

# Who Are The Real Terrorists?

ALLOW me to express my views in your esteemed newspaper. They are in connection with the ongoing confusion of the Angolan situation with the main news topic in the international political arena, namely the fight against terrorism.

I take this opportunity also to express my condolences to the American people for the loss of lives on the 11 of September events.

It is clear by now that the terms terrorist and terrorism have to be redefined and a consensus to be reached amongst all that belong to the human race. The way ahead is challenging but also highly rewarding. Basic justice and a dignified human life for every inhabitant of the earth are at stake here. The concerns about state terrorism should be given the necessary attention. For instance, enforced disappearance and arbitrary killings of citizens committed by state authorities should be considered as acts of state terrorism. A typical example of such as state in Africa is Angola.

The longest, bloodiest, and most destructive and largely ignored conflict in Africa is being staged in the beautiful landscapes, hills and savannahs of Angola. I will refrain from diving deep into the causes of the civil war that rages for decades now, for they have been exhaustively covered. I am going to stick to crucial facts to refresh the memory of those in oblivion, who still fantasise in giving to the Angolan ruling party free hand to continue decimating the Angolan population and plundering the natural resources. For those, a little piece of advice: forget it. Or at least, think reasonably all over again. Here are the facts:

- The MPLA did start the civil war I in 1975;
- The MPLA did cheat the general elections in 1993 and initiated the civil war II;
- The MPLA violated the peace accord of Lusaka 1994

by resuming military operations aimed at total destruction of Unita (its old sweet dream, by the way).

The MPLA leadership, who successfully metamorphosed from demagogic communism to venal capitalism, never had the guts, stomach and neither the slightest desire in the distant past and now to face real opposition parties. Why? The answer is quite simple: the Angolan Cake is so awesome, astonishing and magical that it will constitute a sacrilege to share it with someone else other than the top few people of the ruling party. Thus the current tragedy. In this regard the international community, especially the Western countries that continue to milk the proverbial wealth of Angola has done very little. As a result the majority of Angolan population live in abject and sordid poverty contrasting, very painfully, with the unashamed opulent life style of few ruling party individuals and army generals.

Calling Unita and Dr Savimbi terrorists? And what about the atrocities committed by the Angolan army forces, security, the police, and many other paramilitary organisations under the patronage and implicit support of the unqualified and non-elected president JES? Is this not considered state terrorism?

Can you imagine the number of deaths caused by the constitutional, military, law and security enforcement agencies lawlessness, of the so-called Angolan government? Do you have any idea of the death toll caused by hunger and starvation, lack of health services, uncontrollable banditry and even lack of potable water including in the capital Luanda itself, derived from the chronic economic mismanagement, blatant incompetence, rampant corruption, nepotism, of the so-called Angolan government?

**Tala Hadi muaAngola, VIA E-MAIL**