

SWAPO from page 1

The event was also graced by the presence of Founding President Dr Sam Nujoma, who, as President of SWAPO party from its inception, spearheaded Namibia's liberation struggle during some of the most difficult periods in the country's history.

President Pohamba was right when he said that just as the history of Namibia could not be told without mentioning SWAPO Party, the history of SWAPO Party, too, could not be told without mentioning the name and the extensive contributions of Cde Nujoma.

"For close to five decades," said President Pohamba, "he led our organization with fortitude and dedication, with a sense of destiny and with an unwavering spirit of determination to achieve our historic mission of dislodging apartheid colonialism from our motherland.

"Not only did he lead SWAPO successfully until the defeat and banishment of apartheid from Namibia on 21st March 1990, he also laid a strong foundation for the future of our country as the Founding President of our Republic, which he led for 15 years."

SWAPO was formed on April 19, 1960 to fight for Namibia's independence. It initially championed for Namibia's independence through peaceful means, but such efforts never yielded re-

sults.

The Party saw no other option but to launch the armed struggle on August 26, 1966, as the only way to force South Africa to relinquish its hold over Namibia, thus forcing the apartheid regime to the negotiating table.

"I pay homage to the gallant cadres of PLAN (People's Liberation Army of Namibia) for their bravery and unwavering determination in the fight for freedom of their motherland," said President Pohamba.

"Many of them shed their precious blood and sacrificed their lives for the liberation of our country. We honour these martyrs of our struggle for their bravery and patriotism."

The rally was attended by thousands of people. Sister parties such as ANC in South Africa, MPLA in Angola and others also sent their birthday messages. Zimbabwe African National Union (Patriotic Front), ZANU (PF) sent its Secretary for Information and Publicity, Cde Rugare Gumbo, who said that the time had come for Africa to consolidate its political independence by embarking on economic emancipation.

"The road is not easy," he said, "but we should not hesitate to implement the economic policies that will result in uplifting the living standards of our people. Lest we fool ourselves, the elements of illegal regime change are within us. They are now in our fold.

solves."

On Tuesday, Kevanhu appeared before Magistrate Vanessa Stanley, who postponed the case to April 30 this year. The Magistrate also denied him bail. Kevanhu also had a case of possessing an unlicensed firearm and ammunition opened against him.

Khomas Regional Crime Coordinator, Sylvanus Nghishidinwa, on Thursday confirmed that Kevanhu's application had not yet gone through. He did not say when or whether it would go through, especially when an unlicensed

Dr Nujoma pledged N\$9000 and an ox.

There were more than 50 tables and each went for N\$10

"Liberation led governments are experiencing similar problems and challenges in the wake of counter revolutionary forces bent on reversing the socio-economic and political gains made by liberation parties.

"The enemy has resurfaced and wants to diminish the influence and dominance of our liberation parties in Africa, particularly in this Southern Africa Region. Some comrades have abandoned ship and this makes it an opportune time for us to strengthen our relations. We should never allow ourselves to be divided."

President Pohamba said that unity was very important in forging a coherent front to face current enemies, adding that it was only through unity that former liberation parties could remain in power.

"Our SWAPO Party travelled a rough journey," he said. "A journey that was full of challenges. Those who wanted to destroy the Party tried to cause division among us during the 70s and 80s. The SWAPO Party emerged ever stronger.

"The same attempt was made during the 90s and more than two and a half years ago, the SWAPO Party emerged stronger. We survived because of our motto of 'One Namibia One Nation' because of our rejection of tribalism, regionalism, racism, sexism and nepotism. Today, these are still our non-negotiable principles."

firearm protecting a politician was involved.

"It is a complicated case," said another police officer. "God knows how it will work out. Politicians are protected by bodyguards with licensed firearms, which they can legally use in case the protected politician is in danger.

"One cannot use an illegal firearm in self-defence, neither to protect property, nor to protect a politician. Two wrongs do not make a right. That is how complicated this case is."

The case has been postponed to April 30 this year.

000, which already netted in N\$500,000. There were over 500 guests and President Pohamba told the guests, mainly made up of business people, that it was because of the SWAPO Party that their businesses were thriving in a peaceful and stable environment.

"SWAPO Party brought peace," he said. "We are a stable country because of the SWAPO Party. I ask you, what is your contribution to the Party that has brought peace and stability in this country where your businesses thrive?"

Party officials were still receiving cash by Thursday, which they estimated to reach at least one million.

UNAM sends out over 1500 graduates

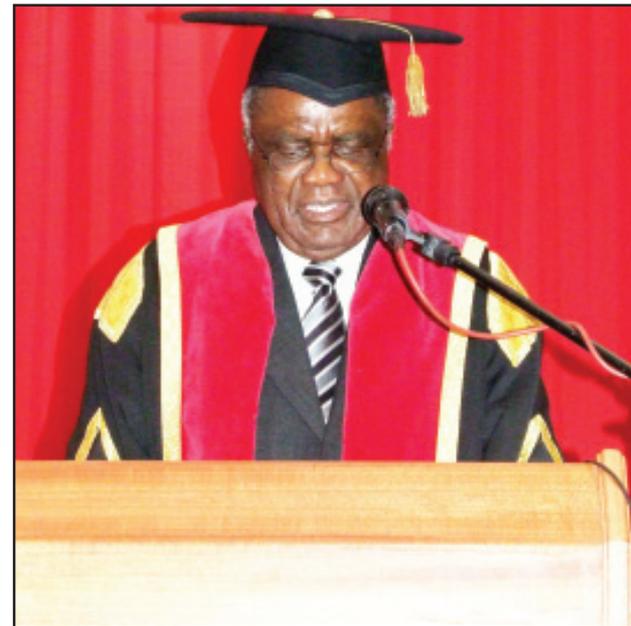
By Anna Nakambale

Ululations and tears of joy thundered and watered the walls of Safari Hotel on Friday last week when more than 1500 graduates received their degrees from the Founding President and Chancellor of the University of Namibia, UNAM, Dr Sam Nujoma.

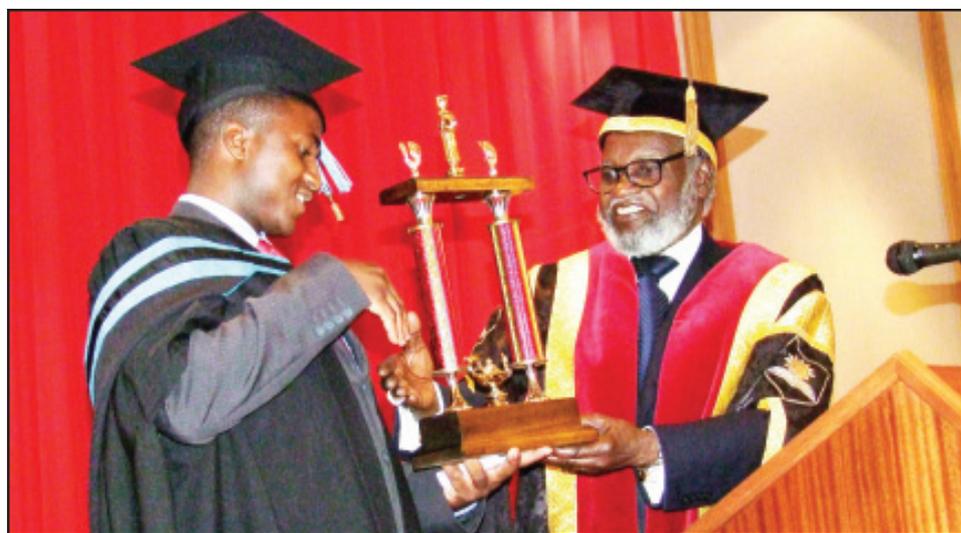
It was a momentous occasion that saw families from all corners of the country, who had come to witness the graduation of their loved ones, sitting together in one hall. Parents came dressed in different traditional outfits, all joined together by the achievements of their sons and daughters.

Dr Nujoma wasted no time in pointing out the importance of education, saying that universities all over the world were think tanks that generated and disseminated knowledge which could be used to accelerate and enhance economic development.

He emphasized the importance of indigenous foods and



President Hifikepunye Pohamba



Overall best student, Mapaure Clever, receiving his degree. Photo by Anna Nakambale.

fruits which could improve Namibia's economic competitiveness and the people's nutrition once they were properly harnessed.

"Can you imagine how much money and how many jobs would be generated if someone comes up with a way to make fruit juice from the 'eembe fruits', the bulk of which just goes to waste due to lack of technology?"

"We have a lot of traditional or local knowledge which still remained locked up in the minds of a few people. For that reason, that science or knowledge remains underdeveloped and undocumented.

"Unless our tertiary education institutions take bold steps in knowledge management, knowledge harvesting and sharing, all that knowledge will die when the few that have a monopoly pass on."

He urged UNAM to develop a curriculum in traditional medicines and train traditional herbalists, adding that UNAM should assist government and spearhead the development of a national policy on indigenous knowledge system.

President Hifikepunye Pohamba emphasized the im-

portance of education, saying that his government remained committed to providing education to all those who wished to study.

He said that students enrolment continued to improve from year to year and this was by no small measure attributable to Dr Nujoma's initiative and example of lifelong learning.

Dr Nujoma was a student of geology at UNAM, shortly after he stepped down as President of Namibia. He got his masters degree in geology after four years of hectic studies and researches.

Turning to the graduands, President Pohamba said that they were reaping the fruits of their hard work and should be proud of their achievements. He said that they should face the world with confidence and put to good use the skills and competencies they had acquired.

"The education you have acquired has given you a competitive edge and high possibility to excel in your professional careers," he said. "In order to succeed, however, you must continue to work hard, if not harder, than you did in your

academic careers at the university.

"Some of you will find jobs immediately while others might not be as fortunate. Others will continue to study. In everything that you will do, be good ambassadors of UNAM and remember those who stood by you and provided valuable support while you were studying.

"Education is the most powerful tool which you can use to change the world. Use it for that purpose. Use it to help develop Namibia and to improve the living conditions of the communities in which you will live and work. This is what the nation expects from you."

UNAM is one of the best 25 universities in Africa, receiving students from many countries such as China, Germany, Denmark, Jamaica, Sudan, Tanzania, Zambia, Uganda, Zimbabwe and many other countries.

"It is clear that UNAM is not only a national university but also a world university, providing education to the citizenry of all continents, thus contributing positively to the human understanding in the global village," said Professor Lazarus Hangula, Vice Chancellor of UNAM.

RDP

from page 1

not licensed," said one senior police officer. "That is illegal. One cannot, by law, use a firearm that is not licensed. How do you account for its usage?"

"An unlicensed firearm is illegal. So too is its usage, no matter the case. It makes it even worse when a politician is being guarded by bodyguards with unlicensed firearms. How does one protect a politician with an unlicensed firearm? It creates more problems than it

N\$1 million

from page 1

Pohamba pledged N\$10 000 spread over ten months, while

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