

# Padmore

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of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and beginning of 20<sup>th</sup> century by such great Afro-Americans and Afro-Caribbeans as Henry Sylvester Williams, George Padmore, W.E.B. Du Bois, C.L.R. James, and others” (Shivji 2009;198); “The term Pan-Africanism is the brainchild of the Trinidadian Barrister-lawyer, Henry Sylvester Williams, uncle of George Padmore” (Prah 2009;10).

It was Du Bois, the first black Harvard’s PhD, who located Pan-Africanism to continental Africa when he wrote that “the idea of one Africa uniting the thought and ideals of all native peoples of the Dark Continent [sic] belongs to the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and stems naturally from the West Indies and the United States. Here various groups of African, quite separate in origin, became so united in experience, and so exposed to the impact of a new culture, that they began to think of Africa as one idea and one land” (W.E.B. Du Bois 1970;372).

The struggle for unity is in the first instance not a territorial one; it is not a search for lebensraum. It is not territorial Africa, which is being freed and united. The struggle is about

people. “How on earth can we say “our black colour is a benefaction, which Africans generally have” (Prah 2009:18) and truly expect that constructing a “nationhood” of a people thus defined for the sake of our liberation would ultimately not exclude many Africans who are not ‘generally black enough’? Chambi asked these rhetorical questions and concludes with zeleza’s argument that “Africa is a geography, a history, a reality and an imaginary of places, peoples and positions, both an invented intellectual construct and an object of intellectual inquiry” (Zeleza 2003:3).

I fully concur that the moment you start to truncate Africa in terms of ‘African’ and ‘Arab’ or ‘Black’ and ‘White’ even the inclusion of the Diaspora won’t be possible in this continentalist version of africaness which simply means a geographical expression and it is out of these concerns that I too find this conceptual definition of Africa racialist and exclusivist. “I wonder where Frantz Fanon who embraced the Algerian Liberation Movement in the so-called Arab Africa would fit in such a definition” asked the Tanzanian critic.

Our first Fighters were trained in Egypt and we got guns from Algeria. It was my

friend Glen from the West Indies’ Island of St-Lucia who introduced me to Pan-Africanism and opened my eyes when he saved me from my pathetic mimicking ‘house-nigger’ slave mentally and I could hear myself singing; “nande mutuhongolole tse/fye otwa itavela mu sema shashi oye twamona tete no saba yaye meke, tse/fye eedalele da afrika, twa dalelwa mu Africa, hatu dalele mu Africa, mo Namibia.” Translation; even if you try to hoodwink us into believing your Conspiracy, we believe in Sam Nujoma since he is the one we saw first fighting for our motherland, we are Africans, Namibians”.

As an adherent to the Casablanca school of thought, I see that people ‘have eyes but can’t see’ that ‘sea of people waving banners’ but want to follow the ‘army platoon’ with ‘derogatory politics’ while ‘the nation’s building’ is without a roof as if warning of ‘an army surrounding the city that desolation is near’? And now that they succeeded with their news framing and litigation public relations to influence the outcome in the legal adjudication by admitting and committing a political blunder as amateurs when they admitted to have pressurized the courts “So, we had to pressure this court to do

good...” (Windhoek Observer September 11, 2010, p. 5), now they are being embraced publicly in what seems to be a miscalculated PR exercise with the land baron-cum-holier than thou who vowed to destroy the SWAPO party government “in the name of Jesus Christ”. (The Namibian September 8, 2010, p.3)

Etsee, vakweetu! This farmer seems to have lost his compos mentis and is time someone rattles his cage since he feels super cocky with his latest found “marriage of convenience hatched in sin” and does not understand that this is not about personalities and tribalism but ideas.

The two opposition parties were sworn-in by Chief justice Shivute with a group of their members packed in the public gallery. One wonders if this is a come-back strategy without losing face.

Before that, SWAPO MP Billy Mwanyengange was singing a revolutionary song praising Founding President Nujoma and was later joined by other SWAPO MPs. Thereafter, the speaker declared the newly sworn-in MPs as “duly elected members” urging the MPs to carry out their Constitutional functions. He also reminded them of the vital task of economic and political stability compared to political and ideological differences which have their time and space but

not at the expense of the law making exercise.

The speaker went on to quote from the Inaugural Speech of the Founding President and Father of the Nation Dr. Sam Nujoma, when he said “The destiny of this country is now fully in our own hands. We should, therefore, look forward to the future with confidence and hope. Taking the destiny of this country in our own hands means, among other things, making the great effort to forge national identity and unity. Our collective security and prosperity depends on our unity of purpose and action, Unity is a precondition for peace and development. Without peace, it is not possible for the best and talented citizens of our country to realize their potential.”

Thereafter, the speaker demanded for political tolerance from both sides of the isle and the house resumed its duties with some MPs tabling notices of motions, among them CODMP Ben Ulenga, when he asked parliament to grant leave of absence to fellow MP Usutjajje Mamberua of SWANU. Now the speaker was in his element and asked the COD’s President to repeat the name, which coincidentally means, ‘what do they pay you/or how much do they pay you’. The speaker also jokingly asked the COD President if MP ‘Usutjajje’ was a ‘sworn-in member’ sending the house into stitches.

The AG and Minister for

Presidential affairs Dr. Kawana, then followed with a statement asking those who are spreading misinformation, that some parties to the electoral dispute “won the litigation while others were found guilty of having rigged the elections”, to stop forthwith spreading such rumors which have the potential to cause political instability. He clarified that the case was merely referred back to the court a quo for further adjudication on merits. He then reminded the parties to the electoral litigation that the judgment of the High Court ordering the opposition parties applicants to pay the cost of the Presidential election’s application still stands. Dr. Kawana was probably referring to RDP’s President Hidipo Hamutenya who said “Yes, there was a possibility of interference...” (Windhoek Observer September 11, 2010, p. 5) or “there is no question, the elections were rigged massively and shamelessly” (New Era September 7, 2010, p. 3). The house was adjourned until Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> September.

I just hope the MPs will not show shallowness of mind and will play by the rules of the game. The Founding President and Father of the Nation was right when he said “A nation united and striving to achieve a common good for its entire people, will always emerge victorious”.

## VACANCY



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 Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

# Brazil’s presidential hopeful defends Brazil-Iran relations

**BRASILIA,** — Brazil’s ruling party presidential candidate Dilma Rousseff on Monday defended her country’s relations with Iran.

In a visit to the Jewish Federation of the State of Sao Paulo, Rousseff explained that the government’s approach with Iran represented a commitment to peace.

“Brazil has to maintain relations with several countries. In the case of Iran, what we advocate is that the best strategy is not war, is not isolation,” said Rousseff, who was handpicked by President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

“We have the dramatic experience in Iraq and Afghanistan that lead us to that conclusion. We are a peaceful people,” she said.

Meanwhile, Rousseff stressed that Brazil’s relations with Iran did not mean the two countries agreed on everything.

She said the denial of the Holocaust is unacceptable, an opinion she shared with President Lula.

“A relationship with Iran is in search of peace, not accepting or authorizing the denial of the Holocaust. It is a historical fact, it happened. The evidence is clear,” Rousseff said.

In May, Lula, Iranian President

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan negotiated a uranium swap deal as a solution to the controversy over Iran’s nuclear program.

Under the deal, Tehran agreed to ship the bulk of its 3.5 percent low-enriched uranium to Turkey for deposit in exchange for 120 kg of 20 percent high-enriched uranium.

Although the agreement was described by Lula as a “victory for diplomacy,” it did not prevent Washington and Brussels from imposing new sanctions on Iran. (Xinhua)

# Fifth DPRK-U.S. military talks at colonel level held in Pyongyang

**PYONGYANG,** — The fifth round of the DPRK-U.S. senior colonel-level military working contact was held at the border truce village of Panmunjom on Thursday, the official news agency KCNA reported.

During the talks, the DPRK side said that the U.S. “persistently and groundlessly” linked the “Cheonan” case with the DPRK while staging DPRK-targeted joint military exercises and putting into force “additional sanctions” against it. Those actions “deliberately” laid hurdles in the way of settling the issue, according to the KCNA.

The more deliberately the U.S. links the “Cheonan” case with the

DPRK, the stronger its army and people will become in their stand to thoroughly probe the truth about the case, the DPRK side said.

The proposal for forming the DPRK-U.S. joint inspection group to investigate the truth of the “Cheonan” case advanced by the DPRK side at the fourth talks was discussed again.

The DPRK side proposed to name the inspection group, define the rank of its head of each side and fix the number of the members of the group and start the investigation as early as possible.

The U.S. side said it would examine the proposal and clarify its stand at the next round of the contact, which was agreed by the two

sides to be held on Sept. 28, the KCNA said.

The 1,200-ton “Cheonan” with 104 crew members aboard sank March 26 near the maritime border with the DPRK after an unexplained explosion. Only 58 sailors were rescued after the sinking.

South Korean investigators issued the results of an investigation on May 20, saying the “Cheonan” was sunk by a torpedo from the DPRK.

The DPRK National Defense Commission issued a statement on the same day, rejecting the claim of South Korea and offering to send an inspection group to South Korea to verify material evidence.

However, South Korea rejected the DPRK’s request. (Xinhua)