

# 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 *fifille* 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



From Page One

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 Moustchio, 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 Moustchio 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 Louís

Press cutting surprised that Police Commissioner is still in post



Yes, this daily is surprised that Anil Kumar Dip is still leading the Mauritian 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!

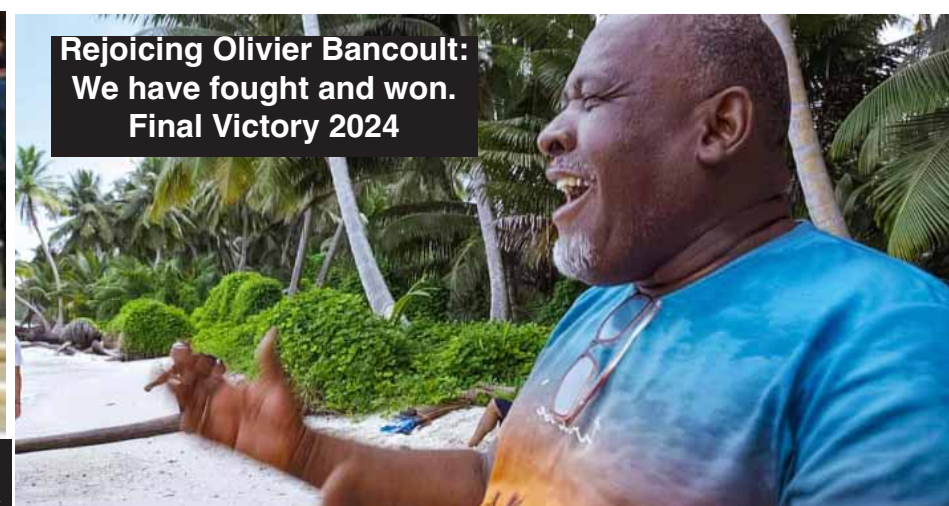
Once the sovereignty of the Chagos is transferred to Mauritius jurisdiction, Britain will be out of the way. Mauritius will deal direct with the Americans regarding the tenancy of Diego Garcia and will pay rent to Mauritius. Once the 99-year lease expires it is very likely that Mauritius will be happy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

## 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

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.

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.

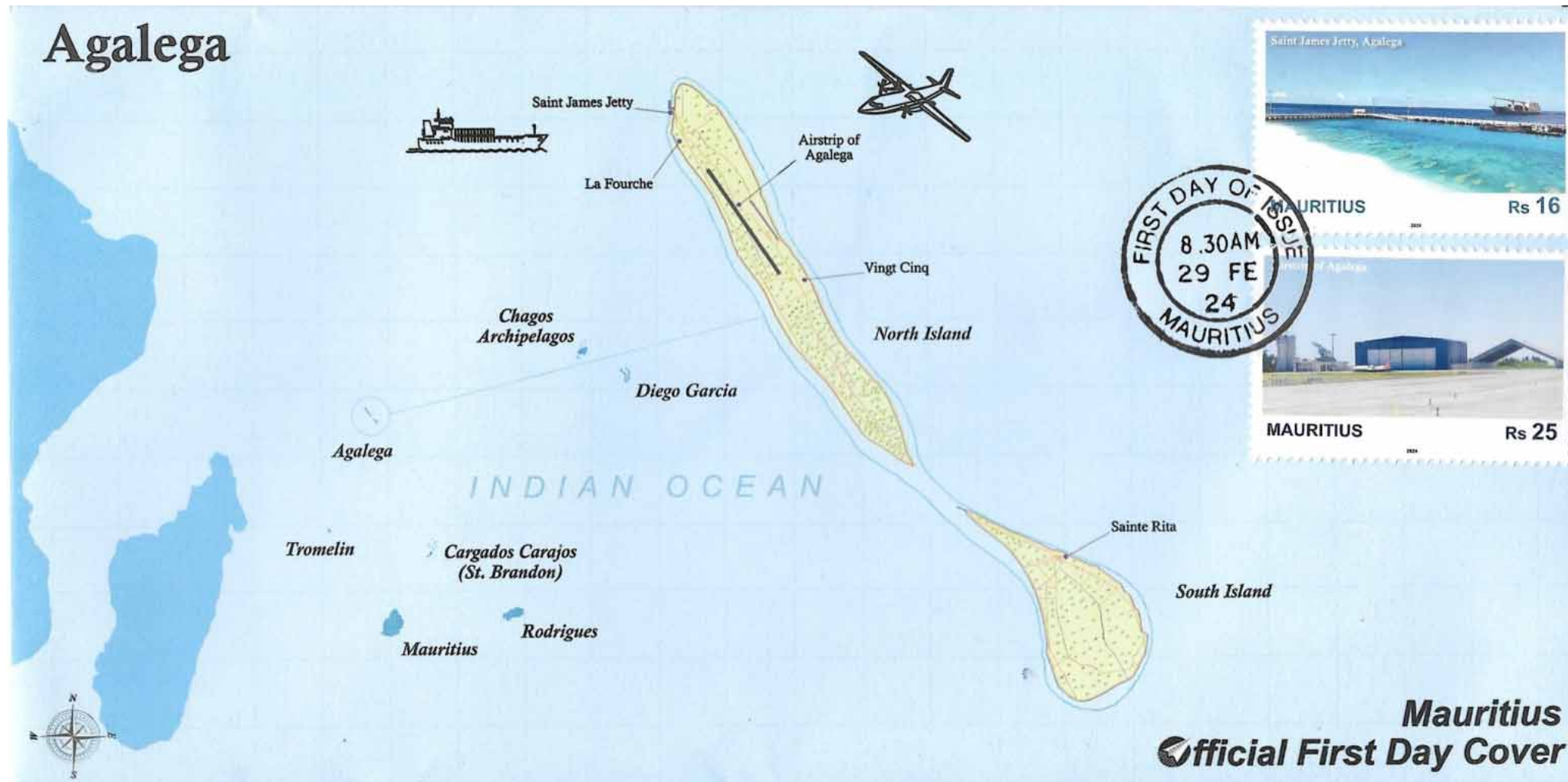


Stamps of Mauritius, courtesy Mauritius Posts Ltd

The Mauritius Post issued a set two stamps, a Rs16 and Rs25, on 29 February 2024 to commemorate the creation of an airstrip on the outer island of Agalega



Also on 29 February 2024 was issued by the Mauritius Posts Ltd a commemorative official First Day Cover (FDC)



Agalega - A synopsis

The atoll of Agalega is situated at around 1080 km north of Mauritius and consists of two islands: the North and the South Island, both separated by a shallow bank of 1.2 km. They cover a total area of 2600 ha.

The atoll which has a population of around 360 persons, is mainly covered with coconut plantations. Once known as ‘La Perle des îles a Huile’, its main activity is to supply Mauritius with coconut oil.

Since 1983, the Outer Islands Development Corporation is responsible for the management and development of the outer islands, namely Agalega and St Brandon.

There are two villages, Vingt Cinq and La Fourche on the North Island and Sainte Rita, the only village of the South Island. In 1987, Village Vingt Cinq became the centre of administration for both islands and most of the infrastructure are located therat. The existing amenities include schools/college, kindergartens, a refugee centre/multi-purpose hall, health centres, police stations, post office-cum-bank, shops, places of worship, bakeries and coconut oil mill.

There is also an existing airstrip of 1.3 km long and 30 m wide in the North Island of Agalega, which was constructed with compacted corals during the year 1984/1985. As from 1998, the surface of the air-

strip had started to deteriorate and several unsuccessful attempts for its repair and upgrade were made. In view of its bad state, the landing of commercial planes was not authorized by the Department of Civil Aviation and only urgent medical evacuation by the Dornier aircrafts are allowed.

Access by sea to Agalega is also severely constrained owing to inadequate infrastructure and facilities. The existing jetty does not allow vessels like the MV Trochetia to embark/disembark passengers and to load/unload goods on the island as it is relatively short and located in shallow waters.

Following the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Republic of Mauritius and the Republic of Mauritius and the Republic of India in March 2015, two main infrastructural development projects, namely the construction of a new airstrip and a new jetty, have been implemented and entirely financed by the Government of India.

The new airstrip of 3km long and 60 m wide is an all-weather concrete one. Its associated infrastructure comprises an air traffic control tower, a passenger terminal building, a hangar and an open aircraft shelter amongst others.

As for the new jetty, it has a berthing face of 255 m in length

and its associated infrastructure provides services such as fresh water, electricity and fire-fighting services.

These infrastructural developments aim at improving and modernizing sea and air connectivity at Agalega and at enhancing the standard of living of the Agaleans. These facilities will also contribute significantly in meeting the maritime security needs of Mauritius in the areas of surveillance and monitoring of its vast EEZ, counter-piracy, counter-terrorism, human trafficking, poaching and illegal fishing, emergency response, marine pollution response, amongst others.

In addition to these two major projects, the Government of India has extended a grant assistance of about MUR 90 million for the construction of small-scale, people-centred projects in Agalega, namely a library, a larger shop, two kiosks, an office-cum-administrative quarters, a fish landing station and a community-cum-multi-purpose hall. These community-based projects will definitely upgrade the socio-economic lies of the Agaleans.

The new jetty, new airstrip and small development projects are being inaugurated by the Prime Ministers of Mauritius and India on 29 February 2024 in Agalega.

# A Portrait of Trump, The Victor

*A country gets the President it deserves. America deserves Trump  
and America has got Trump.  
He invaded the White House and now it has conquered it as the next tenant.  
What a Christmas gift!*

**That Donald Trump is to be the tenant of the White House for the next four years is a fact unless something dramatic should happen. The milk has been spilt there is no need to cry over it.**

The lesson to learn from Trump is to never give up and to keep pushing forward, He dreamed so much of the White House that he even invaded the sanctuary with an army of his own. He got away with it in spite of all the public outcry at the time. He will now pardon the invaders who went on the rampage, and pardon himself too. No sir, the man is simply not human. He is superhuman, if not Superman, himself!

After the election, Trump is now trumpeting all the way to the White House which he will claim his own on his inauguration in January next. As a former tenant, many local people said then that he had turned the White House into something of a Bleak House.

Who is that famous man known as Donald Trump and in what does he believe? In fact he is a man of immense ability and he is famous for creating the persona of Donald Trump, a sort of character who, whatever the circumstances, should always hold the Trump Card. He should always rank above all other people around him. It is, however, recognised that, he has quite a few innovations and achievements to his credit.

In what does the man believe? It has been said of him that he is a man who believes in nothing except in himself. His mission is to destroy everything set up by others. If he was a woman he could easily be called Mary the Contrary. He has an aversion for the established order. One observer says that he is a man who can and who actually does get away with a lot mess, and that there are lots of men and women willing to clean the mess after every evacuation.

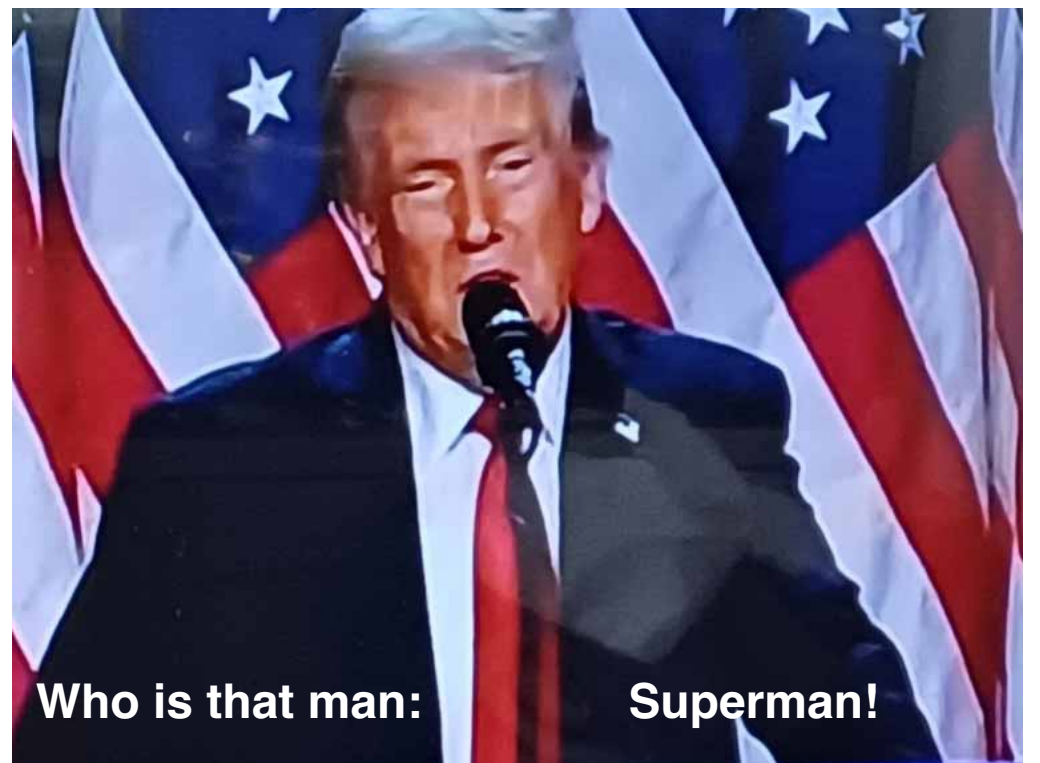
## Fear of God

**In the white people of America, it is alleged he has instilled hatred, in black and latino American people he has instilled, literally, the fear of god by a lot of religious bigotry. He has been preaching saying he believes in god and he believes in the bible. It is argued that In his dotage, he still attracts bigots by his gospel preaching.**

His two greatest admirers at this stage are reported to be Netanyahu and Putin who are indulging in a spree of killing. There is nothing strange in what those two characters are doing. They are just carrying on the vocation of what the creature known as man has been doing from his cannibalistic origin on planet earth one million years ago. We can say that the cannibals have greatly changed and have become more domestic since the days man left the jungle. But as it is often said, the jungle is still in man. The killing instinct is still in the creature. He still kills to eat but today he kills cows, goats, pigs, chickens, etc. He no longer thrives on his neighbours' babies and young ones. Yes, in that respect Netanyahu, Putin and all of us are just a bit more civilised.

Yes Sir, Mr Trumps he likes to turn things upside down. Not surprising that the Conservative paper Telegraph has made it known that the incoming US President is likely to throw the Chagos Archipelago agreement out of the window of the White House once he steps in in January next. It is something to watch. To what extent is he willing to bring upon himself the wrath of international opinions. Many think he can survive that. As a trouble monger he may find delight in stirring the commotion. We must remember that former conservative PM Boris Johnson, an opponent of the Chagos agreement, was a favourite of Donald Trump during his previous reign over the American people.

Will Trump use Johnson as an ally in Britain to needle the current Labour administration specially over the Chagos settlement. It is said that Trump has expressed concern that China may capitalise on the situation in the Indian Ocean when the Archipelago comes under the control of Mauritius. But America has been paying rent to Britain for years for the Chagos Archipelago, and now it will be a matter of rent transfer to Mauritius.



The question must be considered as to whether the rent payment to the UK was paid for the whole of the Chagos Archipelago or was it expressly for Diego Garcia? Will it be now a question of renegotiating with the Trump administration? Much will depend on the goodwill of the man that he does not default payment. He is a man who enjoys putting a spoke in the wheel of any machinery that is functioning all right. But payment will be due, whatever Mr Trump may wish to decide. The possibility of Non-Payment is an arm being used in Mauritius by some political people during the present electoral campaign to run down the outgoing government seeking re-election.

## Lesson for the democrats

The Democrats will have learned that nothing lasts for ever on Planet Earth. Their four years of occupancy of the White House have gone fast. Who voted them out of office? The Republicans have their normal quantum of supporters and Trump knew he could rely on them. Moreover, Trump has been able to enlist the support of the black evangelical people and the fundamentalists of the Latino Americans. But above all, there are figures like Elon and what-not who have been, allegedly, brandishing dollars over the heads of the people. The most important lesson for the Democrats is that the next race for the White House starts NOW. That what Trump did when he was ousted four years ago. Free from all administrative responsibilities, he relentlessly went on the assault of the Democrats, first accusing them of cheating at the 2019 elections and to finally accusing them of planning to cheat at 2024 elections. He created a psychosis of fear in the mind of the weak element of the electorate.

Doing their present postmortem, the Democrats are now accusing lame duck Joe Biden for clinging for too long to the office of President leaving Kamala Harris little time to stand to the ongoing assaults of Donald Trump. Now that Trump is cursed with the responsibilities of office and all the attacks that go with the job, it is imperative that the Democrats should start immediately their campaign for the 2028 presidential elections. By then, it is hoped that Superman will have burned himself out.

To the rest of the world, Mr Donald Trump has set a nasty example: Candidates in many countries also do not wish to concede defeat but accuse the opponents of cheating to obtain victory. Just as Trump has been doing, politicians elsewhere on the losing side predict well before polling there would be irregularities and cheating. After the announcement of the results, they are thus able to say that they did predict the outcome beforehand so even though there has been no irregularities.

## What a Wonderful World!

*Suresh Coonjeebeeharry*