

The demand for change is steadily moving down Africa judging from the reception given to Mugabe and other African leaders attending the installation for another term of Ugandan perpetual President Museveni. Their motorcade was assailed by stone-throwing protesters shouting ‘Go to hell dictators’ and ‘You dictators: we are tired of you’. ( <http://www.swradioafrica.com/news130511/convoystoned130511.htm>

). But pictures of Mugabe’s fawning obeisance to Museveni show his desperation to be at the party – any party! – at whatever cost.

For Vigil supporters it was further evidence that Mugabe and Zanu-PF hardliners have still not understood that the days of dictators have gone. Their problem is that President Zuma does not agree with them. The chasm between Zanu-PF and Zuma was clearly illustrated this week:

1. The Zanu-PF Politburo repeated on Wednesday that elections would be held this year without fail.

2. But Zuma’s international relations advisor Lindiwe Zulu said: ‘categorically and totally, Zimbabwe will not have elections in 2011’. ( [http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/may14\\_2011.html#Z21](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/may14_2011.html#Z21)

- Editor's Comment: Elections -

SADC, AU must assert authority)

For Mugabe’s sake, the constitution-making process must be concluded early and will have to include the proposal from Chegutu that government critics should be killed. That should solve the problem – especially if the suggestion from Makonde is also included in the new constitution ‘media critical of the government should be banned’ ( [http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/may14\\_2011.html#Z11](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/may14_2011.html#Z11)

– Constitution

responses on media raise eyebrows). So much for the Constitutional Outrage Programme . . .

### **Other points**

· With Mugabe now committing suicide by defying SADC, the Vigil launched a clearance sale of our ‘Mugabe Must Go’ bangles. Our notice advises customers to ‘Buy now before it’s too late’.

· The Vigil was glad to escape the threatened rain because we were not sure how we could put up our tarpaulin. Westminster Council has removed the two handsome lamp posts between which we stretched a rope to hang the tarpaulin.

As it is, it taxed our ingenuity to put up our banners and posters without these supports.

· The traditional English dancers the Morris Men made their annual visit to us and gave us a good show. Vigil management team member Fungayi Mabhunu drew a laugh from them when he said ‘it was good to see Englishmen dancing like Zimbabweans’.

· We were also glad to be joined by one of the founders of the Vigil Jean-Francois Mercier

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who is now based in South Africa.

- It was welcome to get an encouraging email from Mac McArthur in Canada. He has had an exhibition in Harare of his photographic interpretation of Shona sculptures – see: <http://www.shout-africa.com/events-parties/zimbabwe-shona-sculpture-scan-photography-exhibition-opens-in-harare/>
- Thanks to ROHR members: Maureen Mapfumo, Charity Nyamuzuwe, Iline Manhunzi, Catherine Tewo and Paradzai Mapfumo who brought soft drinks for thirsty Vigil supporters.
- Joke of the week from Bill Watch of 12<sup>th</sup> May: ‘Tuesday’s sitting was the Senate’s first for six weeks – it has not met since 31st March. The sitting lasted two hours before the Senate adjourned for another eight weeks’. Crisis – what crisis?
- Photos of the protest on 30<sup>th</sup> April against the Swazi King’s visit to London are now on our photo website (check: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/zimbabwevigil/sets/72157626599868179/>).

For latest Vigil pictures check: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/zimbabwevigil/> . Please note: Vigil photos can only be downloaded from our Flickr website – they cannot be downloaded from the slideshow on the front page of the Zimvigil website. For the latest ZimVigil TV programme check <http://www.zimvigil.tv.com/>

**FOR THE RECORD:** 100 signed the register.

### EVENTS AND NOTICES:

- **The Restoration of Human Rights in Zimbabwe (ROHR)** is the Vigil’s partner organisation based in Zimbabwe. ROHR grew out of the need for the Vigil to have an organisation on the ground in Zimbabwe which reflected the Vigil’s mission statement in a practical way. ROHR in the UK actively fundraises through membership subscriptions, events, sales etc to support the activities of ROHR in Zimbabwe.
- **ZBN News.** The Vigil management team wish to make it clear that the Zimbabwe Vigil is not responsible for Zimbabwe Broadcasting Network News (ZBN News). We are happy that they attend our activities and provide television coverage but we have no control over them. All enquiries about ZBN News should be addressed to ZBN News.
- **The Zim Vigil band** (Farai Marema and Dumi Tutani) has launched its theme song ‘Vigil Yedu (our Vigil)’ to raise awareness through music. To download this single, visit: [www.imusicafrica.com](http://www.imusicafrica.com) and to watch the video check: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QukqctWc3XE>

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- **ROHR Manchester Vigil.** Saturday 28th May from 2 – 5 pm. Venue: Cathedral Gardens, Manchester City Centre (subject to change to Piccadilly Gardens). Contact: Delina Tafadzwa Mutyambizi 07775313637, Chamunorwa Chihota 07799446404, Panyika Karimanzira 07551062161, Artwell Pfende 07886839353, P Mapfumo 07915926323/07932216070 or P Chibanguza 07908406069.
- **ROHR Nottingham general meeting.** Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May from 2 – 5 pm. Venue: St Saviours in the Meadows Church, Arkwright Walk, Nottingham NG2 2JU. The church is just a few minutes' walk from the train station. ROHR National Executive members will be attending to discuss the abuse of human rights and political situation in Zimbabwe. Contact: Allan Nhemhara 07810197576, Mary Chabvamuperu 07412074928, Christopher Chibumu 07775888205, P Chibanguza 07908406069 or P Mapfumo 07915926323 / 07932216070.
- **ROHR West Bromwich general meeting.** Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May from 12.30 – 4 pm.  
Venue **St Peters Church Hall, Whitehall Road, B70 0HF, West Bromwich.**  
ROHR President, National Executive members and a well-known lawyer present. Contact: Pamela Dunduru 07958386718, Peter Nkomo 07817096594, Diana Mtendereki 07771708800, Paradzai Mapfumo 07915926323 or Phylis Chibanguza 07908406069.
- **ROHR National Fundraising Event. Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June from 12 noon till late.**  
Venue: **St Peters Church Hall, Whitehall Road, West Bromwich B70 0HF. Come and enjoy African dishes and music while donating to a good cause.**  
**Admission fee £8 includes a plate of food and a soft drink. Raffle tickets on sale @ £1.**  
**Contact: Peter Nkomo 07817096594, V J Mujeyi 07403446696, Tsvakai Marambi 07915065171, Solomon L Matshoba 07733741065, P Chibanguza 07908406069, R Chifungo 07795070609 or P Mapfumo 07915926323 / 07932216070**
- **Vigil Facebook page:** <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=8157345519&ref=ts> .
- **Vigil Myspace page:** <http://www.myspace.com/zimbabwевigil> .
- **‘Through the Darkness’**, Judith Todd’s acclaimed account of the rise of Mugabe. To receive a copy by post in the UK please email confirmation of your order and postal address to [ngwenyasr@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ngwenyasr@yahoo.co.uk) and send a cheque for £10 payable to “Budiro Trust” to Emily Chadburn, 15 Burners Close, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15 0QA. All proceeds go to the Budiro Trust which provides bursaries to needy A Level students in Zimbabwe.
- **Workshops aiming to engage African men on HIV testing and other sexual health issue** s. Organised by the Terrence Higgins Trust ( [www.tht.org.uk](http://www.tht.org.uk) ). Please contact the co-ordinator Takudzwa Mukiwa ( [takudzwa.mukiwa@tht.org.uk](mailto:takudzwa.mukiwa@tht.org.uk) ) if you are interested in taking part.