

THE MESSIANIC FEEDING OF THE MASSES

An Analysis of John 6 in the Context of Messianic Leadership
in Post-Colonial Zimbabwe

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APPENDICES

APPENDICES

Appendix 1

Notes from Zimbabwean Papers (The Herald, Kwayedza, The Sunday Mail, The Chronicle, Daily News, Newsday, The Standard, The Financial Gazette, The Independent) on Chiefs, Mugabology and the Feeding Topic

The Sunday Mail, “Chiefs to play active role in governance-President”, 18 October 2009

The Sunday Mail reporter narrated that, as President Robert Mugabe was addressing hundreds of Zvimba residents gathered to witness the installation of Mr Stanley Urayayi Mhondoro as Chief Zvimba at Murombedzi growth point in Mashonaland West yesterday, he ruled out the neutrality of chiefs in the governance of the country. Mugabe believes that, traditional leaders should be active political players in assisting Government to determine and shape appropriate policies for national development. He was quoted saying: “If we do not consult chiefs on governance, whom do we consult? As custodians of the land, natural resources and culture, chiefs had to jealously guard these. You must ensure that the land is not grabbed away from you via the backdoor through this other party.”

The Herald, “ZANU-PF, Traditional Leaders inseparable, Says Mujuru”, 04 November 2009

Addressing a conference running under the theme: “Traditional Leaders-Custodians of Our Values and Partners in Development, Land Our Heritage”; Vice President Joyce Mujuru said before she joined the liberation struggle, she consulted a chief and a spirit medium for guidance and because of that she would always respect traditional leaders as custodians of the African culture.

The Financial Gazette, “Sustaining Traditional Culture”, 20 May 2011

The African traditional society is very communal, with great importance attached to the family unit, the village, and the community. A chief tops the hierarchy of those who preside over villages, clans, and tribes. The

chiefs system remains a key feature in many African countries' traditional way of life including Zimbabwe. The chief is the custodian of several villages, assisted by the elders, commonly referred to as the chief's council, to maintain traditional customs and deal with disputes. He also acts for the ancestors as the custodian of the community. Rituals and a network of other mutual obligations also join families to the chief and the community in general. Thus, in both patrilineal and matrilineal societies, small village to the large community, the position of the chief is recognised.

The position of a chief is hereditary, in the majority of cases along the male line-whereby a deceased chief is succeeded by a kinsman though not necessarily his own son. This tradition still influences African societies today. In the majority of cases the chief embodies traditional authority. He is selected from the senior members of the lineage or several lineages that are considered to be among the founders of the community or ethnic group. Decisions on critical issues, such as those made in the chief's court, are based on wide discussions and consultations with elders' representative groups of both the accused and complainant. The legitimacy of traditional authority, therefore, has usually been based on public consensus sanctioned by custom. Although chiefs or other authority figures might come from designated families or clans, the interest of the common people is never ignored. As custodians of the political and spiritual authority of the unit, the chief and his elders ensure the security of the family. The Chief through the *Zunde RaMambo* functioned as a mutual aid society in which hungry members had the right to receive assistance from it in case of need.

Daily News, “MDC-T condemns coercion of chiefs”, 11 November 2010

The MDC-T spokesman Nelson Chamisa has expressed grave concern over the coercion of traditional leaders throughout the country by ZANU-PF to rally behind President Robert Mugabe. The Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP) reported that Chiefs Gurajena and Zimuto were respectively demanding \$70 or two goats and \$30 as fines for villagers who refused to buy ZANU-PF cards or attend ZANU-PF rallies. The ZPP reported that, more than 60 families under chiefs Gurajena and

Zimuto in Masvingo North constituency have been threatened with eviction.

The Standard, “*Sunday Opinion: Like Smith, Mugabe is abusing Chiefs*”, 24 April 2011

ZANU-PF’s malevolent abuse of Zimbabwean traditional chiefs will end one day, even though the regime has perfected the art of using chiefs for their own political gains as inherited from the Ian Smith’s regime. After realising how sacred traditional chiefs were regarded in their communities, Smith saw gains in illicitly using them as his political superintendents in the rural areas. These regime appointees were used not only to spy on freedom fighting activities but also to illegally kill the spirit of democracy among the blacks who were the majority. However, little did we know that the Zanu PF government would use the same dirty tactics to silence democratic voices in independent Zimbabwe.

Hefty and unexplained benefits are being dished to the chiefs in an effort to make them pliable. Last year we were informed by The Herald that the chiefs were allegedly satisfied with President Mugabe and did not want anyone except Mugabe to lead this country. The Sunday Mail of October 31-November 06 2010, just like the aforesaid Smith newspaper, carried the headline ‘Chiefs want President Mugabe for life’. The paper alleged that chiefs, led by their president Fortune Charumbira, had resolved to have Mugabe for life presidency. If chiefs can appoint someone for life presidency, so why are we wasting precious going for an election?

Newsday, “*Unite to Oust Mugabe-Tekere*”, 04 October 2010

Hospitalised veteran nationalist and Zanu PF founder Edgar Tekere, whose memoirs triggered heated public debate, has urged the two MDC formations which split in 2005 over irreconcilable differences stemming from participation in the then new Senate, to reunite and vigorously fight President Robert Mugabe. The luminary of Zimbabwe’s struggle for independence told NewsDay that the one-party state mentality was “highly addictive” and needed detoxifying.

Kwayedza, ‘*Zunde remapositori roraramisa ruzhinji*’ (The Zunde of the Apostles sustains many), 04 February 2010

Munda weZunde reVadzidzi unotungamirirwa nechechi yeJohane Masowe Vadzidzi VaJesu veChishanu woraramisa ruzhinji rwevanhu vanouya kuzorapwa pamasowe aMudzidzi Juwa. Mudzidzi Juwa vakati “Nzira yokuriritira varwere ndakaiwana patsika yeZunde raMambo. Ini semubereki vana ava ndinovabata sevana vangu ndichivapa kudya pamwechete Sezvakitwa naJesu kupa vane Nzara chikafu, pazuva rimwechete vanhu vanobika sadza pano vanodarika 500, husavi vanotenga voga.” (The field of the Johane Masowe Vadzidzi VaJesu WeChishanu sustains patients of Mudzidzi Juwa. Disciple Juwa said “The feeding scheme was adopted from the known Zunde raMambo concept. As a parent, I treat my patients as my children, giving them food.....Just like Jesus in feeding hungry people, approximately 500 people are fed every day, though people buy their relish)

The Chronicle, “*Chief Mataruse Plans Irrigation Scheme for Isiphala seNkosi/Zunde RaMambo*”, 25 August 2009

Chief Mataruse of Mberengwa plans to cultivate crops under irrigation for the Isiphala seNkosi/Zunde RaMambo to avoid a situation whereby the Isiphala seNkosi/Zunde RaMambo harvest is affected by drought. When chief Mataruse was interviewed by The Chronicle, he said that, the unique and ambitious Zunde RaMambo project would help orphans and the less privileged in his area. Chief Mataruse said all the people from the 16 villages under his chieftainships would be assisted during times of drought as in ancient times.

Dailynews, *Starving Villagers trade Daughters for Maize*, 11 October 2010

As hunger wrecks havoc in arid Masvingo province, some desperate and starving villagers in Chikomedzi in the Low-veld district of Chiredzi are giving their daughters away in marriage. In a visit to Chikomedzi last week, the Daily News learnt with shock that some villagers claiming to have harvested very little maize last season due to poor rains and input shortages are exchanging girls as young as 14 to elderly businessmen for maize or maize meal. Hlalati Baloyi said “We have no option that is why we are trading our daughters this because we can’t let the rest of the

family starve to death”. Chief Chilonga from the same district was quick to defend the practice by his people saying “it is part of tradition called *kuroodza mwana* or marrying your child which is done during crisis like drought. We can’t let our families die when tradition allows us to give away our daughters in marriage”.

The Herald, *Khaya Moyo calls European Union ‘criminal gang’, 06 March 2010*

ZANU-PF national chairman Cde Simon Khaya Moyo has described the European Union as a “gang of criminals” that imposed sanctions on Zimbabwe as punishment for economically empowering its people by giving them land as done by President Mugabe. He said “Their sanctions are illegal. If they were legal, why didn’t they go to UN? Our sovereignty can never be compromised because of the externally imposed impediments.”

Dailynews, *Hungry Mwenezi Villagers survive on baboons, 01 October 2010*

The baboon population is under threat of being wiped out in Mwenezi as desperate villagers have resorted to eating the human-like wild animal to avert hunger and starvation, game ranchers in the area have revealed. Hunger and starvation continue to dog thousands of villagers in the arid district, forcing residents to survive on wild fruits, animals and roots, following poor agricultural season caused by low rainfall and a myriad of artificial problems including the shortage of inputs. National parks officials in Mwenezi expressed concern over the depreciation of the baboon population in the district conservancies as poaching has suddenly increased with villagers claiming that they have no option except to survive on baboons that roam around villages. A National Parks official in Mwenezi, Edmond Garwe said “We are experiencing a rare form of poaching here. This is our first time to realise that people eat baboons.”

The Zimbabwean, *Churches ordered to display Mugabe next to Jesus, 27 May 2008*

ZANU-PF militia in Mberengwa in the Midlands province are forcing Church leaders to display portraits of Robert Mugabe inside Churches.

Members of the militia, along with war veterans, visited mostly Lutheran and Roman Catholic Churches in the district and told leaders to display Mugabe portraits or posters next to pictures of Jesus. Any Church found to have refused the order would be closed, the gangs threatened.

Newsday, ‘Don’t Politicise Food’, 14 June 2011

Former ZIPRA cadre Agrippa Madlela has called for a ban on use of food hampers to lure voters during election campaign periods. Madlela described dangling food hampers in front of hungry voters as “psychological violence”. “Food and other material donations by political parties in the run-up and during elections must be banned,” he said. “This is psychological violence to the electorate who may feel threatened by the situation if they decide to vote against those who give them food. Parties without material donations but which have clear policies that may promote progress in the country are shunned.” Madlela said those with more access to resources always win even if they do not have sound election manifestos. ZANU-PF has been accused of doling out food hampers during elections while at the same time barring non-governmental organisations from carrying out the exercise. But Madlela said: “They are just resorting to vote-buying through food donations. If it is not vote-buying, it is violence to force people into voting for them.”.

The Zimbabwean, *Food Aid: How ZANU-PF manipulates the System*, 10 December 2009

All non-governmental organisations (NGOS) intending to offer any humanitarian assistance in the rural districts of Zimbabwe must first register their work with the local government organs, most of whom are inherited colonial structures dominated by ZANU-PF functionaries who have faithfully and systematically sidelined perceived opponents of the tyrannical regime. Most of them hold the requisite qualifications but they were largely recruited by the outgoing ZANU-PF regime and have been diligent in propagating that party’s policies. Food aid distribution is done with the help of traditional leadership headed by a chief. Many Zimbabweans will remember that all chiefs received cars, generators and had their homes electrified by President Robert Mugabe’s previous government in order to bribe them into wooing the electorate to vote

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ZANU-PF in any election. The chiefs then in turn appoint various headman and village heads who are obviously loyal, answerable and take strict orders from them. In districts dominated by ZANU-PF, beneficiaries are still being ordered to bring ZANU-cards and attend ZANU-PF political gatherings. If the status quo continues to prevail, then all perceived opponents of Mugabe will starve to death.

The Zimbabwean, *ZANU-PF denies villagers Food*, 02 October 2009

Hundred of hungry Zimbabwean villagers are being denied food handouts and forced to denounce their own parties in return for assistance as marauding ZANU-PF militants continue to wage war of attrition against perceive enemies, a new report by the Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP) revealed last week. ZPP said of the 1335 incidents of political violations recorded during the month of July, about 493 cases or 37 percent were of people who were harassed, intimidated or physically assaulted while trying to access food assistance. Incidents of harassment, discrimination, and violence continue to haunt the distribution of humanitarian and food assistance. About 44 percent of the cases involved discriminations in areas relating to food relief, government subsidized food, tillage support, input distribution and medical treatment while 42 percent were harassments involving incidents in which people were forced to chant slogans, denials of food and humanitarian assistance sourced from non-governmental organisations, denounce their parties, attend political meetings and to produce party cards. In Midlands and Mashonaland West, humanitarian and food relief interventions were generally viewed with suspicion and closely monitored by war veterans and ZANU-PF officials.

The Herald, *Don't Politicise Food Aid: WFP*, 19 November 2009

The World Food Programme has warned agents distributing its food in Zimbabwe to desist from interfering in the country's politics, ordering them to carry out their operations through Government structures. This emerged on the sidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organisation's summit which ended here yesterday: Agriculture, Mechanisation and Irrigation Development Minister, Joseph Made said President Mugabe disclosed to Ms Sheeran that he was dismayed by actions of some non-

governmental organisations in Zimbabwe that were meddling in the country's politics. He said the Government had information showing that the NGOs in question had been campaigning for particular parties and using food as a political weapon to topple the Government. He said the WFP executive director responded by saying all their food aid should be distributed through Government structures. He said NGOs should be made aware that food aid from United Nations agencies was under Government's custodianship.

Assaulting chiefs taboo: Charumbira



Chief Charumbira

and leaders of political parties in the inclusive Government preaching the gospel of peace, but this seems to have fallen on deaf ears," he said. MDC-T said Chief Charumbira had tried to vain to destroy the institution of traditional leadership in the ongoing constitution-making process. He added that the Matutu case was going to test the importance the judiciary attaches to traditional leaders. Chief Serima has barred MDC-T from conducting rallies in his area of jurisdiction until the matter has been addressed at national level.

In an interview last Friday, Chief Serima said he was now living in fear because of the rowdy behaviour of Matutu and his "gang". "My life is at stake and I feel very threatened by Matutu because he said they discussed my name at their provincial meeting in Masvingo."

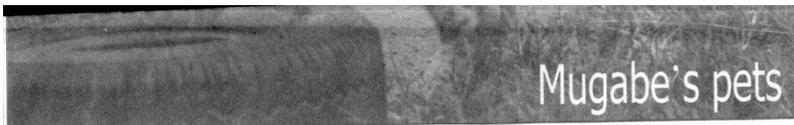
"He said I was the major stumbling block to MDC-T's interests in Gutu West constituency," he said.

Herald Reporters
THE Chiefs Council of Zimbabwe has condemned the attack on Chief Serima by a gang of MDC-T youths who were allegedly led by youth minister Tshepo Masuku and Empowerment Deputy Minister Tongai Matutu.

The Chiefs Council president Chief Fombi Mafema Charumbira described Matutu's behaviour as a mockery to the inclusive Government. He said it was taboo for anyone to assault a traditional leader physically or verbally. He said traditional leaders should be accorded due respect. "Article 14 of the GPA talks about traditional leaders, and who they are in society in terms of the country's politics. As required by the GPA, we are non-partisan and neutral but not when under siege from certain political formations," he said.

He said Matutu's behaviour reflected the norms and values of his party — MDC-T. Chief Charumbira said Matutu had also belittled the work that was done by Jomtic since the formation of the inclusive Government. "We travelled around the country with Jomtic

Appendix 3, Daily News, 19 April 2011



JUNGLE KINGS: Mugabe's lion cubs, Hombarume and Mudyiwenyama are being kept at Harare's Lion and Cheetah Park

Daily News
Maxwell Sibanda
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
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19 April 2011

WHEN the United States and its allies invaded Iraq in 2003, one of their bizarre discoveries were six young lions and two cheetahs languishing in a private zoo of Saddam Hussein's eldest son, Uday.

Uday, known for his love of fierce animals, fast cars and beautiful women, owned several lions, tigers and cheetahs, some of them gifts from friendly foreign governments.

South African conservationist Lawrence Anthony who organised the operation said of the discovery: "It's nothing more than a macho game reserve," he said.

In Africa and indeed in Zimbabwe, ownership of animals is synonymous with honour and power.

The existing traditions and beliefs have brought forth myths associated with spirits.

It was interesting to learn that the love of animals extends to our own President Robert Mugabe. Mugabe owns two lion cubs that are being kept at Harare's Lion and Cheetah Park.

A guide at the park revealed that the two cubs were given to Mugabe at a function in Harare by Lion and Cheetah Park.

"The President asked us to look after the cubs until he collects

them. He actually named them Hombarume and Mudyiwenyama," said the guide.

Each animal within the African context possesses characteristics that are comparable to that of the personalities of high ranking people.

This is the reason why many chiefs and kings keep art that symbolises these animals.

In other countries the newly chosen chief is given a fox skin representing an agile thought, a lion skin representing strength and courage, and a leopard that represents clever and fast nature.

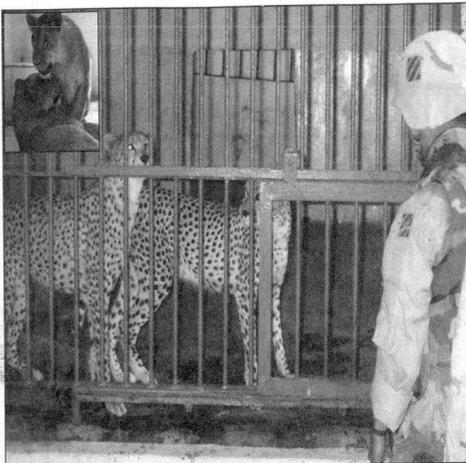
In Zaire now DRC, where the leopard is a royal symbol, only kings were allowed to sit on a throne covered with leopard skin.

Former dictator, the late Mobutu Sese Seko used to adorn a leopard skin cap much to the chagrin of international animal rights lobby groups while in Zimbabwe during the heady years of nationalist protests, it was very fashionable to put an animal skin hat and never to doff it in the presence of white colonialists as a sign of resistance.

The white administrator banned the wearing of the hats in the 60's. A headdress made of leopard skin was equal to a crown. A similar role has a leopard in beliefs of the Bamileke tribe of Cameroon.

Animals are often shown in African tribal art not only for their beauty and ornamental quality, but also for their potent symbolism.

For example, in ancient Benin



Saddam Hussein's eldest son Uday, owned several lions, tigers and cheetahs

only kings could hunt a leopard because, as king of beasts, this animal was a metaphor for the very institution of kingship.

On the other hand, animal art has given character to animal spirits which are believed to often disguise themselves as animals.

Zimbabwean stone sculptor Wilfred Tembo is best known for the special stone chair he carved

for the country's Speaker of the House of Assembly.

The gigantic chair, which is now in the House of Assembly, weighs about 500kg and its concept is unique and exclusive to Zimbabwe.

Tembo chose to use the lion symbol for the chair because that represents strength, kingship, sophistication and the spirits of Zimbabwe,

which are called mhondoro (lion).

The sculptor said the idea to make the chair was his personal initiative done out of the love of his country.

His works have attracted the attention of various galleries overseas. He has also produced a chair for the Korean ambassador to Zimbabwe.

Comms breakdown threatens Zunde raMambo projects

1F22, 4/11
COMMUNICATION breakdown between the National Aids Council and chiefs threatens the Zunde raMambo/Isiphala seNkosi project with the two parties waiting for the other to initiate engagement over provision of agricultural inputs.

The concept involves communities pooling resources and labour to produce crops, which go into a communal granary whose custodian is the chief.

This feeds the vulnerable groups such as people living with HIV and Aids, orphans and the elderly.

Over the years, NAC has been working with 269 chiefs who it provided with maize seed, fertilisers and beans under the Zunde raMambo project.

At the height of economic hardships which Zimbabwe experienced over the past decade, NAC had reduced the size of the assistance package as its partners such as Seed Co and Pannar Seed were failing to cope with national demand.

It is not clear when the communication breakdown between the chiefs and NAC started since the two had been working well together and producing satisfactory results

over the years.

In an interview on preparations for the 2010/11 summer cropping season, Chiefs' Council president Fortune Charumbira said NAC had not yet confirmed support for the programme.

"We are yet to get communication," he said.

However, communications director Ms Madeline Dube said the chiefs were yet to submit their requirements.

Although she refused to disclose the size of the budget that NAC had set aside for the programme, she said ways would be found to extend support.

"If they approach us we will see what we can do," she said.

Chief Charumbira said the programme had been successful last season and had guaranteed food security in a significant number of communities.

"The northern parts of the country that received good rains last season had good yields," he said. He said the programme continued to receive tremendous support with individuals donating crops to augment the communal granary. — New Ziana.

Appendix 5, Newsday, 21 March 2011

Community relations on the mend



Zaka villagers in *nhimbe* weeding activity

Heal Zimbabwe in collaboration with traditional leaders in Zaka carried 40 traditional weeding ceremonies (*nhimbés*) in the month of March and April 2011 with an aim to revisit and restrengthen community relations and cultures which had been eroded by years of political strife.

Hundreds of people of various political persuasions participated in the rituals which were held in batches of ten per week. The activities were spearheaded by traditional chiefs, sub chiefs and village heads. The basis for the activities is to redefine traditional leaders, roles and responsibilities as a source of unifying the community divided by political violence.

Villagers, as part of coming up with continuous peace initiatives and strategies, formed peace clubs per each Village Development Committee or Ward Development Committee – which comprise of 50 members consisting of two village heads, four church leaders, one sub chief, one police man, one traditional healer, ten women, ten youths, five elderly and eleven men from the entire

Appendix 6, The Herald, 18 October 1982



DIVISION WILL DESTROY US, SAYS MUGABE

ALL Zimbabweans should work together as one and avoid individualism, nepotism and tribalism, the Prime Minister, Cde Mugabe, said in Harare yesterday.

Addressing about 40 people from Zvimba, led by Chief Zvimba, at Zimabwe House, Cde Mugabe said divisionist attitudes were anathema to the development of the country.

HERALD REPORTER

"If you show divisionist attitudes, the enemy will come among us and will destroy us. Our forefathers fought together during the first Chimurenga war, and it is our duty to be united as well."

"Dissidents still have shallow mentality because they are encouraging tribalism in the country. Zimbabwe was not liberated for any one tribe but for

all and it is pertinent that she remains united," said the Prime Minister.

South Africa was involved in destabilisation activities against Zimbabwe because she feared that if a black majority government succeeded, it would undermine her apartheid policies and give encouragement to the liberation movements operating against her.

She had planted her spies among the people and Zimbabweans should

ensure that the enemies did not succeed in their activities.

The Prime Minister said the Government had money for resettlement projects and the people in Zvimba should help the Government by being involved in the programmes.

"There is no need for you to be squeezed in one area if there is land available for resettlement."

"The Government has about \$6 billion to spend on the building of schools, roads, clinics, boreholes and other development projects," said Cde Mugabe.

He urged people to be involved in self-help projects, especially in building schools and clinics. The Government wanted every child, no matter his background, to be educated.

"The money we have is not enough for us to build schools in every area and it is your duty to help build these schools."

Every area with development problems would be helped by the Government and no area would be left behind. People from Zvimba should be patient with the Government and should not expect much development at the expense of other areas of the country.

Thanking the people for a gift of traditional weapons they had presented to him, he said the gesture showed that the local culture was still being observed. Even though the weapons were no longer used in modern wars, they were still necessary in Zimbabwe.

"We need weapons to defend our country against those people who are working against us."

A set of traditional kitchen utensils were presented to the Prime Minister's wife, Cde Sally Mugabe.

Cde Mugabe, his wife and the Minister of Local Government and Town Planning, Cde Enos Chikwore, were entertained with traditional dancing by the visitors.

Messianic complex

... Response to Nathaniel Manheru's 'B

By Tendai Biti

It was always going to be a risk, the quest to engage in an honest and intellectual debate with Nathaniel Manheru.

My article published in The Herald of September 18 headed "It's all about the Zanu-PF DNA" was an attempt to rebuff the venal contentions and unambitious positions advanced by Nathaniel Manheru in his article published in the Herald of Saturday September 4 headed "Privileged proletarians: when are the beautiful ones not yet enough?"

In my article under discussion, I advanced the fundamental points that, first, nationalism had failed post-independent Africa and that as a matter of principle nationalism was never going to be a suitable instrument for the challenges of post-independent nation building. Second, power and the power retention agenda had cost post-independent Africa.

Thirdly, that the post-independent African state was primarily anti-capital and more importantly was viciously and brutally against the emergence of an ascent black bourgeoisie.

I further advanced the argument that it was important for Africa to construct a National Democratic State in the Leninist sense as a way of unleashing the true potential of the African State.

In simple terms, Africa needed a National Democratic Revolution. One in which democratic space was created, capital was allowed to grow to facilitate the growth of a powerful independent working class that not only would control the process and the product of its labour but so too the process of the evolution of the State.

A decent response to the above contentions would therefore have called for an analysis of the commissions and omissions of the post-independent African State.

Any defence would have made the strong point that the institutional structure of the post-independent state would not have produced any outcome other than that presented in the present balance sheet. Any defence would in fact have pointed out that despite the gloom, certain achievements were made.

In the case of Zimbabwe, the massive expansion in health and education made in the 1980s would have been a strong mitigating factor. Indeed the answer I expected would also have pointed out to the execution of the land reform programme as genuine attempt to altering the post colonial state.

Instead, what I got was a gigantic spew of vitriol of self-serving sophism narrated in shameless personal attack. Put in simple terms, where I expected mature and hallowed intellectual debate, I was met with verbosity and in overdose of intolerant diatribe. Where I expected an abstemious and serene response I got missiles thrown at me, pure undiluted violence.

In my book, violence is used by those that cannot meet the force of argument put against them and those that have no moral, spiritual or intellectual persuasion.

In short, violence is an admission of failure and an acknowledgement of lack of alternatives. Perhaps what is most unacceptable is that someone hiding under the protection of a pseudo-name then descends into personal attacks, which he himself is shielded from by the virtue of the nom de plume.

One cannot have his cake and eat it. An uncultured political commissar cannot masquerade as a political analyst, let alone a civil servant.

It is one's constitutional right to be a vivuzela and apologist of one's political master but it is a fundamental breach of other people's rights the academic crimes of ahistoricism, amnesia and arrogance. Indeed it is being selective, one's failure to appreciate the inadequacies of the post-independent state for whatever reason.

Recently, I was part of an audience who listened to the former president of Ghana the Right Honourable John Agyekum Kufour speaking at an African Capacity Building Foundation conference. He narrated how at post-independence the Ghana government, in which at the age of 30 he served as a deputy minister of Foreign Affairs, had reserves of 400 million pounds (the equivalence of two billion United State dollars) yet five years later had no reserves at all.

The economy had become a basket case and citizens of Accra erupted into jubilation as a coup was executed against the great Kwame Nkrumah. He made the point that "the transition to post colonial rule from the 1960s was largely a freedom fighting leadership which whatever achievements were made did not completely translate into the anticipated socio-economic development that swept on the continent".

This is an incontestable fact; which has been a boom industry among African scholars. The post-African State has been dissected by so many lu-



John Kufour

pected between public and private realms of governance were dispensed with.

Hence many African heads of state either declared themselves "Presidents for life", legislated other political parties out of existence and proscribed or circumscribed other institutions of dissent of social criticism such as the media, legislatures or even interested groups. Whether they came to power through the ballot or the bullet made little difference. They regarded their interest and their fortunes as synonymous with state interest".

The case of Zimbabwe is clear as a pike staff. By 2008, a complete meltdown of the country had been achieved, and all kinds of unsavoury records had been broken. Unemployment, inflation, growth rates, saving stock and poverty levels were not quantifiable.

This is as at the end of 2008 but long before this and long before the land reform programme; the wheels had already started coming off. By 1988, Zimbabwe had less than three months import cover, unemployment was over 30 percent and industrial capacity was not more than 50 percent hence the inevitable and unwise Economic Structural Adjustment Programme.

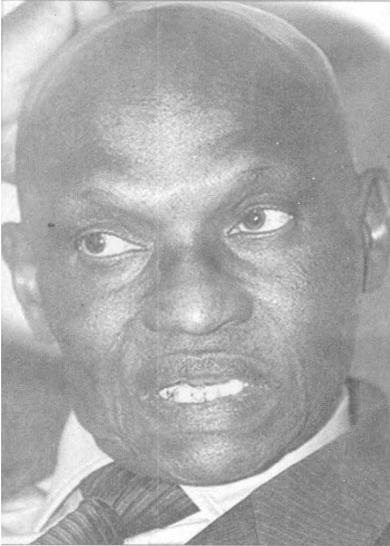
At this stage the concentration was on one thing and one thing alone, the construction of a one-party state and nothing else. Even as way back then, scholars such as Ibbo Mandaza, Geoffrey Herbst, Patrick Bond, Brian Rattopolous and Gary Mukandawire knew that "the revolution had lost its way".

Patrimonialism, clientelism, cronyism and rent-seeking behaviour had become the basic architecture of this totally privatised and totally militarised altered state.

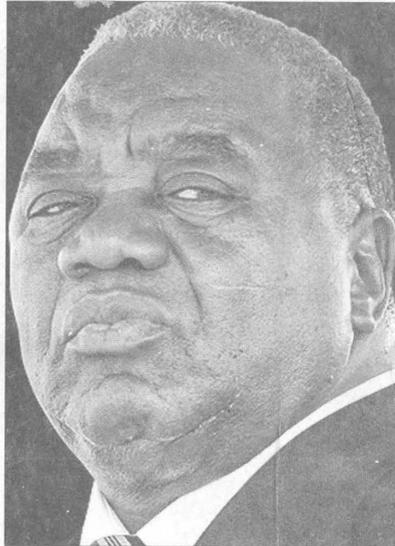
Under this circumstance of gross failure, the reorganisation of the people of Zimbabwe through a vehicle created to stop the collapse and the abuse was inevitable.

... bane of Zanu-PF

... ti: Afflictions of a messianic complex'



Abdoulaye Wade



Rupiah Banda

... colonial derived white capitalism. MDC was and remains a project in founding a neo-colony, not a post-colony, as Biti pretends. And the affinity of the black managerial class to those managing the political expression of that attempt, is both natural and inevitable".

The above statement is patronising and deprecating. It is reminiscent of the old white colonial attitudes against the black nationalists, black people and black Zimbabweans cannot think of themselves, the British have to do it for them.

Black people are happy with the status quo save from the influence of the Chinese and Russian communists, argued Ian Smith. Thus the millions of workers that formed, voted, have died and are still dying for the MDC are irrational attitudes of the British regime change and agenda.

This is downright egotical, self-serving patronage ironically being authored by a self proclaimed high priest of nationalism. What Nathaniel Manheru dismally fails to comprehend is that the post-colonial state of Zimbabwe has morphed into the attributes of a colonial state rather than a neo-colonial state.

The inevitable leap from nationalist to post-nationalist parties on the African continent is one whose foundation is not clearly understood. Former President Kufuor in the address I mentioned above spoke of the emergence of "transformational leaders" to take over from the herd boys (head boys) of exhausted nationalism.

Transformational leadership is not defined in terms of age or other spaces. It is simply a product of values and peoples trainings. The transformational leader is the cheetah defined by George Ayittey, a generation of leaders that have gone through management leadership, transparency among other things. A generation defined by the superior ground

... lazy slow and ornery.

The suggestion that the call for generational transition in Zimbabwe is in fact an MDC succession issue is both banal and comical madness. Morgan Tsvangirai is the undisputed and unquestionable leader of the MDC and the face of the democratic struggle in Zimbabwe.

However, if indeed there is anyone that needs open dialogue and discourse on succession, it is our friends in Zanu-PF. The succession issue in Zanu-PF is a ticking time bomb that has suffocated the potential of growth and regeneration in the same.

More than 12 persons are all vying to the throne, a direct product of entrenched mediocrity. When standards have been lowered and mediocrity has become a religion, there is no room for self-introspection; everyone feels he can own the crown.

What is even more deplorable is that we indeed have a succession battle when one would have thought that the same was resolved in the 2004 congress that elected Madam Joice Mujuru as Vice President. Even those whose mental faculties believe that diesel can ooze out from a mere rock in Chinhoi are also vying for the throne. Please! The fact that this corrosive battle is raging is not only a reflection of a culture of mediocrity but also the absence of a mindset bound by rules and traditions.

In the same unfortunate breath, I am accused of having a "messianic complex". Understand this to mean that I am obsessed with a self-serving and self-righteous complex of liberation. No Comrade Nathaniel, no. Look ye the splinter in your master's eyes.

It is they who have felt and behaved like messiahs as a result of leading and executing the liberation struggle. It is they who swim in the vast oceans of the doctrine of entitlement and impunity.

Indeed if the truth be told it is a settlement culture. It is the doctrine of the

Obert Mpfu outshines Mugabe praise-singers

BY NOBIA MATSHAZI

MINES minister Obert Mpfu provided a fitting climax to the raging diamond saga, with revelations that he described himself as President Robert Mugabe's "ever obedient son".

While this could have provided comic relief to the intriguing story punctuated by the arrest of Zimbabwe Minerals Development Cooperation executives, it also revealed the level of sycophancy and bootlicking in Mugabe's Zanu PF party.

Mpfu has always had an aura of power about him and is regularly described as one of the party "heavyweights" in Matabeland North, where he comes from. As if to cement his stature, he had the audacity to contest the vice-presidential seat following the death of the incumbent, Joseph Msika last year.

Now the cat is out of the bag

and like others before him, Mpfu (59) has been revealed to be riding on the coattails of the octogenarian leader to the extent of describing himself as his "obedient son" in a shameless show of subservience.

It has been argued that Mugabe has created a personality cult around his leadership and calls for him to be made life president cemented this argument.

But this is not without precedence, with a number of Zanu PF members reportedly having knelt at Mugabe's feet, either to seek favours or to have their transgressions pardoned.

The late William Nkhara, one of Mugabe's numerous praise-singers, once described himself in almost similar fashion, calling himself the president's "loyal son".

He had been arrested on allegations of illegally dealing in diamonds and in a desperate plea to prove his innocence, Nkhara wrote

to Mugabe hoping to win clemency. At the formation of the unity government last year, an MDC minister described how he had been awestruck, seeing senior ministers literally kneeling before Mugabe.

Vice-President John Nkomo and Justice minister Patrick Chingamasa were named as some of the prominent people who knelt before the president.

"They all kneel! You have to wonder if their wives know they knelt before another man.

"Mugabe has total power over them," the unnamed MDC minister is reported to have said then.

But the one that takes the cup should be the late Zanu PF legislator, Tony Gara's statement that Mugabe was the only other son of God

"(Zimbabwe) and its people should thank the Almighty for giving us his only other son — by the name of Robert Gabriel Mugabe," the late Deputy Min-



Obert Mpfu raised eyebrows by signing off a letter to Mugabe, "your obedient son".

ister of Local government and Housing said.

At the time of Gara's statement, Jonathan Moyo, then a fierce critic of Mugabe remarked that comparisons with God were prevalent because like God, probably Mugabe demanded absolute respect and loyalty from his supporters.

A number of ministers and party members also joined in praise singing, with others describing the president as another, Moses,

who was to lead the country to a Promised Land.

Zanu PF has also taken the art of exalting Mugabe to new heights and wantonly place the president's name in the place of Jesus or God's name while singing at rallies and meetings.

In a 2002 African Sociological Review article, Ezra Chitando also described how the words of Christian songs were changed for political ends.

Zanu PF officials' rags-to-riches story

BY OUR STAFF

THE Zanu PF Leadership Code, which sought to define the party as a socialist movement forbids its officials from owning more than one house for purposes of earning rentals.

This is but one condition that seeks to prevent party officials from taking advantage of their positions in government to amass wealth. The code was adopted at Zanu PF's second people's congress in 1981.

But how many still abide by the code? In the past few months there have been changing revelations about how Zanu PF leaders have been amassing wealth while the



IGNATIUS Chomba



ROBERT Mupfema



PHILLIP Chiyangwa

rest of Zimbabweans wallow in poverty. Last month, President Robert Mugabe told parliament he owned Hillside Farm in Norton and Gwelo.

This is in violation with a provision in the Zanu PF code that says a leader is prohibited from owning "a business, a share or an interest in a business organisation for profit, provided that this shall not be interpreted as prohibiting such petty side-line activities as chicken runs, small plots and gardens on one's residential property."

Zanu PF believes that a leader who concentrates on acquiring property becomes an enemy of the masses. But a cursory look at the profiles of selected Zanu PF ministers and officials who have been in the news in the last few months for their appetite for acquiring property would make Mugabe's point.

He is also believed to be behind the construction of a state-of-the-art shopping mall between Fourth Avenue and Fifth Street in Bulawayo.

Already an owner of one of the tallest buildings in Bulawayo — York House — Mupfema is probably the richest politician in Matabeleland.

Mupfema also owns a farm just outside Bulawayo and some pieces of land within the city. He rose from humble beginnings as a line manager at the Zimpapers headquarters in Harare before he moved to Zimbabwe Grain Bag (ZV) Ltd as general manager.

It was during that time that he became a white-collar worker leading to what is now known as the Willoughby scandal, which changed the scope of several top Zanu PF officials.

He was first appointed Zanu PF non-constituency MP in 1987 and was elected MP for Buli (Gungwa 1-1996). In 1996, he lost the constituency to the late Jacob Thabani in MDC only to regain it in 2005 in an election marred by massive violence against Zanu PF opponents.

He allegedly owns a staggered list of 13 companies, 13 vehicles, a bus, a 2 600ha farm in Ruffiniana and properties in South Africa. About 90% of the listed residential stands are in the plush Harare neighbourhood of Borrowdale. Mariani owns half of Chomba's wealth.

A recent investigation by the Harare City Council implicates Chomba in massive scams involving the acquisition of whom land.

The report says: "It remains disturbing to note that minister Chomba would identify pieces of land to the city influence council officials to apply to him for change of land use and then sit over the same applications and approve the changes."

"Land reserved for recreational activities would end up having little deeds in his company's name."

Obert Mpofo, Minister of Mines and Mining Development, Mpofo who is currently in the eye of a storm has had publicity following reports that he has bought at least 17 properties in Bulawayo and Victoria Falls in the last few months.

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TO PROMOTE THE INCREASE IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES

We are utterly disturbed by the comments made by Co-Minister of National Healing and Integration, Sekai Holland suggesting that there is no violence taking place in the countryside and that ZANU PF has not set up or re-activated "bases", to treat up and intimidate civil society and political activists. These remarks are unfortunate and demonstrate that the Organ on Healing is out of touch with what is obtaining on the ground.

The Minister says: "We went to Muzarabani and spent the whole day there and there were no bases at all. There was no beating up of people". The fact that the Minister and her colleagues in the GNU went to Muzarabani and did not see bases does not preclude the fact that there is no violence taking place. We have credible reports of violence taking place in the communities we are working in Murewa, Mutoko, Maroniera, Mudzi, Muzarabani, to mention a few. In Muzarabani a church building was burnt down and houses of MDC supporters were torched. In Murewa a teacher at Dandara Primary School had his house besieged by ZANU PF thugs wielding axes, iron bars and knibberies and they wanted to "finish him" for being an MDC supporter.

It is worrying that the Organ is of the view that it can successfully hold substantively through investigations into such allegations during a one day visit. Did the Organ realistically expect to descend upon people being beaten up by reports of political violence and yet it is their Constitutional mandate to maintain law and order and uphold the rule of law.

We acknowledge that in terms of Article VII of the GPA, the mandate of the Organ is merely "to properly advise on what measures might be necessary and practicable to achieve national healing, cohesion and unity". However we are disturbed by the utterances made by the Honourable Minister Holland that the Organ visited Muzarabani and "found no bases and no beating up of people". In fact, CCDZ has it on good authority that ZANU PF has launched "Operation Hapana Antoura", to stop grassroots people from freely airing their views during the constitutional outreach programme to be done by the Parliamentary Select Committee.

CCDZ is working in deeply polarized communities where Zimbabweans live in fear and violence and intimidation is a living reality that haunts them on a daily basis. The fact that the Organ has made an attempt to investigate these allegations should be halted, however we doubt that there is sufficient political will to investigate these cases and bring the instigators to justice.

The people of Zimbabwe want a genuine national healing process that involves the truth, holding perpetrators accountable and one that involves payment of reparations to victims of acts of human rights violations. Only then can we say our wounds truly healed and that NEVER AGAIN will these abuses happen.

The Centre for Community Development in Zimbabwe is a non-partisan non-profit making organization that seeks to enhance citizen participation and strengthen community voices in national issues, including governance. Contact us: The Secretariat, 220 Samora Machel Avenue, Eastlea, Harare. Tel: 04 776038, or 0912962381. E-mail: centrefordevelopment@gmail.com

Chombo, wife fight

By Peter Matambanando

LOCAL Government, Rural and Urban Development Minister Ignatius Chombo is embroiled in an acrimonious property-sharing wrangle with his wife, Marian, from whom he has been separated for the past three years.

The protracted divorce and property sharing dispute is now before the High Court.

The estranged couple agreed to divorce, but failed to reach a settlement on the sharing of vast properties spread countrywide despite several pre-trial conferences held to try to resolve the matter without going to trial.

On Wednesday, Judge President Justice George Chiveshe referred the contentious issues to trial after another attempt

to resolve the matter hit a brick wall.

During the civil trial, the court will seek to come up with a formula on how to share the matrimonial property.

The court will hear evidence regarding contributions made by each of the parties in acquiring the properties.

The court will look at money invested as well as generation of ideas.

The hearing date is yet to be set.

Mr Wilson Manase of Manase and Manase is acting for Minister Chombo while Mr Motsi Sinyoro of Sinyoro and Partners is representing Mrs Marian Chombo (nee Muhloyi).

The two separated in 2007 and Minister Chombo wants a

divorce, citing irreconcilable differences.

"The marriage between the two parties is broken down to an extent that the two are not and no prospects for... restoration of a normal relationship," stated the minister in his plea with the court.

He says the two have not lived together as a wife for at least 24 months and there is no affection.

Minister Chombo has pledged to look after their children, born in 1986 and 1989.

"He will take care of his two children's educations, including air fares once a year to and

Chombo, wife fight over assets

● From Page 1

Chombo says.

She says since then the marriage has been ruined, but there are prospects for restoration normal marriage.

Given a chance to reflect on the matter without undue influence, Mrs Chombo feels the marriage is being successfully resurrected.

On the matrimonial assets, Mrs Chombo says she signed a post-nuptial agreement stating that they will share 50 percent of all properties acquired — whether held personally or in proxy during the subsistence of their marriage. She averred that on top of fixed assets including a borehole, generator, coldroom, it will be just for Minister Chombo to pay a monthly maintenance of US\$2 000 until her death or re-marriage. She also wants the court to award her 15 of the milky vehicles that include:

- 4 Toyota Land Cruisers
- 3 Mercedes-Benzes
- Mahindra
- 2 Nissan Wolfs,
- 1 Toyota Vigo,
- 1 Mazda BT-50,
- 1 Bus
- 1 Nissan Hardbody
- 1 Toyota Hilux

Mrs Chombo is also claiming other properties that include:

- 2 Glen View houses
- 2 flats in Queensdale,
- A property in Katanga Township,
- Stand Number 1037 Mount Pleasant Heights
- 4 Norton business stands
- 3 Chinhoyi business stands,
- 4 Banket business stands,



Minister Chombo

- 1 commercial stand in Epworth,
- 2 residential stands in Chirundu
- 4 commercial stands in Kariba
- 1 stand in Kuwa
- 1 stand in Chinhoyi,
- 2 stands in Mutare
- 2 stands in Binga,
- 4 stands in Victoria Falls
- 1 stand in Zimbabwe Rural
- Chitungwiza (two residential and two commercial stands)
- Bethbridge (four stands),
- 20 stands in Crowhill, Borrowdale
- 10 stands in Glen Lorne,
- 2 flats at Eastview Gardens (B319 and B320)
- 1 flat at San Sebastian in the Avenues,

Harare

- Number 79 West Road, Avondale.
- Greendale house
- Number 36 Cleveland Road, Milton Park
- Number 135 Port Road, Norton,
- 2 Bulawayo houses.
- Number 18 Cuba Rd, Mount Pleasant
- Number 45 Bassett Crescent, Alexandra Park,

- 2 Chegutua houses
- 1 Glen Lorne house (Harare)
- 2 houses (Victoria Falls).
- Stand along Simon Mazorodze Road
- Norton (one stand)
- Avondale (two stands)
- 365 Beverly House (one stand)
- Bulawayo (three stands),
- Mica Point Kariba (one stand).

She further wants the court to share farming equipment at New Allan Grange Farm including three tractors, two new combine harvesters, two boom sprayers and two engines.

She is also seeking an order compelling Minister Chombo to cede to her shares in the family's 10 companies including Dickcet, Hamdinger, Landberry and Track in Security Company.

Mrs Chombo, in her court papers, is also claiming cattle at Darton Farm, shared chicken runs, pigsties, a shop, grinding mill, house, mills, tractors, lorries, six trucks, five of which are non-runners, four trailers (three non-runners) and one truck.

She added that other interests were the Mvurvi Mine, hunting safari lodges in Chiredzi, Hwange, Magunje and Chirundu as well as properties in South Africa.

Appendix 11, ZANU-PF Manifesto 1980 Elections (from D Lan, Guns and Rain)



Plate 15 The medium of Nehanda, hanged in 1895 (see Plate 1), bequeaths the authority of the ancestors to the first prime minister of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe. Many similar designs appeared on cloths printed to celebrate Independence in 1980

ZANU-PF Manifesto 2008 Elections

100% EMPOWERMENT TOTAL INDEPENDENCE

Mbuya Nehanda and Sekuru Kaguvi together with some of our early Heroes in the fight against the colonial settlers.

KING LOBENGULA

ZIMBABWE

- WILL NEVER BE A COLONY AGAIN!

If you Believe and I Believe, then
ALL GOOD THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

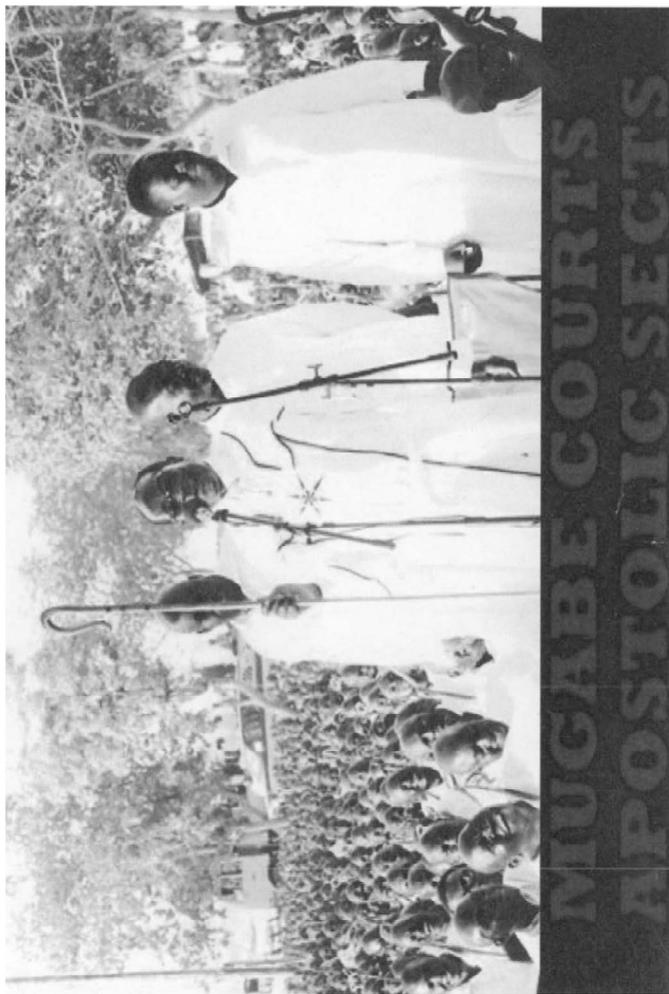
27 JUNE 2008 - VOTE TO PROTECT OUR SOVEREIGNTY

VOTE ZANU PF

ZANU PF

VOTE ZANU PF

Appendix 12, President Mugabe in Apostolic Regalia



A Picture from Zimdaily.com, 20 July 2010

Hunger stalks Matabeleland

Oscar Nkala
In Bulawayo

GRAHAM MTSHENGU wears a very stern look as he braves the scorching midday sun to survey what remains of his maize crop.

Across the field, crops, most of which were at tassling stage, lie wilting at unattractive angles, signalling the ravages of the dry spell suffered by subsistence crop farmers in the southern parts of Zimbabwe.

"This is a total loss. As you can see, I will not be reaping a single cob. This is cattle fodder. It means my family will have to continue to buy maize meal in the markets and I do not have the money," Mtshengu says while he bemoans his misfortune.

As his hopes of a better harvest fade under the grim heat, he starts contemplating how he is going to keep his family alive up to the next harvest.

A father of five children who are between the ages of three and 24, Mtshengu struggles to meet the basic needs of his family and two of his children did not go beyond Grade Seven as they could not pay school fees.

Like many other children of their age in the Ntshale part of rural Gwanda South, Mtshengu's children spend days roaming the growth point to sell buobab fruit

and "mnyji" — an edible wild fig — to passers-by, sometimes hitching bus rides to take their wares as far as Gwanda to the north-east and Zezane to the south.

Under-aged school drop-outs are a common sight in Ntshale, Kafusi, Mahongola and many other drought-ravaged parts of Gwanda South where parents say they cannot send children to school because of hunger and poverty.

With most of the crops written off in Matabeleland North and South, aid agencies fear the number of school-drop-outs and children in especially difficult circumstances will rise as a ripple effect of the hunger.

As Mtshengu admits, the children immediately assume breadwinner roles for the family after dropping from school in order to complement their parents' efforts towards eking out the next meal together.

The real reason why children cannot go to school is hunger.

Can parents get money to pay school fees if they can't get money to buy mealie-meal? Very few families can afford to eat a decent meal a day.

"My family sometimes goes for days eating nothing, but these wild figs...

It may look like child labour, but the children understand that their tools are part of collective family struggle for the next meal



JOSEPH MADE

and they are always glad to be part of it," Mtshengu said.

Although the government is yet to release the results of the final national crop assessment survey, agriculture specialists and aid agencies have already warned of a continuing disaster in Matabeleland South and Matabeleland North.

The crop outlook has turned nightmarish for most of the country despite rains in early January.

Estimates say only Harare,

Mashonaland Central, East and parts of Mashonaland West will harvest enough for consumption in the 2011/2012 farming season.

The effects of the continuing hunger is also evident in Cross Dete, Binga, Hwange and many parts of Matabeleland North province where community leaders have already appealed for help to avoid mass starvation.

The situation is very grim across Binga, Hwange, Cross Dete areas.

There is no hope of any harvest in those areas and people are actually starving starvation in the face right now.

We need urgent humanitarian aid by way of food and school fees assistance because the children's education is always the first victim when hunger strikes," said Jealous Sansole, a businessman and former Member of Parliament for Hwange West.

"We see a lot of children selling goats, cattle and chickens on the roadside every day and that means they do not go to school," Sansole told the Daily News there are many communities where most of the under-aged school drop-outs end up being employed as cattle herders and domestic hands, often working for aittance.

There are cases where the child works all the hours of the day and earns a carrier bag of groceries for the family at the end of

the month. Such children need to be saved," he said.

According to the latest food security outlook projections by the US-based Famine Early Warning System Network, Fewsnet, nearly 1.7 million Zimbabweans are in need of food aid and the number is expected to rise in the light of insignificant harvests expected from the failing 2010/2011 agricultural season.

Fewsnet observed that while staple cereals and other basic commodities will remain readily available in the market for most of the year, many families will not be able to feed themselves because they are either unemployed or subsist on low incomes.

Aid agencies say the country still has a cereal deficit of 135 000 metric tonnes and the situation is unlikely to change since the 2010/2011 season promises to be poorer in harvests than the last.

But Agriculture and Mechanisation Minister Joseph Made refutes the Fewsnet figures saying food security is guaranteed for many Zimbabweans this year.

"Crops have failed in some parts but it is not that bad.

"The country is not in danger of starvation and these aid agencies know they are peddling these alarmist figures to keep themselves in business. Government has more than the capacity to import more grain if the need arises," said Made.

er worse off now than ten years ago as inflation bites—

By Innocent Gore

DESPITE the upmarket glitter a construction boom, sleek new cars and trendy dwellers, the ordinary worker is today worse off than he was 10 years ago.

Zimbabwe's annual rate of inflation, which has averaged 25 percent since 1990, has eroded real wages, with the average worker now 10 times poorer than he was in 1989.

The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, battling to curb the soaring inflation, has intervened four times this year by raising its bank rate in an effort to discourage borrowing, but the measures have so far failed to yield the desired results.

Analysts say the central bank's measures will only work if there is fiscal stability.

Since the introduction of the economic structural adjustment programme in 1991, Zimbabwe's economy has performed poorly.

Gross domestic product growth targets of 5 percent and inflation targets of single digits have been missed, parasitals have continued due to the slow pace of privatisation programme and budget deficits have exploded.

The Government has laid the blame on the market reforms, saying they have failed to work, but analysts say the measures had not worked because of the State's "half-hearted" approach to the reforms.

"The hardships being experienced are not due to the failure of the authorities to implement the programme in a correct manner," said Mr. John Makumure, chief economist of the Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce.

The whole question of synchronisation of the forms and putting in place an appropriate institutional and regulatory framework was completely ignored during Espo," he said.

Mr. Makumure said reform programmes were integrated packages and shippages in one area could have a profound impact on the success of actions in other areas.

Kingdom Securities Holdings economist Mr. Howard Shohle blamed the unstable foreign exchange rate for the high rate of inflation, saying its stabilisation would bring down inflation to meet targets set under the Zimbabwe Programme for Economic and Social Transformation, a successor programme to Espo.

The foreign exchange rate has depreciated by more than 50 percent since last year and the country was pinning its hopes on the release of promised balance of payments support by the International Monetary Fund.

"Strategies to control inflation should focus on stabilisation of the exchange rate. This is the key if we are to bring down inflation," said Mr. Shohle.

But according to Mr. Kingdom Security Holdings economist Howard Shohle, blamed unstable foreign exchange rate for the high rate of inflation, saying its stabilisation would bring down inflation to meet targets set under the Zimbabwe Programme for Economic and Social Transformation, a successor programme to Espo.

The foreign exchange rate has depreciated by

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The foreign exchange rate has depreciated by

• To Page 10

Apostolic sect supports President

10/2
13/11/01
3/10/01
08/05/01
THE Johanne Masowe Apostolic Church has declared its total support for President Mugabe, the Government and the land reform programme.

Speaking at the burial of the Minister of Youth Development, Gender and Employment Creation, Cde Border Gezi, one of the church's leaders, Prophet Lawrence Katsiru, said the sect was fully behind President Mugabe.

Support

"We have no reason to be fighting the Government. We are 100 percent behind you and we are going to support you endlessly," Prophet Katsiru told Cde Mugabe before the thousands of mourners at the National Heroes' Acre.

The church commands multitudes of members throughout the country.

Prophet Katsiru said although there were some members of the church who do not support the Government, most

do.
Prophet Katsiru, who was once a Zanu-PF commissar in Mashonaland East, said the church and the Government must unite to do God's work.

Members of his church were willing to work with the Government.

Before his death, Cde Gezi had implored members of the church, to which he belonged, to work for the country.

The prophet urged the Government to carry on with Cde Gezi's work, particularly his wish for the land reform programme to succeed.

"His spirit must live in those of us remaining to carry on with the work of land reform."

Prophet Katsiru said Cde Gezi was committed to his work and discharged his duties in an exemplary way.

"God gave us this man and I hope he gives us another one like him. If we pray we will have no difficulty finding

another commissar," he said, inviting President Mugabe to attend Masowe prayers.

"If all people feared and knew God, there would be no problems in this country. My appeal is for people to come not only to Masowe but to seek God even in other churches."

In his speech, President Mugabe paid tribute to the Johanne Masowe Church for grooming Cde Gezi and allowing him to embark on a political career that saw him serve people through the Government and Zanu-PF.

Lost

"On our part, we have lost a leader you raised, and so generously gave and offered to us in the political leadership.

"We certainly hoped to work with him much longer, and never at any one moment were we prepared for the nightmare we endure today. But God's will has had it otherwise," said President Mugabe.

Fresh fears over Mugabe's health

BY OUR CORRESPONDENT

LIVINGSTONE, Zambia — President Robert Mugabe moved around in a golf cart during the Thursday summit of the Southern African Development Community (Sadc) troika on peace and security, sparking fresh speculation about the 87-year-old ruler's health.

Travelling with a large entourage that included six medical people, Mugabe had difficulties disembarking from the Air Zimbabwe chartered flight at Livingstone International Airport.

With one bodyguard in front and one on the left, Mugabe walked slowly to the dais where he was again assisted to climb up for the signing of the national anthem.

During the summit at Zambesi Sun Hotel in the resort town in southern Zambia, Mugabe moved around in a golf cart.

Even disembarking from the golf cart required his optimum concentration and holding of supporting

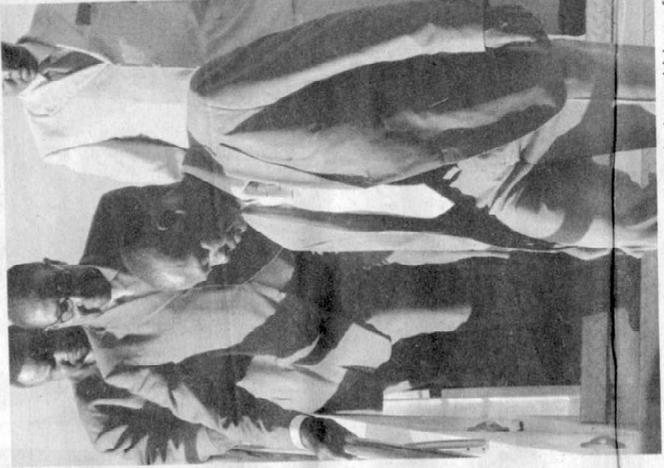
metal bars while his counterparts walked freely. Last month, Mugabe's spokesman George Charamba, in what should be a first in the former guerrilla leader's presidency, announced that his boss had undergone a surgical operation to remove cataracts in his eyes in Singapore.

The announcement followed intense speculation during Mugabe's annual leave that he was suffering from prostate cancer and had visited a hospital in the Far East.

Zanu PF has chosen Zimbabwe's only ruler since independence to represent it in presidential elections expected later this year.

But analysts' doubt that he would be fit enough to see through the usually vigorous election campaign.

His major rival would be the 59-year-old Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai who beat Mugabe in the first round of the 2008 presidential elections but failed to garner the majority required to claim the presidency.



President Mugabe disembarks from a plane under the watchful eyes of aides in Livingstone, Zambia last week.

Is the President's health taboo topic?

The intense struggles of the day afford little opportunity for compromise or complexity. People are either friends or foes; thoughts are either correct or incorrect. So colour coding is a key component of the Manichean imagery. As in the Chinese Cultural Revolution, red, the symbol for revolutionary valour, was contrasted to black, the colour of counter-revolutionary evil.

The supreme good, Chairman Mao, was none other than the "red sun". Therefore, the strategy of wrapping oneself in revolutionary colours at the same time that one painted the opponent in counter-revolutionary hues was one element in a whole repertoire of debating techniques that marked Cultural Revolution discourse.

Yao Wenyuan, the infamous Shanghai essayist, developed a prose style of debate widely imitated by the young Red Guards: "The method was, first, to declare yourself a defender of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought; second, to pose a series of accusatory questions about your target; and third, to expose it as yet another example of counter-revolutionary infiltration of the Party."

The high-handed manner of dispensing with one's foes was matched by a servile, obsequious demeanour toward the ultimate authority of Chairman Mao. A notable feature of the language of the period was of its adulation of Mao Zedong, exemplified in the widespread emulation of Mao's writings. In addition to the ubiquitous practice of liberally citing from the Chairman's quotations and poems, rebel writers strived to structure their own essays according to Mao's stylistic exemplar.

Does this sound familiar?

Journalists become hesitant when they are working on certain issues in the political sector and one of those issues is the health of the President or members of his inner circle. Elsewhere, many of the taboos on news reports were abolished under the rule of Kim Young-sam and Kim Dae-jung, after the ending of the age of authoritarian governments there.

In Zimbabwe, as is the case elsewhere, journalists become cautious when they deal with the President's health because solid information is so hard to come by. In addition, the destructive power

of a report on such an issue is so strong.

Agreed, such reporting could dampen the activities of businesses and stock markets and stir unrest in the country. Still, it would be irresponsible for the media and government to duck the growing number of questions about the President's health.

In President Robert Mugabe's case, his health has been an issue since 2002 when he was running for the presidency. After the pace of electioneering, which saw him holding about 50 "star" rallies across the country, journalists began to notice some signs of fatigue or problems in his health.

In the last four months alone, President Mugabe (87) has had six trips to Asia for medical review. Last Friday he reportedly left again for a private trip to Singapore. His wife Grace, who reportedly dislocated her hip in a fall at their Borrowdale home sometime in March, is said to be receiving treatment in Singapore. Hardly, two weeks ago, Commander of the Defence Forces Constantine Chiwenga was reportedly in China, for a review, as confirmed by Defence minister Emmerson Mnangagwa.



President Robert Mugabe



Mao Zedong

now spends more time in his residence than in his office or that he has been undergoing medical attention. Some rumours coming from his close associates are even more troubling. Complications could occur, politicians whisper.

"He may have to recuperate for a long time in a foreign country," others worried.

Even in the United States, health problems of the president are often not reported to the public immediately. Dwight D Eisenhower, a former US president, had several heart attacks during his term in office. But the president's doctor used to say, "He is good for another 10 years," or "He only has indigestion."

When George W Bush fell to the floor as he choked on a pretzel, the White House hid the fact until the media pressed hard, for fear of the effect on the country and the administration.

Health problems will always dog an aged leader. It is, therefore, the responsibility of government to rebut such rumours convincingly. The public has a right to know the condition of the health of the President. In addition, the Constitution has no obvious guidance on the procedures and order in succession to power if the President is incapacitated.

Zimbabweans should demand full information on President Mugabe's health and open examinations of the health of presidential candidates.

Feedback:
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Viewpoint



with
Wisdom Mdzungairi

And each time reporters try to get the facts right about the health of the country's top politicians, they are given a diagnosis of "no abnormalities".

Some reporters know this is not always the case but cannot report the facts. Some want President Mugabe to win the next election; some are earnestly asked not to report the facts; some think it is too sensitive an issue to write about. Just last week, President Mugabe was said to have been seen at the Medical Chambers in Harare. Rumours from some politicians and high-ranking government officials said the President

Propaganda jingles alienate Zanu PF — Study

BY NOORA MATSHAZI

THE Zanu PF jingles on television and radio are not helping the party but rather are alienating it from the public, a recent study into television claims.

Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation (ZBC) radio and television have been airing pro-Zanu PF jingles for almost a decade now, much to the annoyance of other political players who always cry foul, claiming this made the electoral field uneven.

But a study by University of Zimbabwe lecturer Nyasha Mboti claims that this strategy has not only failed to work but has hardened attitudes against the party.

In his thesis titled "Visual frontics — an investigation of the function of the gaze in Hollywood films about Africa and selected Televi-

son texts", he argues that the idea was to swamp the consciousness of audience with liberation themes but this had so far failed.

Mboti, who graduated with a doctorate from the UZ last week, claims that ZBC's strategy is based on repetition in the hope that this would get the audience to support the constant themes on TV, but this had failed spectacularly.

Mboti further states that this mindlessness heightens the sense of national division and heightens attitudes, when the aim may have been to soften them.

Zanu PF has over the last decade produced a number of jingles that have drawn the ire of the MDC. The most recent set was produced by the Mbare Chimurenga Choir, with the main song being *Nyatsvanzo*, literally meaning people should listen and hear who is in power.

USING REPETITION TO DENY THE MESSAGE

MBOTI argues that, "Repetition, on ZTV in the context of the heavily jingoised Zimbabwean setting, has the ironic effect of appearing to be cynical, one-sided and biased."

A number of jingles have been produced especially during Jonathan Moyo's tenure as Information Minister. The most popular was arguably *Tombai Makashinga* which advised the people to be strong in the face of adversity.

Despite MDC's protestations, Zanu PF and ZBC have stubbornly refused to stop playing these jingles, which observers describe as partisan and against the spirit of unity born out of the Global Political Agreement.

Mboti goes on to describe the jingles and their constant repetition as poorly developed and resulting in a badly systematised propaganda campaign.

"For instance, ZTV appears to have one persuasive device for use throughout the years from 2000 to 2008: repetition," he says. "While repetition may work in certain contexts, in others it fails."

Mboti partly blames the failure of the so-called Third Chimurenga on the ZBC and Zanu PF's heightened propaganda drive.

"One reason for the failure of the Third Chimurenga would be the nature of ZTV's techniques for persuasion," he said adding that they were poor and thus alienating the audience.

He observed that the jingles have usually coincided with periods when there was political flux

and heightened violence, with their function being to manufacture consent.

"The emphasis is on consent," he said noting that oppressive regimes maintain power through a combination of consent and coercion. "Because systems of power cannot be maintained by force alone, people have to be persuaded and be made to do certain things willingly and happily."

The university lecturer further described as ideological myopia ZBC's idea that since Zanu PF has the dominant voice, its ideology is seen to be the only correct position, with other ideologies viewed as counterfeit.

In his thesis, Mboti also studies programmes like *Talking Farming* and *National Ethos* and concludes that these are also harmful rather than beneficial to Zanu PF.

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The MMPZ Media Review

Defending free expression and your right to know

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The Herald (6/4) published a letter Charamba wrote to the publication "clarifying" government's position on the Troika's resolutions on Zimbabwe, vaguely reducing ZANU PF's quarrel with the regional body to one about the "procedures and style" of its facilitation and not on the "substance" of its findings. No follow-ups were made to clarify what this meant.

And despite ZTV giving Charamba six minutes to further discuss the matter during its main news bulletin that evening, the broadcaster did not seek clarification on whether the "little procedural differences" between Mugabe and SADC had been resolved, and the reasons behind Mugabe's reaction if indeed the Troika's resolutions tallied with ZANU PF's position on the need for an election roadmap in the country.

ZBC abuses children

ZBC's propaganda campaign to whip up emotions ahead of the country's independence celebrations went a step too far during the week when they enthusiastically interviewed children to illustrate their patriotic awareness of the meaning of Independence Day.

ZTV (9/4, 8pm) interviewed several children in Harare on this issue in a way that promoted ZANU PF's political agenda.

In one of these, a boy of about eight years old, recited a poem rebuking Zimbabweans for forgetting the sacrifices made by liberation fighters to free the country. In apparent reference to Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai, the boy chastised Zimbabweans for "wanting" a former "tea boy" to

replace President Mugabe, who had liberation war credentials.

MMPZ views this conduct by the broadcaster as promoting intolerance

and disdain for legitimate national leaders and amounts to a gross abuse of children in its propaganda offensive to promote ZANU PF.

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of a sharecropper nature the various clashes are set to split the party at its congress".

However, the private media was shy to report the violence between the MDC-T factions and either censored this news or downplayed the divisions in the party. Of the 12 stories the private media carried on the issue, eight downplayed the factionalism (mostly in the online agencies), while only four tackled the problem with any degree of clarity. These appeared mostly in *The Standard* (10/4). But it also quoted political analyst Pedzisayi Ruhanya, portraying the cracks in the MDC-T as "benign", saying

standardlocalnews

Chiefs to get top-of-the-range cars, salary hike

BY MHOUBANI NDOLOVU

GOVERNMENT is set to dole out new top-of-the-range vehicles and increase allowances for chiefs, in a move that critics claim is in preparation for elections slated for next year.

Chiefs have been clamouring for an increase in their allowances from January and the timing of the award has been described as curious.

Sources revealed that the allowances have been increased from US\$200 to US\$300 on top of other perks. The added perks are the fines that the chiefs levy on their subjects.

The new figures will make civil servants, who have been told that their salaries will not be increased any time soon because government is broke, green with envy.

The sources added that the traditional leaders, currently driving the Mazda single cabs, are set to get twin cabs, most likely the Mazda BT50.

Chiefs say the new perks are necessary and befitting of their status.

The government has assented to the demands of the chiefs," an official at the Local Government ministry said.

Chiefs made the demands for twin cabs, saying it is the only way of restoring their status and that they cannot be seen driving single cabs when legislators are driving twin cabs."

A chief from Umguza, Matabeland North last week confirmed the development as long overdue.

"It was long overdue, we are more important than legislators and we cannot be seen to be lesser to them," said the chief who requested anonymity.

Local Government Minister, Ignatius Chombo said chiefs were supposed to be treated as legislators and could buy any car of their choice.

"If he wants a Range Rover then be it, the government sets the limits of the amount to be spent on cars, but they have the right like other MPs (Members of Parliament)," he said.

Chombo said most chiefs had since received their cars and there were between 25 and 30 traditional leaders, who were yet to benefit from the scheme.

On the allowances, the minister said the government had approved the new rates, but at the time treasury was broke.

"There is nothing new here, the government approved these rates and now they are being implemented," he said.

Chombo would not be drawn to comment on criticism that this was a ploy to buy chiefs, loyalty ahead of elections, which President Robert Mugabe and Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai want held next year.

Zanu PF has long been accused of using chiefs as a conduit for building up their support base in rural areas.

Towards past elections, Zanu PF has been known to regularly fete chiefs and dole out incentives, which critics claim is blatant vote-buying.

Civil servants representative organisations' immediately condemned the new incentives, describing the move as insensitive to their plight.

Ironically, this comes a few days after Tsvangirai told the public servants that Treasury was broke.

Tsvangirai told civil servants at a meeting early last week that government was sensitive to their plight but Treasury was broke to afford pay increases.

Sifiso Ndolovu, the Zimbabwe Teachers Association CEO said the new allowances and vehicles for chiefs were a clear build-up to next year's polls.

"This is a clear build-up to the elections so that the chiefs' canvass for Zanu PF, it's a clear sign of politics taking precedence over the plight of civil servants," Ndolovu said.

"When it comes to civil servants, politicians are long on speeches but short on action and this only creates a dysfunctional bureaucracy where civil servants will be physically at work but absent minded from duty in protest over low salaries."

Rodrick Fayayo, the spokesperson for the Bulawayo Progressive Residents Association (BPRA) added: "It's a clear indication that the government is insincere about the plight of civil servants.

"We are living in a country where the abnormal has been normalised, where a chief gets more pay than a civil servant who sweats day in day out but does not get rewarded."

Musindo campaigns for Zanu PF

By Richard Musazulwa

MIDLANDS — CONTROVERSIAL pastor and president of Destiny of Africa Network Church, Reverend Obadiiah Musindo, last week likened President Robert Mugabe to the "Biblical Moses" and openly campaigned for Zanu PF ahead of the March general elections, *The Standard* can reveal.

Musindo said people should rally behind Zanu PF because the party could lead them out of the current problems bedevilling the country.

"There are many similarities between the ruling Zanu PF party and the Bible. President Mugabe is like the Biblical Moses who was sent by God to free thousands of Israelites who were suffering at the hands of Pharaoh. Mugabe did that when he led us through the struggle to become what we are today." Musindo told hundreds of people at the city's EduCare hall recently.

The Destiny for Africa Network president made the remarks after

donating equipment for making freizeit and peanut butter to G-6 co-operative, comprising largely of Zanu PF women.

Musindo promised to create about 200 jobs in the Midlands town.

A few days after his eulogy, Musindo on Monday openly denounced the opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC), at the launch of a housing project being spearheaded by his church.

At the launch some church members, pastors and Zanu PF supporters carried banners and placards, supporting Zanu PF, while denouncing the opposition MDC.

Some of the banners read: "Destiny of Africa Network, A Vote for Zanu PF is a Vote for Your Land" and "MDC: Anti Land Movement".

The government has given a huge swathe of land in Ascot suburb to Destiny for Africa Network in Gweru for construction of 669 600 houses.

After handing over the stands, Midlands Governor, Cephas Msipa,

promised that the government would give Musindo additional land in the city's suburbs of Senga and Herefordshire. The stands in Ascot are reserved for houses, three churches, a crèche and a primary school.

Gweru executive mayor, Sesel Zvidzai, said the land given to Destiny for Africa Church belonged to the State. "Council is not part of this programme since it is not our land. The land being given to Musindo belongs to the State. There are some portions of State land in the city," Zvidzai said.

In Harare, Musindo has also been given land by the government, a move seen by many as rewarding him for supporting the ruling party.

MDC chairperson for Midlands South province, Lyson Mlambo, condemned the partisan stance of Musindo's church.

He said Destiny for Africa Church should concentrate on spreading the word of God rather than propping up Zanu PF.

Uscar Nkala in Bulawayo

HUNGER stricken villagers in Matobo South say they are failing to benefit from the few available food aid schemes run by government because the vetting structures have been manipulated to shut out opposition supporters while favouring the Zanu PF faithfuls.

In interviews held in Maphisa, villagers said because of poor rains and a late start to crop farming due to inputs and drought power shortages last year, the majority will not be reaping anything from their fields as the harvest season draws to a close.

They said hunger was already at its worst in the villages as everyone has to buy maize-meal from the shops but cannot do so because they do not have the money.

"Hunger has been bad since last year, but it is worse now. People did not get anything from the fields this year for many reasons which include the late arrival of seeds and a late beginning to the short-lived rainy season.

"Many farmers were unprepared and only discovered late that they could not try re-planting because it was too late. So no one has anything to harvest this year," said Sibangani Thusi, a war veteran and villager from Tshewondo to the west of Maphisa growth point.

Despite the government announcement that the GMB had already started moving grain to stricken areas last month, Thusi said his area has not received grain in aid from government-run programmes.

He said even those limited programmes that come along

Zanu PF manipulates food aid scheme

end up benefiting the underserving as Zanu PF supporters are given top priority.

"The aid promised by the government has not arrived. But even when it does, we still have the problem of beneficiary vetting systems that benefit only Zanu PF supporters. They use headman, kmaalheads and war veterans who end up registering Zanu PF supporters to replace deserving beneficiaries. They use anything they can find to block people from benefiting.

"Sometimes they are dismissed simply because they have a son or daughter in Botswana or South Africa, regardless of whether they are employed or not," he said.

Another villager from Sun Yet Sen told the *Daily News* that the people are facing serious hunger but cannot get into the government food aid schemes.

He said the local Zanu PF structures were running the programme to ensure the exclusion of opposition supporters.

"In areas with Zanu PF councillors, the entire selection committee is made up of Zanu PF and the beneficiaries have to show appreciation and public support for the party. One cannot just claim to be a member of the party,

they have to be seen to be active in its programmes," she said.

In Gohole, locals told the *Daily News* that Zanu PF is still abusing its ongoing anti-sanctions campaign by threatening all those who fail to sign the petition with exclusion from food aid registers.

"People are being told the same list will be used to create the food beneficiaries list. Because of the extent of the hunger in the communities, the majority have signed up just to keep their names on the food aid list," said MDC activist Clarity Moyo.

MDC provincial chairman for Matabeland South, Petros Mokoena said people in the province are tired of politicians playing politics about the dire hunger situation.

"The reason why this crisis is continuing is that government finds it cheaper to make political mileage out of the crisis than contemplate the cost of addressing it. We are worried because hunger is such a reality that we believe it is only by the grace of God that people are not dying," Mokoena said.

Zanu PF Matabeland South provincial chairman Andrew Langa declined to comment on the allegations against his party.

Matabeland South provincial governor and resident minister Angeline Masuku was not available for comment. Aid agencies estimate that the country, which already has more than 1.7 million needy citizens, needs immediate emergency food aid to prevent the food-insecure population from rising to nearly 2 million by year-end.

Be persuasive to win support: Shamu

6001 Bindura Bureau
2536

ZANU-PF national political commissar Cde Webster Shamu has urged party supporters to employ persuasive ways in drumming up support for future elections.

Addressing the party's provincial leadership in Mashonaland Central yesterday, Cde Shamu said leaders should lead by example to garner more support through peace and harmony.

"As a commissariat, we have resolved to carry Bibles in our meetings because we draw many lessons from the Holy Book," Cde Shamu said.

He discouraged internal fighting within Zanu-PF saying this exposes the party to anti-revolutionaries.

Zanu PF, Cde Shamu said, is made up of victors who do not back.

"You should not fight for positions, let us learn to give each other a chance as Zanu PF cadres."

He hailed ANC Youth League president Cde Julius Matema's recent visit saying he has managed to tell the world the true Zimbabwean story.

Cde Shamu said no one was qualified to criticize the song "Kill the Boer" being popularised by Cde Matema saying

such songs were inherent in all revolutions.

"Even during the Zimbabwean revolution we had the song 'musha une mabhunu ndewani tibeure,'" he said. Cde Shamu urged ZBC to play the song along other revolutionary songs.

Speaking at the same occasion, Zanu-PF Women's League national political commissar Cde Olivia Muchena said women should take a leading role in sprucing up the party's image.

She urged party members to be guided by Christianity. Cde Muchena said women would not allow Zimbabwe to slip into the enemy's hands.

"Zimbabwe is not a soap that can easily slip from the hands. We as women are ready to take up arms and defend the nation."

Zanu-PF deputy political commissar Cde Ephraim Masawi said the commissariat was on a national tour of the 10 administrative provinces.

The visit to Bindura was the seventh. "We are assessing the party's performance as we seek to reclaim the seats lost during last election. We owe Zanu-PF the seats we lost last time," he said.

Appendix 24, Dailynews, 19 April 2011

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2011

INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION

dailynews

INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS IN PICTURES

TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2011



MEN AT WORK: Members of the uniformed forces prepare to march on the pitch while holding President Mugabe's portrait.

Food-for-work alleviates hunger in Manicaland

Chengetai Murimwa

MANZVIRE – Drought has hit the Manzvire area of Chipinge South district in Manicaland where some women have embarked on a food-for-work project that has been initiated by Christian Care, a non-governmental organisation.

Villagers in this remote area were anticipating a bumper harvest but the dry spell that has hit some parts of the country has resulted in their crop wilting.

Chipinge folk normally plant small grain crops that are drought resistant such as rapoko and sorghum but this time around these crops could not survive the dry spell. Cotton is the only crop that seems to be doing well but villagers interviewed said the harvest would yield around 50%.

It's easy for one to start fire and raze whole fields as the crops have completely withered from moisture stress.

Newsday came across a group of ten women who were slashing tall grass along the Tanganda-Chiredzi highway.

Grass-slashing along major highways is a function normally performed by the Ministry of Roads but these women get food handouts at the end of the month from Christian Care,



Picture: worldvision.com.au

Each person receives a bag of maize-meal at the month-end but the distribution varies depending on how large one's family is

which has initiated the food-for-work project.

Phillipa Mpetwa who leads the group said they had been slashing along the highway and doing other road maintenance work for the past three months.

Mpetwa said each person receives a 10kg bag of maize-meal at the month-end but the distribution varies depending on how

large one's family is.

"The amount of food one gets depends on how big one's family is. If one has registered that they are five in their family, they get a 50kg bag of maize-meal and five bottles of cooking oil," said Mpetwa.

She said they were getting basic foodstuff such as kapenta, cooking oil, soya chunks, beans,

bulgar wheat and maize-meal and this had been going a long way in sustaining their families.

"If we had not been engaging in food-for-work, we would be starving by now," said Mpetwa.

Another elderly woman who is part of the grass-slashing project, Lucia Mhlanga, said some children had stopped going to school because of lack of food but the situation had improved since food handouts from Christian Care were introduced.

"Children were absconding from class because of hunger and some young high school girls were now engaging in prostitution so as to put food on the table," said Mhlanga.

Mhlanga said before Chris-

employed at a farm owned by Sabot, a company in Chisumbanje area which is approximately 40 kilometres from Manzvire. Sabot is building a multi-million-dollar ethanol plant in Chisumbanje which when finished is expected to create jobs for thousands of people in Chipinge area.

Mpetwa said their dilemma now was that the Christian Care food-for-work project was being suspended at the end of March.

"Christian Care has indicated that they are going to suspend the project at the end of this month and we don't know how we are going to survive after they have left," said Mpetwa.

Secretary of the group Joyce Mwaangire said their wish is to venture into income-generating projects such as sewing clothes and brick-moulding.

"If we could get a donor who would give us sewing machines we could start income-generating projects that can help us look after our families," said Mwaangire.

Christian Care regional area manager for Manicaland Mark Karinda refused to shed more light on the projects they were carrying saying only national director Reverend Matonga was authorised to comment on the humanitarian work they were doing. "We are assisting the government in food distribution through empowering the community by doing projects that can help them," Karinda said.

Manzville and areas such as Checheche, Chibwe, Tanganda as well as other areas in Bulhera are parts of Manicaland that have been hard-hit by drought and they badly need food assist-

Chiefs want President Mugabe for life

7W1

B104(2)

By Kudva Bwititi

TRADITIONAL leaders have resolved to continue supporting President Mugabe in elections, saying they want him to be the country's life president.

The resolution was passed at the end of the three-day chiefs' annual conference in Kariba last Friday.

Local Government, Urban and Rural Development Minister Dr Ignatius Chombo said the chiefs took the decision in recognition of Cde Mugabe's outstanding leadership.

Dr Chombo, who attended the congress, said the chiefs also cited the President's immense contribution to the preservation and development of traditional leadership.

"The chiefs have passed a resolution that they want President Mugabe to continue leading the country because they appreciate his leadership qualities and achievements," he said.

"The President has continued to support the role of chiefs when other African countries have done away with chiefs.

"They were also satisfied that the President recognises that chiefs are crucial to national development."

The minister said the decision to back President Mugabe as the country's supreme leader was unanimous.

He said this was ample evidence that the traditional leaders regarded the Head of State and Government and Commander-in-Chief of the Zimbabwe Defence Forces as a special leader.

All chiefs from the eight rural provinces endorsed their unequivocal support for the President, he said.

Dr Chombo said delegates also acknowledged that Cde Mugabe continued to ably lead the country despite the imposition of illegal economic sanctions by the West.

"The chiefs appreciate the fact that despite 10 years of sanctions and hostility from the West, President Mugabe has remained defiant in propagating policies that are beneficial to indigenous Zimbabweans," he said.

The traditional leaders also made it clear that they were ready for elections, saying the inclusive Government creates conflicting sources of power.

"The chiefs said they do not want the GPA (Global Political Agreement) to exceed its tenure," said Dr Chombo.

"They said the unity Government has created conflicting sources of power and this creates disharmony in the running of the State.

● To Page 4

Chiefs back President

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● From Page 1

"They want one source of power, which is led by President Mugabe." The chiefs also expressed their support for the constitution-making process.

They said, according to the minister, they were satisfied with the task so far.

"Chiefs participated fully in outreach meetings and they were very enthusiastic about the constitution-making process," he said.

"They said they were happy with information that most participants wanted incorporated in the document, especially calls for traditional values to be enshrined in the Constitution."

Speaking before the traditional leaders on Thursday, President Mugabe said chiefs should be the vanguard in freeing the country from

mental colonisation and deflating the belief that only whites are capable of owning the means of production.

He said chiefs should contribute to economic, social and political development as well as be advisors to Government.

President of the Chiefs' Council of Zimbabwe Chief Fortune Charumbira said the President should remain in power to ensure Zimbabwe became prosperous again.

The chiefs also moved a motion to set up a team that would lobby the West to remove the illegal economic sanctions on the country.

They said their constituents were affected by the embargo, which continues to inhibit development.

The conference drew traditional leaders from the country's eight rural provinces and international guests.

Zanu-PF Women's League for President Mugabe

By Tafadzwa Chiremba

THE Zanu-PF Women's League has unanimously endorsed President Mugabe's candidature in the next presidential election.

Speaking at the organ's National Assembly briefing at party headquarters yesterday, Zanu-PF Secretary for Women's Affairs Cde Oppah Muchinguri said the league reached the decision after considering Cde Mugabe's leadership prowess.

She said the Women's League remains committed to his leadership.

"As the Women's League, we endorse your candidature. We are saying stand in the next election and rule forever!" she said, drawing wild ululations from the scores of delegates in attendance.

"Your work cannot be compared to that of anyone else. Do not leave us."

Cde Muchinguri said the Women's League has since started mobilising support for the President and the party ahead of the imminent plebiscite.

The organ launched the "Green Card Campaign" which seeks to boost its membership by more than one million supporters.

"We want to mobilise women to register on the voters' roll as well as provide political education to empower them," she said.

Speaking afterwards, President Mugabe said fresh elections should be held before June next year.

"We are in a transitional period of the Global Political Agreement (GPA)," he said.

"We want to get to elections and get into a situation where Zanu-PF can rule the country."

"The GPA has been in force since 2008. Now 2011 has drawn nearer and the women should assist in mobilising support for the party ahead of the elections."

The President said the constitution-making process should be expedited to pave way for the polls.

"We should quickly do that draft (constitution). Next year the Global Political Agreement is ceasing. It is only for two years," he said.

"We do not want to pass June (next year) without the elections. We want acceleration of pace."

He hailed the Women's League for sustaining Zanu-PF and called for the party to unite.

"Without women in the party, that party would collapse."

"More so without your wombs, no one would exist. Without you, the very life that we enjoy would be nothing," he said.

"I know that you are united. Please remain like that. Whatever problems you have, discuss them. Refuse to be divided."

President Mugabe called for the women to

● To Page 5

Only Mugabe can rule Zimbabwe – Shamu

Moses Matenga

Media, Information and Publicity minister Webster Shamu says no one other than President Robert Mugabe should be allowed to rule Zimbabwe.

“This country cannot be run by foreigners. In our midst we have people who think it is easy to run this country,” Shamu said yesterday at the National Sports Stadium during Independence Day celebrations.

“This country can only be run by Gushungo and only Gushungo.”

Admirers refer to President Mugabe as Gushungo, his totem.

Shamu, an open hero-worshipper of the President, recently likened the former guerrilla leader to Cremora, the brand name for a coffee creamer. In apparent reference to Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai

who sat among dignitaries with Mugabe, Shamu said some individuals wanted to reap where they did not sow. Shamu said: “We have some people who say if (President) Mugabe brags that he liberated this country, he should go and give it back to the colonial masters and see if we cannot take it back. Be careful of what you say.

“If we go and tie the country on Gushungo’s leg, will you be able to untie it? Be careful.”

Even as Shamu launched his apparent attack on Tsvangirai, Zanu PF youths, war veterans and members of the women’s league openly defied a government directive and brought their party regalia to the national event. They also sang Zanu PF party songs while the party jingles were broadcast in between programmes. One of the songs, *Nyatsoteerera Un-*

zwe Kutonga, was constantly played during proceedings.

Tsvangirai, who sat next to Vice-President Joice Mujuru and Local Government minister Ignatius Chombo, appeared ruffled.

Most Cabinet ministers from his MDC-T party did not attend the celebrations except a few, notably Heneri Dzinotyiwei, Gabuza Joel Gabuza and Sekai Holland.

“This country can only be run by Gushungo and only Gushungo.”

Zanu PF endorses Mugabe

Call by Women's League sets agenda for December conference

BY YVONKA MATSHI

THE Zanu PF Women's League last week set the agenda for the party's conference in December, that its leader, Robert Mugabe, be declared president for life, the league declared. Mugabe would stand in the next election and rule forever.

Without doubt, a flurry of declarations from the provinces that Mugabe is declared candidate and president for life will start flowing from this week till the December conference, where the veteran leader will no doubt accept the mantle.

There has been calls before that Mugabe be declared supreme leader of the party, probably taking an example of the Iranian example, but none seem to be as emphatic as the life president declaration.

While it has been the worst kept secret that Mugabe has ambitions to rule until his last breath, these aspirations have never been laid bare.

No doubt the octogenarian leader will use this as an endorsement to further his 30 year rule, with the usual cliché that "if the people want me to continue then who am I to say no".

Analysts have described the move by the Women's League as part of the broader Zanu PF succession dynamics, with Muchinguri hoping to endear her-

self to Mugabe. "The call by the Women's League is electioneering and endearing themselves to the patronage system that President Mugabe has created in his own party as well as through the state, Rakura Zhangzha, a political analyst remarked.

Zhangzha said as an extension of that patronage system, the women were posturing while at the same time paying homage to their benefactor.

He said he did not see Mugabe "officially" accepting the Women's League's declaration, although, in reality, it seemed he was a *de facto* life president.

Trevor Muisiri of the African Reform Institute (ARI) pointed out that the call by the Women's League was emblematic of the leadership failure that faced Zanu PF.

He said party members, probably due to their own insecurity, were raising Mugabe to a pedestal, sometimes way above the former guerrilla leader's own expectations.

"In that regard what you get is that he is then pushed into all sorts of leadership supremacy realms that would defy any meaningful and realistic posturing of political leadership in modern day politics," Muisiri said.

He added that Mugabe had not managed his followers well and this was a sign of poor leadership.



PRESIDENT Robert Mugabe - heading for life presidency

Appendix 29, Newsday, 07 July 2011



Every grain counts: Martin Mboreka (62) of Masvingo picks maize grain from the shoulder of Masvingo Road after a truck spilled some of its contents. (Picture: Aaron Ufumeli)



This volume was passed as doctoral thesis by the University of Bayreuth (Germany) in February 2012. Its topic springs from the reality of poverty, suffering and the rest of the calamities that continue to ravage most third world countries particularly Zimbabwe. The author presents a unique way of looking at leadership, history, culture and the reading of scripture in light of theme of The Messianic Feeding of the Masses. The author examines how the Zimbabwean president, Robert Gabriel Mugabe, has embraced some messianic titles and statements ascribed to him for liberating Zimbabwe from her colonial masters and the feeding of the people. The book makes a comparative and sociological analysis of kingship in ancient traditions so as to demonstrate how the 'sacredness' associated and ascribed to the reign of Mugabe was not uncommon. As the bearer of the charisma, Mugabe takes some radical measures to assume the task of a saviour. He embraces the praises accorded to him by his admirers and commands obedience and a following in virtue of his mission. Some aspects examined in this study may be highly controversial but eye-opening. Thumps high to the author for daring to explore issues related to Mugabe who is a sensitive subject especially to most Zimbabweans. Those who hero-worship his philosophy and ideology are generally protective towards everything regarding him, yet most critiques of Mugabe's ways and leadership style also try to undermine everything regarding him. The author does not attempt to convert anyone to a particular side but through the way he articulates issues and supports arguments with Historical, Biblical and current material, he invites people to debate even in a larger arena. Without any doubt this study successfully offers the readers some new insight into the society they are constructing.

-Rev. Dr. Muchumayeli Ishmael Bhebhe



The Author

Francis Machingura was born in Chivi District, Masvingo. He is married to Jesca Mushoperi and has two daughters, Tinotenda and Makanaka. Machingura holds a M.A, B.A (hons) in Religious Studies and Post-Graduate Diploma in Education awarded by the University of Zimbabwe. He also holds a Diploma in Project Planning and Management, awarded by the Christian College of Southern Africa (CCOSA) and a Diploma in Pastoral Studies, awarded by Domboshawa Theological College (DTC). Machingura did his doctoral studies as a scholar of German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and received his PhD in Intercultural Biblical Studies from Universität Bayreuth, Germany (2012). His research interests are on the Bible and its relevance in the contemporary society.

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