



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Foreword 2

Editorial 2

16 days of activism against gender based violence 3

I will make their land prosperous 4

Programmes update 5

Cry our beloved country 6

There is no peace for the wicked 7

SCMZ Speaks

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ZIMBABWE: LETS JOIN HANDS IN THE STORM!

The situation in Zimbabwe is graver than what meets the eye; all government hospitals are not functioning, private hospitals are crumbling, there is no provision of safe drinking water to the citizens of the country, there is no food - nearly half the population face starvation, the education system has come to a complete collapse, we may lose a whole generation, the economy is down, the list is endless. The greater plight of the Zimbabwean people, our plight as a people, our worst challenge as a nation; is that the Mugabe regime seem very reluctant to solve the political impasse. Instead, these political leaders seem very much eager to maintain and defend the

status- quo at the expense of the Zimbabwean population. At whatever cost, the Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front (ZANU PF) is determined to hold on to power, even if half the population perishes, ZANU PF will unashamedly and arrogantly continue to sing their rhetoric mantra of sovereignty and territorial integrity.

When people went to the polls on March 29 2008, Zimbabwe was hopeful, people had hope that the election was going to bring change and signal an end to our untold suffering. But all that hope was lost in the few weeks that followed when ZANU PF unleashed a reign of terror in the entire country.

It was a campaign so brutal that it left the entire Southern African region in a state of shock. But to Mugabe and his henchmen it was a campaign against colonialism, or so they say! Nevertheless, when the political leaders signed the Global Political Agreement, Zimbabwe was hopeful again. Everyone was expectant; at least we expected to see the formation of a functional government. But with the events that unfolded in the following months, all that hope is gone! The greater problem is that we look for solutions in wrong places. The Southern African Development Community (SADC) cannot solve the Zimbabwean crisis.

To page 3

A message of hope

We have entered another year, as Zimbabweans have failed to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ in jubilation with other Christians world wide due to their experiences with poverty and hunger. Its now more than four months since the memorandum of agreement was signed between the Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front (ZANU PF) and the two Movement for Democratic

Change (MDC) formations, however nothing close to the betterment of the situation prevailing in Zimbabwe has been noted. In retrospect the country has been plunged into further confusion and chaos. Nothing of significance and relevance to the current socio-economic and political crisis prevailing in Zimbabwe has occurred.

While our leaders are "holding talks" thousands of

innocent civilians have been wiped away by the scourge of cholera sweeping all over the country. The disease has even gone across the border into South Africa putting the people of Limpopo at risk. This on its own is enough to cause antagonism between the two countries, and cause civic unrest and might even lead to other causes of xenophobia.

To page 6



Kasiyano Innocent
National Coordinator SCMZ

The year 2008 has been one of the most difficult period Zimbabwe has passed through, and its also quite unfortunate that the untold suffering has spilled through into the year 2009. Zimbabwe is grappling with problems unprecedented in human history especially in the areas of governance, corruption, poor policies, hyperinflation, poverty, HIV and AIDS and not forgetting cholera, just to mention a few. With the introduction of Foreign Exchange Licensed Warehouses and Retail Shops (FOLIWARS) facility one wonders if the current regime has the people at heart. The current government has lost touch with the ordinary people on the ground and is now desperate to continue in power through any means necessary. How can a govern-

ment claim to be with its people when it gives the green light for the purchase of goods and services in US dollars whilst at the same time it pays its civil servants a salary in Zimbabwean dollar equivalent to more or less US\$20. Thousands of people are dying everyday, and I hear reports that public health institutions are now licensed to charge in foreign currency. The regime needs to be reminded of its obligation that as much as drugs are important to treat cholera, more importantly we need chemicals to treat water so as to prevent it.

Reports coming from the rural areas says that the current regime has

turned its people to the stone age, people are now behaving like wild animals, they are now surviving on hunting wild animals and gathering wild fruits.

Abductions have continued, citizens with dissent voices now live in fear, food aid, seed and fertilizers are now being distributed using the patronage system, one wonders when this madness is going to stop. The education system has collapsed to its knees, some universities like Midlands State University failed to open last semester, and we are not sure if they are to open. I wonder if the current leadership is a leadership of the people, chosen by the people representing the interest of the people. Obviously the answer is definitely NO!

EDITORIAL

2008 is now closed behind us, but every Zimbabwean in the country will never forget what happened in that year. The year had some hopeful and positive episodes where the people were allowed to make free choices of leaders who would govern them through the March 29 2008 harmonized elections. This was a good episode that pleased both God and humanity across the world. Little did people know that the Mugabe regime had in stock an episode (run up to June 27 2008 presidential run off) which was to leave a very dark mark to the history of Zimbabwe. The Mugabe regime committed great sins before God and crimes against humanity when they unleashed a reign of terror on the innocent people of Zimbabwe. Pieces in this issue reflect on all the developments in the year and try to search for possible actions this year.

This presents challenges for our ecumenical movements, movements whose biblical mandate is to come together, discuss and unite towards a common goal and actions so that the people of Zimbabwe also enjoy on earth. The Zimbabwean

people have been forced on the road to Jericho, a road with robbers and thieves. The thieves and robbers are in the form of social and economic problems. The crumbling health and education delivery system, the dollarization of the economy in a country where the bulk of the workers get their salaries in local currency, the escalating transport costs both in rural and urban areas and failure by the general populace to access basic commodities are the thieves and robbers.

On the political side, the road to Jericho is coming in the form of political violence, persecution and abductions. The abductions of people from Banket in Mashonaland West province and that of Jestina Mukoko and 8 others are all examples of the troubles on the way to Jericho. Jestina and her colleagues are languishing in remand

prison on trumped up treason charges. These are peace loving citizens working on exposing violence and other human rights violations who just woke up facing the biggest crime in the land whose only punishment is the death penalty.

This issue of SCMZ SPEAKS is there to bring hope and light where the situation seems hopeless. This is the time for all progressive civic movements, the opposition and the churches to really push forward with the agenda of a prosperous and peaceful Zimbabwe. Lobbying the regional and international community has been done but there still lack real action on the local scene. If we really stand on God's side we will move mountains in our numbers. The book of Daniel clarifies it all, "But the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do great exploits", Daniel 11 vs. 32.

*"But the people
that do know their
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ZIMBABWE: LETS JOIN HANDS IN THE STORM! (from page 1)

As Zimbabwean people, we are the solution to our own problems, only if we put our hands together and drive out this filth called ZANU PF. But history has also taught us that no challenges can defeat a united people.

The people of Zimbabwe must now stand up for their lives. ZANU PF has stolen everything away from us; they have taken our jobs, our money, our health, our education, our water, our

food, and our families are now scattered all over the face of the earth; but we can't let them kill our spirit. The spirit of unyielding resilience that we have shown over the years, the spirit of perseverance that has kept us going despite the untold suffering, the spirit of unyielding hope that has kept us alive in the midst of droughts, water cuts, blackouts, murders, tortures and abductions. Now is the time for all progressive

Zimbabweans to come together and solve our problems. to join hands in the fight for our freedom and dignity. Let us all come together; young and old, men and women, Christian and non-Christian, urbanite and rural dweller.

It is in this darkest hour of our time, and probably in the history of Zimbabwe, that Zimbabwe must again witness a generation rise to greatness and defeat dictatorship and despotism. Our strength is not tested during the best of our times! Despondency will not defeat our challenges. The struggle will be bitter and painful but it's worth the sacrifice. The climb will be steep and dangerous; but we must!

Prosper Munatsi, SCMZ General Secretary

16 days of activism against gender based violence

The sixteen days of activism against gender based violence are upon us again and it is time for us to reflect on where we could have fallen and violated people simply because of their gender. At the same time it is that period when we need to look up to how we as individuals can make the difference and roll back all forms of violence, particularly that which emanates from a gender base. This form of violence must be eradicated altogether for the world to be a better place, for once there is no gender based violence then it implies that there is mutual respect between all of humanity and thus mankind would be fully employing the biblical principle of love thy neighbour as you love yourself.

Peaking about love, the saddening thing about gender based violence is that most of it occurs in love circles. The worst and most horrific form of gender based violence tend to occur predominantly between people who love one another or

should I say people who purport to love each other. Some of the violence is deliberate and overt, that is the physical abuse of a partner or spouse. While this has visible scars and marks and is a billboard of how love can be cruel, those who suffer it may choose to be silent about it and even defend and protect their abusers. Its common and almost natural because they would be in a state of denial. They cannot believe that they person they love and who professes a reciprocation of that love can so harm them. Instead, they would blame it on other things that are outside of that person and even seem reasonable and logical in their justification. Such people need help and someone to talk to. Are we prepared to listen and assist? That is the question we should be asking ourselves as Christians and as brothers and sisters. But often times we wag our tongues in careless and damaging speech about those people and do nothing to help. It is rather sad but it is a fact of our

human conduct that is not natural and we must not be part of that. Those who perpetrate such violence also need to be helped and be reminded of their obligation to be protective of their love partners. This violence is usually perpetrated by the stronger, masculine sex over the weaker feminine sex. I am speaking as though this violence only occurs in a marriage, yet even boyfriends and girlfriends do fight physically. So the man must take his role right at the early stages of the relationship if the relationship is to grow into a lasting union of marriage. Guys don't beat up your girlfriends, in these sixteen days and the next and the next and the next.

The other form of violence is the covert, non-physical type. This is mainly emotional violence. While its scars are invisible and outwardly things may look rosy and the relationship be the envy of many and the model for many a couple, inwardly someone would be going through hell. This type of violence can lead to different and complicated psychological and emotional disorders which in the worst of cases are exhibited in cases of suicide and divorces or some-such anti-social disorders. This is sad given the social damages it cause to whole communities and nations. From my personal observations this type of violence can be well pursued by females towards their male counterparts. This can be met with physical retaliation. Sisters I urge you not to subject your fiancées and husbands to unnecessary pressures through making unreasonable demands on them.

To page 5

The year 2008 in retrospect

2008 has been the most painful year in the fight for the democratization of this country in the sense that the hopes were high that change had finally dawned. The period between 1980 and 2008 can be equated to the biblical forty years of exodus from Egypt to Canaan. The excitement started in the pre March 29 harmonized elections when campaigns were generally peaceful as opposed to the culture which the people of Zimbabwe had been subjected to by the Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front (ZANU PF) regime during election time.

People knew that the only tool that was used to the advantage of

ZANU PF over any form of opposition was ruthlessness and brutality. With incidences such as Gukurahundi which occurred in the early 80s where approximately 20 000 civilians were massacred in Matebeleland and the Midlands provinces at the hands of the ZANU PF government, harassment of the now defunct Zimbabwe Unity Movement supporters, violent land invasions, killing and torturing of Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) supporters after the 2000 constitutional referendum and operation Murambatsvina. More violence was prevalent in the pre-election period as ZANU PF tried by all means to

intimidate the electorate against voting for the opposition.

There was excitement at the in the run up to March 29 in the sense that the campaigning was relatively free and fair since the incidences of violence were very isolated. One can safely argue that this was as a result of SADC's intervention after the brutality of state against opposition and civic society leaders on March 11 2007 on their way to the prayer meeting scheduled for Zimbabwe Grounds

To page 7

I will make their land prosperous again

For the majority of the crew aboard the SCMZ ship as well as the Zimbabwe populace at large, the 2008 economic tide had been a very harsh one. Restrictive cash withdrawal limits with people failing to access their salaries from banks, galloping inflation, weird exchange rate movements, neck high debts, food shortages and, dollarization of the economy with workers being paid in the local currency, were but only a few of the challenges faced by the majority of people in Zimbabwe. Many of

us are actually afraid of facing the year 2009 given the current constraints.

Will a new government rescue us? Does God really care for us? Are we not so prayerful for God to deliver us from this financial mess we are in?. Can't the United Nations, European Union or even SADC restore Zimbabwe

to its yester year financial glory? The list of questions is endless. But in as much as the 2008 financial road has been very humpy, winding and undefined; we cannot dwell on it. One great author once said, 'Unless one wants to commit suicide, it would be unthinkable to drive at high speed through uncertain terrain looking through the rear-view mirror.' Life is best lived looking forward and not backwards. Despite the financial, political and social challenges, we need to take personal responsibility for our lives and create the future that we desire.

Our objectives and core values as SCMZ will never be fulfilled if we spend the greatest part of our time lingering in our miseries. If we just sit where we are in quiet desperation we may die bitter, unfulfilled and uncelebrated with only ourselves to blame. We must always remember that in whatever situation, talks or no talks, cash or no cash, credit crunch or no credit crunch; God is still God! The

Lord himself in 2 Chronicles 7; 13-14, said, ***'Whenever I hold back the rain or send locusts to eat up the crops or send an epidemic on my people, if they pray to me and repent and turn away from the evil they have been doing, then I will hear them in heaven, forgive their sins, and make their land prosperous again.'***

As a Christian movement, we have the mandate to be prayerful and worship God for who he is. There is light at the end of the tunnel. My word to you, my friends is that the setbacks mentioned earlier in this piece are not a permanent feature of the Zimbabwean economy. Let us put our faith in the Lord Almighty, he will deliver us from these economic woes. Like morning dew they will disappear as the sun rises above the horizon. All we need is united action.

By Precious Chinanga, Harare



"Life is best lived looking forward and not backwards."

PROGRAMMES UPDATE: OCTOBER 2008 TO DECEMBER 2008

The Student Christian Movement of Zimbabwe (SCMZ) carried a number of activities aimed at promoting the participation of young people in civic advocacy in Zimbabwe. These activities were targeting students in tertiary institutions as well as youths in the communities. The secretariat, with guidance from the National Executive implemented the activities.

Two capacity building workshops were held in October, one in the Northern Region and the other one in the Southern Region. The Northern Region encompasses the following provinces; Manicaland, Mashonaland East, West, Central as well as Harare while the Southern Region has Matabeleland North and South, Bulawayo, Masvingo and Midlands. The workshops were meant to train 30 key people in each region who are now helping the movement in the implementation of the advocacy programme. The 60 participants received detailed training on the following areas; leadership, youth and

gender, governance and democracy, the current crisis in Zimbabwe, the constitution as an important pillar to good governance. They also received training in mobilization of people and facilitating at activities.

In Masvingo the movement successfully carried a community sweep for peace and justice campaign. 63 SCMZ members participated in the sweep of the Masvingo Central Business District. In sweeping the streets of Masvingo SCMZ, aided by t shirts, flyers and pamphlets was sending the symbolic message that as we clean up the dirty in the streets, lets also drive away violence and injustice in our communities. The activity was in fact advocating for peace and justice in the country. This was coming in the background of the state sponsored violence and injustice against the people of Zimbabwe. The same violence has persisted with the latest being the case of Jestina Mukoko and her 8 counterparts who were abducted in December 2008 and they are

still in custody. The movement therefore needs to strengthen this peace and justice campaign so that the perpetrators will hear the message wide and clear.

Similarly, in Bulawayo and Mutare, soccer tournaments were organized and as the games were being played they were again symbolizing peace and justice in society. T shirts, flyers and pamphlets were also distributed. In Bulawayo, the movement also had meetings at the National University of Science and Technology (NUST), Hillside Teachers College, Bulawayo Polytechnic and the United College of Education. The meetings were discussing the challenges being faced by students in these colleges and what could be done to influence transformation. Poor or no food, transport costs, absenteeism of lectures from classes and the victimization of student activists were the key challenges that were raised by all colleges. The meetings agreed that the problems were linked to the broader national governance crisis. So, as long as students fail to push for a political solution in the country, then the situation in colleges will further deteriorate.

In addition SCMZ also placed statements on important International Days in local newspapers and on the internet. In doing all this advocacy work, SCMZ believes that it is the duty of all God fearing and peace loving Zimbabweans to unite into action towards a peaceful and just Zimbabwe. Those who will remain silent at such a time should know that they have not yet reached the stage of taking up their crosses and following Jesus.

16 days of activism against gender based violence (from page 3)

And also brothers do not do like wise and do not cheat on your partners as much as the sisters should not cheat too.

In our present day Zimbabwe the prevailing situation gives a true test of love and stand up to salute those who have not been involved in either form of violence against the other gender. Trying as the times are, we who claim to be Christians must be the billboards for true love by remembering our roles

and duties maybe as wives or wives to be, or as husbands and husbands to be. Fights are not unnatural in a relationship of any kind, worse still a love relationship but it is how we resolve and work around those fights that is important and it ought to be done remembering the scriptures and what they prescribe unto us. It would be empty for us to say that we love God when we fail to demonstrate love to those whom we share this earthly life with, par-

ticularly our loved ones.

It is particularly important to note that as we recognise and commemorate these sixteen days of activism against gender based violence that we begin by self introspection so that we can safely and clearly remove the speck in our neighbours' eye. Let us remember that activism against gender based violence does not end with the sixteen days, it is an on-going process and principle to be lived by. The sixteen days should be seen as a commemoration of what we practice every day.

A message of hope ... (From page 1)

Meanwhile the citizens of South Africa are placing the blame on Thabo Mbeki's political intolerance and lack of vision projecting this as the long-term implications of Mbeki's quiet diplomacy on the Zimbabwe situation. Even in the light of all this the neo-present government of Zimbabwe keeps mum about all this and pretends not to see the impending disaster.

Recently members of the state owned army went on a rampage in the capital, beating up so called money changers and causing damage to property and they had to be dispersed by police with tear gas and baton sticks. Such displays of mutinous behavior show a general melt down in military command and this could also cause the people to start retaliating. Even "the president" Mugabe had to cut short his visit to Dubai to attend a meeting discussing the matter.

All this coupled with the high levels of denigration in all aspects of Zimbabwe's economy, social and political fields. Gross violation of human rights seen in the lack of clean water, electricity, cash, fuel, health facilities, the list is just endless. This is enough to be projected into certain impending disaster and total collapse of Zimbabwe as a country unless Robert Mugabe resigns. This being the

only plausible solution to the crisis faced in the country.

However to the general populace this time and experience should not destroy our strong will but should bring us together in prayer and make us more determined to see justice and peace prevail in the nation preparing us for the future. The lord we serve is a God of wonder and miracles, and he shall surely strike down all those who have persecuted, tormented and fed upon the misfortune of the poor and weak. Those who have attained greatness by bringing down innocent souls shall certainly be brought down and judged for their evil deeds.

And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but

the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do great exploits. (Dan 11 vs. 32.)

Thus my fellow Christians I ask you that even in these trying times we all hold on to our faith "So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spit thee out of my mouth" (Rev 3 vs. 16) only if we truly believe in our God then we shall conquer our enemy. If we have the faith of Joshua and David then we are going to speak out on the evil injustices that are occurring in our country today and take action. My message to you is a message of hope, peace and love.

Langelihle Manyani, SCMZ
Vice Chairperson

Cry our beloved country

Article written by

Lovemore

Mangwiro ,

Bulawayo

Once the bread basket of Africa, she is now the begging country; such is our beloved country Zimbabwe. In the 1980s we used to help countries in the region with food crops products but the reverse is now true. Zimbabweans are starving, and this is caused by failure of governance, corruption and a chaotic land reform exercise. Most productive farms were given to the Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front (ZANU PF) supporters. The same can be said of the so-called Farm Mechanisation Programme sponsored by the Reserve Bank Governor Gideon Gono. Most beneficiaries were ZANU PF supporters who had either participated in violence of 2000-2002 or towards the one man election of 27 June 2008. Worse still,

some of the people that were given tractors do not even have homesteads or farms, then how can one expect Zimbabwe to rise? Land was used as a campaign tool characterized by disorder (jambanja) and the results are starvation. In some areas people are surviving on wild fruits or even eating donkeys a taboo in our culture. The unity government would have a mammoth task to solve these issues of starvation, breakdown of rule of law among many other challenges.

Only God knows if this government would work because the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) is dealing with the devil that has a sword in one hand while negotiating. ZANU PF is not even prepared or sincere in the so-called unity talks; this is shown by their typical behavior of misinforming the nation with dangerous statements, and even denying the Prime Minister designate a passport. However ZANU PF should know that everything will come to an end. A new Zimbabwe is inevitable.

The year 2008 in retrospect (from page 4)

This brutality saw the leadership of the two MDC formations and civic society being arrested and tortured, Gift Tandare a youth activist was murdered in cold blood. SADC brought ZANU PF and the two MDC formations to the negotiating table leading to amendment number 18 to the national constitution. Generally it advocated for a free and fair environment. This amendment divided the civic society. Some felt there was no need for piecemeal amendments to the constitution, the only solution being to come up with a new people driven constitution.

An agreement was later reached between civic society and the mainstream MDC. A division was likely to work best in the interest of longtime ZANU PF son Simba Makoni who just woke up one morning saying that he has nominated himself to be a presidential candidate. Mutambara led faction chose to back him. This alliance was likely to confuse the electorate hence the need

for unity between the civic society and the mainstream MDC. This revived hope, particularly when the go vote campaign was launched in ZANU PF strongholds whereby youth organizations such as Student Christian Movement of Zimbabwe, Youth Agenda, the Youth Forum and the Zimbabwe National Students Union campaigned for change in the rural areas. The response was massive; one could sense a wind of change. Witnessing old people even older than “President” Robert Mugabe traveling long distances to come and hear about change. Traditional and Church leaders were in support of the idea. The climax of people’s hope for change was reached after the election results were announced in all wards, whereby Morgan Tsvangirai had won convincingly. MDC scooped the majority of parliamentary and council seats and lost narrowly in senatorial seats. The people were in cloud nine Parties were held and protest music suddenly shot to the top on

the musical charts. People were already seeing themselves in a new Zimbabwe. Some businessmen had even offered to pay Thomas Mapfumo to come and perform on the Independence Day, which is still only a dream up to now.

The generality of Zimbabweans were not aware of an animal called run-off. Whilst in cloud nine the political environment just changed with all ZANU PF militia, state security agents and war veterans embarking on a retributive campaign dubbed operation wakavhotera papi? (Whom did you vote for?) This led to the murder, torture and displacement of opposition supporters. Morgan Tsvangirai finally withdrew from this election and the regional and international community dismissed it as a non-event. The brutality of ZANU PF was castigated the world over. Then came the talks, which rekindled the hope in the people of Zimbabwe.

A power sharing deal between ZANU PF and the two MDC formations ended up being a power grab by ZANU PF as they wanted all key ministries, this again killed the hope which the Zimbabweans had, up to now its suffer continue as the crisis is deepening. There is a cholera outbreak, which has killed more than 1000 people according to human rights watchdogs and independent media, shortage of basic commodities and cash and dilapidation of health, education and other social services delivery system. There is also massive starvation and hunger that has resulted to survival on wild fruits and insects.

By George Makoni

There is no peace for the wicked

“The last kicks of a dying horse are very dangerous,” is a common expression among people and is applicable especially now. In its bid to stop the winds of change currently blowing from all corners of Zimbabwe, the Mugabe regime has unleashed a reign of terror directed towards instilling fear in the people and suppressing dissenting voices. Ever since the harmonized elections on the 29th of March, ZANU PF through its war veterans, Border Gezi youth, Police, Army and Central Intelligence Organisation has gone on rampage, terrorizing influential activist, students and ordinary people. Organised groups have been de-

ployed in various rural areas. They have accused villagers of having voted for MDC and have thus subjected them to various forms of torture including, burning of houses, bombing opposition offices, beatings and being forced to attend ZANU PF rallies. A situation similar to this one is the one that existed in the late 70s. The Smith regime used all sorts of tactics to cling to power but all their attempts prove futile as the will of the people prevailed eventually. Students also, especially those at Tertiary Institutions, have not been spared from this demonic rule. Student activist have been suspended, expelled, denied accommodation and even arrested after protesting against human

rights violations. Students, lecturers and staff have been made polling officers away from their constituencies to deprive them of their right to vote. Denial of postal votes and monitored voting by the uniformed forces are some maneuvers that ZEC undertook to reduce opposition votes. All these are the last dangerous kicks of a dying horse. This brutal regime needs to be reminded that change is inevitable and that attempting to resist it could only lead to their own demise and eventual extinction like the dinosaur which through its refusal to evolve and adapt to changing conditions eventually became extinct. We are in labour and preparing to deliver a new baby called a new Zimbabwe. To every Zimbabwean we say never lose hope because where there is a will, there is always a way and losing hope is losing your reason for living. There is definitely light at the end of the dark tunnel. And all the perpetrators of evil need to be pointed to the good book in Isaiah 57v21 which says, “There is no peace” says God “for the wicked”

Memory Ruzvidzo, Mutare Teachers’ College

The voice of the people is the voice of God

SCMZ Speaks: A NEWSLETTER OF THE STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT OF ZIMBABWE

Contribution to the next edition of
SCMZ SPEAKS to be published in
December 2008 are welcome from all
the stakeholders of the movement

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The Student Christian Movement of Zimbabwe (SCMZ) is a registered non denominational faith and membership based organisation affiliated to the Geneva headquartered World Student Christian Federation (WSCF). The organisation is there to address the changing needs of young people and students. The movement has two critical responsibilities which are:

- ◆ To create a God fearing, just, peaceful, transparent, politically tolerant society with equal opportunities.
- ◆ Challenging students and members to express their faith in practical service.

Vision - A just, peaceful and transparent society in which young people enjoy equitable resource allocation and equal opportunities in education, career guidance and employment.

Mission - To conscientise and mobilise students and youths to be pro-active in society for positive change.

Overall Goal - To build a movement that is relevant and sensitive to the socio-economic issues affecting young people.

Overall Objectives

- ◆ To call students to faith in God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ To help students grow in their Christian life through prayer, study of the bible and the active membership in the Church.
- ◆ To train, equip and encourage students to witness to their faith in practical service to their neighbours.
- ◆ To lead students to see their studies as ways of serving God.
- ◆ To provide an opportunity for other students to come and understand and accept the Christian faith.
- ◆ To strive for justice and peace in the society and for the visible unity in Christ's Church.

Incapacitated or killed!

It is just disheartening that at the same time, the so-called ZIMSEC issued time tables for the mock exams, the government of Zimbabwe have done another mockery, a shock to the fighting people of Zimbabwe by giving teachers what they call salary, a paltry amount which can only buy a half dozen of bread. It is mind-boggling that even though the people of Zimbabwe spoke on 29 March, Mbeki has given someone a time to redeem himself though he (someone) lost the 29 March election and stole 27 June election (a solitary match where the referee was just looking from the terraces). How long are we going to tolerate this nonsense? How long are we going to let these guys do the elections and negotiations on their own? How many

people perished during Gukurahundi? How many families lost their houses during operation Murambatsvina? How many people their businesses during the price blitz? The will of the people have been subverted the leadership of Zimbabwe have been hijacked. Is this total independence or total destruction? A once bread basket of Africa has been reduced to an empty basket. How long is the police to live with bribes? We must oust the monster of course many families cried and many souls cried in Iraq but that does not guarantee permission to someone to massacre and starve his fellow Zimbabweans. How long are we going to live in fear. A coward dies many times but a courageous many die once. Let us hope for the best and prepare for the worst. Now

it is high time to awake out of sleep for now is our salvation than when we believed. The night is far spent than the day is at hand. Let us now cast off the works of darkness and let us put the amour of light Romans 13 vs. 11-12. . No one can stop the winds of change when they blow ask Kenneth Kaunda, Mobutu Seseseko, Ian Smith and if you keep on asking many regimes that failed. You can not victimize the victimized forever. Teachers are workers too. Many Innocent Zimbabweans are suffering at the expense of so few. The result of 29 March shows that a greater percentage of Zimbabweans are anti-ZANU PF. This is the time for ruling regime to pack and go before messing further, we have suffered enough.