

# Strive For Better Days In 2003

I WALK down Independence Avenue; a child stops me and asks for money to buy something to eat. My heart goes out to the youth of Namibia.

I walk back to my car to be robbed by three smartly dressed adult men. One of them runs off with my backpack and the car guard tells me to catch him! I am angry and my heart goes out to the innocent Namibians who get robbed and cheated of what belongs to them. And by the way these criminals were dressed I can only think that crime pays!

I buy a newspaper and read that another drunk driver has killed and destroyed lives that can never ever be replaced and restored again.

I drive past the hospital and see the big sign with the HIV-AIDS statistics. "Oh God," I pray "please make our people more responsible for their actions.

Please let them treasure and respect their lives and the lives of their fellow Namibians.

News: another baby has been found in a plastic bag; dumped in a rubbish bin. How cheap is the life of a baby, a teenager, an adult, a pensioner, a Namibian?!

Our nation. There is so much hope, so much to look forward to, and so much to be thankful for!

I hear our President, Sam Nujoma, share about his vision, about projects and things that we can achieve in our nation. I hear him speak out against laziness and crime and I pray; "God, please let the people hear, understand and act on these words."

We have lived in peace for twelve years now. We had our troubles but we came out stronger and more united in the end.

Twelve years and we have proven that blacks,

coloureds and whites can actually live and work together as one! Let us not live in the shadows of a few hard-headed, hard-hearted, people that still live in the past days of apartheid. Let us as a nation not stand in the shadows of the past hatred and injustice. Let us continue to dwell in the light that we have seen!

The land issue! A difficult situation it seems to be but even here we can take hands and work together as a nation. Let us not handle this situation as landowners and landless, oppressed and oppressor but, rather, let us handle this as a Nation. Who is the oppressed these days? Not the blacks nor the whites or coloureds, not the landowner or the landless! No, our nation, our Namibia is being oppressed by our actions. As long as we continue to look at our differences as being

something bad we are destined to fail, but if we use our differences to complement each other we can move forward.

2002, another year that is about to end. Let us look back on this year, build on what we did right and fight that which we did wrong.

Oh, let us as a nation continue to walk together on the path of our future. Let us break down any walls that still separate us and deprive us from each other!

Namibians, let us go into this New Year, this 2003, and let us have a heart of unity and let us strive for a better future for our nation. Let us have a heart for our nation!

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