

What people say

From SWAPO website: www.swapoparty.org

◆ **Posted by: Amunjela**

Please expose the hypocrisy of RDP, NSHR, Globbelaar and The Namibian - aantu mbono na ya nekwe pomutenya.

◆ **Posted by: Amunjela**

This is very insightful. Please publish the political satire in Namibia Today and Newera where those that do not have access to the internet can access it.

◆ **Posted by henny seibeb**

its a good satire, publsh it in Namibia Today. Those pathological liars like grobler, ya nangoloh, and Hidipo must be exposed.

◆ **Posted by Matisa Xoagub**

this is a quality satire, giving a correct insight into how the sick minds of hidipo, nyamu, grobler, ya nangoloh, and other project leaders think. i suggest that this must be printed in full also in Namibia Today, so that our comrades in the regions can also read it, those w/o internet. Shame on the pathological liars ya nangoloh, grobler and hidipo.

◆ **Posted by: Amunjela**

i like the political satire - truthful and funny. its a fact that OSWAPO oya kindja and no one can dispute that. RDP,

NSHR, The Namibian are so confused, they even went to the extend of trying to boycott the elections as a result of Namprint printing the ballot papers - HH is a hypocrite because why all of sudden he has a problem with Namprint, whereas is was never an issue while he was in SWAPO. come November we will destroy RDP and Co into the dustbin of history.

◆ **Posted by Cde Ndumba, Rundu, Kavango Region**

I like the political satire in the Spotlight, it is very good and well written. There is also a lot of information that is based on truth. I heard about the 120 monitors deployed by NSHR in the Regions. Shame on puppets!

◆ **Posted by Sadik Omar (Dar es Salam, Tanzania)**

It was with a great sense of loss when we heard of Hendrik Witbooi death. We wanted to let you know that you have our greatest sympathy, and our hearts are truly saddened. Hendrik Witbooi was more than just a wonderful person; he was always so kind and considerate to us that we always welcomed seeing him at every opportunity. And, we know that his passing will not only leave a void in our lives, but in the hearts of all those who knew him. Hendrik Witbooi will always remain within our hearts,

and we have included Hendrik Witbooi and you in our daily prayers. May God give you strength. Our sincere thoughts and prayers are with you. With our deepest sympathy, Omar Family

◆ **Posted by Posted by Cde Kanamutenya**

Reading some sms in the Namibian newspaper one wonder if those are written by public or by news desk editors? I had posted many sms and nevr been published, yet they want to claim that they "Still Telling It Like It Is" not true, On 12/10/2009 page 39 they mislead information that Abedi Pele was to fly to Ongwediva airport with AFCON Cup, for heaven sake there is no airport at Ongwediva rather at Ondangwa. Is this (Still Telling It Like It Is)? Shame !

◆ **Posted by Swapo Tuli (Windhoek, Namibia)**

RDP is a political project of CONFUSED leaders.. They clearly have no vision and all they want to achieve is mislead the Namibia and its people, while selfishly enriching themselves. We all know this (RDP) so-called leaders are power hungry, and never will they win Namibia and its people's votes. They are definitely a bunch of losers. And one thing they must know is SWAPO is the people and the people are SWAPO. VIVA SWAPO Party!!!

Change Vs Continuity

Enough has been said about "change" as a campaign strategy from several opposition political parties. it is not difficult to see a clear comparison being made to a successful campaign of now President Barack Obama. The unfortunate reality is that "change" as articulated by Obama in the United States was to rid the US with neo-conservatives who took the world to a low level of diplomacy. Obama's campaign of course went an extra mile to illustrate that a black man has the same abilities as a person of another race. Indeed, Obama fulfilled the dream of Martin Luther King. Somehow, local opposition parties have come to believe "change" is a winning slogan.

But the Namibian people are smarter than that. Such development as improved road infrastructure, houses, and telephones, electricity in rural areas, schools, clinics and hospitals are hard to ignore. The very existence of opposition parties themselves is testimony that SWAPO Party is committed to the people of Namibia. What is required now is not the testing of political

projects that have no meaning and political grounding. SWAPO Party and its President must be reelected to ensure that continuity of developmental programmes is guaranteed. Cde President Pohamba speaks of the rail line to Oshikango as an asset that will bring economic advantages to the people of Namibia because the movement of goods and services between Namibia and Angola would be smoothed. President pohamba appreciates Namibia can be self-sufficient in providing food to her people by ensuring that the rice project in Caprivi region and the fish farms in Caprivi and Kavango regions receives top priority. These projects are there for everyone to see. But President Pohamba and SWAPO Party deserve more time to see to the completion of these programmes. And the opposition parties would like us to believe the people of Namibia want change. Change for what? I ask.

The Swapo Party Government has been tested over time. All party structures understand the desire to pull together to-

wards achieving a common goal. That is why The Swapo Party Youth League talks of Youth Empowerment and Rural Development. That's why, the Swapo Party Women's Council talks about women, children's empowerment and their rights. And the Swapo Party Elders Council talks about the well being of the elders, which includes among other things, the increment to their pension grants. Our progressive unions affiliated to the Mighty Swapo Party are working hard to better the living conditions of the Namibian workers. May I add that all these structures exist only in Swapo Party? In short it is an all inclusive Party it takes care of everybody.

To my fellow country men and women who love peace and development, let us continue with good things we know. Hidipo Hamutenya once told us that as Trade and Industry Minister he will bring investors to Namibia. True to his word, he brought RAMATEX. Guess: Ramatex closed down.

Son of the Soil



Zoom In

By Asser Ntinda



The race card being played against Founding President, Dr. Sam Nujoma, started long ago. It was started by The Namibian, after it had failed to bring him down on many occasions, using fabricated and distorted stories to make him look unpopular and unfit to hold a public office.

True, knocking African leaders has always been a favourite past time for western journalists looking for cheap laughs. They justify their journalistic "heroism" by vilifying and mocking African leaders, describing them as "bigots, dictators and intolerant leaders" who brook no "dissenting voices."

Little did we know that such trends would creep into Namibia's journalism. Unfortunately, such craps are crept in. The driver behind such dirty wheels is none other than Gwen Lister, Editor of The Namibian. She has persistently tried to use the race card and drive it into Cde Nujoma's political body.

She has dismally failed to achieve that objective, largely because she has got short memories. Short memories because Gwen has easily forgotten, or pretends she has forgotten, that Namibia's much worldwide applauded and commended Policy of National Reconciliation was driven and spear-headed by none other than Cde Nujoma, as then President of SWAPO Party and as then, too, President of Namibia.

Cde Nujoma has not just preached National Reconciliation. He has lived it, walked it and breathed it, so much so that none would dispute his genuine commitment to that policy. It was not smooth sailing for him to push it through party structures. But he tried and succeeded.

We are happy today as a nation. Wars never end at short notice. Ours did, to the surprise of many. We had enough wells of deep-seated racial and political hatred that could have triggered an endless civil war. Just look at what happened after independence in Angola, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. You will certainly realize how far-sighted Cde Nujoma was in pursuing the Policy of National Reconciliation.

There were strong voices within the Party that did not even want to buy the idea. Names like the late Moses /Garob and Nathaniel Maxuili went to their graves still thinking and believing that National Reconciliation was a bad policy. It was Cde Nujoma who, through his firm, decisive leadership and majestic sense of purpose, prevailed over them, telling them firmly but politely that let us leave the past behind, and unite as one nation, truly giving meaning to one of SWAPO Party's long-held slogans of One Namibia, One Nation.

It was not smooth sailing, I say, to drive that policy through Party structures. The late /Garob, more than once, declared it dead in full public view, sending our first Prime Minister, Cde Hage Geingob, to go on a fence mending mission to allay the fears of the white community and those of the former black puppets. Credit must, indeed, go to Cdes Nujoma and Geingob.

But when you look at how Gwen and her paper are trying to play the race card into Cde Nujoma's body politic, you wonder whether Gwen really understands what she is talking about or where we have come from. SWAPO Party Secretary General, Cde Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana, was therefore right when she recently reminded Gwen about her racial extraction of bygone generations on the brutalities inflicted on black people just because they were black.

And these are the people that Cde Nujoma freed from the yoke of apartheid colonialism and the bondage of racial oppression. Cde Nujoma had to command people into battles to fight for their inalienable rights to freedom and self-determination. Many died. Many, too, were wounded. In the crucible of that struggle, Cde Nujoma showed the way. And here we are, free as a nation.

The story in The Namibian two weeks ago, horribly distorted as it was, about Cde Nujoma "urging" people to take up hammers and "beat all English people" must be seen in Gwen's old attempt to bring Cde Nujoma down, using the race card. She has long tried to project him as anti-white. Here are the facts.

On September 20, 1998, Cde Nujoma, then President of Namibia, addressed a rally in Windhoek where he explained why Namibia, Angola and Zimbabwe had sent troops to the Democratic Republic of Congo. The reasons were overwhelming. Cde Nujoma went further to explain why some European were liars, citing Christopher Columbus and Jan van Riebieck, who claimed to have discovered the Americas and Africa, when in fact there were indigenous people already who had lived there long before they Columbus and Riebieck had arrived.

The next day, The Namibian ran a front-page story headlined "President rips into foolish Europeans," adding that the President had also attacked European Union, EU. The story was selectively edited to create an impression that he branded all Europeans as 'foolish' and 'liars.' No where, however, in the story did names like Columbus and Riebieck appear to justify why he said some Europeans were 'liars.' But this was necessary to put in context what he said.

But the only time Cde Nujoma referred to the EU was when he urged Africans to unite and strengthen the African Economic Community, using the EU as an example of what a united continent could achieve. The only time Cde Nujoma referred to Europeans as 'liars' was when he referred to Columbus and Riebieck who claimed in history books that they had discovered Africa and the Americas.

The story as it appeared in The Namibian made no mention of the African Economic Community, which brought in the UE as a lesson for Africa. Nor did it mention Riebieck and Columbus to put in context why Cde Nujoma used adjectives such as 'liars' and 'foolish.' But these were necessary facts to put in context what Cde Nujoma had said. Anybody who had read that story would have thought that Cde Nujoma was referring to current Europeans as 'liars and foolish.'

As if that damage was not enough, another story on the front page of The Namibian had facts wrong. Put in bold, it was headlined "Stern Action" vowed on land. "President Nujoma yesterday warned Namibians of 'European origin' who were not willing to share what they had, in particular land, that stern action would be taken against them."

Plain wrong. Cde Nujoma never referred to "Namibians of European origin." Never. He said "Namibians irrespective of their race, colour or place of origin..." When Cde Nujoma visited Rundu in June the same year, he held meetings with community leaders where they discussed various issues. One of those issues that he was bitter about was a coordinated campaign by some white people to sow division among Namibians, using Epupa as a central plank of their campaign.

A week before the Rundu visit, a British newspaper carried a story quoting some officials from the Legal Assistance Centre, saying that the Himbas were being "victimized and marginalized" because they "sided with the South African Defence Force" during the liberation war and the reason for building Epupa Dam was to "compensate the Ovambos for having fought the war" to liberate Namibia.

This was all rubbish and the race card against Cde Nujoma comes into being again. Cde Nujoma said clearly that he was not referring to all whites. He said "genuine white compatriots are welcome..." The next day, The Namibian had a front-page story headlined "Watch it 'foreigners.'" What followed was a 25 paragraph story selectively edited to make it look as if Cde Nujoma made a blanket attack on Europeans and whites, which was not the case.

Those stories represented an unforgivable editorial slant on the part of The Namibian. Selective editing is no near objective reporting. Distorting stories is not the same as "telling it like it is." Let us rubbish The Namibian for what it is - an institution which has set itself the objective of vilifying and mocking Cde Nujoma, presenting him as unfit to hold a public office.

In that battle, The Namibian has set itself against the nation. Come hell or high water, Cde Nujoma is and will remain an icon of the Namibian revolution. The Gwen Listers of this world can come and go, but Cde Nujoma will be held in esteem by the current and succeeding generations to come. And SWAPO Party will win, despite The Namibian's negative stance against it.