Born freed, born to vote for SWAPO

By Yvonne Mupetami, at a SWAPO Party rally in Windhoek

In 1990, 21 March a new nation was born, a new state was realised 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, freed 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 those of us who share our independence? It is indeed a significant milestone.

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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 leadership—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 owns The Namibian 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 disgrace Gwen in the eyes of others. She claims she cares for. If those disparities are proven correct, they will dismiss Gwen and throw in tatters her controversial arguments she has advanced so far.

“Pay structures are most sensitive. The Namibian,” said one employee. “By telling staffing 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. Challenge Gwen to reveal those salary structures.”

The media and those who physically participated in the struggle as they are still alive. We are also privileged to enjoy the fruits of the liberation with those who liberated this country as well as those who made such an immense history and sacrificed to realize 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 have the chance to enter the country, serving as a 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 Pohamba has conferred on Witbooi the honour of national hero and a State funeral will be held in his honour next week.

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.

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

SWAPO Party

MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY, COMRADES AND FRIENDS OF THE LATE CAPTAIN HENDRICK 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.

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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.

Last year I 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! SWAP0!!Victorious NOW! Hard Work I thank you and God bless Namibia.

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