

**SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE  
OUTREACH AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**



The abandoned 'thoroughfare' of the SCSL.

**PRESS CLIPPINGS**

**Enclosed are clippings of local and international press on the Special Court and related issues obtained by the Outreach and Public Affairs Office**

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Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.  
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact  
Martin Royston-Wright  
Ext 7217

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Cocorioko

Friday, 8 April 2011

## Coming back from the brink in Sierra Leone: A Case of Selective Amnesia



By Karamoh Kabba

Former President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah of Sierra Leone has written a beautifully bound 359-page volume entitled *Coming Back from the Brink in Sierra Leone*, a must read for every Sierra Leonean alive for obvious reasons. For once, President Kabbah can now be credited for modesty with words. For those who are old enough to go down memory lane with me, he had actually plunged on the jagged edge. He is phoenix – he is rising up from the ashes.

And for those unaffected civil-war persons in search of the history of Sierra Leone's recent past, the former president of Sierra Leone has written a perfect book of choice that is bound to ignite the curiosity of an attentive reader and/or the attention of a curious scholar.

Indeed, the work is a recount of courage, resilience and steadfastness of the man who has been indisputably credited for coordinating the peace the war weary population and warring factions were ready to achieve in Sierra Leone.

Coming back from the brink in Sierra Leone is not achieved without the self-praise for courage, some obvious amount of forgetfulness and verbatim, gross over-burdensomeness of the narrative with legal materials and speeches already in the public domain.

And President Kabbah does not conjure the readers' emotion when he refers to himself as being "courageous". In the opening paragraph of the book he writes that he "... entered the world with a clasped left-hand containing what was thought to be a piece of paper with an Arabic inscription." In the second paragraph, he aggrandizes himself with an effort of proving the truthfulness of the story of his birth when he states "Incidentally, I am left-handed."

But we know too well, according to the Holy Bible and the Holy Quran that God spoke to only two prophets, Abraham and Moses. We know not that we had lost the opportunity of celebrating the birth of a prophet in Sierra Leone, Kailahun District, in Pendembu Township named Ahmad Tejan Kabbah. Intriguingly, President Kabbah ends his memoir by stating in the last chapter that a maraboutic scholar had prophesied his Presidency, specifically his war-time presidency, in 1940.

Nevertheless President Kabbah is right on the money in his wisdom in drawing our attention to the words of John Perkins of the *Confessions of the Economic Hit Man* fame: "Economic hit men (EHM) are highly paid professionals who cheat countries around the globe out of trillions of dollars. They funnel money from the World Bank, the USAID and other foreign 'aid' organizations into the coffers of huge corporations and the pockets of a few wealthy families who control the planet's natural resources."

President Kabbah writes: "Specific projects such as the Governance Reform Programme, the Justice Sector Reform Project and the Sierra Leone Security Sector Reform Programme had their project implementation units detached from the public service and DFID-recruited experts attached to them. The fees for foreign consultants and the cost of sustaining the programme implementation units took an inordinate share of the funding for the projects." The DFID-tormented President further reveals how his "government was often blamed for implementation problems stemming from such arrangement." He further recounts that a DFID official, the Deputy Commissioner of the Anti-Corruption Commission, who was being investigated for corruption "claimed diplomatic immunity under the Geneva Convention."

While the DFID exposé makes a commodious good-sense read, the former president demonstrates copiously, a pathological case of forgetfulness when he falls short of shedding light on the critiques in scholarly publications, international reviews and mainstream newspapers locally and around the world his presidency attracted about other issues such as his connection with covert operations, deceptions and sometimes blatant lies in his quest for peace.

Top scholars have traced activities as far back as in the 80s when top grounded opposition leaders and rebel army were linked at the embryonic stage of the civil conflict with the aim of resurrecting the SLPP at all cost. It is believed that the rebel movement started with their active participation in the guise of PANAFU movement. Their strategy was incitement of students into demonstration against the then APC government. Some of these students were known to have ended up in Ghana enroot to Libya. Until now, there was a dearth of reliable information on those who went underground then, but we know a lot about those who were busy with the resurrection of the SLPP by any means necessary.

A briefing published by research group African Analysis International, written by Ibrahim Bangoura and Nhinson Williams titled, “Sierra Leone: The Pre And Post War Overview; A Combination Of Tragedy, Threat And Insecurity,” sheds some light in the subject:

“Outstanding opposition figures both in and outside of Sierra Leone then were in for a change of regime in the country at all cost so that they too could participate in the dividend of the aftermath political equation. Obviously, that became real after the NPRC’s rule. Current president Ahmed Tejan Kabbah, Lawyer Solomon Berewa, Dr. Joe Demby, Dr. Abass Bundu, Hon. John Kerefa Smart and Chief Hinga Norman were all amongst a long list of those who had this impulse and wished the change so dearly.”

In 1998, President Kabbah wrote an article for the *Daily Mirror* in London denying an allegation that he used mercenaries provided by Sandline International and trafficked weapons to the Civil Defense Forces through the same source: “My government did not use mercenaries provided by Sandline. It is true that a delivery of light weapons, arranged by a third party, was made by Sandline for the use of our Civil Defense Units. But that only occurred after the removal of the illegal regime.”

But Wayne Madsen has it differently from President Kabbah in his *Genocide and Covert Operations in Africa 1993-1999*, “On Feb. 22, 1998, Sandline, with the approval of Britain’s Foreign Office and British High Commissioner in Sierra Leone Peter Penfold, arranged to ship 30 tons of Bulgarian AK-47 rifles to Kabbah’s waiting forces in Sierra Leone.” The Nigerians of the ECOMOG (Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group) troops at Lungi Airport “seized the cargo of ammunition bound for the Kamajor local militias who were waiting to stage a counter coup against the military regime that had kicked President Kabbah out of office,” Madsen explains.

President Kabbah hardly gives two pages of his memoir to the case of Chief Sam Hinga Norman. The way Chief Norman was whisked out of Sierra Leone, only to die in the custody of the Special Court of Sierra Leone, can only be compared to the story of George Orwell’s Boxer in *Animal Farm* after the completion of the revolution. And President Kabbah writes “His arrest was another agonizing episode of my presidency. ... I could do little because we had promised the UN and other relevant bodies that we would not interfere in the work of the Special Court.”

Nonetheless, President Kabbah also writes that “they were volunteers” referring to Chief Norman and the CDF fighters. “Whatever disbursement my administration made to them was nothing more than an honorarium for subsistence,” Kabbah writes. And in spite of the total global criticism President Kabbah attracts in putting 24 persons to death for treason, he shows no remorse, instead he remains very defensive.

One last observation; was Charles Taylor a foot soldier of the Sierra Leone conflict? If not, he must have been rightfully indicted amongst many other reasons by the Special Court of Sierra Leone for his financial and other logistical support to the rebels then. Thus this means that we are yet to witness another rightful indictment by the Special Court or is it a case of selective amnesia?

## PRNewswire

Thursday, 7 April 2011

<http://www.centredaily.com/2011/04/07/2633958/the-psychology-of-war.html>

### The Psychology of War

War and its effects on soldiers and civilians is the focus of an inaugural film series to debut on April 14-17, 2011 at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, (MFA) as a collaboration between the MFA and the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology (MSPP).

Identified as "The First Annual Hollywood Scriptures Film Series", this year's theme of "The Psychology of War" represents four distinct, international, contemporary films which offer a pathway to understanding the psychology of human nature.

"Especially in these times of war eruptions on a global level, to explore the themes and psychological trauma inherent in the chaos of war seems a natural way to bring psychology and war together," explains Dr. Jill Bloom, faculty member of MSPP and a coordinator of the film series.

Each film is one hour long, followed by a conversation with the audience led by discussants who have been chosen for their expertise in the area.

Dr. Bloom and MSPP Clinical Psychology Doctoral student veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan wars invite conversation following the film "Lebanon" which takes place almost entirely inside a tank and addresses the relationship of soldiers to each other as they head into dangerous war zones.

Coleman Nee, Secretary of Veterans Services for the Commonwealth, is one of the presenters following the film "Armadillo." Representing the veteran's point of view, Secretary Nee comments, "It is important for all of us to take the time and learn about the issues facing veterans upon returning home from war. Caring for veterans is a responsibility shared by every one of us, and having a better understanding of these issues is an important step to ensuring that we are providing them with the appropriate support and resources."

Following the film "War Don Don," Rebecca Richman Cohen, producer and director of the film, will be presented with the First Annual Hugo Munsterberg Award for psychology of human nature in cinema.

Each film represents a theme and invites discussion:

**WALTZ WITH BASHIR** – Thursday, April 14, 7:30 p.m. An animated film documenting the filmmakers journey toward discovering the truth about an Israeli Army mission that left him with a loss of memory about the events.

**LEBANON** – Friday, April 15, 6 p.m. The film takes place inside a tank with four tank crew members who, motivated by fear and basic instincts of survival, desperately try not to lose themselves in the chaos of war.

**ARMADILLO** – Saturday, April 16, 1 p.m. Taking place in Helmand, Afghanistan, where the soldiers are situated to help Afghan people, as the fighting becomes more dangerous the gap widens between the soldiers and the civilian population.

**WAR DON DON** Sunday, April 17, 1 p.m. Located in the capital of Sierra Leone, in a fortified building known as the "Special Court," an alleged war criminal faces trial. The film puts international justice on trial before the world to see.

Complete information for tickets and the film series can be found on the MSPP website [www.MSPP.edu](http://www.MSPP.edu) or [www.mfa.org/film](http://www.mfa.org/film).

The Ruth and Carl J. Shapiro Film Program at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, is funded by the Carl and Ruth Shapiro Family Foundation. The media sponsor is The Boston Phoenix.

About MSPP – Founded in 1974 and located in Boston, Massachusetts, the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology strives to be a preeminent school of psychology that integrates rigorous academic instruction with extensive field education and close attention to professional development. It assumes an ongoing social responsibility to create programs to educate specialists of many disciplines to meet the evolving mental health needs of society. MSPP is committed to bringing psychologists into nearly every facet of modern life through its graduate programs in Clinical, School, Counseling, Forensic, Organizational, Higher Education Student Personnel Administration, and Executive Coaching.

SOURCE Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology

Read more: <http://www.centredaily.com/2011/04/07/2633958/the-psychology-of-war.html#ixzz1IvhbRzmv>

# The Standard

Thursday, 7 April 2011

## ICC judges act on basis of evidence, says ICTR spokesman

By David Ochami

Months ago, Eldoret North MP William Ruto claimed several witnesses had been coached by the Kenya National Commission for Human Rights to implicate him in the 2007/2008 post-election violence.

Ruto's tactic has been to discredit the ICC Prosecutor Luis Moreno Ocampo by trying to demonstrate that his evidence is tainted and would lead to a politically-motivated and biased prosecution against him, a charge commonly leveled against international criminal tribunals, including the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR).

ICTR's spokesman and senior legal advisor Roland Amoussouga who helped design Kenya's Witness Protection Programme says these type of tactics can neither intimidate a prosecutor nor sway a judge.

"When a judge at an international criminal tribunal is given evidence, you are not going to intimidate them. They only look at evidence. They do not know you. If evidence is watertight, you will go down," he told a group of Kenyan civic leaders.

Amoussouga said when international investigators say they have evidence, they know what they are talking about because no prosecutor would want to make a fool of himself.

Former Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic and Liberia's Charles Taylor's used similar tactics against international courts trying them but they did not make progress.

At the ICTR, suspected masterminds of the Rwandan genocide adopted the tactic the Kenya Government appears to be taking (in challenging the jurisdiction of the ICC over the Kenyan post-poll violence) by challenging the legitimacy of the ICTR.

Before visiting the ICTR at the close of March this year, a group of councilors from Karatina were deeply engrossed on the sensational debate over the ICC investigations in Kenya.

But after being taken through ICTR procedures which are similar to those of the ICC, Councillor Christopher Kamau proclaimed: "We (now) have an idea of what will happen at the Hague," referring to the ICC and adding that if most Kenyans know what is happening, they would not be cheated.

Speaking in Arusha, Councilor Rose Wairimu admitted that most people in Kenya do not know how the law works. According to Amoussouga, international tribunals do not tolerate threats to witnesses and also provides penalties of up to five years for false testimony. Records at ICTR indicate a witness was jailed for uttering false testimony.

The official alleges that identities of witnesses under protection programmes are expunged from all records, bringing to question how Ruto claimed to have unearthed ICC witnesses across East Africa.

However, Prof Lennox Hinds, a defence lawyer at the ICTR, declares that ICTR's Witness Protection Programme is 'a joke,' alleging that the Rwandan establishment in Kigali has infiltrated and exploited it to threaten defence witnesses.

# Kenya Broadcasting Corporation

Friday, 8 April 2011

## Uhuru, Muthaura, Ali to appear at ICC

By: Margaret Kalekye/agencies,



The second group of the Ocampo six Deputy Prime Minister Uhuru Kenyatta, Francis Muthaura and Hussein Ali are due at the International Criminal Court in The Hague for their initial appearance.

The trio will appear before the three-judge bench comprising Ekaterina Trendafilova (presiding), Hans-Peter Kaul and Cuno Tarfusser at 3.30 PM Kenyan local time.

Uhuru, Head of Civil Service Francis Muthaura and former police chief Mohammed Hussein Ali who is now the Postmaster General are expected to hear charges of murder, deportation, persecutions and rape.

On Thursday, former Higher Education Minister William Ruto, former Minister for Industrialisation Henry Kosgey and radio executive Joshua Arap Sang appeared in court for the preliminary hearing.

All six are accused of crimes against humanity during the violence in which some 1,000 people died.

Some 500,000 people were driven from their homes, some of whom still remain in camps.

The court set a date of April 18 for a status hearing to establish an "adequate calendar of disclosure" before a confirmation of charges hearing on Sept. 1 after which judges need to decide whether the suspects should go to trial.

The Kenyan government has objected to the ICC proceedings, requesting judges to declare both cases inadmissible.

Kenya argues that adoption of the country's new constitution and other reforms have opened the way for it to conduct its own prosecutions for the post-election violence.

### **Tougher conditions**

But even as the three prepare to appear before the pre-trial chamber judges, ICC Prosecutor Luis Moreno Ocampo sought to have tougher conditions imposed on them.

On Wednesday, Ocampo filed an application seeking stricter conditions including a gag order, declaration of wealth and listing their addresses with the registrar of the court.

He also wants the court to order the suspects to deposit a bond commensurate with their wealth.

He further wants them to appear before the ICC every six months so that the court can verify if they have complied with the conditions set out.

In the application Ocampo is demanding that a warrant of arrest be issued against the suspects if they fail to meet the conditions or breach any of them.

The prosecutor argues that if the suspects remain free pending confirmation, adequate conditions should be imposed to guarantee that they continue to appear voluntarily and that they do not obstruct or endanger the investigation or the Court's proceedings.

## United Nations Mews

Thursday, 7 April 2011

### International Criminal Court judge warns Kenyan suspects on incitement



*International Criminal Court (ICC) Judge Ekaterina Trendafilova*

A judge at the International Criminal Court (ICC) today warned suspects accused of being involved in post-election violence in Kenya three years ago that arrest warrants could be issued against them if they instigated further unrest through inflammatory speech.

Three of six suspects – William Samoei Ruto, Henry Kiprono Kosgey and Joshua arap Sang – appeared before the ICC pre-trial chamber in The Hague for the purposes of verifying their identities and to be clearly informed of the crimes which they are alleged to have committed and of their rights under the Rome Statute that established the ICC.

“It came to the knowledge of the chamber by way of following some articles in the Kenyan newspapers that there are some movements towards retriggering the violence in the country by way of using some dangerous speeches,” said Judge Ekaterina Trendafilova, the presiding judge at today’s hearing.

“I would like to remind the suspects – and I’m not referring to anyone in particular but this is a general point to be made to all the suspects – that such type of action could be perceived as a sort of inducement which may constitute the breach of one of the conditions set out in the summonses to appear, namely, to continue committing crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court,” she said.

“Accordingly, this might prompt the chamber to replace the summonses to appear with warrants of arrest [...],” Judge Trendafilova added.

The pre-trial chamber set 1 September as the day when the ICC will begin the confirmation of charges hearing.

A confirmation of charges hearing is held to determine whether there is sufficient evidence to establish substantial grounds to believe that each suspect committed each of the crimes they are charged with. If the charges are confirmed, the pre-trial chamber commits the suspect to trial before a trial chamber.

Mr. Ruto served as Kenya’s Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology, but is currently suspended from the position, while Mr. Kosgey was Minister of Industrialization and is also suspended. Mr. Sang is a radio presenter.

The other three suspects are Francis Kirimi Muthaura, Head of the Public Service and Secretary to the Cabinet; Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance; and Mohamed Hussein Ali, who was Police Commissioner at the time of the violence.

More than 1,100 people were killed, 3,500 injured and up to 600,000 forcibly displaced in the violence that followed the December 2007 elections. There were also hundreds of rapes, possibly more, and at least 100,000 properties were destroyed in six of Kenya’s eight provinces, according to ICC Chief Prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo.

**Preventing genocide only real way to honour Rwandan victims – Ban****THE SCARS  
OF GENOCIDE  
RUN DEEP**

The only way to truly honour the memory of the more than 800,000 people who perished in Rwanda 17 years ago is to ensure that such tragedies never occur again, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said today, as the United Nations observed the annual day of remembrance of the victims of the genocide.

“Preventing genocide is a collective and individual responsibility,” Mr. Ban said in a message for the day, which is observed every year on 7 April. “Rwanda’s survivors have made us confront the ugly reality of a

preventable tragedy.”

More than 800,000 ethnic Tutsis and Hutus were murdered in the tiny African nation, mostly by machete, during a period of less than 100 days beginning in April 1994.

The Secretary-General noted that the recognition of the collective failure of the international community to come to the assistance of the people of Rwanda, and to shield the victims of the wars in the Balkans, led to the endorsement by the 2005 World Summit of the responsibility to protect.

Recent measures by the Security Council in response to the crisis in Libya, in particular the adoption of Resolutions 1970 and 1973, mark a significant step along this path, he added.

In addition, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR), the International Criminal Court (ICC) and other international courts are sending a “strong signal” that the world will not tolerate impunity for gross violations of human rights and international humanitarian law.

“My Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and the Responsibility to Protect monitor developments worldwide looking for early signs of risk. We must remain ever vigilant.”

Mr. Ban paid special tribute to the people and Government of Rwanda for the resilience and dignity they have shown in working towards national recovery and managing the trauma of the genocide.

This year’s commemoration includes a memorial ceremony to be held at UN Headquarters in New York this evening that will honour the victims, as well as the survivors, and emphasize ways in which education can help reconciliation. It will feature musical performances as well as testimony from Immaculée Ilibagiza, a survivor of the Rwandan genocide.

In addition, a student conference will be held on Friday focusing on genocide prevention and feature Francis Deng, the Secretary-General’s Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, and Clemantine Wamariya, genocide survivor and student at Yale University.

## Hirondelle News Agency

Thursday, 7 April 2011

### **Defence of former minister Nzabonimana "officially" closed**

The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) declared on Thursday that the defence case of former minister of Youth Callixte Nzabonimana was officially closed, at the exception of the hearing of two French witnesses which identity was not disclosed.

If they appear in court, the two French would testify about the presence of the accused at the French embassy in Kigali between April 7 and 11, 1994.

Nzabonimana is facing five charges of genocide, conspiracy to commit genocide, direct and public incitement to commit genocide, extermination and murder. The Prosecution presents him as the main instigator of the killings in his home prefecture of Gitarama.

Callixte Nzabonimana pleads not guilty, alleging that he was not in Gitarama but at the French embassy in Kigali at the time of the massacres.

The Prosecutor has been allowed to hear one more witness.

Nzabonimana, a member of the Presidential party MRND, was arrested in Tanzania on February 18, 2008.

His trial opened on November 9, 2009.