



# Speech

Of

**Supreme Chief Sam Kambazembi, of Kambazembi  
Royal Traditional Authority at the Opening of the All  
Believers House of Payers on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July 2015 at  
Ombujomumbonde, Otjozondjupa Region**

**Republic of Namibia**

**Speech of Chief Sam Kambazembi, of Kambazembi Royal Traditional Authority at opening of the All Believers House of Payers on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July 2015 at Ombujomumbonde in Otjozondjupa Region.**

This is a special day for me because as the traditional leader who took over from my late brother eight months ago. I have met the German Government, not in Windhoek but at Ombujomumbonde represented by the Deputy Head of Mission and the former Minister of Foreign Affairs and the President of the German war Graves.

Before I start with my speech let me tell you that today I am speaking to you as a Chief of Kambazembi Traditional Authority and the people of Otjozondjupa and as well as on behalf of Ovaherero and Namas who are not present here today. Let me first of all tell you who I am, my great grandfather fled Namibia during the German war with his cousin Chief Samuel Maharero through Botswana to South Africa. My great grandfather Kaunjonjua died in South Africa, Limpopo province and his grave is there. My own grandfather Vizembua died in Botswana, Mahalapye, his unmarked grave is there. My own father whose grave you visited yesterday was born in Botswana, as well as my own mother's grave is in Botswana and myself was also born in Botswana and it was because of the German war.

Today Ovaherero and Nama people are living in abject poverty because their movable and immovable property was confiscated by the German forces. Today 25 years after independence the German Government have a representative in this country, but they cannot account whether Development funds given by your Government are reaching the affected people or not. The development funds are buying farms but most of the people who are resettled in these farms did not lose their land. They are still living at the same land where our forefathers and mothers use to live 111 years ago. I want the German Government to know that the Ovaherero and Nama people have forgiven you longtime ago, because we know where our land and our cattle or livestock are and yet we never took them back by force, but we will never forget.

My plea today to your Government is firstly to upgrade the war graves of your victims in Namibia, Botswana, South Africa and Angola. Recently we had a visit to Germany and England to hand over a petition as well as to seek the support of Legal experts in our efforts to gain reparation from your Government. I want you to know that Ovaherero and Nama people want your Government to recognize that what your forces did to them is a **genocide**, **secondly** your Government must **apologise**, **thirdly your Government, our Government and leaders of the affected people must have a dialogue and discuss about the way forward**. We don't want to live in poverty any longer since we have never been poor people before.

**I thank you.**