



ADDRES BY HIS EXCELLENCY DR SAM NUJOMA,
FOUNDING PRESIDENT AND FATHER OF THE NAMIBIAN
NATION AS WELL AS THE PATRON OF THE MAYOR'S
TRUST OF KEETMANSHOOP, ON THE OCCASION OF ITS
LAUNCHING

07 SEPTEMBER 2018

SCHUETZENHAUS GUEST HOUSE

KEETMANSHOOP

//KHARAS REGION

Director of Ceremonies: Mr Neville Basson;
Honourable Ministers & Deputy Ministers present here;
Honourable Members of Parliament present here;
Honourable Lucia Basson, Governor of //Kharas Region;
Honourable Jan Scholtz, Chairperson of //Kharas Regional Council;
Honourable Bently Vass, Member of the Executive Committee for Corporate Governance, Human Settlements & Traditional Affairs in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa;
Comrade Mathew Mumbala, Swapo Party Regional Coordinator;
Your Worship Gaudentia Krohne, Mayor of Keetmanshoop and other Mayors present here;
Honorable Regional & Local Authority Councillors present;
Distinguished Members of Traditional Authorities here present;
Distinguished Delegation members from the Northern Cape Province of South Africa;
Esteemed Board of Trustees of the Mayor's Trust;
Distinguished Captains of Industries and Entrepreneurs;
Distinguished Invited Guests;
Members of the Media;
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good evening.

I'm deeply humbled to be named the PATRON of the Mayor's Trust of Keetmanshoop, and it gives me great pleasure to officiate at its official launch.

I am aware that the establishment of the Trust came at a time that the economy world over takes a down turn. Therefore, allow me at the onset to congratulate the political leaders of

Keetmanshoop Municipality, who established a trust fund that is meant to create hope for the helpless members of the society.

Many towns in Namibia have taken the similar route in the quest to address poverty and helplessness. Success stories of many such towns are yet to be told, but the mere fact that political will is demonstrated to assist the needy in society is but a step in the right direction.

Indeed, as patriotic Namibians, we are duty bound to exercise care and support to fellow Namibians in need.

Director of Ceremonies, Ladies and gentlemen;

I will fail in my duty if I am not warning those who are entrusted with the management of this trust against societal evils such as corruption and theft.

Corruption especially, comes in many ways, starting with failing to implement sound administrative norms and prudent financial management procedures. Putting in place good governance policies and procedures is but one thing, but to implement, monitor and sustain such policies and procedures has in many respects been proven to be a weakness in the systems.

The manner in which we exercise mandate bestowed on us in the management of economic and social resources for sustainable development, strikes at the heart of good governance.

It is vital therefore that we maintain consistent with laid down policies and regulations as well as accountability in the exercise of the mandate of administrating affairs of the Trust as outlined in the Trust Deed.

Having said that, I am however amazed by the choice of personalities made by the municipality of Keetmanshoop when it selected its Board of Trustee members. I am reliably informed that the trustee members in their individual capacities have proven track records and are respected and trusted members in society.

The municipality has appointed Board of Trustee members, representative of critical spheres in society such as a representative of the youth and of the community, an administrator, a lawyer, financial manager and last but not least political leader.

I am informed that the Trust has so far remain true to the values of the Trust Deed in which under “*the Powers of Trustees*”, the Trustees are empowered to open and operate a banking account.

As Patron, I can confirm tonight that such an account for the Trust has been opened with Bank Windhoek, Keetmanshoop Branch, and I call on all of you tonight to actively make use of that account by donating generous amounts of money to the Trust.

Furthermore, the Trustees are obliged under “*Obligations to meet audit and table accounts*”, to appoint Auditors that will audit the accounts of the Trust annually. Again, I can confirm that the Trustees appointed NIEK TROMP ACCOUNTANTS from Windhoek to audit the accounts of the Trust.

The presence of a representative of those Auditors here tonight of one Mr Niek Tromp, bears testimony.

Director of Ceremonies;

Through a protracted and bitter liberation struggle where many gallant sons and daughters of the Namibian revolution have paid the ultimate price, we achieved our freedom and genuine independence on the 21st March 1990.

However, as a free country, we are yet to achieve economic freedom. Poverty is the enemy and I am happy that our Government led by H. E. Dr Hage Geingob declared war against poverty. We recently commemorated one of critical days on our annual calendar, the Heroes Day where President Hage Geingob urged the nation to approach among others, poverty with clear minds and urgency.

Thus, the establishment of the Mayor's Trust could not have come at a better time. I want to caution however, that the trust fund established now is not an overnight wonder in alleviating the scourge of poverty. The trust might be just the right vehicle to access funding from corporate and financial institutions as well as generous donor agencies and individuals. This is a commendable step.

Director of Ceremonies, Ladies & Gentlemen;

My call to you is to trust the Founding Trustees of the Mayor's Trust with your money for a very noble course. The Mayor's Trust is not just a mere Trust Fund but a legal entity registered with the Master of the High Court of the Republic of Namibia. As a result, the Trust is governed in accordance with laws of our Republic.

Therefore, I want to assure you tonight with the technical, legal and financial capacity among the Trustees, nothing can go wrong in respect of good governance.

I am however informed that the lawyer Mr Percy McNally is known as a hardworking person while the beautiful young lady who is the Trust Chairperson Mrs Kamahene, is a principled financial manager.

In conclusion, tonight is very significant as it not only marks the official launch of the Mayor's Trust, but it is also a FUNDRAISING GALA-DINNER. Many of you have paid for the tables as required. I urge those who have not yet paid for their tables or entry to do so without fail.

It has also become a common practice that some people pledge cash amounts and thereafter disappear without honouring their pledges. I therefore humbly appeal to you all here tonight, to pledge in support of the Trust, but do so within your financial means.

Allow me as I conclude, to also appeal to those corporate entities that can enter into long-term agreements of support with the Trust, to do so.

With these few words, I now have the honour to declare the Mayor's Trust of Keetmanshoop officially launched.

I THANK YOU!!!