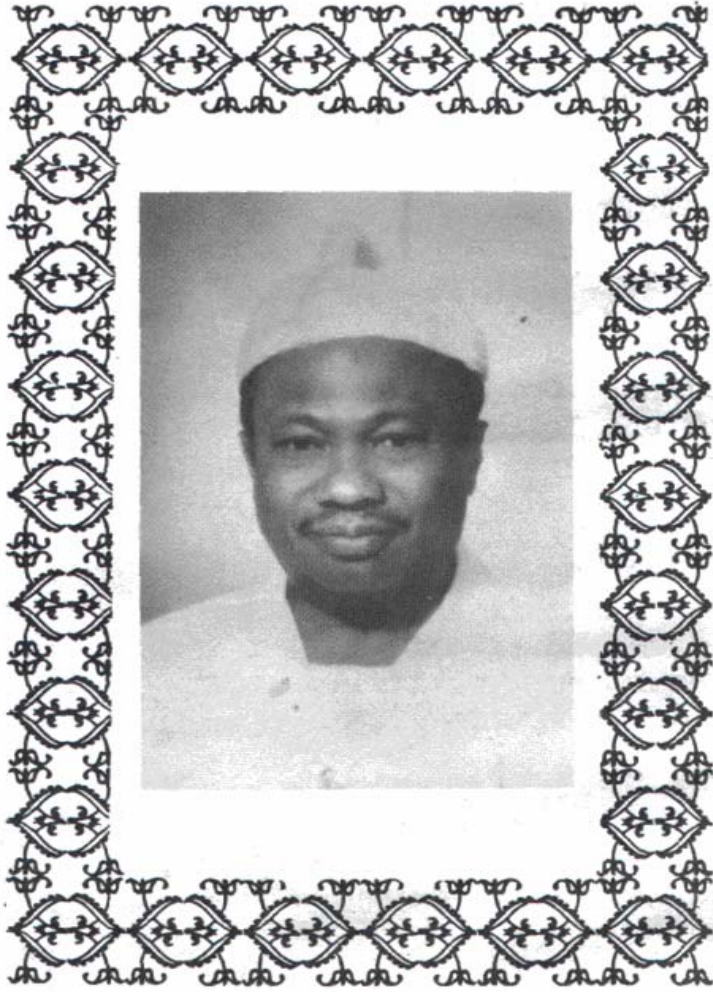
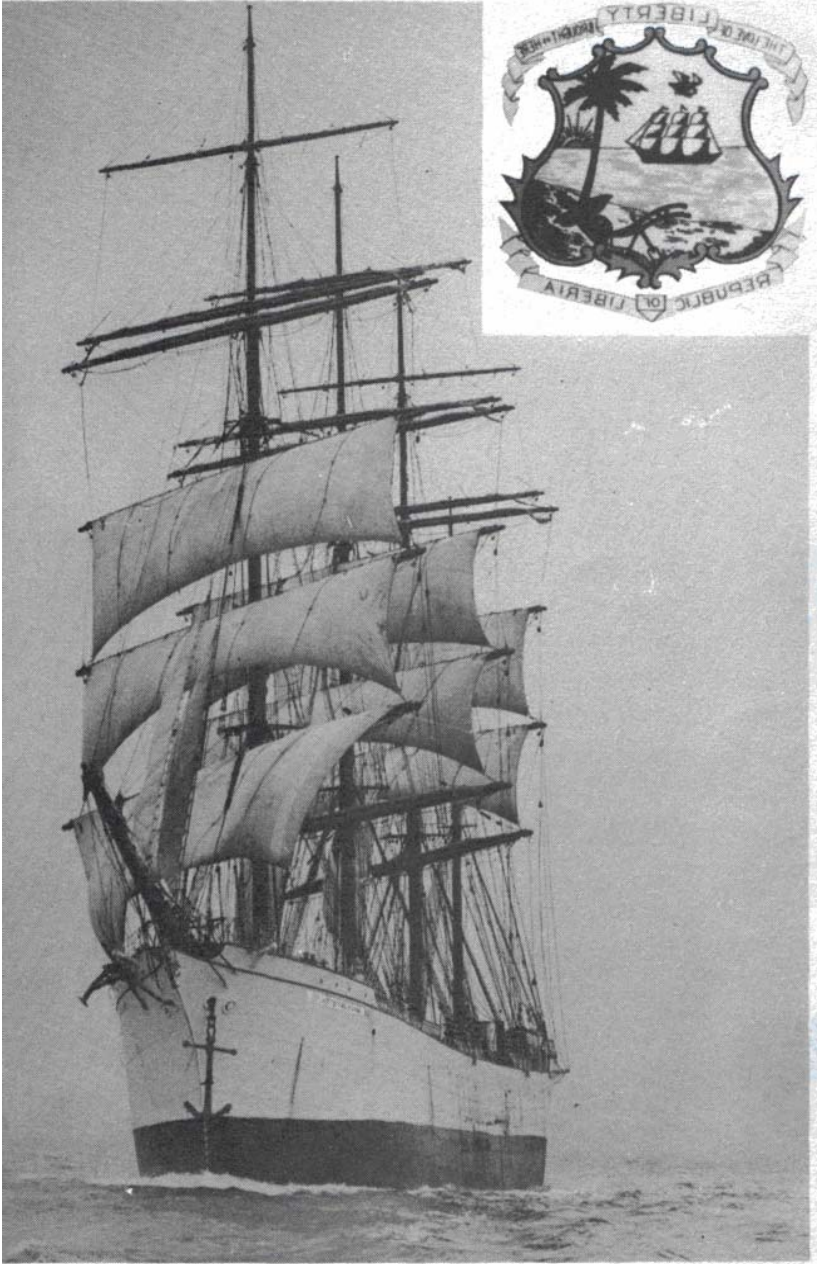


OUR PRESIDENT



Rev. Dr. William R. Tolbert Jr.
President of the Republic of
Liberia, Current Chairman,
Organization of African Unity



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The way they returned to Africa: sailing with the wind across the Atlantic

ABSTRACT:

Truth is timeless, therefore this book belongs to the ages of Liberian historic, political, cultural, and leadership preservationists and Revisionists facts finding intellectual missionaries. For the truth is of and about no time line. The truth must be told fearlessly and objectively by all free spirited human beings.

Therefore, this book spells a new attempt at synthesis of the major contemporary trends of our times, especially as Liberians, and the work and thought of a man who pioneered a phase of human history in the vast dimension of four generation: (1) the generation of enslaved African experiences, (2) the generation of the struggles for repatriation and settlement in Africa, (3) the generation of Euro logical imperialism and colonialism, (4) the generation of Pan-Africanism, (5) the generation of African Liberation struggle, (6) and the generation of the victim of the Post-Cold War-New World Order and Africa/Liberia in Global Affairs, (7) finally, generation of young Liberians who were followers and executors of instructions of collective actions. Clearing out supervening strands and concentrating only on their relevance to the evening of Dr. William Richard Tolbert, Jr.,'s life has in this book profusely dramatized the type of historical tragedy which must lead to a qualitative leap in the Liberian global developmental revolution and fire the imagination of the rising Liberian/African generation by bring the personality of the central Liberian historical chapter to the vortex of the problem in a way that distinguishes President Tolbert from all others as the victim of his own liberalization and Africa/Liberian Role in Global Affairs. The author is attesting as a witness to these whole historical events of President Tolbert. The march of time plays such fantastic tricks on the archetypes of history that many well-meaning people, especially some Liberians intellectuals and observers, unacquainted with the dialectics of the Liberian social, political, historic, and cultural developmental dynamics and hegemony under President Tolbert, are apt to stand agape, non-pulsed, at the swift succession of seemingly isolated phenomena. These are in reality, so inextricably interlaced and interdependent on Liberia, Africa, and the Global dynamics of President Tolbert's dreams and aspirations, that any attempt to treat them as separate entities is bound to subvert reason of President Tolbert's reality and run into a blind alley and default of human reasoning ability. The authenticity of the facts of President Tolbert's indigenous African/Liberian sense of nationalism , Black political empowerment, and self-sustainable development, and African-Liberian solidarity, cannot be doubted nor questioned. Therefore the greatest challenge to any Liberian political, social, domestic, regional, national, international, and spiritual leadership is to re-evaluate the emergence and demise of President William Richard Tolbert of Liberia. Did President Tolbert actually deserve death, which led to the destruction of Liberia by the Military Regime on April 12, 1980, which also led to the emergence of Charles Taylor's 14-years of genocidal civil conflict from December 24, 1989-2003 to post Conflict Liberia situation (2004 to present? This book intends to make critical , strategic, and conceptual analyses on major hypotheses of some historic theses of President Tolbert's objective for Liberia and the African World; and access some minor variables with some relative and empirical justifications, in an effort to determine as to whether there existed every necessary, realistic, prudent and eminent conditions that precipitated the over thrown and death of President William Richard Tolbert of Liberia along with those who were killed with him. This situation also led to the absolute destruction of lives, properties, natural resources of Liberia from April 12, 1980 to the present. These natural evolutions and human made events have left a questionable leadership vacuum in the Liberian Political structure. This study argues that the death and destruction of President Tolbert and his administration on April 12, 1980 by Samuel K.Doe military coup was not prudent, reasonable, and justifiable. The study further argues that President Tolbert was one of the 20th Century Black/African-Liberian Leaders who posed great challenges to America in particular and The World Community on World Affairs in general. For instance, President Tolbert's progressive position of The issues of The Liberation of Palestine from the exploitation of Israel, South Africa, Angolia, and President Tolbert's political ideological failure to succumb to President Harry Tremens' doctrine of "containment" before the Cold War was officially declared in 1947, and President Tolbert's adamant conviction of political, social, religious, ideological, sectional, and ethnic diversity which also posed challenges to U.S. Non-Alignment Policy, and President Tolbert's regional, national, and international political, social, and economic Open Door Policy that allowed Communist and Socialist nations to develop diplomatic relations with Liberia, are some of the many major factors that precipitated his death through the U.S. and its covert partners, leading the indigenous Liberian soldiers and other anti-Tolbert's Americo-Liberians involvements to do their dirty job as usual. It must also be pointed out as the study suggests that one of the consequences of rush to judgment by the military and the Liberian intelligential also manifested and

perpetuated the death of President Tolbert. These sad state of affairs appeared to have led Liberia in an unrecoverable Political Leadership phenomenon and of good and nationalistic Liberian implications from April 12, 1980 to 2003 to post-Charles Taylor regime. It is imperative to point out that the history of Liberia as the author objectively perceives, is the history of a long and tireless efforts of good people like President Tolbert, to broaden the franchise masses of the Liberian people in a relatively settled condition. The Author, as a young man living in Liberia as a tax paying Liberian citizen and unacquainted with Tolbert, I saw, witnessed, lived, and breathed the Tolbert's Administration. From 1952 to 1982 and , prior to October 16, 1982, I never left to live outside Africa/Liberia. Therefore I was never absent from all of my senses in understanding the Tolbert Administration. I never worked with the Liberian government but I understood the objective and policy of the Chief Operating Officer (ECO) from an empirical research perspective.

Above: receiving a presentation from the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Richard A. Henries, expressing the support and confidence of the Legislature; President Tolbert launching the 'Mats to Mattresses' project in Jorwah own, Panta Chiefdom in Bong County

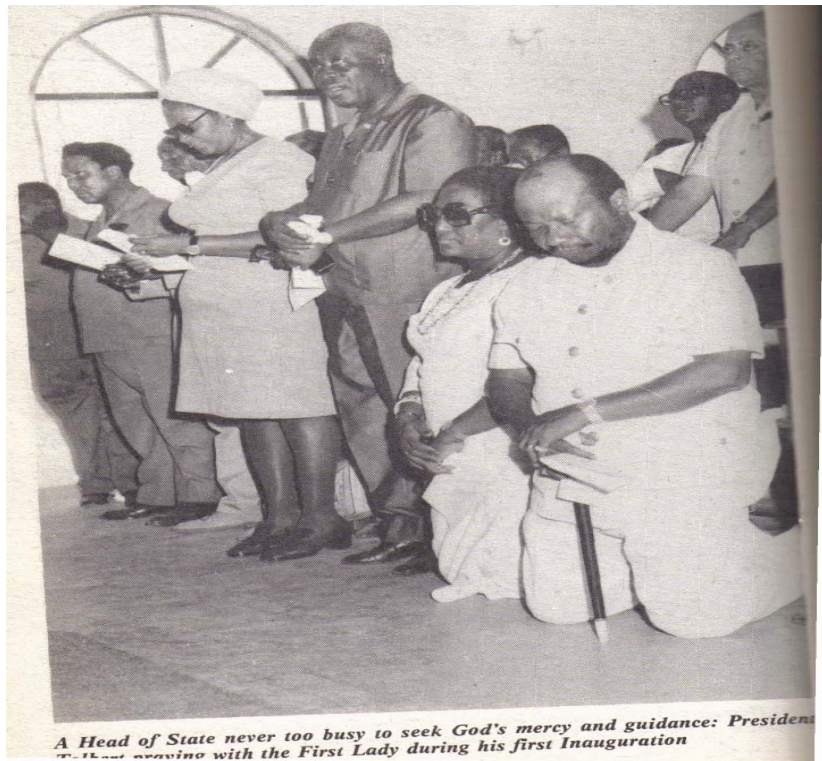


Again, after weary decades of agitations President Tolbert, like others, across men who in their youth, and in an unexciting and un political academic atmosphere, see both the possibilities for their nation's development and how that development can be achieved. Several decades later, President Tolbert had the rare opportunity of implementing those youthful dermas and ideas. Such, however, was the unique destiny of President William Richard Tolbert, Jr., who within a period of less than three years in office launched far reaching programs for the advancement of his beloved country, Liberia.



President Tolbert had a role map for Liberia's advancement towards the 21st century as the author perceives. He was intently pursuing policies for civic development with such established and unforgettable phrases as "mats to mattresses", "Self-reliance", "The Wholesome Functioning Society", "Total Involvement", "Higher Heights", Dr. Tolbert's manifests an inner conviction and a long-term concern, both born of the youthfully studios and analytical mind which was shown in his college valedictory. It is save therefore, to say that for Liberia to recover the sustainable spiritual, traditional love of nation, and the concept of national and international competitiveness of Liberia in the global dynamics, Liberia must openly repent for the wrongful and rush to judgment extra judicious military decrees killing and destruction of President Tolbert and fellow Liberians who worked with him.

This study suggests that a national repentance prayers be established by All-Liberian Faith-Based Religious Organizations to set a side legislatively a week of commemoration of national wrongs of every thing offensive, malicious, and unforeseen inflictions of injuries to fellow Liberians and fellow human beings; a week of atonement, reconciliation, reconsideration, repentance, recovery prayers for a 21st century Liberian leadership blessings like President Tolbert who had role maps as “ethos” for tradition of advancement of Liberia and the Liberian people. For instance, the road maps or the USA (ethos) as the author perceives is The Love of Freedom, The Love of Justice, The Love of the US Dollars, Work ethics, Materialism, Capitalism, The Love of properties, and the Love of The United States of America. Who promotes these road maps for the United States, the people who love, live, and build, pay taxes, carry the US Passports, and the US Dollars, and die for the United States of America. In essence, one has to re-evaluate his or her conscience relevant to the Liberian leadership under President Tolbert, to access the differences of post William Richard Tolbert Liberian Leadership relevant to the “Road Maps for Liberia. Whose Liberian political leaders ever developed a road map as an ethos for Liberian nationalism, Love for nativity, The Love of Nation, Love of self, Love of Humanity, and Love of tradition, Love of development and progress? The challenges lie with the 21st century Liberian Leadership.



A Head of State never too busy to seek God's mercy and guidance: President Tolbert praying with the First Lady during his first Inauguration

Chapter One

He died before his plans were realized; President Tolbert: A Political Crisis of good Governance and Leadership vacuum in Liberia: 1980-2003