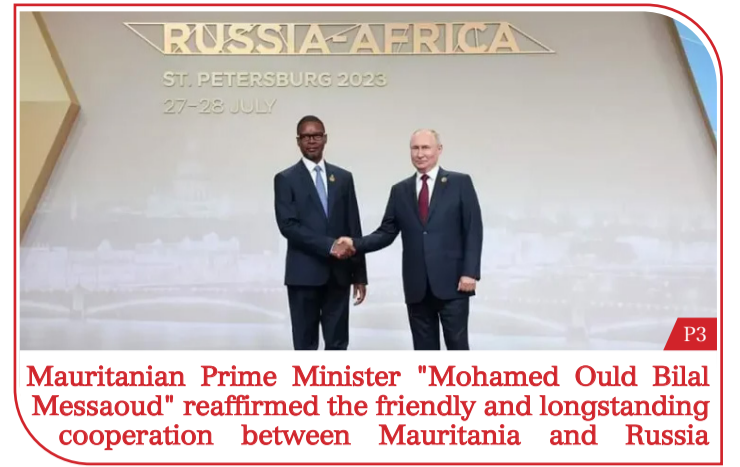


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MAURITANIA'S ONLY ENGLISH-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER

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Ambassador Kierscht's Independence Day Remarks



July 4

Dear Ministers, and members of the government delegation,
Fellow members of the diplomatic corps,
Friends from the business community, civil society and the government,
Alumni,
Members of the media,
Ladies and gentlemen, honored guests.

Good evening. I am honored to welcome you, on behalf of President Joe Biden and our entire Embassy community, to this

celebration of the 247th anniversary of America's Independence.

The 4th of July is the most American of our holidays. It marks the day our Declaration of Independence was adopted in 1776, making the U.S. a united, free and independent nation. Americans to this day celebrate the occasion with parades, concerts, fireworks, and family gatherings, much as we are doing together tonight.

But like every national day, underneath all the celebration, there is a great deal of meaning and historical significance that we want to remember and honor.

This evening, we come together as Americans and Mauritians, friends and partners, working together towards our common, shared goals. In the US, like here Mauritania, people are celebrating the principles of democracy and freedom. And we celebrate, as President Lincoln so eloquently noted, "government of the people, by the people, for the people." P2

Mauritania: Working to Provide Necessary Conditions for Mali's Return to the G5 P2

The Eye of the Desert : The Most Extraordinary Natural Phenomena in the World



"The Eye of the Desert" stands as a remarkable enigma on Earth, captivating geologists with its mesmerizing geological formation, which continues to baffle them to this day. Situated in Mauritania, near the ancient city of "Ouadane," this intriguing phenomenon was discovered by the French researcher, Theodore Monod, in the 1930s, and its diameter is estimated to be around 30 miles.

31st Summer Edition of Fisu World University Games



Mauritanian Celebrities

The Star Bessam: The all-time top scorer of the national team



International Conference on Migration and Development



Rome 2023

President Mohamed Ould Ghazouani arrives in Rome to participate in the Migration and Development Conference.

This Sunday morning, President Mohamed Ould Ghazouani arrived in the Italian capital, Rome, to participate in the international conference on migration and development, which is scheduled to take place today.

The conference, chaired by Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, includes the participation of heads of states, governments, and organizations from the Mediterranean region, the Middle East, and Africa.

Among the conference's objectives is to assist African countries in reducing migration incentives to Europe, as well as building partnerships to establish projects in sectors such as agriculture, infrastructure, and health, according to a statement issued by the Italian government.

The Key's Exclusive Interview with Mr. Bobakar Mohamed Mahmoud, the Alumni and Mayor of Tenaha Municipality in the province of Kankossa (Assaba)



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As we all know, Democracy is messy at times. It is infinitely flawed, and far from perfect. But in the end, it is the one form of government that ensures all voices are heard and that we work together for the good of all, rather than just the narrow interests of the few.

And here in Mauritania, together with our Mauritanian partners, we are doing just that, working for the good of all and I am pleased to say that we have seen many achievements and advances in our relationship towards that goal over the past year.

First and foremost, I would like to congratulate the Mauritanian government and civil society on the advances made to improve the situation in trafficking in persons through prosecuting perpetrators and assisting victims over the past year. I applaud these efforts and urge the government and civil society to continue working together to end trafficking in persons and hereditary slavery once and for all.

For more than a decade, Mauritania has served as a generous host to 90,000 Malian refugees who have fled their homes in search of stability. The US has contributed millions of dollars in

assistance, but Mauritania has provided this welcoming refuge, for which the international community is grateful.

Mauritania has also taken a strong stand in support of the rules-based international order and we thank the government for its actions and votes in the UN General Assembly regarding the international community's support for Ukraine. We remain united in our call for Russia to end its unacceptable and unjust war.

Our economic partnership also continues to grow. A special congratulations to Mauritania on being selected for the Millennium Challenge Corporation's threshold program – a significant boost for reform efforts that has the potential to unleash economic and development opportunities for decades to come.

At the same time, we will continue to work to increase trade and investment between our countries, and I note that we don't undertake these efforts alone. Thank you to the US-Mauritania Business Council for your collaboration.

Our security cooperation remains robust. We welcome Mauritania's leadership role to combat violent extremism, and opportunities to enhance our military partnership. In recent months, US and Mauritanian Special Forces conducted important training events; and the US Coast Guard worked with the Mauritania Coast Guard to confront illegal, unregulated, and unreported fishing.

And the U.S. Anti-Terrorism Assistance teams continue to train with the Gendarmerie on crisis response and other law enforcement activities to better protect us all.

Some of my favorite programs focus on the people to people aspect of our bilateral relationship. Our commitment to youth and economic development remains a priority, and USAID's Tamkeen and Nafoore programs continue to train hundreds of young people on how to effectively engage in their communities and build economic opportunities.

In addition, the Embassy continues to offer highly motivated Mauritanian students and young professionals with opportunities to train and study in the US through a variety of programs. These programs are among my favorites, because of their investment in Mauritania's future. Our alumni include imams, mayors, wali, professors, businesspeople, entrepreneurs, and human rights activists.

One highlight for me this past year was meeting the young football players who went on a three-week exchange to the U.S., many of whom are here with us tonight. Those five young women came

back speaking English, and filled with confidence to play the sport they love. They know that the American Embassy supports women and girls to follow their dreams and become athletes, doctors, Ministers, professors, or whatever profession they aspire to. Please join me in recognizing these young women for their already impressive contributions to their country as they proudly represented Mauritania in the United States.

Another highlight of the past year was the robust participation of the Mauritanian government at the US-Africa Leaders Summit in December, and the progress made over the last six months in implementing the initiatives that came out of the Summit. As President Biden said, we are "all in" on Africa, on the business and economic front – accelerating our engagement to promote trade and investment, as well as the focus on Africa's youth, and bolstering African resilience to the impacts of climate change.

As a testament to the progress Mauritania has made of late, Mauritania was also invited – for the first time – to the Summit for Democracy, co-hosted by the United States. At the Summit for Democracy, the US, Mauritania, and 120 other nations demonstrated to global audiences how we are working together to deliver for citizens, and organizing to address the world's most pressing challenges.

In all these endeavors, the United States acts first and foremost in partnership with Mauritania. Tonight, I give my thanks to our Mauritanian partners from all walks of life – government, civil society, media, private sector, and everyday citizens – for their enthusiasm and efforts in working together every day to achieve our shared goals and confront global challenges.

And finally, I need to thank everyone who came together to make this night possible. Our talented musicians from Burn the Ballroom came from Washington, DC to play for us this evening; sponsors KOSMOS, US-Mauritania Business Council, and SOBOMA; and a special thanks also to the Embassy staff who worked months on making tonight happen, in particular, Heidi Sierra, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Joshua Parker, Sarah Benchiba, our entire management, general services, facilities, security and public affairs teams. Let's give them a round of applause.

In closing, M. Minister, I thank you, and the entire delegation here this evening for celebrating democracy with us, on our national day. I thank you for our countries' great friendship, and I commend our shared vision, and our bright future.

Thank you, remerciement, shukran.

Chess in Mauritania



Champion of Mauritania in chess Abderrahim Taleb Mohamed, achieved first place in the two tournaments for under 18 in the Francophone countries, "Classical Chess and Rapid Chess".

Taleb received the prize of the under 18 tournament champion from the President of the International Chess Federation for French-speaking countries.

Mauritania: Gold Sales Reached 39 Billion Old Ouguiyas during 2023

Mohamed Vall Ould Belal, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of "Mauritanian Mining Company," stated that Mauritania's gold sales in the first half of 2023 reached 39 billion old Ouguiyas.

Belal explained in a Facebook post that the national investment in the semi-industrial mining sector amounted to 21 billion old Ouguiyas.

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of "Mauritanian Mining Company" added that the company operates with 20 companies, providing 50,000 direct job opportunities and 200,000 indirect job opportunities.

Belal affirmed that the company possesses self-balances reaching approximately 5 billion old Ouguiyas in commercial banks, as well as hundreds of millions of Ouguiyas from gold sales in its account at the Central Bank, "strengthening and stabilizing our national currency," as he expressed.

New York: "Mint Abd Al-Malik" participates in the opening of a high-level political forum

The President of the Nouakchott region, Fatima Abd Al-Malik, emphasized the need to correct this path by involving cities, local and regional governments in order to make use of the remaining short period to achieve the 2030 vision. Her speech took place on 23/07/23 during the opening of the high-level political forum at the United Nations headquarters in New York, which is a precursor to the global summit on sustainable development goals. The President of the Nouakchott region, as the representative of global local and regional governments,

delivered a speech at the opening of the 6th Annual Meeting of Local and Regional Assemblies, in which she outlined the path to achieving sustainable development goals and highlighted the main obstacles and challenges.

She emphasized the importance of multi-level governance in implementing sustainable development goals and called for the involvement of all stakeholders, including central, local, and regional authorities, as well as civil society organizations. She presented examples of the positive outcomes of this multi-stakeholder governance through urban agriculture projects and projects aimed at improving access to drinking water in peripheral neighborhoods of Nouakchott.

Mauritania: Dispatching Missions to Census Populations in 106 Municipalities

The Ministry of Interior launched missions on Tuesday tasked with registering citizens who have not yet been included in the biometric national population registry in 106 municipalities. These municipalities do not have civil status centers in the regions of Hodh El Gharbi, Hodh Ech Chargui, Assaba, Gorgol, Guidimaka, and Brakna.

The ministry confirmed that the campaign, which will continue for six months, aims to complete the process of enumerating citizens before the end of the current year by "simplifying procedures and bringing services closer to citizens in rural municipalities that are not connected to the network."

The minister emphasized that this process, which will enable all citizens to access registration in the national population registry, will also lead to the closure of the national population registry and certified documents at the end of the current year, exclusively opening it for newborns.

The Second Russia-Africa Summit

Mauritanian Prime Minister "Mohamed Ould Bilal Messaoud" reaffirmed the friendly and longstanding cooperation between Mauritania and Russia, particularly in fishing, higher education, scientific research, and training, all while considering common interests. He stressed Mauritania's commitment to peaceful conflict resolution based on international law, taking into account the concerns and interests of all parties, with a focus on establishing lasting stability and security in regions like Ukraine, Sudan, Yemen, Libya, and other conflict areas.

The Prime Minister also highlighted the significance of the second Russian-African Summit amid global security, economic, and environmental challenges, as a strong indication of the strong relationship between the Russian

Federation and African countries. Both sides expressed genuine determination to strengthen the relationship for their mutual interests and to contribute to sustainable development, peace, and international security. This statement was made on July 28, 2024, during the opening session of the Russian-African Forum.

Regarding the absence of President "Mohamed Ould Cheikh Ghazouani" from the second edition of the Russia-Africa Summit, which took place on July 23, 2023, in Saint Petersburg, it was due to urgent circumstances. President Ghazouani had initially intended to attend the summit, just as he did during its first edition in October 2019 in Sochi.

A Caravan against Human Trafficking



On Thursday, July 27, Ibrahim Bilal, the President of the Sahel Foundation (also the President of the Guidance and Monitoring Council of the National Commission to Combat Human Trafficking and Migration), participated in an awareness-raising caravan about anti-human trafficking laws. It is worth mentioning that the Commission highly values the report of the U.S. Department of State, which praised the official progress made in the human rights file in Mauritania and the reassessment of Mauritania by international partners.

Mauritania: Working on Providing Necessary Conditions for Mali's Return to the G5

The Mauritanian government stated that it will focus on developing the necessary conditions for Mali's future reintegration into the G5 organization, "in line with the President's speech at the extraordinary summit in Niamey."

The government added that among the road map items it announced to relaunch the group's activities is the normalization of relations between Mali and Burkina Faso with key partners in the Sahel region, as part of normalizing and calming the relations among member states and alliance partners.

One of the objectives of the road map announced by Mauritania (which currently chairs the group) is to enhance the capabilities of defense and security entities to combat insecurity in the Sahel and improve the conditions for sustainable development of the region's population.

From The Key Archive

After two years of English-language publication in Mauritania, The Key staff has decided to dedicate page number four out of the newspaper content to republish the outstanding articles that deserve to be republished.

The Life of Women in the Countryside Vs the Capital



Women have always had a significant role in Mauritanian society. They are backbones of families, workers of various trades, and voices for numerous causes. While females in every region of Mauritania share many similarities, there are also obvious differences between those in the countryside and those in the capital. In the countryside, life is more traditional. While new technologies and modern infrastructure take over, tradition is still the cornerstone of life. The life is slower, less economically prosperous, and access to good education is minimal. This creates limited opportunities for females in the countryside. Most females attend school, but most do not continue past secondary school due to a school's distance from home, financial difficulty, or early marriage. They are taught how to run a household and are obligated to family traditional expectations that men provide and women confine themselves to domestic responsibilities. Many females never step out of their villages, which limits their knowledge and understanding of the world around them.

These days, women in the countryside do operate boutiques and work together in cooperatives, which helps bring in money for their families and also teaches the women about business and trades. In the countryside there can be limited access to goods or services to replenish their supplies, however, having a business allows women an outlet to participate and to be more independent in their communities. In the capital, life is a mix of traditional and modern. Modern technologies, infrastructure, and access to public and private education have existed for years and are always evolving. Life is busy and wealth is abundant. Females in the capital have access to more opportunities. They have a better chance to finish school and attend university since

schools are a closer distance. More and more are even traveling outside Mauritania to continue their education, to expand their knowledge, or to work. They are not necessarily obligated to marry at such a young age. The city is more accepting of women owning businesses, taking part in governmental offices, and other jobs traditionally reserved for men. There is also more access for them to do so.

While tradition and poverty also affect many women in the capital, they do have access to more non-formal educational programs that can help them with literacy development and business training in diverse sectors. With more access to education women can provide more financial means to their families which will allow females to stay in school longer, allow them to travel and explore, whether it is outside of their villages or outside of the country, and allow them to participate more independently. While the life in the village may be quite different from that in the capital, it is important for these women to continue their path of education. This is easier said than done, especially when dealing with a dismal education system itself, but any education allows a person to grow and understand their world a little more. Already, we can see how education has allowed the Mauritanian female population to grow, defy predefined traditional limitations, become motivated to create change in their communities, and create a positive meaningful impact on their lives.

By Ms. Kristen Smolka

Comments

Creating the K.E.Y Newspaper as a way to export the true facets of the Mauritanian culture in the English language is an idea that many people who love Mauritania and the English language will surely welcome.



Daouda Diallo
Former English Language Teacher

It is my belief that the K.E.Y. will represent a reliable source of information where readers cannot only learn about other cultures, but learn about the realities of our country in all its dimensions: spiritual, cultural, linguistic most young Mauritanians have become

fully aware that English language is an undisputable means of communication. I am hopeful that this Newspaper will not only encourage our youth in their quest for knowledge and success, but it will also offer them a variety of programs and activities that promote peace and national unity. As long as you are working for these noble purposes, I will personally continue to support this initiative. So, I say well done to the team of young men and women who have had the courage to initiate this project which, I believe, will go a long way, thanks to their motivation and the support of their fellow Mauritians who share the common interest of promoting the English language in the country. I see this as a great initiative, and hope that it will spread out into other areas. Good luck on this noble endeavor!

I would like to personally congratulate the founders of this Newspaper and wish them all the best in this new adventure. This is such a great initiative, giving Mauritanians a tool to share ideas and information in English and a platform to discuss social and educational issues. What truly amazes me is the fact that these idea and project are led by a team of young Mauritanians, proving once again that our youth is full of potential and ambition.

You already made us proud by your commitment to this project and I am certain that this will be a huge success.



Houda Sidatt
HR & Office Advisor-Tullow Oil R.I.M

The history of Mauritanian Newspapers published in English language is necessarily one of isolation; the first venture of this kind of which there is any trace being Peace News, an illustration of a style of publication thoroughly tried. Being newly sprang into life, the Key Newspaper's peculiarity consists of the somewhat heterogeneous character of its content and the comingling in its pages of opinions, summaries of current events, culture, education, and sport. It is a well executed monthly paper and apparently conducted with much editorial ability. I beg to commend most heartily to the English speaking community its circulation.



Dr. El Hacem Moulaye Ahmed
Professor of English Linguistics at the Faculty of letters- University of Nouakchott Al Aasriya

Interview with Mr. Bobakar Mohamed Mahmoud, the Mayor of Tenaha Municipality in the province of Kankossa (Assaba)

1. Can you provide a brief overview about yourself?

I am Boubacar Mahmoud, a Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders Alumni, the newly elected mayor of Tenaha Municipality, a high school English language teacher with ten years of experience, the CEO and the founder of OBS which is a languages IT and vocational training institute based in Kiffa.

2. What educational stages have you reached?

Nowadays, I am working on a diploma in climate friendly travel from SUNx Malta. I have CAP in English language teaching from Teachers training school. I have got also a bachelor degree in English language and its literature from Nouakchott University.

3. You have recently participated in the Young African Leaders in the United States 2022 cohort. Tell us about your experience there and how you benefited from it?

Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders is an exchange prestigious program that provides an opportunity for sub-Saharan African leaders to meet their like-minded people, connect with each other's and refine their leadership skills at American universities through an intensive leadership program. I had been doing civic engagement track at Indian University and luckily, I had got a chance to take the institute lessons and lectures from theory into practice in American context through the Personal Development Program (PDE). During my PDE at PASS IT ON in Maryland, Baltimore, I got a real opportunity to meet ordinary American people and to work in a context that demand using my full potential leadership skills.

This experience has been positively affecting my work and my community service. I end up with friends from twenty different African countries in addition to the Americans. Those friends are experts and ready to give their views and share ideas with me in their expertise, some are lawyers, teachers, doctors, business leaders and so on

4. As the mayor of Tenaha, what challenges do you have?

The challenges are big, the will is very strong but the means are limited. Tenaha is a rural municipality located on the border with the republic of Mali. Its population depends mainly on rain-fed agriculture.

The inhabitants in the geographical area of the municipality are around 16000 people and mostly suffer from poverty, ignorance and the lack of resources. The majority, especially women have zero daily income what makes their livelihood difficult. Believe it or not, I am the first resident from the municipality to obtain baccalaureate degree, and until 2016, I was the only person with a university degree.

I run for the last election and become a mayor for this municipality in order to face these challenges and turn them into opportunities. Tenaha is still a virgin land full of tourist attraction, natural resources, and beautiful rocks and hills that have never been exploited yet.

5. As the mayor of Tenaha, what projects are you planning to enhance in the municipality?

For developing this municipality, I urgently, need to launch tenths of projects in the domains of agriculture, education and training, health, infrastructure, drinking water, and so on. I have to bring the investments and work on improving their livelihood through providing local opportunities that would increase the employability of the people and increases their daily incomes. This demands strong twinships with other municipalities, opening the door for local and foreign stockholders, orienting the interventions of international NGOs and charity organizations in order to support these endeavors. Therefore, I have opened the door and looking urgently to whoever ready to support our efforts for developing this municipality.

6. Despite Tenaha municipality being considered the trade gateway between Mali and Mauritania, this has not positively impacted the region. What is the reason behind this?

The municipality's strategic location makes it possible to be an economic hub and a successful commercial city thanks to its presence on the border with the Republic of Mali. But in fact, the city did not witness any investments that would make it play this role. The city still needs to build a measure of service infrastructure, facilitate the movement of commercial exchanges, and develop an effective plan to make it a food basket for Mali, which has no seaports. I believe that the construction of the Kankousa-Tanaha Road will contribute to accelerating the municipality's fulfillment of this role, which it is not currently playing as required.

7. What solutions will you offer to improve the level of Tenaha municipality? Among the solutions that will contribute

effectively to improving the standard of living of the municipality's residents is the provision of quality educational services, and the provision of health points with supplies, medicines, and ambulance vehicles. Supporting women's cooperatives, supporting farmers with machines and seeds, and providing sustainable job opportunities for young people by creating environmentally friendly projects.

8. Tenaha is an agricultural region. Why hasn't this been reflected in the municipality?

The population still practices farming in traditional ways, what makes their production barely sufficient for their personal needs. In order to change this situation and make agriculture at the municipal level more profitable, we will seek to introduce improved seeds and modern methods used in agriculture. We will make double efforts to obtain modern agricultural machines that make the fields more productive.

9. How will you support women in Tenaha?

Women are the cornerstone of all our development plans. Due to the traditions of society, men can do what women cannot do, which makes them more vulnerable to poverty, marginalization and exclusion. Therefore, we seek to create productive women's blocs at the village level. We will contribute to the licensing of women's cooperatives and bring them all kinds of encouragements and support in order for them to be financially independent.

10. As one of English-speaking community in Mauritania, are you planning to create some English language education center in Tenaha?

The current goal is to provide complete primary schools in major villages that meet the required standards and have all the necessary facilities and permanent staff. When we achieve this goal, the conditions will be appropriate to provide centers for languages and informatics, at least in the capital of the municipality.

11. What does this only English language newspaper at home mean to you?

This newspaper forms a bridge between English speakers and the events and transformations taking place in Mauritania, and it will have the most important role in the coming years when our country starts exporting gas and brings in more foreign companies.

Mauritanian Celebrities

The editorial team of The Key newspaper has made a significant decision to allocate a section of the newspaper in every upcoming issue to spotlight a prominent national figure from Mauritanian celebrities. In this segment, we will delve into crucial details about the life of each featured guest.

Star Bessam: The Historical Top Scorer of the National Team (18 goals)

1- Introduction

Bessam's full name is Moulay Ahmed Ould Khalil. He was born on December 5, 1987, in the city of Zouerate. He is married and a father of one child.

2- Education

He holds a diploma in accounting from the Higher Institute of Accounting, obtained in the year 2009.

3- National clubs where Star Bessam played:

- Dar Al Baraka Club
- FC Nouadhibou
- Lekssar Club

4- Countries where Star Bassam played:

- Algeria
- Libya
- Lebanon
- Tunisia
- Saudi Arabia

5- His experience with the national team:

He started his sports career with the national team in 2013 until 2022. Star Bessam is considered the all-time top scorer for the national team, having scored 18 goals.

6- Challenges facing football in Mauritania for Star Bassam:

Star Bassam mentioned that Mauritania faced several challenges that hindered the development of football in the country. Some of these challenges included:

- Lack of football academies.
- Poor conditions in which players had to train, despite their talent.
- Lack of support or investment from businessmen in this sport.
- Societal underestimation of football.

However, over time and with the arrival of the new president of the Football Federation, Ahmed Ould Yahya, there was a shift towards investing in football. Several stadiums were built in the capital, Nouakchott, and beyond, and

the players now live in better conditions that allow them to practice this sport with ease.

7- Star Bassam's aspirations:

Star Bassam aspires to develop football in Mauritania by establishing the Bassam Association to support street children and provide opportunities for those interested to reach a professional level. Additionally, one of his ambitions is to become an ambassador for humanity in a specific country.

Finally, "I want to express my gratitude to the Key newspaper for granting me this interview". Personally, "I find the opportunity to meet and converse with Mauritanian celebrities about their personal lives and diverse expertise truly valuable". Thanks

By Ms. Nouha

31st Summer Edition of Fisu World University Games



During their meeting on July 28, Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Ghazouani invited Chinese President Xi Jinping to visit Mauritania, and Xi Jinping gladly accepted. They discussed encouraging Chinese investments in strategic sectors and enhancing cooperation in agriculture, animal husbandry, health, and infrastructure projects. Additionally, they signed a framework agreement on the Belt and Road Initiative.

Population Census: Campaign for Awareness

The Sahel Foundation will organize, next month, in collaboration with the United States Embassy, the Commission for Human Rights and Humanitarian Work, a caravan for mobilization and awareness to encourage registration. This caravan will cover the three eastern states and the Guidimaka region. The Sahel Foundation extends an invitation



to all philanthropists and public activists to participate in this mobilization so that no Mauritanian remains without proper identification papers.

It is worth noting that the government has decided to close the population registry by the end of this current year. There could be many affected individuals if awareness is not widespread and the mobilization efforts do not intensify to encourage registration before the registry's closure. This situation will have repercussions not only on the most vulnerable groups but also particularly on the education of children from these areas, as they might find themselves excluded from schools due to the absence of civil status documentation.

Ould Al-Loud: The Situation in Mauritania has Become Difficult, and the Youth have Lost Hope

Ould Al-Loud, the representative of Mauritanians in America, stated that the situation in Mauritania has become challenging, and he added that migration continues to the United States, Europe, and Gulf countries.

During a government program discussion session, Al-Loud emphasized that hundreds of young people are being detained in the United States and need financial support and lawyers, as the situation exceeds their capacities.

Al-Loud further explained that the migrants to the United States "do not seek only the American dream, but they are also fleeing the Mauritanian hell," asserting that they have lost hope in being included due to what he called "the government's insistence on recycling former ministers."

The representative pointed out that migration has created challenges that the government does not seem to care about, as evident from the program presented by the Prime Minister.

A Brief Snapshot of My Story with America's Political Media



Since 2016, I have been actively following American politics. My journey began with Senator Bernie Sanders, an icon of the American Left. I was inspired by his passionate advocacy for labor and immigration rights, and his stand against xenophobic rhetoric. I spent countless hours watching and listening to his interviews and speeches, which helped me to gain a solid understanding of left-wing political views.

Later on, I broadened my political scope to include other Democratic Party leaders, particularly moderates, such as former Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, current President Joe Biden, current Majority Leader in the Senate Senator Chuck Schumer, former President Barack Obama, and Representative Adam Schiff. Through this, I was able to gain a firm grasp of liberal values and become familiar with debates in the Democratic Party.

During those years, I was not aware of the other side of the political spectrum – the Republicans – because I only followed CNN as my media source. However, I witnessed the heated public exchanges between Democrats and Republicans during Trump's presidency.

I diligently followed the proceedings of Trump's impeachment and was inspired by the idea of checks and balances that reflect the nature of the American system. The concept of impeachment, a measure created by the founding fathers of the United States, provides an inspirational example of how a democracy can correct its flaws. The way members of Congress conducted the impeachment hearing process was exceptional, with detailed depositions lasting weeks before voting by representatives.

The differences between Democrats and Republicans were obvious, but they were restrained by a national consensus that believes in the ruling power of the American Constitution, democratic values, and an impartial judicial system.

However, the storming of the United States Capitol in January 2021 widened

the gap between the American people. This event prompted me to become more interested in following the other side's political views represented by conservatives and the Republican Party. I followed interviews and speeches of the most prominent Republican Party members, such as the current Minority Leader in the Senate, Senator Mitch McConnell, the current Speaker of the House, Kevin McCarthy, former Vice President Mike Pence, the current governor of Florida, Ron DeSantis, and the current chairman of House Judiciary Committee, Jim Jordan. As a result, I gained a basic understanding of right-wing political views.

Now, I can confidently say that I have become aware of both sides of the political spectrum, and it is easier for me to notice the differences in political ideologies. When discussing Republicans, I must mention the MAGA movement or Trump supporters, who now form the core base of the Republican Party.

It is essential for anyone seeking to understand the American political system to seek out both sides of the debate. Americans hold a diverse range of political views, and the ideas espoused on any one news channel usually speak to only a small portion of the electorate. By seeking out diverse viewpoints both in the United States and here in Mauritania, we can gain a more balanced, nuanced, and sympathetic view of the democratic process.

By Saadna El Wavi

Government: Tuk-tuk drivers do not know the law and have caused several accidents

Government spokesperson Nani Ould Echrouka stated, "Tuk-tuk vehicles do not meet safety requirements, their drivers do not possess driving licenses, and they lack knowledge of traffic laws, which has led to numerous traffic accidents." He further emphasized during the government's press conference that the ban on these vehicles from operating in the capital, Nouakchott, "is aimed at ensuring the safety of citizens and alleviating traffic congestion."

Ould Echrouka added that the decision was made while waiting for a framework to be established to regulate these vehicles in terms of classification and define the licenses required for driving them.

He mentioned that this project is being developed by the Ministry of Transport in collaboration with vehicle owners and relevant sectors.

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