

# IN LOVING MEMORY OF

## Ni John Fru Ndi

"I have lived a full life.  
I have done everything I wanted to do."



1941 - 2023



### CELEBRATING LIFETIME LEGACY OF SDF FOUNDING CHAIRMAN

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## TESTIMONY



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## CELEBRATING LIFETIME LEGACY OF SDF FOUNDING CHAIRMAN

**BY KEJANG HENRY ATEMBEH**

**H**ow time flies ! No one would have imagined that it is exactly 1 year , precisely on June 12, 2023, that the founding chairman of the social Democratic Front , Ni John Fru Ndi left this sinful world . One year on, the social Democratic Front joined his biological family to celebrate his legacy at his (Fru Ndi) residence at Nkolfoulou, Yaounde on June 12, 3024. It all flagged off with

a memorial church service officiated by a college of pastors of the presbyterian Church in Cameroon in Cameroon in the like of Rev. W i r n d z e r e m Christain F of PC Soan, Rev Enow Michael Agbor of PC Nsimeyong and Rev Ngole Peter Ebot of PC Ekounou congregations . The men of God said , " a time like this helps us to remember the great man that Fru Ndi was

". The memorial of FRU NDI should make us stronger to overcome the odds in life. " It is time to seek confort and cover the gap FRU NDI left behind ", the men of God r e i t e r a t e d . Recounting the legacy of the chairman, pastors who delivered the sermon did not mince words to remember the joviality of FRU NDI whose doors were opened to all and

sundry. Promote democracy like FRU NDI did. Untold that legacy. THE PRESENCE OF THE NATIONAL E X E C U T I V E COMMITTEE. Leading the party for the commemoration of the fist anniversary of the transition of the founding chairman Ni John Fru Ndi, was the National chairman, Honorable Joshua Osih.



## CÉLÉBRATION DE LA VIE DE LA LÉGENDE DU SDF FONDATEUR DU PRÉSIDENT

BY KEJANG HENRY ATEMBEH

Comme le temps passe vite ! Personne n'aurait imaginé que cela fait exactement 1 an, précisément le 12 juin 2023, que le président fondateur du Social Democratic Front, Ni John Fru Ndi, a quitté ce monde de péché. Un an après, le Social Democratic Front s'est joint à sa famille biologique pour célébrer son héritage à sa résidence (Fru Ndi) à Nkolfoulou, Yaoundé, le 12 juin 2024.

Tout a commencé par un service

religieux commémoratif officié par un collège de pasteurs de l'Église presbytérienne du Cameroun, en la personne du révérend Wirndzere Christain F du PC Soan, du révérend Enow Michael Agbor du PC Nsimeyong et du révérend Ngole Peter Ebot de la congrégation du PC Ekounou.

Les hommes de Dieu ont déclaré : " un moment comme celui-ci nous aide à

nous souvenir du grand homme qu'était Fru Ndi ". La commémoration de Fru Ndi devrait nous rendre plus forts pour surmonter les obstacles de la vie. "Il est temps de chercher du réconfort et de combler le vide que Fru NDI a laissé derrière lui", ont réitéré les hommes de Dieu. En évoquant l'héritage du président, les pasteurs qui ont prononcé le sermon n'ont pas mâché leurs mots pour

rappeler la jovialité de FRU NDI dont les portes étaient ouvertes à tous et à toutes. Promouvoir la démocratie comme l'a fait FRU NDI. Cet héritage n'a pas été oublié.

LA PRÉSENCE DU COMITÉ EXÉCUTIF NATIONAL.

Le président national, l'honorable Joshua OSIH, était à la tête du parti pour la commémoration du premier anniversaire de la transition du président fondateur Ni John Fru Ndi.



## TESTIMONY

## BENJAMIN ACHU ON THE FOUNDING CHAIRMAN

Speaking on behalf of the family, he thanked the attendees to this 1st anniversary of the passing to eternity of the national chairman, their father. He recollected the life of their

chairman with his children. The nice moments and words of wisdom he left them with. It was a heart-touching recollection of the fatherly legacy that Benjamin Achu recounted to those who

joined the family for the memorial at the late chairman's Nkolfoulou residence along the road to Soa in yaounde



## FRU NDI UN AN PASSÉ

PAR MYLÈNE EBENGUE



Le 12 juin 2023 restera à jamais une date mémorable pour les Camerounais en général et les militants du Social Democratic Front au Cameroun en particulier, car le 12 juin 2024 est le premier anniversaire de la mort du président Ni John Fru

Ndi, président fondateur de ce parti politique. Il était une figure emblématique de la lutte pour les libertés démocratiques dans le pays.

Sous la direction du président national du SDF, Joshua OSIH, les militants lui ont rendu hommage à l'occasion de cet anniversaire, marqué par la solennité et la reconnaissance de l'héritage laissé par le président Fru Ndi. Sa détermination, son courage et son engagement indéfectible en

faveur de la démocratie ont été salués par tous lors de cet événement commémoratif.

Le président national Joshua OSIH a rappelé l'importance de l'héritage politique et moral laissé par le président Ni John Fru Ndi. Son action a été soulignée comme ayant jeté les bases d'une opposition constructive et pacifique dans un contexte politique souvent difficile.

Le président national Joshua OSIH et les militants du SDF ont

également réaffirmé leur engagement à poursuivre la lutte pour les idéaux de justice, de liberté et de démocratie pour lesquels le président Fru Ndi s'est tant battu. Son absence physique a peut-être laissé un vide, mais son esprit et sa vision continueront d'inspirer les générations futures à poursuivre la lutte pour un Cameroun meilleur et plus juste pour tous ses citoyens.

## FRU NDI ÉTAIT UN TRADITIONALISTE

PAR MYLÈNE EBENGUE

Les tambours qui ont rythmé la cérémonie commémorative témoignent du sérieux avec lequel le défunt président respectait les traditions et les coutumes de son peuple. C'est pourquoi les groupes de

danse traditionnelle ont fait vibrer les participants avec des chants et divers spectacles folkloriques de sa région. Il est vrai que le président FRU NDI aimait chanter et danser. L'extravagance culturelle qui

a duré toute la nuit a marqué le premier anniversaire de sa mort, en l'honneur du défunt président, qui était reconnu comme un véritable culturaliste.



## IN REMEMBRANCE OF JOHN FRU NDI : ARGUABLY THE GREATEST POST REUNIFICATION CAMEROONIAN POLITICIAN

CULLS : ELIE SMITH CRITIC /POLITICAL ANALYST.

One year ago today, the chieftain of the Social Democratic Front or SDF, John Fru Ndi, left this world. His demise was a great tragedy to Cameroon at a moment that the country is at crossroads. For John Fru Ndi was arguably the greatest post reunification politician and the only man under whose stewardship the Social Democratic Front did not only become the largest intra and extra parliamentary

opposition, it is the only political party that was able to beat the ruling CPDM and also match their nationwide presence.

Since the SDF challenged the ultra dominant position of the ruling in 1992 and 1997, no other political party has been able to remotely attained the hegemony and aura of the SDF.

The key to the success of the SDF was a mixture of populist rhetoric and

a clear cut political ideology and message. The other layer of its success was John Fru Ndi, himself. He was an astute politician and articulate, courageous and charismatic. Cameroonians identified themselves in him. He led by example by always taking the lead during protests marches against the government. John Fru Ndi still holds the record as the only post reunification political leader who has circumnavigated the country 22 times.

His nationalistic credentials suffers no doubt and he believed in peaceful protest and refused violence. Savior of the nation

When the so-called Anglophone crisis began in 2016, the cause of which according Prof Victor Julius Ngoh, in his book: Former Southern Cameroon's: the third option and the Anglophone problem.1959-2020,

A historico-conflict study : it is the refusal of the Ahmado Ahidjo and Paul Biya to address the root causes of the conflict is the reason why we are where we are today.

While everyone thought John Fru Ndi and his party will back calls made by a section of people in the North west and South West and their diaspora population for the partition of Cameroon, John Fru Ndi supported national unity. His actions was reminiscent to a similar act played by another great pan-Cameroonian politician, John Ngu Foncha.

John Fru Ndi's unflinching and un-nuanced backing of national unity, when he had all the reasons to have a contrary position, saved Cameroon from disintegration. He instead called on Ambazonians, the arrowheads of the uprising to follow peaceful democratic principles which is the only trajectory to correct the historic injustices that they are facing in Cameroon.

And for courageously standing up against disunity, he was kidnapped and tortured by some z e a l o u s Ambazonians. In line with his inclusive and openness, he took part at the Major National Dialogue because he sincerely believed it could be the start of initiatives to address the perineal anglophone crisis.

### Politics is not war

John Fru Ndi also led a rapprochement between his party and the ruling CPDM climaxed by the famous handshake between him and President Paul Biya in Bamenda. Most people criticized him for that, but he demonstrated that politics is just a game of ideas and not meant to create enmities. He has laid a national template for political tolerance, political courage and patriotism.

### Regrets

John Fru Ndi was an extremely humble man even though s o m e t i m e s tempestuous. In a

touch of humility seldom manifested by politicians of his calibre, he once told me that, I have made several mistakes, but that which trumps all of them was my decision to boycott the 1992 legislative elections. If we had participated, we would have won and made Cameroon and federal Republic again and this anglophone crisis would have been avoided.

His other regret was the similar position that the Cameroon R e n a i s s a n c e Movement or CRM adopted by also boycotting the legislative elections. He told me: I don't understand why these intellectuals are so confused . Prof Maurice Kamato criticized me violently in 1992 because I refused to take part in the legislative elections. It is even one of the reasons he left me to join Paul Biya. But, look, he is making the same mistake I did in 1992.

### Legacy

John Fru Ndi may have left us, but his legacy remains and one of his greatest

legacy is the Social Democratic Front. She may have lost its lustre of the past, she nonetheless remains one of the best organized political party in Cameroon with a national presence. Its current chairman, Joshua Osih, has what it takes to revive the SDF because, he was a loyal servant of John Fru Ndi and more, he is courageous, tactical and intelligent. Once again, A Dieu chairman. We still love you and we will never forget you.

# SDF SOUTH WEST REGIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING: A CALL TO ACTION FOR CHANGE

CULLS : A CORRESPONDENT BY YUH



**T**iko subdivision, Cameroon: The Social Democratic Front (SDF) held its South West Regional Executive Meeting at Emergence Resort on the 15th of June 2024. The gathering brought together regional executives, including members of the National Executive Committee (NEC), with Regional Chairman Chief John Kona Makia presiding over the discussions.

The meeting focused on the health of the party in the region, a topic lauded as "positive" by the participants. The

deliberations centered around the implementation of past resolutions, particularly concerning:

- \* Corruption at Identification Centers: The meeting addressed the issue of corruption at identification centers, a significant concern for many Cameroonians seeking vital documents.

- \* Financial Misappropriation by School Principals: The SDF condemned the misuse of Parent Teacher Association (PTA) levies by school principals,

highlighting the need for transparency and accountability in education funding. \* Extortion of the Poor : A resounding call for action was issued against the exploitation of the poor by wealthy CPDM barons.

Chief Kona Makia, in his address, emphasized that the SDF's primary objective is to protect the interests of ordinary Cameroonians. He stressed that the SDF is more than just a party; it is a movement, a front for the people.

"We cannot replace our frustration with the bad government in place with fighting amongst ourselves," he implored, calling for unity and a clear focus on the party's goals.

The meeting concluded with a

renewed sense of purpose and a shared commitment to building a stronger SDF in the region. The participants left energized and determined to implement the outlined strategies, spreading the message of change deep into the South West.

The SDF, according to the meeting participants, is "breathing well" and stands ready to assume power, working in the interests of the people. Preparations for the upcoming political battles have begun, with the party actively mobilizing to achieve its objectives.

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