

Amathila Asked For Answers On Chief Issue

I WOULD like to know from the Minister of Regional and Local Government and Housing, Dr Libertina Amathila how sure she is that Shufu should be recognised as a Chief.

Naturally we all know that a Chief must be from the Royal family and from nowhere else. I can't just stand up and say "From now onwards I will be a Chief of my own village". That is impossible. Even the Minister will never become a Chief if she is not from the Royal family.

We have to differentiate between

politics and tradition, because when we want a President, we have to vote, but a chief we choose, instead of voting. Even though the Minister was out of the country, I think she knows everything about chieftainships.

Shufu is not from the Royal family and he was chosen by a few people who are being used by someone to do so. Ninety per cent of the Mayeyi are against the motion. Shufu was one of Chief Mamili's Indunas (councillors) known as Induna Sangwali.

I thought that maybe our inde-



Dr Libertina Amathila

pendence would bring peace in the region, but that was only my imagination, because from what I see now, the Government is involving itself in that region's affairs, not to reconcile the people but to create controversy among them.

The region is what it is today, not because of people themselves, but also because of the Government.

Many things have been tried by the people of that region, but nothing has materialised, such as Pidico.

The Minister herself never went to the region regarding the issues of the Mayeyi to see who is who.

She acted only on hearsay and recognised Shufu as a Chief without proper jurisdiction.

He is a Chief of not more than 100 people and this issue will bring about bloodshed in the region.

Let the Government not blame the people but blame itself for what will happen. I would like some clarification from the Minister herself about from which Royal family Shufu comes, because Chief Mamili is from the Mamili Royal family.

L MOOSA
WINDHOEK