

## Spot The Difference, 3<sup>rd</sup> Election in-lay Interview with the APP

**Interview questionnaire with the All People's Party (APP), represented by its Chief Administration Officer Mr. Venitus Marius Goraseb**

**If you were to predict the elections outcome, which will likely be true?**

- 1. Your party wins majority seats in the National Assembly**
- 2. Your presidential candidate wins the majority vote**
- 3. 60% of Namibian youth will cast their vote**



Answer:

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**How will you go about achieving the above prediction?**

We anticipate achieving the above prediction by directing our resources to key groups of potential voters and nowhere else, in order not to waste time or money.

**Why is it important for young people to vote?**

- Every vote counts. With young people representing more than 50 % of the entire population, meaning in turn that young voters account for more than half of the voting population, they are a powerful political force in Namibia. Powerful enough to even sway elections.
- Young people are hit hardest by the current economic recession and socio-political issues the country is facing (unemployment, poverty, lack of developmental opportunities, land, housing, etc.).
- Young voters are an incredibly diverse group with robust and diverse ideas and opinions on how the country must be run.
- Young people need to connect with politics early on because building a relationship with the political process as early as possible is key to making voting a lifelong habit. True to the motto: "Vote early, vote often".
- It's easier than ever to be an educated voter. In today's tech-savvy world, there is no excuse not to vote because you don't know enough about the parties/candidates.
- You may not care now, but you might in four years. While you can't predict who or where you'll be in five years, you can be sure that the political officials elected into office and the policies they implement will impact your life in the coming months and years.

**Why should the youth vote for your party?**

- Once elected to govern, the All People Party will move fast to effect political change which will ensure that politicians and political parties are held accountable both as

individuals and in their collective capacities as leaders of political parties at all levels in their daily political actuation.

- The All People’s Party having its origins amongst young people will make sure that the allround development in areas like education, sports, culture, arts and business entrepreneurship of our youth is put higher on the development agenda of the government.
- FOR THE ALL PEOPLE’S PARTY, THE YOUTH IS OUR COUNTRY’S PRECIOUS AND PREMIUM INSURANCE FOR OUR FUTURE, THUS YOUNG PEOPLE MUST COUNT NOW AND NOT LATER.
- The All People’s Party shall invest heavily in mass sports development both at national, regional, constituency and village levels in disciplines like boxing, soccer, rugby, tennis, netball, golf, etc. We will also make sure that all scholarship and bursary offers from all friendly and other sister countries and international institutions are taken up at all times.

### **What motivated the formation of your political party?**

It is against the background of the failure of the old parliamentary parties in our country to address resolutely the economic question, that the All People’s Party’ (APP) coming into existence on the Namibian Political scene must be viewed. It is our desire and yearning for genuine fundamental change, **and transformation of our economy to ensure fair and just wealth redistribution** in our lifetime. The APP was formed as a change vehicle. The All People’s Party (APP) was founded by idealist but visionary young women and men from all old majority Namibian Parties on the 14 of December 2007.

Our resolve is to courageously and energetically address the central question of our current historical time **FAIR AND JUST WEALTH REDISTRIBUTION AND FAIR EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL NAMIBIANS**. This we believe can only be brought **about** by a total change and departure from the current business as usual approach of the way our country is governed **to a more radical people centered approach of governance**.

### **What philosophies/principles are at the core of your party’s identity?**

Democracy, Inclusivity, Principled, Honesty, Openness, Service, Equity, Equality, Participatory democracy, Accountability, Transparency.

### **How do you think history will remember your party?**

As a party that believes in the transformation of our economy to ensure fair and just wealth redistribution for all Namibians.

### **In what ways do you think your party has changed since its formation?**

Our first biggest task and challenge **as a young party** is to organize and mobilize people and build the APP countrywide with the view to participating in and winning elections and being able to form government, assume state authority and use it to affect genuine fundamental change at all fronts and levels of our society.

The party has experienced growth including in areas that we did not have any representation at the begging. The party has managed to establish the youth league as well as the woman league, which are instrumental in ensuring growth across the country.

## **What is your party’s stance on the following issues?**

### **Unemployment amongst the youth**

Addressing this issue requires an understanding of the nature of youth unemployment in the country and how this can best be addressed as a matter of urgency. The brief used Namibian Labour Force Survey data from 2012 to 2016. (By Lihongeni Mulama & Victoria Nambinga: *Namibia’s Untapped Resource: Analysing Youth Unemployment*)

### **Access to resources for young entrepreneurs**

One of the leading causes of the culling of entrepreneurial spirit amongst the youth remains access to finance. Thus, it is of utmost importance and priority of the APP to ensure that there is an establishment of entities that are willing and able to finance youth ventures including provision of mentorship programs.

### **Gender equality and Women Empowerment**

The All People’s Party is for total gender equality. 50 / 50 decision-making structure must become a reality in our lifetime and not later. The All People’s Party will make sure that any minister that is of one sex the deputy shall be of another sex. We will also make sure that this will apply to the whole public service at the management cadre level and for all positions at state-owned enterprises and at municipal, town council and village council levels. We shall also offer incentives to those private sector institutions who implement the 50 / 50 policy in their establishments at managerial levels.

### **The Land Question in Namibia**

We will make sure that those ones who need land most are the beneficiaries of the country’s land reform efforts. People with a passion to farm will enjoy top priority instead of weekend or holiday and hobby farmers

We will also make sure that those whose land was taken away (The Herero’s, Nama/Damaras and the San people), the land which currently forms part of what is known as the commercial farm-land south of the redline, and current farm-workers are put on the top of the resettlement list.

The All People’s Party will also make sure that the land in the current communal areas is properly demarcated and registered and owners are given valid non-transferable title deeds which can be used as security with financial institutions.

Rural development and modernization shall be amongst the All People’s Party’s top of top priorities and we shall make sure that all the resources in those areas are harvested, packed modern and made available commercially to the rest of the country.

The All People’s Party fully supports the demand of the Herero and Nama/Damara communities for reparations by the Germans and other colonial forces. Should we take over government, the All People’s Party will ensure that government supports officially the demands of these communities and make formal presentations to the **German and British** governments.

We shall designate an institution in government (in the Presidency) to be the liaison point in the search for an amicable solution to this historic injustice against our people by the former colonialists.

We will make also make sure that all traditional leaders elected or appointed by their communities countrywide will have automatic recognition by the government of the day and all traditional leaders shall be treated equally with full respect.

### **Nation-building amidst gender-based violence, ethnic heterogeneity**

The All People’s Party ‘s point of departure is that we need each and every Namibian to make a contribution in his/her own way possible and in the field that each and every one of us is better equipped in. We need to all of us focus our energy and use it positively to develop our country from a third world developing country to a first-world country. If we are to do this, we need to leapfrog our development initiatives and push resolutely together in order to succeed.

We must build a party which values, cherishes and defends at all times multi-party democracy, respect for all human rights and the rule of law. APP is the party that values and promotes our political and cultural diversity and Namibian patriotism irrespective of one’s political and ideological orientation or racial, ethnic or regional origin or educational attainment.

### **Government procurement processes of goods and service**

The current procurement process is cumbersome, tedious and complex. Our resolve is to have an effective, efficient and transparent system that delivers results is the fastest way possible without compromising efficiency and transparency. Decentralize, diversify, streamline and establish monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to control operations.

### **Corruption and Accountability**

Attack corruption in a way that has not been seen hitherto by appointing men and women who served our judiciary with distinction to the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) and also strengthening the ACC legislation. We will establish a special tribunal on corruption to be served by retired judges to hear corruption cases in a swift way that will ensure that cases are handled and concluded much faster and culprits are dealt with swiftly.

We will make sure that all major corruption cases which have been swept under the carpet by the current government are reopened and re-investigated and culprits taken to task irrespective of their social or political status. We will also make sure that the state confiscates the properties of offenders to not allow criminals to benefit from ill-gotten public goods.

**Decentralization: Devolution to Regional and Local councils.**

To ensure that decentralized powers are effectively implemented and executed, support structures, systems and programs must first be in place. The APP will thus first ensure that in order for regions to execute such mandates, the necessary support structures and systems must be in place for the ideal of decentralized service delivery to be realized to the broader benefit of our communities.

**What is your party’s short and long-term vision for Namibia?**

It is our desire and yearning for genuine fundamental change, and transformation of our economy to ensure fair and just wealth redistribution in our lifetime that the APP was formed as a change vehicle.

Our resolve is to courageously and energetically address the central question of our current historical time FAIR AND JUST WEALTH REDISTRIBUTION AND FAIR EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL NAMIBIANS. This we believe can only be brought about by a total change and departure from the current business as usual approach of the way our country is governed to a more radical people-centered approach of governance.