



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

THEME: INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT AND SHARED PROSPERITY

09 NOVEMBER, 2019

OTSHIKUKU

OMUSATI REGION

*Check Against Delivery

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Founder: H.E. Dr Sam Nujoma
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Hon. Dr. Albert Kawana, Hon. Erkki Nghimtina, Ms. Febronia Nelago Shapaka
(Reg No 8208)

Directors of Proceedings, Comrade Modestus Amutse and Comrade Sylvia Makgone;
Honourable Comrade Sofia Shaningwa, Secretary General of the SWAPO Party;
Comrade Dr. Albert Kawana, Chairperson of the SWAPO Party National Leaders
Assigned to Omusati Region and all SWAPO Party's National Leaders Assigned to
Omusati Region;
Honourable Ministers and Deputy Ministers present;
Comrade Sacky Kayone, SWAPO Party's Regional Coordinator for Omusati Region;
Honourable Erginus Endjala, Governor of Omusati Region and other Governors present;
Comrades Members of the SWAPO Party's Regional Executive Leadership;
Comrade Eunike Nambala, SWAPO Party's District Coordinator and all Members of the
SWAPO Party's District, Branches and Sections Leadership;
Your Worship Comrade Mbockoma Mungandjera, the Mayor of the Town of Otshikuku;
Honourable Regional and Local Authority Councillors present;
Omusimanekwa Tatekulu Herman Ndilimani lipumbu, gwe lelo lyopamuthigululwakalo
lyotshilongo shUukwambi and Other Traditional Leaders present;
Aasimanekwa Aakwaniilwa amushe nOmalenga Omanene nomashona
gwOpamuthigululwakalo;
Aasimanekwa Aawiliki yOpambepo mwaholoka mpaka;
Comrade Veterans of the National Liberation Struggle;
Aakwashigwana yaakwetu amushe;
The SWAPO Party Rank and File;
Members of the Media;
Comrades and Friends;

It is my singular honour and privilege to have been tasked by the Secretary General of the SWAPO Party, Comrade Sofia Shaningwa, to come and address this important mini rally and outreach program here at Otshikuku, in order mobilise our people for the forthcoming Presidential and National Assembly Elections, scheduled to take place on the 27th of this month.

In this regard, I stand here today humbled by the task before me, grateful for the trust the Secretary General and the SWAPO Party have bestowed on me and mindful of the sacrifices borne by our forbearers and gallant sons and daughters.

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 Kahimemua Nguvauva, Chief Samuel Maharero, Chief Nehale Iya Mpingana, Chief Mandume ya Ndemufayo, Chief lipumbu ya Tshilongo, Hompa Nyangana Wa Mukuve, Hompa Kandjimi Hawanga, Chief Hosea Kutako, Comrade Brendon Simbwaye, Mama Kakurukaze Mungunda, among others.

In this regard, it is obvious to all of us that one can only build by taking into account the reality inherited and not reinvent the wheel.

Comrades and Friends;

Indeed, the freedom we enjoy today was achieved through determination and great sacrifices by the heroic and gallant sons and daughters of Namibia.

We still have unmarked graves for war veterans who fought in our National Liberation Struggle between 1960 and 1973 and many of those who sacrificed their lives inside Namibia.

In Omusati Region alone, we have 25 identified graves for war veterans. Combatants such as Victor Shikongo shAngala at Tsandi, Hubertus Shetunyenga and Naftal Amungulu, and Eveline Simon at Olupaka, Aron Shikomba Embashu combat name Shongambebe at Onyaluwili near Anamulenge, Ismael Kamati Ashimuna combat name Ngilingili at Okathitukambanda-Olundjinda near Okahao, Erastus Shoopala at Okahao, Josef Hamunyela Shalale at Onandjaba near Okalongo, Rehabeam Olavi Nambinga at Okampelo near Elim, and many others.

After independence, we continued with nation building because we remain faithful to the ideals of our forbearers. So it has been. So it must be with this new generation of Namibians.

Mindful of the aforesaid, I urge all peace-loving Namibians to campaign peacefully because this is a battle of ideas and not about creating enemies. Let us all focus on issues and our election manifestos. Let the true character of our nation be revealed in the maturity of our debates.

I therefore appeal to the members of the SWAPO Party to strive to constantly explain the aims and objectives, policies and the political programs of the SWAPO Party to all the Namibian people and promote unity of purpose and action.

In the same vein, I appeal to all the Regional, Districts, Branches and Sections' leadership to be ready for the task on hand; That is to make sure that our people are well informed to go and vote for the SWAPO Party as the only Vanguard Movement that can address the challenges in our country.

SWAPO is the people and the people are SWAPO. We must therefore unite and speak with one voice in order to achieve a resounding victory in the upcoming Presidential and National Assembly Elections.

Comrades and Friends;

Over the past 29 years, the lives of the people of Namibia have improved. Many of our people have houses, electricity and access to clean drinking water. Children in Namibia have access to free education and can study up to University level.

Over thousands of our most vulnerable citizens receive social grants. Over Ten Thousand households and over Seventy Thousand Namibians are beneficiaries of the Food Bank and plans are underway to develop the informal settlements. The Old Age Pension has been doubled and is benefitting over Two Thousand Namibians.

Furthermore, the SWAPO Party has championed global and continental initiatives such as sustainable economic plan and renewable energy and climate resilient initiatives as well as the reform of the United Nations as part of its success in the foreign policy.

Although much has been achieved, we could have moved faster and the quality of services could have been much better. For this reason, the SWAPO Party is ready to address the challenge of poverty, inequality and unemployment. In addition, the Party will improve our education system and good governance.

I have not doubts in my mind that the ruling SWAPO Party will succeed in this endeavor just as we have been successful in building our roads network and the extension of the railway line from Tsumeb to Oshikango, including the expansion of the Harbour of Walvisbay which has become the port of entry for the entire SADC region, among many other projects.

Here in Otshikuku Constituency, the SWAPO Party has successfully completed many projects since independence such as the Otshikuku-Onamutuku and the Otshikuku-Okalongo Tared Roads as well as the Otshikuku-Etayi Gravel Road.

The SWAPO Party has also developed projects such as the construction of about three hundred (300) low cost houses in Otshikuku Town, the expansion of Otshikuku Roman Catholic Hospital, the construction of the Otshikuku Class C Police Station, the construction of additional classrooms at various schools as well as the construction of Teachers' Houses at Olupumbu and Petrus lilonga Primary Schools.

Similarly, the SWAPO Party plans to expand the Okaku Water pipeline and complete the Oshiwapemba water pipeline in this financial year. In addition, the SWAPO Party plans to electrify the Growth Points at Omuzile, Oshipanda, Onemedhiya, Onamutuni, Okaku-Kaumbi and Othilu Localities, while Eyepaya Locality and the electrification of Osingela Locality is underway.

Thus, SWAPO remains the only progressive party that is prepared to address the current economic headwinds, gender-based violence, tribalism, unemployment, and the housing needs as well as the water shortage in our country.

We will harness the sun and the winds and the oceans for renewable energy and we will transform our schools and colleges and universities to meet the current demands.

The challenges we face are real and will not be met in a short span of time. But we will address them head on because we choose hope over fear, unity of purpose and action over conflict and discord and reaffirm the enduring spirit of our nation passed on from generation to generation.

Against this background, I am urging you, 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 continuity in order to consolidate the gains our country has made during the past 29 years. Let us vote for Comrade Dr. Hage Geingob **for inclusive development and shared prosperity for all!**

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!