

Parliamentary Monitor

A Weekly e-Newsletter Published by the Parliamentary Monitoring Trust of Zimbabwe



25 January, 2013. issue 2.4

Ordinary Voices

Xtra-ordinary Impact

The culprits should have their assets frozen, brought before the High Court and sentenced to a deterrent 10 year jail term with hard labour and obviously banned for life for standing for public office.

Taungana B. Ndoro



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The Bottom-line

We (principals) are responsible for giving instructions to those at the bottom. Parliament thinks it is so sovereign to contradict the acts of principals. No! No! Parliament has limitations. Principals caused the process to happen - President Mugabe October 2012

Constitution Breakthrough? What's in For US?



Out of sync: The four leaders of the three political parties at a press conference to announce the breakthrough. It looks like each is engrossed in their own thoughts. For a moment one would think this is a copy and paste job / or the picture has been photoshopped yet this is the reality of Zimbabwean politics.



Village Observer

Matigari was at his usual pessimistic self. He was holding a newspaper with the four leaders of the three political parties. It was a rare moment, Tsvangirai to the far left, followed by Mugabe, then Mutambara and Welshman Ncube who was at the extreme right. He had folded the story and asked what I thought of the picture. It was a very difficult question. I realised it was every photographer's dream moment. The four BIG men driving three political parties together. I pointed out that Welshman Ncube appeared not comfortable. Maybe because he was too near Mutambara, the man he upstaged in one of the most intriguing and well calculated coups in post independent Zimbabwe. Coups, within political parties were child's play during the liberation war. Then after my obser-

vation, he asked me what else I had made of the picture. He asked so many questions, why was Mutambara seated next to Ncube? Why Mugabe next to Tsvangirai? Was it a matter of protocol? If not, was it semiology? In the sense that the people responsible for the sitting arrangement had wanted to send a message on the real rivalry in Zimbabwean politics. Was it not that Mugabe/Tsvangirai was likely to dominate while Ncube and Mutambara would battle it out. Then if so what were we supposed to make of it? Realize that there will be many small and cascading struggles. He then unfolded the newspaper and the story made me jump in happiness. At least we were getting direction. But Matigari asked me if it made sense that the four men had decided to hold the country at ransom. I asked what ransom? The political leaders were solving a politi-

cal logjam. Then Matigari said; "Politicians create problems at night and wake up pretending to proffer solutions." Should we have gone this far? He asked. How far? "I mean to these guys, don't you see that this is a clear sign that we had no big voice in the document" said Matigari. I began to see the light. He went on to tell me that this was a clear sign that the people had been taken for granted. It was a money making venture by the politicians. They used cheap tricks to make the people keep their eyes off the ball and the result was this. He equally had no kind words for Simba Makoni and his MKD. He asked where they were when the elites were doing all tricks. It is a clear sign that they are not vigilant, said Matigari. He said: "At least this will not affect my life in the short term but in the long run, we admit we have been cheated big time."

Cautious About the Breakthrough

We are very cautious in accepting last week's agreement between Zanu PF, MDC-T and MDC-M/N on the way forward on the new constitution. Our caution is not a product of skepticism or pessimism or cynicism or a propensity for opposing for opposition's sake. A critical review of the ragged and meandering path that has been carved on the political canvas is a cause for concern. If anything, the whole process lost its elixir and the desultory and clumsy markings left wherever the giant foot of COPAC stepped is a wailing testimony of the voices which have been silenced along the long and ragged path. A few voices survived beyond the classrooms, open spaces, under trees and conference rooms where views were solicited.



These views, narrowed to elite talking points were

collected and let to rot. Since the people had not been told what their role was, there was no way they would demand further input. Their views were packed and shipped to a desert island where they could not access. The elites, satisfied that they had pulled wool over the eyes of the masses, then withdrew from the public eye. They knew that no one would challenge them as they had not empowered anyone but COPAC. The retreats, both metaphorically and in reality were met with silence, save for feeble mentions in the media, which did not stop the elite. There were elite fights, and since they had ignored the people's voices, or is it they had imposed their own views, systematically marginalizing the voices of the many. Then the COPAC bosses suddenly became

Virtual Public Gallery



Using Social Media to Monitor Parly

PMTZ's facebook group Parliamentary Monitor is an interactive virtual public gallery where instead of being spectators, citizens raise issues and seek solutions. As part of the integration of the social media platform and this e-newsletter, we take excerpts of some of the posts on the facebook group and share with others.



Pmt Zimbabwe

The MPs who abused CDF may be announced, the responsible ministry has said. What do you think should be done to those who abused the funds?

[Like](#) · [Unfollow post](#) · [Tuesday at 09:36](#)
[Taungana B. Ndoro](#) likes this.



[Tawanda Nyahuye](#) To start with- their names should be announced way before elections. They should face the trial and if found guilty - restitution should be compulsory and an immediate ban from holding public office should follow. A jail sentence of not less than 10 years, life ban from public office and a restitution will be a fair treatment to these not- so- honorable MPs.

[Tuesday at 09:56](#) · [Like](#)



[Warship Dumba](#) THAT IS LONG OVERDUE BECAUSE WE NEED THOSE NAMES OUT BEFORE WE CHOOSE OUR FUTURE LEADERS IN THE PRIMARIES. Rotten apples must be put where they rightfully belong-the political dust bin. The full report of councillors' investigations must also be made public so that we only move forward with the correct crop of leaders that can bring back our beautiful country to its full development potential. Huori mudenga!!!!

[Tuesday at 10:05](#) · [Like](#) · [1](#)



[Warship Dumba](#) Fair Judge Tawanda Nyahuye. Thats the way to go!!!

[Tuesday at 10:14](#) · [Like](#)



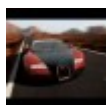
[Isiah Mahwite](#) Pasi nenhunzvatzunzva hatidi uori muZIMBABWE ,we always expect to see beautiful people in this beautiful country mbavha kujeri please

[Tuesday at 11:58](#) via [mobile](#) · [Like](#)



[Nyamutatanga Makombe](#) but the MPs have been protected and at the same time it appears the implementation was mired in a number of problems. the implementation modalities were largely unknown. the communities were not involved. then the audit may focus on what the money was ...[See More](#)

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[Kudakwashe Chakabva](#) they should resign and face the heat of their deeds and so should all corrupt leaders and individuals.

[Tuesday at 15:42](#) · [Like](#)



[Nyamutatanga Makombe](#) a question though: What lessons have we got from the whole issue?

[Tuesday at 16:22](#) · [Like](#)



[Simbarashe Zarura](#) Ban them from politics for good, it will send a strong message to others that corruption is no longer tolerated in any government sphere...

[Wednesday at 15:43](#) · [Like](#)



[Nyamutatanga Makombe](#) [Taungana B. Ndoro](#) u usually come up with exciting views whats ur take

[Wednesday at 15:59](#) · [Like](#)



[Taungana B. Ndoro](#) The culprits should have their assets frozen, brought before the High Court and sentenced to a deterrent 10 year jail term with hard labour and obviously banned for life for standing for public office.

[Wednesday at 16:38](#) · [Like](#)



Thupeyo Muleya

Some Copac delegates made these proposals on parliamentary reforms; ' 40 percent of all the MPs should be the youths while 40 percent of the women's quarter should be reserved for young women aged between 21 and 35-years-old.' What do you think people?

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Feedback? info@pmtz.org



Social Media



Veneranda Langa interesting
6 November 2012 at 16:40 · [Like](#)



Chamunorwa Muzukuru Madiridze Nonsense
7 November 2012 at 09:48 · [Like](#)



Chofamba Sithole @Chamunorwa Madiridze I agree, totally:-)

7 November 2012 at 11:57 · [Like](#)



Simbarashe Manhanga What is a youth in the first place? 21-35 is just silly really. Be realistic.
7 November 2012 at 11:59 · [Like](#)



Taungana B. Ndoro Hogwash!
7 November 2012 at 12:10 · [Like](#)

Breakthrough?

the big boys. They had the keys to some of the fundamental issues which had seized some of the political parties. Suddenly, the constitution making process was a tool to solve the intricate succession issue in Zanu PF. Is this what the people were saying from under trees? Suddenly it was an instrument to shape the leadership in MDC-T, was it the issue? Suddenly some issues took precedence over others. For example, the issue of running mates, however noble, came from the blues, and was an elite project to solve certain underlying issues or make leaders declare. COPAC became the people of Zimbabwe. Their wisdom became the wisdom of the people of Zimbabwe who did not even know much about the process. Then, just like elite politics tells us that there are hierarchies, we

realised that there was a stratum above COPAC. President Mugabe, during the Second Stakeholder Conference clearly spelt out who had the final say. Not the people of Zimbabwe, not the COPAC elites but the principals. There was feeble and half hearted protest until last week Thursday when they showed that they were in charge. This short history, where a principal at one level becomes a subordinate at a higher one makes us skeptic. This was clearly a coup in reverse. You give the people power to shape their destiny but then make sure that you systematically chisel out what you don't like it is all you like, even if it is different from what the people liked.

Madisnyongoro of the Week????



Well, Dr Simba Makoni is a respectable Zimbabwean politician. He has led MKD since 2008, seeing its transformation from a movement to a party, launched in 2009. However, his comments, attacks on the GPA principals after the announcement of a breakthrough are, too harsh, misplaced and unfair. We do not hold a brief for the principals, we have attacked them also but for Dr Makoni to come from the blue and start attacking smacks of opportunism. We fully understand that his party participated under COPAC, or the party personnel did, so we expect consistency on the good Dr and his party. Why did they not attack the process when it was going astray. Maybe they have seen the light now.

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