



20 March 2024

The Widow, Meme Rebekka Nangula Amunyela, the Children
and the Entire Bereaved Family

Erf: 336 Xamigaub
Cimbebasia, Windhoek
KHOMAS REGION

The Widow, Meme Rebekka Nangula Amunyela, the Children and the Entire
Bereaved Family

It is with profound sadness that I have learned of the passing of your beloved husband, father, grandfather and a Veteran of our National Liberation Struggle, Comrade Lt Col (Rtd) John Amunyela, on Friday, 15th March 2024 at Paramount hospital in Windhoek, Khomas Region.

In this regard, I would like to join the community in bidding farewell to one of our fearless freedom fighters and pay tribute to his acts of bravery and unflinching support for the total liberation of Namibia.

When the apartheid regime intensified its repression, the late Comrade Lt Col (Rtd) Amunyela took the difficult decision to leave the country and join the liberation movement in exile in 1977. He received his first basic military training at Tobias Hainyeko Training Centre and Special Training in the USSR and Tanzania.

The late Comrade Lt Col (Rtd) John Amunyela, fondly known as Gen Babangida, was part of a generation that fought fiercely in the 1970s and 1980s for the attainment of our freedom and genuine Independence on the 21st March 1990.

Upon returning home, the late Comrade Lt Col (Rtd) Amunyela served our country in various positions, including as a Security Officer at State House when I was in Office. Indeed, he was one of the hardworking, dedicated and dependable staff members with a great sense of humour and served with distinction in every position he occupied and every responsibility he was given.

He played a particularly significant role in the transformation and development of our intelligence services. He understood, more than many, the place of intelligence in a democratic society. He understood the purpose of the intelligence services as guardians of the people, of their rights and of their Constitution.

In a difficult field of work, in an environment often shrouded in secrecy and intrigue, he stood firm on the pre-eminence of the Constitution and the rule of law because in undertaking his tasks, the late Comrade Lt Col (Rtd) Amunyela was honest and measured, deliberate and principled. Where he found fault, he sought solutions. Throughout his work – indeed throughout his life – he remained true to his character and true to his convictions but most of all, he remained true to his people.

Thus, we have lost not only a dependable cadre but also a loyal and faithful servant of the Namibian people who had many virtues and a generous spirit. Indeed, he had the endearing ability to lift any mood and fortify people's resolve even in the most difficult times.

It is not enough to eulogise our departed Comrades, we must complete what they were not able to finish in their lifetime, that is, building our nation and an ethical state led by selfless men and women of integrity and of conviction such as those who belonged to the glorious generation of freedom fighters who, with a majestic sense of purpose and through their endurance and selfless sacrifices, saw us through to final victory.

Against this background, as you prepare to lay him 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 sympathies to the family for this loss.

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 Lt Col (Rtd) John Amunyela will live on. 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 Lt Col (Rtd) John Amunyela "General Babangida) continue to guide us as we chart the future destiny of our country. We will always remember him as a brother, a husband, a father, a disciplined cadre, a consummate professional and a humble revolutionary.

May his rest be as peaceful as he was and long and may his revolutionary spirit live on.



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