

**PARTY LAUNCH SPEECH BY NEW HERITAGE PARTY PRESIDENT  
2 DECEMBER 2020  
LUSAKA**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I wish to recognize:

- The Planning Committee of the New Heritage Party
- Members of the Diplomatic Corps here Present
- Members of the Press
- Invited Guests
- Our Party members here present.

To all of you, I say a warm welcome to this launch of the New Heritage Party.

***Introduction***

On 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1991, Zambia saw a peaceful transfer of power from President Kenneth David Kaunda of UNIP to President Frederick Titus Jacob Chiluba of the MMD.

A peaceful transfer of power from one Zambian-led regime to another symbolized one of the greatest aspirations of the Zambian people 56 years ago as they sought freedom of governance and independence from the colonial government of Britain.

Fifty-six years ago, ordinary Zambians of all walks of life, from all tribes and races, from all religions and faiths, made a solemn pledge that they will stand and sing of Zambia, proud and free, a land of work and joy in unity.

Fifty-six years ago Zambians sought to be proud and free in their land.

However, 56 years later, Zambians find themselves under the heavy burden of debt and government patronage. Today Zambia is a poor and heavily indebted country. We owe and are failing to pay Nkongole amounting to \$27 Billion to both domestic and foreign lenders.

Only those that are in support of the party in government or sympathize with them, are the ones enjoying the fruits and labours of our founding fathers. Only they, or those that seem to sing the right song of support, enjoy government jobs and contracts.

Today Zambians that think differently and believe in different ways of running the Country or improving the state of the economy, are treated with disdain or as enemies of the State in their own country.

These Zambians are always at the receiving end of a justice system that is harsh against anyone perceived to be anti-establishment.

It is therefore fitting today, 2 December 2020, a month after the very day that Zambia experienced the first peaceful handover of power from UNIP to the MMD, that we mark another significant day in the history of this nation.

### **Today, we launch the New Heritage Party.**

A Party that seeks to return Zambia to the aspirations of:

- respect for freedom of choice, assembly and expression among many fundamental human rights.
- better livelihoods for our people

A Party that is committed to bringing in a breath of fresh air into a nation whose political landscape has become stagnant and ineffective and to offer an alternative to the Zambian youths, men and women who now feel they are no longer comfortable with the status quo as offered by the existing political parties.

The Heritage Party as you may know, was formed in 2001 by men and women of sound standing and integrity led by Brig Gen Godfrey Miyanda. The Heritage Party with its innovative policies and ideals went on to even win several seats at Local Government level and in Parliament.

The Party was de-registered at the behest of its founding President.

Because the party had not fulfilled its mandate, the Party is being revived and has been re-registered by some of the founder members who strongly feel and know that there is still a "Cause" – the Zambian Cause. A 'Cause' that is still worth fighting for. A Cause that was started by our founding Fathers.

It has been 56 years since we attained our Independence.

Zambia is well endowed with its beautiful climate, massive resource base, vast arable land, water reserves, peace and the most important of all its resource the people of Zambia:

- ❖ and yet the majority of Zambians, continue to wallow in abject poverty.
- ❖ and yet there are more of our youth walking the streets, unemployed, despite earning a decent level of education
- ❖ and yet the dignity of our retirees has been robbed as they are forced to resort to begging in order to survive.

- ❖ And now the hard earned peace Zambia has been well known for since independence is threatened as citizens are attacked by militias while those sworn to protect them watch helplessly.

This is a travesty for God's intention for Zambia and our Heritage.

The New Heritage Party is for all Zambians.

- Zambians that are sick to the core of the rampant corruption, bribery and such like.
- Zambians that deserve respect irrespective of background - Who desire to be given a fair chance in life and equal opportunities regardless of economic, tribal or educational background. Tribal and party affiliation should not be the basis of discrimination as this undermines the potential of a unified and great nation. Tribalism is destructive.
- Zambians that are tired of Christianity being used for political expedience.
- Zambians that are tired of seeing their God-given wealth go to a select few and especially to non-Zambians.
- Zambians that wish to see that foreign direct investment bring realistic returns for Zambia and Zambians. It is incumbent upon the leadership of the country to ensure that as wealth is located, that there is equitable distribution to people in the Provinces. That is our Heritage.

### ***Our Pledge***

We as the New Heritage Party are pledging to steward this wonderful God-given heritage and to pull it out of the grip of greed and mismanagement.

We are coming with a fresh approach, which with God's grace and wisdom will not be just a 'political' solution but a solution for every individual, institution and business that wants this nation to stand on the international arena with their head held high.

### ***Our Vision***

The Vision for the New Heritage Party is to become ***"The Premier Zambian-Led economic and productivity hub in Southern Africa by 2030 and beyond"***

This means:

1. To unlock the economic potential of Zambia
2. To empower every Zambian to meaningfully participate in that economy
3. To institute meritocratic leadership at all levels.

We believe that the role of government is custodial and that this mandate is discharged so as to give the Zambian people the best opportunities possible for everyone to participate and benefit from such participation.

The New Heritage Party economic framework is underpinned by a redemptive, restorative, revitalizing and strategic agenda. We recognize the difficult position brought on by the debt overhang, however, we are confident that with leadership using the skills and competences of the Zambian people to judiciously use both natural resources and human capital, the economy is not only redeemable, but can thrive to become an economic powerhouse that Zambia could have been decades ago already.

In the next couple of months, we shall be launching our manifesto in which we outline our Economic Solar System Strategy for Zambia; A strategy that will not only see the country emerge from its current economic slump but set it on a path to growth and prosperity. So please watch this space very keenly.

### ***A rallying call to Zambians***

The Heritage Party is therefore sounding a clarion call for all Zambians to rally around the cause of Zambian citizens to:

- get back our country from those laws, policies and practices, that have led the country to be held hostage, relegating nationals into second class citizens
- get back our country from those that have divided it along party and tribal lines forcing Zambians to take a position along such lines.
- get back our country from decisions and practices that are putting our posterity into debt, a bondage that our children and their children after them have nothing to do with.
- get back our country from those who are stealing the resources that belong to all Zambians, disenfranchising and disadvantaging ordinary Zambians. Zambia is **our** Heritage – all of us. Not just a select few. By stealing these resources, these are not only stealing our present but are stealing our future. They are stealing our destiny!!! Fellow Zambians, we cannot and must not allow such a situation to continue.

The New Heritage Party invites all well-meaning Zambians, from all tribes and regions, from all educational backgrounds and religious inclinations, to come and join in restoring law and order and economic stability to our country.

The New Heritage Party is calling on all Zambians that feel this country deserves better from what is pertaining in the current leadership spheres of Zambia, all those that feel that the policies cannot solve the existing problems of this country, all those that feel that we have wasted many years of activities

that cannot alleviate poverty being faced by millions of Zambians; those that feel that a new leadership with new ideas is needed to create an enabling environment where all Zambians can work in joy and unity – we invite you all to come and join the New Heritage Party.

### ***The Challenge and the Invitation to Zambians***

As we consider where we are as Zambians, we need to ask ourselves some hard questions –

- ✓ What sort of Zambia we are leaving our posterity?
- ✓ What is the Heritage of those coming after us?
- ✓ What is our role in ensuring that after we are gone, we leave behind a Zambia that is proud and free, a land of work and joy in unity, a land that is victorious in its undertakings.

We are inviting all Zambians that would like to add value to this great nation to join hands with us. Let us work together and build this nation. But we can only build the nation if we get this country back.

I would now like to address 2 issues:

1. There are those that are saying that we have come only to split the votes.  
There are many Zambians who are not satisfied with the current options and are merely settling for what they consider a lesser not so good option and have been looking for a credible alternative. We have come to provide that alternative.
2. Others are saying that we are a surrogate party. Surrogate to whom? Those that know me and what I stand for will laugh out loud. I have continuously stood for and continue to stand for the Cause of Zambia and its people. I am fully persuaded that it is time for Zambians to get a leadership that will be committed to steering the country in the right direction.

God bless Zambia

I thank you.

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