

“Constitution my manual” - Gurirab

I am immensely grateful to the Namibian people for electing me once again on the list of the SWAPO Party. And I heartily thank my Party for nominating me and motivating my candidature for re-election as Speaker of the National Assembly, for the second term.

No doubt, I thank and embrace members of the opposition parties present for voting as well for me. The voters didn't directly elect me as Speaker. You did, my Party comrades and you all, my dear colleagues in this august House.

My principal manual of work is the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia. As one of its authors, and among the longest serving public officials, and founders of our Republic, I know of the highest vision the Constitution provides for Namibia, as well as the promise of national unity, reconciliation, democracy, the rule of law, human dignity, socio-economic emancipation and the commitment to protect the gains of our long and bitter struggle for liberation and independence.

I will, as always, stick to these and other essential imperatives of nationbuilding when serving



Speaker of National Assembly Dr. Theo-Ben Gurirab

the House and the people who have elected us. The Assembly, since 1990, has all along been home to a variety of political parties. The electorate has kept alive the vision and design of the Constitution, making National Assembly, this hallowed

House of debating and also of listening, a special place of convergence of ideas.

Election Manifestos have now become roughdrafts for making transformative laws, enlightened policies and workable reference manuals of ideals to

end poverty, income disparities and create more opportunities for employment and courageously tackling land reform and distribution. But, as we focus on these issues, we must always put the economy first. Namibia can become a peaceful island of democracy and prosperity. That's a tall order which demands stability and hardwork. We must be courageous and forward-looking.

The majority Party has once again been given the mandate to rule. But the opposition parties are entitled to be heard and their legitimate concerns taken into consideration. That's the ideal of democracy and peaceful co-existence. Political intolerance is unacceptable.

Accountable, performance oriented and effective government is what is good for the country and the people. That understanding requires cooperation, hardwork, mutual respect and efficient service delivery.

There are numerous factors affecting and shaping Namibia's destiny. Political dynamics and competition for public influence are relevant but they are not as decisive as sustained and verifiable perfor-

mance indicators of the economy. That is our work as public officials today and for the longterm. Economy involves everybody and affects lives of all for better or for worse. It makes us all members of one family.

Great parliaments are renowned for legendary orators but also of clever parliamentarians who have been able to get everybody across the political divide on board to pass groundbreaking laws that saved lives, helped the poor and opened opportunities for the youth, women and the aged. The late US Senator Teddy Kennedy comes to mind. I have also known of such colleagues over the years in this Chamber from the Ruling Party and the Opposition who have made constructive contributions for the good of the country and the people. It's all about pragmatism, teamwork and common cause in national interest.

We must be able to rise to the level of self-criticism and admit failures without looking for scapegoats. By doing that we can only grow and get better as MPs. Corruption is killing Africa and Namibia is no exception.

Our founding President said, inter alia, in his memorable inaugural address on 21 March 1990:

“Our collective security and prosperity depend 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... These are the standards from which all who seek to emulate us shall draw inspiration.”

Before 20 years ago, the real enemies were there and they were many, strong and of all kinds. We made it by crossing the rivers of blood. And here we are celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Republic of Namibia. Today the real challenge is to conquer the economy.

Think about it and I thank you.

**Read
Namibia
Today. Stay
informed.**

Independence celebration

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rake around the homestead the SA soldiers came and accused him of cleaning off the PLAN fighters' foot prints. They wanted to beat him and my grandfather drew a circle around him and told them (Kovoet) that whoever try to close the line he is going to beat him with the sharp end of the rake. I remember how Kovoet used to fly their plain lower to terrify people. I remember how the aggressive Kovoet approached us one day when I and my uncle were looking after our herds of cattle and they beat my uncle and I was told to look down. I remember the tragedy of 1st April 1989 and many twisted stories going around, written by some of the Eurocentric Medias and organizations about this tragedy.

Despite all these, thanks to the Messiah of Namibia, His Excellency Cde. Dr. Sam Nujoma. This man is not just the Founding Father of the Namibian nation, but he is also the Father of the national reconciliation policy. When he took office on the 21st March 1990 as a Namibian President he first tried very harder to make surer that those that perpetuated the untold and countless atrocities to the Namibian nation are forgiven and former enemies shake hands and make friends.

Perceptibly, I believe that this

was a toughest exercise of other toughest exercises that Cde. Nujoma undertook with success. The dear policy of national reconciliation kept us together for the passed 20 years of our independence and it will lucratively bond us together in future. Remember, this precious policy was not brought about for us to forget but for us to forgive one another, as we are one, we are brothers and sisters and above all we are all Namibians.

There comes now a buoyant moment in my life time, the great moments in our history, the moment to listen to the speech of our charming, dazzling and indeed our down to earth President, His Excellency Cde. Hifikepunye Pohamba. The speech that was delivered to the amusements, many nodes in agreements and a water clear smiles on the faces of the dignitaries and our friends from all walks of life who flocked to our country to celebrate together with us.

When the camera women (I believe this time was a woman in charge of cameras) focused her camera at the publics who I believe most if not all are peace loving Namibian and none sabotages, their faces were so shining like the stars of the galaxy on an open and clear sky of spring night. Back to me here home I shed some mil liters of tears of ecstasy. Our President gave a consolidating, a nation building and a focused speech that all of us as a nation must regard as one of our guiding paraphernalia to guide us in the

way to accomplish Vision 2030.

Our statesman, Cde. Pohamba is a precious fountain of wisdoms, acumens and determinations. He is aspired just like most of us by the valor deeds of our great man, the Moses of Namibia, the Messiah of this nation, Cde. Dr. Nujoma. Note one thing Cde. Dr. Nujoma was selected amongst the hefty numbers of great man by our Almighty God to lead this great nation to a promised destine, the independence. Cde. Dr. Nujoma listened to the call with all vigor and determinations and said: yes God I will do all you ask me to do. He did that without failures; undeniably a mission accomplished.

On the ultimate psychiatry, after the whole day of celebrating our twenties anniversary, I learned some few things. I learnt that it is true that nothing good in life can come from a silver platter. I learnt that everything got a beginning and an ends. I learnt that there is time to sow and time to harvest, the time of sorrow and time of happiness. Therefore, the brutality, barbaric beating and harsher colonial that our nation exposed to at the hands of Malan, Vorster and other (I know for sure we forgive them) is now over and we are now an everlastingly happy nation. We are now cherishing the fruit of our independence as a nation. A nation that is united under the banner of one Namibia, one nation and we are proud to have a governing party, the Mighty SWAPO Party a party in government that can lis-

ten to the aspirations of the people. A nation united for a collective purpose of sustainable developments, economic emancipation, rule of law and justice for all. We are sloganeering long live Namibia.

Look at the sky, the sky is

smiling at our nation. Listen to the birds singing the appreciation songs to our SWAPO Party government. Look at the trees dancing to the determination of our leaders. All I say is May the Lord Jesus prepare a basket full of blessings to shower this nation. Long live Namibia, long

lives our nation, long live Cde. Nujoma, long live Cde. Pohamba, long live Cde. Toivo ya Toivo, long live Cde. Geingob, long live Cde. Ithana, long live Cde. Mbumba, long live Cde. Nahas Angula and long live my Camaraderie Ngurare.

Women's Council (SPWC)



RE: CONGRATULATIONS



The Secretariat, National Executive Committee, Members of the Central Committee and the entire rank and file of the SWAPO Party Women Council wish congratulate His Excellency Cde. Hifikepunye Pohamba for being sworn in as the President of the Republic of Namibia for the next five years. Comrade President, the Namibian people have spoken with confidence and gave you the mandate to lead the Namibian Nation in our struggle to attain sustainable human development through economic growth.

We wish you good health and appreciate your continuous wisdom and visionary leadership we enjoyed over the last five years and yet for another five years. We want to ensure you Cde, President of our unwavering support to you in full implementation of the SWAPO Party Election Manifesto of 2009 to realize gender equality and economic empowerment of women especially rural women to realize our Vision 2030,

Long Live Cde Hifikepunye Pohamba

Long Live Namibia

Comradely Yours,
Petrina Haingura
Secretary of SPWC