

Fallen Heroes—A poem from Makena

by Imatwa Makena

They were there that day in Mulungushi hall
Defying the wrath of the dreaded Chiluba regime, true
When the first trumpet was blown
Ngenda Sipalo, Makokwa Mwala, Njekwa Amusaa, Stanley Liwaniso
Bravely surged forth above all, to be counted
They lived amongst us, spread the Barotse cause, home and away
They stood squarely in the name of Barotseland, and
Bravely, Sang the song of their Fatherland
When the clarion call was sounded
Nosiku Kawanambulu, Richard Ngenda, Kabika Sibeta, Mwangelwa Mbikusita
Fiercely rose to the occasion, unabated
In their pursuit for liberty and social justice
Age consideration was of no consequence, As they were driven by the cause
The cause of the search for the lost fruits of yester year's conquest
The trails of the all-conquering Lewanika, Mataa, Silumbu, Numwa
Minyolui's Pizo was enough to inflate their rungs,
Induna Mukulwakashiko Lubinda Sikutangwa, Induna Angulu Singumbe Kashengula,
Induna Libumbu Sibeta Heroes of our epoch
They audaciously stood tall and resilient
Their names shall forever live and never perish
As the cause they lived and died for gave birth
To generation of gallant freedom fighters,
They were here with us, Lindwalume, here forever
Mioya yenu iyoyange winowino.