



27 January 2025

The Widow, Meme Johanna Ndapanda Naatse Paulus
Onashiku Village
Elim Constituency
OMUSATI REGION

The Widow, Meme Johanna Ndapanda Naatse Paulus, the Children, Grandchildren and the Entire Bereaved Family.

I was deeply saddened to learn about the passing of your beloved husband, father, and a Veteran of our National Liberation Struggle, the Late Comrade Epafra Paulus, affectionately known as “Tshilumbu Tshamupaulu”, on the 10th of January 2025, at Oshakati Intermediate Hospital, Oshana Region.

I therefore join all peace loving Namibians from all walks of life in paying tribute to one of the fearless freedom fighters who nurtured the liberation struggle from the early 70s when he assisted with the mobilization of the Namibian people to participate in national strikes against the contract labour system.

Thereafter in the 80s, he used his business to provide transport, food, clothing, medications and bicycles to PLAN fighters in order for them to transport weapons across the borders. In the process, his Mini market at Omutaku gwaKayupa was destroyed and burned down by the South African colonial forces.

Similarly, he allowed PLAN fighters to use his homestead as a meeting point and provided as much assistance as he could because he had contact with the late Comrade Patrick Iyambo, affectionately known as ‘Lungada’, who requested him to do everything in his power to assist PLAN fighters whenever they come in the area and use his house to store weapons and ammunitions.

It is therefore with great sadness that I bid farewell to one of the Veterans of our National Liberation Struggle, whose patriotic and exemplary deeds speak volume of his immense contribution to the attainment of our freedom and genuine independence on the 21st March 1990. Indeed, what the late Cde. Epafra Paulus did for Namibia, as reflected in his biography, is worth emulating by the present and future generations of Namibians.

After independence, I have had the privilege of meeting the late Comrade Epafra Paulus when I invited him to share memories of the liberation struggle especially what happened between 1959 and 1970 in order to assist with the compilation of the history of the National Liberation Struggle of Namibia, taking into consideration that he spent his entire adult life in the struggle.

He was indeed a gentle revolutionary, whose personal modesty belied his courageous conviction and principled outlook on life in general. His bravery, resilience and commitment to the liberation struggle has made our country and our continent a better place.

To the widow, Meme Johanna Ndapanda Naatse Paulus, the children and the entire bereaved family members, please find solace in the knowledge that we share in your pain and our thoughts are with you as you go through this difficult moment that engulfed your family.

May you be comforted by all the words of honour that have been ascribed to your beloved husband, father and brother. We take inspiration from his life as we redouble our efforts to build a humane, egalitarian and caring society. He now deserves to rest in peace while we appreciate and build on his indelible legacy.

Against this background, as you carry him 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 convey our heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies to the entire bereaved family members for the loss of the Late Comrade Epafras Paulus "Tshilumbu Tshamupaulu". May we all be granted fortitude during these trying times.

May His Soul Rest In Eternal Peace!



FOUNDER
The Sam Nujoma Foundation

Sam Nujoma
FOUNDING PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA