HH’s on ‘One on One’; Let the facts speak and you be the judge (First Part)

By Cde. Paul T. Shipale

Judging from some comments by the viewers of the NBC’s One on One Program on which Mr. Hidipo Hamutuaenyra appeared as a guest, last Wednesday, the 13th October, it seems the depth and range of probing was not one that managed to give viewers more insight into the man and his ideals and agenda, as some readers at the Namibian’s SMS page complained that they did not understand his arguments. Let us dissect this latest discourse and see if it was passionately articulated with logical dexterity and consummate expression or was it simply intellectually roughshod with the usual rhetorical flightiness and oracular pronouncements which may superficially sound earth-shaking and calculated, but which in fact provide little or no practical guidance and realistic prescriptions for the ideals and agenda of the man and his “Mandume”? How was our deepest character announced in ways that produce in citizens a sense of togetherness, community, and shared destiny? Did the guest dictate the nature of a nation that embraces unity in diversity or was this a simple exercise in ethnic chauvinism?

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Mr. Hidipo Hamutuaenyra, RDP opposition party’s President, made a series of inaudious and insinuations during the extraordinary congress of 2004 where he was defeated by the incumbent President of the SWAPO Party and current Head of State, His Excellency President Hifikepunye Pohamba and then went on to “join” another party where he could be elected as “president”? What democracy is he talking about? After the elections of 2004, Pohamba would not want to be reminded about what he said then, (including using Eenhana and Omuthiya as a “testing ground”) while they also “embarked on a grand shoplifting scheme to steal emblems and symbols from other parties— (Namibia Today 6 Nov. 2009). If saying “Mandume Fundu” meaning ‘arises’ King Mandume of the Ovakuwanya people belonging to only one ethnic group is not tribalism then I don’t know what else tribalism is. Why Mandume alone and not Witbodus, Malakaro, Kukato, Nehale, Ipanuma, Marengra etc? Member of Parliament that in that bill that was passed in the house, he shouldn’t make such statements. How democratic is he?” if they are imposing candidates in areas like Ovauvudja and Omunzatwa?” asked the SWAPO MPs?

According to an opinion piece in the New Era paper last year, Mr. Hidipo was a “ground breaking” how “he managed to travel from the former eastern country of Bulgaria to the USA in the middle of the cold war” when we were told there were not yet carry passports. These are some of the probing questions the viewers expected the Presenter of “One on One” to ask. Hidipo had been ruled out by Hifikepunye Pohamba and then President of the SWAPO Party the elections of 2004 where he was defeated by the incumbent President of the SWAPO Party in a war waged from within… (with a campaign that) had two pronged objective: to destroy the liberation movement and to take over the reigns of SWAPO and lead it into a neo-colonial government that would take orders from western capitals. The hiding in SWAPO colours and lead it into a neo-colonial government that would take orders from western capitals. The hiding in SWAPO colours and lead it into a neo-colonial government that would take orders from western capitals. The hiding in SWAPO colours and lead it into a neo-colonial government that would take orders from western capitals.