

# Free Water For Poor?

IS IT not time to look at the situation where people are being denied communal water? How can we be unconcerned when we witness this? Is it an acceptable practice?

The unemployed in Namibia are a common sight. They, like all of us, need water. Must the unemployed die of thirst or get water for free from poor homes where they usually come from - the owners of which must pay? Should we not direct the employees who look after our communal assets (Namwater) to provide:

- 1) water to those who have paid (a basic norm)
- 2) say five litres a day per person free

at each household point for instance? Similarly a certain quantity free to schools and hospitals?

The community have a say in how our assets should be run - parastatals administer communal property and are not paid badly for this work. Can you travel freely on the road or pay poll tax, practised in some countries? Or walk for free on a lighted street? Or breathe the air without paying some parastatal for it? NamAir?

These are matters of common concern and thus for common debate.

**Community Member**  
**Khomasdal**