

FDD denounces calls to withdraw donor aid

By Mukosha Funga

In this audio, FDD spokesperson Antonio Mwanza says calls to withdraw donor aid because of UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema are misplaced. Last week, HH's alliance partners appealed to the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) not to fund "illegalities and people who will use their resources recklessly".

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Shonga testifies against Mwaliteta and Siandenge

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Don't fund dictatorship, opposition tells IMF, WB

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SPEAKER SUSPENDS 48 UPND MPS

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Speaker of the National assembly Dr Patrick Matibini has with immediate effect suspended 48 UPND members of parliament from service for a period of 30 days for their unauthorized absence from the state of the national address by the president on Friday 17th March 2017.

And the Speaker has further challenged the UPND members of Parliament to resign on moral ground.

Meanwhile, Speaker Matibini has referred the issue where UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema is alleged to have demeaned and insulted the Speaker to the DPP for determination and possible prosecutions.

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By Mukosha Funga

In this video, Mazabuka UPND member of parliament Garry Nkombo says Hakainde Hichilema is in high spirits despite being kept under “pathetic conditions”. Nkombo was briefing journalists and fellow MPs after visiting HH at Mukobeko Maximum Prison in Kabwe today.

The UPND MPs arrived at the prison around 12:00 hours hoping to visit their leader but police barred them from entering saying Sunday was not part of the designated visitation days.

However, HH’s wife Mutinta was allowed to visit her husband along with the wives of his co-accused.

After negotiating for over 30 minutes, police allowed Nkombo to go in and visit HH. “The president is very grateful for the effort that everyone has made to come and see him. As you are aware yesterday our vice-president could not access the president because they said it was not a visiting day... The president is in very high spirits but suffice to say that the conditions of his welfare are pathetic, they are not good,” said Nkombo.

“So we will disperse and come back on Tuesday, the way it will be is it will be 12 days as it has been in Lusaka. The president says continue praying for him but we are certain that there will be a bright morning.”

Video on diggers.news

Hakainde Hichilema is in high spirits, Nkombo assures UPND



Mazabuka UPND member of parliament Garry Nkombo briefs fellow MPs and journalists after visiting Hakainde Hichilema - picture by Mukosha Funga in Kabwe

Don’t fund dictatorship: opposition tells IMF, World Bank

By Mirriam Chabala

Opposition political parties have appealed to the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) not to fund “illegalities and people who will use their resources recklessly”.

Nevers Mumba, Mike Mulongoti and Charles Milupi of MMD, People’s Party and Alliance for Democracy and Development respectively, were speaking at a joint press briefing in Lusaka yesterday after their alliance partner Hakainde Hichilema of the United Party for National Development was transferred from Lusaka Central Prison to Mukobeko Maximum Security Prison in Kabwe.

“We also appeal to the IMF and the World Bank in their effort to help us as they come to this country in July or whenever, we asking them not only to listen to the government. Come and talk to us as opposition leaders and listen to us on the issues

of governance so that they can feel the pain and anguish of the Zambian people. Don’t fund illegalities and people that are going to use that money on their personal trips outside this country and we have never a President who travels as much as this President,” Mumba said.

Mumba also asked other Heads of State to shun President Edgar Lungu’s invitations to visit Zambia during this period saying they would be endorsing dictatorship.

“We are asking the international community to stand with Zambian people during this very very dark moment. Zambia is in a crisis politically and has slide into a dictatorship under the leadership of President Lungu and this is not just a statement we are making because we are opposition political parties but it is a fact which is going to affect everything that we aspire for if we don’t stop the dictatorship. As you are aware

today in this country we are not supposed to have any kind of meeting as political parties without the brutality of the police coming into play and we are called a democracy,” Mumba said.

“Just two days ago, Mr Amos Chanda from State House made a statement where he was saying the coming of the Madagascar Preesident, the impending visits of the Ghanaian president and the Rwandan president is a confirmation that the international community is happy with the manner in which this government is oppressing the people of this country. So we are asking the Presidents in the region to support the Zambian people by suspending their trips, so that they give us time to fight as a people for our freedoms. We ask them to use their resources that they could have used to fly here to push and apply pressure on President Lungu and his people to let

the people of Zambia enjoy their freedoms and concentrate on what matters because by their continued visits, the Presidents are endorsing what should never be endorsed even when they don’t mean to endorse and a lot of them are coming in good faith by way but not knowing that it’s trap and president Lungu is inviting those who have been legitimately elected.”

And Milupi said government must stop abusing the military to fight their battles.

“This morning we were hit with the news that the State in the usual manner has decided to move the President of UPND who is incarcerated together with his five other colleagues to Mukobeko and we are disgusted with this news because it’s a further demonstration of how this government considers itself to be above the law in the manner they take certain actions,” said Milupi.

“We also want to caution this government to stop abusing the Military personnel of this country because we are aware that they used a ZAF aircraft to transfer the accused people to Mukobeko in Kabwe, which is an illegality. There is no need for government to start using the country’s resources to fight against its own citizens. And I want Zambians to understand very clearly that the issues that have let HH and his co-accused go to prison and be charged with treason is because they

were fighting for this country.”

Meanwhile, Mulongoti said moving HH and his co-accused was just a scheme to keep him away from his family and his legal team.

“It is wrong for the state to start using this period to punish and brutalise Hichilema’s family, it is already bad that he incarcerated but taking him to Mukobeko is just a scheme to keep him away from his family and his lawyers which should not be allowed. Moreover, there are so many issues that the government should focus on right now that to just shift their whole attention to one individual,” said Mulongoti.

Police shoot rapist clad in police uniform

By Joseph Mwenda

Police on Friday shot a man of Lusaka’s Silverest area who was reported to have raped a woman while wearing police uniform.

Police Spokesperson Esther Mwaata Katongo could not state whether the suspect was a police officer or a masquerader, but said he attempted to escape.

“On Friday, police officers shot a person identified as Steve Nsomekela aged 29 of Silverest. Officers were investigating a case of rape where a woman had reported that she was raped at gun point by a person who was in police uniform. The act was reported to have happened in the vehicle of the suspect,” Katongo stated.

“Without the suspect noticing, the victim grabbed some documents from the vehicle which she presented to police. Investigations pointed to the said suspect who was apprehended by police.”

She said the suspect attempted to escape during the search at his house and was shot.

“Officers further went with the suspect home for recoveries where they got a pistol and some police uniforms. Whilst there, the suspect attempted to jump over the wall fence, this is how he was shot in the hip and he unfortunately died on the way to UTH where he was being rushed. The body is in UTH mortuary,” said Katongo.

FDD denounces calls to withdraw donor aid

From front page

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“We also appeal to the IMF and the World Bank in their effort to help us as they come to this country in July or whenever, we asking them not only to listen to the government. Come and talk to us as opposition leaders and listen to us on the issues of governance so that they can feel the pain and anguish of the

Zambian people. Don’t fund illegalities and people that are going to use that money on their personal trips outside this country and we have never a President who travels as much as this President,” said Mumba.

But Mwanza said their demands were misplaced because the poor who would suffer the most if aid was withdrawn.

“The withdrawal of donor aid will not affect President Edgar Lungu or his cohorts, it will affect the very poor people Mr Mulongoti, Mr Mumba and Mr Milupi are claiming to represent. The matter of HH is before our courts of law and

my earnest appeal is that let us allow the due process of the law to take its course. It will not help our people to be agitating for the withdrawal of foreign aid to Zambia, in fact it is irresponsible, outrageous and immoral for any leader to be pushing for that because only

the poor and not Edgar Lungu shall suffer the consequences. Mr Mumba, Mr Mulongoti and Mr Milupi are well off and they won’t feel anything even if donors withdraw their support to Zambia,” said Mwanza.

Listen to audio on diggers.news

Police pick body with head injury in Zingalume

By Diggers Reporter

Police today picked up a body of an unidentified man between the ages of 50 and 55 in Lusaka’s Zingalume Compound.

In a statement, Police Spokesperson Esther Mwaata Katongo said the

body had a head injury but all body parts were intact.

“The body was discovered at about 05:00 hours by members of the public near Egoli Lodge who later alerted police. The body of the victim which was found with head injuries was

in a green T-shirt, Khaki trousers and in a black leather coat and has been deposited in UTH mortuary awaiting identification and postmortem. The body was found with all body parts intact as opposed to reports going round that some body

parts were found missing,” said Katongo.

“Police in the area have since engaged the local leadership to discuss the need for community participation in policing since Mwembeshi Police Post which was gutted by members of the public is still non-operational.”

Speaker suspends 48 opposition UPND MPs

From front page
“The members where being disloyal, disobedient in their allegiance to the president,” Speaker Matibini said. The suspended MPs have also been banned from entering the National Assembly or its premises, attending any parliamentary committees, and shall not be entitled to any salary or allowances during the period in question. As the opposition UPND MPs were walking out of he House, the ruling MPs shouted “walk of shame! Walk of shame!”

FULL RULING:
RULING BY THE HON MR SPEAKER AGAINST 48 HONOURABLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF THE UNITED PARTY FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (UPND) FOR BOYCOTTING THE STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS ON THE APPLICATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL VALUES AND PRINCIPLES BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT, MR EDGAR CHAGWA LUNGU, ON FRIDAY, 17TH MARCH, 2017

The second ruling relates to the unauthorised absence of the UPND Members of Parliament from the House on Friday 17th March, 2017, when His Excellency the President of the Republic of Zambia, Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu, delivered the State of the Nation Address on the Application of Constitutional Values and Principles to the House.

This ruling arises from letters of complaints lodged with my office against the UPND Members by the Hon Minister of Higher Education, the Hon Deputy Chief Whip and the Members of Parliament from Milenge, Chilubi, Muchinga and Kantanshi Constituencies.

Hon Members, I wish to point out from the outset that the number of UPND Members of Parliament who absented themselves from the sitting of the House, without permission, on Friday 17th March, 2017 is forty-eight (48) and not fifty-eight (58), for the following reasons: Mr Keith Mukata, MP, was present in the House. Mr J J Mwiimbu, MP, Mr Sililo Mutaba, MP, Mr Elliot Kamondo, MP, Mr Ephraim K Belemu, MP, Mr Victor Lumayi, MP and Mr Mukumbuta Mulowa, MP, obtained leave of absence from the Hon Chief Whip. Further, Mr L A Lufuma, MP, Mr S K Kakubo, MP, and Mr F C Chaatila, MP, were at the material time outside the country on a foreign tour of the Committee on Estimates. Thus, these ten (10) Members were disjoined from the matter.

Hon Members, you will recall that this matter is related to the earlier absenteeism of 54 UPND Members from the House last year on Friday 30th September, 2016, when His Excellency the President of the Republic of Zambia, Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu, officially opened the First Session of the Twelfth National Assembly. I will, therefore, start my ruling from that premise.

The House will recall that on Friday 30th September, 2016, fifty-four (54) UPND Members absented themselves from the House without permission from my office or that of the Chief Whip. As a result, my office received letters of complaint from Hon R Musukwa, MP, Chief Whip and Mr Emmanuel Chilekwa regarding the same absenteeism. Accordingly, I referred the matter to the Committee on Privileges, Absences and Support Services for consideration and determination.

After due consideration of both written and oral exculpatory submissions made by the members, the Committee found the UPND Members guilty of the offence of absenteeism contrary



Speaker of the National Assembly Dr Patrick Matibini - picture by Tenson Mkhala

to Order No. 151 of the National Assembly Standing Orders, 2005, and recommended that they be punished by reprimanding them behind the bar of the House, and thereafter were required to apologise to the House.

Thus, acting on that recommendation, I rendered a ruling on 21st December, 2016, reprimanding the Members. In that ruling, I observed that while boycotts were permissible under parliamentary practice, the official opening of Parliament was however a solemn and auspicious occasion, which required all Members to be present and be at their best behavior. Further, I drew the attention of the House to the relevant provision of the Standing Orders, as well as to the authorities from other commonwealth jurisdictions with similar rules on parliamentary practice and procedure. In particular, I drew the attention of the House to a reference to an Indian case in the book written by eminent writers on parliamentary practice and procedure, M. N. Kaul and S. L. Shakhder, entitled Practice and Procedure of Parliament, Sixth Edition, on pages 206 to 207. The relevant part of the case states as follows: “On the occasion of the President’s address to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on 12th February 1968, two members of the Lok Sabha created obstruction. The incident was followed by a walk-out by about seventy or eighty members belonging to both Houses. On 28th February, having given an opportunity to the two members to explain their position, the Lok Sabha adopted a motion disapproving the conduct of the Hon Members and reprimanded them for their undesirable, undignified and unbecoming behaviour.”

Further, Hon Members, in that ruling, I pointed out that a boycott or walk-out was a conventional means through which a Member of Parliament can express his/her displeasure on an issue of governance. However, I observed that the President’s Address was, a special event, which required Members to avoid all manner of misconduct or misbehavior including boycotts and walk-outs because such conduct lowered the dignity, decorum and integrity of the House.

Having guided the House, I proceeded to reprimand the 54 UPND Members. In turn, the Members rendered what I thought then was a remorseful apology, through their Party Whip Mr G G Nkombo, MP, while all the

errant Members were standing in their seats in agreement and testimony with the apology that was rendered. Alas! I was mistaken; because if the members were truly remorseful, they would not have stayed away again from the address of the President to this House, on 17th March, 2017.

Hon Members, as you are aware, in terms of Articles 86 (1) and 9 (2) of the Constitution, the President is required to at least twice in every year, attend and address the National Assembly and at least once in every year, report to the National Assembly the progress made in the application of the constitutional values and principles; respectively. Thus in compliance with Article 9(2) of the Constitution, His Excellency Mr Edgar C Lungu, President of the Republic of Zambia, attended and addressed the House on Friday 17th March, 2017.

Prior to the address, on Thursday, 16th March, 2017, the Office of the Government Chief Whip, in keeping with the custom, issued a circular to all Hon Members of Parliament, reminding them of the parliamentary etiquette that was to be observed during the address, and also underscored the fact that the Presidential Address was a solemn occasion, and requested members to be seated in the House by 08:30 hours on Friday, 17th March, 2017.

In addition, on the same day, Thursday, 16th March, 2017, the House resolved through a Motion moved by Her Honour the Vice-President to suspend the relevant Standing Orders relating to the sitting times of the House on Fridays, in order to accommodate the Presidential Address. This motion was paradoxically supported by two Hon Members of the UPND, who not only concurred with the motion, but also made some proposals on what should be contained in the President’s speech. Yet, as it eventually turned out, the 48 UPND Members, including the two, that supported the motion, stayed away from the sitting of the House on Friday, 17th March, 2017, without my, or indeed, the Government Chief Whip’s, permission.

Consequently, in keeping with parliamentary practice and procedure and observance of the rules of natural justice, I directed the Office of the Clerk, to write to the 48 UPND Members of Parliament requesting them to show cause why disciplinary action should not be taken against them for their unauthorised absence from the House on Friday, 17th March, 2017.

The Members of Parliament

elected to respond through their lawyers, Messrs PNP Advocates. In their response, the lawyers said that since the subject matter canvassed by the charge letters was pending before the High Court in the case of Geoffrey Lungwangwa and Stephen Katuka v Attorney General 2017/ HP/0426, as well as in an action initiated by Mr Richard Mumba in the Constitutional Court, they were unable to respond to the charges. Further, they contended that the matters were sub judice, and threatened to cite me, the Clerk and the Principal Clerk of Journals and Legal Services, for contempt of Court.

Hon Members will recall that on 23rd September, 2016, the UPND Members, together of course, with rest of the House, took their seats after taking oath of office in which they swore allegiance to the President, as required by Article 260 of the Constitution. To be sure, according to the Black Law’s Dictionary, Ninth Edition, at page 1176, “oath of allegiance” is defined as an oath by which one promises to maintain fidelity to a particular sovereign or government. Therefore, by taking the oath of allegiance, the UPND Members are expected to be respectful to the Head of State and Government. Therefore, by boycotting the presence of the President in the House, when they previously swore allegiance to the President, the Members were being disloyal, disobedient and in fact, violated their oath of office.

Further, it is instructive to note that Article 110 (1) of the Constitution provides that there shall be a Vice-President of the Republic who shall be the running mate to a presidential candidate in a presidential election. The import of this constitutional provision is that the vote given to a presidential candidate, counts also for the running mate.

Hon Members, it is, therefore, very strange and illogical, that while the UPND Members boycott the presence of the President in the House, because they are impeaching his election to the office of the President, they complacently, comfortably and completely, adjust to the presence of the Vice-President in the House, who in the August 13, 2016 Presidential election, was elected into office by virtue of the vote given to the President. And, further they freely participate in the proceedings of the House in which the Vice-President heads the government, and responds to their questions; and all other manner of holding the executive branch of government to account, especially Friday’s Vice-President’s

question time. Hon Members, it is therefore my considered view that the continued boycott of the President’s presence in the House by the UPND members is rationally inexplicable and morally unjustifiable.

In any event, Zambia has a duly elected President who was declared as such by the Electoral Commission of Zambia, and sworn into office on 13th September, 2016, albeit the UPND launched an unsuccessful petition challenging the election of the President in the Constitutional Court; a court which in terms of Article 128(1) of the Constitution, enjoys original and final jurisdiction in a matter of this nature.

Following his swearing in, the President in turn swore me as Speaker. And I in turn, swore in all the Members of Parliament. Furthermore, the President appointed Ministers who represent the executive branch of government in the House, and with whom the UPND members, amongst others, engage with in the business of the House. Therefore, if the UPND Members believe that the President was not duly elected, and do not recognise him as such, then they should not have taken the oath of allegiance in the first place, and consequently their seats. However, by taking the oath of office, the corollary is that they ought to recognise Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu, as the duly elected President of the Republic of Zambia in the August 2016 Presidential Election. In any event, there can be no Vice-President elected, Speaker, and Deputy Speakers assuming office, Ministers of government appointed and assuming office. And all Members of Parliament assuming office, without a legally and duly elected President. Simply put, there can be no functioning government without a duly elected President. I therefore, challenge the UPND Members that if they still maintain that they do not recognise the President, they should resign on moral grounds.

Hon Members, I now turn to the punishment to met out against the erring 48 UPND Members. As the House will recall, when I reprimanded the 54 UPND Members on 21st December, 2016, I was very categorical that should any Member in future elect to conduct himself/herself in that fashion, stiffer punishment would be meted out against such Member. In this regard, I have had recourse to section 28 of the National Assembly (Powers and Privileges) Act, Chapter 12 of the Laws of Zambia, as amended by

the National Assembly (Powers and Privileges) (Amendment) Act No. 13 of 2016, which provides for disciplinary powers of the Assembly. Section 28 provides as follows:

“28. (1) Where a member is found to have committed a contempt of the Assembly, whether specified in section nineteen or otherwise, the Speaker, the Committee on Privileges or a select committee appointed under subsection (6) may impose any one or more of the following penalties:

(a) a formal warning;

(b) an admonition;

(c) a reprimand; and

(d) an order directing the member to apologise to the Assembly, in a manner determined by the Assembly.

(2) Where a member is found to have committed contempt of the Assembly of a serious nature and none of the other penalties are sufficient for the contempt committed by the member, the Speaker shall, on the resolution of the Assembly, suspend the member from the Assembly for a period not exceeding thirty days.”

Hon Members, taking into account the seriousness of the offence committed by the 48 UPND Members, and in view of my earlier warning that I would impose a stiffer penalty against a Member who would boycott a Presidential Address to the House, I have, in exercise of my powers under section 28 (2) of the National Assembly (Powers and Privileges) Act decided to suspend the 48 UPND Members of Parliament from the service of the National Assembly for a period of thirty (30) days, with effect from today, the 13th June, 2017.

Thus, in accordance with section 28 (2) of the National Assembly (Powers and Privileges) Act, which requires a resolution of the House to suspend a Member from the House, I now put the Question: The Question is, that the House accordingly suspends the 48 UPND Members for a period of thirty (30) days with effect from 13th June 2017.

As many as are of that opinion say ‘Aye’;

Of the contrary say ‘No’;

I think the ‘Ayes’ have it. The House resolves accordingly.

I now turn to address the 48 UPND Members before they take the walk of shame through the main entrance door of the Chamber.

Let me inform you that your conduct of boycotting the President’s Address as a way of protest was unjustified and unbecoming the conduct of a Member of Parliament. The President is the head of State and government, and you took oaths of allegiance. By so doing, you are expected to be respectful to the President. This is a House of honour, decorum and dignity. I am, therefore, duty bound to ensure that the honour, decorum and dignity of the House is protected and preserved at all times. I wish to reiterate that I will not tolerate gross indiscipline, and misconduct from any Member.

Finally, I wish to inform you that in accordance with section 28 (3) of the National Assembly (Powers and Privileges) Act, during the period of your suspension, you shall not:

(1) enter the precincts of the Assembly and this extends to the National Assembly Motel;

(2) participate in any business or activity of the House or a committee that you assigned in, in your capacity as Members of the National Assembly; and

(3) be paid a salary or allowance that you are entitled to as a Member.

I now order you, 48 UPND Members to leave the Chamber through the Main Entrance of the Chamber, on thirty (30) days suspension as resolved by the House.

I thank you.

By Mukosha Funga

NAREP President Elias Chipimo has written an open letter to President Edgar Lungu to discuss his youth empowerment scheme after frantic efforts to meet the Head of State failed. Chimipo complained that even though President Lungu was fond of stating that his door was always open to opposition leaders for progressive discussions, it was hard to access his office.

“I am compelled to write to you openly and transparently to convey a burden that has been on my heart relating to the acute suffering that is being experienced by the majority of Zambians, particularly those at the lowest end of society. Unfortunately, it has been impossible to gain direct access to your office to discuss important matters of national development such as this. At the recent Labour Day awards you indicated that you regularly communicate with various opposition political parties. This is not true of NAREP. In spite of our various efforts to engage with your office, we have not been able to present our recommendations to you directly on ways that we can take our country forward on a truly developmental path that leaves no one behind. So we write to you now, openly. We do this not to curry favour or seek kudos – that has never been the NAREP way – but out of a burning desire to see the suffering of our people come to an end,” Chipimo wrote yesterday.

Chipimo went on to explain his youth empowerment scheme which is heavily reliant on government will to succeed. “Nearly all the SDG’s will be captured by the initiative we are writing to you about, today. This also fits into the African Development Bank’s High 5’s, particularly the component dealing with improving the quality of life for all the people of Africa. I believe, Mr. President, that we can achieve all this through what we are calling the Twenty Percent Generation Plan, or TPG. Briefly, TPG intends that through a proposed law to be enacted as part of the TPG initiative’s outputs, 20 per cent of all public procurement contracts will be reserved for women, youth and other vulnerable groups and administered through economic sector incubators that will ensure that the target supplier groups are formalised, trained, mentored and supported to raise their standards of competence to deliver to world class levels,” wrote Chipimo.

Below is the full letter:

Open Letter to Republican President Edgar Chagwa Lungu from Elias Chipimo, President of National Restoration Party (NAREP)

Re: The Implementation of a New Development Model for Zambia – The Twenty Percent Generation Plan (TPG)

Dear President Lungu,

I am compelled to write to you openly and transparently to convey a burden that has been on my heart relating to the acute suffering that is being experienced by the majority of Zambians, particularly those at the lowest end of society. Unfortunately, it has been impossible to gain direct access to your office to discuss important matters of national development such as this. At the recent Labour Day awards you indicated that you regularly communicate with various opposition political parties. This is not true of NAREP. In spite of our various efforts to

Chipimo writes Lungu over TPG

engage with your office, we have not been able to present our recommendations to you directly on ways that we can take our country forward on a truly developmental path that leaves no one behind. So we write to you now, openly. We do this not to curry favour or seek kudos – that has never been the NAREP way – but out of a burning desire to see the suffering of our people come to an end.

I believe that while there is (and has to be) a time for politicking, there must also be a time for nation-building. NAREP strongly believes that this is a time to put partisan politics aside and focus on harnessing the collective capabilities of all our people to deliver the goals of development that every peace-loving Zambian seeks.

As a member of the Opposition in Zambia, my goal is to see the liberation of every Zambian from the sense of dependency that has plagued our existence and rendered many, victims of a hierarchy that has not helped them to progress beyond the now familiar expectations of handouts in exchange for political support. I believe this is old politics. It has worked for a time to sustain power for those that have relied on it. It cannot and must not be the path that guides the politics of Africa’s future. Our goal must be to compete with ideas for the hearts of our people – those we would seek to lead.

For once, Zambia has a golden chance to break free of the dependency syndrome that has plagued our politics and to foster abundance and economic growth within each community that will be sustainable and free from political manipulation. For once, we have a chance to fulfill the lofty aspirations of the global development agenda as articulated most recently in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Nearly all the SDG’s will be captured by the initiative we are writing to you about, today. This also fits into the African Development Bank’s High 5’s, particularly the component dealing with improving the quality of life for all the people of Africa.

I believe, Mr. President, that we can achieve all this through what we are calling the Twenty Percent Generation Plan, or TPG. Briefly, TPG intends that through a proposed law to be enacted as part of the TPG initiative’s outputs, 20 per cent of all public procurement contracts will be reserved for women, youth and other vulnerable groups and administered through economic sector incubators that will ensure that the target supplier groups are formalised, trained, mentored and supported to raise their standards of competence to deliver to world class levels.

While this may sound similar to ongoing government initiatives on empowerment, the TPG concept is very different. Under TPG, a manageable portion of the considerable public sector contractual supply opportunity will be used to proactively and deliberately build the target groups’ skills in accordance with a curriculum and support framework that will be administered and monitored with the help of the private sector, civil society and public and private tertiary skills training institutes. To cite an example of how this would work, we can look at the case of Dzitandizeni, a skills centre that



Elias Chipimo with villagers in Samfya

for years has trained ordinary Zambians in carpentry and sold furniture to the general public. TPG would work on developing a modified model of this but would anchor it on the regular supply to government not only of desks and furniture but also uniforms (police, army, air force, national service, ZRA, immigration etc.), foodstuffs, stationery, building materials and anything that the government departments and public institutions purchase throughout the year. Contract allocation will be specifically tied to an economic cluster of suppliers from the target groups (i.e. welders, carpenters, bricklayers, plumbers, stationery suppliers, marketeers and other food suppliers, tailors and seamstresses; service providers in the tourism, transport, education and training sectors etc.). It will also involve training, developing and contracting individuals with higher skills sets such as electronics, mechanical and electrical engineering, architecture, quantity surveying and others. All these groups will be incubated in ‘training silos’ or ‘training clusters’ that will be fully serviced with support systems from professional services firms and training institutions that will help manage, amongst other things: sourcing and procurement of raw materials; skills training; financial management, reporting and accountability; and compliance with global delivery standards for products and services.

Rather than work against existing initiatives such as the Citizen’s Economic

Empowerment Commission (CEEC) and Youth Skills Training Centres, TPG will not only complement them but will attain, in a sustainable manner, the very goals these initiatives have failed to achieve over several years. If the system that TPG is proposing was administered in the road sector, for example, by now there would be many quality Zambian-owned road contractors and construction companies that would not sell contracts to foreign firms but would see through the contracts and deliver to the highest standards.

If properly implemented, TPG will bring economically excluded and disadvantaged groups into the mainstream economy and result in major employment creation; formalisation of the informal sector; reduced poverty; far greater wealth generation amongst all communities across Zambia’s social spectrum; reduction in the disparities between rural and urban dwellers; greater income equality opportunities; better service delivery in the nation (particularly but not only in the artisanal, construction, tourism and food supply sectors); reduced social delinquency; better and more inclusive national planning and development coordination; an expanded tax base; and significantly reduced corruption.

Mr. President, we believe that the following steps need to be taken to ensure the success of the TPG initiative:

(a) a review of the TPG plan in the light of the Seventh National Development Plan (SNDP) and

the ongoing efforts towards empowerment already being undertaken;

(b) facilitation of direct engagement with existing governmental stakeholders that are primarily or exclusively engaged in empowerment initiatives such as CEEC; and

(c) co-ordination of Government Ministries and agencies that would have a role to play in such an initiative such as the Ministries of Youth Sports and Child Development, Gender, Commerce, Finance, Labour, Education, Higher Education, Chiefs and Traditional Affairs, Community Development, Tourism, the Zambia Public Procurement Authority and the SMART Zambia Institute.

We believe a national indaba should be convened to coordinate these efforts and ensure that we can deliver:

(a) a draft bill to put this initiative into law; and

(b) an implementation framework that would ensure that all stakeholders are engaged in the delivery of this programme and that there is no political interference in its implementation.

We believe that we are all stakeholders in the development of our nation and would urge you to actively and committedly consider this progressive initiative, which can be implemented immediately. If we as politicians choose to put Zambia first, above partisan affiliation, not only will we succeed in helping to break the poverty cycle but as a nation, we will thrive. With TPG, poverty will really be a choice and not an inevitability.

Mr. President, this needs

your specific and public commitment. The Zambians facing severe hardships and those that know they deserve and can have a better life today need your specific endorsement of this cause. We know that there will be those who, out of a sense of fear and uncertainty about their own future or connected status, will oppose this plan. It will not be right for you to sit idly by while those within your support base who will no doubt feel threatened by such a plan insult and vilify our efforts to build a national consensus around an idea that will in the end benefit them too. You can exercise the leadership needed by guiding them instead to engage with us in a rational and non-threatening manner for the sake of our nation. After all, if this is a plan whose time has come, it will not be us they will be fighting – they may end up fighting God and we do not need to point out who the winner of that contest will be.

On a final note, Mr. President, notwithstanding our commitment to seeing a better Zambia, we are not above criticism. We want the transparency of a well-debated outcome – one that explores all the things that can go wrong with TPG. Where the plan needs improvement, we must all work towards ensuring that the intended goals are achieved in the spirit of cordial and humble dialogue that seeks to heal a nation that is in deep pain, whether those around you care to admit it or not.

Elias C. Chipimo
President
National Restoration Party (NAREP)
11 June 2017

Indian university gives Zambia 150 scholarships

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

One of India’s leading private Universities, Shimla, has given Zambia 150 scholarships.

According to a statement issued by Zambia’s first secretary for press and public relations to India Bangwe Naviley, Shimla University Director Admissions Dr Ajit Nedungadi said 50 are 100 percent scholarships while 100 are 50 percent.

Dr Nedungadi said the scholarships were

specifically for tuition fees while students would cater for their own air tickets, accommodation and state government administrative costs, all estimated at \$1500 per year.

He said the scholarships were in the fields of engineering, management, fashion design, hospitality, law, journalism, architecture, and applied sciences.

Dr Nedungadi announced this when he called on Zambia’s High Commissioner

to India Judith Kapijimpanga at her residence in New Delhi, India.

And Ambassaodr Kapijimpanga hailed the Indian government and Shimla University for providing a conducive environment to support Zambian students.

She said the Zambian Mission in New Delhi would consult with the Ministry of Higher Education in Lusaka to ensure that the most vulnerable students benefited from the scholarships.

Supreme Court finds Simataa guilty of breaching FBZ contract



By Diggers Reporter
The Supreme Court of Zambia has found renowned football administrator Simataa guilty of breach of contract which he had entered into with Finance Bank Zambia Plc, and Dr Rajan Mahtani as intervener. This is a case in which Dr Rajan Mahtani and Finance Bank sued Simataa for breach of contract. It was contended that on diverse dates and out of his own free will, Simataa testified in courts in various cases against Finance Bank Zambia Plc which was his former employer, and Dr Mahtani who was the Intervener. Simataa further caused portions of his statements to be published in Issue No. 722 of the Daily Nation

newspaper of 2nd April 2014, in which he alleged that the bank and Mahtani were involved in money laundering activities. This is despite Simataa having entered into a K1 billion (unrebased) Settlement Agreement with his former employer at the material time which barred him from disclosing information. In his defense, Simataa had told the court that the agreement only barred him from disclosing the contents of the settlement agreement but it was not a “global gag” on him to abandon his right as a citizen to report any perceived breaches of the law by the bank and Dr Mahtani. He also told the court that his testimonies were merely to help the courts arrive at just decisions. But delivering Judgment on June 2, 2017, the Supreme Court ruled that Simataa, in the settlement agreement, bound himself not to “publish, broadcast or utter any statements adverse to or which are intended to harm or have the effect of character of Finance Bank and Dr Mahtani”. “We believe that one’s reputation and integrity are everything. Even in the absence of a contractual commitment, honesty and integrity demands that people follow through on what they say they are going to do. Their credibility is after all built

from their words and actions. Betrayal of compromises and settlements is a tragedy that only evidences diminished integrity...All circumstances considered, we are satisfied that the respondent (Simataa) did in fact breach clause 5 of the Settlement Agreement,” read the judgement which was delivered by Justice E. Hamaundu sitting with Justice Mumba Malila and Justice M. Musonda. The court however held that there was no loss financially which had been suffered and therefore, Simataa was not compelled to refund the bank K1 million. “It is clear from the extract of the testimony of the appellants’ witnesses in the trial court that there was no loss financially or otherwise proved to have been suffered by the appellants as a result of the respondent’s breach of the settlement agreement, though potentially the respondent’s unguarded disclosures could lead to adverse effects on the customer confidence and could lead to sanctions from the Bank of Zambia. This is however, not good enough basis for finding loss to justify compensatory damages,” read the judgment. The Supreme Court only awarded the appellants (Finance Bank and Dr Mahtani) K500 damages for breach of contract. It also awarded costs to the appellants.

High Court sets date for HH’s petition against his arrest

The Lusaka High Court will on Monday hear UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema’s petition asking it to quash his unlawful arrest. High Court judge Betty Mungo’mba will hear HH and the Attorney General pending determination of the petition on Monday. And the Constitutional Court has set June 15 as date of hearing in a petition in which HH and his five co-accused asked it to strike out provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code which forbids those accused of committing capital offenses like treason and murder from getting bail. On Monday, HH filed two separate petitions in the High Court and ConCourt asking them to sever provisions of the law which bar courts from granting bail to suspects charged with murder, treason, aggravated robbery and other capital offenses. HH is also seeking monetary compensation for unlawful arrest. HH and his co-accused; Hamusonde Hamaleka, Muleya Hachinda, Laston Mulilanduba, Pretorius Haloba and Wallace Chakawa asked both courts to strike off Section 183 (1) of the Criminal Procedure Code (CPC) which does not allow any court to grant bail to those charged with treason, aggravated robbery and other capital offenses. “A declaration that Section 123 (1) of the Criminal Procedure Code, Chapter 88 of the Laws of Zambia to the extent which it

denies any police officer, Subordinate Court, High Court or Supreme Court the power to decide whether to grant bail or not to any person charged with murder, treason or any other offense carrying a possible or mandatory capital penalty, misprision of treason or treason felony; aggravated robbery or theft of motor, if such a person has previously been convicted of theft of motor vehicle, is ultra-vires Articles 11 and 13 of the Constitution and hence null and void,” read the petition filed in the High Court. And the Petitioners asked the ConCourt to order that they were at liberty to apply before the High Court for bail pending trial and that the High Court be at liberty to grant such bail if need be. HH also asked the High Court to order the state to compensate him in monetary terms for unlawful arrest. “An order quashing their arrest and continued arrest on grounds that: (a) There are no facts or grounds and there were no facts or grounds on which reasonable suspicion could be or could have been formed of the Petitioners having committed or about to commit an offence of treason as provided for in Section 43of the Penal Code, Chapter 87 of the laws of Zambia. (i) Since their arrest, the Petitioners have not been given the reasons for their arrests as required by Article 13 (2) of the Constitution. (ii) Since their arrest,

the Petitioners have not been informed in detail the nature of the offense they are charged with as required by Article 18 (2) (b) of the Constitution. (iii) Since their arrest, the Petitioners have never been given adequate time and facilities for the preparation of their respective defenses as required by Article (18)(2) (c) of the Constitution. (a) Compensation

(in monetary terms) for unlawful arrest pursuant to the provisions of Article 13 (4) of the Constitution of Zambia,” the Petitioners prayed. Lusaka principal resident magistrate David Simusamba is tomorrow expected to commit the case to the High Court after the defense decided against seeking judicial review on the validity of the Certificate of Committal.”

Shonga testifies against Obvious Mwaliteta, Siandenge

By Mukosha Funga
A police officer has named former Western Province Commissioner Fanwell Siandenge as one of the people behind the aggravated robbery case where some Presidential election results among other things were allegedly stolen after the August 11, 2016 general elections. In this matter, UPND members Obvious Mwaliteta, Evans Mukobela, Macmillan Shimukonka, Laswell Phiri, and Emmanuel Mumbi charged with aggravated robbery. In the first count, they are alleged to have on August 14, 2016 stolen a handbag containing various documents valued at K750, an envelope containing Gen Form 12 and a record of proceedings for Chingola Constituency from Elina Nyirenda, the property of the ECZ. In count two, the five are accused of stealing a Blackberry cell phone valued at K4,000, the property of Emmanuel Simbeye and immediately or before threatened to use actual violence on the latter. Mwaliteta and others are in the third count accused of having stolen statements of results (Gen 12 form) from Roy Kuseka, property of the Electoral Commission of Zambia and used or threatened to use actual violence on him in order to obtain,

prevent or overcome resistance from it being stolen and retained. In his testimony today, Arthur Shonga, a superintendent told Lusaka High Court Judge Mwape Bowa that during some of his investigations, he discovered that Siandenge was part of the robbery. Shonga further testified that on the material day, he was on duty when he received a report of aggravated robbery in which some officials from ECZ were attacked after they landed at City Airport. He says he rushed to ECZ headquarters where he found three returning officers, Elina Nyirenda, Emmanuel Simbeye and Roy Kuseka who were attacked and had some presidential election results stolen from them together with personal belongings. Shonga narrated that the police officer he found at the scene showed him a BMW motor vehicle and Toyota Mark II with a phone abandoned by the assailants. He availed that the officer also informed him that while he was holding the Alcatel phone which was found in the Mark II, it rang and it indicated “Compo Siandenge”, which is a telegraphic address for Commissioner of Police. He told the court that there was once a Commissioner by the name of Siandenge in the police service.

Shonga said one of the suspects told him during an interview as to why they were at the scene that they had been instructed by Siandenge. Shonga further told the court that the officer he had found told him he had intercepted a Land Cruiser motor vehicle which was being driven by Mwaliteta and Siandenge as one of the occupants. Shonga further testified that his investigations revealed that there was communication between some of the accused persons and Siandenge. Shonga claimed that three ECZ officials were beaten, pepper sprayed and sustained injuries during the robbery. He says the incident happened between Zambia Air Force and ECZ headquarters as the three were trying to deliver election materials from Chingola and Ndola after they landed at City Airport. Recently, Inspector General of Police Kakoma Kanganja recently offered a K100,000 reward to anyone who would lead to Siandenge’s arrest. “The Zambia Police Service is offering a K100,000 reward to any person or persons with information that would lead to the arrest of a fugitive Fanwell Siandenge, who is on a wanted list for the offence of aggravated robbery,” said Kanganja. Trial continues.

Fake news is slowly driving the mainstream-media news agenda in Zambia, and the whole country is slowly drifting away from real governance issues.

The original authors of fake statements are always fully aware that the story is a lie, but when posted on the Internet, the story takes on a life of its own – spreading misinformation in the process, while also leaving a tarnished impression of legitimate media.

Whenever a big story breaks out on social media, mainstream media must be a sensible place to check for facts. Sadly, our hard working journalist colleagues at public media institutions have now been heaped with the responsibility of countering fake news generated by those who are against the government.

To balance the act, private media organisations try hard to give voice to the voiceless opposition, but also unwittingly take up the task of defusing false news generated by the ruling party; and thus today’s news agenda in Zambia – lies and counter lies.

Political parties have even formed so-called “rapid response teams” which issue false statements to counter false statements from their rival parties. This situation has made the work of journalists extremely difficult and frustrating.

How can we defend ourselves against false news which comes in the guise of scoops? You may say there is always a way to trace any tip or report to verify whether it has substance or not, but that road is not as easy as it sounds.

On May 2, 2017 we got a tip that the President of Zambia Mr Edgar Lungu had fainted at the Olympic Youth Development Centre while doing aerobics. People who were present at the event claimed they saw him collapse. For a news organisation that is alive to the fact that the PF government is weeding out ‘talkative’ media

News

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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PF, UPND behind Fake News, not journalists

houses, this information was not enough to publish without hearing from the President’s inner circle. Mr Amos Chanda, Mr Kaizer Zulu, Ms Chrysta Kalulu and several other State House officials were not available to pick calls that day to balance the statement – even if it was to obviously deny that the incident happened.

A Head of State is no ordinary citizen. If this truly happened at OYDC, that was very important information for Zambians to have, as it was going to empowers them with reasons for questioning those who are paid to look after the health of the Republican President.

But in the era of fake news, this was a ‘scoop’ worth loosing because the public can easily forget a scoop published by a media house, but will never forget a mistake or false story, even if an apology is tendered later.

That is an example of the nature of burden that our major political parties have lumped on us media houses. Of course journalists have never been error-free. But fake news is something else and much more dangerous.

We would like to confidently say that the ruling Patriotic Front and the opposition UPND are responsible for issuing most of the fake statements circulating in Zambia, and not journalists.

Yes, there are those who are well known for publishing fake news on the Internet, but those are not journalists, they are propagandists and they get paid for doing just that – misinforming.

Our concern is fake news generated by PF and UPND.

Just last week, it took the police spokesperson Esther Mwaata Katongo to rubbish a fake statement issued by the Patriotic Front media director Sunday Chanda because it was bordering

on national security.

Mr Chanda claimed his party vigilantes had apprehended UPND cadres attempting to bomb the central business district of Lusaka, as a protest to demand the release of HH – fake news!

Strangely, the police did not summon Mr Chanda for questioning even after the Inspector General of police had earlier announced that anyone issuing alarming statements on social media would be arrested.

Just a few days earlier, the party deputy Secretary General Mumbi Phiri was expressing disgust at the burgeoning of fake news in the country.

Ironically, Mrs Phiri said The Mast newspaper hated her so much that it published a fake story before the August 2016 elections purporting that she had gone to abort her pregnancy in South Africa.

You would wonder what could

be more fake; the probability of her aborting a pregnancy or the possibility of The Mast publishing a fake story before August 2016, when the newspaper was established in November 2016.

The list of fake statements issued by the PF is long, but the UPND is just as guilty, especially after the arrest of Mr Hakainde Hichilema.

POLICE DOGS EAT
UPND SUPPORTER AT
MAGISTRATE COURT

HH BRUTALLY BEATEN
TORTURED WHILE
DRAGGED TO KABWE

LUNGU HAS PLANS
OF ELIMINATING HH -
LITUNGA

GO TO HELL, LESA KUMULU
PANSHI NINEBO, LUNGU
TELLS BISHOPS

These headlined statements were either written or circulated by the UPND to the news media and without a doubt they attracted bitter reactions from members of the public, some of whom were moved to tears.

The UPND, Zambia’s most feasible alternative government, does not realise that circulating such fake or altered statements denies the party an opportunity to reach out to the masses with sincerity and attracting true sympathy from citizens and voters.

The UPND is failing to stick to issues and tightly marking the Patriotic Front by giving proper checks and balances. The opposition party is wasting the opportunities of exposing illegalities in government by issuing extensively exaggerated statements or circulating outright fake news.

It is easy to understand why the PF can be issuing fake or misinforming statements, because it is in the ruling party’s interest to divert public attention from real governance problems. But the UPND cannot get carried away with this trend by countering lies with lies.

Fake news stories present significant risk to people, industries and even governments. The repercussions are that false statements can incite a riot, cause financial loss to a business, affect government operations and can even influence a judges decision.

That is not all, when it is no longer clear what is false and what is correct, people lose their confidence in the state and begin to develop mistrust for political parties that are expected to hold government to account. It is this poisonous mistrust that will eventually destroy our country. Using fake news, this poison is being injected in the members of the public in small doses and soon, our country will become ungovernable.

When the State Becomes a False Prophet



This author has a passion for law, theology, history and politics and reflects on issues affecting both personal and national development in Alberta, Zambia, Canada and the rest of the world.

He does so the conviction that humanity’s true greatness lies ahead of us. We owe a duty to the next generation to do all we can to make their world a better world.

Zambia’s minister of religious affairs and national guidance, the Honourable Reverend Godfridah Sumaili spoke with the Zambia Blog Talk Radio on Saturday, May 20, 2017. I found her sentiments in that interview to be deeply disturbing. Rev. Sumaili sounds like a very good person. However, tyranny when perpetrated by good people is very difficult to resist. Tyranny that comes in the vessels of blood is far

much easier to identify and resist than the one that comes through the honourable vessels of splendour. The more splendorous the vessels of tyranny appear, the greater the duty for vigilance. Nevertheless, tyranny is tyranny regardless of which vessel it uses. For the reasons that follow, I find that the Hon. Rev. Godfridah Sumaili has fundamentally misunderstood the Zambian constitution.

Rev. Sumaili believes that the ministry of religious affairs is trying to operationalise the declaration of Zambia as a Christian nation. This is boloney from a constitutional perspective. Zambia is a Christian nation, but the declaration of Zambia as a Christian nation does not confer reliable rights on Christians. The Zambian constitution has not given Christians more constitutional rights than members of different faiths or sects. It is wrong for Rev. Sumaili to state that now the Zambian government will operationalise the declaration of Zambia as a Christian nation. Zambian Christians, particularly those of the faith of the honourable reverend (which is my faith too), need to take the time to read the whole paragraphs of the constitution. The preamble to the constitution of Zambia declares the republic to be a

Christian nation. But it does not end there. It states further that “...while upholding a person’s right to freedom of conscience, belief or religion” (Constitution of Zambia, 2016).

Constitutionally then, Zambia is both a Christian nation AND a nation that upholds freedoms of conscience, belief or religion. Rev. Sumaili cannot as a representative of the political state pick and choose what she wants from the constitution.

During the interview, Rev. Sumaili’s analogies were even more problematic. She stated that just as a home has values, so should a nation. She is advancing a very dangerous paternalism that is not envisioned by the constitution of Zambia. Zambia is not a home with a father and mother ruling over children in a household. The biblical model of a home cannot be extrapolated to the Zambian state. Zambia is a republic with a constitution that assigns roles to each branch of government. Zambian citizens are responsible adults with rights and privileges afforded to them, not by custom, or the Bible, but by the constitution of the republic. What Rev. Sumaili has stated will erode constitutional liberties. Values in the home, are not the same as values that keep a democratic republic viable. You can’t stand up to your father in the home,

but our constitution allows citizens to stand up to political leaders. Mr. Lungu is head of a democratic state and not an monocratic home. If Rev. Sumaili so passionately believes in home values for Zambia, perhaps she can start with trying to instill those values in members of her cabinet. She is welcome to do that, but she is not welcome to analogise the republic of Zambia as if it were a home with Mr. Lungu as the father and Mrs. Esther Lungu as the mother.

Rev. Sumaili is proposing that the Zambian churches should be regulated by the church mother bodies. This is nonsense. I appeal to all Zambians of good faith to resist this maneuver. The church mother bodies cannot regulate the practise of religion. Churches differ in doctrines. Pentecostals speak in tongues, a practice that Baptists find intolerable. Are you going to let Baptists regulate the practice of the pentecostal faith? What about Sabbath worship? Is the church mother body going to regulate who should worship on which day? Even if the government intended that churches regulate themselves, that too would be unacceptable at very basic theological level. There is no formula to religion and certainly when the state claims to have found a formula to religion it becomes a false

prophet.

Asking for self-regulation of the churches is also intolerable as a matter of constitutional law. The Zambian Bill of Rights has not envisaged a situation where the fundamental freedom to worship would be subjected to regulation by the state or its administrative delegate. Zambia is not Russia where a despot can wake up one morning proclaim themselves to be a state prophet and ban the Jehovah’s Witnesses. Had the Bill of Rights envisaged government control of religion, it would have plainly said so. The fundamental right to choose one’s religion cannot be abrogated by the state. The Zambian state cannot pass laws that control how Zambians must exercise their freedom of religion. Freedoms that should pass regulatory control for them to be exercised are not freedoms at all. When the state begins to regulate how, where, when and what a person should and cannot say, tyranny begins. To be very clear: Rev. Sumaili might as well continue to dream on, but the Bill of Rights has not given her the power, nor the right to regulate or propose regulation of the freedoms of worship.

Rev. Sumaili does seem to suggest that Zambia must be led according to the Bible, but she fundamentally misunderstands the practical application of

such a concept. Now this is the most misunderstood concept. Theologically, the Holy Bible is God’s Word. It is the rule of faith and personal conduct, it is not the rule of Zambia’s constitutionalism. The Holy Bible is not the constitution of Zambia and is not a source of Zambian law. Zambia is not a church, it is a republic. I hope that some leaders in Zambia would lead according to the precepts of the Bible, but the precepts of the Bible do not form part of the constitution of Zambia. The Republic of Zambia is governed according to its constitution. You cannot violate the constitution of Zambia and justify such violation by quoting from the Bible. The God of the Bible has gifted Zambians with a constitution to govern themselves. Rev. Sumaili should follow the constitution and respect it or if she is not prepared to respect the constitution must resign.

Rev. Sumaili makes no legal sense and she certainly makes no theological sense. A government minister who fundamentally misunderstands and undermines the constitutional structure of our republic is unworthy to serve the people of Zambia. I call upon her to resign.

This article was first posted on Elias Munshya’s blog on May 22, 2017.

Chipolopolo victorious against Bafana Bafana

By Diggers Reporter

Zambia coach Wedson Nyirenda broke his winning drought in 2017 after his makeshift side rallied from 1-0 to beat Bafana Bafana 2-1 in a friendly away at Moruleng Stadium near Rustenburg.

The side was missing all its foreign based stars including players from MTN league champions Zanaco and 2016 runners-up Zesco United while Power Dynamos striker Fwayo was a surprise last minute omission from the trip. Bafana on the other hand had two overseas in stars in their starting 11 led by striker Kermit Erasmus of Lens in France, midfielder Andile Jali of KV Oostende in Belgium.

In the match, Lebogang Manyama put Bafana in the lead in the 22nd minute when he headed in Erasmus’ cross. Zambia’s best chance of an equalizer in the first half came in the 41st minute when midfielder Godfrey Ngwenya forced his free kick just inches wide as Bafana went into the break leading 1-0.

Chipolopolo improved after the break and captain Donashano Malama saw his volley in the 56th minute saved by Rowan williams.

A minute later, Bafana gave Zambia a scare when Aubrey Ngoma demanded a penalty after he was fouled by Malama in the box but his appeal was waved off.

The breakthrough for Zambia came in the 72nd minute through Brian Mwila to see the Green Buffaloes striker scored his debut goal Zambia.

Three minutes later, Allan Chibwe kept the scoreline level when he denied Manyama a brace as Zambia stepped on the gas in search of the win.

The clincher came in the 79th minute through Red Arrows striker Lubinda Mundia who capitalized on some poor defending to beat Williams.

However, Bafana pressured and Percy Tau found Chibwe in inspired form in the 86th minute with a near post save. Bafana piled the pressure but Zambia held on to snatch a confidence boosting win three days after they lost 1-0 at home to Mozambique in a 2019 AfCON Group K opening qualifier in Ndola.

The victory came after two draws and a loss from three games played by Zambia in 2017.



Zambia’s Under 20 football team training in Lusaka

Zambia coach eyes U-20 after Mozambique loss

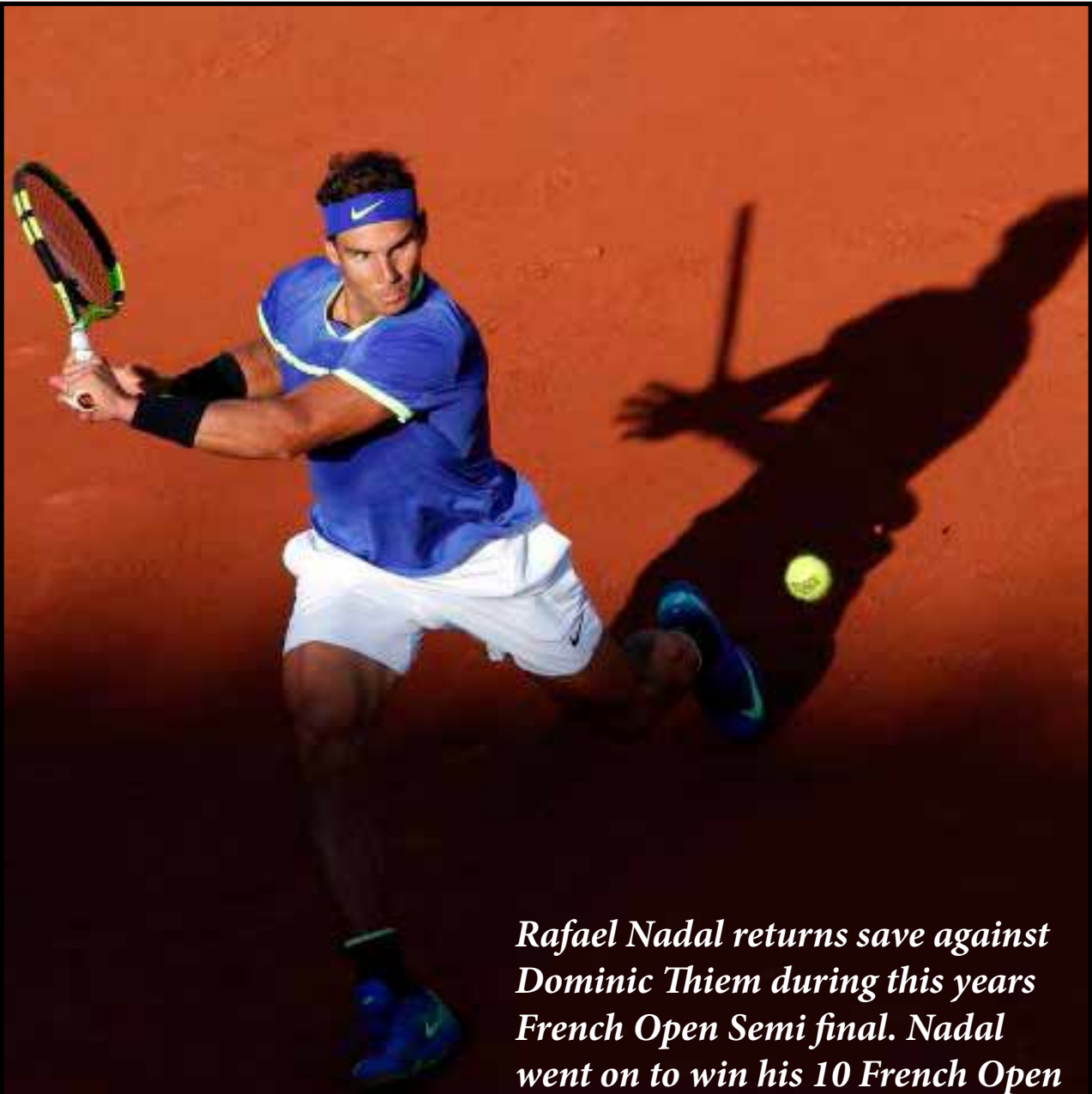
By Diggers Reporter

Wedson Nyirenda has says changes are coming to the senior Chipolopolo squad that lost 1-0 at home to Mozambique in the Total Africa Cup of Nations qualifying game. He says the home defeat was one of the most humiliating results Zambia has given to its fans, adding that the junjor Chipolopolo

had shown responsibility in their style of play. “It is the most disappointing performance that we have shown our people at home. I am so disappointed with the way we played the game...We have worked with the Under-20’s [before], we have seen a lot of passion for the game and a lot of responsibility, Nyirenda said.

Zambia could have wrapped up the game within the opening hour mark but Fwayo Tembo saw his two first half opportunities either go wide and saved by Mozambique goalkeeper Victor. Kondwani Mtonga then hit the post in the 52nd minute seconds later Dave Daka sent his shot onto the side of the net. “Mozambique were all over us from the beginning up to the end. They were the better team and deserved to win.” Zambia especially had defender Stopilla Sunzu to thank for keeping the scoreline narrow after

making telling clearances to deny Teliho and Elias Pelembe in the 82nd and 86th minutes respectively. Ratifo then broke the deadlock in the 90th minute with a shot on the near post to send Mozambique as joint leaders with Guinea Bissau. Guinea Bissau also won by the same margin on Saturday at home against Namibia. The qualifiers resume in March,2018 with Zambia visiting Namibia and Mozambique hosting Guinea Bissau



Rafael Nadal returns save against Dominic Thiem during this years French Open Semi final. Nadal went on to win his 10 French Open title against Stan Wawrinka

U-20 has put pressure on senior team – Rainford

By Diggers Reporter

Zambia captain Rainford Kalaba has admitted that Chipolopolo are currently not favourites among soccer fans following the recent success of their Under-20 counterparts. Zambia hosts Mozambique on Saturday at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium in Ndola in a 2019 AFCON Group K opening qualifying match with unofficial poll ratings at their lowest.

This is after the Zambia U20 teams’ 2017 U20 AFCON triumph on home soil in March and making their debut quarterfinal appearance at the 2017 FIFA U20 World Cup in South Korea this month.

It has also not helped that Kalaba and his team failed to qualify to the 2017 AFCON. Kalaba, a 2012 Africa Cup winner, said they should not be discounted as a spent force but admitted the clock was ticking.

“This is our last chance because, you know, there is too much pressure in the country between the Under-20 and Zambia National team,” Kalaba said.

“So the only thing we can do for our country is to win on Saturday so that the fans can believe in this team again. We were once champions and many soccer fans have forgotten so easily so we have to prove them wrong that this is the team. We have to react to the criticism to what is going on in the country.”



U-20 has put pressure on senior team – Kalaba

Story on page 7



ZAMBIA BEATS BAFANA BAFANA

Story on page 7

