



Learners from Rocky Crest High School who took part in the bush clearing campaign pictured with Founding President Sam Nujoma. Photo by Asser Ntinda.

Clearing

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Bezuindenhout High School. She was on her way back home at around nine in the morning after she had told her teachers at school that she was not feeling well. She was allowed to take a day off.

However, on her way home just as she crossed the riverbed, she was attacked, raped and throttled to death. The suspect was arrested shortly afterwards and appeared in the Katutura Magistrates Court last week. He was remanded in custody pending further police investigation. "The whole nation was

shocked by the death of this innocent learner," said SWAPO Party Youth League Secretary, Cde Elijah Ngurare, in an interview with a television crew during the bush clearing campaign between Rocky Crest and Hochland Park.

"We cannot develop this country when you have frightened learners who fear for their lives everyday as they go to school. They cannot concentrate. They cannot study and progress in fear. That is why we have decided to clear these bushes so that these criminals cannot ambush them anymore. They ambush learners in these bushes. This campaign should continue until all dangerous

spots are cleared."

Members of the City Police were in full force clearing the bushes, with learners carrying and piling up branches as tractors removed and took them to the dumping site. People were as busy as bees, using pangas, saws and axes.

The campaign brought together Namibians from all walks of life, blacks and whites could be seen working together, a sign that Magdalena's death has touched all Namibians across the political and racial divide.

"I condemn the barbaric and inhuman act committed by some members of society," said President Hifikepunye



Trustco's employees taking part in the bush clearing campaign. Photo by Asser Ntinda.



Tate Kola, from SWAPO Party Head Office hard at work clearing the bushes. Photo by Asser Ntinda

Pohamba in his message of condolences, which was read at a

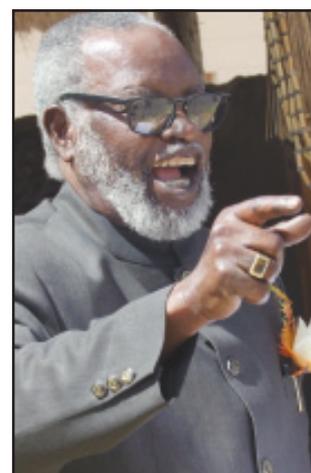
memorial service at Dawid Bezeidunhout High School on Wednesday. "We are with you during this period of darkness."

Learners upon learners who took part in the bush clearing campaign condemned the murder of Magdalena, saying that she died a terrifying death, which, as a learner, she did not deserve.

"We are all shocked by this senseless killing," said Rejoice Indongo, a learner at Rocky Crest High School. "We are no longer free. We live in fear. Our attention is now divided between our studies and fear. Today is Magdalena. Tomorrow can be me or anyone else. This is frightening. Until when will we live in fear like this?"



Pres Hifikepunye Pohamba



Founding Pres Sam Nujoma



Chief Kisco Liswani III



Chief Boniface Shufu

Chief

from page 1

The advert, lifted from a commission report of the then Bechuanaland Protectorate Government by two individuals (names provided), showed the hierarchy succession and line of chiefs of the Masubia people in Namibia and Botswana. The advert alleged that the Masubia Chieftainship

in Namibia was "illegitimate" because it descended from a female line of chiefs.

The Masubia had a female chief some 200 years ago, known as Chief Ntolwa Malyansanzwe. Chief Lishwani III said he was proud about that historic fact but in way did it mean that the Masubia Chieftainship was illegitimate.

"These two individuals had ill intentions...." Said Chief

Lishwani III in his statement. "Let me tell them that even if that were the case, we would even be more proud of that fact, for there is absolutely nothing wrong in descending from a female chief.

"There is no conflict between or competition over chieftainship between the Basubiya of Namibia and those of Botswana as implied in the said New Era advert.... We will not permit the tribal conflict in Caprivi to spill into Botswana and affect our people there and in the process affect the excellent diplomatic relationship between our two countries."

Botswana High Commissioner to Namibia and Chief Moffat Nkonkwena Maiba Sinvula of the Basubiya in Botswana attended the Cultural Festival at Bukalo, and their presence, Chief Liswani III said, meant that there was neither competition nor conflict between the two traditional authorities.

Turning on to culture, Chief

significantly contributed to the attainment of independence without compromise or wavering," said Chief Liswani III.

At Sangwali, more anger was to come. Chief Boniface Shufu of the Mayeyi Community said that his people were faced with various development challenges which he felt the regional leadership had contributed to or just turned a blind eye on purpose. He said that it was sad to know that the Katima Linyanti, Sangwali and Kongola water pipeline stopped at Kapani in 2007, and had been diverted to other

places that were not in the original plan.

"This is indeed a sad story for us the Mayeyi Community, and this is despite that we, among others, have given our votes to the Regional Councilor of Linyanti Constituency," said Chief Shufu.

"We still recall that when telephone lines were connected, they only ended at Linyanti village, the same goes with rural electrification, it also ended at the same village, leaving us in limbo and isolation as if the Mayeyi people did not exist in

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DEFENDANTS' APOLOGY AND RETRACTION

The first defendant issued a media release on 26 March 2009 condemning the payment of State funds for what was termed a "privately but politically driven lunch" by Ambassador Tuliameni Kalomoh and called for an urgent investigation of the issue.

This was stated in the context of claims of corruption in the media release made against senior Government officials, including Ambassador Kalomoh. The first defendant furthermore implied the abuse of State funds by Ambassador Kalomoh for private purposes.

The second and third defendants published these allegations in the *Namibia Today* on 27 March 2009. Ambassador Kalomoh instituted a defamation action against the defendants in the High Court of Namibia in respect of these allegations made about him. The defendants acknowledge that there was no factual basis whatsoever to have made these allegations about Ambassador Kalomoh.

The defendants regret that they published these allegations and unreservedly retract and withdraw them. The defendants apologise for the harm which has been caused to Ambassador Kalomoh as a consequence of publishing these allegations.