

# Born freed, born to vote for SWAPO

By Yvonne Mupetami, at a SWAPO Party rally in Windhoek

In 1990, 21<sup>st</sup> March a new nation was born, a new state was realized and a new government was formed. However, most of us were not born during this time. I came to understand at the age of 8 that the nation that was born, is freed from colonialism, liberated from oppression committed by the racist minority white South African Regime. I later came to understand that it was the independence of the Republic of Namibia.

What does independence mean for us, those born after independence? It is indeed a significant



Cde Yvonne Mupetami

day in the history of our life time that we are able to ask issues related to the liberation struggle to

the people who physically participated in the struggle as they are still alive. We are also privileged to enjoy the fruit of independence with those who liberated this country as well as those who made such an immense history and sacrifice to realise this noble achievement.

I am telling you now that I was born freed already from apartheid, racism and oppressive minority white regime of South Africa.

The time I started my Primary school, I had the choice of selecting the school I want to attend unlike in the past where our parents lived in segregated areas and as a result some did not had the chance

to attend school and some were forced to drop out due to colonial oppression government.

Since birth I have lived in peace and in a prospering nation under the leadership of our able SWAPO Party government. Our SWAPO government brought us a new constitution which gives us our fundamental rights and freedom of expression. Namibia now has many radio stations to listen to, newspapers and Non-governmental organizations because of the fundamental rights and freedoms. This is because of democracy and good governance brought up by the SWAPO Party government.

Therefore I was born free and I say this with true confidence, joy, humility and courage that, our SWAPO Party will maintain peace

stability and economic prosperity for our generation and the generations to come. As I grew up, I only knew of SWAPO Party. Not that somebody told me about it, but because I grew up in it and it was everywhere, it was the only political party with a vision, and clear policies.

I was provided good education and our SWAPO Party government is still continuing building more schools and pre-primary schools.

My generation and the future generation's responsibility now, is to foster the struggle of economic prosperity and emerge victorious one day in this struggle, because our parents paved the toughest struggle for us where some paid the highest price of their own lives.

I want to ask the born frees not to disappoint our parents and those who died for the freedom of our country. Let us keep the momentum of ONE NATION ONE NAMIBIA, the Founding Father like saying that and I quote; *a people united fighting for a common purpose will always emerge victorious.* End of quote.

Lastly I want to encourage all Born-Frees' that come November 27 and 28, 2009 we must all go in our masses and vote for SWAPO for peace stability and economic independence for all.

**SWAPO!! United  
SWA.PO!!Victorious  
NOW!! Hard Work  
I thank you and God bless  
Namibia**

## Witbooi

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President Hifikepunye Pohamba has ordered that all flags be flown at half-mast from Friday next week, to give the former deputy Prime Minister the respects he deserves.

The President said that Namibia had lost a brave son, who had stood firm in the difficult days of the struggle. "We are all shocked and mourning together with his family members," he said.

The late Witbooi had been one of SWAPO Party top lead-

ers in the country, serving as SWAPO Party Vice President. Together with other national leaders inside the country, Cde Witbooi mobilized and rallied thousands of Namibians behind SWAPO, giving direction and leadership in those dark days when the apartheid forces were ready to shoot and kill anyone found to be promoting SWAPO.

"He was a selfless and fearless leader," said one SWAPO Party Central Committee member, who closely worked

together with the late Witbooi inside the country. "He was good at combining spiritual leadership with politics. That was one of the reasons why SWAPO grew stronger and stronger. It was not by accident that he was elected Vice President of SWAPO Party."

The late Witbooi was born on January 03, 1934. After independence, he was appointed as Minister of Labour, and later on as Deputy Prime Minister, until he retired a few years ago.

President Hifikepunye

Pohambas has conferred on Witbooi the honour of national hero and a State funeral will be held in his honour next week

Sunday at Gibeon. A memorial service will be held next week Friday at Parliament Gardens in Windhoek.



The late Cde Witbooi, right and SWAPO Party Deputy Secretary General, Cde Nangolo Mbumba.

## The Namibian

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editors, largely because he is "skilled."

These allegations come about as the newspaper prepares and submits its Affirmative Action Report to the Equity Commission. The report is classified in various confusing categories, which in most cases, point to a racial divide.

"The bottom line is that blacks and whites do not get the same salaries here," said one enraged former employee, who has since resigned. "We are not treated as equals here.

"Not a single black person has ever been promoted to the level of news editor. How can you have a senior reporter earning more than an assistant editor? What else could have informed that decision other than the colours of the skin?"

The Namibian was set up in August 1985 with donor funding. It initially promoted self-determination and independence, using a few activists to expose the evils of apartheid and the brutalities committed by members of Koevoets, South West Africa Territory Force, SWATF, and the South African Defence Force, SADF, who operated in Namibia before independence.

Apart from these allegations,

a tricky question still remains unanswered—who really owns The Namibian? In books, it is owned by the Free Press of Namibia (Pty), Ltd, in which Gwen is the only and sole director. This company in turn is also owned by the Free Press of Namibia Trust, but the trustees are hard to come by, at all if they exist. Gwen is the only one who knows.

A local magazine, Prime Focus, recently tried to find out who the trustees were and who really owned The Namibian, but to no avail. Gwen has also refused to grant the said magazine an interview.

The disparities in salaries allegedly along racial lines will be hotly discussed in weeks and months to come, and are set to disparage Gwen in the eyes of the public she claims she cares for. If those disparities are proven correct, they will disarm Gwen and throw in tatters her controversial arguments she has advanced so far.

"Pay structures are most secretive at The Namibian," said one employee. "By telling staff members not to show their salaries to one another, The Namibian has managed and sustained those disparities. If those salary structures are revealed in public, people will be shocked by the disparities. I challenge Gwen to reveal those salary structures."

# SWAPO Party



## MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY, COMRADES AND FRIENDS OF THE LATE CAPTAIN HENDRIK WITBOOI

The President of the SWAPO Party and that of the Republic of Namibia, H.E. Cde. Hifikepunye Pohamba, the Vice President, Cde. Dr. Hage G. Geingob, Secretary General, Cde. Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana, Deputy Secretary General, Cde. Nangolo Mbumba, the Founding President and Father of the Nation, H.E. Dr. Sam Nujoma, the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of SWAPO Party and the entire rank and file members of the SWAPO Party, hereby extend their condolences and sympathy to the **Family, Comrades and friends of Captain Hendrik Witbooi**, on the untimely death of that revolutionary Captain of the Witbooi Traditional Authority. Captain Hendrik Witbooi served Namibia well as Deputy Prime Minister and Vice President of SWAPO Party. He is a great grandson of the legendary Kaptein, Hendrik Witbooi, who fought decisive battles against the German Imperial forces at the turn of the last century.



Since his enthronement as Captain of the Witbooi Clan, Rev. Dr. Hendrik Witbooi has contributed immensely to the upliftment of the welfare of his followers. He was a steadfast and principled politician, a religious leader, a teacher, community leader, and a family man.

He was indeed a vital catalyst for positive change and made progressive strides in most of the aforementioned areas.

The death of Captain Rev. Dr. Hendrik Witbooi, has robbed the world yet another great human being who, through personal sacrifices he made to the cause of freedom, will forever remain in the glorious history of our motherland.

**MAY THE SOUL OF CAPTAIN REV. DR. HENDRIK WITBOOI REST IN ETERNAL PEACE!**

**PENDUKENI IIVULA-ITHANA  
SECRETARY GENERAL**

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