

Election 2024

And so the political Tsunami continues to make waves

Is the Moustache Man still daring or would he begin to understand that the net is closing on him?



have between their teeth. In every situation, we know, that there are those who are **for** and those who are **against**. Some of them do not seem to know where they stand but the brainwashing goes on to the point as, Bob Hope in a film scenario, said "I am **for** those who are **against**, and **against** those who are **for** in order to get himself out of a tricky situation.

Paul Bérenger has said that in a government with the MMM participation, he would give women front-row positions in the National Assembly. One wonders what sort of position *fillette* Joanna will have, possibly that of Deputy PM which caretaker PM Jugnauth will create for political partner PMSD leader Xavier Duval, if the tandem are back to power in the Alliance lepep.

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But the Moustache Man is so daring that he has made it known that he would soon deliver his revelations live, according to his followers.

The Moustache Man has raised such a tsunami on the waves of the political life in Mauritius that the whole spectrum of the enemies of State in the country (they are legions) are having a great time, fuelled by the local media, especially the local radios and the press, generally.

It is believed that the press, *dans son ensemble*, is bent on bringing down the administration. One may find it surprising that the leading and major political party of the country itself has never thought it fit to have its own organ to give back as much as they receive.

The populace is at this stage suffering from election-fatigue, but the media will not let go the flesh they



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Advertising Sale

To be honest it must be admitted that with an electorate of over one million voters, the number of those who are **against** are in their multitude, though not necessarily higher in number than those who are **for** an outgoing government which has a positive record.

However, the fodder for the attacking media is not on the side of those who happen to favour the *bilan* of the outgoing government but on the side of those who have been and who are against the outgoing government. According to observers, they do not weigh more than those who think positively of the prevailing achievements but the press has an opportunity worth exploiting that helps to sell advertising space by retaining the attention of the adversaries.

Following the revelations of the Moustache Man accusing the Commissioner of Police, Anil Kumar Dip, *de tous les maux du monde*, the media have been putting him on trial and their verdict is that he is 'guilty as accused'. Le Défi finds it strange that Anil Kumar Dip is still en poste. The paper seems to express the view that on the basis of the revelations he should have been removed from office. It is the general consensus that if the Commissioner a fauté, he should bear the consequences. But first, it must be established that "il a fauté". This is the application of the Rule of law: One is innocent until proven guilty. All newspapers in Mauritius will tell you that they stand for the defence of the Rule of Law.

Commissioner of Police

Concerning the revelations made the Moustache Man about the alleged attack on journalists, the organisation of *Reporters sans Frontières* wants an independent inquiry to be set up to investigate. And so does former Republic President Cassam Uteem (MMM) to investigate all the allegations made by the chap on social media. This is precisely what the caretaker Prime Minister, Pravind Jugnauth, has done. Immediately, the antagonists ask in the media what will the Commission investigate? Will it investigate who is Mr Moustache or whether his revelations are truthful, which would put the Commissioner in hot water?

This is an era that may be long remembered after it has gone. Will Ramgoolam come back as PM? If he does the National Assembly debates will be something to watch. The *joute oratoire* for five years between an elderly PM and Jugnauth the Younger as leader of the Opposition can take the old man to an early grave. On the other hand, this election is a matter of do or die for the Labour leader. What will he do next if he fails to obtain a seat in the National Assembly as he did at the two preceding general elections?

In such a situation where a personality, like Police Commissioner Anil Kumar Dip is targeted, many hold the view that he could step down by himself pending he is cleared or that the PM could ask him to step down during the investigation. This is logical. The question is why does the Commissioner not do so or why the PM does not ask him to do so until he is cleared. It is understood that the Prime Minister has no authority to ask him to step down, according to the Constitution of the country. On the other hand, if he is not guilty why should the Commissioner step down and weaken his position to defend himself in order to please his enemies, whoever they are? But to stand aside pending the inquiry is no admission of guilt and cannot be seen as such. In the meantime, the bashing, especially from the media (radio, press and social network) is at its zenith?

When one listens to the sweet voices of the do-gooders on the radio, one would think that butter would not melt in their mouth. So carried away by their own analyses of the day-to-day development they give the impression that they know everything and have solutions to every situations. They are totally unaware of the silent majority who are assessing them for what they are worth.

Among those who believe they know the identity of the Moustachio, our reader Janegui Velloo asks what sort of *nimacaram* can this creature be? After eating the salt at his former friend's table and share meals with the family, he goes and gives the head of the family the Judas Iscariot kiss on leaving the table? But those who think they know the identity of the Moustachio may be wrong in the assumption.

Labour leader Navin Ramgoolam in the style of a former US President has warned the Electoral Commissioner that he held information that forgery would be committed during the ballot. Following the outcome of the last general election held in 2019, he protested all the way the King's Privy Council that the results had been forged and his election to the

National Assembly had been robbed from him. This time he has given notice that he holds information for the same occurrence.

It is my understanding that the majority of the younger generation have always been against the Establishment. They are easily influenced by the demagogy and the rhetoric of the *harceleurs*. The young people, we know it because we have experienced it once ourselves, genuinely believe that the world begins with them. Nothing existed before them.

Young Voters

Paul Bérenger must know this experience because when he made his appearance on the political scene in Mauritius in 1969 from his alleged Paris escapade he was to change everything in the country. He managed to enlist a lot of young Mauritians to follow him. Though he is himself of French origin and quite whitish he went to war with the *grands blancs*, the sugar barons. He wrested from Eliezer François control of the dockers unions and became the champion of the *Débardeurs* of Mauritius.

So there is nothing new under heaven. Elections after elections, the young voters have always expressed themselves in their own particular way. To what extent will they influence the forthcoming election, it is hard to say.

One young voter repeating what he had heard elsewhere told me that his children will have to pay back the country's national debt of today. His soft mind has easily been impressed by what he hears on the radio from the economists of doom. National debt is a phenomenon that all civilised countries of the world have recourse to. The country with the biggest national debt is the US. However, it should be stressed that the national debt should never be out of control, but it's there non-the-less as an instrument to manage the economy.

One question has been asked of the outgoing Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth in the *sillage* of the Mr Moustache crisis. Has he (the PM) delayed too long before deciding to go to the people allowing the moustachio time to gather his info. One reply that has been given to that question is that the moustachio has had his tapping transaction made long before, and would have come out at any time that he would have thought appropriate.

Pierre Louis

Press cutting surprised that Police Commissioner is still in post



Yes, this daily is surprised that Anil Kumar Dip is still leading the Mauritius Police Force in spite of the verbal assault that the media generally has unleashed upon him.

Everyone wants him out of office as can be seen by the headline opposite. He is still here, moans the daily. "J'y suis j'y reste," says he.

Allegations of every hue has been levelled against him via the internet network. Worse, it is said that he has even used abusive words to insult religious figures of other faiths. For the insult that he has proffered, the media in general and religious figures want his scalp. But Commissioner Dip, though he finds himself in deep waters, remains unmoved. The whole vaccame is going to be investigated by a Commission of Inquiry and then the Commissioner's fate will be decided once for all.

Everybody is convinced, including the famous daily featured opposite, that the foul language and references in the leaks of Mr Moustache is from the voice of the Commissioner. Now new thar leaks of other voices are being revealed, a reporter from the famous daily says they are fabricated through AI. Why the volte face? The two leaks serve different interests.

P.L.

M O G Here & There

The moustache treatment of Mr Moustache by Harpo Marx of Marx Bros



Give him the full treatment says brother Chico (on the right)



Harpo who never spoke a word (on the set at least) took a good look



.... and carried on trimming to give the Moustachio the Hitler's touch

The Chagos outcome

Is the Chagos' result a failure?



Much is still being written and said about the Chagos denouement to belittle the achievements of the Government of Mauritius in obtaining justice for both the Chagossians and for Mauritius itself. Politicians in opposition to the outgoing government are using the Chagos' outcome during the present electoral campaign to throw mud on this historic achievement.

For years, before independence of Mauritius in 1968, Britain, as a colonial power who ruled Mauritius and all its overseas territories in the Indian Ocean had decided to keep, against all international opinions, the Archipelago and its 64 islets for itself by including this outpost of Mauritius among the newly-created British Indian Ocean Territories (BIOT). Worse still for Mauritius, two years before its independence in 1966, Britain gave the archipelago to the Americans on a 50 year-lease which expired this century in 2016 and which was renewed by the British Government. The

Americans built a military base on the main island of Diego Garcia.

When Mauritius was granted its independence in March 1968, the Chagos Archipelago was not included. Except fighting, thro' demos and the international courts, since then to regain its sovereignty over the Chagos, there was nothing else Mauritius could do about those islands which are located some 1,500 miles from its shores. *Well, all that is past history.*

Present history is that Britain has recently made it known that it is willing to abide by all international court rulings demanding the return of the Chagos sovereignty to Mauritius including the island of Diego Garcia. Diego Garcia has a tenant, already. Can Mauritius kick that tenant out to take possession of Diego Garcia? Can Mauritius police those islands which are thousands of miles away from its shores. Already Sri Lankan refugees, under the very nose of the Americans have landed and occupied part of Diego Garcia. Some politicians incite public opinion and argue that Mauritius should chase the Americans out of Diego Garcia. *Pour l'amour du ciel*, please remember that there are pirates in the Indian Ocean who need to have their lairs in the area. What an opportunity those undefended Chagos islets will offer to those pirates when the American base is vacated!

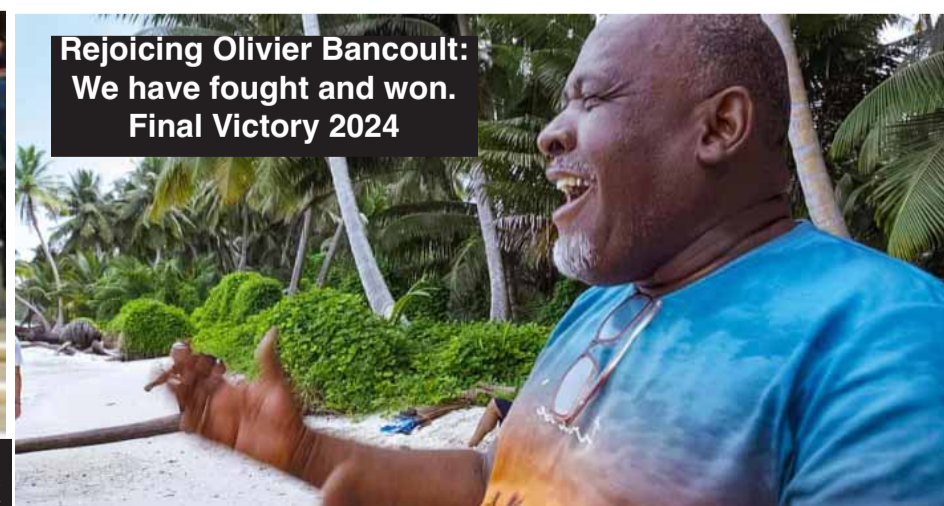
Once the sovereignty of the Chagos is transferred to Mauritius jurisdiction, Britain will be out of the way. Mauritius will deal direct with the Americans regarding the tenancy of Diego Garcia and will pay rent to Mauritius. Once the 99-year lease expires it is very likely that Mauritius will be happy for a renewal and enjoy the revenue generated from the lease.

For the time being we cannot remove the sitting tenant. **Content pas content**, That's that!

Suresh Coonjeebeeharry



One of the victories at the High Court in London in late 1990s. Olivier Bancoult, second in front row (r to l). Richard Gifford at the back



Rejoicing Olivier Bancoult: We have fought and won. Final Victory 2024

Japan News

by Mylene



New Prime Minister Calls a Snap Election

Just appointed as Prime Minister last week, Shigeru Ishiba is preparing to dissolve the Japanese parliament, known as the Diet, on Wednesday in anticipation of a snap election scheduled for October 27th.

He took over from Fumio Kishida whose administration had been plagued by slush fund scandals and public dissatisfaction with increasing prices.

The Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has been in power in Japan for decades and is likely to win re-election.

"It makes sense that he wanted to call a snap election as soon as the 'face' of the party changed, while the momentum is still there" stated Yu Uchiyama, a political science professor at the University of Tokyo.

RESULT OF SNAP ELECTION

After assuming office as the new Prime Minister of Japan on October 1, Shigeru Ishiba promptly called for a snap election

He emphasised his intention to secure a new mandate for his party and to concentrate on revitalising the economy and implementing political reform.

Following the election, Japan's ruling coalition party, the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP,) along with its coalition

partner Komeito, secured only 215 seats out of 465, which has led to political uncertainty.

This outcome may pose challenges for Ishiba in pushing forward his party's policies through parliament, potentially requiring him to find a third coalition partner.

"The results have been extremely severe, and we take them very seriously," Ishiba told Japan's national NHK television. Ishiba indicated he would remain in his role as Japan's leader but his future remains uncertain following such a significant election defeat.

In The Animal Kingdom

The killing goes on



Netanyahu has tasted blood and he likes it, and so did an animal before him known as Hitler. Hitler wanted to wipe out the Jews from the surface of the earth, and Netanyahu wants to wipe out the Palestinians from the surface of the earth.

in the 1930s & 1940s Hitler wanted lebensraum in Europe and so he invaded other European countries and got rid of the Jews whom he considered as the enemy of humanity.

Now, it's a Jew, Netanyahu, who needs lebensraum in the middle east, and more especially in Palestine, a country to which the wandering Jews of Europe sought refuge in 1948 with the help of colonial Britain who was supposed to protect Palestine.

Colonial Britain opened the doors of Palestine to the Jews who were being massacred by Hitler and chased out of Europe. The Nazis even starved the Jews of all ages by keeping them behind barbed wire in concentration camps. It is said that six million Jews were starved to deaths including a good number of children.

It has just been reported that Israel killed 48 children last night in storming Gaza and destroyed more and more infrastructure of the country.

