

Land conference

I WOULD like to publish this noble request in the name of the fallen owners, heroes and currently living heirs. May I also have the privilege to shortly dwell on the sad history of Namibia.

Numerous volumes have been written on the treachery, robbery, murder and ultimately the total colonisation of my country. The Germans, some boasting generations here, were the first, followed by the South Africans. In the present-day independent Namibia the South African and German colonialists here, misusing the constitution and its contents, inter alia the so-called reconciliation, are of the intent to manipulate the Land Conference in their favour.

Sight should never be lost that Namibia historically, culturally and politically belongs to the San, Ovambos, Hereros, Namas, Damaras, Caprivians,

Kavangos, etc, to the exclusion of the South Africans and Germans.

They have illegally intruded, murdered and taken over our land. Through devilish manoeuvring, they illegally allocated the barest patches of land to our people, taking over the best farmland, today known as commercial farming land.

I know very well what happened in the south, central and northern regions to my people. They have relocated the Namas in so-called Namaland, the Damaras were thrown away in the barren western region, the Hereros to the barren east and north-east. Let it be known to those who don't know or pretend not to know that no amount of money or political manoeuvring will stop the quest for the regaining of our traditional pastures.

We did not forget the past. We shall never do so. We want our land back. They never bought it from us. They interchange money to our debit and continued misery and poverty. We are not asking for a fair distribution of land. We want it all back.

Why, Ms Editor, do you think that the majority of Namas and Damaras are the poorest today? Simply because they are the most destitute people since they suffered most in terms of land robbery and murder. Why do you think the land in the so-called Hereroland is so trampled? Simply because their land was stolen. Why do you think northern Namibia is fast becoming a desert? Simply because their land including Etosha and Tsumeb area was robbed?

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Etosha and Isimob area was robbed?

Editor, if at all the Land Conference wishes to achieve peace, it has to address the cardinal issues. There is no way we are going to be talked into improving current 'homelands'. It is actually wrong to talk of 'homelands', since the whole of Namibia is OUR homeland.

Reconciliation implies wrongdoing. Wrongdoing implies correcting the wrongs. We cannot put the cart in front of the donkey. We have to start at the beginning of the colonisation and end with the handing over of Namibia to its rightful owners. We are poor because of the annihilation of land. How can whoever expect us to raise money where to raise money with which to buy our land back from whom?

Let us not be lured by the forked tongues of land sharks. They have no interest in Namibia. Now is the time that Namibia will be truly independent, not only on paper but in real land ownership terms.

To those who are to attend the Land Conference, know your history and be solely guided by it. We are all products of our sad history. We are once more in a new era of making history for the generations to come.

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