



KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY H.E. DR. SAM NUJOMA, FOUNDING
PRESIDENT AND FATHER OF THE NAMIBIAN NATION, ON THE
OCCASION OF THE SWAPO PARTY MINI RALLY AND OUTREACH
DISTRICT ELECTION CAMPAIGN

THEME: INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT AND SHARED PROSPERITY

16 NOVEMBER, 2019

NKURENKURU

KAVANGO-WEST REGION

*Check Against Delivery

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(Reg No 8208)

Directors of Proceedings;
Comrade Hamunyera Hambyuka, Representing the Chairperson of the SWAPO Party National Leaders Assigned to Kavango West Region;
All SWAPO Party's National Leaders Assigned to Kavango West Region;
Comrade David Hamutenya Hipulua, SWAPO Party's Regional Coordinator for Kavango West Region;
Comrades Members of the SWAPO Party's Regional Executive Leadership;
Comrade Dr. Samuel Mbambo, Representing the Governor of Kavango West Region;
Comrade SWAPO Party's District Coordinator and all Members of the SWAPO Party's District, Branches and Sections Leadership;
Your Worship Comrade Erastus Kandjimi Sientu, the Mayor of the Town of Nkurenkuru;
Comrades Veterans of the National Liberation Struggle;
Members of the SWAPO Party Wings and Affiliate Organ;
Distinguished Hompas, Fumus, and all Leaders of Traditional Authorities present;
Reverend Kudumo Hellena and other members of the Clergy present;
The SWAPO Party Rank and File;
Members of the Media;
Comrades and Friends;

It is my singular honour to have been tasked by the SWAPO Party to come and address this important rally here at Nkurenkuru.

I am here in order to mobilise our people for the forthcoming Presidential and National Assembly Elections, which are scheduled to take place on the 27th of this month. In this regard, let me make it categorically clear from the outset that as a disciplined cadre of the SWAPO Party, I support the Party's Presidential Candidate, Comrade Dr. Hage Geingob.

In view of the aforesaid, I urge all peace-loving Namibians to campaign peacefully, following the electoral code of conduct because we still need each other after elections to build our country together.

SWAPO is the people and the people are SWAPO. We must therefore unite and speak with one voice. Let us jealously protect the peace and stability we enjoy today in order to develop our country. Without peace there can be no development. Let us learn from other countries' experiences and listen to the complaints of the electorate, especially the youth, and address their needs.

At this juncture, allow me to encourage the entire leadership and rank and file of the SWAPO Party to guard against divisions based on tribalism, regionalism, and factionalism. As SWAPO Party we must be governed by the Ethos of Solidarity, freedom and justice as well as collective leadership.

Comrades and Friends;

We are all aware that those who do not know their history and where they come from, they are bound to repeat the mistakes of the past. We come from a difficult past of annexation, slavery, colonialism and apartheid. These were all meant to subjugate us and make us forget who we are.

Against this background, let me remind you that we attained our freedom and genuine independence on the 21st March 1990, following in the footsteps of our forefathers and mothers.

These were Kaptein Hendrik Witbooi, Kaptein Jacob Marenga, Chief Kahimemuah Nguvauva, Chief Samuel Maharero, Chief Nehale Iya Mpingana, Chief Mandume ya Ndemufayo, Chief lipumbu ya Tshilongo, Homba Nyangana Wa Mukuve, Homba Kandjimi Hawanga, Chief Hosea Kutako, Comrade Brendon Simbwaye, Mama Kakurukaze Mungunda, among others.

Indeed, agreements between Imperial Germany and Britain in 1884 and 1890 started the annexation of our country by establishing their mutual borders in the south and in the east, while a treaty with the Portuguese in 1886 established the border with Angola.

Similarly, when in mid-1909, the Portuguese forces arrived at the Northern bank of the Kavango River, the people in Kavango suffered damages of their crops and plunder of their livestock by Portuguese soldiers. For this reason, they rose up in arms against the imperial Germany and Portuguese colonialism from 1903.

In addition, the two Kavango Regions served as the first base for our first group known as G1 of the Combatants of the People's Liberation Army Namibia (PLAN) SWAPO's Military Wing, led by the Late Comrade John Otto Nankudhu.

The G1 group first crossed, at great risk, into Katima Mulilo in the now Zambezi Region and made their way into Mbukushu Area in Kavango Region. They then received three bicycles at the Andara Roman Catholic Mission and headed West for Rundu and further North-West towards the then Ovamboland.

It is thus obvious that the two Kavango Regions played a crucial role in our National Liberation Struggle for the attainment of our freedom and genuine independence.

Comrades and Friends;

The Kavango West Region is in close proximity to the river and as such it has a great potential to contribute to food security in the country.

There is therefore a need for the private sector to work hand in hand with the government in order to establish sustainable agricultural projects in the region.

In this regard, it is encouraging to note that some private institutions have come to establish branches in Nkurenkuru. These are NaTIS Roads Authority, whose core business is to construct and maintain Namibia's road sector, the Mobile Telecommunications Company (MTC), Telecom Namibia, the International University of Management (IUM) and the Welwitschia University, amongst others.

In addition, I am reliably informed that recently more than One Hundred and Twenty Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$120 000) was raised during the launch of the Kavango West Region development fund.

This fund will assist students from poor backgrounds who perform well at school and in tertiary institutions. The fund will also be funding viable business projects spearheaded by women and the youth as a way of developing the region.

Without going much into details of the SWAPO Party election manifesto, let me emphasize that we have made great strides since independence. SWAPO remains the only progressive party that is prepared to address the current economic headwinds, inequality, unemployment, the housing needs as well as the water shortage in our country.

Against this background, I once again appeal to our people, come November 27, to go out in big numbers and vote in the upcoming Presidential and National Assembly Elections for the SWAPO Party and its Presidential Candidate.

Let us vote for Comrade Dr. Hage Geingob for continuity in order to consolidate the gains our country has made. Let us vote for Comrade Dr. Hage Geingob **for inclusive development and shared prosperity for all!**

Above all, let us remain united, as I always say, *“a people united, striving to achieve common good for all members of the society, will always emerge victorious”!*

SWAPO United!
SWAPO Victorious!
Now Hard Work!