



TRIBUTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY, DR. SAM NUJOMA, FOUNDING  
PRESIDENT AND FATHER OF THE NAMIBIAN NATION, ON THE  
OCCASION OF THE OFFICIAL FUNERAL IN HONOUR OF THE LATE  
MEEKULU TERESIA VENONDUBO MUKWANAIFETA NAMUNDJEBO

SUNDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2020

OLUNGHONO VILLAGE  
(HOMESTEAD)

OMAFO CEMETERY

OHANGWENA REGION

\*Check Against Delivery

Program Directors; Mr. Tomas Koneka lindji and Dr. Queen Elizabeth Namundjebo;  
Dr Martha Namundjebo-Tilahun and the entire Namundjebo Kapani bereaved family;  
Your Excellency Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba, Former President of the Republic of Namibia;  
Honourable Ministers and Deputy Ministers present;  
Air Marshall Martin Kambulu Pinehas, Chief of the Namibian Defence Force and other  
Service Chiefs present;  
Honourable Walde Ndevashiya, Governor of Ohangwena Region;  
Meekulu Mwadinomho Kristian Nelumbu, Ohamba of Oukwanyama Traditional Authority  
and all Leaders of Traditional Authorities present;  
Honourable Phillip Namundjebo, Oshikango Constituency Councillor;  
Honourable George Namundjebo, Headman of Olunghono Village nomalenga aeshe  
opamufyuululwakalo;  
Comrade Retired General Officer, Commissioner Ben Shikovelo Shikongo, President of  
the Namibia National Liberation Veterans Association (NNLVA);  
Distinguished Veterans of our National Liberation Struggle;  
Distinguished Retired Bishop Nehemia Shihala Hamupembe and all Spiritual Leaders  
present;  
Members of the Media;  
Fellow Mourners:

It is with sadness that I have learnt about the passing on of your beloved mother,  
grandmother and great grandmother, the Late Meekulu Teresia Venondubo  
Mukwanaifeta Namundjebo, on Sunday, 15 November 2020, in Windhoek.

While knowing that words alone cannot say how deeply I feel with the entire Namundjebo  
bereaved family in these times of bereavement, I nevertheless wish that you find solace in  
the knowledge that I share in your grief.

In this regard, it is with profound sorrow that I have come to pay my last respects and bid  
farewell to one of the Veterans of our National Liberation Struggle in her own right, the  
Late Meekulu Teresia Venondubo Namundjebo, affectionately known as Mukwanaifeta  
and Mother Teresia, named after the most revered nun in Calcutta, India who fed and  
clothed those who had no means to do so for themselves.

The Late Meekulu Teresia Venondubo Mukwanaifeta Namundjebo formed part of a  
remarkable generation of freedom fighters that endured hardship and led our National  
Liberation Struggle to its successful conclusion.

Her husband, the Late Comrade Eliakim Namundjebo was a well-known businessman.  
The Late Meekulu Teresia Venondubo Mukwanaifeta Namundjebo operated underground  
with her husband and other comrades such as Johannes Bonge “Nyungu” Shali and  
many others.

While the Late Meekulu Teresia Venondubo Mukwanaifeta Namundjebo may not have  
been as visible as her charismatic husband, she waged the struggle on a different front  
while devoting her time and energy to nurture her many children, both biological and  
those who form part of the extended family.

Her generosity did not end just with those with whom she shared familial bonds, but extended to feeding and loving people from her village, and her home often became a safe haven for countless freedom fighters.

True to her industrious nature, the Late Meekulu Teresia Venondubo Mukwanaifeta Namundjebo was for a long time the largest Mahangu producer in the northern areas of the country – a true testament of the energy and her compassionate character. This she sustained whether it rained or even when there was a drought.

Her husband, the Late Comrade Eliakim Namundjebo would at many times get arrested or regularly get summoned for investigation by the white minority South African colonial regime and the Late Meekulu Teresia Venondubo Mukwanaifeta Namundjebo was obliged to take his place as the head of the family.

Indeed, when the war intensified, prominent SWAPO businessmen such as the Late Comrades Nangolo Mukwiilongo, John Hamutumwa, David Sheehama, Slyvanus Vatuva and Eliakim Namundjebo suffered harassment and intimidation by the white minority South African colonial regime but they never wavered and continued to provide food and shelter as well as valuable information on the movement of the enemy forces to the Combatants of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN) SWAPO's Military Wing, until we attained our Freedom and Genuine Independence on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 1990.

The Late Meekulu Teresia Venondubo Mukwanaifeta Namundjebo was a mother to many, the biological mother of 9 children of whom six are daughters and three are sons. One of these sons have passed on, while her children blessed her with 20 (twenty) grandchildren. She is also the great grandmother of many and until her passing remained a blessing and source of inspiration for her seven sisters and one brother.

The Late Meekulu Teresia Venondubo Mukwanaifeta Namundjebo held her husband in high esteem and together they made an enormous contribution to the freedom struggle of Namibia. Therefore it came as no surprise when she was awarded national honours in the "Most Distinguished Order- Fourth Class" category on the 26<sup>th</sup> August 2014 by then President Hifikepunye Pohamba.

Befittingly, the community from where she hailed and whom she served so diligently bestowed on her the title of Mother Teresia. Against this background, her revolutionary deeds as well as those of her husband, will never be forgotten by the current and future generations.

As we lay her to rest, allow me on behalf of the Veterans of our National Liberation Struggle, the Nujoma Family and indeed on my own behalf, to convey our deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathy to you, Dr. Martha Namundjebo-Tilahun, the siblings and the Entire Bereaved Namundjebo Family as well as to all the Comrades for this irreparable loss.

May we all be granted comfort and fortitude during this difficult time of bereavement.

May Her Soul Rest In Eternal Peace!