

Afraid of liars

IN Oshiwambo there is a proverb which says: Omufundji oku vule omulodhi. It means a liar is worse than a witch. The saying continues: It is better to accomodate a witch than a liar.

I have been battling to understand the proverb of my ancestors. My question has been, why did they look upon liars with apprehension? (I would be happy if someone could give further clarification).

For many years we have been outside our beloved motherland - parted from our parents, sisters, brothers, friends and comrades. We have always been dreaming of home.

It also pained us when we were told that some of our relatives or friends perished in the bloody 23-year war. Therefore, we understand what it meant when some of our fellow compatriots were told that their next of kin were 'eliminated' by Swapo. These lies have caused immense damage and confusion.

Maybe our ancestors were afraid of liars because what they said did not only affect a limited number of people, but the entire population. A witch destroys only one or two people, and then that is the end.

When liars speaks of death, they mean life; when they speak of democracy, they mean tyranny, justice = injustice, reconstruction = destruction, freedom = oppression or captivity, decolonisation = colonisation, freedom from South Africa = dependence on South Africa.

These are the people who nearly destroyed the Namibia peace process by concocting lies that Swapo combatants infiltrated Namibia on April 1, while many of them had been inside already.

Lies were fabricated again when it was reported that Swapo combatants were moving south of the sixteenth parallel to prepare for a big incursion into Namibia - an absurd statement indeed.

The Namibian people are still witnessing more lies from the enemy of the Namibian people in its avowed efforts to deny Swapo a two-thirds majority.

Swapo will never waver in its efforts to liberate Namibia and adopt a policy of reconciliation so that Namibians, irrespective of colour and creed, can live harmoniously together and reconstruct Namibia. Namibians

Letter Editor

long for freedom and independence, and to borrow the words of Ho Chi Minh: 'There is nothing more precious than freedom and national independence'.

We have been lied to many times; we will not be lied to again.

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Brave Ovahereros

ALLOW me a space in the people's paper to appeal to my fellow Namibians. I would like to become a racist at this moment, and handle a certain ethnic group, namely Ovaherero, not Ovaherero as it is interpreted by some, but Ovaherero mba hererera.

This nation is well known throughout the world for their heroic resistance against invaders and colonialism. Their fight against Germans are regarded as some of the bravest acts in the world.

I have penpals abroad and most of them name the fact that I am Omuherero as the reason for responding to my letters (not because they are racists but because they admire our history) but when I hear such arguments I become ashamed, because we are no longer the Ovaherero of Maharero's time. Indeed, we are the ones blocking independence and freedom and serving the oppressing hand of colonialists. We are the oppressors ourselves.

We gather each and every year in Okahandja, to lay our hands on the graves of Maharero, Samuel, Kutako and others and we say our prayers. We expect our prayers to be heard by our forefathers while we are doing the opposite of what they would like us to do. We create a paradise of what they have fought against. How can you serve God if you work for Satan?

Did we forget the blood that was shed in 1904, did we forget the hun-