

24 January 2025

The Widow, Meme Helena Ndahekelekwa Nkandi  
The Children, Grandchildren and the Entire Bereavement Family  
Of the Late Comrade Themus Nkandi  
Ongongolwa Village, Tsandi Constituency  
**OMUSATI REGION**

The Widow, Meme Helena Ndahekelekwa Nkandi, the Children and the Entire Bereaved Family

This is indeed a sad time in the life of our nation as over the past few months we have lost a number of Veterans of our National Liberation Struggle. With the passing of the Late Comrade Themus Cosmos Hango ya Sakaria Nkandi, on Sunday, 12 January 2025, yet another light in a glorious generation of Veterans of our National Liberation Struggle has been extinguished.

In this regard, I join the Nation in mourning a brave combatant of the People's Liberation of Army of Namibia (PLAN), SWAPO's Military Wing, who served as the vanguard of the liberation struggle as he participated in several military operations in Angola.

Indeed, death has robbed us of a generous and selfless father and grandfather as well as valuable repository of experience and a gallant former combatant of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN), SWAPO's Military Wing, who contributed immensely to the attainment of the freedom and genuine independence of our country on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 1990.

Like all boys of his time, the Late Comrade Nkandi was well prepared to perform all sorts of household chores such fixing the huts, milking and looking after animals, repairing and renewing fences, and cultivating mahangu fields in Uukwaluudhi at Ongongolwa Village, Omusati Region.

He joined our National Liberation Struggle in 1974 and received his military training at Oshatotwa No. 2 in the Western Province of Zambia. Upon completion of his training, he was sent for further military training at Kongwa in Tanzania where he stayed until 1975 when he returned to the Front. His commitment and keen interest in military affairs saw him again being sent to Moshi Military Training in Tanzania in 1979 and later to the former German Democratic Republic (GDR), before returning to Angola to work at PLAN's Operational Headquarters in Lubango, Angola.

In this regard, the Late Comrade Nkandi can be counted amongst the brave men and women who served as the vanguard of the liberation struggle and the story of his life offers many lessons for us today. Lessons in courage, lessons on the virtue of discipline and on the limitless capacity for endurance of the human being. But perhaps above all, it is a lesson on devotion to a mission and to a cause, no matter how long and bitter the struggle.

It is worth noting that the late Comrade Nkandi was amongst those who accompanied Dr. Hage G. Geingob to Namibia on 18 June 1989, when he was assigned by SWAPO to be the Director of Elections and to do political mobilization in the country.

Thus, the late Comrade Nkandi worked at the SWAPO Directorate of Elections until 1990. In addition, he worked as a Senior Official in the Office of the President until his retirement. Meanwhile, in 2001 to 2004, he was deployed to the Namibian Embassy in Lusaka, Zambia.

Though the Late Comrade Nkandi is no longer with us, the ideas for which he stood will never die. In bidding farewell to him, I call on our people, especially his children and grandchildren, to pick up where he left and strive to fight with equal measure to overcome the ills in our society and that will be the greatest and most befitting tribute in his honour.

To the Entire Bereaved Family, our thoughts are with you as you go through this difficult time of mourning and the grief so overwhelming. We share in your sorrow and we join you in celebrating a life well lived in the service of our people, punctuated by indelible marks of selflessness, bravery and patriotism. May you be comforted by all the words of honour that have been ascribed to your beloved father, grandfather, and a Veteran of our National Liberation Struggle, the Late Comrade Themus Nkandi.

As the family comes to terms with this tragic moment of the dark cloud hovering around you, allow me on behalf of the Veterans of our National Liberation Struggle, the Nujoma family and indeed on my own behalf, to convey our sincere condolences and heartfelt sympathies to the entire bereaved family, the comrades, friends and relatives of the Late Comrade Themus Nkandi for this irreparable loss.

It is my sincere wish that we may all be comforted and granted fortitude to overcome this loss. May the revolutionary spirit of the Late Comrade Themus Nkandi 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**