

# 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 are worth reflecting upon. Clearly, a lot of things have happened on the social, political, economic and cultural level amongst others.

Who can forget that the 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



*Camarada Elijah Ngurare* political party, RDP, which was crying crocodile tears having lost massively against the SWAPO Party the previous year (2009). The RDP had gone into the 2009 Presidential and National Assembly under the propaganda that it had a data-

base of 390,000 members primarily amongst the bornfrees 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 bornfrees and the people of all regions including Ohangwena Region. RDP being political comedians 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 smses 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



SWAPO Party Youth League members at one of the SWAPO Party rallies. Photo by Levi Upula.

matter to court and vowed that until the courts rule on the matter they would not go to parliament. The RDP public relations officers tried their best but even for them the defeat became unbearable and literally lost their voices in the process.

This includes the erstwhile supporter of RDP such as the National Society for Human Rights.

The political circus continued until the day of the actual ruling of the High Court, which dismissed the case on technicalities. The RDP appealed the ruling to the Supreme Court and the later referred the matter back to 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 RP, as Ndilimani Cultural Troupe rightly puts it. An interesting political jamboree when one looks at that picture which appeared in Die Republikein depicting Mr. Hidipo Hamutenya flanked by Mr. Henk Mudge 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 consulted. The writing was clearly on the wall that RDP was being consigned to the dustbin of political history, having seen its relevance diminish in Eehnaana, 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' roll because ECN 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.

Alas, the defection rate was extremely high in all parts of the country. This led to some RDP leaders to claim that there were SWAPO hibernators 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 ECN Logistic 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 thief of votes from CoD, DTA and UDF. As for the UDF, it has been left licking its wounds in Omaruru and Daures Constituencies respectively. The SWAPO political tsunami swept those constituencies away from UDF in an open and democratic contest.

The DTA has lost control of Opuwo Town Council and has literally been forced into final stretches of its political cemetery. 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 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 election, that RDP had won with overwhelming majority. However, such perfidious 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 Com-

pany. 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 Maxuilili 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.

## LOCAL TENDER BOARD

FOR THE CITY OF WINDHOEK



### TENDER INVITATION

**TENDER NO. INF 567/2010**

**Title:** New palisade fencing at Oponganda Cemetery, Wanaheda  
**Description:** New palisade fencing at Oponganda Cemetery, on Erf 2673 Wanaheda, corner of Otjomuise and Kitaar Street.

**Closing Date:** Friday, 21 January 2011 at 11:00.

**Site Inspection & Tender briefing:** Compulsory site inspection will be held in the Committee Room of the Architecture Division on the corner of Garten and Rev. Michael Scott Streets, on 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2011 at 9:00.

**Tender Documents:** Available as from the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2011 11:00, at the Customer Care Centre of the City of Windhoek, Rev. Michael Scott Street, Windhoek.

**Levy:** N\$ 500.00 (Non-refundable)

**Enquiries Technical:** Mr. T.J. Namhadi - Tel +264-(0)61-290 3047 / Fax +264-(0) 61-290 2306

**Enquiries Procurement:** Ms. A. S. Shakaalela

Tel: +264-(0) 61-290 2270

Fax: +264-(0) 61-290 2331

E-mail: [ase@windhoekcc.org.na](mailto:ase@windhoekcc.org.na)

**DELIVERY ADDRESS:** Tender Box, Customer Care Centre, City of Windhoek  
 Rev Michael Scott Street  
**WINDHOEK**

Tender adverts also available on internet - [www.cityofwindhoek.org.na](http://www.cityofwindhoek.org.na), click on News and publications then click on Tenders

Notice No.109/2010



*Final fatal blows. Rusting in the dustbin of history. Opposition parties suffered a bruising defeat in the last regional and local authority elections last month.*