From SWAPO website: www.swapoparty.org

Double standard stinks, and plain double standard plainly stinks. History has a nasty way of repeating itself. Last year, The Namibian advertised its top post – Editor of The Namibian. After many years of practice, the paper seemed to have found it easier that once again, the post of Editor was to be filled, and it was claimed that it was finally calling it quits. And so we believed her. For, she has always presented herself as a person who keeps her words and honours her promises.

After the deadline had lapsed, applications were sent in and candidates shortlisted. But the process remained shrouded in secrecy from the beginning. SWAPO is always known for its penchant adherence to “Telling It Like It Is” – ever picked up the story to tell the nation what was happening during and after the selection process. It was not, it seemed, newsworthy enough for their “features crusade” to reveal what others would conceal. Not even the most enterprising of the Namibian Broadcasting Corporation, NBC. They have read quite a lot in The Namibian about CEO’s of various municipalities and the country. But, The Namibian’s top job, the process went virtually unreported. So much for “Telling It Like It Is.”

What I have said is just in passing. For, Gwen has the right to appoint who she wants to run that newspaper, although she does not happily accord the same right to others to do what she has just done. Her pick on Tangeni Amupadhi is not by accident. But we do not know, and will probably never know, from how many shortlisted candidates she has handpicked Amupadhi. We would also never know how many people in total had applied for that position, and who the panelists were who interviewed the short-listed candidates from which Amupadhi emerged a victor.

What is interesting, if not worrying, is however that Gwen has created a super-post that was never there before – Managing Editor. And she has given it to herself. In short, Gwen has not left all. She is still in charge, overseeing and overshadowing Amupadhi. In psychology, that is called placating. The choice of Amupadhi – from whatever crowd he was – is meant to appease the majority. Amupadhi, who was actually appointed a black man to run the paper, whereas in actual fact, he has not moved anywhere at all.

What is it that Amupadhi cannot do that Gwen did without a “watchful eye” of the “Managing Editor” which will now oversee Amupadhi? To what extent will be he his own man, just as Gwen was? Well, she had just moved someone to another darkroom from where she would still tell Amupadhi what to do and what not to do. It is one thing to connect. It is quite another to placate. Who is fooling who now? History has indeed played itself out in a telling way to starkly expose Gwen’s double standards, which so exponentially operated behind closed doors.

And it seems Gwen has short memories. Or has playing double-standards bluffed her senses? Prime Focus magazine took her on last year, trying to find out who the real trustees and owners of The Namibian were. She was very evasive and conveniently avoided to answer such piercing questions. That is Gwen. She wouldn’t rest until she knew who owned what. But when it comes to her own affairs, she is – cat-like — stone silent.

For years, Gwen has viciously kicked many people in her Political Perspective whenever she reasoned that they were not doing things right the way. Two of them are Founding President Sam Nujoma and President Hifikepunye Pohamba. The SWAPO Party called Dr Nujoma a Third Term in 2000, she was at the top of her voice, noisy shouting like a drugged canary. Those who supported the Third Term were called “bootslickers” who were ingratiating Nujoma” on whom their “jobs depended.”

On May 14, 2009, Gwen wrote in her Political Perspective: “SWAPO always needed a disciplined leader who would hold things together, and Nujoma had (and has) that quality. Soon or later, he has to get up. Let go of something that has been his personal cause for four decades, namely Namibia. He is the architect of our independence, and much of what has happened since independence. Let him take off.”

So, fighting for Namibia’s independence was “Nujoma’s personal cause!” In Gwen’s eyes, too, the people shouldn’t decide as to when Cde Nujoma should go. She alone should! And that is “democracy par excellence!” Then came 2009. Founding President Nujoma stepped down peacefully and smoothly, and handed over the instruments of power to President Pohamba. But at that time, Cde Nujoma still had two more years to go before he completed his five-year term of office as President of SWAPO Party before he could hand over the leadership of the Party to President Pohamba.

No, argued Gwen. “Nujoma should go” and let Pohamba be “his own man.” “Nujoma’s presence” as President of SWAPO would “overshadow” President Pohamba’s presidency, and that he would simply “remote-control” President Pohamba, Gwen argued then. Although President Pohamba also was a numerically disciplined candidate, she maintained that he was his own man and would strive for continuity and unity in the Party, Gwen remained convinced to the end.

So what goes around comes around. Gwen says she is leaving, yet she is not. Let us quote her own words – words she used against Founding President Nujoma – and wherever she mentions Gwen, we put her name and everywhere she puts Nujoma, we put Cde. She was called a “pseudo” leader who always needed a disciplined editor who would hold things together, and Gwen had (and has) that quality. Soon or later, she has to let go. Let go of something that has been her personal cause for 25 years – The Namibian…... it is time for someone else to shoulder that responsibility while he earns a much deserved rest.”

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Just go Sissy Gwen! Let Amupadhi shoulder that responsibility without being “overshadowed and remote-controlled” by the so-called Managing Editor. There are many social projects out there for you in retirement. Counseling and pumping some senses in the heads of people like you who has still not picked up the people who have come up in social projects – changing the mind-sets of the white community. That can be your good social projects too.

The choice is yours Gwen – either you leave completely and earn your ‘deserved rest’ or you stay put without placating Amupadhi. Only magnanimity on your part will halt this elaborate charade and macabre musical chairs. We are too clever to be fooled by such not so sophisticated tree to tree monkey tricks.

Budget

The N$38 billion budget is out. N$8.3 billion for Education. N$3.6 billion for Finance. N$3.3 billion for Health. N$14.7 billion to be spent over the next three years.

What people say

Posted by Cde.

Thanks I.T. Department SWAPO Party of Namibia keep updating.

Posted by Cde.

Kanamutenya, whk Good work for those comrades who are updating and modifying the party website, keep job well done, be creative always we gone be as good as you always promised.

Posted by Willem Nekwiyi

Congratulation comrades. This a very good work, and I sure with this vibrant looks, the Party website is bound to get more and regular traffic. Lead the way for the rest to follow.

Posted by David David

This is creativity at work, we appreciate your effort in making the party website what it is today. Your thoughts are that you please keep changing that front page regularly to make it more interesting to everyone. I am quite sure even opposition parties will admire the creativity. lol. Backward never, forward ever! Alta Unicina.

Posted by Cde.

CHRIS VAN OUTFAPI

Awesome news! let hope it stays.

Posted by Cde.

Kanamutenya, whk colleagues we ever worried of unemployment in this country, however one wonder if really as a nation we are serious with unskilled people, there are a lot of opportunity to these people. I passed through Katutura hospital but the outside premises is dirty, tins, plastic bags, grasses tall then my height, now one wonder and ask oneself can someone not be employed to do that kind of job? And also I was in Khomas hospital and there are not enough lights or is it because you have to order a lot of items for the whole hospital or what is really that make difficult at least to provide the florescent bulbs for the hospital? For of course I don’t want to talk about other things rather is disappointing to say the least. With the high rain falling and mosquitoes can easily affect the patients and then facing malaria, I heard malaria is number one killer in Africa according to UN statistics, please someone in the State Department is responsible for maintenance of public or government properties they must at least prioritize to solve some of this pertinent issues.

Posted by Cde.

Kanamutenya, whk Comrade Johan “Euro African” is correct that all Namibian irrespective of their colors should embrace the peace and tranquility we are enjoying as a peaceful nation, we should do away with color and race. We need to let us as comrade and each other and embrace our reconciliation as a tool to guide us forward towards the Vision 2030, and together we can make it! Forward Yes! Back ward never! To those with apartheid hang on the time is gone, and should start to smoke the coffee and be proud as Namibian, this country belongs to all of us; can live in a diversity and peacefully environment.

Posted by Johan Viva! SWAPO Viva!

Posted by Johan Dear Comrades and especially Cde. Katsha ka Namibian. As a white, Boer, SWAPO supporter, EuroAfrican and proud Boer, SWAPO supporter, I would assure my black brothers that as not all of us support the actions of Mr.Vincent Sorensen and Mr.Hugo Dekers. They are clearly stuck in the past and should be dealt with according to the laws of our proud country Namibia. Let us not be hasty and let us respect the laws that govern our country. Our forefathers did not fight colonialism for nothing! The struggle continues. Viva!Viva!

Posted by Cde

Kanamutenya, whk I support this is good idea for those yellow busses to be used by students,