

'Big Goats Don't Sneeze Without Reason'

ALLOW me space in the people's paper to air my views on some issues that are not right in our country. I am disheartened by the recent events where our commander in chief criticised one section of our community, namely the whites. What is happening? What went wrong?

There is a saying, which goes: "a big goat does not sneeze without a reason". If there is something going on about the whites in this country then we as citizens also deserve the right to know. To blame people just out of the blue is not a good thing, especially when it is done by a person who is supposed to unite the whole nation.

What has happened to our policy of national reconciliation? Is it working or dead? Of course it is the government that brought it into being and if it is dead then we as a nation also deserve to know so that we can also start criticising some fellow blacks who did us wrong during the liberation struggle. I lost my brother because my neighbour reported him to the South African army to be a 'terrorist'. I have forgiven him but I did not forget. I am also fully aware of the atrocities that the Germans and the South African colonisers have committed against our people but which whites did this kind of thing? Is it Gwen Lister? Is it Hannes Smith? Believe me these whites, Gwen and Hannes, also suffered but of course not the same way the blacks did. Just like today some blacks are driving beautiful 4x4s because it suits their status while some fellow blacks are going

hungry with no shelter, nothing.

I cannot understand that 13 years after independence whites are still causing divisions amongst the people. Are we so stupid that we (blacks) cannot think for ourselves? How can we allow ourselves to be divided by others? Maybe there is something wrong with our systems, which in fact might be causing divisions and not the whites. How many white farmers are ministers today? How many whites are CEOs? Of course many are commercial farmers and is it this which is causing problems? We have the right to know.

Saying whites are causing division while we have the full commanding power to me is a joke. Fine, we have the capacity to deal with them. Why do we say this instead of just acting but of course acting with reason? We must also examine ourselves before we start pointing fingers at others. I think people that are causing division are the ones that are stealing the public funds so that the government will be unable to provide for its citizens. Those are the people who need to be dealt with. We must try to empower all of our citizens. Let the whole nation enjoy the fruits of independence. If we ignore that we are just inviting more and more trouble and then we will blame it on the whites. Do not laugh at the snake because it walks on its belly.

We must also understand that in a country of beggars, stealing and not begging is considered a crime. There is a saying, which says "stealing brings

misfortune". There are too many stealing in government and no concrete steps are taken. All one hears is presidential commissions.

They are becoming too many now and their findings are just gathering dust wherever they take place. Don't we have the capacity to deal with criminals

and thieves in this country? I suggest if we have the capacity to deal with whites we must also use the same capacity to deal with thieves especially the ones that are embezzling the public funds.

When is the six million Namibian dollars going to be returned? And who is going to return it and how? Do whites cause these things? If yes, then there is something wrong with us, I mean the black people. We like "nice" things but we hate working hard. We are good at blaming others but we never turn the finger on ourselves. Of course whites are hard workers that is why they have what they have today. Of course some of them have acquired their riches by exploiting us but now there are laws in place that are preventing this kind of things from happening. It all depends on how committed we are to such laws.

I know that whoever reads this letter might say that I am an enemy of the state but unfortunately I am just being realistic. I am not a CoD, nor a DTA or a RP. I am just myself with my own mind and brain. Of course those that do not have their own brain will want to shut me off. Let's not blame the

whites but rather blame ourselves for our own misfortune. These days the comrade is not always right because some comrades are hungry and they are doing whatever they can do to be like other comrades. What are the 17 farms for?

It must be clear to each and every Namibian, whether you are black or white, Herero or Ovambo, Damara or Caprivi, Nama or Tswana, San or Kavango, Himba or others that Namibia is independent forever. Hans Dreyer, Koevoet, SWATF, SADF and Bothas are gone forever. If ever they will come back we should blame it on ourselves and not on the whites.

God created us with a brain to distinguish between what is right and what is wrong. If you let yourself be misled, blame it on yourself. The politicians should also stop working on our emotions and feelings. We know how hard it was during the liberation struggle. We were there when our homes were destroyed and burned down. We were there when our mahangu fields were destroyed. We were there when our own children were killed. We were there at Niimwandi. We know all these things. To tell us these days that whites are bad while you are enjoying their company at your farms and in your neighbourhood is just a joke to us.

We know how dusty it is in Katutura but we are still there. We know all those things and we also know that Namibia is unfortunately a mother for all of us. All we need to hear now is

economic development, peace and stability, employment opportunities and projects so that we can develop our community.

We don't want to hear hate speeches. We know how bad and terrible the war was. We don't want WAR, we want PEACE.

We must remember that there is no lion which cannot miss a chase, and there is no pond that the sun cannot dry. Life is when you are together, alone you are an animal. In Oshiwambo there is saying that says "Pombili iha pa potwa!" Translate it yourself.

Let us all work together and be united as we were during the dark days of the liberation struggle. Whites are not enemies today but our enemies are hunger, disease, poverty, ignorance, nepotism, tribalism, hatred, corruption, sexism, self-centeredness etc. The list is too long. Namibian development needs us all. We cannot talk of development if we are blaming and attacking other people. If we keep on blaming whites, they may say, "though I am not edible says the vulture, yet I nurse my eggs in the branches of a high tree because man is hard to be trusted." I hope we don't want this to happen. We must also remember "he who finds the occasion to hurt others will be hurt by them tomorrow. We don't want this to happen either.

Let us build and develop our Namibia. Viva the Republic of Namibia

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