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Genocide in Namibia: Negotiating the Past between Namibia and Germany
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• Germany: From public genocide to colonial amnesia
• Namibia: Negotiating the past in a fragmented society
• Namibia: Communal resilience & the national past
• Germany & Namibia: The pitfalls of an apology
From public genocide to colonial amnesia
Namibia: Negotiating the past in a fragmented society

- key events related to anticolonial resistance & liberation struggle

- 1884 South West Africa declared a German protectorate
- 1904-08: genocidal campaigns by German colonial troops (South and Centre)
- 1915 South African occupation (South and Centre)
- 1917 South African ‘Northern campaign’, King Mandume ya Ndumufayo killed (North)
- 1922 Bondelswarts rebellion (South)
- 1923 burial of Samuel Maharero in Okahandja (Centre)
- 1925 Rehoboth rebellion ((Centre)
- 1932 deposition of King ya Tshilongo (North)
- 1946 South Africa’s incorporation campaign; begin of UN petitioning (into 1950s; mainly Centre and South)
- 1959 massacre at the Windhoek Old Location (Centre)
- 1960 founding of South West African People’s Organisation (SWAPO)
- from 1964 Odendaal Plan (homelands), struggle over implementation
- 26.8.1966 military engagement at of Omugulu-gOmbashe; official beginning of liberation war (North)
- 1971 International Court of Justice declares South African occupation of Namibia illegal
- 1971/2 ‘general strike’
- from 1975 Turnhalle process (homeland dispensation)
- 4 May 1978 Cassinga Massacre (Angola)
- Jan-May 1988 battle of Cuito Cuanavale (Angola)
- 22.12. 1988 trilateral accord: Angola, Cuba, South Africa opens path for:
- 1989 implementation of UN-SCR 435 (1978), elections and:
- 1990 independence; blanket amnesty
Communal resilience & the national past:
Burial of Samuel Maharero, 26 Aug 1923, Okahandia
Communal resilience & the national past: Herero Day, Okahandja
Communal resilience & the national past: Heroes Day, Gibeon
Communal resilience & the national past: Heroes Day, Gibeon
The pitfalls of an apology:
Ohamakari, 14-8-2004

[Image of a sign with text:
WHO IS THE FATHER OF OUR GERMAN FATHERS!!
THE HEREROS??
WHO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF WHO!!
WHO THE GERMAN AM I!!!
DADDY'S DAD IS A GERMAN (KNICKLEM)
MOMMY'S DAD IS GERMAN (WALLI)
I AM HERERO-OUT OF WHAT TREE DID I FALL!!
THERE ARE MORE 2nd GENERATION GERMAN/HEREROS
RUNNING AROUND NAMIBIA TAKEN IN GERMANY,
DEserted, DESTITUTE, UITCH Bdeck AND POOR
INhERITED ONLY WESTERN DeseASES(SKIN CANCER)
SHAME ON YOU !!!]
The pitfalls of an apology:
Ohamakari, 14-8-2004
The pitfalls of an apology: von Trotha visit, Omaruru, 7-10-07