



10 February 2023

Meme Sylvia Shimweetheleni,  
the Children and the Entire Bereavement Family  
Onyerero Village  
Etayi Constituency  
**OMUSATI REGION**

Dear Meme Sylvia Shimweetheleni, the Children and the Entire Bereavement Family

**ON THE PASSING OF YOUR BELOVED MOTHER COMRADE HILDE  
"KAPITAHOLO" AMUNYELA**

I was deeply saddened to learn about the passing on of your beloved mother, sister, aunt, grandmother and a Veteran of our National Liberation Struggle, the Late Comrade Hilde Amunyela Gwandani affectionately known as Kapitaholo on 25 January 2023.

To the bereaved family and the children, while knowing that words alone cannot say how deeply we feel with the entire family in this time of bereavement, we nevertheless wish that you find solace in the knowledge that we share in your grief. Your sorrow is our sorrow, and your pain is our pain as you strive to overcome the dark cloud that hovers around you at this point in time.

In this regard, we join the entire family, friends and Comrades as you gather to bid her farewell, but also to commemorate and acknowledge her immense contribution to our country.

The Late Comrade Gwandani joined SWAPO together with her brother Sackaria Daniel well known as Ntanamposi who influenced her to join in early political activism of the 1960s.

The Late Comrade Gwandani was one of the fearless fighters, a guerrilla Commander in her own right. She fed, nursed, sheltered, provided logistical support and information on the movement of the enemy to our PLAN Combatants. She was harassed, detained and tortured on numerous occasions by the white minority regime of South Africa but never wavered.

She once told her children not to die in her hands as their mother but go and join the National Liberation Struggle under the banners of SWAPO and become Combatants of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN), SWAPO's Military Wing.

Then her 7 children went into exile to reinforce the fighting capabilities of PLAN and since that moment she was under surveillance by the notorious special police forces of the white minority regime of South Africa monitoring her movements. She then became one of the internal SWAPO leadership members and formed part of the delegation that attended a meeting in Lusaka, Zambia in 1987.

In her memory, let us bring the culture of servant leadership back into our politics, back into our government and back into our society. The legacies of men and women like Comrade Gwandani, who served quietly, diligently and with integrity will never be diminished, nor will their light burn out. May her light, and the lights of many others who came before her, illuminate our path in the second phase of the struggle for economic independence as we continue to chart the future destiny of our country.

She was indeed a fearless freedom fighter whose personal modesty belied her courageous conviction and principled outlook on life in general. Her bravery, resilience and commitment to the Liberation Struggle and immense contribution to the attainment of our freedom and genuine independence on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 1990 has made our country and our continent a better place.

To the entire bereaved family members, please be consoled by the fact that she was conferred with the status of Veteran of our National Liberation Struggle and one of the SWAPO Party Branches in Windhoek was named after her as Comrade Hilde Amunyela Branch. Most importantly, we are all consoled by the fact that she lived to see the Liberation of her motherland, for which she spent her entire youthful life fighting for.

As you lay her to rest, allow me therefore, on behalf of the Veterans of our National Liberation Struggle, the Nujoma family and indeed on my own behalf, to convey our heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies to Meme Sylvia Shimweetheleni, the children and the entire bereaved family as well as all comrades during these difficult and trying times. May you all find comfort as you are strengthened and granted fortitude to overcome this great loss.

May Her Soul Rest In Eternal Peace!



**FOUNDER**  
The Sam Nujoma Foundation

Sam Nujoma  
**FOUNDING PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**