



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

TRIBUTE TO OUR LATE PRESIDENT, HIS EXCELLENCY DR HAGE GOTTFRIED GEINGOB: 3 AUGUST 1941 – 4 FEBRUARY 2024: STATEMENT DELIVERED BY JOHN MUTORWA, MP; DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT (MWT); ON TUESDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2024, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA.

1.1 INTRODUCTION:

- (a) I believe in the saying that: the greatness of a human being is NOT fundamentally or necessarily appreciated, measured; NOR valued by what that particular human being, says or does, about or for



himself or to herself. Yes, it is true, that we all work for our own sake and for our immediate families' sustenance and livelihoods. Greatness is largely determined, appreciated, remembered and valued by WHAT other people say; what other people appreciate about, what someone has done or is doing to them; for them; or about them! Actions speaks much louder than mere words!

- (b) Comrade Speaker, Honourable Colleagues; Members of the National Assembly; Yes, and it is so true that: life is about making efforts to earn an INCOME, from different sources, to live from. But, more importantly and very significantly: life is also about making an everlasting positive contribution and positive impact; from which, obviously: oneself and more poignantly many other human beings will live from; in both the short, medium and long terms.

1.2 QUOTES FROM SOME BOOKS:

- (a) "For making progress, in our march towards this Vision 2030, we would need to meet successfully a number



of strategic challenges as follows: 5. Improving old age pensions; 10. Establishing a moral and ethical society, where violence, drunkenness, crime, corruption, and nepotism, are anathema,” (quoted from: NAMIBIA: A DECADE OF PEACE, DEMOCRACY AND PROSPERITY: 1990-2000, page 7). The word ANATHEMA, means: a thing or an idea, which you hate, because it is the opposite of what you believe in.

- (b) His Excellency, Dr Nangolo MBUMBA, President of the Republic of Namibia; at that time, when he penned or wrote the FOREWORD, to a book, entitled: DR. HAGE GEINGOB – A PORTRAIT: PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA (2015 – 2020); was Namibia’s Vice-President, amongst others, stated the following: “President Geingob, is a kind human being; an accessible and dignified person. We have come to humbly know him as “HAGE”. He is a courageous “Son of the Namibian Soil”, a teacher, a freedom fighter, an Administrator, a Political Scientist, a drafter of the Constitution and a Statesman, par excellence.”



(c) In his own words, H.E. Dr Hage G. Geingob, in his STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS, page 5, delivered on Thursday, 16 March 2023, amongst others, unambiguously and lucidly state the following: “the success of our Country, does not depend on one singular person; but on each and every citizen; each and every son and daughter of our soil, must become a catalyst for development and change. As a Leader, I can dream and point towards the direction of prosperity, but is up to all of us, as a collective, to actualize these dreams and manifest them into reality; because success can only be achieved, when the People are united behind a common purpose.”

1.3 As a Public Servant, Public Office Bearer or Politician; I have worked under the overall guidance, tutelage and supervision; of Presidents Sam NUJOMA, Hifikepunye POHAMBAMBA and Hage GEINGOB: in the different political positions or portfolios, in which I served, from: 1 August 1990 to the present. Thirty Four (34) years! In this honourable House, H.E. Dr Hage Geingob, was our Prime Minister, Leader of Government Business, Chief Whip. I entered the National Assembly, at the age of THIRTY FIVE



(35) and have benefitted, tremendously from the guidance and leadership of Dr Mose Tjitendero, Dr Theo Ben Gurirab and Professor Peter Katjavivi – as Speakers; and Dr Bishop Zaphania Kameeta, Willem Konjore, Doreen Sioka and now Loide Kasingo as Deputy Speakers.

1.4 Finally! Your Excellency, Dr Hage G. GEINGOB: death has taken your Body – Your physical presence away from us. Your Spirit, your legacy and your good work, as a Citizen as a Statesman of our Country, will never die. For us, as mortal human beings, death is and shall remain an unwelcome robber and thief. As believers, we do believe that: death is but, a transition from one life to another.

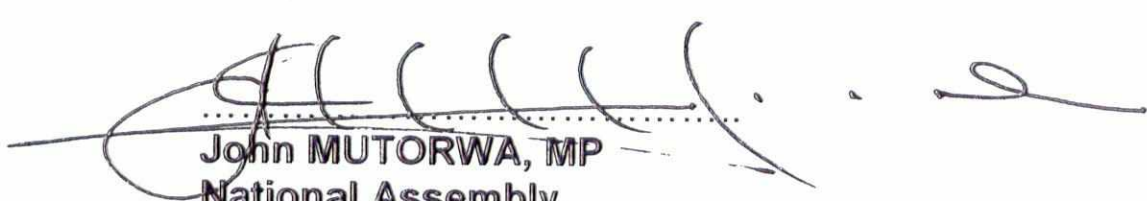
The best index to a person's character, is how he or she treats people who cannot do him or her any good; and how he or she treats people who cannot fight back. President Geingob had that character. He has taken that character with him to eternity.

1.5 I conclude my Tribute to our Late President, Dr Hage G. Geingob, with a quotation, from the Late Prime Minister JAWAHARLAL NEHRU'S eulogy, delivered in that Country's (India) Constituent Assembly, in New Delhi; on 2



February 1948, on the death of the great Mahatma Ghandi, when he, amongst others, stated the following: "He has done good and all over India, there is a feeling of having been left desolate and forlorn. All of us, sense that feeling. I do not now know when we shall be able to get rid of it. And yet, together with that feeling, there is also a feeling of proud thankfulness, that it has given to us, of this generation, to be associated with this mighty person. In ages to come, centuries and maybe Millenia after us; people will think of this generation, when this man of God trod on earth to us, and will think of us who, however small, could also follow his path and treat the holy ground, where his feet had been. Let us be worthy of him", (quoted from the book: LEND ME YOUR EARS; GREAT SPEECHES IN HISTORY: Editor: William SAFIRE, 1997 Edition, page 210).

1.6 May the Soul of President Geingob rest in Perfect and Eternal Peace! Amen.



John MUTORWA, MP
National Assembly,
Windhoek, Namibia,
Tuesday, 13 February 2024

