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# Poll challenge thrown out with costs

**'It is great day for SWAPO Party' - Ngurare**

By Asser Ntinda

The election challenge brought before the High Court by nine opposition parties in which they asked the High Court to nullify or order a recount of last year's National Assembly and Presidential Elections has been dismissed with costs.

In a terse judgment prepared by High Court Judge Collins Parker, with Judge President Petrus Damaseb concurring, the High Court struck the election application challenging the National Assembly and the one challenging the Presidential

election with costs, including one instructed counsel and four instructed counsel for the first respondent, as well as two instructed counsel for the second respondent.

"Such costs are against the applicants jointly and severally,

the one paying, the others to be absolved," said Judge President Damaseb. The application by the applicants for the Court to grant them "condonation" for its late filing has also been dismissed and the election application challenging the National

Assembly election struck from the roll.

The purpose of the election court challenge was to have last

year's National Assembly and Presidential Elections declared "null and void and set aside." Alternatively, it was also aimed

at nullifying the announcement of the result of such elections

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SWAPO Party members who in Court on Thursday burst into ululation and overwhelming joy upon hearing that the case has been thrown out with costs. Photo by Levi Upula.



Lawyer Sisa Namandje welcomes the judgment in the High Court. Photo by Levi Upula

## Katjuongua can have his free day in court

**SWAPO, Namibia Today to defend lawsuit**

By Staff Reporter

SWAPO Party and its newspaper, Namibia Today will defend a N\$400 000 lawsuit slapped on them by former member of the Congress of Democrats, CoD, Moses Katjuongua. The defamation claim arose from Zoom In published in May last year.

SWAPO Party's lawyers, Konradie and Damaseb, have already filed the applications with the court to defend the case.

"Katjuongua can have his free day in court for all we care," said one SWAPO Party Central Committee member. "He has no case. If he wants to be undressed in public, let him go



Moses Katjuongua.

ahead.

"We can't be intimidated by Katjuongua. We know what he has done, before and after independence. His party was one of the internal political parties which had stalled and delayed Namibia's independence.

"It will be very interesting to

see him telling the court that he was neither a 'puppet nor an opportunist.' People will just laugh. CoD President, Ben Ulenga, called him an 'opportunist' last year but he has never sued him. Why?

In summons handed over to Namibia Today two weeks ago, Katjuongua claimed that as a result of the publication of Zoom In, he had been damaged as the article was understood by ordinary people to mean that he "could not be taken seriously" by the general public and that he was of "unsound mind and incapable of rational conduct—a stupid person." Namibia Today never used words "a stupid person."

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## SWAPO MPs on induction workshop

**Pohamba says Party can recall any MP**

By Asser Ntinda

SWAPO Party members of the National Assembly who will be sworn in shortly after March 21<sup>st</sup> this year began a two-day induction workshop to familiarize themselves with Parliamentary affairs, but with a stern warning from President Hifikepunye Pohamba that SWAPO Party can recall any MP who misbehaved and acted contrary to SWAPO Party policy guidelines.

Opening the workshop on Thursday, President Pohamba

warned the MPs to always re-

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