

# AIM

## AGÊNCIA DE INFORMAÇÃO DE MOÇAMBIQUE

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### SPEECH BY PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL

Speech given by President Samora Machel at a mass rally in Rufaro Stadium in Salisbury on August 7, 1980 during his state visit to the Republic of Zimbabwe.

Supplement to AIM bulletin no. 50

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE



PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL'S  
SPEECH TO A MASS RALLY IN  
RUFARO STADIUM IN SALISBURY  
ON AUGUST 7 DURING HIS  
STATE VISIT TO THE INDEPENDENT  
REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE

Today in Mozambique, we are celebrating independence. We say: People of Zimbabwe we are independent. Before, Mozambique was not independent because Zimbabwe was still dominated. Our state was not solid, it was constantly threatened, a state under attack. Imperialism, intent on destroying the People's Republic of Mozambique, had set its sights on us.

This meant that all weapons were pointed at the People's Republic of Mozambique, at the people of Mozambique, to prevent the consolidation of our independence.

Now we say: thank you people of Zimbabwe, you who made great sacrifices so that Mozambique could be free. Today we are independent, we are free, we are a solid state, a stable state, we can develop freely a people's democracy. Today, day and night our people are singing and dancing, because the people of Zimbabwe are independent, because Zimbabwe is free. Thank you Zimbabwe.

It was not aid that we were giving to Zimbabwe, it was a question of our own freedom. We liberated ourselves from oppression, from racial discrimination, from humiliation, freed our culture, and our economy, and strengthened our unity. This was not possible while a part of us was still oppressed. This part was Zimbabwe.

Today, to speak of this is beautiful. We see the beautiful head scarves, we see the healthy faces, we see the liberation of our culture, our music, our singing.

Some of us had to accept death, in order to free the majority. All this happiness is the result of sacrifices, of blood spilt over centuries. It is the result of the victory

over humiliation, over colonialism. It is the result of resistance by the Zimbabwe people, their determination, their courage, their heroism, their knowing how to combine intelligence with strength. Intelligence combined with strength became an immense force, became the living material that destroyed the enemy.

British colonialism was the first enemy of the Zimbabwe people. British colonialism was colonialism in its classic form. The occupation of a territory by foreigners; with their army, their policies, their laws, their culture, their economy, their education, their civilisation, they physically occupied the country. Everything was foreign, and oppressed the national.

This was British colonialism in Zimbabwe. That was why they had to kill Monomotapa. They had to kill Lobengula, Rozwi, in order to be able to stay here. To instal themselves they had to commit crimes. They killed.

Colonialism feeds on blood and lives, and afterwards it exploits our wealth to develop its own country, and in our country to develop ignorance, illiteracy, chronic sickness. That is how it was in Zimbabwe.

Later, British colonialism withdrew, giving way to a national regime, also a bloodthirsty regime, fascist, highly racist, illegal, a minority regime, a regime to oppress the majority. We all know this. And it is not new for the people of Zimbabwe. It is good to go back over these sad pages of history.

British colonialism fed on the blood of the sons of Zimbabwe. The struggle we are waging is the continuation of the struggle by Lobengula, by Rozwi and others. It is the same struggle that we are continuing. This struggle led by Mugabe, is a continuation of the same struggle.

At that time we were defeated, because we fought with spears and arrows, against rifles and cannons. But even so we resisted. And this illegal regime survived for more than ten years at the cost of blood, oppressing you here, the majority. More than seven million oppressed by a small minority that took over political and economic power, that

took over the instruments of British colonialism, the army and police, to keep itself in power for more than ten years, killing Zimbabweans, hanging children, women, the old, nationalists. This is how the regime managed to survive.

Then you organised the armed struggle in Zimbabwe, to impose justice. The justice imposed by the National Liberation Struggle is not black justice. It was justice in the face of the retrograde forces opposed to peace and progress. The struggle in Zimbabwe was not in order to substitute white racist injustice by black racist injustice. It was not in order to substitute Rhodesian injustice with Zimbabwean injustice. It was to establish justice. And that is why today we wish to thank all those who supported the war in Zimbabwe. The Zimbabwe war was not only supported by blacks. The European continent supported the war in Zimbabwe. In the first place, the socialist countries; in the second place progressive and democratic forces throughout Europe, including those places where there is no democracy. The Zimbabwe war was supported by the Continent of Asia. Peace-lovers, lovers of progress and justice, supported the Zimbabwe war. The American continent supported the Zimbabwe war, because yours was a just war against oppressive, racist and bloodthirsty domination. It was a war to establish a new society of equality between men, it was to create the culture, not of a minority, but of Zimbabwe, a national culture. This is the civilisation we want create. This is the civilisation of the Zimbabwe people.

National culture belongs to all Zimbabweans. It is a culture inspired by the people's suffering, by everyday life. When we produce in the factory, when we produce in the fields, when we drive our tractor, our lorry, we gain inspiration for our culture. This is Zimbabwe civilisation. The Zimbabwe struggle was to give dignity to the Zimbabwean, to generate pride in that which is Zimbabwean, in being Zimbabwean. There were two nations in one country: Rhodesia for the whites, Zimbabwe for the blacks. Today a single Zimbabwe has been born. Zimbabwe for Whites, Zimbabwe for Indians, Zimbabwe for Coloureds, Zimbabwe for Blacks, for

Chinese or whoever. There are no longer blacks, whites, coloureds. There are only Zimbabweans.

This is the Zimbabwe flag, my brothers the flag of Zimbabwe flies over all Zimbabweans. That is why it is your pride, the symbol of your victory, your heroism, your courage, your determination, the symbol of the unity of all Zimbabweans irrespective of their ideology; religious, superstition, capitalist, socialist or communist. This National flag flies over you all, it is your pride. This flag is the result of blood and heroic resistance. It bears the blood of our friend Leopold Takawira, it bears the blood of our friends Herbert Chitepo, Jason Moyo, Alfred Mangena, it bears the blood of our great hero, Josiah Tongogara.

Before this flag there are no Ndebeles, no Shonas, no Manyicas, no Rozwis, there are only Zimbabweans. There are no whites, no blacks, only Zimbabweans. Thank you people of Zimbabwe. You died in Zambia. You were massacred, you resisted. You were killed in Botswana, you resisted. You were killed in Angola, you resisted. You were killed in Tanzania, you resisted. You were killed in Nyazonia, in Nyangau, you died in various parts of Mozambique, you resisted. You were killed here, buried alive. You wanted independence, you wanted freedom.

And today, by freeing yourselves, you have also freed your oppressors. You have liberated the racists. There are no more racists in Zimbabwe. There is no place for racism in Zimbabwe.

In freeing yourselves, you have liquidated complexes of inferiority and superiority. The armed struggle was the highest form of the cultural act that is the liberation fight. We visited Fort Victoria, Buffalo Range, Bulawayo. In each of these places we found a drop of blood, we found a bead of sweat left by a Zimbabwean, for independence for equality between men, for the rights of a human being. But at the same time, with every step we took, we found an act of liberation. And in liberating the land you also liberated men. This act, this eminently cultural act, is indivisible: the armed struggle.

I came here to tell the truth. The truth hurts. The truth punishes. The truth whips. But it is the truth. Truth contains purity, there are no hidden intentions. But a lie has short

legs. And the truth has to be told in order to make history. Otherwise we would say here: "Look, we are all equal", when in fact some have not freed themselves from their racism, when some have not freed themselves from their tribalism. Tribalism is man's most backward state. The tribalist is a primitive man. The tribalist is a man overtaken by evolution, by development, by progress. The tribalist is a shortsighted man. He wants everything today. He is a highly egoistic and ambitious man. He wants everything for himself and nothing for others. He cannot serve the people. Down with tribalism!

We must liquidate regionalism, we must liquidate divisionism in order to build a strong Zimbabwe, a united Zimbabwe, a firm and peaceful Zimbabwe, a democratic Zimbabwe. But we must liquidate tribalism. Independence has come, my brothers, and so we can liquidate tribalism, we can liquidate racism. But it is just the beginning of the work, the work of national reconstruction.

National reconstruction will not be achieved in two years, nor in five years. National reconstruction is permanent. I have heard that Zimbabwe has many cadres and so Zimbabwe will advance very quickly. Do not have any illusions, my brothers. For everyone to have a school you need money, cadres, the engineer, the architect, the designer, the electrician, the plumber. And how many schools are needed in Zimbabwe? For everyone to have the right to health, to be really healthy, we need many hospitals, and many hospitals need many doctors, many pharmacists, many analysts, many nurses and midwives.

And heavy industry in Zimbabwe needs engineers. To build many dams in Zimbabwe so as to produce every year without having to wait for the rain, we need to build irrigation schemes throughout Zimbabwe. For everyone to have food, bread, potatoes, beans, tomatoes, onions, for everyone to have meat we need so many head of cattle, so many sheep and goats, so many chickens. For everyone to have milk, butter, cheese, once again we need our intelligence. For everyone, for each child, to have a litre of milk, eggs, we must make great

efforts. For everyone to have shoes, blankets, a house, we must work. For everyone to have a refrigerator, a car, we need time, my brothers. So do not make demands at the moment. First let us work.

The secret lies in our intelligence, in our hands. Our hand at the wheel of the tractor, our hand around the pickaxe, our fingers around the handle of the spade. That is how we shall produce food for all, for our children to grow strong. For our children to be born and live.

We need time, my brothers.

That is why Zimbabwe took up arms and fought. It wants this.

What we have listed here are not luxuries. But the racists said "No, this is not for the black, the black likes to eat cassava, likes to eat maize flour. All he needs for sleeping is a cubicle beside the pigs and goats ..."

Robert Mugabe's government has a programme to eliminate hunger, unemployment, disease, to clothe everyone and give the necessary education to all. This is the programme of Robert Mugabe's government.

Now I want to appeal to all Zimbabweans to be patient. In Maputo I often heard that the Zimbabweans are already complaining, that they want more money and that there are many strikes. This means, my brothers, helping the enemy to destroy your government. When we plant a mango tree, we take care of it and it takes five or six years before it starts to bear fruit. You cannot plant it one day and pick the fruit the next. Even maize takes several months. Now my Zimbabwe brothers want everything at the same time. In the first place consolidate your independence. In the first place defend your independence. Gain political power so that, after this step forward, you can gain economic power. Economic power has to be built, it does not fall from the sky, just as your independence did not fall from the sky. Your independence demanded patience. More than ninety years of direct domination here, before you were born. Your great grandparents, your grandparents, your parents were oppressed, but you were patient, accumulating in your breasts, in your hearts the certainty of victory one day. In our walk, in our look, we always carried the



certainty of victory. And victory has come. We cannot play with a victory that has taken lives and lives, that has taken the blood of the best sons of Zimbabwe, because of petty interests, secondary interests, that do not serve our Zimbabwe people but rather the enemies that want to destroy us. In order to marry, we must first grow up, mustn't we? Later we arrange a job, organise a house, furnish the house, guarantee employment, and then we look for a wife. That's right isn't it?

This is what I wanted to say. Thank you Africa. Thank you Front Line Countries. Thank you the entire world that helped: Europe, the Nordic countries, in particular the socialist countries. In the Western countries, the progressive and democratic forces who were always on the side of justice, isolating the oppressors, those who perpetuated injustice. Thank you the Asian continent, in the first place the socialist countries and in the second place the lovers of peace, justice, development and progress. Thank you the American continent and in the last analysis, those who bore the heaviest burden, the people of Zimbabwe. Thank you for this victory, people of Zimbabwe. From Umtali to Bulawayo, from Fort Victoria to Buffalo Range, to Victoria Falls, thank you to all those who gave their precious lives for the birth of Zimbabwe.

I know that here I am talking to the survivors. You here are all survivors, survivors from the time of British colonialism's first penetration until the appearance of the flag of Zimbabwe. This liberated the Union Jack. This defeated the racist flag. It has merit. It has defeated two flags.

So thank you everyone. In Mozambique we shall transmit your warmth, your sympathy and your friendship towards the Mozambican people, the great solidarity you bear towards Mozambique, this love you have for our people. We shall never forget the past. Listen carefully, we shall never forget. We were oppressed together, we were massacred together. The blood of the Zimbabwean people is mixed with the blood of the Mozambican people.

In the struggle we were together side by side. We suffered together in the forest, hunger, rain and cold, that is why we are brothers by the past, in the present and for the future. We shall always be at the side of Zimbabwe. Should the Independence of Zimbabwe ever be threatened, count on the people of Mozambique. Enemies of the Republic of Zimbabwe are the enemies of the People's Republic of Mozambique. In the past it was colonialism, and later the racists. Now our common enemy is underdevelopment. So let us use again our intelligence and our strength, to defeat underdevelopment. This is the message that I shall take to my people. And I bring with me all the warmth, all the admiration of the Mozambican people for the Zimbabwean people. A politically mature people, who at the right time knew how to separate the wheat from the chaff. You knew how to use the elections, that the enemy intended as a manoeuvre to destroy your victory. You elected your government. Today you are in power, through your Prime Minister Robert Mugabe. The traitors went to the dustbin of history. Leave them in the dustbin.

Thank you for your great, historic reception. The Mozambique delegation felt at home. We are not foreigners in Zimbabwe. We are just in different places. And we shall transmit the discipline we have noted here in this stadium. This discipline is the result and a conquest of your struggle. Continue firm discipline and in this way you will liquidate the enemies of your independence. You will discover those who are spies, who serve outside forces. Thank you everyone.