

Barotse nationals and the civilized world alerted to Zambia's deceptions—as Lungu makes another hasty visit to Barotseland

by Lubosi Mukunda

“And whereas it is the wish of the government of Northern Rhodesia and of the Litunga of Barotseland, his council and the chiefs and people of Barotseland that Northern Rhodesia should proceed to independence as one country and that all its peoples should be one nation,” so states the third paragraph of the preamble of [the Barotseland Agreement 1964](#) (BA’64) signed on May 18, 1964 in London, United Kingdom by Litunga Sir Mwanawina III Lewanika of Barotseland, Prime Minister Kenneth Kaunda of Northern Rhodesia and Principle Secretary for Commonwealth Relations and the Colonies Duncan Sandys of the United Kingdom. The [BA’64](#) was the basis on which the territories of Barotseland and Northern Rhodesia jointly proceeded to independence, then, as a unitary state of Zambia on October 24, 1964. Without [BA’64](#), there is no unitary state called Zambia contrary to what is claimed by the Zambian government and their municipal constitution in their continued deception of the Barotse peoples, Zambian people and the international community.

Sir Mwanawina III could not have imagined that the honourable act of signing the said [BA’64](#) would suffer shameless deceptions at the hands of one of its signatories in the name of Kenneth Kaunda once he got settled in the driver’s seat as the first President of the newly created nation of Zambia and his successors. Simply put, Kaunda and his administration as the executive arm of the failed unilateral state of Zambia signed the [BA’64](#) in bad faith and immediately started violating it as early as 1965 and continued committing other violations and acts of deception thereafter. These deceptions extended to the legislature and judiciary arms of the Zambian government also. In short, Zambia has been governed on a platform of deceit for its entire years of existence, a period of 49 plus years. On March 27, 2012, Barotse peoples decided to formally accept the decision by Zambia of unilaterally ceding itself from Barotseland through the decision of [Barotse National Council](#), the highest policy making body of the nation of Barotseland. Barotse nationals should never again fall prey to these deceptions but join hands and work together in implementing the final steps of attaining their statehood. Zambia for the time being should be ignored as their actions in Barotseland are motivated to delay the attainment of Barotseland statehood.

On continued recent deceptions by the executive and the legislative arms of government, the current Zambian regime headed by Michael Chilufya Sata—notwithstanding its promises to restore the [BA’64](#) prior to taking over the reams of leadership from the Movement for Multi-Party Democracy (MMD) in 2011—in July 2014 Minister of Justice Wynter Kabimba shamelessly lied before parliament by saying that “I do not know of any citizen of this country that has been arrested for reminding the government about [the Barotseland Agreement](#)” and added “we are not underplaying the issue of [the Barotseland Agreement](#) and that is why His Excellency set up the Commission of Inquiry in 2012 on this very issue and the findings of this inquiry are still pending consideration by cabinet and as soon as that has been concluded we shall inform members of the public,” Post newspaper of July 22, 2014. Kabimba said all this on the floor of parliament following an onslaught on him kicked off by Misheck Mutelo, the Lukulu West Member of Parliament who asked him to account for his party’s 2011 empty promises especially about the [BA’64](#). What followed was a

barrage of questions on the same from Parliamentarians representing Mwandia, Choma Central, Sikongo and Katombora constituencies.

Driven by deceit, like others before him, Minister Kabimba could not remember that on February 27, 2012, on both radio and TV live interview hosted by Frank Mutubila, he had said that, “the Dr. Rodger Chongwe Commission of Inquiry (CCol) into the Mongu riots was the worst of all commissions.” This is the same CCol whose report is “pending consideration by cabinet”, which President Sata had earlier on trashed. Way back in October 1969, the Zambian Parliament had unilaterally abrogated the [BA'64](#) under the then Kaunda regime thereby initiating the process of separating the territories of Barotseland and Zambia. This process was delayed by the peoples of Barotseland's themselves due to their futile attempts to restore the [BA'64](#) for a period of 47 years, prior to the [BNC Resolutions of March 27, 2012](#). Today the government of Zambia is claiming that Zambia is a unitary state in its municipal constitution, on what basis? What kind of lunacy is this?

On the Judiciary deception, it is a notorious fact that, time and again, there has been untold under-hand conspiracy between the executive and judiciary bent on molesting Barotse activist through courts and prisons using trumped-up charges, which go back to beyond 1969.

Governing by deceit is what is best known by the leaders of Zambia since the amalgamation of Northern Rhodesia and Barotseland in 1964. At end-July 2014, another representative of the deceitful Zambian government in the name of Minister of Defence Edgar Lungu visited Barotseland possibly on a secret mission to inspect Zambian troops secretly deployed in Barotseland to commit genocide. However, he quickly fail-out with Barotse Royal Establishment (BRE) Indunas at Namuso (Mungu-Lealui) due to his uncouth remarks concerning the Mungu harbour, which is also known as Maunyamo. Lungu was on a calculated mission of not only to deceive the peoples of Barotseland through the usual fake promises of development, but also attempted to grab the harbour from them and divert their attention from actualizing of Barotseland statehood—total emancipation of Barotseland. The [BNC Resolutions of March 27, 2012](#) were clear in that regard. Our humble opinion is that Maunyamo is just like *hones on a bull's head*. Therefore, all the people of Barotseland, including Indunas at Namuso, should not allow anybody to make them believe that hones are more important than the bull which carries them. Having suffered a humiliating defeat and in hardly a week thereafter, on August 5, 2014 Lungu is yet again reported to be back in Barotseland visiting Namuso on another secret mission.

Time for continued deception is over. We advise all the people of Barotseland, including BRE, to see through this deception. No one else can develop Barotseland for them, least of all the failed unitary state of Zambia, which lacks legitimacy and is dependent on donor assistance, domestic and external borrowing as well as deficient in both human and technical capacity. The failed state is yet again on rampage contracting unsustainable external debt, having benefited from heavily indebted poor countries and multilateral debt relief initiatives in 2004 through 2006. The government of Zambia claims through its municipal constitution to have stripped Barotse government of its authority and rights, forcibly grabbed its treasury and reduced it to a mere royal establishment—a status just like any other chief in Zambia. Let all be reminded that the [BNC Resolutions of March 27, 2012](#)

never discussed or resolved anything about any discussions with Zambia apart from immediately engaging the people of Barotseland with the sole purpose of working out the handover of the administration of Barotseland in the shortest possible time under the auspices of the United Nations. We call on Namuso to join the people in the final match of implementing the [BNC Resolutions](#)—actualization of Barotseland statehood in order to determine our destiny. We ask Namuso in a typical Barotse tradition to show Lungu, his troops, administrators and Zambian politicians the way out of Barotseland and never to come back.