

# DIE WERKER

N\$3

Namibie se werkers nuusblad

Uitgawe 1 van 2019

Januarie



Copyright Peter Lindien

*TransNamib's Head Office*

## ***TransNamib's shenanigans***

*By Ben Serogwe*

I was employed by TransNamib for a period of 36 years from 1972 to 2013 and thus can relay the shady dealings at the parastatal without fear or favour.

I would like to inform the public that at TransNamib you have a free reign to be party to fraudulent and dishonest dealings as long as you are a SWAPO member or a sympathiser of the ruling party.

I was told in no uncertain terms by TransNamib management that me being a Tswana and not an Owambo would adversely affect my chances of employment at the parastatal. As long as TransNamib is run by a board comprised almost exclusively of SWAPO members there is little hope of it recovering financially nor executing its mandate successfully. The current management cadre

lack expertise and experience and can thus be labeled incompetent.

During my time at TransNamib, I came across two gentlemen and past CEO's, Messrs Haimbili and Shipo, who tried to revive the entity with what little resources they had available. Mr. Shaetonhodi succeeded Mr. Shipo. He was appointed by Minister Erikki Itana and encouraged his cronies to resign from Namdeb (Oranjemund) and join him at TransNamib. Messrs Bandi, Mathe, Nekomba and other individuals whose names I am unable to recall took up employment at TransNamib on his instruction. They received massive pension payouts when their employment at the parastatal ceased. I commenced an investigation in 2011 in my capacity as Investigating Officer regarding the theft of a per-

onbevoeg verklaar word.

## ***TransNamib se kaskenades***

*Deur Ben Serogwe*

Ek was vir 'n tydperk van 36 jaar vanaf 1972 tot 2013 in diens van TransNamib en weet dus van die oneerlike gebeurtenisse van die entiteit. Ek wil graag die publiek meedeel dat TransNamib werknemers vrylik kan deel neem aan bedrieglike en oneerlike praktyte solank u 'n SWAPO-lid of 'n simpatiseerder van die regerende party is. TransNamib se bestuur het dit duidelik aan my gestel dat my kanse op indiensneming by hulle nadelig sal beïnvloed wees omdat ek Tswana en Owambo is nie. Solank TransNamib bestuur word deur 'n raad wat bestaan uit SWAPO-lede, is daar min hoop dat die instelling finansiële kan herstel of sy mandaat suksesvol uitvoer nie. Die huidige bestuurskader het nie die kundigheid en ervaring nie en kan dus

Gedurende my tyd daar het ek opgelet hoe twee vorige uitvoerende hoofde wat ook Owambo-lede was, mnre. Haimbili en Shipo, die entiteit probeer laat herleef met watter min hulpbronne hulle beskikbaar gehad het. Mnr. Shaetonhodi, wat nie vir die pos gekwalifiseer was nie, het die leisels by Mnr. Shipo oorgeneem. Hy is deur Minister Erikki Itana aangestel. Mnr. Shaetonhodi het sy trawante vanaf Namdeb (Oranjemund) aangemoedig om by hom by TransNamib aan te sluit. Mnre. Bandi, Mathe, Nekomba en ander individue wie se name ek nie kan herroep nie, het op sy onderrig diens by TransNamib aanvaar. Hulle het massiewe

sonal computer (PC) at the entity. Messrs Shaetonhodi and Bandi took it upon themselves to dismiss me on the grounds that I posed a threat to them. Furthermore they alleged I was a member of the disbanded Koevoet Unit. I also launched an investigation into the theft of 300 rails by an employee of TransNamib, Mr. Amadhila. These rails were sold to a scrap metal dealer, Ms. Gaya, for the paltry sum of N\$6,000. TransNamib recov-

gula, who was dismissed in 2009 and reinstated in 2010. It should be noted that Ms. Hangula was Owambo. TransNamib will be doomed if it does not cease to appoint Board members and their management cadre on the basis of ethnicity. TransNamib's properties at Otavi and Grootfontein totaling 36 erven and 42 erven respectively, are primarily leased to Owambos. No action is taken pertaining to the non-payment of rent. Shebeens have been set



*Train wreckage at Kranzberg*

ered the rails and Mr. Amadhila was instructed to resign within 24 hours. It should be noted that TransNamib refused to lay a criminal charge against the culprit as he was an Owambo. I was dismissed from TransNamib in November 2004. On the 8<sup>th</sup> May 2008, the District Labour Court ordered my reinstatement. TransNamib did not honour the judgement. It should be noted in May 2011 I was re-appointed and not reinstated as per the District Labour Court's judgement. At TransNamib Swapo affiliates are afforded preferential treatment. A case in point involves Ms. Paulina Han-

up on these properties yet no action is taken because the tenants are Swapo supporters. In conclusion, It irks me that rail transport in Namibia has come to a virtual standstill. Travelling to neighbouring South Africa by rail is a thing of the past. It saddens me that there are children in our country that have not had the opportunity to have travelled by train and in some instances have not seen a train.

## ***Health Minister dismissed***

*By Jacobus Josob*

Dr. Bernhard Haufiku, a qualified and highly competent medical practitioner, was appointed Health Minister in 2015 by President Hage Geingob. After his appointment Dr. Hau-

fiku, described by his peers as an independent thinker, faced numerous challenges to effectively execute his mandate as Health Minister. Having practiced as a medical doctor in both the private and public health sectors prior to his ap-

pensioenuitbetalings  
**TRANSNAMIB**  
ontvang toe hul diens geeindig het. Ek het in 2011 in my hoedanigheid as Onderzoekbeampte 'n ondersoek begin rakende die diefstal van 'n persoonlike rekenaar (PC) by die entiteit. Mnre. Shaetonhodi en Bandi het dit op hulself aangewys om my te verwerp op grond daarvan dat ek 'n bedreiging vir hulle geword het. Verder het hulle beweer dat ek 'n lid van die Koevoet-eenheid was. Ek het die diefstal van 300 spoorstawe deur 'n werknemer van TransNamib, mnr Amadhila, geloods. Hierdie spoorstawe is teen N\$6,000 aan n skrootmetaal handelaar Mev. Gaya, vir die skamele bedrag van N\$6,000 verkoop. Die spoorstawe is aan TransNamib terug besorg en Mnr. Amadhila is opdrag gegee om binne 24 uur te bedank. TransNamib het geweier om 'n kriminele klag in te dien teen die skuldige omdat hy Owambo was. TransNamib het my in November 2004

afgedank. Op 8 Mei 2008 het die Distriksarbeidshof my heraanstelling beveel. TransNamib het nie die uitspraak vereer nie. Dit moes in Mei 2011 aangeteken word. Ek is in Mei 2011 weer aangestel en nie heraangetel nie soos per die Distriksarbeidshof se uitspraak nie. By TransNamib word Swapo-ondersteuners voorkeurbehandeling verleen. 'N saak in punt behels me. Paulina Hangula, wat in 2009 ontslaan is en in 2010 heraangetel is. Daar moet kennis geneem word dat mev. Hangula Owambo was. TransNamib sal gedoom word indien dit nie ophou om raadslede en hul bestuurskader op grond van etnisiteit aan te stel nie. Dit pla my dat spoorvervoer in Namibië amper tot 'n stilstand gekom het. Om per spoor na Suid-Afrika te reis, is 'n ding van die verlede. Dit is vir my hartseer dat van ons kinders nie die geleentheid gehad het om per trein te reis nie en in sommige gevalle nie 'n trein gesien het nie.

## **Skryf aan**

### **Die Werker:**

**namab737@gmail.com**

**4479 Dodge Avenue**

**Khomasdal**

**Tel: + 264 (0)61-260 647**

**Cell: 081 353 5617**



pointment, Dr. Haufiku was well versed with the challenges the Health Ministry faced. It should be noted that Dr. Haufiku's independent thinking resulted in the deterioration of his relationship with the President. In February 2018 it was reported that President Geingob had reprimanded Dr. Haufiku for not complying with the decisions of Cabinet, of which he is the Chairperson, regarding the location of the construction of a N\$ 1 billion Academic Referral Hospital in the Oshana Region. Dr. Haufiku announced the proposed construction of the hospital, which was to serve patients in that region in May 2017. The project was rife with problems from the start. The first of these problems arose with the public debate on the location of the proposed hospital. Oshakati, Ondangwa and Ongwediva were considered. Dr. Haufiku was in favour of an alternative venue. This was not well received by President Geingob. Secondly, Dr. Haufiku expressed his dissatisfaction with President Geingob's interference with his official duties. Dr. Haufiku also questioned the wisdom

of budget cuts while Health Facilities under his watch had a shortage of medicines. Dr. Haufiku, in executing his mandate, called on private entities and individuals to assist in keeping the Eye Clinic from shutting its doors to needy Namibians. This was probably Dr. Haufiku's gravest error. The Minister was castigated for "tarnishing" the name of the Swapo Government. Furthermore, he was berated for telling the Nation of his achievements on National Television. Dr. Haufiku engaging the media and thanking Namibians for supporting his initiative gained the wrath of President Geingob.

This ultimately led to his dismissal on the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Dr. Haufiku got to hear of his dismissal through the media. Dr. Haufiku was replaced by Dr. Shangula, a Russian trained medical practitioner. It should be noted that Dr. Shangula was removed as Chairperson of the ruling party's Kalahari Holdings.

## *Minister Haufiku afgedank*

*Deur Jacobus Josob*

Dr. Bernhard Haufiku, 'n gekwalifiseerde en hoogs bekwame geneesheer, is as die Minister van Gesondheid in 2015 deur Sy Eksellensie, President Hage Geingob aangestel. Ná sy aanstelling het Dr. Haufiku, deur sy eweknieë beskryf as 'n onafhanklike denker, talloze uitdagings in die gesig gestaar om sy mandaat as minister van gesondheid doeltreffend uit te voer. Dr. Haufiku het voor sy aanstelling as 'n mediese dokter in beide die private en openbare gesondheids sektore gepraktiseers, dus was hy goed vertrouwd met die uitdagings wat die openbare esektore van gesondheid sou teekom. Dr. Haufiku se dat onafhanklike denke het bygedra tot die agteruitgang van sy verhouding met die president. In Februarie 2018 is berig dat President Geingob Dr. Haufiku berispe het omdat hy nie met die besluite van die Kabinet, waarvan hy die voorsitter was, Dit het verband gehou met die konstruksie van 'n Biljoen Namibiese Dollar Akademiese Verwysingshospitaal in die Oshana-streek. Dr. Haufiku het die aankondiging van die voorgestelde konstruksie van die hospitaal in

Mei 2017 gemaak. Die projek was van die begin af deurspek met problem. Die eerste probleme het ontstaan met die publieke debat oor die plek van die voorgestelde hospitaal. Oshakati, Ondangwa en Ongwediva is oorweeg. Dr. Haufiku was ten gunste van 'n ander lokaal. Dit is nie deur President Geingob goed ontvang nie. In die tweede plek het Dr. Haufiku vir President Geingob laat weet oor sy ontevredenheid met se inmenging met sy amptelike pligte. Dr. Haufiku het ook die wysheid van die begrotings sny bevraagteken, terwyl hospitale 'n tekort aan medisyne gehad het. Dr. Haufiku, in die uitvoering van sy mandaat, het 'n beroep op private entiteite en individue geloods om te help in die behoud van die oogklinik. Dit was waarskynlik Dr. Haufiku se grootste fout. Die Minister was berispe omdat hy volgens die President die Swapo regering se naam deur die modder gesleep het. Verder is hy ook berispe omdat hy op nasionale televisie sy prestasies as Minister met die nasie gedeel. Dr. Haufiku is op 19 Desember deur President Geingob afgedank. Hy het van sy afdanking deur die media te hore gekom. Dr. Haufiku is deur Dr. Shangula, 'n Russiese opgeleide geneesheer vervang wat as voorsitter van die regerende party se Kalahari Holdings verwyder was.

**Link to the Namibian Inquiry**

**[Namibianinquiry.com](http://Namibianinquiry.com)**



*Former Health Minister, Dr. Bernhard Haufiku*

## Is there hope for the poor?

By Staff Reporter

Driving through Windhoek's less affluent suburbs one is struck by the sheer number of people, including teens (whom one can safely assume are school dropouts) and vagrants, loitering outside shebeens and shops or roaming the dusty streets aimlessly. Such scenes are not visible in the more opulent suburbs. For many of them

distribution of food hampers. The poverty stricken should be equipped with the necessary resources to sustain themselves economically. Education is key to ensuring a society free from despair. The Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, with the controversial Minister Katrina Hanse-Himarwa at the helm, has failed

## Is daar hoop vir ons armes?

Deur Staff Verslaggewer

Om deur Windhoek se minder welgestelde voorstede te ry, word mens getref deur die blote aantal mense, insluitende tieners (wat aangeneem kan word skooluitvallers) en haweloses wat buite die sjebiens en winkels rond sit of doelloos in stowwerige strate rondloop. Sulke tonele is nie sigbaar in die welgestelde voorstede nie.

arms moet toegerus wees met die nodige hulpbronne om hul ekonomies te onderhou. Onderwys is die sleutel om 'n samelewing vry van wanhoop te verseker. Die Ministerie van Onderwys, Kuns en Kultuur, met die omstrede Minister Katrina Hanse-Himarwa aan die roer, het die land misluk. Die onlangse Graad 10 en 12 resultate dra getuigskrif van 'n onderwysstelsel wat



### *An informal settlement in Windhoek*

this has become a daily routine. Unemployment, poverty and despair have become their reality. It is a well known fact that such adverse conditions lead to an increase in crime.

The question which needs to be asked is who failed them? Do we hold the public officers clad in head to toe sequins sipping on their morning espressos in their lofty office suites accountable? Or our spendthrift City Fathers tasked with ensuring public amenities and facilities in the Capital?

Geingob established the toothless Ministry of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare and appointed Bishop (Emeritus) Dr. Zephania Kameeta as Minister in 2015. To date the Ministry has failed dismally in eradicating poverty. Poverty eradication should entail more than the

the nation. The recent Grade 10 and 12 results bear testimony to an education system which is in total disarray. It should be noted that learners that have failed the recent Grade 10 examinations will be compelled to redo Grade 9 before being eligible to rewrite their Grade 10 examinations. I find this to be nonsense. There has been a steady decline year-on-year in the number of High School graduates eligible to pursue studies at Institutions of Higher Learning. Are our learners being educated or uneducated?

The CoW is rife with infighting. Projects to uplift the vulnerable and those subjected to abject poverty are not prioritized. Shady land deals are being facilitated thereby creating an environment where the "haves" are getting more and the "have nots" are simply not being catered for.

Vir baie van hulle het dit 'n daaglikse roetine geword. Werkloosheid, armoede en wanhoop het hul realiteit geword. Dit is 'n bekende feit dat sulke ongunstige toestande tot 'n toename in misdaad lei.

Die vraag wat gevra moet word, is wie hulle misluk het? Hou ons die staatsamptenare in hulle aanskoulike kantore aanspreeklik? Of ons besturende stadse vaders wat die taak het om te verseker dat openbare geriewe en fasiliteite in die hoofstad beskikbaar is?

Sy Eksellensie, President Geingob het die tandlose Ministerie van Armoedevernietiging en Maatskaplike Welsyn gevestig. Hy het die Eerbare Biskop (Emeritus) Dr Zephania Kameeta as Minister in 2015 aangestel. Tot op datum het die Ministerie misluk om armoede uit te roei. Armoede uitwissing moet meer as die verspreiding van voedselhampers behels. Die

in totale wanorde is. Daar moet kennis geneem word dat leerders wat die onlangse Graad 10-eksamens nie geslaag het nie, verplig sal wees om Graad 9 te herhaal voordat hulle in aanmerking kom om hul Graad 10-eksamens te herskryf. Ek sien nie die logika in dit in nie. Daar is 'n bestendige afname in die aantal hoërskool gegradueerdes wat in aanmerking kom om studies by Instellings van Hoër Onderig te volg.

Die Windhoekse Munisipaliteit is verdeel. Projekte om die kwesbare te help en diegene wat aan armoede onderworpe is, word nie geprioritiseer nie. Skaduige landaanbiedings word gefasiliteer om 'n omgewing te skep waar die "haves" meer kry en die "have-nots" maar dankbaar moet wees sou daar enige voorsiening vir hulle gemaak word.





## ***Open Letter to the Chief Executive Officer of TransNamib, Mr. Johnny Smith from Mr. Ben Serogwe***

This letter is written to you to address my concerns regarding the challenges you face as well as to offer advice on strategies which could be implemented to aid your company.

Mr. Smith, in the past tons of cargo were transported by rail from South Africa to the then South West Africa/Namibia which generated substantial income for TransNamib. From Windhoek the cargo was then transported by road to various destinations throughout the country.

Presently most goods are imported to Namibia from South Africa by road. Besides the carnage such trucks wreak on our national roads, the maintenance of these roads is costing the Treasury millions of Namibia Dollars which could be spent elsewhere.

Would it not be feasible to reintroduce this practise? Transport contractors are lining their pockets at the expense of TransNamib. I have it on good authority that our Founding Father is one such contractor.

Could Air Namibia not merge with TransNamib? Would it not make more sense to have one national transport company? It proved feasible in the past.

I hope you would heed my concerns as I would like to see TransNamib restored to its former glory.

**During the past festive season, Geingob sent in the army and Field Force to terrorise young persons on a homophobic campaign.**

**They beat young persons, tore earrings from their ears tearing the earlobes.**

**This is the latest attempt to reintroduce the Lubango tyranny in the country and to use intimidation for elections.**

## ***Brief aan die Hoof Uitvoerende Beampte van TransNamib, Mnr. Johnny Smith vanaf mnr Ben Serogwe.***

Hierdie brief is geskryf om kommer uit te spreek oor die uitdagings wat jy in die gesig staar, asook om advies aan te bied op strategieë wat jou maatskappy kan implementeer om u maatskappy te hulp. Mnr. Smith, in die verlede is tonne vrug per spoor vanaf Suid-Afrika na die destydse Suidwes-Afrika / Namibië vervoer wat aansienlike inkomste vir TransNamib ingebring het. Van Windhoek is die vrug dan per pad oor die hele land na verskeie bestemmings ver-

sprei. Tans word die meeste goedere per pad na Namibië vanuit Suid-Afrika ingevoer. Behalwe die chaos wat deur vrugmotors gesaai word kos die instandhouding van ons nasionale die Staat baie.

Sou dit nie haalbaar wees is om hierdie praktyk te hervestig nie? Vervoer kontrakteurs maak groot winste ten koste van TransNamib. Ek het dit op goeie gesag dat oud-President Sam Nujoma so 'n kontrakteur is. Kon Air Namibia en TransNamib nie saam smelt nie? Sou dit nie meer sin maak om een nasionale vervoermaatskappy te het nie? Dit het in die verlede gewerk. Ek hoop u sal na my bekommernisse luister want ek sal graag wil sien dat TransNamib tot sy vorige glorie herstel word.

## ***Editorial***

*SWAPO is a Stalinoid party: Stalinoid because it is not a true Stalinist party. It did not have its genesis in the working class struggle. It is a tribal organisation which was trained by the Stalinists.*

*It knows how to torture, how to use slogans to pretend to a socialist ideology.*

*But, its slogans and statements are meaningless. They are kept together by corruption and self-interest. The ministers and officials in terms of their training are not to solve a problem. The moment an official becomes conscientious, they remove him.*

*This is what happened to Dr Haufiku, a South African trained doctor, who for that reason is competent.*

*The hospitals and clinics will now move back to rotting away: theft of medicines, fake tenders and general theft.*

## A crucial debate ensues

John Appolis in the ensuing article takes issue with the SRWP, the workers' party brought into life by the National Union of Metal Workers of South Africa (NUMSA).

The critique is an undialectical exposition of the general position of the petit bourgeois left in South Africa. It ignores material reality and developments, material history and fact. It actually is an exposé of an overall orientation of the petit bourgeois left who found themselves in such childish past-times as entering bourgeois and tribal alliances in the pretext that it was there where the masses were. (It never occurred to them to 'enter' NUMSA!)

DIE WERKER answers Appolis within this incomplete extract of his article with bold italics.

DIE WERKER at the end puts its own criticism of the SRWP.



*economic and political interests of the working class and the bourgeoisie were irreconcilable.*

*The fact that this fact was formulated and expounded by NUMSA constitutes a watershed in South Africa's class politics, a gigantic step forward.*

*The founding of the SRWP finds itself on very, very firm historical and contextual grounds.*

*"NUMSA has drawn lessons (and is still drawing lessons) from the experience of 20 years of the "National Democratic Revolution" and since its December 2013 Special Congress where it split from the Tripe Alliance has charted a course to: reorganise the trade union movement on the basis of class struggle for workers' goals, mobilise trade unionists to make a stand in defence of their rights and organisations as workers and as representatives of the masses, Pillory the inability of Triple Alliance governments to secure what the Freedom Charter promised make political steps forward in drawing on the experience of workers' movements elsewhere, establish a United Front and work towards a new workers' party and draw up a practical programme to oppose the ruination of the economy and provide a path along which the masses can advance in struggle. [Bob Archer]"*

**What does the SRWP say about its formation?**

There is no position paper that outlines the perspective on the SRWP. The only documents that contain some perspective are the Manifesto of the SRWP and the party's constitution. However nowhere in the Manifesto is there any outline of the nature of the present period, the balance of forces, the state of the working class and its formations. Such an exposition could have assisted in contextualizing why comrades find that the SRWP is a necessary, immediate and concrete task

for the working class.

*The nature of the present period is imperialist. The balance of forces and the state of the working class were in general illustrated by massive demonstrations by the SAFTU in June this year. The message was clear: the South African working class is far from being defeated and this time they move under their own banner. An ominous spectre indeed for the bourgeoisie!*

What we encounter rather are generalities that could have been written at any stage of the development of the working class movement. Reading the Manifesto this is all one could find on this question:

*"All these ills ( of capitalism) and many more, we are convinced, can only be tackled and abolished by the South African working class organised as a socialist fighting block [sic] against capitalism, both at home and abroad.*

*To achieve this organization for Socialism, the working class must play their vanguard role in the struggle for a Socialist South Africa.....*

*We believe only Socialism, as espoused by Karl Marx and developed by subsequent genuine revolutionary Marxists such as Lenin, is the only viable alternative to the ongoing global savagery of the world capitalist system.*

*That the Programme of the Socialist Revolutionary Party is the abolition of the supremacy of the capitalist class, the organisation of workers into a revolutionary working class and the conquest of political power for a truly democratic, united, free and prosperous Socialist South Africa". ( my brackets)*

In essence what is being said is that: Capitalism is the problem

Socialism is the answer

Workers must be organised into a revolutionary vanguard party in the struggle for the conquest of power

This is the sum total of the perspective on the SRWP.

*This is untrue as pointed out above on the concrete historical and conjunctural basis NUMSA founded the SRWP.*

### A problem of formulae

This abstract and almost religious phraseology, on the need for the workers party is symptomatic of a formulaic approach to the question of the party. Because Lenin once said that in order to

## The Socialist Revolutionary Workers Party (SRWP):

### A major distraction

(John Appolis)

#### Introduction

NUMSA has now formed a party called the Socialist Revolutionary Workers Party (SRWP) and registered it to contest the 2019 national elections.

Many leftists have uncritically embraced the SRWP and joined it. This is not surprising as the formation of a workers' party is seen by many leftists as a panacea to all problems confronting the movement of the masses.

It is my contention that the formation of the SRWP is a distraction and not the appropriate call in the present conjuncture. Also the SRWP is being formed with no regard to history, context and working class experience.

*This is simply untrue. The party was formed as a direct result of the conceptions that arose after the Marikana Massacre as formulated in the December 2013 NUMSA Resolutions.*

*Marikana reflected a long history of migrant labour transforming into a permanently urbanized section of the working class. This development increasingly undermined tribal control and obscurantism in the service of the South African bourgeoisie (in particular mining). The above developments actually require proper Marxist study to be understood in their full importance which seems to me is very central to South African class developments.*

*This was a graphic and brutal practical exposition of the history, context and working class experience that the social,*





overthrow capitalism and usher in socialism the working class needs a revolutionary vanguard party, the task is to build such a party regardless of time and context. Such an approach absolves the person from taking the time to make a concrete analysis of whether the conditions (especially the subjective conditions) are ripe for the formation of a workers' party. ***The question of the need for a workers' party to take the struggles of the working class forward has long been settled by Marxists.***

This formulaic approach to the party question is also characteristic of propagandistic politics. Propagandism is a type of politics where a group believes that through calls, it can make the rest of the working class leap from where it is politically to the group's "profound and more advanced" understanding of what the tasks are. Although conditions for the SRWP are non-existent, it is believed that forming the party now would allow the masses to jump from where they are in terms of consciousness to where the party leadership is.

Like all other forms of propagandism, there is something elitist about this type of politics. Instead of putting at the centre, the building and strengthening of existing defensive organisations of the working class such as the South African Federation of Trade Unions (SAFTU), there is a pre-occupation with taking the masses across river Jordan – where the task is to build the SRWP.

There is nothing wrong in discussing the idea of workers party within the ranks of the working class and poor. In fact it is necessary to discuss with activists and militants how previously and on different occasions, the working class in conditions similar to those that working class face resorted to the establishment of workers parties. These discussions will have to deal with successes and failure of workers parties to resolve political problems of the working class. This method is differ-

ent from the formulaic approach where it has been decided that the solution is a SRWP and that what only remains is to bring along "uninformed masses" to the party's political conclusions.

***Marxism has long time ago reached the hitherto irrefutable conclusion that the crisis of humanity is the crisis of working class leadership:*** "The world political situation as a whole is chiefly characterized by a historical crisis of the leadership of the proletariat.

The economic prerequisite for the proletarian revolution has already in general achieved the highest point of fruition that can be reached under capitalism. Mankind's productive forces stagnate.

The historical crisis of mankind is reduced to the crisis of the revolutionary leadership.

***In a situation like Southern Africa where the attacks of the bourgeoisie on the working class through austerity and corruption has reached an unmitigated crescendo, and their clear statement that the armed State will be used against the working class despite the three-partite alliance, it is ludicrous to renounce the immediate founding of a working class party.***

### **Conditions are not ripe for the SRWP**

We have not yet arrived at the point where question of power is on the agenda. If we understand working class power we would realize that working class power resides primarily on its mobilised strength. Working class power also lies on the class's vision of itself as alternative rulers. This is how workers and youth arrived in the 1980s to the question of alternative power.

Working class organisations such as unions, civics, women's groups and youth organisations were strong in that period. In addition to building its mass organisations, the proletariat had also forged organs of self-rule like street committees

and people's courts. This class - organised in its mass organisations and active in embryonic organs of self-rule - did not only rally other oppressed strata, it struggled on the basis of a different political programme. The working class movement in the 1980s, knew that it wanted socialism as an alternative economic system.

***This is a telling but false statement that the proletariat had also forged self-rule like street committees and people's courts. Against whom were these so-called people's courts directed??? They were directed against the working class itself. It is cynical to posit the dictatorship of the proletariat as macabre, heinous and undemocratic tribal crimes against the proletariat itself: summary executions, matches, tires and petrol!***

***The dictatorship of the proletariat is directed against the bourgeoisie as the bourgeoisie directs its dictatorship against the working class. But, it is not a caricature of class rule in shanty towns. It is the rule of the working class over the bourgeoisie.***

***The historical truth is that the bourgeoisie of South Africa(Southern Africa) used a macabre control mechanism over the lower sections of the proletariat by means of tribal hierarchies. This, the petit bourgeois left has glorified as self-rule of the proletariat!!!***

***The Cosatu was part of the bourgeois alliance between the tribal ANC and the liberal bourgeoisie in which restitution of land and labour rights were not only subordinated to national non-racial unity, but was displaced by an agreement of an economic compromise between the tribal and petit bourgeois and the liberal bourgeoisie which would outlaw same.***

***The pre-occupation of John Appolis with Cosatu seems a natural result for his resentment at the class independence politics of the NUMSA.***

### **DIE WERKER's critique of SRWP**

The central principle missed by the SRWP is that the South African working class is NOT ONLY the national leader of the working class. It is the regional vanguard of the class. Finance Capital is organised both internationally and regionally.

Deindustrialisation is a characteristic feature of capitalism under imperialism. In Southern Africa it is pursuing a scorched-earth policy: Zimbabwe, Angola, Congo, etcetera. It has direct bearing on South Africa.

The Workers International intends to comprehensively comment on Appolis's article.

## **INTERNATIONAL INQUIRY INTO THE MASS MURDERS OF SWAPO RE-SUMES**

Ms Erica Beukes of the Committee of Parents has announced that the inquiry will now resume and it will continue uninterruptedly. The Committee has written to the UN, Western Powers, the international media and all interested instances:

### **JOINT COMMITTEE**

#### **THE COMMITTEE OF PARENTS and THE TRUTH & JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

[ericabeukes@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ericabeukes@yahoo.co.uk) tel: 061-260 647 P.O. Box 3349 Windhoek

7 January 2019

KINDLY take notice that the Committee of Parents herewith resume the inquiry process on the following issues and kindly take notice that it will be uninterrupted from here on:

The SWAPO leadership until present refuse to account for killings and disappearances. This constitutes in itself a continuing Crime against Humanity.

The SWAPO leadership refuse to account for whereabouts of remains of murdered refugees.

The SWAPO leadership continues to slander and defile both the murdered refugees and the survivors.

The SWAPO regime which stands accused of Crimes against Humanity and mass murder of Namibians presides over a purported democracy.

On 28 September 2016 the Attorney-General on behalf of the President of Namibia wrote to the Chairman that he was instructed "to deal with the matters personally due to their sensitive and serious nature", undertaking to work with us for a "longterm" solution. He assured us of his highest esteem. We attach a copy of the missive hereto.

The United Nations Committee Against Torture (CAT) in 1916 instructed the Namibian government to "ensure that all allegations of acts of torture and ill-treatment are investigated, prosecuted and punished, including those committed during the liberation struggle and the state of emergency of August 1999." This had to be done by December 2017.

Despite these assurances of the "highest esteem" the president abandoned the esteem of his office and urged Namibians to be the united defence against individuals and initiatives that divide and open old wounds and scars caused by successive conflicts for longer than a century, despite the fact that we had reminded him that "on 28 September 2016 the attorney-general on your instruction and behalf wrote of the 'serious matters' that you would 'consult with the people involved' and develop a long-term solution so as to best resolve all the issues that the commission raised."

This lack of good faith characterised not only shocking unprofessional, cynical, unethical and immoral attitude of the SWAPO and its president, but the entire mass murder, torture, rape and inhuman incarceration of Namibians in holes in the earth under the most appalling conditions thinkable. The Lutheran World Federation came in 2017 in Namibia to boast about its role in the 'liberation' of Namibia.

But, since 1990 the following has happened: The SWAPO regime and the UNHCR refused to account for disappeared Namibians and the location of those murdered, stuffed in Aardvark holes and thrown off cliffs in Angola; The pension fund of the public servants were being raided by the SWAPO leadership in particular former President Sam Nujoma since 1996; Bushmen were persecuted and executed; Caprivians were being tortured since 1999 in exactly the same horror manner as in the Lubango holes in Angola; a paramilitary unconstitutional force the Field Force was founded by Mr Nujoma with a homophobic and terror agenda trying to reestablish the Lubango Terror within Namibia; Over the past 2018 Christmas and festive season President Geingob released the army and the Field Force to terrorise especially young persons ripping earrings from them tearing their earlobes.

This situation would not have been possible if it were not for the underlying support from the EU and the western foreign missions in this country. It is a scandalous situation.

The Southern African Indigenous Alliance (SAIPA) wrote to the President in June 2018, "**The cessation of hostilities in the Namibian armed conflicts were resolved on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 1990 after a long protracted war to establish the Republic of Namibia, as a consequence of the war of Independence. This period has exposed huge atrocities and violations of basic Human Rights that undermined its membership of the United Nations, SADC, the African Union and the Common Wealth of Nations.**"

Instead of heeding this damning statement that as mass-murderers the SWAPO Government shall not be a member of the UN, the SADC, the Commonwealth, the African Union, it went on to continue its personalised vendetta against the chairman by cutting off water and electricity permanently to her home.

This situation is set to continue in that the Government with the approval of the EU and the western powers uses Indian EVM's through which fraudulent elections are conducted.

It is not only a question of the fraudulent use of technology.

The sovereignty of Namibia as an independent State is being destroyed in that Indian technicians are conducting the elections with no Namibian technicians, scientists and engineers being allowed to investigate and operate these machines. Proof has been submitted to the Electoral Commission of the fraudulent use of the EVM's with no response. The courts are not independent and are being manipulated and abused by the SWAPO regime.

The consequence is that this regime is trying to reinstall the Terror Regime of the Lubango with no possibility that it will address the restitution of basic rights to account for the missing and murdered people.

We demand from the UN to arrest this spiralling situation and to resolve the issue by complying with our demands for restitution.

Yours sincerely,



Erica Beukes  
Chairman