

# Chief's tribalism

I WOULD like to refer to the so-called revelations by Chief Mamili published in The Namibian entitled 'The Mafwe state their case' on August 31.

If this revelation comes from the Chief himself then all peace and freedom-loving Namibians should without hesitation declare him the 1991 champion of tribalism - for it appears he is unable to think beyond the tribe.

The point I would like to make to Chief Mamili and a small section of the Mafwe surrounding him is that the cheapest colonisation method used to colonise Namibia was through the existence of tribes - the championing of one tribe at the expense of others so as to smoothly pave the way for the bantustanisation of Namibia.

It is disappointing to learn that Chief Mamili claims Katima Mulilo is a Mafwe area. Caprivi knew no boundaries even in the time of the colonialists.

Why should we talk of tribal divisions and tribal boundaries at this time? What are we going to benefit from tribal conflicts apart from rolling back the progressive idea of national reconciliation the ruling party is keen to implement in order to mould a healthy and prosperous nation?

I am challenging Chief Mamili to tell the Namibian nation today the book of history he and his associates read that indicates Caprivi knew boundaries before and after colonisation, apart from the bantustan system that the Boers



perpetrated in Namibia against the will of the inhabitants. If the so-called revelation came from Chief Mamili directly, then he should apologise to the Namibian nation for the inconveniences provoked by the violent demonstration and the subsequent damage to peace and nation-building.

The prefabricated allegation that the recently appointed people in the Ministry of Education are unqualified, is a case of character assassination and if I were them, I would take you to court.

If Chief Mamili is a real chief as he claims, he should stop listening to Mishake Muyongo who wants to accomplish his political ambitions of divide and rule.

In this patriotic process of moulding a nation, the concept of championing tribalism should be looked at as a political liability that is detrimental to nation-building. Caprivi as an integral part of Namibia belongs to all Namibians and still knows no boundary.

The Chief has failed to grasp the meaning of freedom and national reconciliation. He can still be an asset to the nation if he dissociates himself from Muyongo although we know that his assumption of duties as chief of the Mafwe was a process engineered by Muyongo.

**CONCERNED NAMIBIAN  
WALVIS BAY**