

History

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will receive a reward. Indeed, God catches the wise in their own craftiness, says I Corinthians 3.

“the colonial experience; the class formation; the deformation, distortion, and disarticulation of the pre-capitalist social formations; the partial transformation of the production and accumulation patterns; the imposition of capitalist social relations; the imposition of alien values; and the incorporation of Africa into a metropolitan dominated and controlled global capitalist order required an ideological response to challenge tribalism, ethnicity, capitalism and imperialism; not to accommodate or tolerate them in any guise. Against the “tribalization” of Africa and African cultures and identities by the colonial administration and colonial anthropology, there emerged the countervailing elite paradigms, politics and projections of Pan-Africanism in Africa. Pan-Africanism was and still is the right answer to reconstruct the socio-political and economic landscape to reflect popular realities and aspirations” said the diasporian Zimbabwean intellectual Paul T. Zeleza.

I fully agree with Zeleza that it is time as Africans that we look to our own ideology and instead of looking at concepts invented by others such as capitalism, tribes and ethnic groups, why not look at Pan-Africanism? Marx studied law in Bonn and



Founding President Dr Sam Nujoma and Zambian President Dr Kenneth Kaunda during the SADC Summit in Windhoek this month. Photo by Levi Upula

Berlin, and then wrote a PhD thesis in Philosophy, comparing the views of Democritus and Epicurus. Marx wrote that “Democracy is the road to socialism,” and he argued that “capitalism will end through the organized actions of an international working class” Referred to by Marx as the proletariat or proletarian. Marxism, or Scientific Socialism, is the name given to the body of ideas first worked out by Karl Marx (1818-1883) and Friedrich Engels (1820-1895). In their totality, these ideas provide a fully worked-out theoretical basis for the struggle of the working class to attain a higher form of human society - socialism. The study of Marxism falls under three main head-

ings, corresponding broadly to philosophy, social history and economics - Dialectical Materialism, Historical Materialism and Marxist Economics. These are the famous “Three component parts of Marxism” of which Lenin wrote. I also studied these but insist that our ideology should be Pan-Africanism defined in terms of its politics and social vision. My personal belief is best encapsulated by Padmore, in his book Pan-Africanism or Communism? (1956), when he said Pan-Africanism was a clear alternative to communism vs. capitalism, as well as against tribalism, white racialism, black chauvinism, and reverse racism of any form. In his

words, “Pan-Africanism looks above the narrow confines of class, race, tribe and religion”.

Pan-Africanism remains an essential democratic vision, to deconstruct and uproot the inequalities of racism; to challenge the unpopular capitalist “New World Order” represented by the IMF, the World

Bank, and more recently by the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and EU’s EPAs. Pan-Africanism remains vital as a political framework bringing together the collective perspectives of people of African descent in our eternal struggle to assert and to affirm all humanity. Our struggle for the empowerment of the African world is, as W.E.B. Du Bois wrote, “the last great battle of the West.” Pan Africanism as an ideology is humanistic in its approach, socialistic in content, Africanistic in orientation and democratic in form.

For twenty years Namibia, as a new nation that was born or as a new building that was started at independence, has been peaceful and stable because right at the starting blocks, Namibians under the leadership of Founding President Dr. Sam Nujoma who is the link between the past, the present and future generations of Namibians and a glue that keeps our Nation together, made a firm commitment that the Government would pursue the policy of national reconciliation as the guiding tool towards peace and stability after

emerging from a protracted war that lasted for more than a hundred years, if one adds to the modern liberation struggle the anti colonial war of resistance of our fore fathers. This was a traumatizing war through which thousands were sent to jails, suffered torture and humiliation, were enslaved, and many were sent to their early grave for the single crime of demanding to be free.

I salute the gallants sons and daughters of this land of the braves who made the ultimate sacrifice for this country. Let this year’s heroes day reminds us that independence was not handed freely on a silver platter and remind us to honor those who never wavered nor compromised but stood firm and let the day also reminds us to continue building this nation on the strong foundations laid down by our fore fathers bearing in mind, as the founding President and father of the nation said that “Namibia is for ever free, sovereign and independent” and that “a nation united and striving to achieve a common good for all its people, will always emerge victorious”.

Am I overdoing it?



Commandante Fidel Castro Ruz

By Cde. Fidel Castro Ruz

After referring on August 17 and 18 to the book written by Daniel Estulin, which narrates, through undeniable facts, the horrible way in which the minds of American youth and children are distorted by the consumption of drugs and the influence of the media, in connivance with American and British intelligence agencies, in the final part of my last Reflection I expressed the following: “It is terrible to think that the intelligence and the feelings of children and youth in the United States could be mutilated in such a way.”

Yesterday, several news agencies were reporting the information contained in a study published by the Uni-

versity of Beloit with regard to some facts never seen before in the history of the United States and the world, associated to the knowledge and habits of American university students who will graduate in 2014.

Granma newspaper reported the news using an eloquent language:

“They do not wear watches to check the time; instead they use their cell phones.”

“They believe Beethoven is a dog they saw in a film.”

“They think Michael Angelo is a computer virus.”

“They believe e-mail is ‘too slow’, used as they are to texting through sophisticated mobile phones.”

“Very few of them can write cursive.”

“They believe Czechoslova-

kia never existed.”

“They think that American companies have always done business in Vietnam.”

“They think that Korean cars have always been running in their country.”

“They believe that the United States, Canada and Mexico have always been linked to each other by a Free Trade Agreement.”

I was stunned to realize to what extent education could be distorted and prostituted in a country with more than 8 000 nuclear weapons and the most powerful means of war in the whole world.

To think that there are still people in their right mind capable of believing that my warnings are exaggerated!

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Linda Nuuyoma

Tel: +264-61-238364/5/6

Mobile: +264-81 295 2336

Hamunyera Hambyuka

Tel: +264-61-238364/5/6

Mobile: +264-81 242 861