Israeli officials who have paved the way for the deaths of 88 Palestinian journalists. In December 2023, Reporters Without Borders (RSF) filed its second complaint with the ICC for alleged war crimes committed by the Israeli army against Palestinian journalists. The RSF has concluded that Israel has been deliberately targeting Palestinian journalists to silence truth about its genocidal actions. In an age where misinformation and disinformation are commonplace, millions of lives would be placed in constant jeopardy without the work of fearless and principled truth tellers. In a time where autocrats like Mnangagwa believe they are beyond reproach, the truth cannot become a scare commodity. Nothing will bring back Leqhashasha, Chamusse or Abu Akleh. I do not believe Dzamara will ever return home, either. But they will forever remain our unsung heroes, like all the others who lost their lives in this never-ending, global war on the truth and truth tellers. Let’s honour their lives by standing up for journalism and bringing their killers to justice. Let’s honour their lives by doing everything we can to make sure we do not lose any other brave truth tellers to senseless state violence. The views expressed in this article are the author’s own and do not necessarily reflect our editorial stance.

Mhaka, a social and political commentator, has a BA Honours degree from the University of Cape Town

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Diaspora

Criticism of Israel's war and occupation is not anti-Semitism

And claiming that it is harms the fight against the very real and growing threat posed by anti-Semitism.

By: Maximilian Hess
xxxxxxxxxxxxx



Activists from Jewish Voice for Peace occupy the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty on November 6, 2023 in New York City. The group has been occupying high profile New York City locations calling for a ceasefire in Gaza [Stephanie Keith/Getty Images/AFP]

Worth Noting:

- Republican Party leaders have refused to criticise Collins, and long ago moved from shunning Greene to accepting her as one of the party's leading lights. Even Elise Stefanik, the third most senior House Republican, has refused to rebuke either Collins or Greene, though it was her questioning of the presidents of the University of Pennsylvania (UPenn) and Harvard over their response to protests critical of Israel's actions in the Gaza Strip that ultimately led to their resignations.
- Stefanik's silence may have something to do with the fact that she herself has dabbled in the "Great Replacement" conspiracy theory, as has Greene – though the latter's flavour included the inanelly insane, and deeply anti-Semitic, claim that "Zionist supremacists" were behind an imagined plot to flood the West with migrants. And yet today Greene casts herself as "pro-Israel".

Anti-Semitism is a plague. And one that is, as I have realised in the aftermath of Hamas's horrific terror attack in Israel on October 7, far more endemic than I was willing to accept before, despite having been questioning and confronting this hate all my life as the child of an American Jewish and Catholic German couple.

Anti-Semitism, its prevalent nature, and the shame and guilt for the Holocaust that sit at the heart of Germany's memory culture have indelibly shaped my life.

My late grandmother never acknowledged being aware of Germany's crimes towards Europe's Jews. I did not believe her, but it did not matter. Whenever we came to visit, she always insisted that my siblings and I tour the Jewish cemetery, Europe's oldest, in the city of Worms, where she spent her final years.

My parents separated when I was young, but my mother often told us the story of how my elder brother and I were baptised in the same Catholic Church where my father had gone to school because my atheist father wanted to please his devout mother. It was only as an adult that I learned from my father that it was in fact my Jewish mother who insisted on it. Less than 50 years prior European Jews spent fortunes acquiring fake bap-

tismal certificates in an attempt to escape the Nazis. My mother, like countless others, clearly knew the revival of this ancient hatred always loomed as a threat.

Today, however, it appears the world has turned upside down. The fight against the scourge of anti-Semitism is under threat from those who refuse to criticise Israel's actions in the Gaza Strip because they conflate such action with anti-Semitism.

Nowhere is this more clear than the reactions to a now infamous March 3 tweet by Congressman Mike Collins. On that day, an openly anti-Semitic far-right account posted a tweet implying the author of a Washington Post article that included a tongue-in-cheek reference to the US being built on "stolen land" is Jewish. Collins responded by tweeting "Never was a second thought". To this day, Collins refuses to apologise – he even accused his many critics of "gripping at straws".

The saga made Collins the second member of Georgia's nine-strong Republican congressional delegation to have engaged in blatant anti-Semitism and to refuse to apologise for it.

Another member of the delegation, Marjorie Taylor Greene, had risen to infamy for a Facebook post she made in 2018, before she was elected, where she im-

plied "Jewish space lasers" (though she never used that precise term) were behind the 2018 wildfires in California.

Republican Party leaders have refused to criticise Collins, and long ago moved from shunning Greene to accepting her as one of the party's leading lights. Even Elise Stefanik, the third most senior House Republican, has refused to rebuke either Collins or Greene, though it was her questioning of the presidents of the University of Pennsylvania (UPenn) and Harvard over their response to protests critical of Israel's actions in the Gaza Strip that ultimately led to their resignations. Stefanik's silence may have something to do with the fact that she herself has dabbled in the "Great Replacement" conspiracy theory, as has Greene – though the latter's flavour included the inanelly insane, and deeply anti-Semitic, claim that "Zionist supremacists" were behind an imagined plot to flood the West with migrants. And yet today Greene casts herself as "pro-Israel".

Far too many who should know better have gone along with these arguments. The will-they-or-won't-they around the fates of UPenn and Harvard's presidents received far more media attention than Collins's comments or Greene's volte-fac-

es have. One of the latter's board members, hedge fund investor Bill Ackman, publicly recast himself in the effort to take down Harvard's president, and warned that his alma mater was becoming anti-Semitic. He has remained silent with regards to Collins and Greene's anti-Semitism, however.

This is not just an issue in political life but across society. Yes, Kanye West lost his billion-dollar Adidas contract in October 2022 after engaging in a flurry of anti-Semitic statements, but it has since been revealed the firm was aware of equally troubling, if less public, comments for nearly a decade prior. And he remains a best-selling world-touring headliner.

Elon Musk also only briefly had to deal with the fallout from publicly endorsing a claim that "Jewish communities" were pushing "dialectical hatred against whites" last November. Musk's response that his tweet was "foolish" stopped some way short of an apology, and yet 12 days later he was feted on a visit to Israel by none other than Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

These days, many of those who say they are fighting anti-Semitism seem only interested in fighting against anti-Zionism and silencing all criticism of Israel.

For many of Israel's most ardent supporters, there is no space in the debate for those who criticise Israel's actions, even those who root their criticism in their own Jewish identity. Nowhere is this more clear than in Germany, where German Jews, many of them Israelis, make up a disproportionate percentage of those detained for protesting against Tel Aviv's warpath.

Yes, some have allowed Israel's wanton response to October 7 and its decades-long occupation of the West Bank to cloud their judgement and crossed the line into anti-Semitism in their criticism of Zionism. And numerous genuine anti-Semites have jumped on the bandwagon of defending Palestine to further their own agenda.

But all criticism of Israel, and especially criticism of the way Israel conducts its war against Hamas in Gaza, is not anti-Semitism and treating it as such harms the

urgent, crucial fight against the growing threat posed by this ancient scourge.

Israel's bombing campaign and the ethnic cleansing of Gaza could ultimately result in the death of all of Hamas's military leaders. Hamas may cease to exist as an organisation. But none of this will solve the problem. Hamas was formed in the 1980s and ruled Gaza only since 2007. Violence between Israelis and Palestinians long predates the group's formation.

Terror attacks that kill many civilians, attacks that traumatise entire societies naturally beget a desire for revenge – as a New Yorker who came of age in the aftermath of 9/11, it is a feeling I know all too well. And yet, I am also well aware of the destructive, devastating consequences of that desire for revenge. Saddam Hussein was a tyrant who had inflicted immense suffering on his people and the people across the region, but he was not involved in any way in the attacks on the United States on 9/11. Still, George W Bush used the American people's trauma and desire for revenge in the aftermath of those attacks to march the country into invading Iraq. That invasion, and consequent occupation, cost hundreds of thousands of innocent lives, devastated the region for generations, and birthed ISIL (ISIS).

Violence begets violence. "Never again" must mean never again by anyone, against anyone. If this call is not applied to Palestinians, there can never realistically be any hope that others will apply it to Jews – especially in an era in which so much anti-Semitism goes ignored because it does not fit into the pro-Israel/pro-Palestine dichotomy. Hatred must be fought everywhere and in all its guises, including among those whose fight against anti-Semitism is dependent upon how it relates to Israel.

The views expressed in this article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect our editorial stance.

Maximilian Hess is a Fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute and a Political Risk consultant based in London



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Diaspora

The 26-year-old YouTuber conquering French journalism



Hugo Travers, a French YouTuber and journalist, created HugoDecrypte when he was 18. Joshua Berlinger/CNN

By CNN

Hugo Travers may not think of himself as a journalist, but he could be the most popular one in France.

Travers, 26, is the founder and face of HugoDecrypte, a French media start-up that delivers news aimed primarily at young audiences. What began eight years ago as a university student's YouTube channel now boasts 14 million followers across its social media accounts, 200 million monthly views on TikTok and another 35 million on YouTube.

HugoDecrypte's Instagram account has more followers than Le Monde, the French daily widely considered the country's newspaper of record, as well as BFMTV and France24, arguably the two most popular 24-hour news networks in France. And its daily news update is the most downloaded podcast in the country, according to media monitor ACPM.

"What's very special is the fact that I really started as a YouTuber and I consider myself really as a YouTuber," Travers told CNN in an interview last month.

Whatever you call him, there's no denying that Travers has created something that resonates with young audiences shunning traditional media in France, where mistrust of the news industry runs deeper than in much of the rest of Europe. "He is seen as a very reliable source for news," said Alice Antheaume, vice-dean at the Sciences Po Journalism School.

Given the YouTube channel's dominance among the coveted age 15 to 34 demo-

graphic, most major politicians in France, including President Emmanuel Macron, have sat down with Travers to reach a younger audience. Travers hosted nearly all of the candidates running for president in 2022.

While Macron went on to win re-election, he has struggled to maintain support among younger voters as his agenda has become more conservative. In January, Macron appointed 34-year-old Gabriel Attal as the country's youngest-ever prime minister and tasked him with revitalizing his government.

HugoDecrypte's 10-minute news digest is posted weekdays on YouTube and audio platforms. It typically features the Franco-British Travers, often casually dressed, delivering explainer-style summaries from behind a desk, alongside animations or stock video.

Francois Jost, an emeritus professor at Sorbonne Nouvelle University in Paris and expert on the French media, said the channel's "great use of images" appealed to young people.

Though the HugoDecrypte team doesn't shy away from the biggest news of the day, it often looks to its audiences for guidance in choosing the lead story. Mental health issues are frequently the first story covered, as are conflicts less often in the media spotlight, such as those in Sudan or the Democratic Republic of Congo.

"What we're building, since day one, is something serious in terms of news, in terms of its journalistic approach," Travers said. "Of

course, the format is different."

A Chromebook and an idea

When Travers launched the channel eight years ago, all he had was a Chromebook without editing software.

He had gumption and experience, though. As a precocious middle school student, Travers started a website with friends, for which he covered local sports and news in the suburb he grew up in, west of Paris.

By 2015, Travers was studying at Sciences Po, a prestigious university in Paris. The idea for his YouTube channel came from two realizations.

The first concerned the state of political coverage in French media. Travers had been interested in politics for years — yet when he and his friends turned on political debates on television, they could barely understand what was being discussed, he recalled.

Travers also thought about how he consumed content: like much of Gen Z, he was spending hours on YouTube. He had go-to channels for history and science but no preferred source for journalism in French.

The HugoDecrypte channel launched with the mission to give young French audiences a fast, digestible way to understand the news. Travers' goal was to create accessible, in-depth videos that wouldn't pander to younger audiences nor assume too much prior knowledge. Then he'd publish them directly to social media.

"My generation spends so much time on YouTube," he

said. "You've got to create content where people are ... If I spend time on YouTube or Instagram, why would I not get informed on YouTube or Instagram?"

Seeking growth, Travers decided to hire staffers. Benjamin Aleberteau, a recent graduate, became HugoDecrypte's first employee in January 2019; today he's editor-in-chief. HugoDecrypte has expanded to a team of about 25 employees working out of a modern office at the end of a cobblestone alley in the 11th arrondissement of Paris. Their newsroom reflects their target audience — there's a video game console in the kitchen, a dog roams the halls and everyone appears to be in their 20s.

Beyond the world of politics, Travers' in-depth interviews have also become a valued stop for anyone promoting a film, book or TV series to the Francophone world. He hosted Christopher Nolan over the summer to discuss then-Oscar frontrunner "Oppenheimer" and Timothee Chalamet and Zendaya ahead of the "Dune" sequel's release. Travers has also counted Francophone celebrities like Angele, Omar Sy, Tahar Rahim and Virginie Efira among his guests.

HugoDecrypte's success is notable considering the bleak state of the French news media landscape. Like their English-language counterparts, French news outlets face declining advertising revenue, the spread of misinformation and increasing mistrust in the media.

Many anglophone outlets have turned to subscription-based revenue models to survive. But in France, just 11% of people surveyed pay for news, according to the Reuters Institute.

Both Jost at Sorbonne Nouvelle University and Antheaume at the Sciences Po Journalism School pointed out that HugoDecrypte often hews toward explanatory journalism, content that is cheaper and quicker to create than original reporting.

Travers sees the two as complementary, saying that HugoDecrypte is looking into partnerships with traditional news or investigative outlets. Meanwhile, HugoDecrypte makes money via advertising, partnerships and sponsored content.

Travers attributes the brand's success to the channel's original mission: producing ac-

cessible content. That means no paywall and interacting directly with younger audiences on social media.

Building trust

To reach Gen Z, HugoDecrypte launched on TikTok earlier than most French media.

"TikTok was, at least in France, seen as this thing for teenagers ... basically with dancing and challenges," Travers said. "But it's still a platform where there's millions of young people, and those young people, I'm convinced that they're interested in news and in politics."

Trust is also a key factor. The French public has grown increasingly skeptical of newspapers and television stations owned by billionaires like Xavier Niel or Vincent Bollore, whose conservative media empire is often compared to that of Rupert Murdoch.

Travers told CNN he decided early against raising capital, a decision he believes has allowed the operation to grow at a sustainable pace.

Then there's personification. Tying the brand to Travers' name and likeness has, some experts say, allowed him to inspire a degree of confidence among young audiences who don't consume traditional media.

"Audiences are more likely to trust individuals than media brands, especially on social media. HugoDecrypte fits perfectly with this need," said Antheaume.

And, unlike many high-profile anglophone news personalities, Travers has worked hard to keep his opinions out of the public view.

HugoDecrypte has been able to capitalize on several trends in the French news industry. While the brand is starting to branch out into English- and Spanish-language content, it's not clear if the model itself will translate successfully.

Travers acknowledges the challenges inherent in building a cross-cultural brand. But he and editor-in-chief Aleberteau believe that, wherever there is social media, their model is viable.

"In any country there's a need for information. And in any country, there are young people who want to be informed," Aleberteau said.

Worth Noting:

Given the YouTube channel's dominance among the coveted age 15 to 34 demographic, most major politicians in France, including President Emmanuel Macron, have sat down with Travers to reach a younger audience. Travers hosted nearly all of the candidates running for president in 2022.

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Diaspora

The indelible legacy of Aleksander Feinberg



By: Mingturayeva Kamola
xxxxxxxxxxxx

Worth Noting:

- Feinberg was a consultant at the Union of writers of Uzbekistan in 1965-1969. Author of "Etyud" (1967), "Sonia" (1969), "Poems" (1977), "distant bridges" (1978), "positive" (1982), "short wave" (1983), "The Rolling net" (1984), "free sonnets" (1990), and other collections of poetry.

- In Feinberg's poetic work, the present with the past, the eastern nationalism and internationalism with the West are intertwined, giving rise to a unique artistic world.

- The lyrical hero of Feinberg is a man who has fully preserved his human essence in the age of historical-social ridges, is ready to extend a hand of compassion and encouragement to himself, is tormented by unpleasant events and events taking place in the Earth



Annotation: Uzbek writers have long brought a place from the heart of the whole world. There are a lot of poets who have their place in the world. Alexander Feinberg, among others, contributed significantly to this. With his creativity and translations, he managed to win the love of Uzbek, Russian and many peoples. While stability is little observed in his work, his writings testify to the poet's deep spirituality. With his translations, Feinberg proved to the whole world that the literature of the Uzbek nation is distinguished by its absorbing melody. There is no exaggeration to say that even if our poets have written what they have done over the years, they have put it at the peak of literature, beyond completion. This is a sign that our poets have a mature talent.

Keywords: influential power, periodical, nationalism and internationalism, artistic world, patriotism, creative writing

Feinberg is an important figure in Uzbek literature.

As our honored president said: "Literature is the heart of the people, it shows the spirituality of El. In today's complex time, it is necessary to find a way to the hearts of people, to use the impressive power of literature in inspiring them to noble goals. We create all the conditions for studying the heritage of ancestors, creating great literature worthy of our great culture." Then it is also our duty to know and study the manifestations of our literature. While literature, art and culture live, the nation and the people all, humanity lives unadorned.

Aleksander Feinberg is a Russian poet, translator, screenwriter, people's poet of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Alexander Arkadyevich was born on November 2, 1939 in Tashkent. His parents moved from Novosibirsk two years before his birth. The writer's father, Arkady Lvovich Feinberg (1891-1971), originally from Gatchina, graduated from the Institute of technology and worked as a chief engineer at an alcohol plant. His mother Anastasia Alexandrovna, born in Moscow, worked as a machinist in an alcohol plant. After graduating from seven years of school, Aleksander Arkadyevich entered the Tashkent surveying Technical School. After attending the Tashkent College of surveying, Feinberg, as a geologist, wandered all over the country and fell in love with his beautiful nature. It was during this period that his first book "bicycle lane" was published, through which Alexander Feinberg was brought to the forefront of literature in Uzbekistan. After graduating from college, he served in the military in Tajikistan. Then, in 1965, Feinberg graduated from the journalism faculty of the current National University of Uzbekistan, and more than a dozen books of poetry were published one after another. These are "Etude", "moments", "press the Sky", "long Bridges", "short wave", etc. Alexander was a member of the Union of writers of Uzbekistan and the author of fifteen collections of poetry (including his own composition of a two-volume work published posthumously). Poems were published in the magazines "shift", "Youth", "new world",

"star of the East", "New Volga" and in periodicals of foreign countries: USA, Canada, Israel.

Feinberg was a consultant at the Union of writers of Uzbekistan in 1965-1969. Author of "Etyud" (1967), "Sonia" (1969), "Poems" (1977), "distant bridges" (1978), "positive" (1982), "short wave" (1983), "The Rolling net" (1984), "free sonnets" (1990), and other collections of poetry. In Feinberg's poetic work, the present with the past, the eastern nationalism and internationalism with the West are intertwined, giving rise to a unique artistic world. The lyrical hero of Feinberg is a man who has fully preserved his human essence in the age of historical-social ridges, is ready to extend a hand of compassion and encouragement to himself, is tormented by unpleasant events and events taking place in the Earth. In his poetic work, the best artistic experiences of Russian and European poets were manifested. The traditions of eastern classical poetry are also not alien to his creative style. A significant part of Feinberg's work is organized by artistic translation. The poet, who knew Uzbek poetry perfectly, translated poems and epics of Navoi ghazals, Erkin Vohidov, Abdullah Oripov, Omon Matzhan and other Uzbek poets into Russian. From a screenplay by Feinberg, "my brother", "under the fire", "the tobans in Kandahar", and "criminals and acquittals" and other films were shot at the Uzbekfilm film studio. Four full-length feature films and about 20 cartoons were created based on the screenplay by Feinberg. In 1999, on the occasion of

the twenty-year anniversary of the death of the Pakhtakor football team in a car accident, the film "Stadium in the sky" was shot on his script. Feinberg's 1979 song about the Pakhtakor community was played. Feinberg headed the workshop of young writers of Uzbekistan in Tashkent for several years. Screenwriter of the film "House under the hot sun" (1977, Uzbekfilm). The famous Uzbek poet Abdullah Oripov said that "as for the work of Alexander Feinberg, not all high words reflect even a hundredth of the truth, because he was actually a unique poet and translator. A world-class writer, ... none of the Russian-speaking writers can sing heartfelt songs to our sunny country," he had described. Collections of his poems were hand in hand, songs were sung based on his texts, films were shown based on his scripts, new translations of his works into Uzbek are still being made today. Important dates associated with his life and work are celebrated annually, poetry evenings dedicated to the poet's legacy are held. Why was Alexander Feinberg worthy of such popular love and gratitude? First, a bright, original poetic talent, a high aesthetic level of literary works. The first continued to be a measure of artistry for Uzbek poets for several decades. Fourteen sets, many performances on stage, radio and television would not be an exaggeration to say that they raised several generations of readers. His childhood was spent in the difficult years of World War II. In his works, he artistically reflected the kindness and love of the Uzbek people. Feinberg

contributed greatly to the publication of the works of Alisher Navoi in Russian in 10 volumes. He also translated the best examples of modern Uzbek poetry into Russian. At the same time, the works of the poet were regularly translated into Uzbek, and he became a favorite poet of Uzbek readers. "Chigir" (in Uzbek) and other similar collections published in recent years have come to the attention of poetry lovers as a kind of creative writing of the poet. Feinberg's contribution to the development of multinational Uzbek literature was deservedly appreciated by the government. The fact that he was awarded the honorary title of "Honored Worker of culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan", "people's poet of Uzbekistan" is also proof of our boundless respect for this great person. The bright memory of the wonderful poet, talented translator, caring teacher Alexander Arkadyevich Feinberg will forever remain in our hearts. The poet died on October 14, 2009 in Tashkent. Alexander Feinberg's incomparable and unique work, in which the best traditions of classical poetry and feelings of love for the Land of Uzbekistan are instilled, is a special page in the history of our literature. Alexander Arkadyevich is also very valuable to us, for Uzbeks, because he is the personification of the true patriotism of his homeland.

Mingturayeva Kamola is a (Faculty of international journalism of Uzbekistan State University of world languages first-year student)

David Hume

David Hume was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1711



By: Maxmarejabova Muqaddas
xxxxxxxxxxxxx

Worth Noting:

- An essay concerning Human Experience consists idea about experience, explaining the knowledge how could be assessed without experience. In fact, the division between John Locke is traditionally included many group of philosophers such as George Berkeley and David Hume.
- The empiricists explained the idea about the experience gain directly or indirectly through experience. Other number of thinkers such as Leibniz, Rene Descartes and Spinoza.
- They only acquire the knowledge through the use of reason. In fact, the divisions between these two kind groups not a clear cut description but have many assumptions. Locke reached one thing. This thing a process of reasoning later become abduction

The second phenomenon is emotions and ideas. David Hume was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1711. Hume was a precious child who entered the University of Edinburgh at the age of 12. He started working as an ambassador in the Embassy of Paris. In the embassy, he befriended the philosopher Rousseau. After that, Hume became a widely known philosopher because of his friend's advice and knowledge. During this time, he occupied Hume's final years with a book called Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion. His disciples published his writings after Hume's death in 1776.

Gottfried Leibniz was a German philosopher and mathematician. He was born in Leipzig. Leibniz mainly concentrated on political writings. He adored traveling to many countries. After traveling for a period of time, he took up the post of librarian at Duke University, and as a consequence, he remained to work here until his death. He did most of his work only on the development of his unique philosophical system. Leibniz was a rationalist because he believed that there were truths in reasoning and truths in fact. We know hardly anything adequately. For example, a few things are learned a priori and most things through experience. George Berkeley emphasized humans' two different substances, such as mind and body. George Berkeley pointed out the material substance, which he mentioned: there is no such thing as what philosophers call material substance. All knowledge comes only through perception. We can only perceive ideas. The world consists of many ideas, but when it comes to George Berkeley's life, we can emphasize where he was born. More precisely, he was born in Ireland. He was first educated at Kikenny College. After that, he studied at Trinity College. In 1714, he had his philosophical writings written. During this time, he left Ireland, and as a consequence, he started to travel around Europe. Interestingly, he spent most of his time in London. During this time, he raised funds with his wife to found a seminary college in Bermuda. In the 19th century, German philosophy became one of the best works of Immanuel Kant. In 1690, the philosopher John Locke argued that no ideas were known at birth and that all



David Hume

ideas or knowledge could arise through experience. We are not born with ideas, concepts, and knowledge already in our brain. On top of that, every idea and theory can be challenged. It is meant to be so difficult to realize many concepts. Doubt is not a pleasant condition, but certainty is ridiculous. An essay concerning Human Experience consists idea about experience, explaining the knowledge how could be assessed without experience. In fact, the division between John Locke is traditionally included many group of philosophers such as George Berkeley and David Hume. The empiricists explained the idea about the experience gain directly or indirectly through experience. Other number of thinkers such as Leibniz, Rene Descartes and Spinoza. They only acquire the knowledge through the use

of reason. In fact, the divisions between these two kind groups not a clear cut description but have many assumptions. Locke reached one thing. This thing a process of reasoning later become abduction. Locke emphasized a theory about the experience of corpuscular theory about. He explained every existence of species in the world is made up with submicroscopic particles or small corpuscles. If we will explain these things, it could be so difficult or impossible to elucidate these phenomena. Corpuscular theory was becoming famous in the 17th century. In addition, the claim of men impossible to explain with beyond of experience because it causes exaggeration or inappropriateness between ideas and ideological principles. Plato explained with his theory genuine knowledge is essentially, and will

come from within us. In my point Plato's ideas too outrageous in some sides. For instance, he explained about death a little perception like we die our souls started level of reincarnation. Plato emphasized another important fact that education is not learning new facts but unforgetting these perception. On top of that, educator isn't our teacher but midwife. All of them Plato's perceptions about gaining knowledge through reasoning and experience. Interestingly, incredible explanation about geometric structure. The equilateral triangle is the type of knowledge. Locke explained the idea of gathering information through our experience. He explained the idea that the infants have deficient ideas about any kind of topic. Locke declared that who explain about innate ideas must be false. He explained our

mind like white paper when we are born through experience we complete our white paper. These conception so crucial. Let us know our perception like this the mind to be white paper. But without any kind of ideas or character how we can furnish? said John Locke. He was born in 1632. In addition, his father's work only to do works like English county lawyer. He explained ideas like giving thanks to wealthy patrons because he received a high-quality education. Firstly, he graduated from Westminster University in London. Then he received a good education from Oxford University. John Locke is an empiricist, and his writings about politics made

David Hume

David Hume was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1711



By: Maxmarejabova Muqaddas
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Worth Noting:

- **Voltaire was the pseudonym of the French writer and philosopher Marie Arouet. He was born into a middle-class family in Paris. Interestingly, he was the youngest of the three children. On top of that, he studied law at the university.**
- **Unfortunately, he preferred a great literary wit. He spent a little time in England, where he felt the influence of English philosophy and science. After returning to France, he became wealthy, which meant he got into the nobility class. After a little time, he detriment himself by only writing.**
- **He traveled to all the European countries. David Hume was born at a time when European philosophy was dominant. René Descartes thought knowledge would only come through national reflection. In Britain, John Locke countered with his empiricist idea that knowledge only comes through experience.**

him so famous. Locke flew to England twice as a political member. Unfortunately, he returned again in 1688 because of the accession to the throne of William and Mary. Last but not least, he stayed in England in a government position until his death in 1704.

Voltaire was the pseudonym of the French writer and philosopher Marie Arouet. He was born into a middle-class family in Paris. Interestingly, he was the youngest of the three children. On top of that, he studied law at the university. Unfortunately, he preferred a great literary wit. He spent a little time in England, where he felt the influence of English philosophy and science. After returning to France, he became wealthy, which meant he got into the nobility class. After a little time, he detriment himself by only writing. He traveled to all the European countries. David Hume was born at a time when European philosophy was dominant. René Descartes thought knowledge would only come through national reflection. In Britain, John Locke countered with his empiricist idea that knowledge only comes through experience. Hume always argued about the problem of knowledge. He argues against the notion that we are born with innate ideas. He distinguished the content of our minds into two kinds of phenomena: impressions and perceptions.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau was born in Geneva. His mother died after his birth. Unfortunately, his father fled to another country a few years later. As a result, his uncle cared for Rousseau. At 16, he worked as a composer. He posted philosophical posters when he worked in Venice for approximately two years. In addition, his controversial views led him to write books. As a result, his books were banned in Switzerland and France. He was accepted to live in England via David Hume's invitation. After a short time, he returned to England with another name, and as a consequence, he was later allowed to enter Paris and another country or cities. He lived until his death in Paris at the age of 66. He wrote about "the inequality of laws." Rousseau took the idea in a second essay like "The Discourse on the Origin and Foundations of Inequality among Men. On top of that, his pessimistic analysis of modern soci-



David Hume

ety is full of inequalities and injustice. Rousseau opened his book with a challenging declaration, and he wanted to reckon with one perception. This perception is about the declaration, resulting in ideas like "the man is born free, yet everywhere he is in chains." This perception totally narrates the truth. This perception was adopted like a slogan and became so popular during the 17th century. His ideas are mainly based on political philosophy, which means all of them are writings. His rudimentary position reckoned with democracy. He prescribes laws according to liberty and utility. Most of Rousseau's political writings are banned in France. Nev-

ertheless, after a long time, especially after his death, his writings about political philosophy felt very strongly and became popular during the period of revolution. Many disappointed people will cry, "It's not my fault, the fault is related to society". The meaning of "Society" is not entirely clear. It has changed over time. During the 18th century, the Irish Philosopher and statesman Edmund Burke wrote about politics. Europe was becoming increasingly commercialized. The idea is that there is a mutual agreement between members and the commercial company. Burke attempts to enrich human lives through science. Human beings have material,

scientific, and artistic needs. They cannot achieve all these needs without their efforts, which means they need to try hard and work themselves. Most importantly, their efforts will help them achieve their needs and become what they want to be. People should help each other, which is the best way to meet their mutual needs. Burke elucidated that "society" means more than just people living now and also includes their descendants and ancestors. Burke's view has the doctrine of sin, meaning that we are born sinful. He dismisses the idea of John Locke. We can be perfected through education. Also, we are born innocent. Burke believed

that political organizations should naturally develop over time. Rousseau's book, *The Social Contract*, discussed the fact that the contract between citizen and state may be broken at any time. The Anglo-Irish politician Edmund Burke was born in Dublin. He studied there. He knew and was convinced that philosophy was the key to useful training in politics. In 1750, he wrote notable essays. These essays are typically about aesthetics and the origins of society. He worked as an English MP from 1766 to 1794. Burke was sympathetic to American independence.

Forms Of Educational Organization

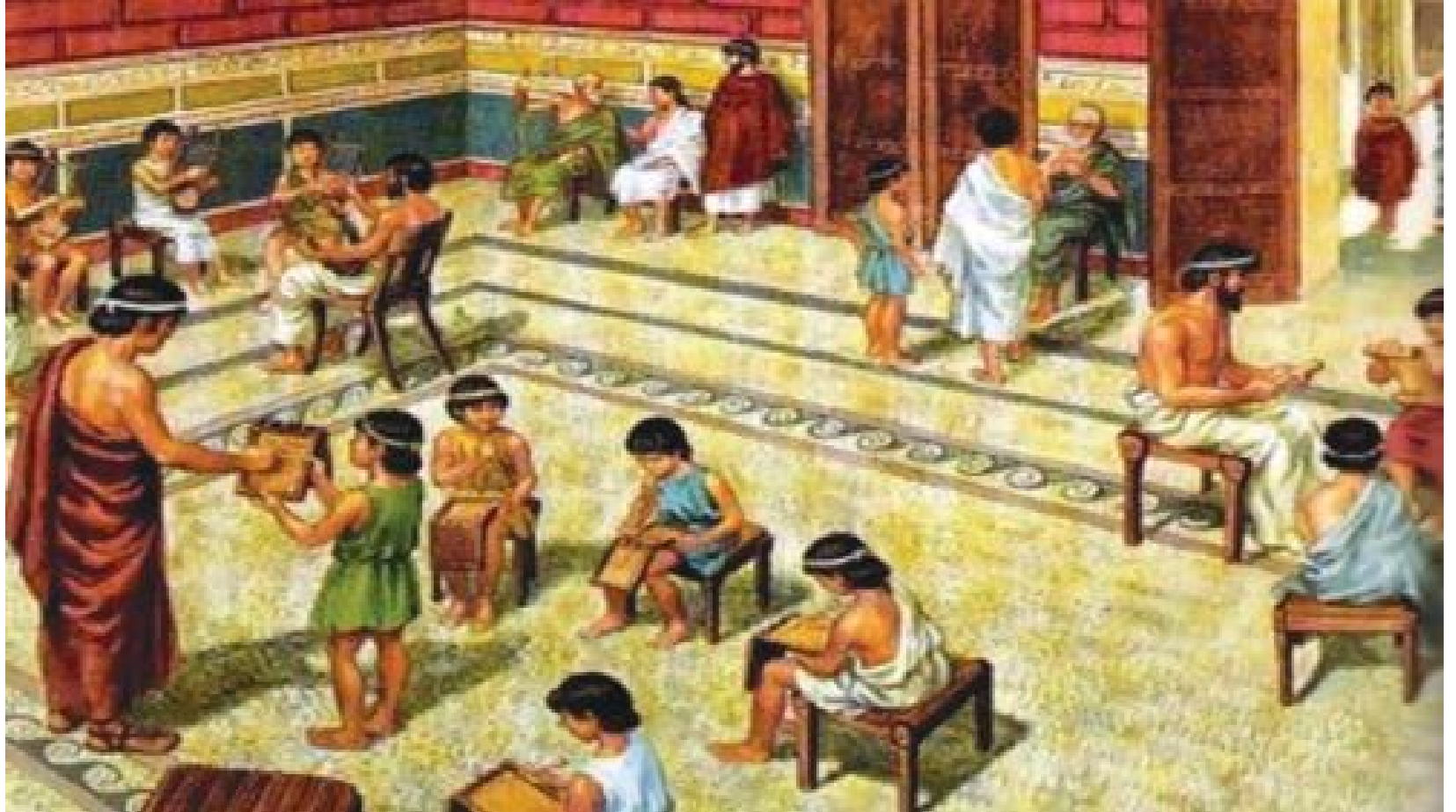


By: Akmalova Zebo
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Worth Noting:

• If students study together, they will not get bored, their interest in learning science will increase; they develop a desire to compete with each other in order not to fall behind each other, they help the child to improve his studies.

• In mutual conversations, students tell each other interesting information they have read from books or heard from adults; 3) children make friends and respect each other when they gather together; they do not only compete, but also help each other in mastering educational materials; children will be proud of this and learn good habits from each other 2 . Burhoniddin Zarnuji (12th century) gives recommendations on teaching in his scientific work entitled "Advice to the Student on the Way to Learning".



The oldest form of teaching that existed in ancient times

Abstract: The oldest form of teaching that existed in ancient times is the individual form of education. The transmission of life experiences from ancestors to generations occurred in primitive society. With the appearance of writing, the head of the people taught his experiences to the youth using various symbols.

Tutoring can be shown as an example of direct and individual contact between a teacher and a student. The individual form of education organization was the only method in antiquity and the Middle Ages, and it was widely used in some countries until the 18th century. Individual education has a number of advantages, so this method has been preserved in the form of tutoring until our time.

Its advantage is that it allows to fully individualize the content, method and image of educational activity, to monitor each of its actions and operations in solving a specific problem. Individual education requires the teacher to have high pedagogical qualifications.

As early as the 11th century, Abu Ali ibn Sina gave the following recommendations to students about group education in the special section "Amuzish va parajhi madrasas farzand" ("Education and education of children in school") of his scientific

work "Tadbiri Manzil":

• If students study together, they will not get bored, their interest in learning science will increase; they develop a desire to compete with each other in order not to fall behind each other, they help the child to improve his studies.

• In mutual conversations, students tell each other interesting information they have read from books or heard from adults; 3) children make friends and respect each other when they gather together; they do not only compete, but also help each other in mastering educational materials; children will be proud of this and learn good habits from each other 2 . Burhoniddin Zarnuji (12th century) gives recommendations on teaching in his scientific work entitled "Advice to the Student on the Way to Learning".

Based on his many years of teaching experience, this scientific work was created and was used in Central Asian madrasas until the 20th century as a unique pedagogic textbook. It is an external expression of educational activity organized in a certain mode.

At the same time, the following forms of education are distinguished: individual, individual group, class lesson, lecture, seminar, and outside the classroom, outside the auditorium, outside the school, individual is

divided into the following three main types according to the characteristics such as the level of independence and the characteristics of guiding the study process; class lesson; lecture seminar Forms of educational organization:

Traditional form of education, non-traditional form of education and auxiliary form of education. The lesson is the main organizational form of educational work (in school), in which the teacher works with a fixed group of students within a clearly defined lesson according to a fixed schedule, leads collective cognitive activities, and American teacher and publisher William Chandler Bagley describes the types of lessons in his book "The educative process" as follows.

1. The development lesson (The development lesson)
 2. The study lesson (Study lesson)
 3. The recitation lesson (The recitation lesson)
 4. The drill lesson (The drill lesson)
 5. The repetition review lesson)
 6. Exam lessons. (The examination)
- Currently, there are 3 of them, i.e. development lessons, training lessons and revision lessons. The Educational Process - William Chandler Bagley. P/70.

Modern lessons should be able to meet the following requirements: - advanced achievements of science, use

of pedagogical technologies, organization of the lesson based on the laws of the educational process; - ensuring optimal proportions of all didactic principles and rules in the lesson; to create the necessary conditions for the thorough assimilation of knowledge by students based on taking into account their interests, abilities and requirements; establishing interdisciplinary connections that students can understand; relying on previously learned knowledge and skills, as well as the level of development of students; motivating and activating comprehensive development of the individual; logic and emotionality of all stages of educational activity; effective use of pedagogical tools; ; formation of necessary knowledge, skills and abilities, rational methods of thinking and activity; - creating the need to constantly enrich existing knowledge; careful design, planning, diagnosis and estimation of each lesson. Facultative activities are considered auxiliary forms of educational organization. They are organized based on students' interests: - clubs; -clubs; -Olympics; - quizzes; - exhibitions; -expeditions, etc.

In the work, it is written that the lesson at school should last about one hour. The teacher should select educational materials that can be

understood and mastered for the lesson at school, and explain the materials studied in the lesson. The learning material should be selected in such a way that it can be mastered when it is repeated twice.

For this reason, he offers to divide large texts into parts and repeat them in other lessons, and with the wide use of these opportunities, you can effectively organize your learning style, and your learning style will be interesting and productive, which will make you stand out from everyone else. I think this is good. If you teach at school, how to spend 45 minutes, how to work with the student, and how to give directions to your student, how to explain the topic, this is you It shows that your teaching style is strong.

In addition, the fact that teachers at the university spend 90 minutes of time effectively, and that they pass all assignments and subjects, this shows that they are a qualified teacher and that their teaching style is strong. This means that you have your place in the education system and cause your demand to increase.

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