

21 July 2023

The Widow, Madam Christina Kazungwe Sinvula, the Children  
and the Entire Bereaved Family  
Chiyasa Village, Nsundwa  
Kabbe South Constituency  
**ZAMBEZI REGION**

The Widow, Madam Christina Kazungwe Sinvula, the Children and the Entire Bereaved  
Family

This is indeed a sad day and a sad time in the life of our nation. Over the past few months we have lost a number of Veterans of our National Liberation Struggle, most recently the Late Comrades Aaron Tega Ipinge, Adolf Schirongo Kangootui, November Festus Nangolo yaAnanias Mthoko, Archbishop Peter Katikisa Daniel Uariune Tjijombo, Johannes Paulus Katanga, and others. With the passing of the Late Comrade Thaddeus Sinvula Malumo, on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023, yet another light in a glorious generation of Veterans of our National Liberation Struggle has been extinguished.

In this regard, on behalf of the Veterans of our National Liberation Struggle, the Nujoma family and indeed on my own behalf, allow me to convey my deep and heartfelt condolences to the family, comrades, friends and relatives of Late the Comrade Thaddeus Sinvula Malumo for this loss.

Indeed, death has robbed us of a valuable repository of knowledge and experience. It is against this background that the Late Comrade Sinvula Malumo has been accorded an official funeral in recognition of the incredible contribution that he made to the attainment of the freedom and genuine independence of our country.

Growing up in Chiyasa Village at Nsundwa in the Kabbe South Constituency of the Zambezi Region, where he spent most of his time assisting his parents with house chores activities such as fishing, ploughing and looking after cattle, he felt the bitter pain of colonial dispossession and of livelihoods so callously destroyed just so that the riches of our soil may be exploited for the benefit of others.

The white minority colonial regime of South Africa had determined that he should live a life of servitude, toiling each day for the comfort and security to please apartheid. However, he had different plans.

Yes, he would endure a life of service, but not to any master other than the struggling masses of the Namibian people, not to any cause other than the cause of freedom and genuine independence.

It is for this reason that he matriculated in 1975 with the likes of Judge Sylvester Mainga, Judge Alfred Siboleka, Dr. Victor Tonchi, Mr. George Shazibenga, Comrade Albert Lushetile, the Late Comrades Raymond Simasiku, Ikosa Simanga and Linus Siyambango.

He then pursued a career in nursing and studied for a diploma in nursing in Pretoria from 1976 to 1979 and worked as a professional nurse at the then Caprivi Hospital from July 1979 to March 1982.

He then opted for a career change and joined the Department of Finance in the then Administration for Caprivians until 1991 when he was transferred to the Ministry of Finance's Head Office in Windhoek.

Before independence, the Late Comrade Sinvula Malumo became a member of SWAPO's first executive committee in the then Caprivi Region and was appointed as the engine for mobilization together with Comrades such as Leonard Chaka, Benedict Likando, Benjamin Mabuku, Linus Siyambango, Cornelius Muhanze, Victor Tonchi and Chrispin Mabebo.

In 1980, he was elected as a Vice Chairman in the leadership of SWAPO in the Region, together with Comrades such as Charles Sampati Lutokwa as Chairman, Richard Nchabi Kamwi as Administrative Secretary, Michael Mulapani Likando as Secretary for Information and Mobilization, Norman Lutibezi as Vice Secretary for Information and Mobilization, Late Comrades Webster Likando as Vice Administrative Secretary and Victor Mabuku as Treasurer.

This was an all-around political activist and mobilizer whose political consciousness was shaped under the aegis of our National Liberation Movement of SWAPO. This was a dangerous time to be a political mobilizer and activist, risking arrest, harassment and even violence. But he would not be deterred.

Thus, the Late Comrade Sinvula Malumo was a vital part of the generation that transformed the SWAPO Party into a militant, mass movement – and thereby changed the course of our history and he paid the price for his convictions.

Him together with other brave men and women militants – through the ordeals they endured, through their defiance, through their courage at one of the darkest moments in our country's history – endure in our memories and continue to inspire our actions.

Between 1985-1988, the Late Comrade Sinvula Malumo was on several occasions detained without trial, severely tortured under Article 6 of AG 9/1977. During these detentions, he would spend several weeks in solitary confinement despite the injuries he would sustain from torture.

In 1989, the Late Comrade Sinvula Malumo participated in the reception of SWAPO repatriations and also in the arrangements of the National Programmes for campaigns of the 1989 elections.

Each time one of our veterans passes away, a part of history dies with them. And as much as we mourn them, it is our solemn task to ensure that what they stood for does not die.

The role played by the Late Comrade Sinvula Malumo in the conception of a free and democratic Namibia will never be forgotten as he became an activist with no expectation of recognition or reward.

He was not a person who liked the limelight and he was not one for accolades. To him, such recognition was secondary to his commitment to serving his people.

He endured immense personal hardships including numerous arrests, but the difficult conditions did not discourage him and his comrades. On the contrary, they only sharpened his resolve.

It is therefore befitting that the government conferred upon him an Official Funeral as one of the fearless freedom fighters who stood tall in the midst of adversity and did not betray the course of the liberation struggle until the attainment of our freedom and genuine independence on 21<sup>st</sup> March 1990.

To the Widow, Madam Christina Kazungwe Sinvula, I wish you to find peace in your heart, as you go through this very difficult time. I also wish that you remain with a memory that apart from being a loving husband and father, the Late Comrade Sinvula Malumo lived his life for you and the people of our country.

To the children and the entire bereaved family, our hearts go out to you as you go through the grief of a loss so overwhelming. It is our wish that you are consoled by the knowledge that the formidable and enduring legacy of the Late Comrade Thaddeus Sinvula Malumo will live on.

Now, more than ever, we have to stand united in our quest to restore our country to its founding values that the Late Comrade Sinvula Malumo lived by. We must draw on his life's example. We must expend our every effort to take up the struggle against poverty, inequality, hunger and disease.

Let it not be said in time that the selfless spirit that drove the men and women of the generation of the Late Comrade Sinvula Malumo died with them. It is not enough to eulogise them and laud the values by which they lived. It is only by restoring that culture of selflessness, integrity and of service to the people that will uphold their legacy.

As we carry the Late Comrade Sinvula Malumo to his final resting place, let us recommit ourselves to continue charting the future destiny of our country.

It is also my sincere wish that we may all be comforted and granted fortitude during this difficult time of mourning.

May the revolutionary spirit of the Late Comrade Thaddeus Sinvula Malumo continue to guide us as we chart the future destiny of our country.

May His Soul Rest In Eternal Peace!

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