

What people say

From SWAPO website: www.swapoparty.org

◆ **Posted by Cde.Damases**

All Comrades in the Karas region hereby informed that there will be a SWAPO PARTY STAR RALLY in Keetmanshoop on Saturday, 31 October 2009 to be addressed by His Excellency President Hifikepunye Pohamba @14h00. The Star Rally will be held at the Stadium in Westdene. Come all, SWAPO United, SWAPO Victorious, Now Hardwork. Special massage to the born frees, with SWAPO your future is secured, therefore do not give your important votes to the Political Parties that are losing. In SWAPO we are always victorious. We shall win, come 27-28 November 2009. Be part of the SWAPO happy family that will celebrate our victory in November 2009. Comrades Born frees, Vote the SWAPO Party and Comrade President Pohamba on 27-28 November 2009. Thank you Comrades!

◆ **Posted by Tala**

Nyamtu was excommunicated from Swapo for incitement of division, violence and factionalism! HH went out to join Nyamtu to carry on such an agenda. They coined the term "Omusati clique". This is really an insult to peace-loving Namibians who do not like factionalism and tribalism. RDP should not insult the intelligence of Namibian people especially that it has singled out Omusati as a "clique". People from Omusati have always supported Swapo including Nyamtu and HH when they were part of us in Swapo. People from Omusati have and continue to support Swapo leadership irrespective of tribal/regional origins.

◆ **Posted by Cde Kanamutenya**

After all why does RDP goes to Outapi and provoke people if he knows that people do not need them there why do they have to force themselves into the people who don't want to associate with them at all, this is disgusting and lacking of respect, RDP must respect people views and privacy. If people says no it means NO full stop, unless if RDP wants something else, however they say "if you ask you will be given also if you knock you will be opened", maybe that is what RDP wants well time will tell, I argue cdes not involve to much with those unguided missiles, they are lost and the d-day is coming when we must chase them seriously, I hope when we are going to celebrate they will be not there though HMMMMMMM MMMM What ashame hewa!!!!!!!!!!!!

◆ **Posted by LT**

I just want to comment on the incident that happens always in Omusati region particularly when the RDP came in, those

people provoke us a lot, they just start taking nonse even if you did,t ask them. those people at Outapi market knows what they are doing there, ano where do RDP going to get Job if their leaders fail when they was in swapo? Lets us face reality, they might leave our town and omusati region in peace as we are in already in peace.

◆ **Posted by Cde: Iiping Jackson T**

Namibians let go and vote for the mighty SWAPO PARTY. Let go in big numbers. Viva SWAPO party for all Namibian People. I know for sure that They will panic in November. Kayena mpoka taya yi, Naya ilongekidhe wala okushunitha ko iinima yaantu, Hidipo WEDHUU!!!!!!!!!!!!!! We in Omusati we are ready!!!!!!!!!! NYAMU WEDHU!!

◆ **Posted by E Lenga**

I would like to call upon ALL Namibian born free to go and VOTE SWAPO PARTY come November, viva SWAPO!

◆ **Posted by ELIAKIM IIANE**

LETS US GO IN BIG NUMBER AND VOTE FOR OUR MIGHTY SWAPO PARTY, VIVASWAPO AND LETS US MAINTAIN THE 72 SEATS. VIVA SWAPO!!!!

◆ **Posted by Cde Stephen Oshakati**

Cdes, i would like to know how many votes required to secure a seat? Viva SWAPO Viva, let us go in big numbers and vote for our Mighty SWAPO party and let us show that that we are here to stay, vahala inava hala. Viva SWAPO Viva!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

◆ **Posted by Andreas Shilongo (LA, USA)**

Only if you could have imag-

ined how i was screaming around because i was thrilled seeing my Party website online. It is so wonderful and very interactive. I kept myself busy the whole day browsing through the website, and really enjoyed the satire too, (I have of course printed my copy). I thank SWAPO for keeping us closer to our leaders and fellow supporters especially us who are scattered around the world. To the site master keep us updated with real time information and thanks for the well designed website. VIVA SWAPO Party, we will emerge victorious come Nov Elections, that is in fact guaranteed. VIVA SWAPO Party!!!

◆ **Posted by Cde Newaka W.**

Comrades, historically it has been scientifically proven that a great united nation always emerge victorious. Our united SWAPO Party is ever ready to win more than 2/3 majority during the November 2009 elections. We have already defeated those imperialist guided parties in different battle fields, therefore we are calling them to come back to SWAPO, the party of the people. VIVA SWAPO PARTY...!!!

◆ **Posted by Tala (let facts speak)**

2009-2010: Spending totalling N\$25,5 billion; The largest increases in spending during 2009-10 will be on education, and on health, Kuugongelwa-Amadhila said. The largest share of the Budget has been allocated to the Ministry of Education, N\$5,37 billion during 2009-10, an increase of 12,3 per cent on the education budget of N\$4,7 billion during 2008-09. One of the largest shares of Budget N\$2,4 billion goes on health spending, an increase of 13 per

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Zoom In

By Asser Ntinda



Ever wondered why this year's elections and the entry into the race by Hidipo Hamutenya are on everybody's lips not only in Namibia, but also elsewhere in the world? Let us look at the politics of defection and who really Hidipo is and how he has found himself where he is today. Much has been said about the upcoming National Assembly and Presidential elections. People will not stop talking about those elections, nor will they stop speculating about and predicting the outcome until such elections are over.

At the center of such loose talks is Hidipo himself, as a person and as a politician, however myopic he is. This is one crucial feature SWAPO Party's detractors often fail to see in Hamutenya. And it prompts them to make weird predictions. Once the elections are over, however, we will then start assessing those loose "predictions and speculations" about Hidipo's RDP winning the elections – and name and shame those who have wished SWAPO Party bad luck in those elections.

Reading newspapers and assessing speculations and predictions being made by journalists, academics and political scientists these days makes one wonder why so much is said about the upcoming elections. At times, it also makes one to think that this is the first election Namibians are holding under their own supervision and control. This is the third election Namibians have organized and conducted successfully. The first one was in 1994, then 1999 and 2004. The 1989 election was organized and supervised by the United Nations, as per Resolution 435.

The 1994 and 2004 elections were fairly fine, largely because there were no splinter groups from SWAPO Party. It was all about SWAPO Party against existing former puppet parties. It was an easy campaign. All that one needed to do was to remind them that they were puppets. No journalist or academic ever dared to predict that SWAPO Party would lose to former puppet parties. It was, indeed, awkward and dangerously foolhardy to make such predictions at that time.

But deep in their hearts, some journalists, academics and political scientists – always prone to make offside predictions – were not really comfortable with SWAPO Party's growing popularity. Having lost faith and confidence in former apartheid South Africa's created opposition parties – which were mainly formed to oppose SWAPO on behalf of the former South African apartheid regime – such journalists, academics and political scientists thought, dreamed and believed that the real opposition party would come from within SWAPO Party itself.

Not only that. They also thought and believed that for any splinter group to emerge as a credible party, it must be headed by an "Ovambo" to reduce and break SWAPO Party's support in the four northern regions, which they regard as SWAPO Party's strongholds. Since then, every little spark that pointed to a possible division within SWAPO Party was closely followed and magnified to create an impression that the ruling Party was about to break up.

To extend and realize such dreams, some SWAPO Party leaders were demonized and presented as "radicals with socialist's leanings," while others were praised and presented as "moderates with free-market oriented leanings" who will "not chase away" investors. There was no truth in such classification though, and this, at one point, so annoyed and offended the late Nathaniel Maxuillil that he had to tell the National Assembly that he did "not want to be praised by puppets and fake academics who dined and wined with the apartheid colonial masters while Namibians were fighting and dying for freedom."

The 1999 elections were much talked about because for the first time since independence, there was a splinter group led by Ben Ulunga of the Congress of Democrats, CoD, who jumped ship because of the Third Term, the war in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, DRC, and what he called the "autocratic and aging SWAPO leadership." Ulunga had both what SWAPO Party's detractors had yearned for – he was an "Ovambo" and a SWAPO leader with a "strong trade union background." Hidipo Hamutenya, then Minister of Trade and Industry, was linked to Ulunga's breakaway faction. He denied it strenuously, saying that "it is cold outside" SWAPO Party.

That was then. In 2007, he followed in Ulunga's footsteps. He resigned from SWAPO Party. Suddenly, it was no longer "cold outside" SWAPO Party. A few days after his resignation, Hidipo "joined" the Rally for Democracy and Progress, RDP. The reason for such a foolhardy step was that "SWAPO has lost its vision and focus and a sense of purpose..." Unlike Ulunga, however, Hidipo had more tags and political gadgets around his neck that Ulunga did not have. He was more than just an "Ovambo" and a "senior leader" in the Party hierarchy.

In the classification of "radicals" and "moderates" leaders in SWAPO Party, Hidipo – suspiciously cunning, dangerously treacherous, highly duplicitous and egoistically scurry that he is – was both. Within the leadership, he projected an image of a "hardliner and radical leader" with all socialist smiles on his lips. No wonder he was tasked to set up the SWAPO Party School. He never did that. Outside SWAPO Party structures, however, he falsely presented himself as a "pragmatic and moderate" leader in SWAPO Party, pushing through Export Processing Zones, EPZs, and endearing the business community by advocating free market oriented policies. In both cases, he concealed his real intentions.

His presidential ambitions were largely propelled by both his radical and moderate leanings. By combining the two, he craved for a huge following within Party structures through "popular socialist leanings." By projecting himself to the business community, largely white, as a "moderate" leader in favour of "free market policies," he wanted to inspire a huge following with financial capital to help fund his political ambitions. The two paths were geometrically calculated to cross at his presidential ambition. Not even the most skilled magician would dare combine the two without falling down.

Until the 2004 SWAPO Party extra-ordinary congress, few people ever suspected that Hidipo had a terrible sense of timing. When he removed all the doubts, everybody grinned in disbelief. It is, of course, a poor politician who does not take risks. It is even a poorer politician who does not weigh his options before taking on risky projects head-on, the ones Richard Bramson calls "stupid risks."

In short, the reason why this year's elections are being noisily talked about and loose predictions hurled around is because Hidipo has falsely created an image of a "formidable leader" around himself through fake appearances, exaggerated popularity and concealed intentions. But those who had urged him on in his silly dance of attrition were SWAPO Party's detractors, not SWAPO Party supporters. He realized that too late. In Ulunga's case, it was Gwen Lister, Editor of The Namibian, who did most of the talking, using the BBC, (British Broadcasting Corporation) as a plat form to campaign for Ulunga's CoD. She was, in actual fact, Ulunga's spin doctor. In Hidipo's case, he picked a liability. It was, and still is, Phil Ya Nangoloh of the National Society for Human Rights, NSHR, who did and is still doing the campaign for him, using the Voice of America, VOA, as his platform to popularize him.

Three days after the launch of RDP, the VOA picked up the story, using its Washington-based correspondent, James Butty. Butty's main, if not only, source of information was Ya Nangoloh. According to journalists' and police's estimates, the RDP launch was attended by about 1000 people, mainly children. Ya Nangoloh, however, put it at about 7,000 people, adding: "that this is unheard of in the Namibian history that a leader who is viewed as opposing the veteran SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma can draw such a huge crowd of people."

Six days later, the VOA's Johannesburg-based correspondent, Scott Bobb, expanded the story and described the launch as "unsettling." He added that "Namibia's political landscape has been hit by seismic changes." Bobb's main sources of information were Hidipo himself and Professor Bill Lindeke, who both predicted "a major rapture at least within the top leadership of SWAPO." Hidipo himself told the VOA that "of late the country has been experiencing the problem of autocracy and flouting of democratic procedures and principles. So we want to rekindle the process of democratic transformation of our society." Good stuff for imperialists. But this is Namibia.

By that time, Hidipo had never tested his political project in an election. After the Eenhana and Omuthiya quandary, I am sure that neither Hidipo nor Lindeke would want to be reminded about what they said then. Their predictions were horribly wrong and way off the mark. On November 17 this year, RDP will be exactly two years old. As it celebrates its second birthday, the elections will only be eight days away.

In other words, RDP will only be eight days away from its political grave. And, despite the huge media coverage he has received so far, Hidipo himself will just be another Andreas Shipanga, hopelessly outlived by his presidential ambitions and unrestrained political opportunism, and dropped by his longtime comrades like a sponge squeezed dry. Politics, he shall have learned then, is for long distance runners, not sprinters. In the business of political risk-taking, the higher a person carelessly and clumsily climbs, the harder the fall. After November, none among those who have fallen for Hidipo's latest political jamboree will be smelling of roses. It will be a beggar's farewell party. We will say 'bon voyage!' We have told you so.

VOTE SWAPO

For Human Capital Development and utilization



SWAPO PARTY

