

Victory

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transport and other logistical support to the Party's campaign, thus making it a successful one.

SWAPO now controls all constituencies in Oshana, Oshikoto, Omusati, Ohangwena, Kavango, Caprivi, Hardap, Karas and Erongo regions. Aminuis and Otjinene in Omaheke Region were won by NUDO, leaving SWAPO Party to control the remaining five – Gobabis, Epukiro, Kalahari, Steinhausen and Otjombinde constituencies.

Only Okakarara Constituency in Otjozondjupa Region went to NUDO, while in Khomas Region, Windhoek East, went to RDP, the only constituency the party has won in all the regions. Okakarara has been under NUDO since independence.

An elated SWAPO Party Secretary for Information and Mobilization, Cde Jerry Ekandjo, said that the results clearly indicated that Namibians regarded SWAPO Party as their political home. He said that the results had quashed opposition's claims that last year's Presidential and National Assembly elections were rigged.

"Last week's results are a photocopy of last year's elections," he said. "In some cases, more people came out to vote. We have proven the opposition wrong. We have captured Daures and Otjombinde.

"We are now solidifying and fortifying democracy in Namibia. The people have spoken. Those who have been misled and those who believe that RDP would dislodge SWAPO Party from power are heading for a political dustbin. We have taken a broom to clean up. Constituencies that did not come



President, Hifikepunye Pohamba

back will certainly come back in the next elections.

He said that the DTA started with 21 seats in the National Assembly in 1990. Today it has two. The Congress of Democrats, CoD, started with seven in 2000. Today it has only one. RDP has eight today, but it will have zero in the next elections, said Cde Ekandjo.

"What these results show is that SWAPO Party is the most popular political party in the country," said Secretary of SWAPO Party Youth League, Cde Elijah Ngurare. "Some people were worried about RDP. But for us the youth, it was just another political project that had no future."

Cde Ngurare said that SPYL was generally happy with the outcome of the elections where SWAPO Party scored a landslide victory, whereas opposition parties were democratically consigned to the dustbin of political defeat.

"Once again, the enthusiasm of the Namibian youth has been aroused in supporting the



Founding President Sam Nujoma

Namibian youth through music or face book have been campaigning for the SWAPO Party and its candidates.

"The youth have an expectation in this victory, more so because there have been majority youth candidates who will become councilors. From the various regional and local authority councilors, we expect genuine implementation of youth empowerment, rural development and economic development.

"We expect the poor who have voted overwhelmingly for the SWAPO Party to ben-



Vice President Hage Geingob



Cde Jerry Ekandjo

Luderitz and Walvisbay, the new councilors must deliver the services without fail."

Throughout the election process, RDP had high hopes in



S.G. Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana



SPYL Secretary Elijah Ngurare

miliating defeat, which it was unable to understand.

"Just as RDP's Hidipo Hamutenya's presidential ambitions were shattered by



Deputy SG Nangolo Mbumba

pression is littered with names such as the Mudges and the Hans Dreyers. Namibians know this. How could RDP embrace former Koeveots and SWATFs and expect to win here? That is why Windhoek East in Khomas Region voted the way it did. Theirs was an opportunity to bring back the Mudges through Hidipo's back.

"It is a revenge vote. Most of the whites who hugely benefited from the colonial and apartheid system still live there. Most of them still remember those 'good' old days. They never went through the war as we did here. When Hidipo defected and married RDP with RP, those whites saw an opportunity in that marriage. If Hidipo has forgotten that, then he has himself to blame."

SWAPO Party Regional Coordinator for Caprivi Region, Cde Ignatius Nkunga, welcomed the results, saying that they were free and fair and those who lost were defeated freely and fairly. He said that SWAPO Party cadres worked hard in all the regions.

"That is why the Party is victorious," he said. "People voted wisely. They have done a good job. All I can say is thank you. Now we must work hard and deliver on our promises. Work must start now."

"The youth have an expectation in this victory, more so because there have been majority youth candidates who will become councilors. From the various regional and local authority councilors, we expect genuine implementation of youth empowerment, rural development and economic development" – Cde Elijah Ngurare.

efit from the services of government en masse: water and sanitation, electricity, rural feeder roads and so on. For the informal settlements of our

Ohangwena, Caprivi and Hardap Regions. Ohangwena topped the party's list as to where it would gain seats, largely because 90 per cent of

SWAPO Party delegates at the 2004 extra-ordinary congress, so too were the hopes of RDP in Ohangwena. It stood no chance here," said one businessman from Ohangwena.

"The voters here know what they went through before independence. They have no short memories. If Hidipo, who has lovely united with the Mudges, really thought he would make inroads here, then he does not read between the lines.

"Namibia's history of op-

"Namibia's history of oppression is littered with names such as the Mudges and the Hans Dreyers. Namibians know this. How could RDP embrace former Koeveots and SWATFs and expect to win here?" – Businessman from Ohangwena.

SWAPO Party," said Cde Ngurare. "Once again, the

towns, especially of Windhoek, Swakopmund,

its leaders were from there. But that is where it suffered a hu-

within their own circumstances.

Having gone through a history of oppression and injustice that drew Africa back in terms of its development and in evolving democratic institutions, Africans know only too well the value of respect for human rights and tolerance.

Besides, Africa is also a signatory to the major international conventions on human rights and as such no one can preach to it about its obligations on the subject.

Democratic processes in our countries are constantly under

threat partly due to interference from outsiders.

In the case of my country, Zimbabwe, heinous crimes of interference have been undertaken in the name of good governance and human rights and some such values.

Zimbabwe currently reels under illegal sanctions imposed on it by the European Union and the United States of America whose primary motive is to bring about regime change as a response to a just land reform programme my government embarked upon in the interest of social justice.

We in Zimbabwe have learnt the hard way that notions of democracy, human rights and rule of law have no universal meaning for Europeans, but are conveniently invoked against small states which dare challenge their global interests on our soils.

Equally illustrative is the issue of my country's sovereign right over her sub-soil assets, specifically the recently discovered diamond deposits.

This vital natural resource deposited in our country by the un-sanctioning Almighty, obviously to benefit His children, the same way oil and other abundant Afri-

can resources do or are supposed to do, is being placed beyond us in the name of the Kimberley Certification Process.

We have done everything expected of us under the process, itself voluntary, and yet we remain in the dock facing ever shifting charges laid out against us by some countries in Europe and America.

Again the notions of democracy, human rights and good governance are invoked.

We face the real risk of giving these noble notions a very bad name.

Our commitment to democratic governance and respect for human rights ought to be based on the premise that African people must

not see these values simply as abstract concepts that have no bearing on their well-being and material conditions.

Democratic governance must, therefore, mean more than people taking part in an election.

The people must have a direct

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Democracy

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nialism are well known, as are the brutalities that were perpetrated against Africans.

Europeans, therefore, cannot take a moral high ground and develop amnesia when it comes to the brutalities that Africans suffered in the colonial period.

It is for Africans to design and build their own democratic institutions.

That sense of ownership will impel them towards development

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A man was hit and badly injured while he was trying to cross in Hosea Kutako Street. Rescue workers arrived promptly to help the injured. Photo by Levi Upula.