

Must we remain silent while Barotseland goes down the drain—God forbid!

by Mwananyandi Mukunyandela Mukuyoyisa

PART TWO

On Sunday 8th May, 2016 a group of five Indunas led by the newly elevated sloopgate Mowa Zambwe (former Induna Katema and now Induna Imandi)—the arc-Iscaiot—made an appearance on Radio Oblate Liseli in an apparent response to the Barotse National Freedom Alliance (BNFA) press briefing that was held on 3rd May 2016. The headline for the Radio Liseli news the following day was, “The BRE has clarified that the issue of the [Barotseland Agreement 1964](#) is not only for the Litunga and the BRE but for all the people of Barotseland”.

The Indunas, among them activist turned Induna Kuso—Muyangwa Mungwaluku alias Linoñu—attempted to calm the people of Barotseland with the news that the BRE was on top of things in as far as the Barotseland issue was concerned. They claimed a number of things that have not gone too well with the people. Every time Induna Imandi goes on air, he ends up provoking the people more. The Induna claimed among others, the following:

1. The BRE stooges and the embattled Litunga are seriously working on the issue of the [Barotseland Agreement 1964](#) that and all stakeholders are free to be involved as long as they do so through them;
2. The people of Barotseland should not believe in everyone carelessly yapping about the [Barotseland Agreement 1964](#) (in apparent reference to the BNFA press conference) but should follow guidance from the BRE and the Litunga;
3. The BRE has already chosen people that will be part of the upcoming discussions over the [Barotseland Agreement 1964](#) and are withholding the names of such people for fear that they will be interfered with;
4. The BRE has already sent out some emissaries to sensitize people over the BRE position and strategy (This in reference to Mulasikwanda Chazele, former BFM Secretary and the renegade BIs who have been unleashed to go and campaign for Lungu in the upcoming Zambian elections through BRE while being funded by the oppressive regime).

It is a marvel why the BRE only goes to the press to address the people of Barotseland in reaction to BNFA statements? If indeed the BRE is an institution of the people of Barotseland, why is it involved in clandestine activities of which it neither consults nor briefs the people? Who does not know that these Indunas are telling blatant lies when they tell the people that all stakeholders are free to get involved?

It is common knowledge that from inception, the BNFA has endeavoured tirelessly to work hand in hand with the BRE but the BRE have constantly rebuffed them. The numerous trips made by the BNFA to the BRE and all the other efforts are well documented for those who care to know. The last effort was a [letter](#) written last month to the Siikalo Kuta, which was shamelessly returned to the sender after reading the contents without a response. Clearly, the BRE suffers from a phobia of mind colonization, which has turned them into the

Zambian regime's stooges. This is the more reason why they are saying that they have 'chosen' the people to participate in the fake talks. Who has given the BRE the authority to choose the people's representatives? In this day and age, for goodness sake can we have a situation where handpicked Indunas are the ones to choose the peoples' representatives to such crucial talks? Are all the people of Barotseland blind and dumb that they cannot choose for themselves representatives that they consider worthy?

Well in any case the [Barotseland Agreement 1964](#) is water under the bridge. We are surprised that the BRE is still talking about the restoration of the [Barotseland Agreement 1964](#) which was dealt a death blow by the Kaunda regime almost fifty years ago and was finally buried by the Barotse people four years ago through the [BNC Resolutions of 27th March 2012](#).

The Question that still begs for an answer is, MUST WE REMAIN SILENT while Barotseland is going down the drain due to the mismanagement of state affairs by this zombie called Barotse Royal Establishment, which was a creation of Kenneth Kaunda?

One wonders whether the rest of the Barotse populace will sit ideal on the fence and watch this rot spearheaded by the BRE stooges and an embattled Litunga. Is it not time for the people to stand up and say that they have had enough of this circus? The personnel turnover rate at the BRE is quite repulsive and anyone who tries to do the right thing is hounded out. Those who conspire with the embattled Litunga stay on until their utility value is finished, then they are also discarded. It is like Indunas are so disposable for as long as they don't serve the dictates of an individual who appointed them as opposed to serving the aspirations of the people.

Rise, O Barotseland, rise to stop this mess and set yourself free from the shackles of systemic ills and institutionalised inadequacies. Is it not time for the Privy Council to convene and find a way of intervening in this downward spiral at the BRE? The BRE is going downhill at a terrific speed without functional breaks and destined to a crush at the rock bottom of the canyon. Where are the honorable Princes and Princesses? Why do they stand arms akimbo while their heritage is held hostage by unworthy and ill-fitting custodians whose ascendancy to the high position is highly questionable? We know that it is the role of the Natamoyo to organize the Royal family and look at their plight and help make them be heard and there is no substantive Natamoyo at the moment. Under the circumstances and in the absence of a substantive Natamayo, why can't the last Natamayo, Hon. Ngombala Lubita, whose departure from the office is highly questionable rise to the occasion and organise the Royal family to pronounce themselves on the current deterioration at the BRE? This is a crisis and it calls for extreme measures.

Why can't the Nationalist or Activist groups (whatever you prefer to call them) unite for once and put aside their ideological differences (perceived and/or real) to deal with the one thing that is clearly the first hurdle towards a free and self-governing Barotseland—a stiff-necked Litunga hell bent on undermining and going contrary to the will and aspirations of his own people. This, in my humble opinion, is not the time to waste our arsenal on each other while we have so much work cut out for us, namely, to remove the obstacles that hinder our progress towards the total independency of our nation. Unity, they say, is the

bedrock upon which nations are anchored. There is such a thing as agreeing to disagree while you unite to combat and confront a common enemy.

What about the rest of the Indunas at the Saa and the Siikalo Kutas? Will they forever sit in the terraces and watch? This is no time to shiver and shut down but to stand up and be counted so that the world may know exactly where you stand. The same goes to the Regional Kutas. Will they forever remain mute while statements are made that implicate them in the crime of treason against Barotseland, turning away and against the will and aspirations of the people as expressed in the [BNC Resolutions of 27th March 2012](#)?

From where I am standing, the 'BRE Castle' has cracked and destined to crumble and collapse like the house built on sand without foundation, "... The fall of that house was great" Lk 6: 46. The clear Barotse definition of governance and government (Namusu) is that ***Mulonga ki Mulena ni sicaba***, that is to say Government is the ruler and his people. Sounds like that is where Abraham Lincoln got his 'government of the people by the people for the people' thing. So when you have a Litunga who does not care for the aspirations of the people and actually turns against the expressed will and aspirations of the people, you have a problem of no small magnitude. It is a crisis of alarming proportions.

Well, let the BRE crack and crumble, after all it was never meant to be for the good of this nation but to dupe it into believing they have 'gold' when all that remains is 'fool's gold', cheap brass. There is clearly no Namuso. Bold, decisive decisions and moves must be taken towards reconstruction of the real thing in whose place the BRE now stands. Let the people unite to put in place a real *Mulonga* that must take Bulози out of the current doldrums.

This reminds me of the wise saying of our forefathers in poetic praise of Ikatulamwa the village of Muyunda Mboo Mwana Silundu, the first King of the Barotse,

***Ikatulamwa wa Muyunda, wa yundangamo mbotelela.
Satekateka mungala, musiulula ta ndume***

The literal meaning is,

**Ikatulamwa the home of Muyunda, whatever goes there never returns.
That which floats above the deep waters calls for the brave to rescue.**

Barotseland is currently floating over very deep and dangerous waters. Where are the brave sons and daughters of the soil that will risk all to rescue their nation, the land of our forefathers and -mothers?