Making a Difference

Libertina I. Amathila

Contents

Acknowledgements	§		 • •		• • •	• •	• •		٠.	• •	• •	• •	 X	i
Maps			 	• • •				٠.,	. • •	••			 xii	i
Prologue	• • • • • • • • •		 										 xvi	i
Childhood Innocer	nce		 										 	1
My Village, Fran	nsfontein	١	 										 3	3
Church			 				:.						 !	5
The Fountain														
Self-sufficiency			 										 	7
Grandmother .			 										 9	9
Grandfather			 										 10	0
Mothers and Fa	thers		 										 1	1
Story-telling	• • • • • • · · ·		 		• •		٠.			٠.		٠.	 13	2
Schooling		. .	 										 1	5
Augustineum S														
Wellington Hig														
The Start of My Jou	ırney	. .	 										 2	0
Preparing to Le														
Crossing Borde														
Dar es Salaam .														
A Dream Come Tr	ue		 							. 			 3	0
Lodz			 										 3	1
Cold War Pawn														
The Polish Lang	guage		 	٠									 3	4

Medical Studies in Warsaw	. 36
Hard Work and a Lot of Fun	. 38
Life Outside Studies	. 41
Graduation	43
An Intern in Tanzania	. 45
Malnutrition	. 47
Internal Medicine	. 48
Surgery	. 49
Gynaecology	. 50
Paediatrics	52
Marriage	54
Further Studies in the UK and Sweden	56
Acclimatizing to Another New Country	
My Second Internship	
Life and Work in Sweden	
News from Home	
Responding to the Refugee Crisis	64
The Old Farm	64
New Challenges	65
Nyango Health and Education Centre	68
The Hospital	
Measles Outbreak	71
Fearless and Grounded	72
Training at the Eastern Front	76
Family Planning Services	77
Camp Life	
United Nations Institute for Namibia	
The Threat of Attack	82
Rebellion	
Political Responsibilities and International Solidarity	85
SWAPO Women's Council	
Africa's Intellectual Giants	

¬		
∠oπ	tent	

World	Health Organisation
	rships89
	cond WHO Scholarship9
Kassir	ıga92
	ng the USA92
	rt from Finland and the USA99
Ndalatan	lo, Angola99
	the Mavulu Centre10
Moro	oia100
'Embı	ıshua'
Visito	rs
A Nev	v Camp Commander
Kwanza S	ul
More	nga Village
Spy Fe	ever
Homecon	ning
The 1989	Elections
Electi	on Campaign11
The R	esults
A Ministe	er in Waiting
Fact-l	Finding Mission
Retur	n from my Visits12
Indep	endence Day 21 March 1990
Squatters	and Street Children
Squat	ters
Street	Children
After-	School Centre
Urban Re	newal
Katut	ura Facelift13
Comi	nunal Towns

The Horseshoe Market139
Rundu Open Market
Saujemwa141
A Clean Capital142
Reforming the Legislation
Women's Property Rights
Local Government Act146
Training Councillors
Providing Better Housing
Alienation Scheme
Houses in Communal Towns
Hanova Houses
Build-Together Programme154
A Trust Betrayed: the Single Quarters
Regional Representation
Regional Councils Act160
The Two Houses of Parliament
Traditional Councils Act 1992
Peace and Conflict in the Caprivi
Decentralization Policy
Minister of Health and Social Services
Kunene Region
HIV/AIDS171
Launching of the ARV Programme
Cardiac Unit
Failed Attempt at Democracy
Deputy Prime Minister
Public/Civil Service and Administration
The German Special Initiative

Marginalized San Communities	. 192
Fact-Finding Mission	. 193
Identity Documents	. 196
No Coffins	. 196
Donations and Dependency	. 197
Schooling	. 197
Land	. 198
Recommendations	. 199
Education Solutions	. 200
The San Development Programme	. 202
Uitkoms Farm	. 202
Land for the Haillom	. 208
Identity Documents	. 211
Campfire Stories	. 212
Making Coffins	. 213
Bee-keeping	. 215
Education	. 216
Inclusion of San in Education and the Workplace	. 217
San Traditional Leaders	. 219
Mountain Folk in the Kunene Region	. 221
Otjomuru Village	. 225
Otjikojo Village	. 228
Ohaihuua Village	. 232
Otjijandjasemo Village	. 240
Lessons Learnt	. 243
Providing Education	. 243
Health Services	. 244
Tradition and Modernity	. 245
My Team	. 247
Empowerment	. 248
Looking Back and Looking Forward	. 251
Serving the People	. 251
Deciding to Retire	. 252

Women in Politics	254
Women in Namibia	256
Retirement	258
Medals and Awards	259
Life as a Farmer	262
Appendix I	267
Tributes to Dr Amathila on her Retirement	
Appendix II	275
Autobiographical Profile of Libertina Inaaviposa Ai	mathila 275