

# MAURITIUS TIMES

• "All cruelty springs from weakness". -- Seneca

Interview: Me Antoine Domingue

## «La pieuvre de la mafia ne pourra pas être éradiquée avec des paraboles et des paroles en l'air»

☞ Voir Page 10



### Eclairages

## 'Vimen Leaks' et la course à l'audimat



Par A. Bartleby ☞ Voir Page 4

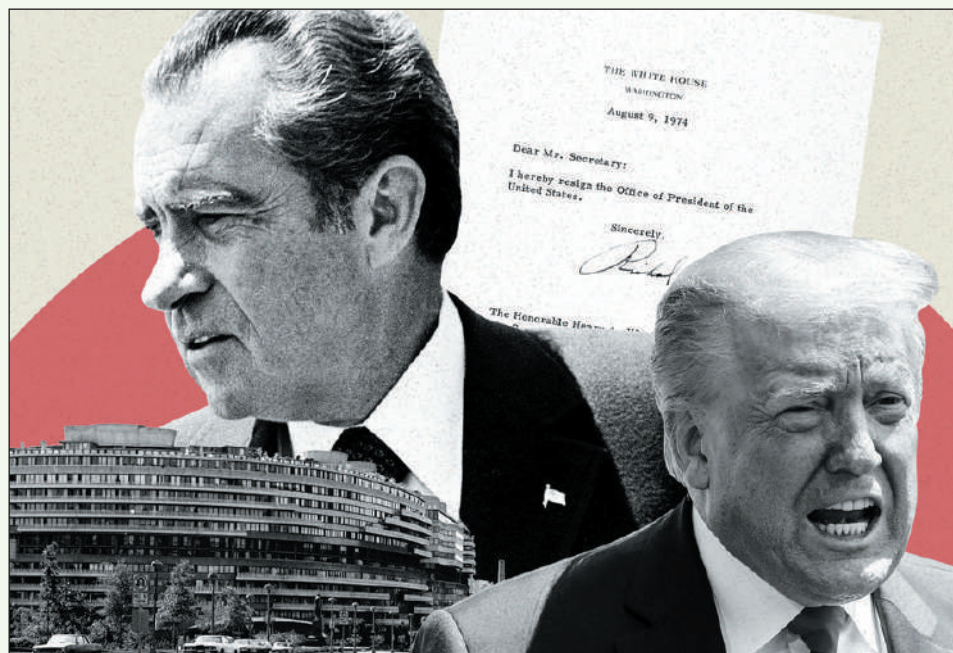
## Reactions to the Trump Classified Documents Indictment

*Even if convicted, Trump could still run for President. It is anomalous that many states prevent felons from voting but not from standing for election*

By Anil Madan ☞ See Page 4

### Opinion

## The Donald in Jeopardy



*Not even former President Nixon of the sinister Watergate fame had such an ignominious series of legal impediments befall a departed President*

By Jan Arden ☞ See Page 3

# Vimen Leaks

**A** former Governor General had once confided in private, after taking cognizance in March 1987 of the findings of the Rault Commission of Inquiry on Drug Trafficking, that he had been taken for a ride by the concerned authorities about the real drug situation prevailing in the country during his tenure. It was that Commission, headed by a former Chief Justice, that for the first time lifted the lid on the scourge of drug trafficking and organized crime as well as the political-criminal nexus sustained by a few politicians and, by today's standards, small-time drug barons. Its findings led to the interdiction and/or subsequent dismissal of a dozen or more of police officers, including some high-ranking ones.

Almost three decades down the line, the report of a second commission of inquiry, headed by former judge Lam Shang Leen, made public in 2018, again pointed to the political-drug traffickers nexus, involving amongst others lawyer-politicians; it also lamented the fact that the country does not have a single clearly defined drug agency. The Commission recommended in particular that the Customs Narcotics section and the ADSU be dismantled and merged urgently into a single National Drug Investigation Commission. In parallel, government had recourse to a consultant who listened to various parties and published the 2019-2023 National Drug Control Master Plan. The Lam Shang Leen commission's report contained 460 recommendations, some of which would require, according to the government, legislative amendments before they could be implemented, and others were deemed to be impractical or impossible to implement.

In his reply to the Opposition leader's PNQ, Monday 12th June 2023, the Prime Minister stated that as at date, over 80% of the 390 recommendations have been addressed. He also informed the House that 'for the period January 2015 to May 2023, more than 25,345 drug cases have been detected and around 22,000 persons arrested', and regarding drug seizures, 'the estimated street value of drugs seized stood at almost 15 billion rupees for the same period' - we presume by the ADSU, which has been deemed by the Commissioner of Police (CP) not fit to be dismantled, despite Justice Lam Shang Leen's recommendation to that effect - 'as this would have created an institutional vacuum' -, and by the Police Headquarter Special Striking Team set up by the CP himself in August 2022.

The Special Striking Team (SST) has since attracted a lot of public attention and concern more for the manner in which it has gone about tracking political adversaries of the current government and

the as-yet-unproven "drug planting" allegations levelled against it during its search operations than its drug hauls. And the Police Headquarters itself is now saddled with serious allegations made against the SST and its head as contained in the 'Vimen Leaks' broadcast by two private radios, Radio Plus and Top FM, last Friday. Vimen Sabapati, a martial arts instructor and former private bodyguard of the Labour Party leader, has confirmed the audio tape recordings of his conversations with a number of ADSU and other officers which would implicate a few police officers within the Striking Team in criminal activities. Serious allegations regarding weapons and drug seizures as well as attempts to attack the integrity of other departmental heads, etc., have been levelled. A pen drive containing those allegations and recordings were attached in a sworn affidavit by Vimen Sabapati since May 26th. Faced with the public outcry, the Commissioner of Police has found it necessary to have two other police units, namely the CCID and the MCIT, investigate those audio leaks and the Sabapati allegations against the SST.

We are fully aware of the fact that anti-drug investigators around the world have to deal with a difficult, sleazy underbelly of unscrupulous individuals, gangs and cartels in their line of duty and that informants always have ulterior motives. Furthermore, when large sums of drug monies are involved, the risks of officials being corrupted are ever-present; there must therefore be fail-proof mechanisms to control the real amounts of drug seizures. But we expect that the Investigation Agencies, the Prison Commissioner or the Police Authorities have in place, with international guidance where necessary, vetting, double-checking and other mechanisms to ensure that those risks are kept to a minimum.

This being said, we expected the PM and Home Affairs minister to respond to the legitimate concerns that the public has about police units themselves investigating another police unit. Would that ensure transparency and fairness or would it turn out to be a sop to public opinion and another futile exercise destined to wither away rather than elicit meaningful outcomes? These are trying and testing times for the CP whose constitutional independence is guaranteed, but the country cannot stay in this state of anxiety about the trust it has or should have in such a vital institution.

What should also be of concern to us all is the reputation that the country once enjoyed; we do not want Mauritius to get the reputation that it is a country where people can commit a crime and get away with it.

## The Conversation

### How inequality became the big issue troubling the world's top economists



James Heckman in conversation with young economists at Lindau. Lindau Nobel Laureates Meetings

**E**very three years, all Nobel Prize winners in economics are invited to gather in the tranquil setting of the German island of Lindau to meet a selection of bright young economists and discuss the state of their profession. But this year such tranquility was challenged by worrying political developments across the globe. Perhaps unexpectedly, one of the central themes of the meeting became what to do about inequality.

While not all laureates would go as far as Jean Tirole, the 2014 Nobel Prize winner, who said that economic inequality itself is a form of "market failure", it is clear that the political and social effects of growing inequality are drawing increasing attention from those at the top of the economics profession.

In a panel discussion on inequality, James Heckman, the 2000 Nobel laureate, pointed out that inequality had grown faster in the US and the UK than other Western democracies. Heckman said that changes to the tax system that favoured the rich had to be a key part of the explanation. He was also worried about the decline in social mobility, particularly for those on low pay.

Heckman also pointed out that the low income of many single-parent families, whose numbers have increased sharply over the last few decades, had also increased inequality. He argued strongly for wage subsidies to boost the income of the working poor, and increased subsidies for childcare to help more single parents enter the labour market. Strongly for wage subsidies to boost the income of the working poor, and increased subsidies for childcare to help more single parents enter the labour market.

#### Towards a Universal Basic Income

Peter Diamond and Sir Christopher Pissarides, who shared the Nobel Prize in 2010 for their work on labour markets, both told me that they now favoured a universal basic income (UBI), which would give a minimum basic income to all citizens regardless of their economic status.

Steve Schifferes

Professor of Financial Journalism, City, University of London

● Cont. on page 14

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# The Donald in Jeopardy

*Not even former President Nixon of the sinister Watergate fame had such an ignominious series of legal impediments befall a departed President*

Jan Arden

**O**n Tuesday the 13th of June much of the attention in the US was caught up in a historic first: the arrest and charging in a federal court in South Florida of former President Donald Trump on 37 counts, going from obstruction of justice, retention of classified top secret documents and, much to the shock of Trump and his legal team, of related crimes under the Espionage Act.

Two months ago, Trump was arraigned and convicted by a New York grand jury in a civil case of sexual misconduct, and by this summer, he is also expected to be arraigned in Georgia about his attempts to pressure Republican election officials to «find him enough votes» to be declared the winner there. As for his role in inciting the Jan 6 riots in the US capital by a wild armed mob causing some policemen's deaths and considerable trauma, we may yet hear if that could also lead soon to other formal charges. Not even former President Nixon of the sinister Watergate fame had such an ignominious series of legal impediments befall a departed President no longer enjoying the immunity of office.

The pictures shared in the indictment by the Special Prosecutor, Jack Smith, of boxes of documents, many concerning the USA's most sensitive military or nuclear preparedness secrets, piled about or stored in closets and bathrooms at Trump's Mar-a-Lago residence and golf resort, should have been enough to give acute hair-raising pangs of revulsion to a Republican Party (GOP) traditionally attached to the military strength and national security of the US and, even its now aghast Western allies in NATO. Can they ever trust the US with state secrets or classified intel information they wonder at the sight of these carelessly stored and hidden boxes of classified documents at such an insecure location as a golf resort which international spies are known to haunt?

But Trump has grabbed hold of the party base - the "Make America Great Again" (MAGA) extremists - who have turned him into a cult figurehead who can do nothing wrong and is only a long-standing victim of Democrats, variously described as vicious fascists, wild communists, dangerous leftists or simply thugs or Trump-haters as the latter terms the Special Prosecutor and even his wife. While such a stance, however laughable to the outside world, may serve to coa-



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lesce and even strengthen that extremist wing around his Presidential bid in the Republican primaries, it could only serve to distanciate the independent voters, tired of all the whining about stolen or rigged 2020 elections and shocked at the latest case of misappropriated Federal top secret documents, which if misused could endanger the lives of US and allied secret agents. And if that thought were not enough, the perspective of a re-elected

Trump in 2024 pardoning himself, his criminal stooges and the violent armed Jan 6 insurrectionists, may give them the final push.

In fact, some analysts openly believe that the greatest wish of President Biden is a rerun against a damaged and emotionally volatile Donald Trump in 2024, which, barring any major mishaps, would be a far safer road to victory than any contest against a younger Republican candi-

date. Biden's employment figures are impressive (four times more jobs created in 2-3 years than under a full-term Trump administration), debt levels have been successfully negotiated with the Republican House, the economic growth figures are satisfying and post-Covid inflation is being brought down to about 4% this year.

Biden has some time ahead to move the Ukraine-Russia conflict towards some resolution, stand up to China's geo-political moves, and better address the immigrant infiltration at the southern borders. Were progress to be achieved on those fronts, admittedly they are all thorny issues, the Republicans may face heavy weather sticking to the MAGA culture and identity wars in an electorate that may be increasingly tiring of the country's internal strifes and divisions. The Trump card is perfect for President Joe Biden's eventual second-term bid in 2024. After all, Trump had actually lost the popular vote to Hillary Clinton when he was elected by the electoral college in 2016, he lost even more badly to Biden in 2020 and even managed to turn a predicted Republican wave for mid-term House and Senate elections into a loss: he is a demonstrable serial loser.

In response to Trump's desperate appeals for energetic crowd support at both of his arraignments in the New York and Florida courts, it was fortunate and significant that only a few hundred of die-hard loyalists turned up, keeping well clear of rowdy demonstrations, and the same may apply for any future Trump arraignment elsewhere. Whether that is indeed a sign of weariness with the same old Trumpian victimhood themes, with the tiresome name-calling of adversaries or the as yet unrealised desire to move on and look more confidently to the future, only time will tell as Trump's legal and political dramas continue to unfold.

## Handling Former Heads of Government

**D**onald Trump of course remains innocent until proven guilty in a court of law, but his claim of being targeted by the Biden administration and the victim of an unprecedented evil conspiracy to indict a former President and front-runner of the next elections, still some way off, although

accepted by 75% of his MAGA base, does not really hold water.

The classified documents were being requested politely and with gloves from Trump for over a year by their legal owner, the National Archives, until the latter, tipped off, realised they were being taken for a ride and decided first to

subpoena them and later, despite assurances from Trump lawyers that all had been returned, requested and conducted a legal search that revealed the trove of boxes of more top secret documents.

Jan Arden

● Cont. on page 14

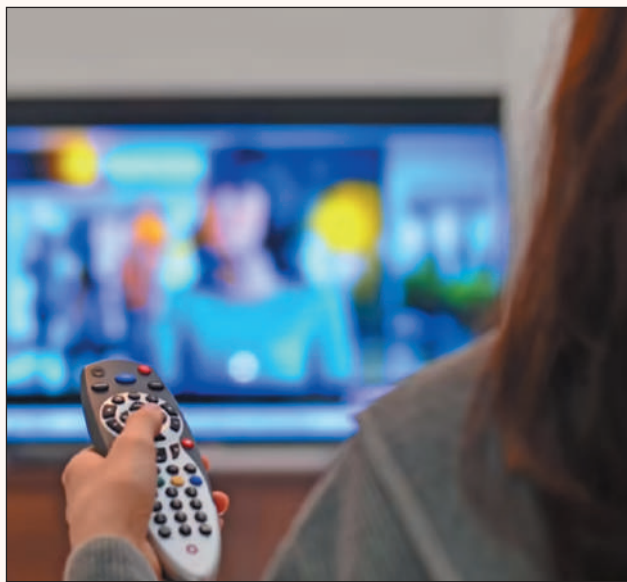


“The numerous cases against former President Sarkozy were painstakingly investigated over several years before the first cases were heard, tried and a condemnation pronounced in the court of 'First Instance' only in 2021....The BJP came to power in 2014 running on a campaign that successfully depicted the Indian National Congress and the Gandhi family as totally corrupt in several mega projects. Yet, in that fractious but vibrant mature democracy, general elections were not followed by what would most certainly be the unseemly hounding of the Congress leadership on any provisional charges... The abuses of provisional charges made here have been amply demonstrated since the current government came to power. It has launched the country into the era that may well haunt us for a while...”

# 'Vimen Leaks' et la course à l'audimat

Par A. Bartleby

**V**endredi dernier, deux radios privées se sont livrées une bataille afin d'être les premiers à livrer le contenu d'une clé USB. Si le contenu doit être pris avec le sérieux le plus absolu, il est clair que cette compétition pour le dévoiler démontre que la forme est extrêmement problématique.



L'avènement des réseaux sociaux a provoqué une transformation radicale du 'business model' des médias

En effet, alors que le contenu de cette clé USB devait être dévoilé à 20 heures par une radio, une antenne concurrente a annoncé une émission dévoilant le même contenu pour 19 hres. La première radio a immédiatement réagi en décalant son émission pour 18hres, avec un entretien de son journaliste à l'appui où ce dernier affirmait être sous pression pour ne pas dévoiler le contenu de cette clé USB.

Cette situation témoigne de ce que sont devenus les médias aujourd'hui. L'avènement des réseaux sociaux a provoqué une transformation radicale du 'business model' des médias. Historiquement, les médias vendaient de l'information qui était traitée et filtrée par le prisme des journalistes dont le métier, historiquement, est de vérifier les informations pour les présenter de manière critique et informative aux citoyens. Cet élément de traitement et de filtrage de l'information est un des prérequis de la bonne santé même de la démocratie.

L'avènement des réseaux sociaux et des radios privées en particulier a progressivement fait évoluer ce modèle. En effet, la marchandise première des médias n'est plus l'information mais l'audimat: c'est l'audimat qui permet à ces médias de vendre de la publicité et ainsi garantir leurs revenus et leurs profits, redistribués en dividendes aux actionnaires. C'est ainsi l'esprit même du journalisme qui se trouve perverti par ce «shift in business model». Puisque les médias et les radios privées sont dépendants des revenus de la pub-

licité, alors ce n'est plus l'information qui compte, mais le sensationnalisme. Et c'est exactement cela que nous avons vu lors de la course de deux radios pour divulguer les 'Vimen Leaks'.

Il faut le dire : cette concurrence de l'audimat pourrait produire une dégradation de la qualité des médias: ces derniers sont tellement pris dans la course au sensationnalisme que les informations et les sources ne sont parfois plus vérifiées. Il faut aussi ajouter que certaines émissions ressemblent plus à des tribunaux populaires et populistes qu'à des enquêtes et des investigations sérieuses et bien menées.

C'est une vérité non-contestée que l'information cachée du public et du journaliste - parce que sa révélation pourrait compromettre les intérêts de différents lobbies, des autorités, de certaines institutions ou même des brebis galeuses - favorise la corruption et affaiblit l'État de droit et la bonne gouvernance. Toutefois, le risque court qu'une telle culture médiatique pourrait donner lieu à un audimat confus qui ne distingue plus le vrai du faux et le crédible du farfalu.

Ainsi, cet audimat n'arrive plus à se constituer une image rationnelle des événements, certains auditeurs voyant des théories du complot absolument partout. Cet abrutissement des masses favorise le terreau pour l'émergence des courants politiques les plus vicieux et les plus dangereux. D'ailleurs, ce n'est pas un hasard que les partis politiques les plus extrêmes utilisent constamment cette dimension des réseaux sociaux et des médias afin de faire avancer leurs intérêts et leurs agendas politiques.

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## Une jeune femme kidnappée par trois individus

**L**es faits se sont déroulés à Floréal. Une jeune femme de 19 ans, qui marchait seule dans la rue vers 18h, s'est fait kidnapper par trois individus en voiture. Ces derniers l'auraient embarquée dans la voiture afin de l'emmener dans un lieu où ils l'auraient déshabillée avant d'abuser d'elle.

Ils l'ont ensuite remise dans la voiture afin de la conduire dans le nord. En chemin, des policiers ont intercepté la voiture grâce à un contrôle de routine. Deux des trois individus ont immédiatement pris la fuite, le troisième a été arrêté immédiatement. La police a réussi à traquer un second individu qui a également été arrêté, et reste à la recherche du troisième individu à l'heure où nous écrivons.

La jeune fille est, quant à elle, heureusement saine et sauve. La police a réagi rapidement dans ce cas, et les vérifications de routine sur les routes ont porté leurs fruits.

Il est indéniable que Maurice se trouve face à une dégradation sécuritaire importante depuis plusieurs années, voire même plusieurs décennies. Les sociologues de Facebook diront que le développement économique mauricien s'accompagne d'inégalités trop criantes et que le fossé qui ne cesse de grandir entre les riches et les pauvres ne fera qu'augmenter la criminalité. Il y a sans doute du vrai dans cette lecture de la situation. Mais donner un diagnostic ne permet pas de résoudre ce problème...

Que faire donc en face d'une montée importante de



Maurice se trouve face à une dégradation sécuritaire importante depuis plusieurs années, voire même plusieurs décennies.  
P - Deposit Photos

la criminalité? Est-ce qu'il suffit de durcir les lois, de mieux former et équiper la police, de rendre le système pénal plus rigide et de construire plus de prisons pour faire reculer la criminalité et la délinquance? Parallèlement, est-ce que faire plus de travail ou de volontariat social, investir dans le suivi des jeunes délinquants et dans la réinsertion des criminels, cela permettra-t-il de tendre vers une approche plus efficace?

La réponse se trouverait peut-être en réalité entre ces deux options ou plutôt, il faudrait en employer les deux.

En effet, il devient impératif de revoir le système de la pénalité dans son ensemble. La criminalité évolue aujourd'hui plus rapidement que les capacités policières. Ces derniers ne sont plus équipés ou pas suffisamment équipés pour faire face aux armes et à l'organisation de type "guérilla" des gangs. Il leur faut de la formation, de l'équipement et la modernisation de leur approche pour la lutte contre la criminalité.

Parallèlement à cela, il faut également développer une police de proximité qui possède des relais et des appuis dans les quartiers sensibles. Le développement d'un lien d'amitié et de soutien avec les familles et les individus les plus exposés aux dangers de la criminalité est essentiel dans le cadre de ce type de lutte.

Le système des prisons doit également être modernisé. La construction de vraies prisons à sécurité maximale pour les grands criminels est une urgence. Il est également essentiel de séparer les condamnés à de petites peines des condamnés à des peines plus sévères, tout comme il est essentiel de garder les délinquants juvéniles et les criminels adultes complètement séparés.

Il est urgent de mettre en place un système d'apprentissage à des métiers et des programmes de réinsertion pour les délinquants juvéniles. L'État se doit également de faire un suivi de ces jeunes afin de s'assurer qu'ils ne sombrent pas dans la récidive.

Parallèlement, le gouvernement se doit de mieux identifier les priorités en matière de dépenses sociales. Il est facile d'identifier les familles et les jeunes les plus à risque de sombrer dans la criminalité et d'en faire des priorités pour les allocations et les programmes de soutien financier et de suivi scolaire, etc.

La criminalité devient une réalité de plus en plus présente dans la vie des Mauriciens. Et il est impératif de commencer à développer une approche renouvelée afin de s'adapter à un milieu qui évolue à vitesse grand V. Sans une approche renouvelée comme celle-là, nous perdrons la bataille contre le crime organisé à Maurice.

☞ Suite en page 5

# La Fed américaine garde le repo rate inchangé

Suite de la page 4

C'est l'annonce économique de la semaine: Jerome Powell, le Chair de la Fed, a annoncé que le repo rate resterait inchangé, malgré le fait que la Fed projetait une augmentation sensible du coût de l'emprunt par 0,5 points d'ici la fin de l'année.

La Fed se retrouve en face d'une situation délicate où l'économie américaine est en phase de récupération accélérée après la crise qui a suivi la pandémie de la Covid mais où l'inflation baisse lentement.

En effet, Jerome Powell a décrit la croissance économique américaine et le marché du travail comme "holding up better than expected under the weight of the aggressive monetary policy tightening of the past year". Ce point est crucial puisque la priorité absolue de la Fed depuis la sortie de la pandémie était de stabiliser l'inflation américaine. Cet objectif passait avant les considérations liées à la croissance et à la bonne santé (ou non) du marché du travail. Or, il est extrêmement intéressant de constater que l'économie américaine a tenu le choc des politiques monétaires agressives et a su résister à l'inflation galopante.

L'annonce du Chair de la Fed sonne ainsi comme une nouvelle phase de la politique monétaire américaine qui est en train de se mettre en place. Cette nouvelle phase s'appuie sur une reprise solide et envoie un signal positif aux marchés financiers et à l'économie mondiale.



La Fed frappe encore pour tenter de juguler l'inflation. P - Le Devoir

Non seulement l'économie américaine n'est pas entrée en récession comme l'avaient annoncé plusieurs économistes de renom, mais elle semble sortir plus rapidement que prévu de la crise économique. Cela dit, Jerome Powell se veut prudent et assure que la Fed

continuera à suivre la situation de très près car cette dernière reste volatile.

Parallèlement Harvesh Seegoolam, le gouverneur de la BOM, a annoncé des projections positives pour l'économie mauricienne. En effet, après avoir atteint un Peak de 11,3% en début d'année, l'inflation devrait connaître une baisse graduelle jusqu'à atteindre 6,8% à la fin de cette année, selon les projections de la BOM. Harvesh Seegoolam a même annoncé que l'inflation devrait continuer à baisser en 2024 pour passer sous la barre des 5%.

Si ces projections se réalisent, Maurice ne sera plus en phase de reprise mais en phase de relance économique. Nous savons que les trois secteurs clés de l'activité économique sont aujourd'hui consolidés. Le tourisme ne connaît pas la crise mondiale, le secteur de l'immobilier ne cesse de croître et le secteur financier est sorti de la liste noire.

De plus, le marché de l'emploi se porte également bien, même si le chômage ne baisse que sensiblement. Ceci est dû au fait qu'il y a actuellement plusieurs milliers d'emplois à pourvoir dans les différents secteurs, mais que les applications pour ces emplois restent limitées, ce qui pousse les opérateurs à recourir à l'importation du travail.

Seul le temps dira si le "positive outlook" actuel sera maintenu ou non, surtout dans un contexte volatile où la moindre instabilité géopolitique pourrait tuer la reprise économique et envoyer l'économie mondiale dans une récession durable.

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## "Au commencement était la guerre"

Alain Bauer, géopolitologue de renom et ancien conseiller du Président Sarkozy en matière de sécurité, vient de publier un livre intitulé "Au commencement était la guerre".

Cet ouvrage brûlant d'actualité nous livre une analyse dépassionnée et extrêmement rationnelle de l'état actuel du monde via le prisme des guerres et des conflits qui s'y déroulent actuellement. Il tente d'ailleurs de détruire la thèse qui triompha et orienta les politiques internationales des puissances mondiales après l'effondrement du bloc soviétique et la fin de la Guerre Froide: le fait que c'est l'économie de marché, et plus le potentiel d'une généralisation de la guerre, qui régite et ordonne la mondialisation, et où les guerres n'étaient plus que des événements rares localisés et sans incidence réelle sur la conduite du monde.

Pour Alain Bauer, nous sommes donc dans une situation analogue à la fameuse thèse de Clausewitz qui pensait que la guerre était la continuation de la politique par d'autres moyens. Cela signifie une chose radicalement différente de l'hypothèse que Bauer tente de critiquer: le fait que le lien entre politique et guerre soit intime, et que la guerre est un potentiel permanent qui est elle-même inscrite dans la politique.

Ainsi, Alain Bauer interprète la guerre en Ukraine comme le retour officiel d'un état de guerre permanente, une nouvelle Guerre Froide qui sera structurée par les transformations des rapports de pouvoir à l'échelle du globe et par les avancées technologiques extrêmement rapides de l'industrie de l'armement et de l'intelligence artificielle.

Cette lecture peut sembler pessimiste, mais Alain



Alain Bauer interprète la guerre en Ukraine comme le retour officiel d'un état de guerre permanente. P - aljazeera.com

Bauer ne prédit pas forcément l'apparition d'un conflit armé d'envergure comme le furent les deux guerres mondiales au XXème siècle. Il voit bien plutôt une multiplication des conflits de longue durée. Par exemple, il n'hésite pas à affirmer que la guerre en Ukraine durera aussi longtemps que la guerre de Corée - qui est une guerre continue puisqu'aucun traité de paix n'a été signé entre les deux Corées.

Tout cela peut sembler trop abstrait, mais lorsque l'on observe les choses de près, il se pourrait bien qu'Alain Bauer nous livre une analyse extrêmement juste de la situation actuelle. Il suffit d'observer la volonté des États-Unis d'étendre l'OTAN sur le continent asiatique afin d'encercler la Chine, tout comme l'OTAN a en quelque sorte encerclé la Russie. Narendra Modi, qui sera bientôt en visite officielle aux États-Unis, a d'ailleurs rejeté l'invitation des USA à ouvrir un bureau de l'OTAN sur son territoire (chose que le Japon pourrait d'ailleurs faire, même si Emmanuel Macron s'est dit ouvertement opposé à cela).

Cette volonté d'encercler de la Chine par les USA signifie justement cette généralisation de la militarisation, et donc de la possibilité de la guerre. Parallèlement, la volonté chinoise de reprendre Taiwan et la vitesse à laquelle l'armée chinoise investit dans sa marine n'annonce rien de bon pour la paix mondiale. Le schéma de Clausewitz, où la guerre apparaît lorsque la politique échoue, redevient donc une réelle possibilité. La voie diplomatique fonctionne pour l'instant plutôt bien, mais est-ce que ce sera le cas pendant encore longtemps?

Ce qui est sûr, c'est que nous entrons dans un monde qui deviendra de plus en plus dangereux et volatile, et que Maurice se trouve au cœur de cet échiquier, de par notre positionnement territorial dans un océan Indien qui devient de plus en plus stratégique.

Il est plus que jamais urgent d'exercer la prudence la plus absolue quant à notre positionnement et nos alliances stratégiques.

A. Bartleby



Anil Madan

# Reactions to the Trump Classified Documents Indictment

*Even if convicted, Trump could still run for President. It is anomalous that many states prevent felons from voting but not from standing for election*

**B**y the time you read this, everyone who hasn't been taking a Gulliver-style nap under a rock will know that Donald Trump has been arraigned in a United States federal district court in Miami on an indictment by a federal grand jury acting under the auspices of Special Counsel Jack Smith. Let us review the charges, then some of the reactions to the indictment and finally, I'll give you Bwana's take.

First, a brief overview of the charges. You can read the full indictment here: [full.pdf \(nyt.com\)](#)

In summary, the indictment begins with charges of willful retention of highly classified US government documents containing the most sensitive and secret information on US nuclear programs; defense and weapons capabilities of both the US and foreign countries; potential vulnerabilities of the US and its allies to military attack; and plans for retaliation in case of an attack. It goes on to allege that Donald Trump knew that he shouldn't have these documents in his possession, that he showed them to persons without security clearances, that he lied about having the documents in his possession and conspired with others to thwart the government's efforts to retrieve the documents to the point of attempting to get employees and even his attorneys to make false statements about the documents. These latter actions were designed to avoid compliance with the subpoena for the documents and amount to obstruction of justice. All the crimes charged are felonies.

Two examples of facts alleged are:

In July 2021, at Trump National Golf Club in Bedminster, New Jersey (The Bedminster Club), during an audio-recorded meeting with a writer, a publisher, and two members of his staff, none of whom possessed a security clearance, TRUMP showed and described a plan of attack that TRUMP said was prepared for him by the Department of Defense and a senior military official. TRUMP told the individuals that the plan was "highly confidential" and "secret." TRUMP also said, "as president I could have declassified it," and, "Now I can't, you know, but this is still a secret."

and, after the grand jury issued a subpoena in March 2022 requiring Trump to turn over all documents with classification markings, TRUMP endeavored to obstruct the FBI and grand jury investigations and conceal his continued retention of classified documents by, among other things:

- Suggesting that his attorney falsely represent to the FBI and grand jury that TRUMP did not have documents called for by the grand jury subpoena,
- directing defendant WALTINE NAUTA to move boxes of documents to conceal them from TRUMP's attorney, the FBI, and the grand jury,
- suggesting that his attorney hide or destroy documents called for by the grand jury subpoena, d. providing to the FBI and grand jury just some of the documents called for by the grand jury subpoena,



Donald Trump, Mar-a-Lago P - deadline.com

**“It should be unthinkable for a presidential candidate to stoop so low as to promise a pardon for someone convicted of violating national security and obstruction of justice by willful conduct such as is alleged against Trump. Seldom has there been so much egg spread on their own faces by so many. In turn, these reckless statements have spurred an outpouring of calls by Trump supporters for an uprising to defend him with violence if necessary. Second, even if convicted, Trump could still run for President. It is anomalous that many states prevent felons from voting but not from standing for election...”**

while claiming that he was cooperating fully, and

- causing a certification to be submitted to the FBI and grand jury falsely representing that all documents called for by the grand jury subpoena had been produced while knowing that, in fact, not all such documents had been produced.

On January 17, 2022, nearly a year after Trump left office and after months of demands by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) that he must return all presidential records, Trump produced 15 boxes which contained 197 documents with classification markings. In June 2022, after the subpoena was served, Trump's attorney produced 38 more documents with such markings. On August 8, an FBI search of Mar-a-Lago pursuant to a search warrant retrieved 102 more documents with classification markings.

### Trump's reaction:

Trump has, as Trump is wont to do, gone ballistic over the indictment. He has referred to Special Counsel Jack Smith as a "deranged psycho" and a "Trump hater." As might be expected, he has accused the Biden administration of weaponizing the Department of Justice. He has proclaimed himself an innocent man. His most fervent "defense" is that the DOJ did not go after Hillary Clinton or the Joe and Hunter Biden. He does not deny that he took the classified documents or explain the discrepancy between his earlier statements that he had declassified the documents. Indeed, he is alleged to have admitted that once he left the White House, he no longer had that power.

Most importantly, Trump tries to make a subtle distinction that what he did is not a violation of the Espionage Act but comes under the rubric of the Presidential Records Act

(PRA). The subtle point he is trying to make is that under the PRA, a former President is entitled to have access to documents concerning his time in office for legitimate purposes such as writing his memoirs. The problem with this argument is that former Presidents are not entitled to unfettered access to classified information but must follow stringent security procedures and protocols when handling such documents. Trump did not follow any of the procedures or protocols. It is also significant that in proffering this excuse, Trump ends admitting at least to unlawful possession and retention of classified documents.

In a troublesome echo of his call for his supporters to show up at the Capitol on January 6, 2021, Trump exhorted his supporters to show up in Miami last Tuesday. His supporters had no colorable reason to be in Miami

on that day other than to demonstrate and make trouble at Trump's behest. His exhortation turned out to be a flop.

### Special Counsel Jack Smith's Reaction:

- Special Counsel Jack Smith made a televised statement about the indictment. The salient points he made are:
- Our laws that protect national defense information are critical to the safety and security of the United States and they must be enforced. Violations of those laws put our country at risk.
- We have one set of laws in this country, and they apply to everyone. Applying those laws. Collecting facts. That's what determines the outcome of an investigation. Nothing more. Nothing less.
- The prosecutors in my office are among the most talented and experienced in the Department of Justice. They have investigated this case, hewing to the highest ethical standards. And they will continue to do so as this case proceeds.
- I would like to thank the dedicated public servants of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with whom my office is conducting this investigation and who worked tirelessly every day upholding the rule of law in our country. I'm deeply proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with them.

Even before the indictment was released to the public, Trump and his team tried to seize the narrative. And they used the indictment as a springboard to seek more donations.

☞ **Cont. on page 7**

☞ Cont. from page 6

Jack Smith and the DOJ seemed determined not to let Trump and his operatives steal the moment and control the narrative. In fact, Smith urged everyone to read the indictment. Good luck with that. This is America, the land of the soundbite. Heaven forfend that we should actually read the details before making up our minds. On the other hand, if you have time, please do read the indictment. If the allegations are true, it is a compelling case for obstruction of justice.

### Reactions from Republicans and Trumpkins:

Ever since he rode down the escalator in Trump Tower in 2015, Donald Trump has had a mystical quality about him that allows him to mesmerize his followers and caramelize their impulses into a glaze of hatefulness. As he appeals to the basest instincts of his followers—do they have any other—the so-called Republican leaders cower, fearful of antagonizing his base.

So, it was that Governor Ron DeSantis of Florida (DeSenseless as I like to call him) chirped about weaponization of the DOJ and promised that if he is elected President, he will reform that department. How he would do that, he did not say. House Speaker Kevin McCarthy likewise engaged in a shameful attack on the Biden administration for indicting Trump. The truth of the matter is that Biden has no say in the matter and, as we know, Attorney General Garland had appointed a Special Counsel to conduct the investigation and decide whether to indict or not—subject, of course, to final approval of the AG.

Former Vice President Mike Pence who was the subject of the January 6 chants “Hang Mike Pence” at first said he was troubled by the indictment of a former President. Now that he admits having read the indictment, he states that he cannot support the kind of conduct alleged but Trump is entitled to a fair trial.

Former Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson who is in the race for the Republican nomination in spirit, if not assigned a lane in which to run, declared: “While Donald Trump is entitled to the presumption of innocence, the ongoing criminal proceedings will be a major distraction. This reaffirms the need for Donald Trump to respect the office and end his campaign.”

Trump’s former national security adviser John Bolton tweeted: “Donald Trump has proven himself incapable of meeting the Constitutional obligation to take care that ‘laws be faithfully executed. He’s clearly unfit to lead. A second term would simply result in more criminal acts. Drop out now.”

Kari Lake, most notable for losing the gubernatorial election in Arizona threatened Jack Smith and Joe Biden, couching her statement as a Public Service Announcement. Then Lake issued a pledge to protect President Trump against prosecution, and to protect him with 75 million other people who, she implied, as card-carrying members of the NRA, would use firearms if necessary.

It is too early to pay attention to polls, but a recent RealClearPolitics’ average of polls shows Trump registering 53.2% as leader for the Republican nomination followed by DeSantis at 22.4%, Nikki Haley at 4.4%, and Hutchinson at just 0.4% shows how far removed the election, still seventeen months away, is from moving the public needle.

### Reactions of Democrats and the Liberal Media:

It is fair to say that the reaction of Democrats and many in the liberal media has been one of restrained exultation if exultation can ever be described as restrained. That Trump’s own words are recited repeatedly in the indictment to tell the story of his lies, coverups, and attempts to conceal documents from the FBI and NARA, and to get even

# Reactions to the Trump Classified Documents Indictment



Former US President Donald Trump and Prosecutor Jack Smith (Pic illustration by Salon/Getty Images)

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his lawyers to lie, confirms their long-held belief that Trump is evil incarnate.

### Bwana’s take:

Aside from my comments about the actions of the Republicans, disgust that I could not refrain from expressing, I have two thoughts. *First*, there is the presumption of innocence. *Second*, there is a deep sense that this is a sorry and tearful moment for this nation. If Trump said and did what is alleged in the indictment, regardless of whether he is technically guilty, this is a sad, sad moment for our country.

As the indictment recounts, while he was President, Trump made many pronouncements about the need to protect our national security against mishandling of classified information and he promised to enforce those laws. These were hollow and empty promises. Aside from that, his willful disregard for the truth in dealing with a subpoena and active prevarications, insisting that he had turned over all classified documents when he hadn’t, and claiming that he had somehow magically declassified the information when he clearly did not follow the procedures for doing so, leave one cold.

This presumption of innocence is a funny thing. NO, I am not saying that Trump did not do all that is alleged in the indictment. The question is whether he is guilty under the law. Given what I have read in the indictment, I think it highly likely that he will be found guilty of obstruction of justice, and of willfully concealing that he had classified documents. But, on the charge or willful retention of classified documents, I have great difficulty finding any harm to the nation. Yes, the indictment alleges that these documents contained highly classified information vital to the nation’s security and that its disclosure could have put people’s lives in danger. But Trump was entitled to know what was in the documents when he was President. He still had that

knowledge when he left office, so if he looked at the documents again, sure there is a technical violation, but what is the harm? Knowledge cannot be undone. If he did not show the information to others who compromised national security and so long as he did not try to sell the information to third parties, it is difficult to get one’s knickers in a twist.

On the other hand, make no mistake. Whether technical or not, these types of violations involving compromise of classified information have resulted in stiff prison sentences for offenders. But then, none of them was a former president.

It is also possible that under the Presidential Records Act Trump could have access to such documents. However, such access is under strictly controlled conditions. Trump’s attorneys will have to find a compelling legal justification for this kind of defense to succeed.

Trump’s claims of double standards is nonsensical. None of the others he mentions, Biden, Pence, or Hillary Clinton, was involved in the willful secretion of classified information or in obstructing justice.

What I am getting at is that most of the indictment relates to the kind of charges that produced no real harm and so he will never be incarcerated for those violations. Perhaps he will be confined to his residence at Mar-a-Lago. The obstruction of justice and conspiracy to conceal classified documents are far more serious charges. Again, whereas I think it highly unlikely that he will be jailed, I can see an extended home confinement sentence.

The notion of innocent until proven guilty is illustrated by a case decided about ten days ago by the Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) of Massachusetts. After a jury trial, the defendant was convicted of murder in the first degree on theories of deliberate premeditation and felony-murder, with aggravated kidnapping as the predicate felony, in connection with the disappearance of the victim. The defendant contended on appeal, and the Massachusetts prosecutor conceded, that, because at the time of the offense the felony of aggravated kidnapping did not exist, he could not have been convicted on the theory of felony-murder in the first degree. The SJC agreed and vacated the conviction based on felony-murder but affirmed the conviction of premeditated murder. So, it is possible for a defendant to have done precisely what is charged but not be guilty of the technical offense.

I will add two concluding thoughts.

First, as despicable as Trump’s willful lies in evading the subpoena, and in urging his people to lie and thwart the subpoena and the FBI, the conduct of Speaker McCarthy, scores of Republican congressional representatives, and people like Kari Lake, are even more despicable. It should be unthinkable for a presidential candidate to stoop so low as to promise a pardon for someone convicted of violating national security and obstruction of justice by willful conduct such as is alleged against Trump. Seldom has there been so much egg spread on their own faces by so many. In turn, these reckless statements have spurred an outpouring of calls by Trump supporters for an uprising to defend him with violence if necessary.

Second, even if convicted, Trump could still run for President. It is anomalous that many states prevent felons from voting but not from standing for election.

The shadow of January 6 looms once again.

Cheerz...  
Bwana

## Mauritius: Top trending destination within Africa for solo travellers

With #solotravel videos garnering close to four billion views on TikTok, solo travel has become a cultural phenomenon across the globe. As such, adventure tour operator 'Explore Worldwide' set out to reveal this year's trending destinations for solo travel across the world's continents.

By analysing Google search data from the last two years, 'Explore's research' has determined the places that are seeing the biggest uplift in solo travel searches compared to the previous year. From the tropical shores of Mauritius to the mountain views in Cape Town and the thrilling history in Cairo, the new research reveals that independent travellers are showing a desire to explore a heady mix of Africa's beautiful cities and landscapes.

### Top 5 Trending Solo Travel Destinations in Africa

Mauritius proves to be the top trending destination for solo travellers within Africa, with nearly 150% more online searches compared to last year. While typically seen as romantic honeymoon destination, Mauritius is attracting more solo travellers who want to experience its pristine beaches, crystal-clear waters and lush greenery.

Hot on Mauritius' tail though is South Africa's capital



Solo Traveller at Le Mornes. Pic - Full Suitcase

city, which has increased in solo travel interest by 145%, thus narrowly missing the top spot. Must-visit spots include the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden, Robben Island and the Cape of Good Hope. Cape Town has much to offer solo travellers, including walking tours of some of the city's most vibrant neighbourhoods such as Bo-Kaap and Woodstock, known for their colourful buildings and street art.

Landing in third place is the capital of Egypt. This bustling metropolis is steeped in a heady mix of history, culture and ancient wonders.

As well as looking at trending solo travel locations in

Africa, Explore Worldwide's new study also reveals the upcoming cities across the globe that are proving popular with solo explorers this year.

1. **Hanoi:** Topping the list as the world's trending city for solo travel is the Vietnamese capital of Hanoi.

2. **Bangkok:** Bangkok places second with an 816% rise in solo travel searches, with a plethora of activities that are perfect for independent travellers. Thailand's capital city is rich in history with many temples that yearn to be explored.

3. **Taipei:** Taipei lands in third place among the world's trending solo travel cities, with a search increase of close to 700%. The capital of Taiwan boasts much in the way of both modern architecture as well as serene nature trails and hikes.

4. **Seoul:** South Korea's Seoul winds up in fourth place with a search increase of 533% for 'Seoul solo travel' in comparison to last year.

5. **Phnom Penh:** The city of Phnom Penh rounds out the top five with a 500% increase in searches when compared to the previous year's data. There is an abundance of history to absorb for solo travellers.

Ben Ittensohn, Regional Director Australia and New Zealand at Explore Travel, comments: "Our study also highlights the ever-growing popularity of solo travel as a meaningful way to experience the world: it's a powerful reminder that travel is not just about the destination, but the journey itself, and the personal growth that comes with stepping outside of our comfort zones."

## President Joe Biden leads Donald Trump by four points, poll suggests

President Joe Biden is now leading former president Donald Trump by four points, a hypothetical general election poll released on Wednesday, June 15, claimed. According to the Quinnipiac University poll, 48% of respondents are likely to support Biden over Trump. Trump received 44% of support. His support dropped two points since the last poll in May, but Biden's has remained unhinged. The poll was reportedly counted from June 8 through 12.

"In a hypothetical general election matchup, President Joe Biden has a slight lead over Trump 48 - 44 percent among all registered voters. In Quinnipiac University's previous national poll on May 24th, Biden received 48% and Trump received 46%," the website for Quinnipiac University poll said.



- President Joe Biden is now leading former president Donald Trump by four points. Pic - AFP

Quinnipiac analyst Tim Malloy noted, "A federal indictment. A court date on a litany of charges. A blizzard of critical media coverage. The negative impact on the former President's standing with voters? Not much at all."

Most of Biden's supporters are Black and Hispanic people. He is also stronger with women than with men.

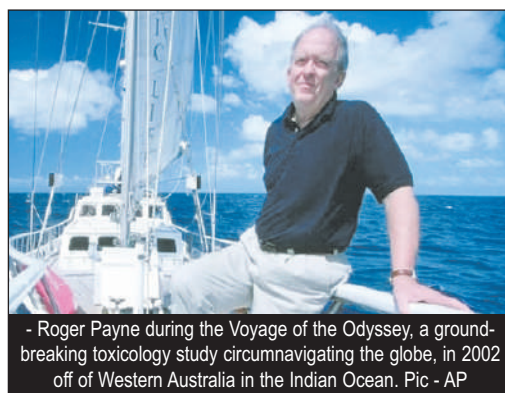
The survey said older respondents would possibly favour Biden, reports Hindustan Times.

Biden notably has a 57-point lead over Democrats, including Robert Kennedy Jr. On the other hand, among Republicans, Trump held a 22-point lead over Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis.

## Roger Payne, renowned scientist who discovered whales can sing, dies at 88

Roger Payne, the scientist who spurred a worldwide environmental conservation movement with his discovery that whales could sing, has died. He was 88.

Payne made the discovery in 1967 during a research trip to Bermuda in which a Navy engineer provided him with a recording of curious underwater sounds documented while listening for Russian submarines. Payne identified



- Roger Payne during the Voyage of the Odyssey, a groundbreaking toxicology study circumnavigating the globe, in 2002 off of Western Australia in the Indian Ocean. Pic - AP

the haunting tones as songs whales sing to one another.

He saw the discovery of whale song as a chance to spur interest in saving the giant animals, who were disappearing from the planet. Payne would produce the album "Songs of the Humpback Whale" in 1970. A

surprise hit, the record galvanized a global movement to end the practice of commercial whale hunting and save the whales from extinction, reports AP.

Payne told Nautilus Quarterly in a 2021 interview that he first heard the recording in the loud engine room of a research vessel and knew almost instantly that the sounds were indeed whales.

The impact of the whale song discovery on the nascent environmental movement was immense. Many anti-war protesters of the day took on saving animals and the environment as a new cause, and the words "save the whales" became ubiquitous on tote bags and bumper stickers.

## 'Need to unify with Hindus across America': Congresswoman before PM Modi's visit

US Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee on Wednesday said there is a need to join together, unify together with all the Hindus across America.

"The power of Hindus in the United States is powerful. We need to join together, unify together with all of the Hindus across America. That will be a powerful force," the US Congresswoman said while addressing the first-ever Hindu-American Summit organised at US Capitol Hill.

The US Congresswoman said democracy is an issue that the US, India can work together on as "there is no doubt that India is the largest and we are the oldest. And we've all had our challenges. We have all had our challenges. But if we can do that with our own faith, the faith of the Hindu, about our own ability to do good, we can keep the march of democracy going forward."

Lee further said: "We can keep your rights protected. We can allow you to practise your faith without interruption. We can allow your voices to be heard without interruption. We can even promote peace. And I am a person who believes in it."

Founder and Chairman of American4Hindus, RomeshJapra at the event said: "This is the first-ever summit we are holding for political engagement. We've done a lot of great work in every field but politically, we are way behind. We feel that Hindu Americans are being discriminated. That is why we thought it is a good idea to bring all the organizations together."

American4Hindus is an NGO that advocates for the rights of Hindu Americans in the U.S.

\* Contd on page 9



## With eye on allies and partners, Pentagon makes changes in its foreign military sales process



An aircraft marshal gestures during a ceremony for the arrival of the first four F-35 fighter jets. Pic – Defense News

In a significant shift, the US Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin has instructed agencies implementing foreign military sales (FMS) to improve their understanding of requirements of allies and partners; enable efficient reviews for the release of technology; provide allies and partners priority capabilities; accelerate acquisition and contracting support; and incorporate the requirements of allies and partners in

the expansion of US's own defence industrial base capacity.

Austin's decision comes in the wake of a concerted effort by the US to build a networked security architecture in the Indo-Pacific and ease the rigid system of export controls that govern sales and tech transfer of US systems even to the closest allies. The decision is also expected to help the relationship with India, with which the US has just concluded

a road map on defence industrial cooperation.

Explaining the significance of Pentagon's decision, including for India, Frank O'Donnell, a non-resident fellow at the Stimson Centre South Asia programme, said, "This initiative shows that DoD, at its most senior levels, is committed to streamlining defence technology cooperation with partners and allies. India's capability requirements will be central in shaping these reforms, and Delhi can expect to similarly be one of its key beneficiaries."

However, he said that similar urgency was required from India in demonstrating its willingness to reduce bureaucratic barriers to defence technology cooperation and interoperability with the US. "The upcoming state visit of the Prime Minister - and, in particular, the related proposed Predator acquisition, long beset by delays on the Indian side - are prime opportunities for Delhi to underline this intent."



US Secretary of State Antony Blinken. Pic - Bloomberg

## Blinken holds talks with Chinese FM, set to visit Beijing

Following up on the agreement between US President Joe Biden and China's president Xi Jinping in Bali to maintain open lines of communication, Secretary of State Antony Blinken will visit Beijing, the State Department announced on Wednesday.

In a statement, State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller said Blinken will travel to Beijing and then London between June 16 and 21, reports Hindustan Times.

"While in Beijing, Secretary Blinken will meet with senior PRC officials where he will discuss the importance of maintaining open lines of communication to responsibly manage the US-PRC relationship. He will also raise bilateral issues of concern, global and regional matters, and potential cooperation on shared transnational challenges."

Blinken spoke to China's foreign minister Qin Gang on

Tuesday. According to the State Department, Blinken had discussed the importance of "maintaining open lines of communication" to "avoid miscalculation and conflict". He also addressed a range of bilateral and global issues, and made it clear to his Chinese counterpart that the US would continue to use diplomatic engagements to raise "areas of concern" as well as "areas of potential cooperation".

When Biden and Xi had met in Bali last year, they had agreed to remain engaged. According to a White House readout, Biden had told the Chinese leader that while the US will continue to "compete vigorously" with China, this competition must not "veer into conflict". This required both sides to maintain open channels of communication, which is how Blinken's visit was scheduled.

But days before he was to depart for Beijing in early February, the US discovered a Chinese surveillance balloon traversing across its continental territory. This led to public outrage and the trip being postponed. The US then accessed intelligence that suggested China was preparing to provide lethal arms to Russia to aid Moscow in its war in Ukraine and put pressure on Beijing from desist from doing so.

In May, US national security adviser Jake Sullivan met senior Chinese communist party foreign policy figure, Wang Yi in Vienna. HT had reported on May 11 that the conversation would lead to Blinken's visit to China. A senior administration figure had then told HT that the visit did not in any way mean a "reset" in ties or a dilution of the US approach to China, as articulated in its national defence and national security strategy documents.

"Given the larger strategic environment, as well as domestic political mood in the US with the Congress keeping a vigilant eye on China, there is no possibility of a reset with Beijing. What Washington hopes for is finding a way to calm tempers. It also shows to the rest of the region which doesn't want to get caught in a Washington-Beijing conflict that US is open to engagement. Diplomacy involves talking. And talking doesn't mean agreement," the person added.

## Royal experts believe that Prince Harry can fix his relationship with Royal Family if he leaves Meghan Markle



Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, Duke and Duchess of Sussex visit the track and field event at the Invictus Games in The Hague, Netherlands, Sunday, April 17, 2022. Pic - AP

Could Prince Harry mend fences with the royal family without Meghan Markle? According to experts, it's a possibility, but not without challenges. Royal commentator Jennie Bond believes that Harry, on his own, could eventually find forgiveness and be welcomed back. However, she admits that this scenario seems unlikely for now.

Bond stated, "I think that Harry, without Meghan, would be forgiven and welcomed back into the royal fold in the fullness of time." She added, "He could recoup the ground he's lost in time and be welcomed back. But I don't think it's anywhere on the horizon."

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex recently celebrated their five-year anniversary on May 19, 2023, amidst ongoing legal battles against tabloids. Harry's June 2023 testimony in a phone hacking case showed his determination to take legal action to protect Meghan, reports Hindustan Times.

Paul Burrell, Princess Diana's former butler, shares a similar sentiment. As mentioned in Harry's phone hacking case, Burrell believes a split between Harry and Meghan is inevitable. He predicts that the door to reconciliation between King Charles III and Prince William will open wide once this happens.

Burrell expressed confidence that "when this happens, because we all know that it will happen, then he will return to the United Kingdom." He believes that Harry's father, the King, and his brother, the Prince of Wales, will warmly welcome him back.

In their Netflix docuseries, Harry opened up about missing certain aspects of his old life within the royal family. He acknowledged missing the unique family gatherings and his friends in the UK, while also expressing peace with his current situation in Montecito, California.

While reconciliation without Meghan seems like a remote possibility at present, time may heal old wounds and pave the way for Harry's return. As the Duke of Sussex continues his journey, the world watches with curiosity and anticipation, wondering if and when a royal family reunion will come to fruition.

Interview: Me Antoine Domingue

# “La pieuvre de la mafia ne pourra pas être éradiquée avec des paraboles et des paroles en l’air”

**C**es derniers temps, un certain nombre d’activités d’un pan de la force policière a entaché l’image de cette institution, pourtant si nécessaire et si utile au sein d’une démocratie. La surenchère entre deux stations de radios pour diffuser des informations a uniquement attisé un peu plus la curiosité des Mauriciens et a obligé les uns les autres à réfléchir à propos de l’étendue de la dégradation des valeurs à tous les niveaux de la société. Mais tout ce tapage médiatique révèle surtout l’intensité d’un certain égarement et l’on s’interroge certainement sur le rôle de ceux qui doivent non seulement rassurer la population mais aussi garantir la sécurité nationale.

**Mauritius Times:** Le Premier ministre n’a nullement l’intention de prendre ou d’initier quelque action contre la *Police Headquarters Special Striking Team*; il laisse le soin au Commissaire de Police qui, a-t-il rappelé dans sa réponse à la PNQ du Leader de l’Opposition, mardi dernier, est le seul mandaté de par l’article 71(4) de la Constitution, à déterminer l’utilisation et le contrôle des opérations des forces de police à prendre les actions qui s’imposent. Pouvait-il en tant que Premier ministre et responsable des Affaires intérieures faire mieux dans ces circonstances particulièrement difficiles et troublantes auxquelles le pays fait face?

**Me Antoine Domingue:** La règle est claire, mais elle n’est pas toujours bien comprise. Le Premier ministre ne peut pas initier une action disciplinaire quelconque à l’encontre d’aucun policier. Le Premier ministre n’a pas cette compétence qui appartient au Commissaire de police. Le cas échéant, ce dernier doit mettre en branle la machinerie disciplinaire avec l’aval de la *Disciplinary Forces Service Commission* et l’assistance juridique du *Solicitor General*.

Il n’en demeure pas moins qu’en sa qualité de Premier ministre et ministre de l’Intérieur, Pravind Jugnauth est de prime abord le responsable de la police et du maintien de l’ordre. En effet, la responsabilité politique lui incombe, que ce soit auprès du Président de la République (qui l’a nommé à ce poste), auprès du Cabinet, devant l’Assemblée nationale, devant la population dans son ensemble, et, surtout, devant l’électorat. Le Premier ministre est épaulé dans sa tâche par le *Secretary for Home Affairs* et par le *Security Adviser* qui devraient donc le soutenir et le conseiller.

J’aurais donc pensé qu’au vu de la gravité de la



situation à laquelle nous sommes tous confrontés, le Premier ministre n’étant, après tout, que le *primus inter pares* (le premier parmi les égaux), le bon sens aurait dû prévaloir et cette délicate affaire aurait dû avoir été évoquée et débattue au Conseil des ministres afin de faire l’objet d’une décision collégiale du Cabinet. Rien ne s’oppose à cela.

Je préconise qu’après consultation avec le Président de la République l’on devrait suivre cette voie afin de donner plus de poids et de solennité à la prise de décision. Celle-ci devrait donc, dans la conjoncture actuelle, être une réponse gouvernementale qui soit ferme et appropriée.

**\* Tout ce qui a été dit et entendu dans les bandes sonores diffusées par les radios privées, Radio Plus**

et Top FM, ne sont à ce stade que des allégations et doivent donc faire l’objet de vérifications et d’enquêtes par les autorités compétentes, comme le Premier ministre l’a souligné au Parlement mardi dernier. Tout autre Premier ministre aurait dit presque la même chose, non? On ne voit pas Navin Ramgoolam ou Paul Bérenger se tirer une balle dans le pied et porter tout le blâme des dysfonctionnements de la police...

Un autre Premier ministre, digne de ce nom, ne se serait pas défilé et ne se serait pas caché derrière le Commissaire de police et quelques propos déçus d’un ancien membre de la commission d’enquête sur le trafic de drogue en réponse aux interrogations légitimes de Touria Prayag qui s’inquiétait des nombreuses frasques de la *Police Headquarters Special Striking Team* qui a fait la une de tous les journaux.

Je continue de penser que cette équipe spéciale, sévissant grâce à la complaisance des autorités, a terni et continuera de ternir l’image de la police. Souvenez-vous de Raddhoa et de son équipe qui avaient échappé à tout contrôle. A telle enseigne qu’il avait refusé de se rendre à la convocation d’une juge de la Cour suprême qui s’était écriée «*Call him ! If he does not know I will teach him!*» N’est-il pas grand temps que l’on donne la fessée à la SST?

**“Un autre Premier ministre, digne de ce nom, ne se serait pas défilé et ne se serait pas caché derrière le Commissaire de police et quelques propos déçus d’un ancien membre de la commission d’enquête sur le trafic de drogue en réponse aux interrogations légitimes de Touria Prayag qui s’inquiétait des nombreuses frasques de la *Police Headquarters Special Striking Team* qui a fait la une de tous les journaux...”**

**\* Dans le cas présent, c’est le *Major Crime Investigation Team* qui a été chargé de mener l’enquête sur les allégations contenues dans les bandes sonores. On revient donc à une situation où c’est la police elle-même qui va enquêter sur la police. Faute d’une police des polices ou toute autre institution indépendante, cela pose-t-il un problème particulier?**

La loi cadre est un texte vieillot régissant toujours la police, c’est-à-dire la *Police Act* ne l’interdit pas. Il appartient donc au Commissaire de police d’assumer pleinement la responsabilité qui lui incombe quant à ses choix problématiques en matière d’enquêteurs.

☞ Suite en page 11

# 'Il ne nous faut rien de moins qu'un sursaut national.

## Sans cela la pieuvre continuera d'étendre ses tentacules et nul ne sera épargné'

☞ Suite de page 10

Par ailleurs, le législateur a institué la *Independent Police Complaints Commission* pour enquêter sur les officiers de police. Mais cette action est initiée uniquement quand le citoyen porte plainte contre un officier de police dans l'exercice de ses fonctions. Jusqu'ici cette Commission, qui est financée des deniers publics, ne s'est signalée que par son inertie.

Il me semble que les autorités devraient réfléchir à la mise sur pied d'une inspection générale des services digne de ce nom afin de discipliner les officiers de police et les gardes chiourmes qui devraient être mis au pas, puisque le Commissaire actuel semblerait être dans l'incapacité de le faire.

“J'aurais donc pensé qu'au vu de la gravité de la situation à laquelle nous sommes tous confrontés, le Premier ministre n'étant, après tout, que le *primus inter pares* (le premier parmi les égaux), le bon sens aurait dû prévaloir et cette délicate affaire aurait dû avoir été évoquée et débattue au Conseil des ministres afin de faire l'objet d'une décision collégiale du Cabinet. Rien ne s'oppose à cela...”

Il est regrettable de constater que le détenu Sabapati, qui se trouve en détention préventive dans l'enceinte d'un centre de détention tel que l'Alcatraz au beau milieu des Casernes centrales, puisse, avec la connivence d'un officier de police, communiquer aussi aisément par téléphone portable.

Force est de constater que l'Alcatraz n'est plus ce qu'il aurait dû être et a été récemment converti en parloir ou en cabine téléphonique pour narco-trafiquants. Il en va de même de 'l'escapade' du détenu Lutchigadoo du centre de détention de Vacoas avec la connivence d'un ou de plusieurs officiers de police. On y entre et on en sort comme dans un moulin.

Dans ces deux cas, quel est le dénominateur commun? Je n'ai pas besoin de vous faire un dessin pour que vous compreniez qu'il s'agit de prévenus sous mandat de dépôt pour trafic de drogue. Ceux-ci ont largement les moyens de corrompre les officiers de police.

\* Le Premier ministre a aussi déclaré dans sa réponse à la PNQ que la *Police Striking Team* a procédé à l'arrestation de 58 suspects impliqués dans 81 affaires et à la saisie de drogues d'une valeur de près de Rs 355 millions depuis le 3 août 2022. Mais, au-delà des fuites de vidéos et des photos intimes, il semble qu'en termes de condamnations, le *track record* de la SST n'est pas tout à fait impressionnant, comme le soulignent l'opposition

et les Avengers, non?

Vous sollicitez mon avis. Je vous le donne comme j'ai l'habitude de le faire et sans mâcher mes mots.

Le Commissaire de police assumera seul la responsabilité de ses choix en ce qui concerne les officiers de police affectés au MCIT et à la SST. Et il aura à en répondre. S'il me fallait évaluer leurs performances respectives, mon verdict serait sans appel et je dirais que, de mon point de vue, le pire vaut bien le meilleur et qu'à mon avis, ce ne sont que des agents politiques à la solde du régime en place.

Le MCIT devrait être remplacé par un *Homicide Squad* digne de ce nom et calqué sur le modèle de Scotland Yard. Et, pour faire suite aux innombrables plaintes à leur égard, les membres de la SST devraient être soit transférés ou immédiatement *'interdicted from office pending disciplinary charges with a view to dismissal'*.

“Vous avez parcouru avec effroi, comme moi, le jugement de la magistrate de la Cour de district de Port-Louis dans l'affaire Naeck, resté comme *'dilo lors brède songe'*. Il n'y a eu aucune conséquence pour les grandes pontes de l'ICAC qui sont toujours en fonction, et ce, sans que cela ne fasse sourciller les membres de la commission parlementaire. Ces derniers n'en ont rien à cirer puisqu'ils se contentent uniquement d'empocher leur pactole à chaque fin de mois...”

\* Au-delà des allégations de 'drug planting' dans certains cas, il y a aussi eu les perquisitions et, sub-séquentement, les arrestations de Bruneau Laurette, de l'avocat Akil Bissessur et de sa compagne, de l'ex-CEO de Mauritius Telecom Sherry Singh et de sa femme, la perquisition au domicile des beaux-parents de Sanjeev Teeluckdharry, et récemment de l'ex-journaliste Harish Chundunsingh. Le message est clair: les opposants du régime ou ceux perçus comme tels ont intérêt à bien s'en tenir. La "police politique", telle que décriée par l'opposition, veille...?

C'est une évidence et c'est ce que je viens de vous préciser. De mon point de vue, il n'y a aucune ambiguïté à ce sujet. Je l'ai déjà dit à maintes reprises et je le répète: il n'y a pas de place pour des Benallas (1) au sein de notre force policière car ils sont indignes de porter l'uniforme. Et il faut que l'on s'en débarrasse le plus tôt possible.

\* Par ailleurs, la teneur des conversations tenues entre Vimen Sabapati et certains policiers indiquerait une proximité dérangeante entre barons de la drogue et certains enquêteurs de la police. On veut emprisonner les gros bonnets, mais une telle proximité n'expliquerait-elle pas que ce sont eux qui ont le plus de chance de s'en tirer?

Je ne vous le fais pas dire. Je partage entièrement votre opinion à ce sujet. C'est la réflexion que je me suis faite en entendant la bande sonore. Cela est confirmé par ce qui se passe dans nos centres de détention dès qu'un caïd de la drogue y séjourne.

On s'inquiète de ce qui se cache sous la partie submergée de l'iceberg. Je pense que la bande sonore est très éloquent à ce sujet et permet de mesurer le degré d'infiltration de la mafia de la drogue parmi certains éléments des forces de l'ordre.

☞ Suite en page 12



# 'Un autre Premier ministre, digne de ce nom, ne se serait pas défilé et ne se serait pas caché derrière le Commissaire de police'

☞ Suite de page 11

\* L'affaire Franklin est un cas d'école : les autorités ont mis du temps, sept ans dit-on, pour agir. L'ICAC, la FIU, les différents départements de la police ont laissé filer Franklin alors qu'il a été condamné par contumace à sept ans de prison par un tribunal de La Réunion pour trafic de drogue entre les îles-sœurs en juillet 2021. C'est le Premier ministre lui-même, qui dans une déclaration à la presse concernant l'affaire Franklin, avait relevé l'influence de la mafia au sein de certaines institutions. On ne sait pas ce qu'il a entrepris pour neutraliser cette mafia, mais il doit savoir de quoi il parle, n'est-ce pas ?

A son habitude, le Premier ministre s'est exprimé en paraboles *'and with studied ambiguity'*. Il aurait mieux fait de préciser le fond de sa pensée.



“Il est regrettable de constater que le détenu Sabapati, qui se trouve en détention préventive dans l'enceinte d'un centre de détention tel que l'Alcatraz au beau milieu des Casernes centrales, puisse, avec la connivence d'un officier de police, communiquer aussi aisément par téléphone portable. Force est de constater que l'Alcatraz n'est plus ce qu'il aurait dû être et a été récemment converti en parloir ou en cabine téléphonique pour narco-trafiquants...”

La pieuvre de la mafia ne pourra pas être éradiquée avec des paraboles et des paroles en l'air. Pour atteindre cet objectif, il ne nous faut rien de moins qu'un sursaut national. Sans cela la pieuvre continuera d'étendre ses tentacules dans toutes les sphères de la société mauricienne et nul ne sera épargné. Il faut faire œuvre de salut public et il faut que la population dans son ensemble y contribue.

Dans trop d'endroits qui sont des poches de pauvreté, la population se rallie à la mafia et se range à ses côtés dès qu'il y a une descente de police, créant ainsi des zones de non-droit. Ce phénomène, qui s'est manifesté à plusieurs reprises, menace la cohésion nationale et représente une menace pour l'État de

droit que nous nous évertuons de promouvoir et de consolider dans notre pays.

Il faut que nous parvenions à renverser cette tendance, ce qui exigera de chacun de nous beaucoup d'efforts et de détermination.

\* En ce qui concerne l'ICAC, l'institution anti-corruption a subi un autre revers entre les mains du judiciaire. La magistrate Valentine Mayer, siégeant au tribunal de Port-Louis, a rayé l'accusation provisoire logée contre Kritanand Balaghee, arpenteur au sein du Sugar Insurance Fund Board, pour abus et retard excessif. Cette affaire avait fait l'objet d'une PNQ du leader de l'opposition, Xavier-Luc Duval, et l'ICAC avait été informée des dessous de cette affaire par voie de dénonciations anonymes en date du 5 novembre 2018...

Ce n'est malheureusement pas un

cas isolé.

Vous avez parcouru avec effroi, comme moi, le jugement de la magistrate de la Cour de district de Port-Louis dans l'affaire Naeck, resté comme *'dilo lors brède songe'*. Il n'y a eu aucune conséquence pour les grandes pontes de l'ICAC qui sont toujours en fonction, et ce, sans que cela ne fasse sourciller les

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“Le Commissaire de police assumera seul la responsabilité de ses choix en ce qui concerne les officiers de police affectés au MCIT et à la SST. Et il aura à en répondre. S'il me fallait évaluer leurs performances respectives, mon verdict serait sans appel et je dirais que, de mon point de vue, le pire vaut bien le meilleur et qu'à mon avis, ce ne sont que des agents politiques à la solde du régime en place...”



membres de la commission parlementaire. Ces derniers n'en ont rien à cirer puisqu'ils se contentent uniquement d'empocher leur pactole à chaque fin de mois, semble-t-il.

Dans un pays autre que le nôtre, les tabloïdes les auraient mis en miettes.

\* La question a été posée sur le silence du Président de la République sur différents événements et controverses qui ont dominé l'actualité ces derniers temps : le renvoi des municipales, les dysfonctionnements de nos institutions. Selon l'article 28 de la Constitution, le Président de la République a le devoir de *'uphold and defend the Constitution and ensure that the institutions of democracy and the rule of law are protected'*. Si le *'Head of State and Commander-in-Chief of the Republic of Mauritius'* n'agit pas, que reste-t-il comme ultime recours ?

Il nous reste le recours au Conseil Privé pourvu que l'on ait les moyens après un passage obligé par la Cour suprême de l'île Maurice. Vous n'aurez pas manqué de le constater à la suite du récent jugement des Law Lords dans l'affaire Alphamix contre le Conseil de district de Rivière du Rempart. Le journal

*l'express* vient d'en faire ses choux gras.

Et, en ce qui concerne ce brave Roopun, faudrait-il lui rappeler que malgré sa bonhomie, il n'est pas *'immune from legitimate criticism'*. Force est de constater qu'il faille lui rappeler, par le menu, son *Oath of President*:

*"I, Prithvirajsing Roopun, also known as Pradeep Singh Roopun, do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully execute the office of President and will, to the best of my ability without favour or prejudice, defend the Constitution and the institution of democracy and the rule of law, ensure that the fundamental rights are protected, and the unity of the diverse Mauritian nation maintained and strengthened."*

Toutes ces questions viennent d'être évoquées devant la Cour suprême à la suite du renvoi des élections municipales et il appartiendra au judiciaire d'y répondre dans les plus brefs délais.

(1) Alexandre Benalla, un collaborateur d'Emmanuel Macron, était responsable de la sécurité du président français lors des manifestations, place de la Contrescarpe, le 1er mai 2018. Invité à observer l'intervention des forces de l'ordre, il a été filmé en train de violenter une jeune femme et de molester un homme, déjà à terre, entouré par des CRS. Il est soupçonné d'avoir largement outrepassé son rôle d'observateur en portant un casque et un brassard de police, ainsi qu'une radio. Ces actions ont d'abord valu à Alexandre Benalla une mise à pied de quinze jours et une rétrogradation.

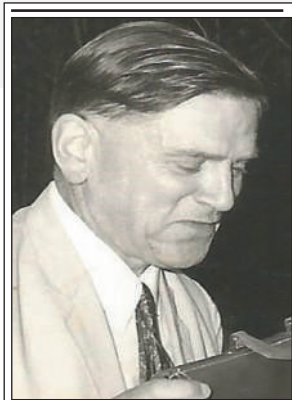
From the Pages of History - MT 60 Years Ago

6<sup>th</sup> Year No 231

## MAURITIUS TIMES

Friday 16 January, 1959

• "Tell me what you like, and I will tell you what you are" — John Ruskin



Peter Ibbotson

# Another French newspaper on Mauritius

It seems almost impossible nowadays to pick up a French newspaper without reading in it an article about Mauritius. The latest I have come across was in the Paris Figaro of December 2; the journalist responsible was Pierre Dupont. *L'île Maurice colonie anglaise, de langue et de culture françaises* was the main headline to Dupont's article which was subheaded *Les Mauriciens n'oublient pas que leur terre s'appela l'île de France*.

There must be some reason behind this recent spate of articles in the French press about Mauritius. Are we to see a recrudescence of the retrocessionist movement of 1919-21? (for details, see Adolphe Duclos' *L'évolution nationale mauricienne*). Few people, however, comparing the French and British records as regards their colonial possessions, would say that the future of Mauritius would be brighter as a French colony than as a British. After the referendum, Madagascar (which gave de Gaulle a *oui*) opted — through the Provincial Assembly — to become an autonomous member-state of the French Community. The French press hailed this decision as the arrival of Malgache independence. But how independent is Madagascar? France retains control of foreign affairs, finance, defence, strategic materials, communications, the judiciary, higher education, and economic affairs — not leaving much for the local administration to look after! Contrast this with Britain's grant of independence to India, Burma and Pakistan. Despite the high-sounding phrases Madagascar remains a colony; despite the high-sounding phrases Mauritius would never evolve as a high after retrocession (if this became an accomplished fact) as it will as a British Commonwealth state, especially if the British Labour Party wins the next general election.

Dupont's article in Le Figaro, whatever the motives underlying its publication, contains the usual platitudes which we have come to expect from French journalists reflecting nostalgically on the "British colony with French culture and the French language." It contains, too, the usual admissions which so frankly reveal the *raison d'être* of French colonialism. Let us look at some of Dupont's statements.

The French, he says, colonised Mauritius after 1712 and made the island rich: *ils lui apportèrent également de jeunes nobles qui venaient faire fortune aux îles, et puis des hommes noirs, venus d'Afrique, pour la main-d'œuvre*. In other words, the young French nobles came to make their fortunes but they imported blacks from Africa to do the work. It doesn't sound as though it was the French who made the island prosperous — that honour surely belongs to the people (the blacks from Africa) who did the work! Dupont tells us that the French Revolution abolished slavery in 1789 but the colons in *l'île Maurice* refused to obey the directives of the legal government of France. In detail he says that the islanders sent the Government's envoys back to Paris and, to underline their determination not to obey, threatened their ship with cannons. Thus, we see that the oligarchs have a long history of lawlessness. Over 150 years ago they refused to obey the lawful decisions of their lawful govern-

ment. Thirty years ago, the reactionary oligarchs' candidates for the Legislative Council threatened physical violence against their radical opponents. Last October a prominent Labour supporter had to quit Mauritius because of threats against his person made by reactionaries strong-arm agents. Yet only a few years ago the Parti Mauricien press was talking of the Parti Mauricien as the party of law and order! Yet whose supporters and whose agents go about the island breaking up its opponents' meetings? Not the Labour Party's agents and supporters...

The callous profit-seeking motive of the French is underlined by Dupont's reference to the importation of indentured labour from India. He says the erstwhile slaves, once freed, refused to work any longer for the white estate-owners; so that *Les Indes se trouvèrent être le pays le plus proche d'où l'on pouvait faire venir la main-d'œuvre qui coûterait le moins cher*. The nearest source of the cheapest labour — that is Dupont's admission. As long as the labour was cheap, it didn't matter where it came — cheapness above all was the motto. Why cheap? To make sure that profits remained as high as possible; to make sure that whoever else suffered, it wasn't the estate barons!

Dupont pays tribute to the thrift of the Indians, however; he does so by pointing out that *Aujourd'hui les Indiens sont propriétaires d'un peu plus d'un tiers des terres cultivables*; they have achieved this, despite their admitted *très faibles salaires, à acheter de petits lots de terrain*. Dupont doesn't, however, give in figures the total Indian population; nor does he give the total white population when says that *les Blancs... sont pratiquement tous descendants de Français* and that, of the sugar estates, *les deux tiers appartiennent aux Blancs*. So, one-third of the cultivable land belongs to the Indians, that is to one-half of the total population; but two-thirds of the sugar estates (which in the monoculture economy of Mauritius virtually means two-thirds of the cultivable land) belongs to the Whites, that is to about one-thirtieth of the total population. In other words, 15 thirtieths of the people own one-third of the land, while one thirtieth of the people owns two-thirds of the land; so that every Franco-Mauritian (don't forget Dupont's admission that Blanc means, virtually, *descendant de Français*) owns on average 30 times as much land as every Indo-Mauritian. And of course, what Dupont doesn't

say, but it is very germane to any worthwhile consideration of Mauritius and its economy and demography, is that the Franco-Mauritians have the best land. The Indians have to put up with the bad and the marginal lands. Crop yields show this. We find yields of 31 tons per acre on the land belonging to an estate with factory; only 21 tons per acre for the small planters' land; and as low as 16 tons per acre for the metayers. And two thirds of the area under cane cultivation actually comprises only 0.6 per cent of the total number of individual plantations...

Dupont also admits the economically influential position of the Franco-Mauritians when he says that they proliferate in the *direction et administration des propriétés sucrières... aussi dans les banques, le commerce maritime et les professions libérales*.

The hoary old bogey is of course raised: *le risque d'écrasement des diverses communautés ethniques par la seule communauté indienne*. There is also the language controversy: *Sabotage de l'étude du français* is the sub-head to the section dealing with this. Dupont is petulant that the Commissioner for India and the British Council have *très substantiels crédits* for their work whereas the French consul *manque de locaux et surtout de moyens financiers*.

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Thank you so much.  
Mauritius Times

# How inequality became the big issue troubling the world's top economists

● Cont. from page 2

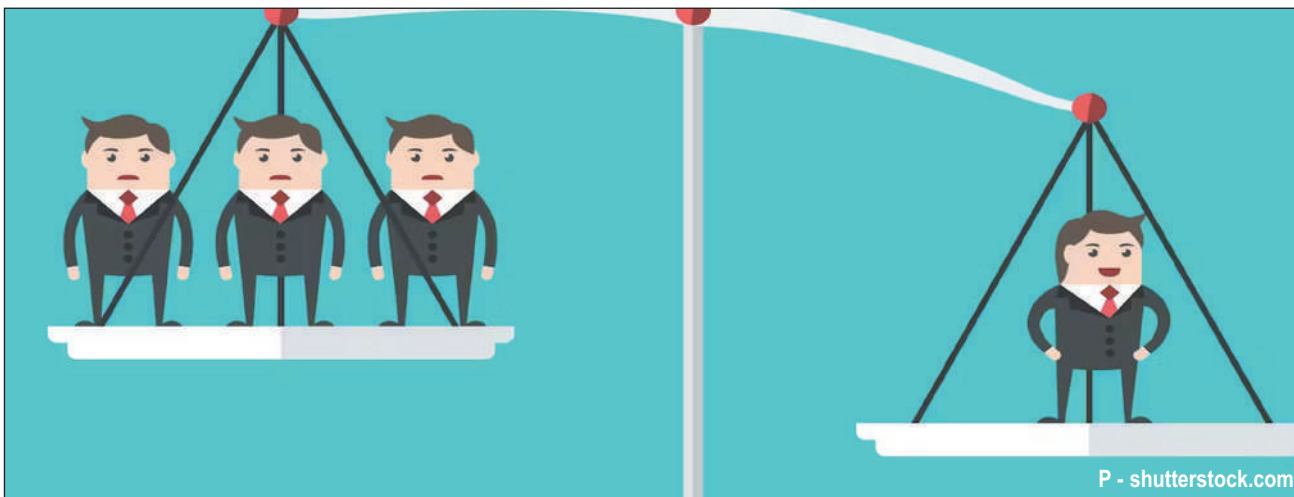
Pissarides argued that the rapid spread of robots and AI is a threat to large numbers of less-skilled jobs. Without some government intervention, this will widen inequality, he believes. He would support UBI as long as it was carefully calibrated to be below the minimum wage to avoid disrupting the labour market.

Diamond told me that the growing inequality in the US was now an issue that had to be faced. In a recent paper, he demonstrated just how much the US was an outlier across a wide range of measures of inequality, including income, wealth, poverty and social mobility.

Diamond believes that the debate on inequality can

Maskin suggested that this was in contradiction to the widely held economics theory of comparative advantage. This is the idea, put forward by economist David Ricardo in the 19th century, that the wages of unskilled workers in poorer countries rise as they enter global markets. Maskin suggested that this no longer holds as we now have an integrated global labour market – not a national one – with global supply chains and communications networks enabling companies to ignore national boundaries.

One of the purposes of the Lindau meeting is to encourage younger economists to think radically about what new areas of research they should focus on. It may be that these discussions will inspire the next generation



help focus discussion on policy failures: from the lack of investment in education, research and infrastructure, to the failure to compensate those who bore the cost of globalisation through job losses in heavy industry. He also argues that direct transfers, including introducing child benefit to everyone who has children and a UBI, would help tackle poverty. While he does not think that the goal of policy should necessarily be focused on redistributing wealth, he believes that the economic challenges in the US require a higher level of government spending, and therefore higher taxation on the better off.

Both Diamond and Pissarides are prepared to consider higher taxes on wealth as part of the policy mix. Focusing on the US, Diamond favours a substantial increase in inheritance tax. From a UK perspective, Pissarides argues for some increased taxation of housing. He is in favour of taxing the capital gains from the sales of houses, rather than (at present) only taxing housing when it is inherited. He believes this could also have a beneficial effect on house prices, which are becoming unaffordable for many young people.

## The paradox of global inequality

While much of the meeting focused on inequality in rich countries, the question of inequality in developing countries was not ignored. Eric Maskin, the 2007 Nobel laureate for his work on mechanism design, pointed out the paradox that while global inequality between countries was narrowing, due to the rapid economic growth of China and India, it was “deeply troubling” that inequality within developing countries was increasing.

to develop new policies to tackle the challenge of poverty and inequality.

Economics has often been characterised as the “dismal science” for its failure to engage with real-life issues or prevent crises like the 2008-09 global financial crisis. If this new approach takes hold, this could radically change.

Steve Schifferes

Professor of Financial Journalism, City, University of London

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Opinion

# Handling Former Heads of Government

● Cont. from page 3

The inquiry conducted by the Special Prosecutor was conducted with utmost care and professionalism over months, taking account the political sensitivity of Attorney General Merrick Garland and the Democrat administration, before formal charges were carefully weighed, formulated and Trump was allowed to waltz into court with his special security detail in tow. No media and cameras were allowed in court and while finger-printed he was not subjected to a humiliating mugshot. Clearly, this is a mature democracy where the political change-over of guards is not accompanied by a vendetta rushing to arrest a former head of state or government on provisional charges.

In France, many might have followed the legal woes of former President Sarkozy, elected in 2007 against Socialist Segolene Royal and losing five years later to Socialist Francois Hollande. Neither of such democratic changes were accompanied by rumbustious policemen armed with a provisional charge sheet bull-charging their way to arrest and haul in the former head of state. The numerous cases against the former President were painstakingly investigated over several years before the first cases (the Bygmalion case in which Sarkozy was accused of illegally overspending by millions of euros on his failed 2012 re-election campaign and the Azibert case about influence peddling and corruption) were heard, tried and a condemnation pronounced in the court of ‘First Instance’ only in 2021.

Closer to us culturally and as Commonwealth member, the BJP came to power in 2014 running on a campaign that successfully depicted the Indian National Congress and the Gandhi family as totally corrupt in several mega projects. Yet, in that fractious but vibrant mature democracy, general elections were not followed by what would most certainly be the unseemly hounding of the Congress leadership on any provisional charges as the BJP government turned its sights on major development issues facing the country still harbouring numerous problems. Any case against political heavyweights being brought to courts these days in India are the result of painstaking inquiries revealing strong suspicions and prima facie cases of misdeeds.

The abuses of provisional charges made here have been amply demonstrated since the current government came to power. It has launched the country into the era that may well haunt us for a while, unless as our friends in Seychelles, we turn to more civilised political mores where painstaking and professional investigations precede any noisy high-profile political arrests and possible legal charges. Otherwise, the Westminster model our Attorney General boasted about, may just be a fig-leaf for a banana republic which none of our institutions, except the judiciary and a free press, have proved able to rein in.

Jan Arden

# The lesser-known risk factors for heart disease

*Gout, psoriasis, inflammatory bowel disease and rheumatoid arthritis are all risk factors for heart disease. They all have one thing in common: inflammation.*

Most people know that the risk factors for heart disease are high blood pressure, smoking, raised cholesterol and being overweight. However, many people who have a heart attack do not have any of these traditional risk factors.

Research has suggested that conditions such as gout, psoriasis, inflammatory bowel disease and rheumatoid arthritis are also risk factors for heart disease. What they have in common is chronic inflammation.

In fact, some researchers have begun to re-frame cardiovascular disease as a chronic inflammatory disease of the arteries. Scientists sometimes refer to this as the inflammatory hypothesis of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD).

Atherosclerosis is where fatty plaques develop in the walls of our arteries, making them stiff. When this happens in the arteries that supply oxygenated blood to the heart, it is referred to as coronary artery disease.

ASCVD can cause heart attacks, where not enough blood is being supplied to the heart, and ischaemic strokes, where not enough blood is being supplied to the brain. To understand why ASCVD is an inflammatory condition, we need to consider how this process starts.

The first stage of developing atherosclerosis is thought to be some form of injury to the endothelium, the single layer of cells that line the arteries. This can be caused by high levels of low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol, sometimes referred to as “bad cholesterol”.

The toxins contained in cigarettes can also irritate the lining of the arteries and cause this initial injury. When the endothelial cells are injured, they release chemical messages that attract white blood cells, an important component of the immune system, to the site.

These white blood cells enter the artery wall and cause inflammation in the artery. The white blood cells also consume the cholesterol in the walls of the artery, leading to the formation of “fatty streaks” – one of the earliest visible signs of atherosclerosis.

Fatty streaks begin to form at a young age. By the time we are in our twenties, most of us will have some evidence of fatty streaks in our arteries.

This process of endothelial cell damage, white blood cell infiltration and chronic inflammation can continue silently over the years, eventually leading to the build up of plaque in the arteries. This may also explain why people who suffer from chronic inflammatory conditions are at an increased risk of cardiovascular disease.

Long-term inflammation of the arteries supplying the heart and brain can eventually lead to heart attacks and strokes.

A heart attack occurs when a plaque in the artery supplying the heart becomes unstable. This can lead to rupture (bursting) of the plaque, leading to a clot forming in the artery and the blood supply to the muscle of the heart being interrupted.

People who experience a heart attack often have increased levels of inflammation and plaque instability in the days and weeks before the event. The eventual “heart attack” and resultant damage to the heart muscle can be seen as this unstable inflammatory process reaching its zenith.

Because this chronic inflammatory process happens silently, many patients without traditional risk factors for heart disease will not be aware that they are at an increased risk of heart disease.



Daisy Daisy/Shutterstock

## Measuring inflammation

Thankfully, there is a way to measure inflammation in the body. One way of doing this is with a blood test called high-sensitivity c-reactive protein (hs-CRP). People with raised levels of hs-CRP have an increased risk of heart attacks and strokes. Raised levels of LDL-cholesterol are also a risk factor for ASCVD.

Several studies have reported that people who have high levels of both LDL cholesterol and hs-CRP seem to have the highest risk of cardiovascular disease.

A large clinical trial called Cantos tested the inflammatory hypothesis of cardiovascular disease by treating patients who had had a heart attack and had high levels of hs-CRP with an anti-inflammatory drug called canakinumab.

The use of this anti-inflammatory drug reduced the levels of hs-CRP and resulted in a small but statistically significant reduction in the number of heart attacks experienced by these patients. Unfortunately, there also appeared to be an increased risk of infections in the group receiving the drug.

This risk, alongside the high cost of the drug, means it is not likely we are going to start using canakinumab to treat ASCVD any time soon.

However, the study was considered groundbreaking in that it supported the hypothesis that inflammation plays an important role in ASCVD, and that targeting inflammation may be useful to reduce the risk of repeat cardiovascular events.

Embracing this change in how we think about the risk factors for ASCVD may allow us to better identify patients who are at risk of heart attacks and strokes.

Also, this may enable us to focus on treating inflammation in order to reduce cardiovascular risk. Already, several studies are looking at using cheaper anti-inflammatory drugs, such as colchicine and methotrexate, to reduce inflammation and prevent the progression of cardiovascular disease.

## Lifestyle changes to reduce inflammation

Fortunately, it is possible to reduce inflammation in our bodies without resorting to drugs. We can think of everything we do in our lives as being either pro-inflammatory or anti-inflammatory.

Smoking is pro-inflammatory as the toxins in

cigarettes irritate the body. High levels of cholesterol in the blood and a diet rich in ultra-processed foods can also lead to chronic inflammation in our arteries. Conversely, a diet rich in fruit, vegetables, whole grains and fatty fish is thought to be anti-inflammatory.

Exercise also reduces the levels of inflammation in the body. Obesity, in particular carrying excess weight around your midsection, appears to cause chronic inflammation. Losing weight around your midsection will help to reduce this inflammation.

Stress can also induce a chronic low-grade inflammatory response in the body, and it is important to try to manage our stress levels. It is also important to maintain healthy blood pressure, cholesterol and body mass index – the traditional markers of heart disease risk.

By making anti-inflammatory choices and leading a healthy lifestyle we can all reduce our chances of developing heart disease and improve our quality of life.

### Robert Byrne

Chair Of Cardiovascular Research, RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences

### JJ Coughlan

Researcher in Interventional Cardiology, RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences

## Henrietta Co-Operative Store Society Ltd

Members are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Meeting which will be held on Friday 30th June 2023 at 16.00 at the Henrietta Community centre.

### Agenda

1. Reading and approval of minutes of last AGM
2. Financial Report
3. Audit Report
4. Approval of Estimated Budget 2023-2024
5. Election of Board Members.

Interested members are kindly requested to submit their letter of candidate at the seat of the Society before 29th June 2023.

In case of no quorum the meeting will re-scheduled on Friday 14th July at the same place and time.

16 June 2023

Secretary

## Too much of a good thing can be dangerous, finds researchers investigating hypoglycemia

For people with diabetes, taking medications and monitoring their blood sugar is part of the rhythm of their daily lives. However, according to new research from Mayo Clinic, more than 20% of adult patients in the U.S. are likely treated too intensively. This has caused thousands of potentially preventable emergency department visits and hospitalizations for hypoglycemia (low blood sugar).

The study team, led by Rozalina McCoy, M.D., an endocrinologist and primary care physician at Mayo Clinic, sought to identify the real-world implications of intensive glucose-lowering therapy across the U.S. The team showed that overly intensive glucose-lowering therapy -- when patients receive more medication than is required based on their hemoglobin A1C level -- was not only common across the U.S., but also directly contributed to 4,774 hospitalizations and 4,804 emergency department visits in a two-year period.



"Importantly, these numbers are a large underestimation of the true scope of overtreatment-induced hypoglycemic events," says Dr McCoy.

There are many reasons why people with diabetes may experience hypoglycemia. Dr McCoy says that

people who have multiple chronic health conditions, are older, have Type 1 diabetes, or are treated with medications such as insulin or sulfonylureas are at highest risk.

"While some episodes of hypoglycemia may be unavoidable, especially if caused by unmodifiable risk factors such as need for insulin therapy, others may be preventable, as in the case of overtreatment," she states.

Persistent elevation in blood glucose levels increases the risk of diabetes complications, such as cardiovascular disease, retinopathy (eye disease), nephropathy (kidney disease) and neuropathy. Glucose-lowering medications reduce these risks, but treatment plans must be evidence-based and individualized, says Dr McCoy.

"It is important not only to ensure that we do not undertreat our patients with diabetes, but also that we do not overtreat them because both undertreatment and overtreatment can harm our patients," she says.

"Hypoglycemia, or low blood glucose, is one of the most common serious adverse effects of diabetes therapy, causing both immediate and long-term harm to patients who experience it," says Dr McCoy. "Severe hypoglycemia, defined by the need for another person to help the patient treat and terminate their hypoglycemic event, is associated with increased risk of death, cardiovascular disease, cognitive impairment, falls and fractures, and poor quality of life."



Some rocks will burn, and others will melt, depending on how they were formed and what minerals they contain.

## Why don't rocks burn?

While many rocks don't burn, some of them do. It depends on what the rocks are made of -- and that's related to how they were formed.

There are three main rock types: igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic. These rocks are made of minerals that all have different characteristics. Some will melt into magma or lava -- super-hot, liquid rock -- when they are exposed to heat. Others will catch fire.

Rocks that burn when they get heated up are combusting. This means that elements within the rocks are reacting with oxygen in the air to produce heat and light, in the form of flames.

The elements sulfur, carbon and hydrogen easily react with oxygen. Rocks that contain these elements are combustible. Without these elements inside them, rocks that are exposed to enough heat will melt instead of catching fire.

### How rocks form

Igneous rocks are formed when



The Jharia coal field in India has been on fire underground since 1916. Jonas Gratzner/LightRocket via Getty Images

magma underground or lava from a volcano cools and crystallizes into solid material. These rocks are mostly made of silicate minerals that crystallize at temperatures from 1,300 degrees Fahrenheit (700 degrees Celsius) up to as high as 2,400 F (1,300 C).

Igneous rocks contain few or no combustible elements. And it's very hard to

remelt them back into magma because they crystallize at such high temperatures -- it would take the kind of high-tech incinerator that cities use to burn waste to make that happen.

Sedimentary rocks have a very different formation story. They form from broken bits of rocks, minerals, sometimes plant or animal material, and also crystals left behind when water evaporates, like the limescale that forms in teakettles and bathtubs.

There is a lot of sulfur, carbon and hydrogen in living things. In fact, these are three of the six essential elements of life on Earth. Bits of organic matter, particularly dead plants, also are combustible and allow the rocks to burn.

The last group of rocks is called metamorphic, because these rocks form when a lot of heat and pressure change existing rocks into new types without melting or burning them. "Metamorphosis" comes from ancient Greek and means "transformation." For example, marble that you

might see in kitchen counters or statues came from limestone that was transformed under intense heat and pressure deep underground.

### The rock that humans burn: Coal

Metamorphic rocks that are formed from igneous rocks won't contain the combustible elements -- the ones that burn -- but metamorphic rocks made from sedimentary rocks might. One familiar example is anthracite coal, which is made almost entirely of carbon. It formed when dead plants fell into swamps long, long ago, were buried by sand or mud, and eventually were compressed over hundreds of millions of years into coal.

There are many coal seams around the world. Sometimes the coal even catches fire while it's still in the ground. The cause can be natural, such as a lightning strike, or human activities like mining.

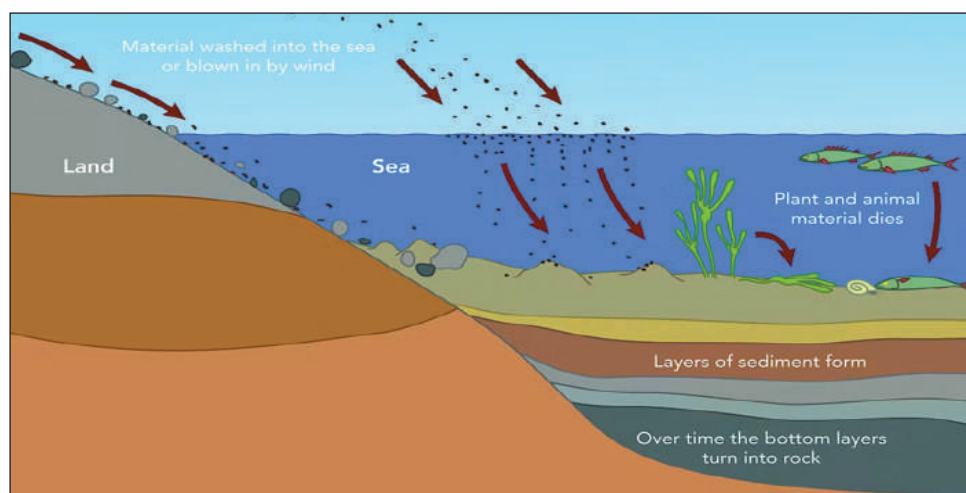
In Centralia, Pennsylvania, a former mining town, a coal seam has been burning for over 50 years. There are other active coal seam fires in places around the world including Zimbabwe in Africa and Jharia in India.

If carbon is compressed with even more pressure than it takes to make coal, eventually you get diamonds -- the hardest mineral found in nature. In 1772, French chemist Antoine Lavoisier proved that diamonds could combust when he burned one with a magnifying glass.

With enough patience, you could burn a diamond in a candle flame. But since diamonds are quite expensive, it's better to stick to burning other things made of carbon, like leaves under a magnifying glass, or sticks and marshmallows in a campfire, instead.

Natalie Bursztyn

Lecturer in Geosciences,  
University of Montana







## There is no end to a women's suspicion

A very suspicious wife questioned the husband why there was a long strand of black hair on his white shirt. He explained that it may have been blown by the wind. She replied sarcastically "Is it really the wind... or do I see 'winds' of change?"

Next day he decided to wear a black shirt... and she found a white strand of long hair and exclaimed: "OMG, now even age doesn't matter to you?"

Third time he decided to take extra care and dusted his shirt well before reaching home. She again remarked "Is this one bald!?"

Out of mere frustration next day the man tore away his shirt and returned home bare breasted. She smirked at him, "So now you've forgotten your shirt there..."

Poor man is now under constant medical care... he refuses to even wear the hospital patients uniform...

All men please pray for him...

\* \* \*

### I'm a rabbit...

An elderly couple made a deal that whoever died first would come back and inform the other of the sex after death. Their biggest fear was that there was none at all. After many years together, the husband was the first to die. True to his word, he made the first contact: "Juuudy... Juuudy?"

"Yes, is that you, George?"

"Yes, I've come back like we agreed."

"That's wonderful! What's it like?"

"Well, I get up in the morning, I have sex. And then it's off to the golf course. I have sex again, bathe in the warm sun and then have sex a couple of more times. Then I have lunch (you'd be proud - lots of greens). Then another romp around the golf course, and then pretty much have sex the rest of the afternoon. After supper, it's back to golf course again. Then it's more sex until late at night. I catch some much-needed sleep, and then the next day it starts all over again."

"Oh, George...are you in heaven?"

"No... I'm a rabbit in Kansas."

\* \* \*

### A Pakistani boy got admission in an American school

**Teacher:** Whats your name?

**Boy:** Ahmad

**Teacher:** No, now you are in America your name is Johny from today.

Boy went home.

**Mom asked:** How was the day, Ahmad?

**Boy:** I'm an American now, call me Johnny.

Mom & Dad both got offended and beat him up. Next day he went to school, all bruised.

**Teacher:** What happened, Johnny?

**Boy:** Ma'am, just 4 hours. After I became American, I was attacked by two Pakistanis.

\* \* \*

A man went to his wife's family for Sunday lunch for the first time.

As he sat down at the table, his mother-in-law asked him: "How many potatoes would you like to have?"

"Just one," he replied.

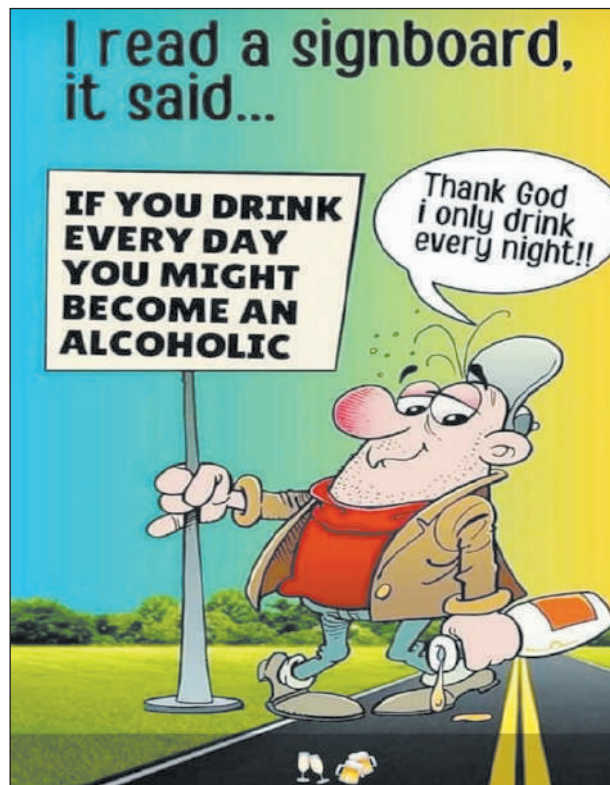
"It's ok, no need to be polite."

"Very well, I'll have one, you fat old cow!"

\* \* \*

Two men are waiting for a train. The younger man asks the older man for the time, but the older man ignores him. After a while, the younger man again asks for the time and again the older man ignores him. Frustrated, the younger man finally asks, "Why won't you answer me when I ask you for the time?"

The older man sighs and explains: "Look, if I tell you the time, we'll start to talk. Then when the train comes, you might sit down next to me. Perhaps we'll get to know each other, and maybe I'll eventually invite you to my house for dinner. Maybe then you and my daughter would really get along - why, you might even get engaged! And why would I want a son-in-law who can't even afford a watch?"



\* \* \*

A father told his three sons when he sent them to the university:

"I feel it was my duty to provide you with the best possible education, and you do not owe me anything for that. However, as a token, please each of you put Rs 100,000 into my coffin when I die".

And so, it happened. His sons became a doctor, an engineer and a lawyer, each very successful financially.

When their father's time had come, and they were at their father's funeral.

They remembered their father's wish...

First, it was the doctor who put 200 x Rs500 notes on the chest of the deceased.

Then, came the engineer, who also put 50x 2000 notes there.

Finally, it was the heartbroken lawyer's turn. He dipped into his pocket, took out his cheque book, wrote a cheque for Rs 300,000. He placed it under his father's body, took out the Rs 200,000 cash and closed the coffin's lid.

He went on to become a Member of Parliament...

\* \* \*

A man walked into a store.

The store owner asked him, "What do you want, Sir?"

The man replied, "I need optimism, toughness, the will to fight the evils of the world, the power to confront injustices."

The store owner replied, "Here you are Sir, a bottle of premium whisky, and some chips to go with it."

\* \* \*

I was buying mangoes at the junction while waiting for change.

I saw a woman with a little child. The child was walking a bit faster than the woman and the woman shouted: "Degree wait for me."

I was so amazed hearing that name. So, to satisfy my curiosity, I walked closer to the woman and asked: "Ma, why do you call this child degree?"

The woman laughed and said, "I sent her mother to the university, and this is what she brought home..."

\* \* \*

"Tell me, Wendy," said her teacher, "if your father borrowed \$100 and promises to pay \$10 a week, how much will he owe in 7 weeks?"

"One hundred dollars still," said Wendy.

"I'm afraid you don't know your maths very well," said the teacher.

"Ma'am, I may not know my maths," said Wendy, "but I know my father very well."

\* \* \*

How did a Chinese guy end up with a Tamil name in Canada?

I met a Chinese man in Niagara Falls who had come over from the Toronto side and was surprised to know that his name was Kandaswami.

I asked him, "How did you get a name like that, being a Chinese?"

He said, "Long years ago when I came to Canada, I was standing in line at the Political Asylums Immigration Counter.

"The man ahead of me was a Sri Lankan Tamil refugee. The Canadian lady at the counter looked at him and asked, 'What is your name?'

"He replied, 'Kandaswami'.

"After processing his papers, she looked at me and asked, 'What's your name?' I said, 'Sem Ting' (same thing!)."

\* \* \*

An old couple, Abe and Esther are flying to Australia for a two-week vacation to celebrate their 50th anniversary.

Suddenly, over the public address system, the Captain announces:

"Ladies and Gentlemen, I am afraid I have some very bad news. Our engines have ceased functioning and we will attempt an emergency landing. Luckily, I see an uncharted island below us, and we should be able to land on the beach. However, the odds are that we may never be rescued and will have to live on the island for the rest of our lives!"

Thanks to the skill of the flight crew, the plane lands safely on the island.

An hour later, the old man Abe turns to his wife and asks, "Esther, did we pay our \$5,000 PBS pledge check yet?"

"No, sweetheart," she responds.

Abe, still shaken from the crash landing, then asks, "Esther, did we pay our American Express card yet?"

"Oy, no! I'm sorry. I forgot to send the check," she says.

"One last thing, Esther. Did you remember to send a check for the Visa and MasterCard this month?" he asks.

"Oh, forgive me, Abie," begged Esther.

"I didn't send that one, either."

Abe grabs her and gives her the biggest kiss in 40 years.

Esther pulls away and asks him, "So, why did you kiss me?"

Abe answers, "They'll find us."

This Crazy World**The Second Vulture***Are you too a vulture?*

In the 1990s, there was a widely circulated photo of a vulture waiting for a starving little girl to die and feast on her corpse. That photo was taken during the 1993/94 famine in Sudan by Kevin Carter, a South African photojournalist, who later won the Pulitzer Prize for this 'amazing shot'.

However, as Kevin Carter was savouring his feat and being celebrated on major news channels and networks worldwide for such an 'exceptional photographic skill', he lived just for a few months to enjoy his supposed achievement and fame, as he later got depressed and took his own life!

Kevin Carter's depression started, when during one of such interviews (a phone-in program), someone called in and asked him what happened to the little girl. He simply replied, "I didn't wait to find out after this shot, as I had a flight to catch..." Then the caller said, "I put it to you that there were two vultures on that day, one had a camera."

Thus, his constant thought of that statement later led to depression, and he ultimately committed suicide. Kevin Carter could have still been alive today and even much more famous, if he had just picked that little girl up and taken her to the United Nations Feeding Centre, where



she was attempting to reach or at least take her somewhere safe.

Today, regrettably, this is what is happening all around the world. The world celebrates stupidity and inhumane acts to the detriment of others. Kevin Carter could've taken the girl away from that place, yet he didn't. Here is the inhumane posture, "he had all the time to take this shot, but he had no time to save the girl's life."

Thus, we must all understand that the purpose of life is to also touch lives. So, are you too a vulture? In whatever we do, let humanity come first before what we stand to gain out of the situation. In all we do, let's always think of others and how we can be of benefit to humanity, how we can lend a helping hand and wipe away tears. Hence, when we seek knowledge, wealth, fame, skills, or even positions, let's think of how we can use it to benefit the people and society at large.



**When our time on earth is done, money or material things will not matter. But the love, time and kindness we've given others will shine and live on forever.**

Life's Lesson**The Banana Boy***Don't live your life to please anyone*

A frail old man stopped a young boy carrying a bunch of bananas and said to him.

"Can I get some bananas for free? I'm really tired and hungry."

The young boy dropped his bunch of bananas, pulled three off it and offered them to the old man.

But the man frowned his face, as if they were some pieces of crap.

"Oh, no! They aren't ripe!" he grumbled. "How I'm I supposed to eat these?"

The boy was taken aback by the old man's attitude but said humbly: "I'm so sorry sir... Uhm, I've got some ripe bananas at home. Why not wait here while I get you some?"

"Hurry up then," the old man said.

The young boy carried his

banana bunch and dashed off. He returned shortly with three big ripe bananas. He smiled as he handed them to the old man.

But the ungrateful old man had a look of discontent flashing across his face. He wasn't impressed at all.

"Good grief! Why would you bring me over ripped bananas...? Boy, you should know I'm an old man and these will upset my stomach."

The boy became confused and worried about the nagging old man. He said: "I feel sorry that I'm unable to please you sir. But what else would I do?"

"Just bring back the unripe bananas. I'll have to keep them until tomorrow. Hurry up, my legs are hurting," he croaked.

In the hope of pleasing him, the young boy left in a hurry. He came back in a few minutes with the first bananas. But the old man became angry.

"You really are a slow kid! I've lost my cravings already and I no longer need bananas. Just go with your

bananas!"

The boy shuddered. But he was surprised at what the old man did next. His wrinkled face broke into a smile, then he tapped his shoulder and said calmly: "Boy, the most valuable lessons in life cannot be taught, they must be experienced. You should know that all the bananas you presented to me were perfect, but my ungrateful attitude was an act I put on to teach you a valuable lesson of life, something I learnt too late.

"In life, people are like that and they will make you feel like you're not good enough. It is important to know that you cannot please everyone no matter how hard you try, and it can run havoc in your life, rob your peace of mind and the courage to follow your goals and dreams. Even if you lie on the ground for people to walk on you, they still will complain that you aren't flat enough. So, don't live your life to please anyone. Be yourself and do what you know is right."

**Chima Dickson**

Philo Thoughts**No one can hurt me**

When you wake up in the morning, tell yourself: the people I deal with today will be meddling, ungrateful, arrogant, dishonest, jealous, and surly. They are like this because they can't tell good from evil.

But I have seen the beauty of good, and the ugliness of evil, and have recognized that the wrongdoer has a nature related to my own - not of the same blood and birth, but the same mind, and possessing a share of the divine.

And so none of them can hurt me. No one can implicate me in ugliness. Nor can I feel angry at my relative or hate him.

We were born to work together like feet, hands and eyes, like the two rows of teeth, upper and lower.

To obstruct each other is unnatural. To feel anger at someone, to turn your back on him: these are unnatural.

**Marcus Aurelius**

\* \* \*

**There is a story for you**

As long as you are breathing, there is a purpose for you.  
As long as you are walking, there is a path for you.  
As long as you are exploring, there is a world for you.  
As long as you are searching, there is an answer for you.  
As long as you are dreaming, there is a goal for you.  
As long as you are singing, there is a melody for you.  
As long as you are creating, there is an idea for you.  
And as long as you are writing, there is a story for you.

**Tahlia Hunter**

**IF**

By Rudyard Kipling  
*A life changing poem*

If you can keep your head when all about you  
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,  
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,  
But make allowance for their doubting too;  
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,  
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,  
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,  
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master,  
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;  
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster  
And treat those two impostors just the same.  
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken  
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,  
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,  
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings  
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,  
And lose and start again at your beginnings,  
And never breathe a word about your loss;  
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew  
To serve your turn long after they are gone,  
And so, hold on when there is nothing in you  
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,  
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,  
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,  
If all men count with you, but none too much.  
If you can fill the unforgiving minute  
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,  
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,  
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!

## What No One Tells You About Aging

**They're called the golden years for a reason. Getting older has its perks. For one, you're good at using what you've learned. This is called crystallized intelligence, and it keeps getting better, even when you're 65 or 70.**

**Mr Nice Guy:** Turns out you might not be a grumpy old man (or woman), after all. You'll probably get more agreeable as you age, at least through your 60s. You're also likely to be happier and less inclined to get angry. Scientists haven't figured out exactly why this happens, but they do have some theories. Older people might control their emotions better, and focus more on how to make the most of life.

**Play well with others:** You're more in tune with other people's emotions in your 40s than at any other time in your life. That insight into how others think and feel can make living with your loved ones easier and help you get along better with your coworkers, too.

**A taste for life:** As you age, medications, illness (colds, flu, gum diseases, etc.) and allergies all can change your sense of smell and taste. And that can affect your diet and health. If you find things need to be spiced up, try some olive oil, herbs like rosemary and thyme, garlic, onion, peppers, or mustard. Just stay away from the salt.

**What's that doing there?** Around the time the hair on your head starts to disappear, it can show up in the strangest places. This can mean large hairs in older guys' noses and ears. Older women may notice small hairs on



their chins. This is all caused by changes in our hormones.

**Rise and shine:** There's a good chance you'll become the morning person you've always wanted to be -- in your 60s. Our sleeping patterns can shift as we age, so we get sleepier earlier and wake up earlier. That seems to work out well. One study showed that even though folks over 65 tend to wake up during the night, most said they regularly get a good night's sleep.

**Bye-bye migraines:** Once you hit your 70s, those migraines you may have had much of your life may go away. Only 10% of women and 5% of men over 70 still report migraines. Even better news: If you do have a migraine, it may not actually come with the headache. As people age, some may experience migraines as visual or sensory disturbances without pain.

**Don't quit your day job:** Early retirement might not be the best thing for your health -- unless you have a fun

second career. A study called the Longevity Project found that people who work hard at a job they enjoy live the longest. That, along with good friends and a good marriage, could be the key to sticking around a while.

**Fear is not your friend:** You may worry more about breaking bones as you age. One study found that about a third of adults over 65 have that fear. And it's understandable, because falls are the leading cause of injuries for older people.

**Self-confidence:** Self-esteem soars as you age, studies show, and increases with wealth, education, good health, and employment. But it takes a dip after 60. That may be because people begin to have health issues and start searching for a new sense of purpose following retirement. With increasing life spans, healthier lifestyles, and working to an older age, we may see that change.

**Less stress:** Baby boomers and older adults report less stress than their younger counterparts, according to the American Psychological Association's annual Stress in America report. That doesn't mean, it goes away. Health and money problems still crop up. But, the APA says, 9 of 10 older adults say they're doing enough to manage it.

**Weight of the world:** The longer you're alive, the more gravity brings you down. The spaces between the bones in your spine -- called vertebrae -- get closer together. That can make you about an inch shorter as you get older.

**Strength in numbers:** Those 60 and over tend to cast ballots more than any other age group. And they're the fastest-growing block of voters these days. That means more voting power on topics that matter as you age such as Social Security, and health care

Reviewed by Sabrina Felson, MD

## Family

### Does birth order affect who you are?

*Can where you fall in your family's line-up affect how your life unfolds? Are firstborns more likely to be CEOs? The answers may surprise you*

#### \* Can your birth order affect your job choice?

Correct! A first-born or only child may be more likely to become a doctor or lawyer. Younger siblings more often turn to the arts or the outdoors. In part, you can credit parenting.

Parents may over-protect oldests or onlies. So they tend to follow more brain-based interests. When later children show up, parents can be more relaxed and hands-off.

#### \* Of the first 23 American astronauts in space, how many were firstborns?

All seven of the original Mercury astronauts were firstborns. Other famous firstborn trail-blazers: Winston Churchill, Hillary Rodham Clinton, and Oprah Winfrey.

#### \* Most CEOs are:

Firstborn. It's lonely at the top -- or at least, at the beginning! A 2007 survey of corporate leaders found that 43% of CEOs were firstborns, 33% were middle children, and 23% were youngest children.

#### \* Who's more likely to play contact sports like football?

Younger siblings. A younger brother is more likely to put on the pads -- or go ski jumping, sky diving, motorcycle racing, or play lacrosse -- than their older brother.

A study that looked at birth order and "dangerous" sports in college students found that firstborn men were



more likely to avoid those sports. Younger brothers were more daredevil.

#### \* How much quality time do parents give first-borns compared with kids born later?

Much more. Even when parents try to be even-stein, it rarely works out that way. Kids born first get as much as 3,000 more hours of quality time with parents than younger siblings do at the same age.

Parents spend about equal time with two or more kids. But there's less total free time than there was when a firstborn passed through a given age.

#### \* As moms get older, they feel closest to their...

Youngest. Older moms say they feel closest to their "babies" no matter what the family size or spacing between kids.

In the same study, mothers said firstborns were the ones they'd turn to when facing personal problems or a crisis.

#### \* Who's more likely to put pressure on themselves?

Only child. Firstborns tend to try to be "perfect" more often than later-borns. But kids without siblings, who are often treated like little adults, seem to have even more of this trait.

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## 4 Bollywood actors who chose to remain unmarried

Some Bollywood celebrities despite the fact that they are extremely good-looking and talented have chosen to get married. So, here's a list of celebrities who have chosen to live a single life and the reasons why.

**Salman Khan:** Salman Khan has an overwhelming fan following. The rumours of his link-up keep breaking out once in a while, but he has never commented on his personal life publicly. Salman revealed that he is not interested in getting married or being with someone. He also added that he loves being single and is having a blast.

**Tabu:** One of the most talented and gorgeous actresses of Bollywood has chosen to stay single. According to her, she believes that negative connotations should not be attached to the word 'single' and she truly believes in staying alone instead of being with the wrong partner. Tabu has dated some prominent people in the past including Sanjay Kapoor, Sajid Nadiadwala, and



Akkineni Nagarjuna. The actress believes that a person's happiness can be derived from many things not attached to the status of one's relationships.

**Akshaye Khanna:** The actor has a brilliant profile when it comes to his filmography. Time and again he has surprised his fans with his dazzling performances. The actor has had a huge fan following since the beginning of his career. Akshaye revealed that he thinks that he is not marriage material, hence he is still single. He believes

that marriage changes everything and one has to let go of control. He also said that if he does end up getting married, it will suffocate him.

**Ameesha Patel:** Fans have had their eyes glued to Ameesha since she made her acting debut in 2000 with 'Kaho Naa Pyaar Hai', opposite Hrithik Roshan. Although the actress has been away from the big screen for quite some time, her fans are still mesmerized by the pictures and videos she posts on Instagram. The actress has confirmed that she is single and is happy with being alone.

**Asha Parekh:** The veteran actress had everyone wrapped around her finger with her talent, her looks, and the iconic winged eyeliner. Even after having a fan following that spreads across the world, the actress has remained unmarried. The former actress revealed that she would have loved to get married and have children, she was just not destined to. But she also revealed that she has no regrets about being single.



## Vicky Kaushal calls his marriage to Katrina Kaif 'paranthas weds pancakes'

Vicky Kaushal recently called his wedding to actor Katrina Kaif 'paranthas weds pancakes.' While Vicky is known for his *desi* Punjabi boy charm, Katrina has spent most of her time in London. Despite their differences, the two make one of the most popular couples in Bollywood, reports Hindustan Times.

**Vicky Kaushal and Katrina Kaif's love story:** Vicky and Katrina were rumoured to be dating, however, they kept it a secret for quite some time and never confirmed their relationship. They finally made their relationship public when tied the knot in Rajasthan in December 2021.

**Vicky Kaushal on Katrina Kaif's love for *parantha*:** Talking about Katrina, Vicky was recently asked if his wife Katrina likes to eat *parantha* as she is health conscious. Vicky revealed that Katrina loves eating *parantha* prepared by her mother-in-law. He told News Tak, "Our marriage is paranthas weds pancakes. They are the same only. She loves pancakes, I love *paranthas*." He also said, "Even she eats parathas. She loves mom *ke haath ke paranthe* (Katrina loves *paranthas* made by my mom)."

During the same interview, Vicky also shared his thoughts on love marriages and arranged marriages. He was asked which one he would recommend as he is a married man now. He said, "Love is important, marriage could be love or arranged. Understanding and compassion are important. It is important to understand that they are a different person, you are a different person and you have to come to an understanding as a couple. She doesn't have to agree with me fully, and I don't have to agree with her always. If that understanding exists, it doesn't matter if the marriage is arranged or love. It should give happiness to the family, and to them most importantly."

## Chrisann Pereira: How a Bollywood actress was framed as a drug mule

What happened to aspiring actress Chrisann Pereira last month resembles the plot of a Bollywood thriller.

When the 27-year-old, who has done small roles in Bollywood films *Sadak 2* and *Batla House*, flew from Mumbai to Sharjah in United Arab Emirates on 1 April, she had stars in her eyes.

Chrisann had been told that she would be auditioning for a meaty role in a web series that would be shown on an international platform, her brother Kevin told the BBC.

But the visit to Sharjah landed her and her family in a nightmare - she was arrested and jailed after a memento she was carrying was found stuffed with drugs.

Three weeks later, she was finally released after police in Mumbai arrested two men and charged them with framing Chrisann. She's waiting to get her passport before she can return to India, Kevin said.

A police official in Mumbai's crime branch, who was part of the team which investigated the case, told the BBC that a third man - suspected of supplying the drugs - has also been arrested and jailed.

"It was revenge, plotted by the main accused - bakery-owner Anthony Paul - and executed with help from his banker friend Rajesh Damodar Bobhate who also goes by aliases such as Ravi Jain and Prasad Rao," the official said.

He said their investigation



showed that the duo had framed four other people earlier in a similar manner and that one of them - Clayton Rodrigues - was still in prison in Sharjah.

Mr Paul and Mr Bobhate have not commented on the allegations since they are in jail. But Mr Paul's lawyer Ajay Dubey denied the allegations against him, calling them "totally false and malafide". He blamed Mr Bobhate for "duping" his client and said he had nothing to do with the memento.

But Mr Bobhate's wife Sonal told the BBC that it was Mr Paul who had "framed" her husband.

A week after Chrisann's arrest, as the family's desperation grew, Kevin decided to post appeals for help on Twitter and Instagram - and finally, a breakthrough came.

Four people responded to his Instagram post saying they had been through a similar ordeal. They all wrote that a man with the

same name who had given the memento to Chrisann had also given them suspicious items to carry to the Middle East.

So, Kevin and families of some of the other victims went to the police and the Crime Branch took over the case.

Police say in all the five cases, there was "a personal angle" and that Mr Paul knew all his victims and that these were all done to settle personal scores.

They claim that Mr Paul told them that he began plotting the revenge a year ago after he and Chrisann's mother had an argument over stray dogs.

The Pereiras said they thought they had moved past the incident and all was well and that they had no idea why Chrisann was framed until 24 April when police announced the arrests and ascribed motive to the accused.

## Nakuul Mehta on returning to *Bade Achhe Lagte Hain 3...*

# "People have said 'Ram and Priya were our comfort'"



Nakuul Mehta has returned to *Bade Achhe Lagte Hain* season 3 and fans are rejoicing. ETimes TV caught with the versatile, talented and good-looking Nakuul Mehta, who opened up about playing Ram Kapoor again, returning to the show and his decade-old bond with Disha Parmar.

### Returning as Ram Kapoor

I am very excited and both Disha and I have had similar experiences. Wherever we have gone in the past three months, literally people stop us and say Ram and Priya were our comfort. They have been asking us 'why did you leave the show?' and it is hard to explain. How do you tell them what happened? But you try to take that love back.

I remember I met a wonderful lady two days ago and she was about 65-70 years old and I told her "we might come back" and she got so excited, thrilled. I hope we can give the same respect and love and if we can give it, then hopefully it will carry forward to the audience.

### Nakuul's first reaction when he got the call for BALH 3

There were two reactions. The first was "Are you serious" and the second was "yes let's explore this". Within seven seconds I was there. Initially, I thought how is it even possible but then we heard the story, etc, it sort of gave you confidence that we are doing something good.

### \* On the changes he has seen in Disha while working with her in the past decade

I think a lot has not changed. *Par bahut kuch badla bhi hai*. I mean that only in good ways because a lot of times a core of the person changes when they see some success and see the world. I met Disha when she was 16 and she's slightly older now. But I think she's evolved far more. I think to her credit she was far more

evolved back then also.

I always felt she was very mature. As an actor there's a 180-degree difference I see now. I think the calmness, the confidence and that I feel only comes with age, success and validation. It is just so beautiful. It is a much better version of what we get to see today, and it is a lot of fun.

### Does he feel the pressure of high expectations?

There is no pressure. I enjoy the time we have on set. In fact, when we started *Bade Achhe*, at that time pressure should have been there, but even then there was no pressure at all, we never felt it. It is a good fortune that we are being called to do this. There's no pressure and we are here to enjoy ourselves and work.

\*\*\*

### Disha Parmar: I am very proud to be called a 'TV actor'

Etimes TV caught up with Disha Parmar for an exclusive conversation. The actress, who has gone back to playing the role of Priya once again reacted to the buzz created by fans regarding season 3, working for daily soaps and long hours and the changes she has noticed in co-star Nakuul Mehta in the last decade.

Disha and Nakuul, who play Ram and Priya are shipped as #RaYa by their fans and they have been rejoicing ever since the news of their comeback started doing the rounds, reacting to the same, Disha says, "We feel the pressure. I am excited. I hope people like it and they enjoy the story and enjoy watching us."

On being asked about her first reaction when she was offered season 3, she says, "It was a little shocking. Is that even possible? How do you do that? It probably took 10 minutes before I said it sounds good, probably we can do this. When we heard the story, I realised that something good is in the offering."

Talking about the changes she's seen in co-star Nakuul Mehta, who she worked with in her debut show *Pyaar Ka Dard* as well, the actress reveals, "What has changed about him... Honestly, not much. He has only calmed down a little bit I feel. He still has the same enthusiasm for every scene, same amount of dedication like for every scene he would put so much effort he would do in the beginning. Now, he is a bit calmer. Earlier, he would be running on set, doing push-ups.

When asked about her take on how actors who move to films or OTT start to look down upon on television, "I feel to each their own. Like Nakuul rightly said, I am also very proud to be called a 'TV actor' I mean why not? I have given my 11 years and I have enjoyed working on every show that I have been on," said Disha.

A lot of expectation has already been built by Disha and Nakuul's return to *Bade Achhe Lagte Hain* season 3. When asked if it creates pressure, the actress says, "Honestly I don't want to take any pressure. I just want to be happy on set and do good work and enjoy myself. People around us were like, "Are you scared at the start too? We weren't scared at all."

## YOUR STARS

### Sagittarius: Nov 22 - Dec 21

Your adventurous spirit will take the front seat this coming week. You'll feel an urge to explore, learn, and experience new things. This could be a new hobby, a new book, or even a new place. Feed your curiosity and don't hesitate to step out of your comfort zone. Be open to different perspectives. They might provide a fresh look at a problem that's been puzzling you.

**Lucky Numbers:** 4, 12, 16, 19, 23, 30

### Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 19

This coming week is about seeking balance between your professional life and personal life. You are known for your work ethic, but it's equally important to give time to yourself and your loved ones. Remember, you are not defined by your achievements alone, but by who you are as a person. Focus on nurturing your relationships and indulging in some self-care.

**Lucky Numbers:** 10, 15, 20, 24, 29, 31

### Aquarius: Jan 20 - Feb 18

You are often ahead of your time, and your forward-thinking attitude will bring you recognition. Don't be afraid to share your innovative ideas with others. They might seem unconventional to some, but that's where your strength lies. Reach out to old friends and make new ones. These connections can bring joy and inspiration into your life.

**Lucky Numbers:** 1, 3, 4, 15, 20, 26

### Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

You have a unique, artistic soul, and it's time to let it shine. Don't be afraid to show the world who you are. You may also feel a strong connection to your dreams and intuition this week. Pay attention to these feelings, as they could guide you towards important realizations or decisions. Remember, your emotions are a source of strength, not a weakness.

**Lucky Numbers:** 8, 9, 14, 17, 31, 34

### Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 19

Your communication skills are in their prime, making it an excellent time for conversations, negotiations, or discussions that can help you get ahead in your professional life. However, remember to strike a balance. You are a sign that loves to take the lead, but listening to others is also important. You never know where a golden nugget of advice may come from.

**Lucky Numbers:** 3, 10, 20, 24, 25, 33

### Taurus: Apr 20 - May 20

You're known for your stubbornness, and it can serve you well in many situations, but it can also hinder you. Changes, although uncomfortable at times, can lead to growth and better opportunities. Embrace the unknown, trust in your resilience, and let go of the stubborn fear that's been holding you back. Also, pay attention to your dreams this week – they might be trying to tell you something.

**Lucky Numbers:** 6, 10, 19, 21, 26, 40

### Gemini: May 21 - June 20

Your adaptable nature will be put to the test. A wave of changes may hit you, but your innate ability to adapt will carry you through. This coming week, you're likely to make connections that could prove valuable in the future, so be open to meeting new people and expanding your network. It also sees a boost in your problem-solving abilities. Remember, the secret is to take things step by step.

**Lucky Numbers:** 9, 14, 18, 20, 22, 30, 36

### Cancer: June 21 - July 22

You often feel things deeply, and this coming week, this sensitivity will serve as a guiding compass, leading you towards greater understanding and wisdom. Don't be afraid to express your feelings to those around you. Your empathy and understanding may prove healing for others too. Also, it's a good time to focus on self-care and nurturing your mental health.

**Lucky Numbers:** 3, 12, 15, 17, 24, 39

### Leo: July 23 - Aug 22

You're often the life of the party, and that charisma will serve you well. You might find yourself leading in different areas of your life, whether that be at work, in your social circles, or at home. Just remember that with great power comes great responsibility. Be careful to use your influence wisely and fairly.

**Lucky Numbers:** 1, 9, 14, 17, 26, 29

### Virgo: Aug 23 - Sept 22

This coming week calls for a balance between logic and intuition. You are known for your analytical mind, but sometimes you need to trust your gut too. You might encounter situations where the rational answer isn't the best answer. Listen to your intuition and let it guide you. You may also find that your attention to detail serves you well, as it helps you notice things that others might overlook.

**Lucky Numbers:** 11, 12, 18, 20, 24, 25

### Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 22

You'll find yourself acting as a mediator in conflicts and helping others find common ground. Your fairness and empathy will be deeply appreciated. However, remember to also stand up for what you believe in. Compromise is a strength, but not at the expense of your own values. The time is also ideal for networking and socialising. You never know where a casual conversation could lead.

**Lucky Numbers:** 5, 17, 20, 24, 26, 40

### Scorpion: 23 Oct - 21 Nov

Your innate intensity will be your driving force. You have a power of transformation within you, and it's time to channel that energy into making positive changes in your life. Don't shy away from the deep, dark corners of your soul. Shine a light on them and use what you find to grow. Your insight and perseverance can help you overcome any obstacles.

**Lucky Numbers:** 11, 15, 16, 20, 22, 30

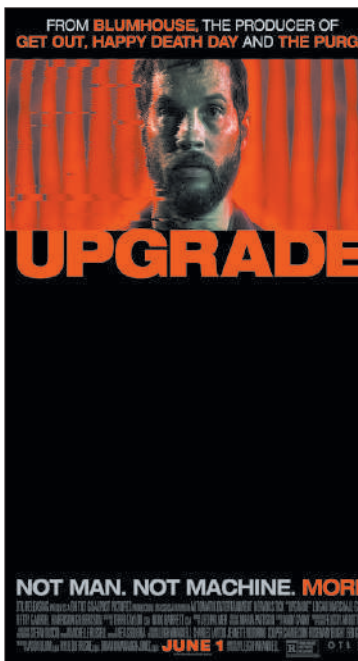




Mardi 20 Juin - 20.30



Mercredi 21 Juin - 15.12



Mercredi 21 Juin - 20.50



# Programme TV



mardi 20 juin

mercredi 21 juin

jeudi 22 juin

## MBC 1

06.00 Serial: Rich Man, Poor Man  
07.25 Serial: Le Livre Perdu Des...  
08.09 Serial: L.A.'S Finest  
08.54 Serial: Blue Bloods  
09.40 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin  
10.05 Local: A Que No Me Dejas  
10.30 The Gardener's Daughter  
10.55 Tele: Marimar  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.25 Tele: Sublime Mensonge  
13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel  
13.45 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
14.10 Serial: L'Incroyable Hulk  
15.21 Film: The Pleasant Valley War  
17.30 The Gardener's Daughter  
17.59 Live: Samachar  
18.31 Serial: Wagle Duniya  
18.55 Serial: Mere Dad Ki Dulhan  
20.30 Film: The Lion Woman  
Avec Rolf Lassgård, Kjersti Tveerås

07.10 Film: Eaten By Lions  
08.55 Serial: Airwolf  
09.40 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin  
10.05 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas  
10.30 The Gardener's Daughter  
10.55 Tele: Marimar  
11.15 Serial: Killjoys  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.25 Tele: Sublime Mensonge  
13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel  
13.45 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
14.15 Serial: Airwolf  
15.21 Film: Les Parapluiés De Cherbourg  
17.30 The Gardener's Daughter  
18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya  
18.55 Serial: Mere Dad Ki Dulhan  
19.30 Journal & La Meteo  
20.30 Local: Focus Live  
21.30 Serial: Chicago Med  
22.15 Film: Upgrade  
23.35 Le Journal

06.00 Serial: New Amsterdam  
07.15 Serial: Absentia  
08.00 Serial: Chicago Med  
09.45 Tele: The Baker And The Beauty  
09.55 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas  
10.25 The Gardener's Daughter  
10.50 Tele: Marimar  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.25 Tele: Sublime Mensonge  
13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel  
13.45 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
14.10 Serial: L'incroyable Hulk  
15.21 Film: Le Second Souffle  
17.15 The Gardener's Daughter  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya  
18.56 Serial: Mere Dad Ki Dulhan  
19.30 Le Journal  
20.30 Film: Banjo  
Stars: Riteish Deshmukh, Nargis Fakhri

## MBC 2

07.35 Local: Accords Parfaits  
09.37 Local: Radio Vision  
10.29 Local: Rodrig Prog: Zenn  
11.19 Local: Le Rendez Vous...  
12.16 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel  
12.38 Local: Proze Dime  
13.56 Local: Fam Model  
14.11 Local: Tous Egaux  
14.26 Local: Music Tour 2022  
15.51 Local: Le Rendez Vous...  
16.48 Local: En Forme  
18.00 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
18.32 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas  
19.00 Journal Kreol  
19.30 Rodrig Prog: Plat Du Chef  
19.48 Local: Son Ladan Mem  
21.30 Local: Radio Vision  
22.13 Local: All Day Music Day  
22.26 Local: Moments Forts De...  
23.25 Local: Music Tour 2022

07.05 Local: Les 33 Tours De Nos...  
08.07 Local: Paroles Agricoles  
08.36 Local: Music Tour 2022  
09.30 Local: Radio Vision  
10.25 Local: All Day Music Day  
10.53 Local: Fetons La Musique  
12.20 Local: Avant Scene  
13.13 Local: Priorite Sante  
13.35 Local: Moments Forts De...  
14.08 Local: Fusion Musical...  
15.27 Local: Maurice... Musiques  
16.21 Local: Klip De Zil  
17.09 Local: Serge Fet Lamizik  
18.00 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
18.33 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas  
19.00 Journal Kreol  
19.20 Le Magazine De L'emploi  
19.30 Local: Rodrig Spor  
20.03 Local: Fete De La Musique  
22.03 Local: Agri Ensemble  
22.29 Local: Toile De Fond  
23.14 Local: Les Klips

07.08 Local: Fete De la Musique  
09.34 Local: Come On Let's Dance  
11.11 Local: Les Klips  
12.03 Local: Rodrig Spor  
12.26 Local: Artizan: Bambou  
12.43 Local: Toile De Fond  
13.11 Local: Rodrig Prog  
13.40 Local: Agri Ensemble  
14.02 Local: Accords Parfaits  
16.10 Local: Come On Let's Dance  
17.05 Local: Radio Vision  
18.00 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
18.31 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas  
19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol  
19.20 Rodrig: Li Bon Ou Konnin  
19.40 Le Magazine De L'emploi  
19.48 Local: Les Grandes Lignes  
20.30 Local: Mots & Ecrits  
21.00 Local: Radio Vision  
23.00 Le Journal  
23.20 Local: Groov'in

## MBC 3

07.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija  
08.04 Local: Ved Ki Shikshayen  
08.30 Local: Ayush  
08.56 Excerpts From Shiv Abhishek  
09.36 Local: Charcha  
10.06 Serial: Kundali Bhagya  
11.33 Serial: Radha Krishna  
12.00 Film: Geet Gaata Chal  
Starring: Sachin, Sarika, Madan Puri  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.30 Serial: Badki Malkaain  
15.59 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Local: Tark Vitark  
19.00 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka  
20.00 Chikitsa Aur Swasthya  
20.30 Film: Sargam  
23.35 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain  
00.07 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan

07.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija  
08.26 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka  
08.56 International Yoga Day  
09.22 Chikitsa Aur Swasthya  
10.00 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain  
11.32 Serial: Radha Krishna  
12.00 Film: Teri Payal Mere Geet  
Starring: Govinda, Meenakshi Sheshadri, Kadar Khan, Shakti Kapoor  
15.30 Serial: Bhagan Ab Ho Kitne Door  
17.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Other: Radha Krishna  
19.00 Local: The 8 Limbs Of Yoga  
20.00 Local: Virasat  
20.35 Film: Heroine No 1  
Starring Yash Kumar Mishra, Priyanka Pandit, S. Shaikh  
22.50 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain  
23.14 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan

07.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija  
08.04 Mag: Tirh Yatra  
08.27 Local: The 8 Limbs Of Yoga  
08.53 Local: Anjoria  
09.19 Local: Virasat  
09.34 Local: Gyan Vigyan  
10.03 Serial: Suhani Si Ek Ladki  
11.27 Radha Krishna  
12.00 Film: Abhimaan  
Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Jaya Bachchan, Bindu, Asrani  
15.30 Serial: Badki Malkaain  
16.00 Serial: Agniphera  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Local: Amrit Vaani  
19.06 Local: Sawdhan  
19.32 Local: Akshay Dhaara  
20.01 Local: Hunarbaaz  
20.19 Serial: Surya Puran  
21.37 Serial: Jag Jaanani Maa  
21.56 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain

## MBC 5

06.03 Mag: Eco At Africa  
08.47 Mag: Tomorrow Today  
09.38 Doc: Dirty Business  
10.25 Doc: Northern Lights  
11.12 Doc: Sweet Magic  
11.42 Mag: The 77 Percent  
12.39 Mag: In Good Shape  
13.48 Doc: Nobel Prize  
14.02 Mag: Tomorrow Today  
15.06 D.Anime: The Story Of Book...  
15.22 Panda And Little Mole  
15.33 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole...  
15.42 D.Anime: Fast And Furious  
16.08 D.Anime: The Adventures Of...  
16.31 D.Anime: Mondo Yan  
17.17 Mag: Lab 360  
17.21 Mag: Apple Tree House  
17.36 Mag: National Anthem  
18.01 Rev: The Global Auto...  
18.26 Mag: Healthy Living  
18.41 Mag: Red Carpet

06.45 Mag: Red Carpet  
08.53 Doc: Nobel Prize  
09.58 Doc: Museum Crime Scenes  
10.40 Doc: Uyghurs In China  
11.32 Mag: Rev: The Global Auto...  
11.58 Mag: Healthy Living  
12.32 Doc: World Heritage  
12.55 Mag: Check In  
14.22 Doc: Nobel Prize  
15.00 D.Anime: The Story Of Book...  
15.17 Les Nouvelles Aventures...  
15.22 D.Anime: Panda And Little...  
15.34 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole...  
15.45 D.Anime: Fast And Furious  
16.12 D.Anime: The Adventure Of...  
16.32 D.Anime: Mondo Yan  
16.47 D.Anime: Sissi  
17.13 Mag: Lab 360  
17.54 Doc: Sweet Magic  
18.00 Mag: Motorweek  
22.24 Film: Two For The Win  
With Charlotte Sullivan, Trevor Donovan

06.03 Mag: Motorweek  
09.25 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
09.58 Doc: Focus On Europe  
10.26 Doc: Megacity Mumbai  
11.29 Doc: Sweet Magic  
12.00 Mag: Vous Et Nous  
12.25 Doc: World Heritage  
13.04 Doc: The Inside Story  
13.26 Doc: DIY Kings  
15.04 D.Anime: Les Blagues De...  
15.22 D.Anime: Panda And Little...  
15.33 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole...  
15.42 D.Anime: Fast And Furious  
16.10 D.Anime: The Adventures Of  
16.39 D.Anime: Mondo Yan  
17.10 Mag: Lab 360  
17.29 Mag: National Anthem  
17.35 Mag: Shift  
17.55 Doc: Sweet Magic  
18.00 Mag: Eco India  
18.42 Mag: Carnet De Sante

## Bollywood TV

14.25 Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana  
15.26 Film: Geet  
Starring Divya Bharti, Avinash Wadhawan, Shakti Kapoor  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Kundali Bhagya  
19.03 Udaariyaan  
19.33 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...  
20.06 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
20.38 Radha Krishna  
21.08 Anupama  
21.37 Mere Sai  
22.08 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se  
22.38 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey  
23.06 Patiala Babes  
23.30 Film: Geet  
Starring Divya Bharti, Avinash Wadhawan, Shakti Kapoor  
02.00 Kundali Bhagya  
02.30 Udaariyaan

14.25 Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana  
15.24 Film: Munna Michael  
Starring: Tiger Shroff, Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Nidhi Agerwal  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Kundali Bhagya  
19.00 Udaariyaan  
19.30 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...  
20.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
20.30 Radha Krishna  
21.06 Anupama  
21.36 Mere Sai  
22.05 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se  
22.31 Kabhi Kabhie ittefaq Sey  
22.58 Patiala Babes  
23.31 Film: Munna Michael  
Starring Tiger Shroff, Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Nidhi Agerwal

14.25 Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana  
15.21 Film: London Dreams  
Stars: Salman Khan, Ajay Devgn, Om Puri  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Kundali Bhagya  
19.00 Udaariyaan  
19.30 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...  
20.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
20.30 Radha Krishna  
21.02 Anupama  
21.30 Mere Sai  
22.01 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se  
22.31 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey  
22.59 Patiala Babes  
23.30 Film: London Dreams  
Stars: Salman Khan, Ajay Devgn, Om Puri  
02.01 Kundali Bhagya  
02.29 Serial: Udaariyaan



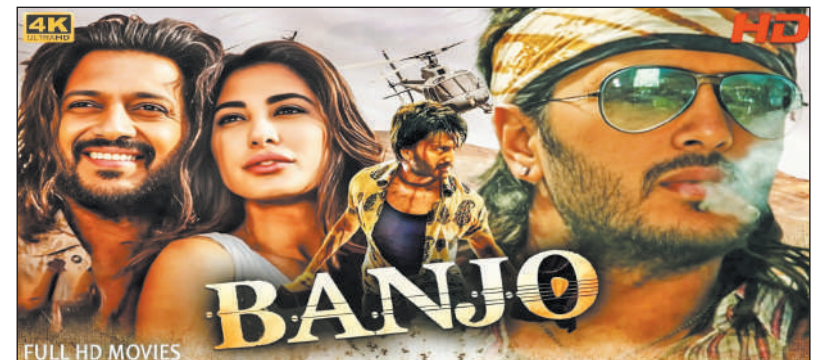
Jeudi 22 Juin - 15.30

Stars: Salman Khan, Ajay Devgn, Om Puri



Jeudi 22 Juin - 20.30

Stars: Riteish Deshmukh, Nargis Fakhri



# China's Population grew Older and Richer:

## *Policy lessons for some African countries*



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University of  
Sydney

**F**or decades China was the world's most populous country. But that's changed. Its population has peaked, and is now falling.

The country has achieved high levels of economic growth for four decades, reducing poverty and raising per capita incomes. Between 1978 and 2018 China's economy grew by an average of 9.8 per cent per annum. Today it is the second biggest economy in the world after the US.

China's demographic profile has played a key role in its development. A high number of births in the 1950s and 1960s, alongside gains in public health and basic education, meant that, from the 1970s, there was a boom in China's working age population size and share. This is estimated to have contributed some 15% of China's growth over the period 1980 to 2000.

China capitalised on its demographic profile through policies which captured that working-age population.

I've been studying the political economy of demographic change in China, and Africa-China relations, for two decades. Most recently, I wrote a paper on China's demographic peak.

Part of the paper unpacks lessons Africa can take from China's development strategy, even though China is very different from African nations in many respects.

African countries differ among themselves in demographic profile too. So I have created two broad categories – those with a high percentage of young people, and those with a sizeable proportion of working age people – and set out policies they could focus on now.

### China's adjustments

China was concerned that its population would first become "old" before it became per capita economically rich. As early as the 1980s – when China was still young and poor – the fear was that this would hamper long-run development.

To avoid this, it adjusted its development policy direction.

I have looked at a number of aspects of how this unfolded, and for example the unique circumstance in China around the implementation of a One Child Policy. Here, however, I simplify the overall Chinese approach to economic demography and development over time into two simplified aspects that are relevant to policy makers and development practitioners in the context of African development.

First, China captured the potential of the low-wage demographic dividend of its "young" and "poor" working-age population of the late 1970s. Second, it prepared to sustain the economy and hundreds of millions of elders from the 2020s especially.

Following that baby boom in the 1950s and 1960s, between the mid-1970s and 2010 China's working-age population share (as measured by people aged 15-65) would increase from 55% to 73% of the total population.

Capturing the productivity potential of their working-lifetime helped drive reforms that opened up China's economy from late 1978. A major aspect of opening up to trade and foreign direct investment was a coastal development strategy. Special economic zones were set up to attract foreign investment.

In addition, in the 1990s it expanded and upgraded its university sector.

During this period China also made policy reforms



that would ultimately support new sources of growth for later when China's frontier economic regions would need to be driven by quality instead of quantity of labour. These included manufacturing and services with higher added value, including pension and wealth management. These are sectors that China is promoting today, with mixed success.

In parallel, from the 1980s and in the 1990s China incrementally set up the basic architecture of an aged care policy and legislative framework. Policymakers began to build a national pension and healthcare system, more intensively from the 2000s. It started preparing to shift from a high case load of infectious illness towards a greater load of chronic illness as the population aged. And it prepared to offer a very basic level of health insurance to even the poorest and most remote.

Since the 2010s care for the aged has received even more attention.

By the time China's working-age population peaked in 2010, the basics were in place for the hundreds of millions expected to become pensioners over the 2010s, 2020s and 2030s. To prevent them from falling back into poverty in older age, China has set up basic income and health insurance.

### Lessons for Africa

China's One Child policy certainly had a lot to do with its approach to development. But the approach is relevant to all countries, including those in Africa where life expectancy is increasing. This typically means the population share of elders is rising.

African countries cover a broad spread of the demographic spectrum. For example, Mauritius is already considered to be "ageing", as measured by the standard metric: more than 7% of citizens are aged 65 and over.

By contrast, Niger is the world's "youngest" country. Just over 2% of its population are 65 and over. Many countries, however, face a near or medium-term future where they have a high population share of working-age citizens who will want jobs, food and lifetime opportunity. This is thanks to rising life expectancy in most countries increasing the number of older people, and falling birth rates concurrently reducing the population share of

younger citizens.

So what should countries be doing?

"Young" countries need to invest more in basic healthcare, especially maternal health. Basic healthcare ultimately reduces the fertility rate as confidence grows in the survival of each child.

They also need to invest in education, particularly primary school for all children.

A handful of African countries are in the demographic dividend window – they have a favourable share of working-age citizens. These include Morocco and South Africa. Their task should be to focus on job creation and a business environment that will attract labour-intensive investment. This will help maximise jobs.

At the same time, it's important to elevate productivity per worker and adapt to new technological frontiers. That will result in a cluster of well-trained graduates, in areas of science and technology especially.

They also need to prepare the economy and society to carry an elevated share of elders in the later middle-income phase of development.

Both China and Mauritius are already struggling to formulate a sustainable basic elder pension system.

### Getting old before rich is now more common

China's economic demography - getting old before getting rich - is now relatively mainstream.

In this century, improvements in public health, access to family planning technologies, and the education of girls, among other factors, means that many developing countries are now experiencing falling mortality and a total fertility rate at lower per capita incomes.

This has led to many countries getting older without getting rich, presenting the threat of many poor elders and stagnating national economic prospects.

And this is why it is important to advance economic development policies in step with demographic change. This is what China did when it was still poor and young.

By learning from China's experiences and creating clear policies, African countries can grasp their economic and demographic potential.