

What people say

From SWAPO website: www.swapoparty.org

◆ Posted by Ronn Kaheka

Yep, this is what we term National Reconciliation. It should teach us not to have political mercy with this come along parties. When they are defeated they resort to the very same laws that was denied us before, they cry democracy and forget what we went through. If you can recall, there was this drive of "necklacing" in South Africa, during the apartheid era, getting rid of puppets. This is what the RDP and COD cohorts deserved then. Democracy and free market system are proven to be an enemy of progress. If you look at the so-called western or developed nations, they only started talking democracy after they had their bellies full, they use democracy to maintain their status. Right now they will try and enforce their perception of democracy through these Namibian weaklings who has and never had a progressive vision but only a mission of destabilization. I can feel my blood rising when I look at a picture of men lost on the political battle field. Ai siestog....

◆ Posted by Cde, Kanamutenya whk

Yes cde, Ronn Kaheka you make a valid point bro!! who ever talk of democracy that word comes from Latin and it had been years before it had implemented in many countries, In America after exterminations of aborigines Indians inhabitants, in Europe they fight and killed each other and they call it WWI and WWII (World War One and World War II) In Africa fighting for your rights is called terrorists, communist and so on, even to certain extend supporting the Zionist and Apartheid. Now what is what? (DEMOCRACY)= Poverty and misery to our people because capitalism owns the means of production and the land by some elites.

◆ Posted by shilongoh-shafiishuna

Cdes, I just have a concern over services rendered through municipalities and/or town councils. Of late, we heard of electricity cut down at okahandja for example, and other towns being warned. What seems to concern me is why are these towns not paying their bills on time? Why is it happening during this time when the elections are just next door? I otherwise have to say some of these guys are trying to jeopardise everything that all through SWAPO is not good. This town councils must really shape up or else ship out. We have order/foundation set up

by SWAPO party and just to be spoiled by people whose agendas only known to themselves... The Rundu town is currently experiencing water problem since mid year. Why are the problems starting now?... cdes, we must hence be vigilant over those that are working otherwise.. SWAPO will forever stand tall and proud.

◆ Posted by Cde. Katusha kaNamibia

Dear Comrades, hereby calling all the bonafide SWAPO members to pay their membership, as the Mighty SWAPO Party need money to come up with juice, energize, politainment campaign for the Regional & Local Authorities Elections. To all the Comrades, Supporters and Sympathizers of the Mighty SWAPO Party, be ready for the campaign to be launched soon. VIVA S W A P O ! A l u t a Continua! Victory is certain Comrades! We shall disappoint them again and again!

◆ Posted by Salomo lipinge

I would like to thank the Hon. Prime Minister for making the job creation a priority because a lot of youth really need a job. I hope my brothers and sisters in our country will benefit and start supporting their families too. My kind request to the PM is perhaps to speed up the process, although it won't be easy! My hat is off for the SWAPO Gov. Thanks

◆ Posted by Leonie

Well we are indeed a country of FREEDOM. It will just show that we have and been and will be victorious in everything we do and touch.

◆ Posted by G. Shaanyenenge

RDP (Rally for Disappointed People) + RP (Rally for puppet) = ZERO (OIKANGWA YELIPUPIKA)

◆ Posted by G. Shaanyenenge

We will give them KAPINYA this year, with their coalition or not they are nothing to the SWAPO PARTY. VIVA SWAPO PARTY OF NAMIBIA.

◆ Posted by I.H. Hekandjo-Okalongo

Lol. Its the dead end of RP party in Namibia, and finally COD, DTA, RDP AND etc are became one, imagine for how long they has been partner, we lost our brothers and sisters in Cassinga and in other places, who has been the MD if it is not a CEO of what's happen? remember the truth

cannot hide forever . eehonde dova mwaneme odo tadi pulako sha do. VIVA SWAPO PARTY OF NAMIBIA.

◆ Posted by Cde Nghalukamo

Keep up the good work with the in time update of Namibia Today. Information is key ALUTA CONTINUA

◆ Posted by Evelyn Matheus

I wonder what makes them want to go to parliament now, i guess their fellows members are starving to death now and noted that without SWAPO Government money they cannot help themselves and want to benefit, although i do not believe they can bring any changes as they use to preach! Hahaaha, when they were campaigning for Omuthiya they promise that whether they lose or win they will build free houses or bring development at Omuthiya but still now i have not seen or heard anything what happen anoo?

◆ Posted by Sunday Nekongo

LOL... Tala, that is well said! I think they really had a hidden affair, they are now revealing their long hidden relationship which will however not last longer. HH has been a hibernator and a power hungry politician too. We are ready to defeat them come Nov. Regional and Local Authority elections.

◆ Posted by Tala

Eya moSwapo ta pula ombelewa vati a longwa unene Eya moSwapo takwatakanifa neembulu daye A dja moSwapo a shuna keembulu daye

◆ Posted by Cde. Land of the Brave

VIVA Cde. Pohamba, VIVA Cde. Nujoma, VIVA Cde. Geingob, VIVA Cde. Iivula-Ithana, VIVA Cde. Mbumba, VIVA Cde. Toivo Ya Toivo, VIVA Cde. Ngurare, VIVA all SWAPO Party structures and all Comrades. November Elections is what we are all waiting for! SWAPO for life!

◆ Posted by Comrade Kandowa

Cde. Tulinalyo, I share the same sentiment with you. SWAPO Party is the only party that can defeat the challenges Namibia is currently facing, I believe the SWAPO Government is on the right track to just achieving the major challenges. Comrade, SWAPO is here

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View Point

By Petrus Damaseb

Those of us in the leadership of the judiciary have an obligation to continuously assess whether the procedures and processes by which justice is delivered are fit for purpose.

Since becoming Judge-President of the High Court in December 2004, I have tried to understand the factors that impede the efficient delivery of justice by the High Court.

In the six years or so that I have been in this job I have been making some attempts – with the help of my colleagues and successive registrars – to introduce reforms to make justice delivery more in tune with the demands and expectations of an increasingly critical and frustrated public. I am still not satisfied that we are meeting public expectations. The public expect a judicial process that is affordable, transparent, accessible, fair, impartial and easy to understand; and one that dispenses justice reasonably speedily. That is the standard against which to measure the performance of the High Court. The system for justice delivery remains congenitally slow and woefully expensive. The more I ponder the problem I have come to the realization that the system is what it is because the procedures we are using to deliver justice have not kept pace with change.

Recently, we undertook a familiarization visit to four jurisdictions in order to learn what other Courts have done or are doing to deal with the problem of delay and case backlog in the judicial system. These jurisdictions are: The North Gauteng High Court, Botswana, Malaysia and Singapore.

The reason we have asked you to join us here today is to unveil the report that is the culmination of our visit to those jurisdictions.

The report which we are unveiling today concludes that the High Court of Namibia has not been able to accommodate all the cases that litigants wish to have enrolled during a particular court term. Regardless of the value of the claim involved, or the complexity of a matter, in this jurisdiction trials tend to be long-drawn-out, invariably punctuated by incessant postponements resulting in many matters becoming part-heard and taking quite long to be re-enrolled for completion. The net result of all that is a phenomenon manifesting itself in "case backlog" the most visible manifestation of which is that fixed civil trials, criminal trials, opposed motions and criminal appeals are not readily allocated court time in the shortest time possible. For this reason, there is a generally held belief amongst the public that justice is not speedily dispensed in Namibia.

The key conclusion in the report is that once filed with the Court, litigation in our jurisdiction is driven by the litigants - and judges are mere passive role players without any power to spur on the process. The system is therefore prone to manipulation by litigants to achieve delay for their own reasons. This, what I call the orthodox adversarial system, does not recognize that the early disposal of cases that come before Court is a matter of interest to the public in general and not just the litigants involved in a particular dispute. As was aptly observed by Professor Adrian Zuckerman (*Fellow of University College, Oxford*) in the context of England and Wales

"Lord Woolf, whose inquiry led to the enactment of the [Civil Procedure Rules of England & Wales], identified one fundamental defect in the old system: a lack of proper management of litigation. In those days the parties controlled the pace and intensity of the litigation process with scant regard to time limits or to court resources, while the court felt obliged to tolerate the situation. Litigant defaults encouraged complaints by opponents and resulted in disputes about process, which could consume considerable litigant and court resources. These in turn created a voluminous body of case law dealing with the exercise of judicial discretion in enforcing compliance with rules and court orders. Thus, an application to strike out a claim for want of prosecution could require the consideration of extensive case law and lengthy hearings. The scope for wasteful and costly satellite litigation on matters of procedure was therefore very substantial. Litigants seeking court adjudication were unable to predict in advance whether their case would proceed expeditiously and at a proportionate cost or whether it would be subject to lengthy delays and expensive interlocutory activity."

It is this kind of sentiment that has inspired much of the judicial-process reform in the common law world - removing control of court processes from litigants and placing it under the control of the Court. The report gives the reader the context in which that happened and strongly argues the case for a similar approach in Namibia.

As the report concludes, judicial case management recognizes as a legitimate public interest that once commenced, litigation must progress with due expedition so that a matter is finalized and in that way to free up Court time for other cases.

The report also concludes, based on the findings of the familiarization visit, that the appointment of more judges, unless seen as part of an all-encompassing reform programme, is not necessarily the panacea to solving the problem of case backlog. I can now safely state that the variant of the civil adversarial process such as is practiced in Namibia - in which litigants and their legal representatives dictate the pace and intensity of litigation - is greatly responsible for case backlog and that the time has come for the High Court to introduce judicial case management. Judicial case management involves the Court actively managing cases to facilitate their early disposal. The judges regularly enquire about progress in the case and give directions that move the case forward. The emphasis is on narrowing areas of dispute for early and streamlined adjudication and keeping down the costs of litigation as much as reasonably possible.

The report concludes that sole reliance on the formal court system for the resolution of all civil disputes is unrealistic and adds to the problem of case backlog. Our interaction with other court administrators in the jurisdictions we visited has shown that introduction of court-connected Alternative Dispute Resolution is an essential strategic intervention in the quest to address case backlog.

I hope that the report leads to a fundamental rethink of the way things are done at the moment. We must give judges greater control over the process of litigation. Court time must be equitably and sensibly managed for the benefit of the entire society – not just those who happen to be litigating at a particular time.

What we do at the courts affects the lives of people. It affects people's livelihoods. It affects business and can attract or chase away investors. It is now accepted that foreign investors lose interest in a country whose Court system is bad. Our court system is independent and of high professional standard, but it is very slow and costly. We cannot pretend that all is well. We have to change, for people's lives and livelihoods depend on what we do.