



Tribute By H.E. Dr. Sam Nujoma, Founding President And Father Of The Namibian Nation, On The Occasion Of The Funeral Of H. E. Engineer José Eduardo Dos Santos, Former President Of Republic Of Angola,

SUNDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

LUANDA

REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA

\*Check Against Delivery

Your Excellency, João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço  
President of the Republic of Angola;  
The family of our departed brother, H.E. Engineer José Eduardo dos Santos, Former  
President of the Republic of Angola;  
Your Excellency, Heads of State and Government;  
Your Excellency, Former Heads of State and Government;  
The Government and the great people of the Republic of Angola;  
Fellow Mourners:

Today, Africa is mourning the passing of a statesman and a devoted Pan-Africanist.

We therefore join the people of Angola, the region and the continent in mourning the passing of H.E. Engineer José Eduardo dos Santos, Former President of the Republic of Angola.

I last met Former President José Eduardo dos Santos on 16 October 2021, at his residence in Luanda, when he returned to Angola from Barcelona, Spain, where he was hospitalised since April 2019.

On that occasion, he told me that he was going back to Barcelona for further medical treatment, until I heard the sad news of his passing on Friday, 08 July 2022 in Spain.

As Namibians, we will forever regard the Republic of Angola as our home away from home. During the darkest moments in our struggle against apartheid, it was Angola that has given us shelter, sustenance and support.

Angola's Founding President Dr. Agostinho Neto was very determined that Angola will not rest until the whole of Southern Africa was free.

In this regard, we recall his prophetic words when he assured Africa and the world that, "Angola shall be on its own will, a revolutionary trench in Africa to Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa in the continuation of our struggle."

The independence of Namibia, Zimbabwe and the abolition of Apartheid in South Africa was a practical reaffirmation of that undertaking.

After Angola achieved independence in 1975, the apartheid regime brutalised and violated Angola's and other Frontline States territorial sovereignty, in its efforts to destroy our liberation movements.

Despite the brutal attacks by the apartheid regime, Former President José Eduardo dos Santos stood firm and never wavered in his support for the people of Namibia and the region when he took over as President of the Republic of Angola. It is this shared past that makes us, as Namibians, feel the loss of Former President dos Santos all the more deeply.

To the widow, Madam Ana Paula, the Children Isabel, José Filomeno, Welwitschia, Coréon, Eduane, Joseana and Eduardo, there are no words that can bring comfort at this time, but may your pain be relieved. May your hearts be eased; and may your tears be wiped dry.

As we carry H.E. Engineer José Eduardo dos Santos to his final resting place, please allow me, on behalf of the Veterans of our National Liberation Struggle, the Nujoma family and indeed on my own behalf, to extend our heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies to the family and the people and Government of the Republic of Angola for this great loss.

May you be granted fortitude under this dark cloud.

**MAY THE SOUL OF H.E. ENGINEER JOSÉ EDUARDO DOS SANTOS REST IN ETERNAL PEACE!**