

Path Is Cleared For Netanyahu To Lead Israel

Return Seemingly Ends Years of Instability

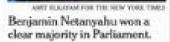
By PATRICK KINGSLLEY
JERUSALEM — The lost power in Israel a year ago under a cloud of corruption charges and political dysfunction. But on Thursday Benjamin Netanyahu cemented his return to the prime minister's post that he has held for longer than any other Israeli leader.

With years of political instability and repeated elections seemingly resolved for now, the question ahead for Israel was how Mr. Netanyahu led his political partners on the far right would wield their new power.

In some senses, the concession of defeat on Thursday evening from the departing prime minister, Yair Lapid, marked a return to the familiar. Mr. Netanyahu has governed Israel for most of the past quarter century. While previously in office, he presided over a rightward drift within Israeli society — the same social shift that propelled him back to power.

In other ways, his return is a leap into the unknown. During his previous stints, Mr. Netanyahu helped entrench the occupation of the West Bank, empowered the far right and overrode the collapse of peace negotiations with the Palestinians. But he also presided over a government in coalition with at least one centrist party, setting a limit on how far right his governments could move.

His decision this time to ally only with his right and ultra-Orthodox Jewish parties, unopposed by any centrist forces, takes Israel into uncharted territory.



Benjamin Netanyahu won a clear majority in Parliament.

It remains to be seen whether that forces Mr. Netanyahu to follow the agenda of his far-right allies, or if he forces him to act as a brake on their most extreme excesses.

"Netanyahu has always used in elections a stark fusion of Jewish identity and ultranationalism," said Andrei Pieffer, a biographer of Mr. Netanyahu. "But allying himself with Jewish supremacists has created a new far-right entity he never envisaged and doesn't know how to accommodate in his government."

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Logs in the Nkok industrial zone in Libreville, Gabon, are inspected for quality. Most are marked with bar codes to curb illegal logging.

Gabon Pivots To Its Forests As Oil Wanes

By DIANNE STARKEY
LOANGO NATIONAL PARK, Gabon — Evening and the rainforest. A riverbank packed with oboon trees. Treepods and their oboon are all but a chimpanzee's hairy arm. And as the sun sets, a twirl of white smoke rises from the platform.

The notion of Gabon is to lush with forests and wildlife is nicknamed 'Africa's Eden.' It's also one of the continent's major oil platforms.

Gabon for decades has relied on petroleum to drive its economy. But officials know their oil won't last forever. So they've turned to Gabon's other abundant resource — a huge Congo Basin rainforest, full of valuable trees — to help make up the difference once the oil is gone.

Gabon is engaging in activities that have become dirty words in the world of climate activists: It allows palm-oil plantations in certain areas and is turning rainforest into plywood. However, unlike Brazil and other countries that have stood by as rainforests are decimated, Gabon has adopted strict rules designed to keep the vast majority of its trees standing. Its aim is to strike an important balance between the needs of a single nation and those of a world facing a climate crisis.

Gabon has banned raw timber exports (France was a major buyer).

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Cherokees Asking U.S. to Honor 1835 Pledge for House Delegate

By SIMON ROMERO
TAHLEQUAH, Okla. — In 1835, U.S. officials traveled to the Cherokee Nation's capital in Georgia to sign a treaty forcing the Cherokees off their lands in the American South, opening them to white settlers. The Treaty of New Echota sent thousands on a death march to new lands in Oklahoma. The Cherokees were forced at gunpoint to honor the treaty. But they stipulated that the Cherokee Nation would be entitled to a nonvoting seat in the House of Representatives. Congress disregarded that part of the deal. Now, amid a growing movement across Indian Country for greater representation and sovereignty, the Cherokees are pushing to send their delegate, 87 years later.

'Deepfakes' Flourish on TikTok, Raising Alarms

By TIFFANY HSU
The allegations of TIKTOK are not what they seem.

They appear in posts scattered across the video service, photo-shopped into hurricanes-flooded homes, blended into chest-thumping hybrids or awaiting a wrestling match with a digitally engineered avatar of Tim Cruise.

And they are harmless, like much of the manipulated media on TikTok, warranting a few laughs and likes before slipping back into a relentless stream of content. But their existence worries people who study misinformation, because the same techniques are being applied to posts that sow political division, advance conspiracy theories and threaten the core tenets of democracy ahead of the midterm elections.

"This kind of manipulation is only becoming more pervasive," said Henry Alder, an expert on manipulated and synthetic media. "When this volume of content can be created so quickly and at such scale, it completely changes the landscape."

Edited or synthesized material also appears on other online platforms, such as Facebook, which



Photo by Getty Images for the New York Times

FEARS OVER CRIME WEIGH ON VOTERS, BENEFITING G.O.P.

A KEY MIDTERM THEME

Anecdotes Fuel Anxiety, but National Data on Safety Is Mixed

This article is by Julie Bosman, Ann Healy and Campbell Robertson.

Debra Kowalski, a 49-year-old nurse in Bucks County, Pa., has been pleading with her elderly parents to move out of Philadelphia, especially after a delivery driver was shot and killed last month. In an effort to tame surging inflation, AI

In Menomonee Falls, Wis., Deb Whitenberger, 66, already knows what she wants for Christmas this year: a ring doorbell camera, which she hopes will assuage her gnawing fears of break-ins in her suburban town near Milwaukee.

This man motivating is said, a "crime, security, safety."

Though polls show that voters' biggest concerns are about the economy and inflation, many voters — especially more conservative voters like these, but also moderates and liberals — say they are gripped by worries over crime and disorder. Even though national crime trends are mixed, these voters have seen reports of increased violence in cities like Memphis, Milwaukee, Albuquerque and Jacksonville, Fla., and have heard from friends and neighbors who have been victims of car thefts or muggings.

In many cases, their anxieties stem not from experiencing serious crime, but from seeing headlines, or finding a syringe or human waste on the sidewalk, or reading accounts in their neighborhood social networks of vandalism on a local bike path.

These concerns are generally benefiting Republican candidates, who have bluntness Democratic elected officials for a surge in violent crime in many cities that began during the pandemic and was felt to July 2022. Conservative news sources like Fox have also focused heavily on crime, as has local TV news. In interviews, voters criticized Democratic elected officials for a surge in violent crime in many cities that began during the pandemic and was felt to July 2022.

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MEDICAD PUSH A South Dakota ballot measure will test a strategy to expand the safety net.

What's News

The outlook for tech industry jobs worsened on Thursday, with Lyft and Stripe both announcing major layoffs and Amazon saying it would freeze corporate hiring for months.

The Bank of England raised its key interest rate by 0.75 percentage point, the largest increase since 1985, in an effort to tame surging inflation.

U.S. stocks fell and Treasury yields rose amid investor unease over the Fed's rate hikes.

Ukraine said it supported a new coalition government in Russia, but also urged Russia to end its invasion.

Pelosi said her husband was released from a San Francisco hospital, nearly a week after an attack by a man who broke into her home.

A New York judge required that Trump's family business be sold to pay for his taxes.

Former Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan was shot and injured as he led a protest in his native Pakistan.

U.S., South Korea Condemn Pyongyang Over Missile Tests



U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin speaks with South Korean Defense Minister Lee Jong-sup in front of a B1 bomber Thursday at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland as the countries criticized recent North Korea missile tests.

Bank of England Boosts Rate By Largest Amount Since 1989

Higher borrowing costs will hurt an already weak economy as consumers brace for a difficult winter of falling real incomes and rising prices.

U.S. stocks fell and Treasury yields rose amid investor unease over the Fed's rate hikes.

Cost of President's Jets Hits Boeing, Taxpayers

Boeing Co.'s troubled project to replace Air Force One is getting costlier, both for the firm and taxpayers.

The Funeral Industry Plots a Rebrand: 'We're Fun'

Morticians are finding ways to get the fun in funeral to get customers to think about the final farewell—and open their wallets—long before the end.

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Amazon Freezes Hiring, Lyft Cuts Workers

Technology companies reduce workforce as executives prepare for a potential recession.



Amazon, Lyft and other tech companies are cutting jobs as they prepare for a potential recession.

Biden-Xi Summit Is Being Planned As Tensions Mount

WASHINGTON — Increasingly adversarial U.S.-China relations are in for their next test, as the two governments try to arrange a summit between President Biden and Chinese leader Xi Jinping later this month.

Senior officials and aides have been wrangling over whether the leaders will meet around the Group of 20 summit of major economies in their first round since the 6-2 meeting.

INSIDE

SPORTS Nets suspend Kyrie Irving over refusal to unequivocally disavow anti-Semitism

MANSON A weekend home in Palm Desert, Calif., blends indoor and outdoor spaces