

CAPRIVI CONCERNED GROUP



Key Note

CCG 5th Year Anniversary

11 June 2017

Ngweze Community Hall

CAPRIVI STRIP

Theme: You are your own LIBERATORS

- CCG was established 5 years ago to demand a peaceful political solution to the Caprivi political dispute.
- We proposed ways to achieve such a solution, namely: dialogue, unconditional release of Caprivi political prisoners, and a referendum.
- Our principles or motto is PEACE, JUSTICE and FREEDOM!
- It is our duty as victims of the situation, and as members of the affected society to find or demand solutions to our problems.

- From 2012 to 2017, we have faced a lot of challenges and victimisation. We have struggled with resources to keep going, and we have been harassed by politicians and police for us not to keep going, but here we are - still alive, determined to keep going.
- We thank you, because you always tell us that you are with us though you are still in fear of losing your jobs, losing tenders, being arrested or tortured and even killed by the Namibian Police Force. We appreciate your presence here, you must really be strong to be here!

- We also thank you because we have managed to do all we did because of the financial assistance some of you having been offering to us. We have seen unemployed members of our society and poor security guards sacrificing their 50 rands or 200 rands to support us. We appreciate that!
- It is your moral and financial support that we are here today to mark five years of our existence, an existence felt and recognized by every Caprivian, the Namibian Government, SADC and Africa at large.

- Today CCG is the most feared activist group in Caprivi Strip, feared only by the Occupying Government and some politicians. We are a threat to those who hate peace, justice and freedom, or to those who want to deny justice and freedom to others. We are the light, therefore darkness and its associates will never be comfortable with us.
- Today, the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights is considering our case, and it is just a matter of time - we will hear from them very soon. Remember that all CCG leaders and supporters are protected by a protection order from the Commission to the effect that the Namibian Police can no longer deny us any fundamental right and freedom, and cannot harass you or us in anyway! So, be free - feel free!

- You also know that one of the most influential and powerful countries in Africa intends to investigate the issue of Caprivi. This is progress, and we know that pressure against Namibia over the issue of Caprivi Strip is getting too much that the Namibian President cannot hide it.
- Morocco is hereby assured of absolute support from CCG and all Caprivians over the plight for self determination by the people of Caprivi Strip. With Morocco on our side, we hope to see a motion moved at the African Union and United Nations very soon on our right to self determination or Namibia's illegal occupation of Caprivi Strip.

- This is progress, and that is where we are currently!
- Now, the question is, what is the way forward for you as your own liberators? When your parents are still in exile, prisons and mass graves? Do you go back home and sleep peacefully waiting for Morocco or any outside to liberate you?
- We don't think so. We think you must show Namibia, Morocco and the whole world that you really want to be independent, and that you want your brothers or parents to be released from prison.

- What marked the beginning of CCG was organizing a peaceful demonstration to call for dialogue, referendum, and unconditional release of all Caprivi political prisoners. This demonstration was refused by the Namibian Police five years ago, and it never happened!
- Therefore, we want this demonstration to take place this year, on August 25 2017. We want you to help us to make it possible, as we want to help you to get your voice heard by Namibia, Morocco, African Union and the United Nations.
- We want you to mobilize many people, organize yourselves in your respective areas, in your own homes, or community organisations. If you are a parent, talk to your children; if you are a pastor, talk to members of your church; if you are a teacher, talk to matured students.

- We want you to come in large numbers on that day, to come and demand political dialogue, a referendum and unconditional release of all Caprivi political prisoners, and these demands must be communicated formally through petition.
- We want you to be heard, and to determine your political status or future. You are your own liberators, and we want the world to see your determination!
- Go and organize yourselves, go and mobilise all people out there, and come in large numbers on the 25th of August 2017, we are here for you, and we will lead the march!

- You are the legitimate heirs of the Caprivi Strip, a territory with identifiable international boundaries, you have suffered a lot in the hands of the Namibian Government because of the Caprivi political dispute, but you have an undeniable right to self determination.
- You are your own liberators. If you don't speak for yourself, or stand up for your rights, no one may do so for you or come to your rescue!

- God bless you,
- God bless Caprivi Strip,
- God bless Caprivi Concerned Group!!

- Mr. Edwin M Samati, Secretary General