These are interesting times. The election fever is very high. So too are the combinations. RDP supporters and their leaders are behaving like former members (Makakunyas) of Koevoet and the South West Africa Territory Force, SWATF, during the 1989 elections. Their acts of provocation are frightening. No sane person can condone their provocative behaviour. It is not that SWAPO Party members are being intolerant, but they are being provoked to the limit. Firstly, RDP’s “house to house” campaign is dangerous and must be stopped with immediate effect. What happened at Outapi should never happen again. RDP had an identified venue where they were to hold their meeting. But because there were few people, mainly the ones they bussed in from other regions, they decided to march in the town, stopping at the SWAPO Party Office in the town. That was really uncalled for.

A desperate man is very unpredictable. The last kicks of a dying horse are very vicious and lethal. RDP’s leaders, especially its President Hidipo Hamutenya and Secretary General, Jesyana Nyamu, are doing all they can to render the outcome of the November elections incredible. They are so desperate that they can say and do anything that is timed to provoke SWAPO Party.

In fact, their desperate campaign strategy is designed to avoid the elections at all cost. Having realized that their chances of winning this month’s elections is zero, RDP is no longer interested in the elections. Its leaders and supporters are now provoking people to find a good reason not to put their votes in the ballot box. Recently, Hidipo claimed that SWAPO Party had been “rigging” elections for the past 20 years. His unquestioning servant, Nyamu, amplified his boss’s claims by adding that RDP has “representatives” in all key government institutions and SWAPO “can no longer cheat” any opposition party in the coming elections.

SWAPO Party has never rigged elections. It has no reason to do so. Its popularity is seen by everybody. Hidipo knows he is telling the lies and the decision by SWAPO Party to sue him should not be abandoned at all.

Wisdom begins when you weigh the consequences of what you plan to say and do. That apparently does not figure anywhere in RDP’s lexicon. Hidipo’s wild claims started with Namprint, regarding the printing of ballot papers by that company. He complained bitterly that the Electoral Commission of Namibia, ECN, should withdraw its tender from Namprint or they would pull out of the elections. Hidipo cobbled together former puppets and their “baas” to make noise about Namprint.

They eventually succeeded but at their own disadvantage. Few of the opposition parties could send representatives to South Africa to observe and monitor the printing process there. RDP’s representative, Libolly Haufike, spent less than two hours at Ren-Form and left. So too did NDUO. Had they not complained, they could have monitored the printing process at Namprint. That came and went.

Another blot was the issue RDP and the Congress of Democrats, CoD, had with the Namibian Broadcasting Corporation’s airtime allocation for political parties taking part in the elections. RDP and CoD, took the NBC to court, demanding equal airtime allocation. In their foolishness, they did not think about the consequences of the steps they were taking. After all, the NBC is under no legal obligation to provide airtime to political parties.

When the NBC cancelled the airtime allocation, the casualty was not SWAPO Party at all, but opposition parties themselves. In fact, it was just stupid on their part to demand equal airtime allocation because even in Parliament, the money the political parties receive is given proportionally, which makes sense. Their demand for equal airtime was as absurd as demanding that all political parties should get the same amount of money. Their demand, once again, was taken seriously.

At least Nyamu did one thing this week by acknowledging and telling all and sundry that RDP has got spies at State House, State Security and in the Police Force. SWAPO Party Youth League, SPL, must be commended for its foresight. SPLY has long pointed out and named hibernators, but the militant wings was unfortunately not taken seriously. Nyamu has now vindicated SPLY after all, he knows what he is talking about.

Let us forget these predictable subversive notes that cost him his SWAPO Party membership. His notes, penned on a five page report in 2004, called for the resignation from SWAPO Party of people who were loyal to Hidipo “one by one.” He also called for the “weakening” of the “new” Pohamuka administration by hibernators, the formation of a “rival party” and so on. All these things have happened. We should not be surprised by his latest revelation at all. All what Nyamu is saying is in his notes. There is absolutely no reason to doubt his revelation.

In any case, elections are only a few weeks away. RDP knows it will dismally lose the elections. That is why it is bussing in people from other regions to boost its crowd. But such frantic efforts will not save it. It is in for a rude shock. Nothing can stop the RDP from causing them. Having unsuccessfully failed to claim authorship of the National Anthem, he is now desperately trying to find a credible reason to avoid that electoral humiliating defeat. He has long thought and convinced himself that he was smarter than anybody else. Now he has realized that he is just a fool. His Jonas Savimbi’s style of “either win or elections are not fair” will not save him. Just look at the weapons that were confiscated from RDP supporters? These are the last kicks of a dying horse. RDP’s strategy now is to spoil the elections. SWAPO Party supporters should be careful not to play into RDP’s hands.

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**VOTE SWAPO**

For the Development of the SMC Sector

**SWAPO PARTY**

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