THE YEAR THAT WAS IN POLITICS

By Dr. Elijah Ngurare, Secretary of the SWAPO Party Youth League

As I gaze into the rearview mirror of 2010, it dawns on me that as the Year descends to its closure, a number of highlights have been worth reflecting upon. Clearly, a lot of things have happened on the social, political, economic and cultural level amongst others.

Who can forget the*r World Cup was held in South Africa, for the first time in Africa, or that the African Cup of Nations was held in Angola? Our friends in Zimbabwe shall forever cherish the memories of having Brazil play the Zimbabwean national team on home soil. But of all the things that 2010 has brought, I wish to focus on the political highlights surrounding the opposition parties led by RDP futile attempts to fight the popularity of the SWAPO Party.

Indeed, the year began on a sour note for the newly formed political party, RDP, which was crying crocodile tears having lost massively against the SWAPO Party the previous year. The RDP tried to go into the 2009 Presidential and National Assembly elections under the propaganda that it had a database of 390,000 members primarily amongst the bombedries and that it regarded Ohangwena as its stronghold.

Unfortunately when elections came only a meager 90,000 or so of that number voted for RDP. This prompted the RDP to claim that the elections were rigged. SWAPO Party captured the hearts and minds of the bombedries and the people of all regions including Ohangwena Region. RDP being political commissioners they are, they quickly composed an anthem of complaints which they sang at every available opportunity. The selection of print media that is sympathetic to RDP tried hard to mimic this uncoordinated song.

Not to mention the smears specifically selected to mirror this anthem only to find out that this anthem had no genuine singers.

The main theme in that song was that the “2009 elections were rigged” in favour of SWAPO Party. They took the party. Now the question arises: what did Phil ya Nangoloh observe; did RDP do better this time, or they still have to go to the courts? The other day I said, people we call judges are politically mature. They have their own way of observing things. For example, RDP wanted the judges to agree with them that the 2009 elections were rigged.

Thus, Phil ya Nangoloh has to blame himself for supporting a losing horse. The late Maximilian had once made philosophical remarks by saying: “A mouse will never fight an elephant”. That is what Phil ya Nangoloh has to learn to understand.

An interesting political jambo-ree was held in the offing: weeks, this political holly matrimony was to be asked include just how long Mr. Henk Mudge and the High Court, which is where the case is to date. Subsequently, just like a headless chicken, the RDP jumped from one issue to another but eventually was compelled to return to parliament that it claimed would not do.

Thereafter followed the political wedding ceremony of RDP and R, as Ndlamini National Congress rightly puts it. An interesting political jambo-ree when one looks at that picture which appeared in Die Republikein depicting Mr. Hidipo Hamutenya flanked by Mr. Hainyeko and the latter’s happy looking parents. The questions that continue to be asked include just how long this political holly matrimony has been in the offing: weeks, months or years? A picture of a thousand words indeed, which undoubtedly shall haunt RDP and its President Mr. Hidipo Hamutenya for many years.

Arguably, it is this marriage with the former colonizer that ignited an exodus of defection from the RDP as many of the members were not in agreement nor were they thoroughly convinced. The writing was clearly on the wall that RDP was being consigned to the dothorn of political history, having seen its relevance diminish in Eenhana, Omuthiya, Tobias Hainyeko by-elections and in the 2009 Presidential and National Assembly Elections. The Regional and Local Authority Elections 2010 was a political slaughter house for RDP and this it knew and thus tried to employ some monkey tricks prior to the elections. It could not effectively and convincingly complain about the voters’ role because ICN gave this to all political parties ahead of time and once again the same South African company printed the ballot papers. The RDP tried to inject a verse in their anthem in search of a scapegoat but it was too late. The elections came and RDP was hammered beyond repair. It is the first time in Namibian political history that a political party became poor with reliable candidates and was forced to scramble for willing candidates to stand for it.

Also, the defacement rate was extremely high in all parts of the country. This led to some RDP leaders to claim that there were SWAPO saboteurs in RDP. In some parts of the country, RDP candidates were not even known except their names being on a ballot paper. In other words, the RDP went into the regional and local authority elections politically demoralized and psychologically succumbed to the superiority of the SWAPO Party, didn’t bother to show up at the airport to receive election materials or at the LCN Logisitic Centre to observe the packaging and distribution of election materials.

As the results began to come in, what the RDP feared the most began to be confirmed, namely that SWAPO is truly the People and the People are SWAPO. A landslide victory was delivered to the SWAPO Party. Effectively, the RDP has finished its dreaming of competing with SWAPO and instead it has become the political chief of votes from GoD, DTA and UDE. As for the UDE, it has been left lacking its wounds in Omururu and Daunes Constituencies respectively. The SWAPO political tsunami swept these constituencies away from UDE in an open and democratic contest. The DTA has lost control of Omaruru Town Council and has literally been forced into final stretches of its political calamity. It is a matter of time. Therefore, the SWAPO Party is going into this Christmas as a brand new car whereas RDP and Company is doing so as mere political skorokoros that even Santa Claus doesn’t trust to deliver the Christmas gifts across the country. The Namibian people, including Santa Claus, know that with SWAPO Party their future and that of Namibia is secured. May I wish all the youth of our country and especially the members of SWAPO Party Youth League and SWAPO Pioneers Movement as well as the entire leadership and membership of the SWAPO Party a Happy Christmas and Prosperous 2011 and beyond.

Ya Nangoloh licking wounds

By Kakede Ka Nangula

Comrade, can you render me space to ask the following questions?

Why Phil ya Nangoloh the running dog of RDP clique of defectors, so quiet, is he probably helping licking their wounds and after the devastating results of last November elections? I remember before people went for polling; ya Nangoloh asked to be granted observer status, apparently in order to be assured after the elections that RDP has won with overwhelming majority. However, such pernicious and hypocritical maneuvers turned out to be nothing but a boomerang.

What happened when election results were announced was a killing shock to the Director of Human Rights Commissions.