

## THE HONOURABLE JOSHUA OSIH LISTENS TO THE POPULATION DURING HIS NATIONAL TOUR

### SDF CHAIRMAN ENGAGES WITH SILICON MOUNTAIN TRAILBLAZERS TO FOSTER DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN CAMEROON

BY **NDIFOR RICHARD**

In a remarkable display of collaboration and innovation, the national chairman of the Social Democratic Front (SDF), along with a delegation of party officials from the Southwest Region and some National executive Committee members, gathered for a momentous lunch with the pioneering minds of Silicon Mountain. This event marked a significant step toward harnessing the power of technology to revolutionize public services in Cameroon.

On April 20, 2024, the chairman of the SDF, renowned for his commitment to progress and social development, engaged in an inspiring dialogue with the trailblazers of Silicon Mountain. Located in Cameroon, Silicon Mountain is recognized as the nation's first and largest community of young technologists and techpreneurs. The luncheon served as a platform for the exchange of

ideas, brainstorming sessions, and envisioning a future where digital systems play a central role in transforming public services across the country. The chairman, accompanied by party officials of the region and members of the Silicon Mountain community, embarked on a journey of exploration and collaboration to promote and support the flourishing local tech industry in Cameroon.

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During the gathering, the chairman was deeply impressed by the passion, ingenuity, and groundbreaking solutions presented by the Silicon Mountain community. The technovators and techpreneurs shared their innovative approaches, which have the potential to drive economic growth and significantly improve the lives of all Cameroonians.

The SDF firmly believes that embracing digitalization is the key to unlocking tremendous potential and achieving sustainable development. By leveraging

the power of technology, Cameroon can pave the way for economic prosperity and a better quality of life for its citizens. The chairman and the Silicon Mountain community discussed various strategies to foster the growth of the local tech industry. Recognizing the transformative impact of digital systems, as part of the SDF political agenda, the SDF aims to create an enabling environment that nurtures talent, encourages entrepreneurship, and provides the necessary support for technological advan-

cements in the country.

This engagement between the SDF and Silicon Mountain represents a significant milestone in the SDF's quest for digital transformation in Cameroon. It highlights the commitment of both political and technological leaders to work together toward a common goal of harnessing innovation for the betterment of society.

As the luncheon concluded, the chairman expressed his gratitude to the Silicon Mountain community for their invaluable contributions and pledged to

advocate for the integration of digital systems in public services. He emphasized that collaboration between the government, industry, and technological pioneers is crucial for Cameroon to remain at the forefront of the digital revolution.

With the SDF's unwavering support and the determination of Silicon Mountain's tech enthusiasts, the SDF is poised to embrace a future where technology empowers citizens and propels the nation forward on the path of progress.

## MOUNGO : TOURNEE DE L'HONORABLE JOSHUA OSIH LE SDF EN RANG UNI DERRIERE SON NOUVEAU LEADER

PAR LAZARE TCHABOU

Après sa tournée dans le chef de la région du littoral, c'est une salle de fête assez pleine qui a accueilli la forte délégation du bureau national du SDF ce 25 avril dans la ville de MBANGA. Conduite par l'honorable Joshua OSIH, Président National du parti et député à l'Assemblée Nationale. L'homme politique est venu toucher du doigt les réalités difficiles du quotidien de sa po-

pulation. Outre les problèmes de route, de santé, de la vie chère, d'insécurité dans les régions anglophones, les problèmes de carte nationale d'identité qui lui ont été soumis, l'honorable Joshua OSIH n'a pas manqué de prendre des engagements forts tout en demandant à sa population d'aller s'inscrire massivement sur les listes électorales.

Après cette étape de mobilisation et

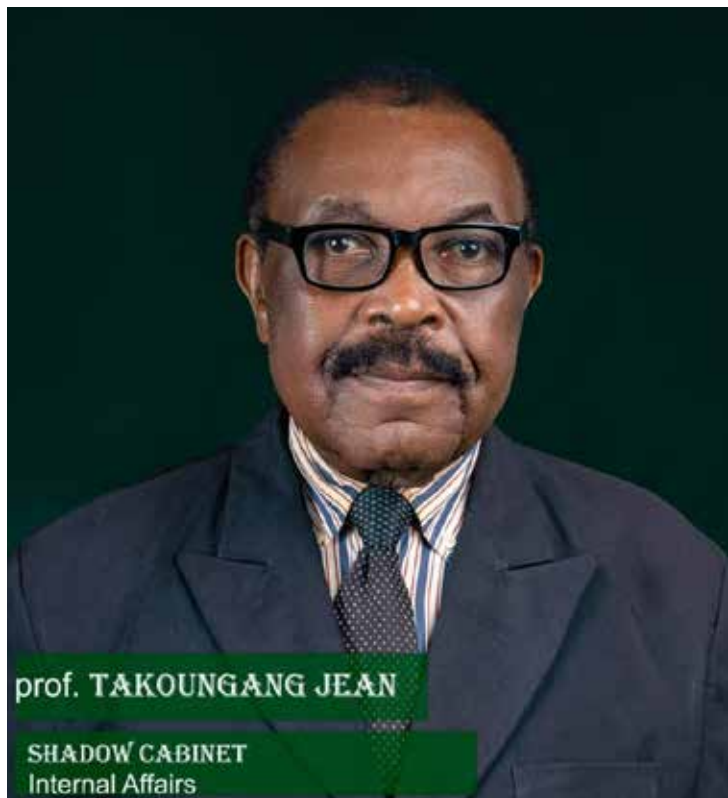
de sensibilisation la forte délégation du bureau national du parti est allée faire preuve de civilité au chef supérieur du Canton Balo sa majesté MUKETE Magellan avant de se diriger du côté de Mombo pour présenter ses condoléances à la famille du maire de Mombo décédée tout récemment. Véritable moment de réconfort fortement apprécié par des militants tout en

extase.

Le Sherman à achever ça tourne dans le département du Moungo en allant rencontrer le patron du département le préfet Yves Bertrand Noël NDJANA question de lui présenter ces amitiés dans le respect des valeurs républicaines. À l'approche des futures échéances électorales c'est un SDF uni derrière son leader qui espère des jours meilleurs.

## THE SDF AND THE LAUNCHING OF A PROGRESSIVE FRONT

BY JEAN TAKOUNGANG



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Progressivism is a political philosophy which advocates social reforms. It is based on the idea of progress according to which scientific and technological advances, economic development and social organisation are essential to improving human conditions. The common contemporary political conception of progressivism arose from the vast social changes brought about by industrialisation in the Western world at the end of the 19th century. Progressives consider that progress is stifled by vast economic inequalities between rich and

poor, unregulated laissez-faire capitalism with monopolistic corporations, intense and often violent conflicts between those perceived as privileged and unprivileged, claiming that measures were needed to solve these problems. Contemporary progressives promote public policies that they believe will lead to positive social change. In the 21st century, a movement that identifies itself as progressive is "a social or political movement that aims at representing the interests of ordinary people through political change and the construction of general welfare. It

should come as no surprise that the SDF, whose ideological foundations are social democracy and power to the people, is launching a Progressive Front. Cameroon's political landscape has so far been dominated by political groupings with strong neo-liberal leanings, and it should be acknowledged that building a progressive mass party bringing together left-wing forces to counter them remains a challenge, because the ordeal is not just to draw up a feasible alternative vision that will win the support of the population and to build an organisation that will convey it effectively, but also to make up the democratic deficit to which the majority voting system contributes and to create hope in the prevailing cynicism, fuelled by petty politics, scandals and the subordination of politicians to economic governance. But this cannot be achieved without the politicisation of social struggles, and if necessary, without the support of social movements. It is to

this colossal task that the SDF has committed itself by launching a progressive front with the trade unions (the Cameroon Labour Movement), whose multi-year strategic planning workshop will be held on 25 and 26 April 2024 in Kribi. The immediate response to neo-liberal policies is to recreate hope, by bringing together and unifying progressive forces to revalorise politics and the power of the grassroots citizens. The first step is to recognise that political parties do not hold a monopoly on politics, and that social movements also have a responsibility for the political education of their members and for political life in general. That's how we came to believe that, by retaining the flexibility of a movement, the party, resolutely progressive, will support social struggles in the street, for which it will also be the spokesperson on the electoral front.



The construction of a progressive Front and the subsequent development of social movements are interdependent processes that an individualistic and fragmented view of reality fails to take into account at first glance. Social movements value citizen power at grassroots level within trade union, community,

environmental, feminist and other organisations. These contributions are essential because they promote social participation and collective empowerment, which are the very foundations of democracy. They do, however, have their political limits. That's why, for example, more and more anti-globalisation

activists acknowledge the importance of a political bridge to help them implement their alternative policies. The conquest of political power remains the essential step if we want to bring about change on a societal scale. Only a well structured political organisation can draw up a pro-

gramme that synthesises progressive demands, integrates them into a global vision and channels forces to that direction. Accession to executive and legislative power will give access to the means of transforming demands into lasting achievements.

**EDITORIAL**

**PAR PHILIPPE MOKOLO DONGUE TOKOTO**

It all started in the merry month of May 26, 1990 in Bamenda, the capital of North West region of Cameroon after manifold years of nepotism and dictatorship, when flowers are all blooming, and the tender shoots of plants are sprouting to see the light of the day, somewhere in the green plain seeds of freedom are also germinating in the minds of millions of people and mostly Cameroonians around the planet earth. That year was the birth of a democratic alternative to the numbing inertia of the one party state was in gestation, and had a painful delivery because of the macabre designs of the tight-sitting sole

party barons. Notwithstanding the

and the child of freedom was born, albeit

struggle for freedom, a milestone in the sands of time after several decades of oligarchy, nepotism and dictatorship. A country where school children were routinely taught songs of praise to worship their leaders, while their parents helplessly looked on as the body politics was decaying. On May 26, 1990, a brave and courageous NI JOHN FRU NDI and a mammoth of crowd estimated at one hundred thousand people of die-hard democrats launched the SDF. In fact, the overreaction of the renegades in Yaounde sent troops to prevent the birth of SDF, but that could not deter



massive military built-up, people came from every nooks and crannies of Cameroon and stood up as one people to say "NO", enough is enough,

with indelible scares of blood dotted in its mind. That child was given the name SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC FRONT (SDF). That day was then a turning point in a

NI JOHN FRU NDI AND THE MILLIONS OF CAMEROONIAN PEOPLE who turned up that day from the path already chosen which was the LUNCHING OF THE SDF. This lunching was supported by all those who were thirsty of freedom around the world. As a defenseless people, they were peacefully marching, and some lunatic soldiers opened fired and claimed the life of six innocent children, and maimed hundreds of them for life. THESE CHILDREN' BLOOD IS REMINISCENT TO THAT OF THEIR COUNTERPART THAT Stood up and defied the apartheid regime in Sharpen Ville in South Africa, also in their quest for freedom

Apart from the

above-mentioned martyrs whose blood was shared, there were also similar cases across the world. There have been legends whose blood was also shared, just like the blood of Jesus, that of innocent children' whose blood that was shared, watered the tree of freedom and democracy in our peaceful and lovely fatherland Cameroon. A mass party was born, despite several attempts to stop the wind of change blowing from the West. From that time thereon, and in keeping with the denouement of events in the world, one would say without the least doubt, that when a people stands behind a leader that has their interests at hearth, no amount of

weapons can change their decisions, and this is the reason we all are seeing the enthusiasm people are scrambling for SDF in a country where we have more than two hundred political parties. We together have done much, and we are still going to join hands as a people, to finish with what we all started. We in the SDF believe that the interests of our people come first hence, POWER TO THE PEOPLE AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY. We thank you mightily for your relentless support and promise never to betray you in a country where all is supposed to be equal before the law, in a country where there are propriety and decorum. As we all know that NO

DICTATOR GIVES DEMOCRACY ON A PLATTER OF GOLD, OUR LONG WALK TO FREEDOM IS NOT YET OVER UNTIL TOGETHER, WE OBTAIN ECONMIC FREEDOM IN OUR LIFE TIME. NELSON MANDELA IN SOUTH AFRICA for twenty-seven years in prison did not give up from fighting for freedom because he was patient, and did not as a democrat, take power by the barrel of gun so too, the SDF, because your life is precious, and SDF does not want power to govern stones, but the people, and we love you for that. One day, we shall all sing FREEDOM AT LAST, FREEDOM AT LAST, FREEDOM AT LAST, AND MAY GOD BLESS CAMEROON

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