



[LA HAYE (Reuters) - La condamnation de l'ancien président du Liberia Charles Taylor à cinquante ans de prison pour crimes de guerre et crimes contre l'humanité lors de la guerre civile en Sierra Leone a été confirmée jeudi en appel. Le parquet avait requis en janvier dernier une aggravation de cette peine. Le magistrat qui présidait la formation d'appel à la Haye du Tribunal spécial pour la Sierra Leone (TSSL), George Gelaga King, a souligné que Charles Taylor avait soutenu en Sierra Leone les rebelles du Front révolutionnaire uni (Ruf) et du Conseil révolutionnaire des forces armées (AFRC), en sachant très bien le genre de crimes qu'ils commettaient.]

BURUNDI :

### Le Burundi opposé au retrait de ses troupes de Somalie

Par RFI/vendredi 27 septembre 2013

Après l'attaque du centre commercial de Westgate à Nairobi, et celles qui avaient frappé Kampala il y a deux ans, les Burundais engagés militairement en Somalie tout comme les Ougandais et les Kenyans se demandent à quand leur tour. Et fort d'un contingent de quelque 5 600 soldats déployés au sein de l'Amison, le deuxième plus important en effectif après celui des Ougandais, certains demandent le retour des soldats déployés en Somalie, pour lutter contre les islamistes radicaux. Une option exclue par le gouvernement, qui cherche à rassurer

Après cinq ans d'engagement des troupes burundaises sur le théâtre de guerre somalien, rien n'avait pu entamer le moral des Burundais, pas même des pertes estimées en termes de centaines. Cette fois c'est différent. Dans un premier temps, certains ont semblé accuser le coup à la suite de la tragédie qui s'est déroulée au Westgate mall à Nairobi. Ils demandent désormais le retour des soldats burundais déployés au sein de l'Amison :

« Nous aussi nous avons la peur parce que Nairobi n'est pas loin d'ici ! ». « Dire que la sécurité est assurée, ça c'est un mensonge. On rappelle nos forces (car) le gouvernement ne peut pas bloquer les shebabs parce qu'on ne sait pas où ils passent. Ils peuvent même être ici aujourd'hui ! », dit un homme. « Nous aussi nous sommes exposés au danger parce que nous avons envoyé nos militaires en Somalie. Nous voulons que ces soldats rentrent, c'est la meilleure solution pour moi », dit un

autre.

Mais après un court moment de panique, bon nombre de Burundais semblaient avoir repris du poil de la bête hier soir. « Ceux qui pensent que le retrait de soldats burundais serait bénéfique, se trompent. Les shebabs ne vont pas arrêter leurs attaques pour autant. Les gens doivent comprendre qu'il faut les combattre jusqu'à ce qu'ils soient vaincus et nos soldats doivent rester en Somalie pour assurer la sécurité de la population somalienne », insiste un jeune Burundais. « Nos soldats se sont portés au secours de la population somalienne, comme on l'a déjà fait pour nous. On n'a donc pas à avoir peur, car Dieu et avec nous », ajoute-t-il.

Le pouvoir burundais veut à tout prix rassurer la population, mais il ne veut même pas envisager un tel retrait.

### **Burundi : La société civile se mobilise pour les préparatifs de l' AIAF-2014**

Vendredi 27 septembre 2013/Xinhua

BUJUMBURA (Xinhua) - La société civile burundaise est mobilisée pour les préparatifs de l'Année Internationale de l'Agriculture Familiale prévue en 2014(AIAF-2014) pour interpeller le gouvernement burundais sur l'impérieuse nécessité de soutenir la promotion de l'agriculture familiale en célébrant solennellement l'AIAF-2014.

M. Richard Sahinguvu, directeur de l'antenne nationale de l'Institut Africain pour le Développement Economique et Social ( INADES-Formation Burundi) et Coordonnateur du comité national des Organisations de la Société Civile(OSC) en charge de ces préparatifs, a affirmé jeudi à Xinhua que les enjeux de la célébration de l'AIAF-2014 pour le Burundi sont énormes.

"En célébrant l'AIAF-2014, le gouvernement burundais se sera engagé à élaborer des politiques susceptibles de promouvoir le développement de l'agriculture familiale au Burundi. Avec l'élaboration des politiques visant la promotion de l'agriculture familiale, le paysan burundais pourrait bénéficier d'un cadre approprié pour s'auto développer tout en contribuant à la sécurité alimentaire de tout le pays en général", a précisé M. Sahinguvu.

A la question de savoir si ces propos sous-tendent que l' agriculture familiale n'est pas développée au Burundi, M. Sahinguvu a souligné que l'agriculture burundaise, fondamentalement d'essence familiale, est confrontée à beaucoup de défis comme partout ailleurs dans le monde.

Il a cité entre autres le manque criant de terres cultivables pour les paysans burundais, l'irruption de certains projets par ici par là à travers le pays avec pour incidence l'expropriation des paysans agriculteurs, l'insuffisance d'intrants agricoles, le mauvais aménagement agricole ne tenant pas en compte les fortes érosions en pente et l'inaccessibilité au crédit bancaire par les paysans agriculteurs.

"C'est dommage que le système bancaire burundais privilégie uniquement des commerçants ou des fonctionnaires ayant un revenu régulier au détriment des paysans soucieux de développer leur agriculture familiale", a-t-il martelé.

L'activité agricole burundaise fait face également à beaucoup d' aléas climatiques, a-t-il déploré avant de faire remarquer que les sociétés d'assurances locales n'assurent pas le crédit agricole.

Il a rappelé qu'en 2008, plus de 360 organisations de la société civile provenant des cinq continents et coordonnées par l' ONG espagnole "Forum Rural Mondial" (FRM), avaient lancé une campagne

mondiale destinée à consolider le plaidoyer pour la protection de l'agriculture familiale notamment via la lutte contre l'invasion des multinationales "qui investissent dans une agriculture non destinée à l'alimentation humaine".

De la sorte, a-t-il fait remarquer, l'AIAF-2014 de la société civile au plan planétaire s'inscrira dans cette vision ainsi définie, pour parvenir à des politiques spécifiques qui favorisent la reconnaissance et le développement durable de l'agriculture familiale.

Le 22 décembre 2011, l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies a déclaré l'année 2014 comme l'année internationale de l'agriculture. L'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Alimentation et pour l'Agriculture (FAO) est chargée de préparer l'AIAF-2014 en collaboration avec les gouvernements locaux.

### **Burundi : Bientôt une étude sur le trafic des enfants**

Xinhua/Vendredi 27 septembre 2013

BUJUMBURA (Xinhua) - La Commission Nationale Indépendante des Droits de l'Homme (CNIDH) a annoncé jeudi qu'elle a commandité une étude sur le trafic des enfants afin de voir comment éradiquer ce phénomène devenu une réalité au Burundi.

" Au niveau de la CNIDH, nous venons de commanditer une étude qui va commencer bientôt sur le trafic des enfants. Cela va nous permettre d'identifier les causes de ce phénomène. Après l'étude, nous allons appeler tous les intervenants, travailler ensemble et faire des recommandations au gouvernement pour qu'au bout du compte ce phénomène soit éradiqué le plus tôt possible", a indiqué à Xinhua Me Déo Ndikumana, commissaire chargé de la protection des droits des enfants à la CNIDH.

En attendant que l'étude commence, il a demandé à la police de faire convenablement son travail de dissuasion, de s'abstenir des pots-de-vin et de transmettre les dossiers des présumés coupables aux parquets pour qu'ils soient punis conformément à la loi.

"Il y a une certaine impunité parce que la police n'est pas très dissuasive contre ce genre d'infractions qui sont souvent commises par des gens malins et qui ont des moyens de corrompre la police. Celle-ci devrait faire des efforts pour que les dossiers traités soient transmis au niveau des parquets. Beaucoup de dossiers restés classés au niveau de la police", déplore Me Déo Ndikumana.

Il a fait savoir que jusqu'aujourd'hui, on ne connaît pas un seul cas de condamnation alors qu'en revanche, il y a beaucoup de cas de flagrance.

Il a également fait savoir que transmettre les dossiers aux parquets est une voie normale pour traduire en justice, punir les présumés auteurs de ce crime odieux et indemniser les enfants victimes.

Au début de cette semaine, la commissaire de la police des mineurs Christine Sabiyumva a reconnu ce genre de trafic humain et surtout celui des enfants au Burundi.

### **Burundi : les ordures remplacent l'engrais trop coûteux**

27-09-2013/syfia-grands-lacs.info

Au nord du Burundi, seuls les agriculteurs qui ont des moyens ont accès aux engrais subventionnés

par le gouvernement pour la saison agricole. Les plus pauvres se rabattent sur les immondices qu'ils vont ramasser en ville, à la grande satisfaction des citoyens

Nsengimana Evariste, un pygmée pauvre ramasse des immondices au quartier de Muremera à Ngozi au nord du Burundi. S'il veut fertiliser son champ, comme le conseillent depuis deux ans les moniteurs agricoles qui sillonnent les collines du pays, il n'a pas d'autre choix. Certes le ministère de l'Agriculture, a, pendant cette première saison agricole, mis à disposition des agriculteurs des engrais chimiques subventionnés à 40%. Mais un sac d'engrais de 25kg coûte néanmoins 27500Fbu (environ 20\$). Seuls les gens qui ont des moyens peuvent s'en procurer. "Je ne peux pas avoir de quoi acheter du fumier. J'ai une petite terre qui ne me fournit même pas suffisamment à manger, comprenez donc que je ne trouverais pas à vendre pour payer des fertilisants", explique ce petit paysan.

Pour avoir droit à ces engrais, il fallait payer 5000Fbu (4\$) en avance pour les réserver et 22500Fbu (15\$) le jour où l'on vient les récupérer. Certains paysans essaient de se regrouper pour acheter ensemble et se partager le sac. Les plus pauvres qui avaient payé l'avance, faute de pouvoir payer le solde, n'ont d'autre choix que de vendre leurs noms aux riches, qui bénéficient ainsi de plus d'engrais subventionnés. Les ordures de la ville sont alors leur seule ressource.

#### Ville propre

Une aubaine pour les citoyens débarrassés des immondices. "Nous ne voyons plus de montagnes de saletés dans nos quartiers", constatent trois chefs de quartier du centre urbain de Ngozi, qui n'a pas de service d'assainissement. Des agriculteurs collectent les ordures des ménages chaque jour. Quand ce ne sont pas eux, ce sont les éleveurs qui prennent les épluchures de bananes, pommes de terre, patates douces, restes de choux... pour nourrir vaches, chèvres et porcs, que, depuis un an, ils n'ont plus le droit de faire brouter dehors.

Les citoyens apprécient. Bizimana Stany, l'un d'eux se réjouit que sa parcelle soit devenue saine : "Avant, j'y creusais des trous pour y enterrer les saletés, je ne le fais plus". "Je ne dépense plus pour le dégageage des immondices. Les uns prennent les restes de denrées épluchées, d'autres, des restes d'aliment cuits dont ils nourrissent les cochons", se satisfait aussi Jean Ciza, un gérant d'hôtel de Kayanza toujours au nord du Burundi, qui payait 20000Fbu chaque semaine une benne qui transportait ces ordures pour les jeter.

Même les sacs en plastique ne polluent plus l'environnement car les collecteurs d'ordures les trient avant de les épandre dans leurs champs. Ils brûlent les sachets pour qu'ils ne polluent pas leurs terres.

Eric Nshemezimana

RWANDA :

RDC CONGO :

UGANDA :

## SOUTH AFRICA :

### **Samantha Lewthwaite: The South Africa connection**

26 Sep 2013/By Erin Conway-Smith, Johannesburg/telegraph.co.uk

Samantha Lewthwaite was an IT specialist at a halaal meat pie company on the outskirts of Johannesburg, living and working in predominantly South Asian areas of the city, according to reports that shed light on the Briton's life before she moved to Kenya.

Lewthwaite, who was in possession of a fraudulently obtained South African passport under the alias Natalie Faye Webb, first entered South Africa in July 2008, and travelled in and out of the country on several occasions.

Naledi Pandor, the South African home affairs minister, said that the last recorded use of the passport was in February 2011, before it was cancelled and added to a "stop list".

A report by EyeWitness News said that Lewthwaite worked as an IT specialist at a factory making halaal pies in Lenasia, a former Indian township in the far south-west of Johannesburg. The company's owner reportedly described the mother of three, originally from Aylesbury, Bucks, as a quiet woman who kept to herself. He said he was "shocked" to learn of her real identity.

Credit records show that Lewthwaite resided in the Mayfair area of Johannesburg, which is home to large Indian and African Muslim populations, with numerous mosques. She kept a post office box in nearby Brixton, and later leased property in the suburb of Bromhof across town, according to credit documents linked to the identity number listed on the fraudulent passport.

Neighbouring residents of the two addresses could not remember seeing Lewthwaite, and it is unclear for how long she lived there, if at all.

Earlier this week, a South African academic claimed that Lewthwaite had been a regular visitor to the country and stayed in Johannesburg's South Asian suburbs.

The credit records reveal that while in South Africa Lewthwaite racked up sizeable debts from bank loans, credit cards and clothing store charge accounts. South African clothing store chains Truworths and Ackermans in 2011 wrote off bad debts worth almost R20,000 (£1,250) in total.

In 2011, a magistrates' court issued a judgment against Lewthwaite for about R28,000 that was owed to First Rand Bank. In February 2012, Standard Bank wrote off an amount of nearly R30,000 that she apparently owed on her Mastercard.

Mrs Pandor said the passport used by Lewthwaite was "fraudulently acquired" using birth registration documents associated with Natalie Faye Webb, and had been issued in Durban. How Lewthwaite came to have these details required further investigation, she said. She would not respond to reports that Lewthwaite had been in possession of multiple South African identity documents, or that one of her children had been travelling on a South African passport under the name Aaron Webb.

A spokesman for the US embassy in Pretoria would not comment on a report that American officials had questioned Lewthwaite's former employer in Lenasia. "All I can say is, we always cooperate

with the host government authorities on national security and terrorism investigations," he said.

### South Africa's AMCU union says Amplats strike begins

Fri Sep 27, 2013/Reuters

JOHANNESBURG |

(Reuters) - A strike over job cuts at Anglo American Platinum operations in South Africa has started, a senior Association of Mineworkers and Construction Union (AMCU) official said on Friday.

Amplats, the world's top platinum producer and a unit of global mining group Anglo American, said last month it would cut 4,800 jobs - laying off 3,300 workers and paying off the rest.

The company had initially said it would cut 14,000 jobs but backed away from that target after a fierce backlash from the government and unions.

Workers remained unhappy with the reduced job-cut target and vowed to strike. Last-minute talks that started on Thursday appeared not to have produced a solution.

"It started this morning," AMCU treasurer Jimmy Gama told Reuters, although he said the union would hold further talks with the company later on Friday.

There has been no comment from Amplats.

AMCU president Joseph Mathunjwa told Johannesburg radio station Talk Radio 702 that the union was waiting for a response from the company.

"We have to always be positive but the ball is in management's court," Mathunjwa said.

Job cuts are a sensitive issue in South Africa, where the unemployment rate is more than 25 percent and mine labor violence rooted in a union turf war has killed dozens of people over the past 18 months.

The ruling African National Congress (ANC) also faces an election in just over six months.

TANZANIA:

### Tanzania: New Report - Tanzania Forces Girls to Undergo Invasive Pregnancy Tests, Expels Pregnant Students

26 September 2013/The Center for Reproductive Rights (New York, NY)/allafrica.com

press release

Albany — Adolescent girls in Tanzania are routinely - and often without warning - subjected to invasive, mandatory pregnancy testing, which has led to more than 55,000 pregnant students expelled or forced to drop out of school in the last decade, according to a new report from the Center for Reproductive Rights.

The findings released today in *Forced Out: Mandatory Pregnancy Testing and the Expulsion of Pregnant Students in Tanzanian Schools* report on not only the vast numbers of young women affected by this degrading policy, but also the serious human rights implications of forced pregnancy testing and the expulsion of pregnant girls from school.

"Forcing adolescent girls to undergo pregnancy tests in Tanzanian schools is degrading and utterly discriminatory, and violates both national and international human rights law—regardless of whether these young women are pregnant or not," said Lilian Sepúlveda, director of the Global Legal Program at the Center for Reproductive Rights.

"Denying pregnant girls their right to an education is a gross violation of fundamental human rights."

In the report, the Center uncovered that these practices are being used by school officials to shame and scare adolescents in an effort to prevent premarital sex and pregnancy. However, schools fail to provide reproductive health education or services that could arm students with the information they need to prevent pregnancy. Not surprisingly, contraceptive use among adolescent girls in Tanzania remains minimal: only 10.7 percent of sexually active women aged 15-19 report using any birth control method.

"Adolescents have the same fundamental human rights as adults, and just like adults, should be able to access the tools they need to make informed choices about their reproductive health," said Dr. Clement Julius Mashamba, advocate and the third Vice President of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

"By denying adolescents access to contraceptives and reproductive health education, schools are forcing pregnant girls into early childrearing at the expense of their education and other life goals."

*Forced Out* revealed that in addition to lack of reproductive health education and services, the Tanzanian government has failed to address the high rates of sexual assault and early marriage in the country—two serious contributing factors to the instance of adolescent pregnancy.

According to a 2009 national survey commissioned by the United Nations Children's Fund, nearly three in 10 women between the ages of 13 and 24 in mainland Tanzania reported experiencing at least one instance of sexual violence before turning 18 years old. Adolescents from rural area and marginalized communities are more vulnerable to forced sexual encounters, placing them at an even greater risk of an unplanned pregnancy.

Although the Tanzanian government recognizes early marriage often leads to adolescent pregnancy, the country's own laws allow girls as young as 15 to be married—with 40 percent of adolescent girls in Tanzania married by the time they are 18, many of whom report being forced into sexual activity.

Among the report's various recommendations, the Center calls on the Tanzania government to immediately end the illegal practice of forced pregnancy testing in schools and ensure that adolescent girls can continue with their education during and after pregnancy.

"If the Tanzanian government really wants to curb the high adolescent pregnancy rate, the Ministry of Education must create and enforce policies to protect female students from sexual violence and coercion in schools," said Evelyne Opondo, regional director for Africa at the Center.

"Furthermore, schools must be required to provide quality sexual and reproductive health education and Tanzanian law must be amended to align with international human rights law by raising the marriage age for women to 18 years old."

The report details more than a dozen personal accounts of young women subjected to mandatory pregnancy testing in either primary or secondary school, many of whom describe the experience as shameful, terrifying and painful—and for those expelled they felt ostracized from their family and friends, and worse, that their chances at an education and future were ripped away.

"What hurt most for me was the way my family turned their back on me," said Sikudhani (a pseudonym), one of the young women interviewed. "Even after I had a stillborn and wanted to go back to school, my mom said the family had given up on me and would not support my dreams for an education."

In addition to interviewing former and current students from throughout the country, including Iringa, Kilimanjaro, Pwani, Dar es Salaam and Morogoro regions, the Center and Yale Law School's Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic interviewed more than 26 key stakeholders and experts in education, children's rights, and health, to better understand the legal and policy context in which these practices occur. The Center also reviewed government laws, regulations, policies, guidelines and studies pertaining to education, school health and adolescent health.

#### **Tanzania: Spain to Support Expansion of Tanzanian Media Group**

26 September 2013/Sabahi (Washington, DC)

The Spanish Embassy in Tanzania will support the expansion of the printing press of Tanzania Standard Newspapers (TSN) Media Group, Tanzania's Daily News reported Thursday (September 26th).

"Through our talks with the acting manager editor, we have identified a number of areas we can partner in, namely in the distribution network, technology, training of employees and sports," said Ambassador Luis Cuesta after a visit to TSN headquarters.

The press expansion will cost an estimated 2.7 billion shillings (\$1.7 million), TSN Acting Managing Editor Gabriel Nderumaki said.

The expansion would allow TSN to assist the government with printing educational materials as well as expanding its own operations, he said.

KENYA :

#### **Kenya : la "veuve blanche" qui hante Nairobi**

Le Point.fr /le 24/09/2013

Samantha Lewthwaite, une jeune Britannique convertie à l'islam, est fortement suspectée d'avoir participé à l'attaque du centre commercial de Westgate.

Elle est nord-irlandaise et a 29 ans. Derrière ses yeux bleus perçants et son rouge à lèvres éclatant se



cache l'une des principales suspectes de l'attaque du centre commercial de Westgate, à Nairobi, qui a fait au moins 62 morts et près de 200 blessés. "Sherafiyah Lewthwaite aka samantha est une femme courageuse ! Nous sommes heureux de l'avoir dans nos rangs", a annoncé sur Twitter l'organisation islamiste somalienne al-Shebab qui a revendiqué l'assaut, avant que son compte ne soit supprimé par le réseau social.

Comment cette jeune femme, fille de soldat britannique, a-t-elle pu ainsi sombrer dans le terrorisme ? Née en décembre 1983 en Irlande du Nord, la petite Samantha Lewthwaite vit une enfance des plus paisibles à Aylesbury, ville du sud-est de l'Angleterre, en compagnie de sa mère Christine et de son père Andrew. Mais leur divorce en 1995 bouleverse la jeune fille. Elle trouve refuge chez ses voisins, est séduite par la chaleur de leur famille. À leurs côtés, la jeune enfant se familiarise avec la religion musulmane.

"Une enfant remplie de joie"

"C'était une enfant remplie de joie, une très bonne personne [...] respectée par la communauté pakistanaise et musulmane", se souvient Raj Khan, un conseiller municipal qui l'a bien connue, interrogé par la BBC. À 15 ans, Samantha se convertit à l'islam : elle décide de porter le foulard, puis le voile intégral, qui ne laisse transparaître que ses mains et son visage. "Elle paraissait très fière de porter le foulard, et cela créait beaucoup d'effervescence autour d'elle", affirme à la BBC Novid Shaid, enseignant à Aylesbury. À 18 ans, la jeune femme s'inscrit à l'École des études orientales et africaines de Londres pour y suivre des cours de politique et de religion.

Adepte des forums musulmans, elle effectue en 2002 une rencontre qui va changer sa vie. Sur Internet, elle fait la connaissance virtuelle de Jermaine Lindsay, un menuisier anglais d'origine jamaïcaine. Les deux jeunes adultes se voient pour la première fois lors d'une manifestation contre la guerre en Irak (qui aura tout de même lieu en 2003). Le coup de foudre est immédiat. Sans plus attendre, le jeune couple se marie, à l'issue d'une cérémonie religieuse organisée dans le séjour d'un pavillon d'Aylesbury, face à la famille pakistanaise qui l'a tant chérie.

Attentats de Londres

Enceinte de son premier enfant, un fils, Samantha Lewthwaite fréquente assidûment la mosquée du Regent's Park à Londres, ainsi que la grande mosquée de Leeds. C'est à cette époque, en 2004, qu'elle rencontre Mohammad Sidique Khan, un Britannique d'origine pakistanaise. L'homme est considéré comme le cerveau des attentats de Londres du 7 juillet 2005, qui ont fait 56 morts. Un an plus tard, son mari Jermaine Lindsay se fait exploser dans un métro de la ligne Piccadilly, en plein centre de Londres. L'attaque sanglante, la pire de l'histoire de l'Angleterre, fera 27 morts, dont le kamikaze de 19 ans.

Celui-ci laisse une veuve, enceinte de son deuxième enfant. Sa fille voit le jour deux mois plus tard, en septembre 2005. Placée sous protection policière après avoir "collaboré" avec Scotland Yard, Samantha Lewthwaite parvient pourtant à échapper à sa vigilance. La jeune femme disparaît littéralement de la carte... avant de refaire surface en août 2011 au Kenya. Elle s'appelle désormais Nathalie Faye Webb, une citoyenne sud-africaine, mariée à Habib Ghani, un djihadiste originaire de la banlieue de Londres surnommé "Osama".

Islamistes somaliens

Le Britannique est suspecté par Scotland Yard d'appartenir au groupe islamiste somalien al-Shebab, lié à al-Qaida. Dans des notes retrouvées par la police kényane dans leur maison de Mombasa, Samantha Lewthwaite explique vouloir un homme "qui donnera tout ce qu'il peut à Allah et s'emploiera à terroriser les mécréants". "Allah m'a donné cela et même mieux", écrit-elle, selon le Daily Mail. Son second mari lui donnera une fille en 2009. Et lorsque celui-ci demande aux deux aînés ce qu'ils veulent faire de leur vie, les enfants répondent, sans la moindre hésitation, "Mujahid"

(soldat de Dieu). La maman est ravie.

En 2011, le couple est rejoint par un troisième Britannique, Jermaine Grant, un Londonien de 30 ans qui s'est radicalisé à la prison de Feltham, celle-là même qui a accueilli Richard Reid, l'homme qui avait tenté de faire exploser un vol Paris-Miami en décembre 2001. Les trois complices préparent une attaque de grande ampleur contre des cibles occidentales dans la ville côtière de Mombasa durant les fêtes de fin d'année. Mais ils n'auront pas le temps de s'exécuter. Informée de l'imminence d'une attaque, la police prend d'assaut la cache des terroristes en décembre 2011.

"Le paradis de demain"

Sur place, ils découvrent un impressionnant arsenal d'explosifs. Jermaine Grant est arrêté sur-le-champ. Pas de trace, en revanche, de Habib Ghani ni de Samantha Lewthwaite. Confondue grâce à ses empreintes, celle que l'on surnomme désormais la "veuve blanche", en référence aux "veuves noires", ces femmes kamikazes tchéchènes venues venger en Russie la mort de leur mari, est accusée d'activités terroristes visant à faire sauter des centres commerciaux et des hôtels accueillant des touristes étrangers au Kenya.

Mais la Britannique se volatilise à nouveau, avant de refaire surface, en septembre 2012, sur Internet. Dans un poème intitulé "le paradis de demain" et publié sur Twitter, Samantha Lewthwaite dit en avoir assez de sa vie de fugitive. Rendant hommage à Aboud Rogo Mohammed, l'ancien leader des shebabs somaliens, abattu une semaine plus tôt, la soldate de Dieu explique qu'elle veut le rejoindre au paradis. "J'observe autour de moi comme le djihad est merveilleux, il vit au Kenya, il vit en moi, je respire le djihad, mon heure est arrivée."

Si la participation de la "veuve blanche" à l'attaque shebab de Nairobi n'a, pour l'heure, pas été confirmée, la chef de la diplomatie kényane a annoncé lundi soir qu'une femme britannique faisait bien partie du commando islamiste, en compagnie de deux ou trois Américains.

**Interpol issues alert for 'White Widow' at Kenya's request**

Fri, Sep 27, 2013/irishtimes.com

Northern Irish widow of London bomber wanted on charges of possessing explosives

A worldwide alert has been issued for the arrest of the Northern Irish terror suspect dubbed the "White Widow".

The "Red Notice" for the arrest of Samantha Lewthwaite - who was married to one of the perpetrators of the London bombings on July 7th, 2005 - was issued by Interpol at the request of the Kenyan authorities.

It relates to charges of possessing explosives and conspiracy to commit a felony dating back to December 2011, and it makes no mention of the Nairobi shopping mall attack, despite intense speculation linking her to the incident.

A Red Notice - or internationally wanted persons alert - notifies police forces around the world that an individual is wanted by an Interpol member state and requests the suspect is placed under provisional arrest pending extradition.

Interpol secretary general Ronald Noble said: "By requesting an Interpol Red Notice, Kenya has activated a global 'tripwire' for this fugitive.

“Through the Interpol Red Notice, Kenyan authorities have ensured that all 190 member countries are aware of the danger posed by this woman, not just across the region but also worldwide.”

Ms Lewthwaite - who is believed to use the alias “Natalie Webb” - had previously only been wanted by the Kenyans at national level for the possession of a fraudulently obtained South African passport.

The 29-year-old, who converted to Islam as a teenager, was married to Jermaine Lindsay, one of the four suicide bombers who carried out the July 7th attacks in London in 2005.

Initially she said she was horrified by the the attack, but in 2009 she disappeared with her three children and for the past two years has been on the run in East Africa after allegedly plotting to attack Western targets in Kenya

Reports that one of the al-Qaeda linked militants who carried out the Westgate attack was a woman has prompted intense speculation that she was involved.

Al-Shabaab, the Somali group responsible, has denied the claims but the Kenyan authorities have said forensic experts are working to establish if any of the attackers was female after receiving intelligence that a British woman was involved.

Mr Noble said her case highlighted the “invisible threat” posed by terrorists and criminals travelling internationally using illicit passports.

“Every year hundreds of millions of individuals are boarding international transport and crossing borders without having the authenticity of their travel or identity document checked,” he said.

“This dramatically compromises our ability to effectively screen and identify at airports and land crossings those individuals who could be suspected criminals and terrorists.”

The death toll from the attack is expected to rise from 67 - including 61 civilians and six members of the Kenyan security forces - as the Kenyan authorities scour the wreckage of the mall.

Five terrorists also died in the four-day stand-off and the Kenyans say they are holding 11 suspects in custody in relation to the attack - including at least seven who are thought to have been arrested at the airport.

International forensic experts, including teams from Scotland Yard, the United States, Israel, Germany and Canada, are helping sift through the debris for clues.

PA

### **A Shaken Kenya Is Hit Again in 2 Deadly Attacks by Militants**

By JEFFREY GETTLEMAN and NICHOLAS KULISH/nytimes.com/September 26, 2013

NAIROBI, Kenya — Only days after heavily armed assailants stormed a crowded mall and killed scores of people in the capital, militants killed three people near the border with Somalia, Kenyan officials said Thursday, putting this country even further on edge.

According to Kenyan police officials, there were two attacks, the first Wednesday night on a group of police officers on a foot patrol in Wajir in which a bystander was killed. Militants struck again

early on Thursday, raiding a police camp in Mandera, killing two police officers and setting fire to a dozen vehicles.

The Kenyan authorities immediately blamed the Shabab, the Somali militant group that has claimed responsibility for killing more than 60 people in the mall.

Rono Bunei, the Mandera police commander, said the attack in Mandera was under investigation, “but obviously it leads to suggest that either the Al Shabab or their sympathizers are responsible.”

He said that his area had been relatively quiet for the past couple of months, though there have been small-scale attacks along the border by militants from Somalia for years, including brazen kidnappings of tourists and aid workers.

As flags flew at half-staff across the country for a three-day period of mourning, the investigation into the massacre at the upscale Westgate mall in Nairobi was moving slowly. Video footage released by the Kenyan military showed a gaping crater where a section of the mall’s parking lot had crumbled, sending vehicles tumbling into an enormous, smoking pit. Many cars had been burned down to paintless skeletons.

Dozens of Western investigators, including a large F.B.I. contingent, have flown into Nairobi in the past few days, and there were fears that the mall may be booby-trapped with explosives.

A remote-controlled police robot scooted room to room, checking for bombs on Thursday. Several loose grenades were discovered, a Western official said, and investigators were especially interested in any clues that would reveal whether all the attackers had been killed in the mall or if some had escaped, as several witnesses claimed.

“The cordon around the place was not that great,” said one Western official who was not authorized to speak publicly. “I’m not sure the Kenyans were organized enough to lock it down.”

Several witnesses said one attacker was a Caucasian woman who slipped out of the mall after instructing other assailants whom to shoot. Kenyan officials said that a British woman, Samantha Lewthwaite, who converted to Islam and married a man who became a suicide bomber, might have been involved.

On Thursday, Interpol issued an international arrest notice for Ms. Lewthwaite. The notice, requested by the Kenyan government, did not mention the mall massacre and said that Ms. Lewthwaite had been wanted since 2011 on charges of possessing explosives and conspiracy to commit a felony. In Kenya and Britain, Ms. Lewthwaite is frequently referred to as the “white widow.”

Several Western officials said they had heard reports from the Kenyan military that some of the victims in the mall had been beheaded and butchered with knives. Kenyan officials declined to comment, but one Western security adviser, who was not authorized to speak publicly, said, “I fully expect it.”

“They had people under their control for three days,” the adviser said, referring to how the assailants had holed up in the mall with terrified shoppers hiding in several places.

Many Kenyans are now beginning to ask the same question: How could this have happened? How could 10 to 15 militants, with military-grade weapons, storm a crowded mall in central Nairobi and start shooting people at will with no organized armed response for several hours, and then manage

to hold off the Kenyan Army for days?

Mike Sonko, a Kenyan senator, said during a debate in the Senate this week that he had passed on information about such a plot to police and intelligence officials, Kenya's Standard Media reported. Several Twitter messages over the past few days have criticized the way the Kenyan government has handled the crisis. One Kenyan woman wrote that she wished her government "would understand that we are asking questions because we are terrified that will happen again. Obfuscation doesn't help."

But for the most part, unity remained the overriding sentiment, with glowing reports on Kenyan television stations about ordinary citizens' donating blood for the wounded and money for the victims' families. The Twitter hashtag #weareone was shorthand for the solidarity the nation has sought in the aftermath of the deadly attack.

The attackers gunned down several children, including a girl who had attended the ninth grade at the International School of Kenya, commonly referred to as I.S.K. An American official said Thursday that during the three-day effort to dislodge the last assailants in the mall, an American security adviser delivered a crate of tear gas to Kenyan soldiers, pulled out a canister and said, "Use this one first, courtesy of the ninth grade of I.S.K."

According to the American official, the Kenyan soldiers lobbed that specific canister into the mall, smoked out one of the assailants and shot him dead.

#### Kenya seeks UK woman Samantha Lewthwaite's arrest

26 September 2013/bbc.co.uk

International police body Interpol has issued a wanted persons notice for Briton Samantha Lewthwaite, at Kenya's request.

Ms Lewthwaite, 29, is the widow of one of the four suicide bombers who attacked London on 7 July 2005.

Known colloquially as the "white widow", she has been linked with Somali militant Islamist group al-Shabab.

Interpol did not link the warrant to the Nairobi shopping complex attack that left at least 67 dead.

However, it comes after much speculation linking Ms Lewthwaite to events there.

Al-Shabab was behind the attack and subsequent four-day siege at the Westgate shopping complex in the Kenyan capital.

An Interpol statement said she was "wanted by Kenya on charges of being in possession of explosives and conspiracy to commit a felony dating back to December 2011".

The Interpol alert, known as a "Red Notice", requires member countries to detain the suspect pending extradition procedures.

Ms Lewthwaite - who is believed to use the alias "Natalie Webb" - had previously only been wanted for the alleged possession of a fraudulently obtained South African passport.

She is the widow of Germaine Lindsay, one of the four bombers involved in the 7 July terror attacks in London in 2005 in which 52 people were killed and hundreds more injured.

The BBC's Dominic Casciani says Interpol's red notice acts like a global wanted poster, but it's also a concession by the Kenyan security forces that she is an international danger, not just someone who should be regarded as a passport fraudster.

Kenya is continuing three days of official mourning for the civilian and military victims of the siege.

The funeral of pregnant television and radio star Ruhila Adata-Sood was one of many being held on Thursday.

Flags are flying at half mast amid visibly tighter security around the Kenyan capital. Security guards were scanning passengers with metal detectors before they boarded buses.

Kenyan investigators have been joined by experts from the US, UK, Germany, Canada and Interpol to comb the sprawling shopping complex for DNA, fingerprints and ballistic clues.

On Thursday the UK Foreign Office said that the number of British nationals known to have been killed in the attack was lower than previously thought. It had reported that six Britons were among those killed, but it now says that one of the dead previously thought to be British is in fact a Kenyan national.

But at the same time the Foreign Office has warned that the number of British dead could rise before the search of the shopping centre is over.

Somali Islamist group al-Shabab has said it had carried out the attack in retaliation for Kenyan army operations in Somalia.

The militants stormed the Westgate centre on Saturday, throwing grenades and firing indiscriminately at shoppers and staff.

Twitter posts on an al-Shabab account said the group's militants had held 137 people hostage, and claimed the hostages had died after security forces fired chemical agents to end the siege.

A government spokesman denied any chemical agents were used, and authorities called on Kenyans to ignore militant propaganda.

Al-Shabab, which is linked to al-Qaeda, has repeatedly threatened attacks on Kenyan soil if Nairobi did not pull its troops out of Somalia.

About 4,000 Kenyan troops have been serving in the south of Somalia since October 2011 as part of an African Union force supporting Somali government forces.

The group is banned as a terrorist group by both the US and the UK and is believed to have between 7,000 and 9,000 fighters.

Its members are fighting to create an Islamic state in Somalia.

**Kenya's Somalis fear violent backlash in the wake of Westgate terror attack**

Afua Hirsch in Nairobi/theguardian.com/Thursday 26 September 2013

Muslim minority in Eastleigh area of Nairobi dispute al-Shabaab link and say their success in trade makes them scapegoats

At a barbershop in Eastleigh, a densely populated neighbourhood just east of central Nairobi, a man with a neat goatee, fair skin and unblinking hazel eyes leans his head back into a sink as brown dye is rinsed out of his hair.

Like most people in the area often known as Little Mogadishu, Abdul, 29, is Somali-Kenyan. And like many locals, he has grown increasingly angry at the events at the Westgate shopping centre, and the potential impact the four-day siege will have on his community.

"What happened in Westgate is terrible. The community in Eastleigh want to help – we have given food and supplies. But I think it is the police, not terrorists, who killed people," says Abdul.

"Al-Shabaab exist, but they are in Somalia, not here. This is a cover-up motivated by politics. I don't trust the authorities – I think they exploded everything in Westgate to destroy the evidence."

From the other side of the salon, where he is shaving a client's head, Bashir chimes in: "The worst al-Shabaab can do is a suicide bombing – not something like this that goes on for days.

"Now they are blaming Somalis, when we are still not sure who these people are. People are mixing up Muslims with terrorists. You have to differentiate."

There is widespread distrust of the authorities in Eastleigh. Locals say the police have failed to investigate a string of bombings in the neighbourhood, which have killed and injured dozens.

Many believe the bombings were carried out by Somali militants – but Eastleigh residents have also suffered bloody reprisals from other Kenyans who blame the Somali community for the terrorist attacks.

At a medical centre in the neighbourhood, the young receptionist dressed in a black hijab becomes agitated as she describes seeing police round up Somalis. She believes the arrests were linked to Westgate.

"When people saw the police coming, they were running away," says Naima. "How can they be going around arresting Somalis when we are not even sure if it was Somalis who attacked the place?"

Sitting next to her, Ilham, 25, who wears a green hijab, says she believes the gunmen who stormed Westgate were not members of al-Shabaab, and that the description of it as a terrorist attack is part of a state cover-up.

"The threat from al-Shabaab is being exaggerated," said Ilham. "There is nothing like al-Shabaab in Kenya. Al-Shabaab are taking responsibility to look bigger than they are."

"Business is booming in Eastleigh, and people don't like it," says Naima. "They want to target us and affect our business. This has to do with politics, not terrorism."

Despite its reputation as a slum, the tightly knit and entrepreneurial Somali community has become a trade hub. Eastleigh's wide avenues are overcrowded and dirty, with rubbish piled high at the

roadside and filling puddles of stagnant water. But the area is also dotted with new, high-rise buildings.

Ahmed Mohamed returned to Kenya after obtaining a degree in London, and now runs a security firm and an association representing 2,000 Somali-Kenyan business owners.

"People are coming from Rwanda, Burundi, Sudan to do business here," he says. "Somalis are natural entrepreneurs. It's in our DNA."

Many feel that resentment at Somali-Kenyans' success in business has led outsiders to scapegoat the community for Islamist violence.

Somali-Kenyans say they are routinely victimised by the Christian majority. Naima says that when she travelled to Kenya's Rift Valley she was subject to harassment and called names.

"When I went to Rongai wearing [a hijab] they were pointing at me and calling me 'al-Shabaab'. When I go to a bus station, they will check me two or three times, but a Christian won't be checked at all. I am a Kenyan. Why would you do that? It is radicalising people."

Eastleigh has been the focus of repeated attacks. Last year six people were killed in a grenade attack on a minibus, which was followed by violence and looting. Somali-Kenyans were blamed for the blast, even though it happened within their own community.

"We are naturally worried about retaliatory attacks," says Mohamed. "Every time something like this happens, we experience the backlash. This time we have donated food to the Kenyan Defence Force, to the fire brigade and the police, to show we are not part of the problem."

Local MP Yusuf Hassan, who was confined to a wheelchair after a bomb attack during general elections in March, says not enough has been done to strengthen relations with the Somali community.

"We have been assured by the leadership that ethnic profiling and collective punishment of Somalis is no longer acceptable, but the government should deal with this issue in a more systematic way," he says.

"The majority of Kenyan people, they do not subscribe to that kind of mentality. But for a minority, whenever the terrorists are mentioned, the word 'Somali', the word 'Muslim', appears.

"In the past two years, there have been 11 bomb attacks in my constituency. Yet there have been no arrests, and not one single person brought to court. What does that tell you about the state of the investigations?"

"The government told us it was al-Shabaab and that that was the end of the story. It's not good enough."

ANGOLA :

**Angola: Supporting Angola's Transition to Shared Prosperity**

26 September 2013/World Bank (Washington, DC)/allafrica.com



press release

The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors today discussed the Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) for Angola that will support the Country's efforts to improve access to health, quality education, and other key services; strengthen governance; provide opportunities for women and address climate change.

"The approval of this Strategy marks an historic milestone in Angola's relations with the WBG," said Laurence Clarke, Country Director for Angola. This is the first truly joint WBG strategy for Angola, and I profoundly hope it will help usher in a new era of possibilities in our historic relationship.

This Strategy paves the way for Angola to make full use of a range of WBG's financial and advisory instruments available at IBRD, IFC, and MIGA, as well as knowledge services from the World Bank Institute (WBI), and thus be in a better position to deploy a set of more sophisticated responses to its complex development challenges as it transitions to a middle income country status."

Angola is expected to graduate from IDA-eligibility at the end of FY14 as a result of the sharp rise in per capita income which surpasses the eligibility threshold for Angola to continue benefit from IDA resources, the Bank fund for the poorest countries. Thus, this CPS was prepared to support that transition and to define areas that could be supported with a new set of instruments, among which knowledge takes the center stage.

The CPS will provide Angola with timely economic and sector research focusing on rural development, gender, and skills development. These activities will help influence Government policies to reduce poverty, provide social safety net coverage for poor vulnerable families, and diversify growth through continued support to the non-petroleum sectors.

In support of the CPS and what it will set out to accomplish, the Board also approved a US\$75 million credit to help Angola train 24,000 teachers serving half a million pupils in nearly a thousand primary schools. This will help improve the quality of teaching as more children are enrolled. The number of primary students has grown from 1.8 million to 4.2 million in just ten years.

Training programs supported by the IDA\*-financed Angola Learning for All Project will help teachers acquire skills and knowledge over the next five years. The project will also help set up a system of regular student assessment, particularly for Portuguese and mathematics and support school based management.

"Children must receive higher quality education in primary school so that they can study further and take advantage of new job opportunities as the Angolan economy diversifies," Clarke said.

"Although Angola relies heavily on oil revenues today, the young adults of tomorrow are the country's true wealth in the long run. We are delighted to support them through this project."

The IDA zero-interest grant will be complemented by a US\$5 million contribution from the Government of Angola.

\* The World Bank's International Development Association (IDA), established in 1960, helps the world's poorest countries by providing zero-interest loans and grants for projects and programs that boost economic growth, reduce poverty, and improve poor people's lives.

IDA is one of the largest sources of assistance for the world's 82 poorest countries, 40 of which are in Africa. Resources from IDA bring positive change for 2.5 billion people living on less than \$2 a day. Since 1960, IDA has supported development work in 108 countries. Annual commitments have increased steadily and averaged about \$16 billion over the last three years, with about 50 percent of commitments going to Africa.

#### About the World Bank Group

The World Bank Group is one of the world's largest sources of funding and knowledge for developing countries. It comprises five closely associated institutions: the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA), which together form the World Bank; the International Finance Corporation (IFC); the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA); and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID). Each institution plays a distinct role in the mission to fight poverty and improve living standards for people in the developing world.

AU/AFRICA :

**Peine de 50 ans de prison confirmée contre Charles Taylor**  
le 26-09-2013/Reuters

LA HAYE (Reuters) - La condamnation de l'ancien président du Liberia Charles Taylor à cinquante ans de prison pour crimes de guerre et crimes contre l'humanité lors de la guerre civile en Sierra Leone a été confirmée jeudi en appel.

Le parquet avait requis en janvier dernier une aggravation de cette peine.

Le magistrat qui présidait la formation d'appel à la Haye du Tribunal spécial pour la Sierra Leone (TSSL), George Gelaga King, a souligné que Charles Taylor avait soutenu en Sierra Leone les rebelles du Front révolutionnaire uni (Ruf) et du Conseil révolutionnaire des forces armées (AFRC), en sachant très bien le genre de crimes qu'ils commettaient.

"Leur premier but était de faire régner la terreur. Une violence brutale a été à dessein déchaînée contre des civils afin de leur faire peur, peur qu'il y ait à nouveau des violences s'ils continuaient à résister", a déclaré le juge.

"Les gouvernements et la communauté internationale craignaient aussi que s'il n'était pas répondu aux exigences du Ruf et de l'AFRC, il s'ensuivrait des meurtres, mutilations, enlèvements et viols de civils à nouveau par milliers", a-t-il ajouté.

Charles Taylor, qui est âgé de 65 ans, a écouté, impassible, la lecture de l'arrêt de la cour. Il va maintenant être transféré du centre de détention néerlandais où il réside depuis 2006 vers une prison britannique de sécurité maximum.

L'ancien président libérien avait été condamné en première instance en mai 2012. La guerre civile en Sierra Leone, qui a duré plus de dix ans et s'est terminée début 2002, a fait environ 50.000 morts.

**Blood ivory: poachers use poison to slaughter elephants in Africa**

By Amar Toor/theverge.com/ September 26, 2013

## Cyanide kills at least 87 elephants in Zimbabwe massacre

Poachers have begun using more subtle techniques to slaughter elephants in Zimbabwe, swapping rifles and machetes for industrial grade poison. Yesterday, a provincial court convicted three poachers on charges of using cyanide to kill scores of elephants in Zimbabwe's largest national park, sentencing each to at least 15 years in prison. Earlier this week, authorities confirmed that 87 elephants have been killed by cyanide in Hwange National Park, a total that includes the 41 poisoned animals discovered there earlier this month.

It's not entirely clear how the elephants were poisoned, though authorities believe poachers placed cyanide in areas where the animals are known to graze before seizing their valuable ivory tusks. Fifty-one tusks have been recovered thus far, officials told CNN, meaning that poachers may have escaped with more than 120. Investigations are ongoing, but officials believe the operation likely impacted other animals in the area, as well.

"Several other animals have also died, but we don't have the total number yet," Jerry Gotora, director of the Zimbabwe parks department, told AFP on Tuesday.

Elephant and rhinoceros populations have declined at alarming rates over the past few years, due in large part to surging demand for ivory in China, where the material is used for valuable carvings and traditional elixirs. Rising demand has sent prices skyward — one pound of ivory can fetch \$1,300 on the black market — fueling a nefarious network of poachers across Africa. Reports suggest that ivory trade revenue has been used to fund wars and terrorist groups, including al-Shabaab, the Somalia-based militant group believed to be behind last week's attack on a mall in Kenya.

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) passed an international ban on ivory trading in 1989, but enforcing it has proven to be difficult. Experts believe tens of thousands of elephants are killed for their ivory every year, and evidence suggests that the trend is only worsening; in 2011, authorities seized more illegal ivory at ports than at any point since 1989, when record keeping began.

Poachers in Namibia have been known to poison vultures in order to prevent them from circling over an elephant carcass and alerting authorities. There have been reports of isolated wildlife poisonings in the past — including an incident at Hwange National Park two years ago — but experts say the practice is far from common, and has never been deployed on a scale as large as what happened in Zimbabwe.

"This is something of a first for Zimbabwe, and it may be a first for most elephant-rich countries," says Jimmiel Mandima, director of program design and policy at the African Wildlife Foundation in Washington, DC.

Mandima, a Zimbabwe national, says the country has long been a leader in conservation among African nations, though budget constraints have hampered its efforts to protect its wildlife population. According to AFP, approximately 50 rangers are responsible for Hwange National Park, and authorities say at least 10 times that are needed to patrol the 5,660-square mile area.

""As long as the market is robust for ivory there will be cruel poaching of wild elephants.""

"Because economic conditions are not the best, the wildlife authority responsible for overseeing

anti-poaching and protection is really running on a tight budget," Mandima said in a phone interview with The Verge. "They are not always able to be on the ground when needed."

Environment Minister Saviour Kasukuwere has vowed to crack down on those responsible for the Hwange massacre, calling for stiffer jail time and penalties for convicted poachers. Earlier this year, the Obama administration pledged \$10 million to help combat wildlife poaching in Africa, but experts say more cooperative and forceful action must be taken to fight an ivory market that has shown no signs of slowing down.

"Parties with strong domestic markets — from Zimbabwe to Japan to the United States — should shut these markets down and enact strict domestic legislation prohibiting the commercialization of ivory," Adam Roberts, executive vice president of the animal welfare group Born Free, said in an email to The Verge. "As long as the market is robust for ivory there will be cruel poaching of wild elephants to supply this demand."

### Death toll rises in Sudan fuel protests

26 Sep 2013/ Source:AFP

At least 29 people killed in Khartoum and Omdurman after three days of rioting over cuts in state fuel subsidies.

Fresh deadly protests have broken out in Sudan, taking the toll of people killed in three days of rioting to 29.

Police fired tear gas to disperse hundreds of demonstrators late on Thursday in Khartoum's twin city of Omdurman, and a small protest was also held in the capital itself.

The demonstrations have been prompted by a government decision to cancel fuel subsidies.

Calm was restored in Khartoum earlier on Thursday after anti-riot units were deployed at major road intersections, but activists called on social media for fresh protests on Friday.

The escalating protests are the largest in Sudan since President Omar al-Bashir, whose Foreign Ministry denied he had called off a visit to the UN, seized power in 1989.

Protests called for by activists took off from Inqaz district, south of Khartoum, where up to 3,000 people marched on the main road and hurled stones at passing-by cars, witnesses said.

Police responded by firing tear gas and rubber bullets, they said. No casualties were reported.

A hospital source in Omdurman told AFP news agency that "we have received the bodies of 21 people" since the protests began on Monday, adding that all were "civilians".

Another eight people were killed in other regions, witnesses and families said.

Fatalities confirmed

Police confirmed the 29 fatalities without giving details on the killings, but the sources said most of them were shot dead by security forces.

Riots erupted in several districts of Khartoum on Wednesday, some near the city centre, and public

transport ground to a halt.

"Freedom, freedom," and "The people want the fall of the regime," chanted the protesters, many of them students, borrowing the refrain of Arab Spring protests that toppled several governments in 2011.

The protests have turned violent in some areas, with government buildings set ablaze.

Demonstrations first erupted in Wad Madani in Gezira state, south of Khartoum, the scene of the first death on Monday.

They have also spread to Nyala, capital of South Darfur state.

The education authorities have announced the closure of schools until next Monday.

The Internet was restored on Thursday, users said, after a one-day cut for unexplained reasons.

Social media was filled with calls for fresh protests on Friday after the weekly Muslim prayers.

The Alliance of the Youth of the Sudanese Revolution, in a statement, said its aims were for Bashir to step down "along with the corrupt government and for its services to be dismantled".

'Corrupt government'

In a related development, the US embassy has called on its citizens to avoid flashpoint areas, saying it had received "regrettable" reports of casualties and warning Americans of the danger of further protests.

Bashir had been scheduled to speak to world leaders on Thursday, but Jerome Bernard, a UN spokesman, told AFP that Ali Karti, Sudanese foreign minister, would now address the assembly instead.

The Foreign Ministry denied the report and urged the US to "respect its obligations and issue visas" to Bashir and his delegation, and to stop delaying the applications.

The International Criminal Court has urged US authorities to arrest Bashir, who is wanted by the court in The Hague on 10 counts of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide in the Darfur conflict.

The ICC issued arrest warrants for Bashir in March 2009 and July 2010, but he has since travelled to several African countries.

Source:AFP

UN/AFRICA :

**Africa needs partnership, not sympathy - Mahama tells UN**

Source: GhanaWeb/Thursday, 26 September 2013

President John Dramani Mahama in his speech delivered this afternoon at the United Nations

General Assembly today has challenged the world to start partnering with Africa for economic growth instead of sympathizing with the continent.

President Mahama, who addressed the United Nations General Assembly on Thursday, said: “Often the Western world wrongly assumes that we in Africa do not know our worth. We do. It’s not sympathy we want; it’s partnership, the ability to stand on our own feet. It’s not handouts we’re in search of; it’s opportunities. We have already shown that with time and the right opportunity, Africa can make it.”

President Mahama reiterates the need to transform Africa’s economy by adding value to “our primary produce of export”. He said it is not good enough for Africa to export raw gold, cocoa, petroleum and other various resources and be importing a finished product.

“We need to add value to our natural resources by setting up industries in our countries that will add these values. And of course, this will create more employment for the teeming youths who have got no job, as well as add greatly to our economic growth” he said.

US/AFRICA :

CANADA/AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

EU/AFRICA :

CHINA/AFRICA :

INDIA/AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

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