



PROGRAMME

INAUGURAL GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE DAY

(1904-1908)

Parliament Gardens

28 MAY 2025

HONOURING THE MEMORY OF THE 1904–1908 GENOCIDE

Genocide Remembrance Day is a national observance dedicated to honouring the memory of the victims of the **1904–1908 genocide** perpetrated against the **OvaHerero and Nama communities** during German colonial rule in Namibia.

The establishment of this day followed a motion introduced in the National Assembly in 2016, which led to a nationwide consultation process undertaken between 2017 and 2020. These consultations, led by Parliament, engaged communities across the country, particularly the affected communities, in identifying a day of national significance that would serve to unify the nation in remembrance.

As a result of this inclusive process, 28 May was proposed and received widespread support. The date holds deep historical significance, marking the day in 1907 when the German colonial authorities **ordered the closure of concentration** camps. This event brought an end to the systematic and brutal killings, forced displacement, starvation and immense suffering endured by the OvaHerero and Nama peoples. During this tragic chapter in Namibia's history, tens of thousands of men, women and children were brutally killed.

In response to the recommendation of Parliament, the Government of the Republic of Namibia officially proclaimed 28 May as **Genocide Remembrance Day**, symbolising both solemn remembrance and the beginning of a national journey of healing.

In 2024, His Excellency Dr Nangolo Mbumba, then President of the Republic of Namibia, declared 28 May a national public holiday, to honour those who lost their lives and to reaffirm the nation's collective commitment to remembrance. In accordance with the Public Holidays Act, 1990 (Act No. 26 of 1990), the date was declared a public holiday with effect from 28 May 2025.

Genocide Remembrance Day serves as a moment of national reflection and mourning, and as a reaffirmation of our enduring commitment to justice, healing and unity, for the present and for generations to come.

DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES: HON. PHILLIPUS WIDO KATAMELO, DEPUTY SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

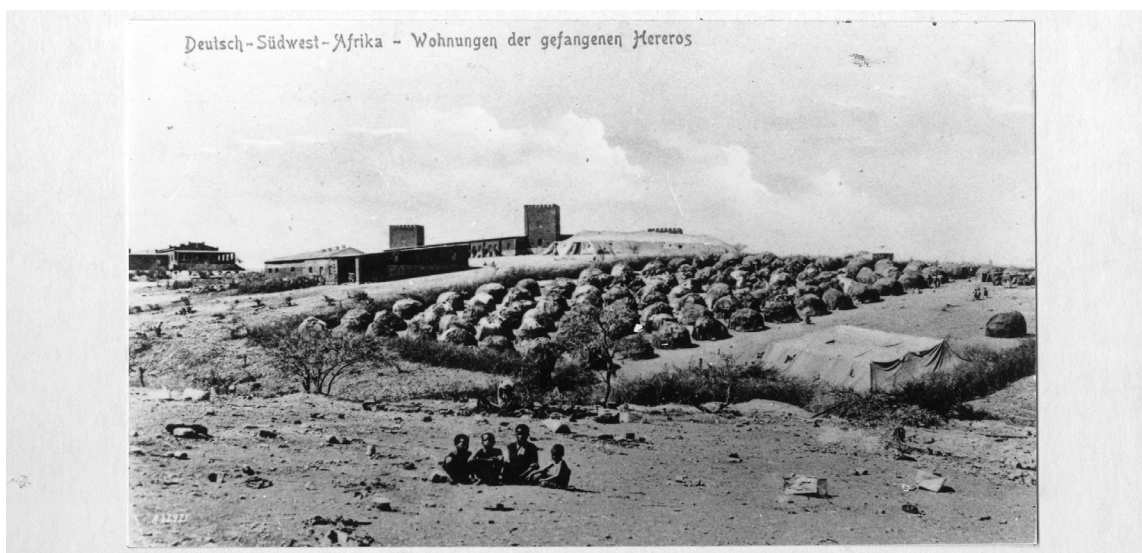
TIME:	EVENT
08h00	Arrival of the Media
08h30	Arrival of the Public
08h40	Arrival of the Service Chiefs
08h45	Arrival of Cllr. Ndesihafela Larandja, Mayor of the City of Windhoek and other Mayors
08h50	Arrival of the Diplomatic Corps
08h55	Arrival of Hon. Sam Shafishuna Nujoma, Governor of the Khomas Region and other Governors
09h00	Arrival of Gaob Immanuel Gaseb, Chairperson of the Council of Traditional Leaders and other Traditional Leaders
09h05	Arrival of Hon. Ministers and Members of Parliament
09h10	Arrival of Hon. Immanuel Nashinge, MP and Leader of the Official Opposition
09h15	Arrival of Hon. Sophia Shaningwa, Secretary General of the SWAPO Party
09h25	Arrival of Hon. Natangwe Ithete, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy
09h30	Arrival of His Lordship Peter Shivute, Chief Justice
09h35	Arrival of Hon. Lukas Sinimbo-Muha, Chairperson of the National Council
09h40	Arrival of Hon. Dr Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Speaker of the National Assembly
09h45	Arrival of Rt. Hon. Dr Elijah Ngurare, Prime Minister
09h50	Arrival of H.E. Lucia Witbooi, Vice President
09h55	Arrival of H.E. Dr Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, President of the Republic of Namibia and Commander-in-Chief of the Namibian Defence Force and Lt. Gen. (Rtd.) Ndaitwah, Spouse
10h00	National and AU Anthems
-	Remarks by the Director of Ceremonies
-	Candlelight and a Minute of Silence
-	Scripture Reading and Prayer by Rev. Lorenst Raonga Kuzatjike, Macedonia Parish
-	Performance
-	Remarks by Gaob Immanuel Gaseb, Chairperson of the Council of Traditional Leaders
-	Performance
-	Remarks by H.E. Lucia Witbooi, Vice President of the Republic of Namibia
-	Performance

- **Keynote Address by H.E. Dr Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, President of the Republic of Namibia and Commander-in-Chief of the Namibian Defence Force**
- Performance by the Namibian Defence Force Military Band
- Closing Remarks by Hon. Dr Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Speaker of the National Assembly
- Announcement by the Director of Ceremonies
- Closing Prayer by Rev. Lorenst Raonga Kuzatjike, Macedonia Parish
- AU and National Anthems

13h00 *END OF THE PROGRAMME*

DEPARTURES:

H.E. The President and Lt. Gen. (Rtd.) Ndaitwah
 H.E. The Vice President
 Rt. Hon. Prime Minister
 Hon. Deputy Prime Minister
 Other Dignitaries

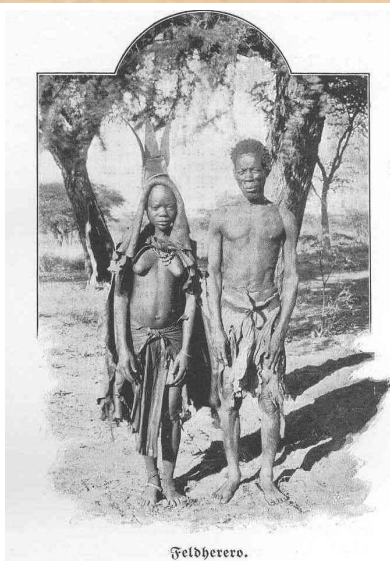




88 Deutsch Südwest Afrika
Wissbegierige Hererokinder mit Gefangenenabzeichen



Nr. 29. Hoffentottenwerft.

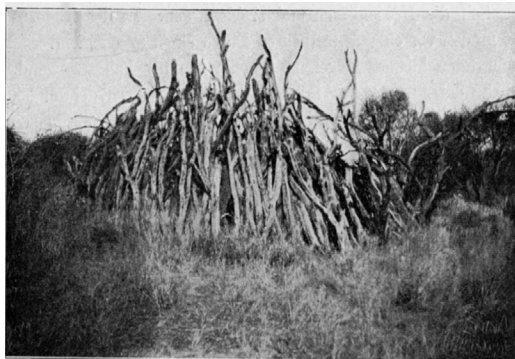
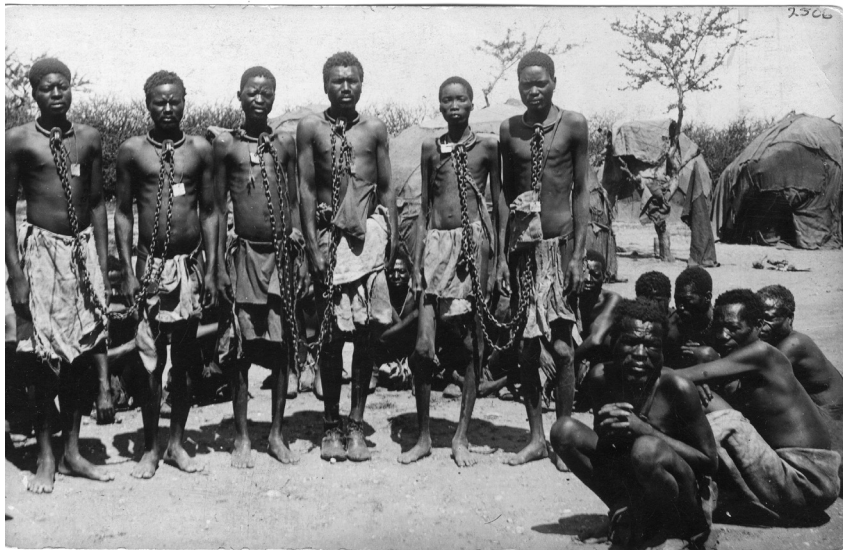
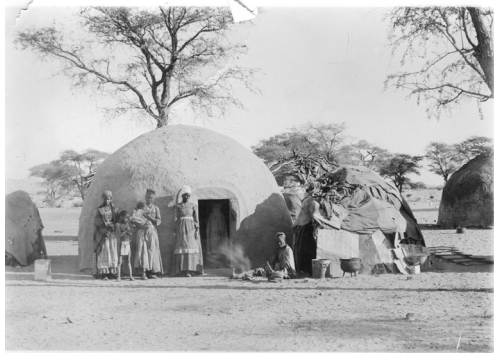


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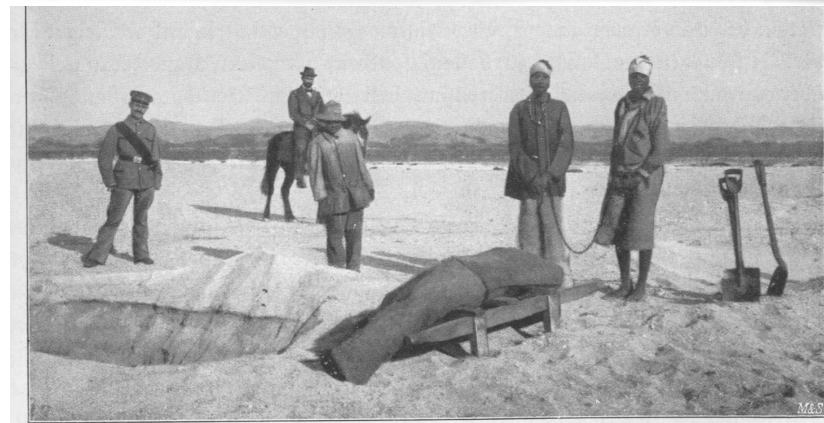
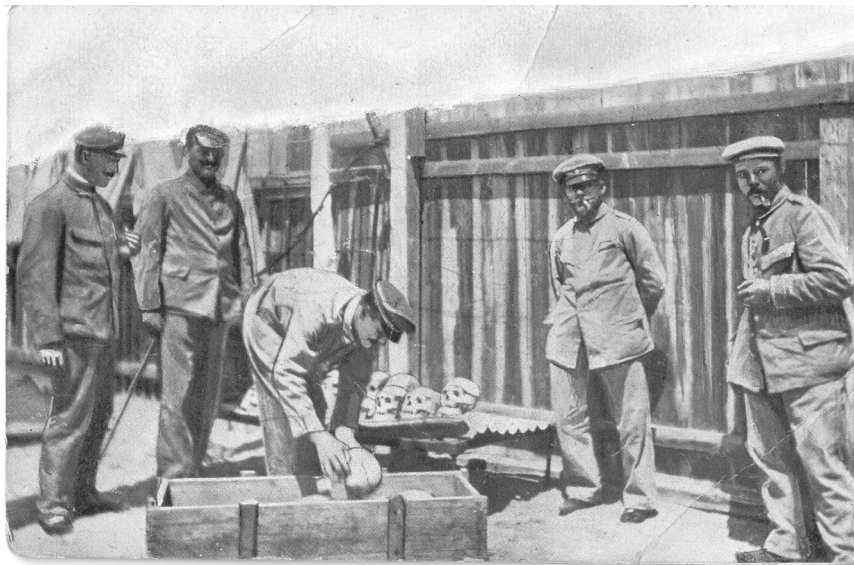
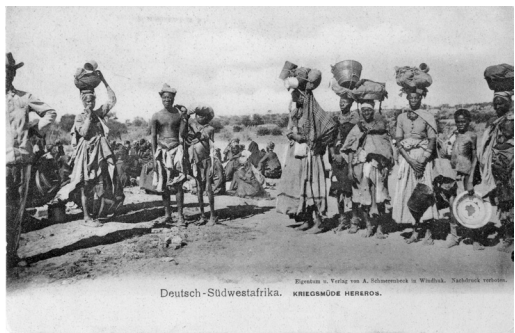
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Herero-Grab von außen.

von Saltmann phot.





National Anthem of Namibia

Namibia land of the brave
Freedom fight we have won
Glory to their bravery
Whose blood waters our freedom

We give our love and loyalty
Together in unity
Contrasting beautiful Namibia
Namibia our country

Beloved land of savannahs
Hold high the banner of liberty

Chorus:

Namibia
our Country
Namibia motherland
We love thee



AU Anthem

Let us all unite and celebrate
together
The victories won for our liberation
Let us dedicate ourselves to rise
together
To defend our liberty and unity

Chorus:

Oh sons and daughters of Africa
Flesh of the sun and flesh of the sky
Let us make Africa the tree of life



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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