

What people say

From SWAPO website: www.swapoparty.org

◆ **Posted by: Amunjela**
Thank you for the insight Cde Hindjou, i went to the SPYL but it has been updated since the 29 September 2009. Dear SPYL Moderator could you please provide us with the latest information on the SPYL website and put up interesting reading such as the Political Satire and so on.

◆ **Posted by Cde Beukes, Khomasdal**
It is good to know the url address of SPYL. I checked it out and want to suggest that some people should work on it in order to make it very young-generation friendly. For sure, when November comes the youth of Namibia will vote for SWAPO Party.

◆ **Posted by Jue**
OSWAPO itayivulikawe yeetheni yileloshilongo nombili. Komesho shigwana. Even NAMPRINT did not print the ballot papers, we will still rule Namibia.

◆ **Posted by Cde. Kanjoze Hindjou, (Otjiwarongo)**
The SPYL page is still active, the url is: www.spyl.org! or you can simply access it through the Party website, under the sub menu of Administration —> SPYL —> below the page content reads: "Please click here for more on SPYL. Thank you..."

◆ **Posted by Ndunge**
The issue of ballot papers printing should not be used as an excuse by opposition to boycott elections for no good reason. So I should request Namprint management to

avoid the whole process and let other companies tender for that. In the long-run it will paint a good picture for both the company and the holding party. SWAPO is and always will be a party that look into the future, embrace the present without forgetting the past.

◆ **Posted by Ndunge**
Wow! That sounds really familiar and the satire is awesome. For any1 to vote for party led by people like Hidipo Hamutenya and the likes they must be suffering from political amnesia or they are just plainly politically naive. They are a bunch of spiteful politicians who had failed miserably and the records are there for all to see. And as for their political project/party or whatever it is, they should know that the future of any political party that is based on tribal, ethnic and/or regional politics is bound to get unstuck now or in the near-future. The classical examples are SWANU (oldest almost-dead political party in Namibia), CoD (Congress of Doom/Democrats), MAG (Monitor Action Group, a dead duck political party) and many more.

◆ **Posted by Cde Kanamutenya**
What happen to SWAPO YOUTH LEAGUE web page? It was active during 2002-2004; can anyone with information tell us were we can log on? Or is no longer active?

◆ **Posted by Cde Kanamutenya**

It is good news to hear that Poly-technic students your loans were paid which includes accommodation as well, therefore you must use that money properly and for what is meant for please, be wise and be a good future leader and responsible, you are been aided to make use of the opportunity and grab it seriously by studying hard and achieve what you want to achieve in your life and develop Namibia!

◆ **Posted by Amunjela**
The Mighty SWAPO = people, and the people = SWAPO, not RDP, Not The Namibian and not NSHR. SWAPO is here to stay and it will maintain its 2/3 majority whether you like it or not. if it hurts you can swallow the blade (Pona okambi).

◆ **Posted by A Patriot**
A local magazine, Prime Focus, recently tried to find out who the trustees were and who really owned The Namibian, but to no avail. Gwen has also refused to grant the said magazine an interview. The disparities in salaries allegedly along racial lines will be hotly discussed in weeks and months to come, and are set to disparage Gwen in the eyes of the public she claims she cares for. If those disparities are proven correct, they will disarm Gwen and throw in tatters her controversial arguments she has advanced so far. "Pay structures are most secretive at The Namibian," said one employee.

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Zoom In



By Asser Ntinda

The November National Assembly and Presidential Elections will certainly bring out the worst and best of all the institutions involved in the preparations of those crucial elections. With political tempers flaring up so quickly and the embarrassing U-turn by the Electoral Commission of Namibia, ECN, to withdraw its tender for printing ballots from Namprint, one can only guess what the political ramifications will be.

The prime mover behind all this gerrymandering is none other than the Rally for Democracy Progress, RDP. There is only one reason why RDP has chosen to wallow in such a mischievous and unfortunate political chicanery – RDP has finally come to the conclusion that wining the November elections is well-nigh impossible. That reality, painful for them, has finally sunk into their heads.

Their demand that Namprint should not print this year's ballot papers because it is "owned by SWAPO" and that the "link between Namprint and SWAPO represents a conflict of interest" should be rubbished with the contempt they deserve. This is not the first time that Namprint has successfully printed ballot papers for our elections. It has done so impeccably in the past.

With that excellent and impeccable track record behind it, no political party, old and new, can point out a single political mishap and accuse Namprint of having messed up. In fact, SWAPO Party Secretary for Information and Mobilization, Cde Jerry Ekandjo, full of humorous sarcasms as he is, was right when he told all and sundry that RDP's Hidipo Hamutenya in the past strenuously defended ECN's decisions to grant such tenders to Namprint.

At one point, he used Namprint's "good track-record" to tell off leaders of the opposition parties who had similar complaints like the ones he suddenly entertains now, that their "fears about Namprint printing ballot papers were misplaced because Namprint does not mix politics with business." Opposition parties understood and kept quiet. By then Hamutenya was, or so he thought, the "great man" in SWAPO Party who could move mountains. At that point, too, he regarded himself as more SWAPO than anybody else. He has since left SWAPO Party.

Now that he is out there in the cold and sensing a humiliating defeat next month, his strategy now is to put the upcoming elections' credibility into question by raising trivial and childish issues like Namprint and its connections to SWAPO Party. Those who do not know how Namprint has come to win such tenders may swallow Hamutenya's craps and take them as "genuine concerns." Why should Namprint mess up now that he is out of SWAPO Party when it did not do so when he was in? A drowning man grabs at every little straw. That is the situation in which Hamutenya has found himself.

History plays itself out, sometimes at awkward times. Hamutenya has now cobbled together some former puppets and opposition leaders to join him in his bid to stop Namprint from winning the tender – the same former puppets and opposition leaders whose fears he was instrumental in allaying when he was a SWAPO Party leader. Now he is telling them to believe what he told them not to believe a few years ago. How can one trust such a person? Political back-paddling is no virtue. The fears about Namprint winning that tender are not real. They have been exaggerated to make political capital out of them.

What opposition parties fear and worry most now is not how free and fair those elections will be. It is the humiliating defeat that is fast closing in on them that they fear most. If they find any technical issue now, they will lay their hands on and use it to have the elections postponed. Hamutenya's real motive now is to punish SWAPO Party by ensuring that the money for printing ballot papers does not go to SWAPO Party, which he sees through Namprint.

But he knows that whether the ballot papers are printed by a SWAPO Party company or not is irrelevant. SWAPO Party will win the elections overwhelmingly. About that, there is no doubt. It is unfortunate that the ECN has succumbed to some opposition parties' simple tree to tree monkey tricks and forced itself to eat up its own words. It should have correctly applied its mind to enable it to take a decision informed by the reality on the ground.

I am not suggesting that Namprint should have won the tender, but the fact that it was not even short-listed in the second round raises more questions than answers. Some people may think that the decision was politically motivated. And how can the ECN and the Tender Board prove them wrong, given the fact that Namprint has, more than once, printed ballot papers and has never been found wanting in terms of quality and meeting deadlines? In fact, Namprint has every right to sue the ECN because it has already started the process on the understanding that it had legally won the tender and has indeed cancelled some of its printing contracts to concentrate on printing those ballot papers, which require maximum security and restricted movement of people in the building.

Be that as it may. Come November 27 and 28, Namibians will go to the polls and exercise their democratic right to vote. They will return SWAPO Party to power with an overwhelming majority. No underhand deals by hibernators will sway their will. They know who they are and what they want. For those voters, SWAPO Party to them is a party of choice, not an alternative. It has been trusted and relied on since April, 19, 1960. And that is not about to change. Political projects come and go. But SWAPO Party is here to stay. And stay it will. The trust SWAPO Party enjoys nationwide is earned, not bought.