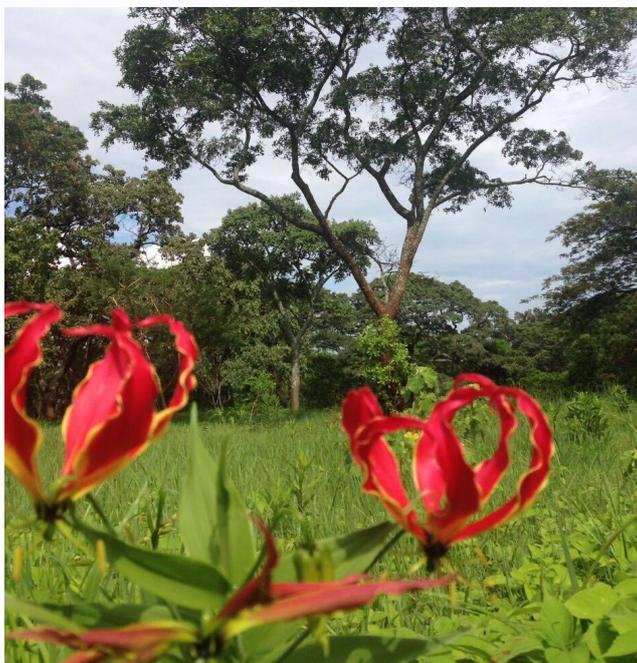


A VERY BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL!

Dear friends, relations and supporters

This brief letter from Zimbabwe comes with heartfelt thanks for your greatly needed support and encouragement. Here, tragically the situation continues to be dire.

Christmas for us though, represents once again a time of hope. It's the time when the rain clouds burst; when burnt and barren desert earth becomes a great green parkland of lawn across the entire land. It's the time when crops germinate and grow; when cattle, thin and dying after drought, start to put on weight. It's a time when the iconic flame lily blooms, burning its fire-red flame amongst the emerald greenness.



Flame lilies growing in the veld in the Chegutu district



So, although the general situation is dire and we are all exhausted, hope springs forth once more and our strength is able to be rejuvenated.

We are greatly relieved once again to be putting yet another painful year behind us. We have been living with the highest inflation in the world, massive shortages, great hunger in millions of homes and a morally bankrupt ruling party that visits so much injustice on so many. This has made the usually resilient Zimbabweans very despondent and tired. The chaos has been going on relentlessly for 19 years, which is such a long time for us all, and a lifetime for the thousands of school leavers who should be starting their careers with excitement and hope.

We continue to pray that the miracle of Christmas, the new birth, the new hope, the reality of the only Son of God - our Saviour, becomes real to more and more people, and the hope that He engenders bears its great harvest too.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY EVENT:

Please book to come to our event: 'Living on the Edge' on 10th March 2020 at the Royal Geographical Society in London.

A Date for Your Diary

The Mike Campbell Foundation
With the Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law
presents

"Living on the Edge"

At the Royal Geographical Society, London
Tuesday 10 March 2020
7pm – 9pm

We will have an excellent line-up of speakers
(to be announced in January)

Please especially remember Gift Konjana and Chief Felix Ndeweni in your prayers. Those who came to our last event at the Royal Geographical Society will remember them both as speakers. Gift's wife has just passed away. She could no longer cope with the great pressures of living under such persecution for so long.

Chief Felix is currently being persecuted terribly for being the one chief courageous enough to speak out about the injustices that continue to go on. He has just had his Chieftainship officially stripped from him by the President and has also been in jail in appalling conditions.

Chief Felix, like Gift Konjana, is a man who refuses to give up, despite the intense and relentless persecution by the government. Their courage and fortitude is a huge inspiration. He is greatly encouraged by the messages of solidarity that have poured in from politicians, diplomats and Zimbabweans from all walks of life.



Chief Felix Ndiweni

A SNAPSHOT OF OUR PROJECTS

OPV seed project: As a result of the open-pollinated seed packs that we donated to needy families from our seed project, 7 500 families have just planted their crops in hope. These crops are germinating well and, with faithful tending according to the Foundations for Farming principles that we teach during our increasingly popular, free training courses, they will yield a good harvest. Our next crop has already been planted and we are once again deeply grateful for our donors' support.



Planting seeds of hope



The joy of receiving our gift of OPV seed

School fees project: This year, through the generous support of donors, we have managed to pay school fees for 250 primary and secondary level children. We are immensely encouraged by their gratitude and that of their parents.

Justice: We continue to seek justice in unjust situations, and through court cases and documentation. We know that in the fullness of time, despite the fact that justice seems so very far away from us all, these seeds too, will bring a harvest.

On behalf of my family and the trustees of the Mike Campbell Foundation, our grateful thanks for your prayers and support, without which we can do nothing.

I am reminded of the following quote which King George VI read to the British people in his Christmas address in 1939.

"I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year,
'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.'
And he replied, 'Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the hand of God.
That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way'."

May you have a very Happy Christmas and may the miracle of Christ be very evident to you all at this time. Looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible on March 10th in London.

Ben Freeth

*Ben Freeth is the executive director of the Mike Campbell Foundation.
He lives in Harare.

"What does the Lord require of you? To act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6 v 8