

NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

Heward-Mills Laments Over US\$30M Spent On Massive Pit



Bishop Dag Heward-mills, Founder And Leader Of The Lighthouse Chapel International

Bishop Dag Heward-Mills, the founder and leader of the Lighthouse Chapel International who is also a former Trustee of the Board of the National Cathedral Project has raised questions about the massive pit at the

construction site despite a whopping \$30 million being spent on it in six years. According to him questions being raised by Ghanaians on the construction of the National Cathedral of Ghana are legitimate.

Bishop Dag Heward-Mills said the public have the right to ask questions about the project because, 6 years after the construction of the project started

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Tension Brews In Asikuma Odoben Brakwa NDC

...Over Plot To Disqualify Aspirants, But Chairman Denies Allegation

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Magical Dreams CEO Organizes Third Spelling Bee Context At Whuti



CEO of Magical Dreams Foundation, Mr James Elikplim Tamakloe has organized yet another spelling bee event and a soccer tournament for the people of

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Nii Bortel-Din III (left) and the newly installed Nmaidjorn Mantse, Nii Otoo Bormmal Alabi Petemph IV

Jubilation As Osokrono We Outdoors New Chief For Nmaidjorn

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The INSIGHT

— EDITORIAL

THIS IS WORRYING!

Recent happenings in the state of Palestine regarding the annexation of lands and the committal of atrocities by Israeli forces to say the least is highly repugnant.

Never a day passes without one form of violence or assault being perpetuated by Israel against the people of Palestine.

These acts including seizure of Palestinian lands have been carried out with the highest level of impunity, apparently due to the support provided by America.

Across the West Bank and other occupied territories, there have been protests over plans by Israel to annex more of such lands.

Clearly, this show of impunity and disregard for international law is highly condemnable and unacceptable.

There is no denying the fact that the Israeli authorities' constant destruction of Palestinian homes in Occupied West Bank for new Jewish settlement has been done with the full support of the United States, in spite of persistent international condemnation of such lawless and dastardly acts. Apart from the West Bank's Area C, Gaza has also been turned into a huge killing field as Israel has over the years committed acts of genocide with impunity.

Nobody has been spared the atrocities of the Zionist state which has killed women and children, the old and the young, abled and bodied persons and people with disability.

We firmly believe that Israel is emboldened to carry out these atrocities because of the support it receives from the US and its surrogates around the world.

Undoubtedly, what the world expect to see is the easing of tension and an end to the brutalities in Palestine.

Magical Dreams CEO Organizes Third Spelling Bee Context At Whuti

from front page

Whuti in the Anlo Constituency as part of giving back to his community.

This is the third event he has organized in a year to help boost education in the region. Prizes and cash donations were presented to deserving students who excelled in the competition.

Mr Tamakloe was also the guest speaker at the Trotroye Za Durbar which attracted residents of Whuti Area and during his speech he advised the people of the area to live in peace and harmony and also advised the youth in the area to desist from bad social habits and concentrate on their education and focus on work.

A sod cutting ceremony led by Togbui Nyaho Tamakloe was done for the construction of Event/Town Hall to be built by Mr James Tamakloe for the people of Whuti which has already been started.

Mr James Tamakloe promised to do more for the people of the Anlo Constituency in the coming years.



THE INSIGHT

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Afrocentricity: An Important Feature Of Pan-Africanism

By Dr Edward Yusuf Mitole

.... According to Botchway (2017:50), "Historically, Euro-centric Christianity provided ideological and institutional support to European enslavement and colonialism of the African peoples, and psychologically alienated many from their original mental and cultural personality." He focuses his discussion on a case study of Joseph William Egyanka Appiah in the Gold Coast who would later be known as "Prophet

Jemisimiham Jehu-Appiah" (Botchway, 2017:50). According to Botchway (2017:49-50), "he initiated nationalist philosophies and liberation theologies to reform Euro-centric Christianity into an Afro-centric one to salvage aspects of indigenous African cultural beliefs and practices", and therefore, left the Methodist Church and established the first native African church, Musama Disco Christo Church (Botchway, 2017). Prophet Appiah regarded his

church as an Afrocentric one which was birthed and managed by Africans, and founded to reinstate African beliefs, practices and traditions to Christianity because "Europe had made it Euro-centric to serve European cultural and political interests and to control African societies." He encouraged largely the use of African musical instruments like donno, mpintin, akasa, totorubento, mfiritwuwa, ebibindwom (Black African Songs), which made use of

Fante lyrics (Botchway, 2017:63). This demonstrates the importance of Afro-centricity as a feature of the Pan-African tradition, helping place the African tradition above the Euro-centric Christianity, which seeks to demonise our values and traditions as African people. Again, according to Talburt (2017:240), "Therefore, evangelical Pan Africanism was a key feature of Black resistance in which people used religion as a form of political protest." The religious wing of Marcus Garvey's Universal Improvement

Association, the African Orthodox Church, was established. According to Olisanwuche (1982:74), "Though a born Catholic, Garvey set up an African Orthodox Church with Archbishop Alexander McGuire, a West Indian theologian, at the head" as "an expression of religious autonomy among black Americans" (Platt, 1989:474)....

Tension Brews In Asikuma Odoben Brakwa NDC ...Over Plot To Disqualify Aspirants, But Chairman Denies Allegation

By Michael Ashiagbor

Investigations conducted by this reporter ahead of the National Democratic Congress (NDC) upcoming parliamentary primaries have exposed a secret plot being hatched by some leading executives of the NDC in the Asikuma Odoben Brakwa Constituency in the Central Region. Investigations have revealed that the constituency executives and leadership of the NDC headed by Mr George Ofori Nuoku are allegedly plotting to disqualify the new entrants of potential parliamentary candidates who want to contest the NDC upcoming parliamentary primary in the area. This plot was hatched by some top executives of the NDC in the constituency as a strategy to promote the interest of the incumbent NDC MP for Asikuma Odoben Brakwa, Alhaji Alhassan Kobina Ghansah, to pave way for him to win and contest on the ticket of the NDC in the constituency. This journalist was reliably informed that in the last previous internal election in the area, this same tactics was adopted by the elders and constituency executives to disqualify an aspiring Youth Organiser of the Asikuma Odoben Brakwa Youth Organiser of the NDC, Mr Rahim Broni.

Consequently, the executives disqualified Mr. Rahim Broni on the grounds that he was not in the camp of the incumbent NDC MP and that when he (Mr. Rahim Broni) contest the youth organiser position and wins, he will surely work against the bid of Alhaji Alhassan Kobina Ghansah to win the contest of the NDC parliamentary position. This reporter further gathered that this plan had succeed for Alhaji Alhassan Kobina Ghansah which saw him contesting the last NDC parliamentary primary unopposed in the area. However, sensing danger that the MP will definitely lose this year's upcoming parliamentary election on the ticket of the NDC, some top constituency executives are threatening some of the potential parliamentary hopefuls who are lacing their boots to contest the primary. This development has informed the decision of some concerned youths and members of the NDC in the area to quickly raise a red flag over the misconduct of the NDC executives in the area. Against this backdrop, they have called on the central regional and national executives of the NDC, particularly the current National Chairman of the party, Mr. Johnson Asiedu Nketiah, and the General Secretary, Mr. Fifi Fiavi Kwetey, to

immediately take action to address the issue.

According to the youths of the NDC, their checks on the grounds indicate that some top leadership of the party in the Asikuma Odoben Brakwa Constituency do not want to allow for competition in the race of NDC parliamentary primary, saying that this situation has been creating wide divisions as well as affecting the united front of the NDC in the area.

They argued out that it was obvious that the executives want to impose the current MP on the delegates and members of the party in the constituency.

And this action, they intimated, was building up tension in the constituency.

Most of the NDC supporters and youths, particularly those from the branches of the area, have raised concerns over weak party grassroots' structures while some have accused the executives of supporting the current MP to create a parallel structure to firm his grip on the seat. When contacted for his reaction to the allegations, the Asikuma Odoben Brakwa Constituency Chairman of the NDC, Mr George Ofori Nuoku stated that none of the constituency executives was in league with the MP to disqualify anyone who wanted to contest the NDC parliamentary primary in the area.

He said his outfit allows competition in



Johnson Asiedu Nketiah, National Chairman of the NDC

the race of the NDC parliamentary slot, saying that since the aspirants would pay money before picking nomination forms to contest the position it would even serve as avenue for the party to get enough funds to run administrative affairs of the party in the constituency. Stressing that he would not allow such a thing to happen under his administration, Mr Nuoku maintained that the party in the constituency needs money to carry out its activities that if they didn't allow the people to contest the various positions in the party where are they are going to fund administrative affairs of the party in constituency levels. In the four years parliamentary primaries, Mr Nuoku pointed that there three candidates who were qualified to contest the primaries before the incumbent NDC won the primary to lead the party win the

parliamentary seat for the area. "So how come that this year's we are not going to allow or we deny members of the party who qualify to contest the NDC parliamentary primaries from doing so. I want to state clearly that there are no moves to disqualify anyone from contesting the parliamentary election on the ticket of the NDC in the area. This story is completely false and unfounded," Mr. Nuoku stressed. He was quick to point out that "we have not even been consulted or engaged by anyone that he has developed interest in contesting the NDC's parliamentary primaries in the area. He added that "what we heard on the air was that some people are distributing items to the delegates and members of the party by way of launching their bid to contest the incoming parliamentary election on the ticket of the NDC in the area."



INTERNATIONAL NEWS REPORT

Compiled By Peoples Dispatch

Ukraine's Glorification Of Stepan Bandera Draws Criticism Even From Key Ally



A collage of a photo of a right-wing rally in honor of Stepan Bandera and the tweet from the Ukrainian parliament on January 1, 2023. (Photo: via Labor Heartlands). Since 2014, the post-Maidan regime in Ukraine and its far-right, hyper-nationalist legacy of World War II

Ukraine's support for neo-Nazi groups and its attempts to officially recognize pro-Nazi legions and Nazi collaborators from World War II have been steadfastly criticized by communists and other anti-fascist groups in the region. Even though Kiev's supporters in Europe and North America have hitherto maintained a complicit silence about these maneuvers, the latest gesture by the Ukrainian parliament, cheering on the birthday of the Nazi collaborator Stepan Bandera, has drawn sharp criticism even from neighboring Poland, its staunch ally in the ongoing war with Russia.

On January 1, a post celebrating the 114th birthday of Stepan

Bandera—notorious Ukrainian far-right leader and World War II Nazi collaborator—was tweeted from the official handle of the Verkhovna Rada, the Ukrainian parliament. According to [reports](#), the tweet contained “a quote from Stepan Bandera and a photo of the Ukrainian Armed Forces chief, General Valery Zaluzhny, with a large portrait of the Nazi collaborator in the background.”

After receiving a significant amount of criticism, it was later deleted from the twitter handle of Verkhovna Rada.

The tweet triggered spontaneous outrage from Poland, otherwise a staunch supporter of Kiev and Volodymyr Zelensky. On January 2, Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki denounced the glorification of Stepan Bandera by the Ukrainian parliament. On the same day, Israel's

[Haaretz newspaper also slammed Ukrainian authorities](#) for celebrating

and quoting an anti-semitic Nazi collaborator.

While addressing the media on January 2, Morawiecki stated, [as per RT](#), that “no nuances were possible that would make the continued glorification of Nazi collaborator Stepan Bandera palatable,” adding that Bandera's nationalists had committed “terrible crimes.” He is reported to have said that Poland would not tolerate the minimization of those crimes. Successive governments that came into power in Ukraine following the anti-Russian Euromaidan coup of 2014 have initiated a virulent campaign of decommunization. They have also attempted to normalize support for far-right Ukrainian nationalist legions, and their leaders, from World War II, who were Nazi collaborators and mass murderers of Jews, the Polish, and fellow Ukrainians. Neo-Nazi groups like Right Sector and the Azov Battalion have been active in post-Maidan

Ukraine and continue to be active belligerents in the ongoing Ukraine-Russia war.

Bandera was the leader of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN), a far-right, ultra-nationalist Ukrainian militant group that collaborated with Nazis during World War II, fought against the Soviets, and perpetrated mass murders of ethnic Jews, Poles, and pro-Soviet Ukrainians. After World War II, Bandera was settled in West Germany and cooperated with Western intelligence services including MI6 in its anti-Soviet activities.

In 2010, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko awarded Bandera with the posthumous title of 'Hero of Ukraine'—in order to please hyper-nationalist sections in the country. Even this courted criticism from the EU, Poland, Israel, Russia and many other countries. Later, the decision to confer the award on Bandera was annulled by President Viktor Yanukovich. In the aftermath of the

Euromaidan coup of 2014, which ousted the pro-Russia Yanukovich, right-wing militias that consider Bandera a hero were given free rein in the country and support from the governments of Petro Poroshenko and Volodymyr Zelensky. Since then, Ukrainian nationalists have regularly marked Bandera's birthday on January 1 with torch-lit marches and demonstrations.

On January 4, Roman Kononenko from the Communist Party of the Russian Federation (CPRF) told *Peoples Dispatch* that “if someone today is not yet able to draw an elementary parallel between accusations against Ukraine that it has become a neo-Nazi state, and state-level glorification in this country of the Nazi accomplice and bloody executioner of the peoples Stepan Bandera, then this person is either criminally stupid or deliberately turns a blind eye to obvious things.”

Israeli Forces Kill Three Palestinians In Under 24 Hours In Occupied West Bank

Three Palestinians, Ahmed Abu Jneid (21), Sanad Mohammad Samasra (19), and Samir Harbi Aslan (41), were between last Wednesday and Thursday killed within 24 hours by Israeli occupation forces in separate incidents in the occupied West Bank.

Abu Jneid was shot in the head on Wednesday when Israeli forces opened fire at a group of Palestinians opposing an early morning raid on the Balata refugee camp in Nablus. He was taken to a hospital where he later died.

According to a statement issued by the armed group Lion's Den, Abu Jneid was its member and was part of the armed resistance against Israeli aggression when he was shot, *Middle East Eye* reported. According to *Wafa*, armed resistance by the Palestinians forced the Israeli forces

to [end the raid](#) without any arrest. However, around 23 Palestinians were arrested in similar early morning raids in other parts of the occupied West Bank on Wednesday, *Wafa* [reported](#). The largest number of arrests, at least 10, were made in Hebron in the southern occupied West Bank.

On Thursday, Samir Aslan was shot in his chest and killed during a raid on the Qalandiya refugee camp as he was trying to prevent the Israeli forces from arresting his son. *Wafa* [reported](#) that the Israeli forces had prevented people from providing Aslan medical care. Israeli forces also arrested 15 Palestinians from the Qalandiya camp during the raid. Samasra was shot and killed by the occupation forces in Dhariyeh in Hebron. The Israeli forces alleged that Samasra had tried to stab an

Israeli settler near the illegal settlement of Havat Yahua. *Wafa* [reported](#) that Israeli forces did not allow Palestinian ambulances to reach Samasra when he was wounded and delayed him being taken to the hospital, where he eventually died.

Daily deadly raids against Palestinian residents

Israeli forces have been conducting nearly daily raids in different Palestinian localities across the occupied territories since early last year. Local Palestinians often resist such raids leading to clashes. Israeli forces have often opened fire on the Palestinians resisting the raids with stones and slogans. According to the UN, Israel has carried out over 3,437 such raids so far.

Hundreds of Palestinians have been killed in these raids, which is the main



reason that 2022 was the deadliest year for Palestinians in the West Bank. According to the UN, at least 167 Palestinians were killed in the West Bank in 2022, the highest figure reported since 2005. Some sources have [quoted a higher number](#) of deaths. Most of these deaths were attributed to Israeli raids in refugee camps in Jenin and

Nablus. With the killing of Abu Jneid, Samasra, and Aslan, the total number of Palestinians already killed in the first two weeks of 2023 has reached seven, with at least two among them being children.

Jubilation As Osokrono We Outdoors New Chief For Nmaidjorn

There was jubilation after elders of Osokrono We or Clan of Nungua led by the Djaasetse, Nii Bortei Din III outdoored a new chief for Nmaidjorn with the stool name Nii Otoo Bornmai Alabi Petempeh IV. The new chief succeeded the immediate pass Chief, Nii Bornmai Alabi Petempeh III, who died in April 2022 and was buried later in the year. In a press briefing, the Djaasetse also took the opportunity to caution the people of Nmaidjorn to disregard anyone who comes to them parading himself as the chief of Nmai Dzorn. According to him, the recognized chief who has fulfilled all customary procedures to be installed as chief of Nmaidjorn is Nii Bornmai Alabi Petempeh IV. As the Djaasetse, he stated that he is the only person with the mandate to lead in

the nomination and installation of someone to replace the past chief. In the press briefing issued on 9th January, 2023, Nii Bortei Din III said "We have nominated and installed someone to take charge as the chief of the area, reason we called for this press conference. "We have installed Nii Otoo Bornmai Alabi Petempeh IV, he will replace the past and gone chief Nii Otoo Bornmai Alabi Petempeh III." "We want each and every one to understand that we have a new chief at Nmai Dzorn" I just heard someone parading himself as the chief of Nmai Dzorn with the name Borketey Oyeyimu II -- that's so bad to hear. I will not sit down for Nmai Dzorn to be like the other Ga-Dangme towns which have double installed chiefs and traditional leaders. "I called this media briefing to



Nii Bortei-Din III (left) and the newly installed Nmaidjorn Mantse, Nii Otoo Bornmai Alabi Petempeh IV

announce to the public that, the news circulating that Borketey Oyimo II is the chief of Nmai Dzorn is false". "I'm the Dzaasetse of the Osokrono We clan and it's my customary duty to install chiefs and other traditional office holders within Osokrono We and I want the general public to disregard the rumors of double installation of Nmaidjor

mantse. There's only one Nmaidjorn Mantse, any other person is an imposter. Anyone who transact or deal with such a person does so that at his or her own risk" I'm therefore petitioning the Nungua traditional council and the president not to sit down and allow Nmai Dzorn to be like other Ga-Dangme states installing double chiefs" "I'm following customary

procedures and tradition laid down by our ancestors to install chief" "The Osokrono We elders headed by myself have the customary rites to install chief and present him to the Nungua traditional council, not anyone. Whoever does so is perpetuating illegality and breaching our customary laws and tradition and must be disregarded. "Do not entertain anyone, let's follow the process for a beautiful Nungua tradition....he said However, he added that the only legal chief of Nmai Dzorn is Nii Otoo Bornmai Alabi Petempeh IV. "Nmai Dzorn is a village under the Nungua traditional area and based on that the chiefs were installed through Nungua and the clan that has the mandate to install the chiefs is the Osokrono We and the clan has a Dzaasetse and accredited elders and these elders have installed a new person as the Nmai Dzorn Mantse, Nii Otoo Bornmai Alabi Petempeh IV,.

No Dining For Armed Forces, Yaa Asantewaa SHS Students As Feeding Grant Delays

Government is yet to release feeding grant to Senior High Schools (SHS) across the country almost a week after school reopened. Information available to GHOne News indicates some schools have not yet started serving food at their various dining halls due to the situation. A teacher who spoke with GHOne on condition of anonymity said: "Students haven't been served at dining since we resumed, we are told the government is now distributing food items to the various Senior High Schools. "Parents should send more money to their wards for feeding," the teacher added. A student who reported on Monday also said: "I reported on Monday 9th January 2023



Minister of Education, Dr. Yaw Osei Adutwum

and till date we haven't been served any food at the dining hall yet, I have used all my money to buy food". The student added that food vendors at the school canteen haven't resumed yet thereby resorting to eateries outside the school boundaries, mostly at Bantama and Adum in the evening. A first-year student also lamented that the situation has affected their finances after being asked to buy detergents, Toilet Tissue, and Bulbs,

among others upon arrival without prior notice. The situation is the same at Yaa Asantewaa SHS in Kumasi. A former MCE for Obuasi told Ashanti Regional correspondent, Isaac Bediako in an interaction that his daughter at Yaa Asantewaa requested they bring her banku because the school is not feeding them. Reports say some of the arrears were only paid into the accounts of the schools last week. However, some schools reportedly have resolved not to borrow again to feed the students until the grants are fully paid by government. Meanwhile, the Ghana Education Service (GES) could not be reached for comment. Public basic schools and Senior High Schools reopened on Tuesday, January 10, 2023. **Source:** starrfm.com.gh

Crisis-Hit Ghana Increases Public Servant Salaries By 30 Percent

GHANA'S government and trade unions last Thursday agreed to increase all public servants' salaries by 30 percent for 2023, they said in a joint statement, as the country struggles to reduce debt and tackle rampant inflation. The West African gold, oil and cocoa producer is battling its worst economic crisis in a generation. The local cedi dropped heavily against the dollar last year as government spending cuts and central bank interest rate hikes failed to tame inflation, which [rose to a new high](#) of 54 percent last month. Trade unions representing public service employees started negotiating salary rises with the government in November, a few months after hardship spurred street protests that pushed the government to seek help from the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The two parties on Thursday settled on a 30 percent increase to base pay across board,

effective from Jan. 1, 2023. Ghana's government announced sweeping spending cuts in March, including a lowering of ministers' salaries, to reduce the deficit, contain inflation and slow the cedi's slide. But it also increased a cost of living allowance for public workers by 15 percent in July, citing the impact of 'global challenges' on citizens. Ghana secured a staff-level agreement with the IMF for a \$3bn, three-year support package in December, but needs to restructure its debt to access the funds. The government launched a domestic debt exchange programme last month and later said it would default on nearly all of its \$28.4 billion of external debts. It asked to restructure its bilateral debt under the G20 common framework platform this week.

Details Of Why Dag Heward-Mills Resigned From The National Cathedral Board Of Trustees



Founder and leader of the Lighthouse Chapel International, Bishop Dag Heward-Mills

Information regarding the resignation of the founder and leader of the Lighthouse Chapel International, Bishop Dag Heward-Mills from the Board of Trustees of the National Cathedral project has emerged.

According to citenewsroom.com report, the man of God resigned from the board due to many ignored concerns that were raised for years with regards with the construction of the National Cathedral.

For instance, in his resignation letter he wrote addressed to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the National Cathedral, President Akufo-Addo and others, he raised concerns about the cost, design, fundraising, and location of the project among others but did not receive a response after writing several letters. "I feel that the treatment of the issues I have raised in my several letters has been unfortunate. My letters have been ignored in the past; not attended to for years, and at best addressed flippantly."

"You may recall I have spoken passionately and written extensively about the costs, the design, the location, the fundraising, the mobilization of the churches, and the role of the trustees. These, if heeded, would have made our project more

achievable. Generally speaking, my inputs, my opinions, and my letters have been trivialized and set aside." With regards to the directors of the board, he said he was surprised he was not registered as Director of the Company of the National Cathedral of Ghana despite the fact that President had "verbally appointed him as such. Bishop Dag Heward-Mills also said he was shocked some unknown individuals were the real Trustees of the Board despite the fact that he was the director for 6 years without being registered.

"I do not believe this is an oversight but a deliberate exclusion from the Board. Six years is a long time to correct this failure to register me if it was indeed an administrative lapse." "I have therefore accepted for some time now that I am not a trustee of the National Cathedral, but I have still sought to help with the Cathedral because I believe in the President's vision and I do not have to be a legally registered trustee to do so. I refer to myself in this letter as a trustee because even though I am not privy to most of the weighty decisions of the Board I am referred to as such." Dag Heward-Mills also raised concerns of lack of clarity on the church. He said several concerns raised about the trustees and the individuals were ignored as many issues regarding the finances of the cathedral were decided on by some persons outside the trustees.

"I have been a reachable and available trustee and attended every single meeting of trustees since the pandemic began, in person and by zoom, and the records will show that. If I say that I, as a trustee, do not know

many of the financial and technical issues concerning the Cathedral, it means the discussions about the National Cathedral were held by some people outside the trustees' meeting or perhaps in a forum that I was not present or invited to.

"On the one hand, the National Cathedral is said to be a Government of Ghana project, with the government taking financial decisions. Yet, on another hand, at meetings, it is implied that the trustees have taken or participated in taking some decisions."

While resigning, Bishop Dag said: I would like to state clearly that if in the future, there is more clarity to my role and function in the building of the Cathedral, I remain open, available and willing to serve at the pleasure of the President and the nation.

Regardless of your response to my resignation and inputs, I remain a supporter of the National Cathedral project and will endeavour to be present to rejoice with the nation when this project is completed."

Bishop Dag however added that even though he has resigned from the trustees, he is not against the construction of the national cathedral.

"...I do not wish the media or general public to construe my withdrawal as a sign of a lack of support or belief in the building of the National Cathedral."

One of the top priorities of the Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo's government is the building of a 5,000-seater Cathedral in fulfilment of a pledge made by the President to God

before winning the 2016 elections.

According to the President, the construction of the National Cathedral is pivotal to the development of Ghana.

He explained that the country's comparative performance against neighbouring countries is mainly by the grace of God. President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo on March 16 appointed a 13-Member Board of Trustees to spearhead Ghana's National Cathedral.

At their inauguration at the Jubilee House, the President said the 13-member Board of Trustees will be in charge of the National Cathedral when it is completed. The members are:

1. Apostle Prof. Opoku Onyinah, former Chairman of the Church of Pentecost – Chairperson
2. Archbishop Charles Gabriel Palmer-Buckle, Metropolitan Catholic Archbishop, Cape Coast – Vice Chairman
3. Most Rev. Bishop Justice Ofei Akrofi, Anglican Archbishop Emeritus – Member
4. Rt. Rev. Prof. Emmanuel Martey, former Moderator of the Presbyterian Church – Member
5. Most Rev T. K. Awotwi Pratt, Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church – Member

6. Rev Prof Cephas Omenyo, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church – Member

7. Pastor Mensa Otabil, General Overseer of International Central Gospel Church – Member

8. Archbishop Nicholas Duncan-Williams, Presiding Archbishop and General Overseer of Action Chapel International – Member

9. Rev Dr Joyce Aryee, Executive Director, Salt and Light Ministries – Member

10. Bishop Dag Heward-Mills, Presiding Bishop, Lighthouse Group of Churches – Member

11. Rev Eastwood Anaba, Founder and President of Eastwood Anaba Ministries – Member

12. Rev Victor Kusi-Boateng, Founder of Power Chapel Worldwide – Member/Secretary

13. Rev Dr Frimpong Manso, General Superintendent, Assemblies of God – Member

At the National Cathedral Secretariat, there is an appointed Executive Director known as Dr. Paul Opoku-Mensah with two (2) representatives of the United States.

However, in August 2022 Bishop Dag Heward-Mills resigned as a member of the trustee.

Details Of Debt Exchange Programme Were Not Known To Parliament – Majority Leader



Osei Kyei-Mensah-Bonsu, Majority Leader of Parliament

The Majority Leader of Parliament, Osei Kyei-Mensah has stated that the legislature had little to no details about the government's Debt Exchange programme prior to its implementation.

According to the majority leader,

they had no details beyond some broad discussions about the general state of the economy and with no specific details about the programme.

"There were meetings before the budget came to be consummated and later on presented by the Finance Minister. So we had broad discussions, but the details were not known to us at the time, but some consultations went on as to where exactly we were as a nation. But I am not too sure that this matter came up for discussion maybe the broad strokes were

mentioned but not the details," the Suame MP is quoted in a report by Citenewsroom.com. The government of Ghana in pursuit, of a \$3 million dollar IMF loan, is seeking to manage the country's debt, announced the programme which seeks to cause variations in the terms of existing coupons.

However, there have been concerns about the programme with some critics complaining about the government's failure to consult broadly prior to its implementation.

Meanwhile, a group made up of individual government bondholders have petitioned parliament to intervene in their call on government to exclude individual bondholders from the debt exchange programme.

Receiving their petition in parliament last week, the Majority Leader of the House, Osei Kyei-Mensa-Bonsu noted that the programme has the potential to wipe out Ghana's middle class.

"What we talking about is that

many of these bondholders also belong to the middle class and that's where the major worry is...If we are wiping away the middle class that could be dangerous, so we need to have some further dialogue on this. I'm not sure government takes interest and joy in suppressing anyone no government will have any joy in doing that," he said.

Thousands Protest Against Tunisian President's Seizure Of Near Total Power



Tunisian president, Kais Saied

Thousands of protesters in central Tunis over the weekend marched against the seizure of near total power by the Tunisian president, Kais Saied, demanding he steps down as they marked the anniversary of a key date in the 2011 revolution that brought democracy.

The central Habib Bourguiba avenue, the traditional site for major demonstrations, was crowded with thousands of protesters waving Tunisian flags, amid chants of “the people demand the fall of the regime”.

A heavy police presence

remained outside the interior ministry building on the street, along with water cannon.

“Tunisia is going through the most dangerous time in its history. Saied took control of all authority and struck at democracy. The economy is collapsing. We will not be silent,” said Said Anouar Ali, a 34-year-old demonstrator. Protesters had pushed past police and metal barricades to reach the avenue, defying initial efforts by the authorities to keep separate several parallel protests that had been called by different political parties and civil society

organisations. “We were on Bourguiba in January 2011 when Saied was not present ... today, he is closing Bourguiba to us. We will reach it whatever the price,” said Chaima Issa, an activist who took part in the 2011 revolution before the crowd pushed through the barriers. Another major opposition political party, aligned with the pre-revolution autocracy, held a separate rally in central Tunis after it was banned from marching near the presidential palace in Carthage.

Saied shut down the elected parliament in 2021 and began to reshape the political system, but low turnout for December's election of a new, mostly powerless, legislature revealed little public appetite for his changes.

Meanwhile, the economy is failing, with staple goods disappearing from shelves, and the government has not yet been able to secure an international bailout with state finances facing bankruptcy. The main political forces, including most parties and the

labour union, oppose Saied's project, with many of them calling it an anti-democratic coup.

However, they have failed to repair deep ideological and personal fissures that divided them for years rather than forming a united front. Many parties still reject a role for the biggest party, the Islamist Ennahda. The powerful UGTT labour union seeks a national dialogue but will not invite any party that accuses Saied of a coup. The protests come 12 years to the day after the ousting of former autocrat, Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, and 14 January is seen by most

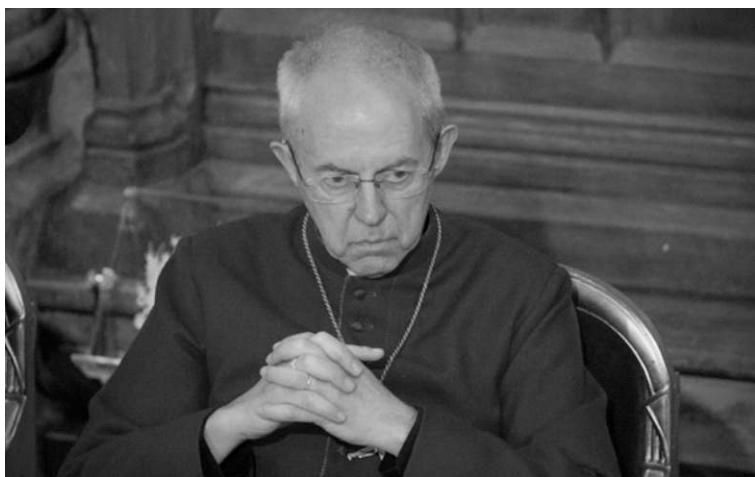
Tunisian parties and civil society groups as the anniversary of the revolution. However, Saied unilaterally changed the official anniversary date and has said he regards 14 January as a moment when the revolution went astray.

While there has been no major crackdown on opponents of Saied, and police have allowed most protests against him, their handling of demonstrations on 14 January last year was more forceful, prompting condemnation from rights activists.



Protests on 14 January come 12 years to the day of the 2011 uprising. Photograph: Mohamed Messara/EPA

The Church Of England Spending £100 Million On An Apology Fund Is A Shameful Waste



Justin Welby

Anglican parishioners and clergy who have lamented the decline of church infrastructure on cost

grounds will be perplexed to discover that £100 million has been [found](#) for a fund to atone for the “past wrongs of slavery”. The sum was

announced by Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury, after a commission investigating Church investments concluded that some of the institution's wealth was accumulated after initial investments with the South Sea Company. At the time, it traded in slaves.

We are talking about the early 18th century and it can have come as no surprise, surely, to anyone that this appalling activity took place then. Indeed, stalwarts of the Christian faith such as William Wilberforce were in

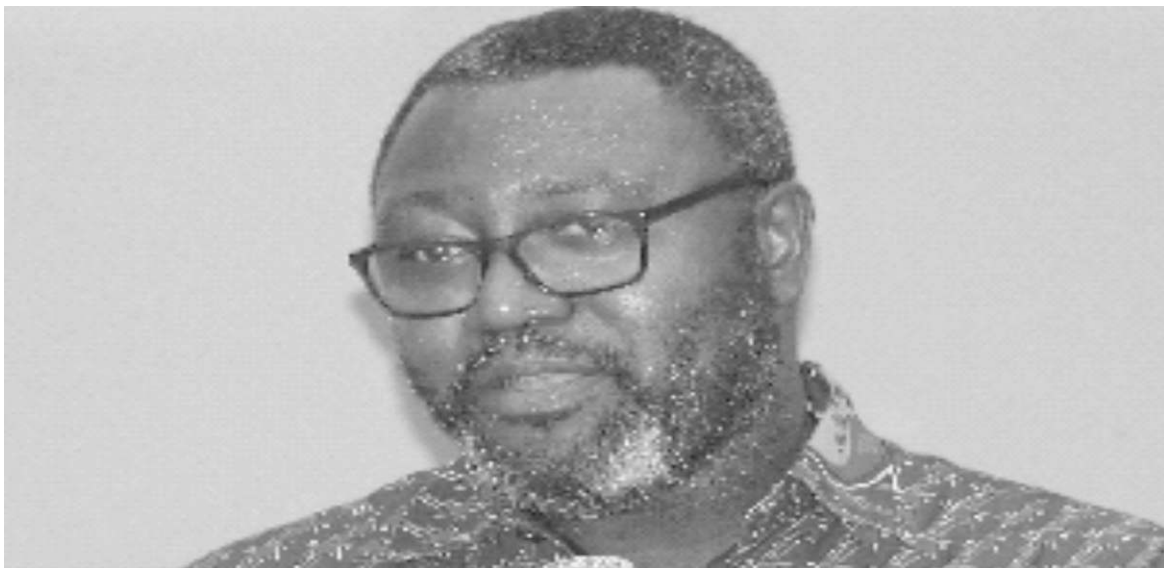
the vanguard of the campaign to bring about its demise. This is not a revelation uncovered only in recent times, so why has the current Archbishop taken it upon himself to offer such a sum at a time of financial difficulties? The Archbishop insisted that “it is now time to take action to address our shameful past”. But why is it? This has become a political imperative for so-called “progressives” only in the past few years in response to the Black Lives Matter movement. Nobody suggests today that slavery was anything other than a

grotesque and dehumanising condition dating back thousands of years. The fund is to pay for a programme of “investment, research and engagement” and to “help communities affected by historic slavery”. How will this be decided? Church leaders would do better by directing resources at [present-day problems](#) such as homelessness instead of seeking to atone for past activity for which they were not responsible and which they cannot change.

[Source -- TELEGRAPH VIEW](#)

NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

Heward-Mills Laments Over US\$30M Spent On Massive Pit



Dr. Paul Opoku-Mensah

from page 7

Parliament resumes for the Honourable Minister for Foreign Affairs to inform Ghanaians why Rev. Victor Kusi-Boateng qualified for a diplomatic passport and the nature of due diligence, if any her ministry may have carried out;

3. I also intend to file an urgent question for the Finance Minister on exactly what work JNS did to warrant a colossal transfer of GHS3.5million from our taxes and why that transaction did not find expression in his GHS339million unconstitutional cathedral withdrawals as presented to the Vote of Censure Committee.

I have always known Rev Kusi Boateng as Adu Gyamfi – National Cathedral

Dr. Paul Opoku-Mensah, who is in charge of the National Cathedral project, has said he has always known Rev. Victor Kusi Boateng as Adu Gyamfi. Dr. Opoku-Mensah says that's the home name of the person who started the Power Chapel Worldwide.

Dr. Opoku-Mensah said on Accra's Asaase Radio that the names shouldn't be a problem. He said a Supreme Court decision says that a person can

use both his home name and other names.

"I've always said that we respect his desire for accountability and welcome the investigation. It's important that a question of this kind be done in a fair way," he said.

This is because North Tongu MP Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa said some bad things about the man of God, who is also the Executive Secretary of the project's Board of Trustees. The lawmaker has said Rev. Kusi-Boateng is doing illegal things because he has two names and multiple passports with different birth dates. In a previous expose, Mr. Ablakwa said the National Cathedral Secretariat sent GHS2.6 million in cash to a company called JNS Talent Centre Limited for work that was never done.

He said that Johannes Eshun, Sheila Eshun, and Kwabena Adu Gyamfi were in charge of the company.

In a related post on Facebook on Monday, he said that Kwabena Adu Gyamfi doesn't exist.

He thinks that Rev. Victor Kusi-Boateng made up Kwabena Adu Gyamfi and that the two are the same person. This is

why he needs to step down and may be prosecuted. But the CEO has said that there is nothing illegal going on.

He also said, "He [Okudzeto] sent it to CHRAJ, so we will find out the details."

Okudzeto Ablakwa drags Rev. Kusi Boateng to CHRAJ over payment of GH¢2.6m Cathedral money

Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa, the Member of Parliament for North Tongu has followed through with his promise of petitioning the Commission of Human Right and Administrative Justice to investigate the secretary of the Board of Trustees of the National Cathedral, Reverend Victor Kusi Boateng.

Okudzeto Ablakwa in a damning set of allegations promised to haul the founder of the Power Chapel Worldwide before CHRAJ for probe into the suspected conflict of interest in payment of some GH¢2.6million to JNS Talent Centre, a firm allegedly owned by Reverend Kusi Boateng.

In a post on Facebook on Monday, January 16, 2022, Okudzeto Ablakwa confirmed that he has petitioned CHRAJ

to look into Reverend Kusi Boateng's role as secretary to the cathedral board and his ownership of JNS Talent Centre.

"As promised, CHRAJ successfully petitioned on the Rev. Victor Kusi Boateng AKA Kwabena Adu Gyamfi mother of all cathedral scandals. The blasphemous heist must stop," he shared.

In the early hours of Monday, Okudzeto Ablakwa released some explosive allegations against Reverend Kusi Boateng.

In an explosive set of allegations which he describes as the Tsar Bomba of all scandals, Ablakwa claimed that Reverend Kusi Boateng holds multiple passports and identification cards with some bearing the name Kwabena Adu Gyamfi.

"You will recall that in my earlier exposé of the scandalous GH¢2.6million cash transfer from the National Cathedral Secretariat to JNS Talent Centre Limited, I pointed out that incorporation documents reveal that the three directors of JNS Talent Centre Limited are Johannes Eshun, Sheila Eshun and Kwabena Adu Gyamfi.

"I also later revealed that Rev. Johannes Eshun is a branch pastor of National Cathedral Executive Council Member/Director, Rev. Victor Kusi-Boateng's Power Chapel Worldwide.

"Hitherto, the third director—Mr. Kwabena Adu Gyamfi has remained a mystery figure.

"I am now able to reveal the true identity of this mystery director of JNS, Kwabena Adu Gyamfi.

"Definitely, the code has finally been cracked and it shocks to the marrow!

"Unimpeachable and incontrovertible evidence confirms that Mr. Kwabena Adu Gyamfi is the famous Rev. Victor Kusi Boateng who still serves on the National Cathedral Board as an Executive Council Member/Director.

"For the avoidance of doubt, there is no distinct Kwabena Adu Gyamfi. Kwabena Adu Gyamfi is a criminal creation of Rev. Victor Kusi-Boateng. The two are therefore one and the same.

"Rev. Victor Kusi-Boateng AKA Kwabena Adu Gyamfi thought he had outwitted every Ghanaian, particularly our authorities whom he dribbled for many years; but the day of reckoning is finally here.

"From unassailable and irreproachable documents in my possession, Rev. Victor Kusi-Boateng AKA Kwabena Adu Gyamfi uses multiple passports and multiple identification cards with different names and different dates of birth as his special modus operandi," he wrote on Facebook.

Ablakwa also detailed how Reverend Kusi Boateng allegedly used a document with the Kwabena Adu Gyamfi to register his firm, JNS Talent Centre Limited.

"When JNS Talent Centre Limited was being incorporated, he submitted a passport with the name Kwabena Adu Gyamfi. The passport's number is G0886001. At the time, he claimed his date of birth was 30th December, 1969.

"Instructively, the passport bears his unmistakable picture. (See passport in issue attached)," he wrote.

Ablakwa is therefore demanding the immediate resignation of Reverend Kusi Boateng from the National Cathedral board and his prosecution.