

Embrace cultural values – Unam director

• LUQMAN CLOETE

THE director of the University of Namibia Southern campus, Eroid Naomab, has urged students to embrace their cultural heritage. He made these remarks during the institution's annual cultural festival held at Keetmanshoop last week.

Naomab said such platforms are essential conduits and instruments that remind people to remain vigilant in protecting their shared core values.

"This event should provoke a deep sense of anxiety and common strong zeal and desire to protect our cultural identities," he stated.

He said social evils such as alcohol and drug abuse and gender-based violence were nowadays holding communities hostage, adding that these are not cultural norms and values, and shall never have a standard position of equivalence to people's identity. "The proliferation of so-called drug hubs in our villages and towns must be rooted out," he stressed.

Naomab then urged the youth to make use of various instruments of positive change offered by the campus through its //Karas innovation hub, while calling on student leaders to openly campaign against drug and alcohol abuse and gender-based violence. The hub's key objectives are to stimulate and advance an entrepreneurial culture, create an enabling environment for start-ups, and accelerate enterprise development in new and exciting value chains, which can create jobs for Namibians, especially women and youth.

Seaflower Group companies' general manager Inocencia Verde, a former vice chairperson of the Unam Council, said in his keynote address that there is a need to embrace cultural diversity because through it, people gather strength.

"We need to be united in the fights we have. Let



Photo: Luqman Cloete

CULTURE ... An Oshiwambo dancing troupe performs during the annual Unam cultural festival held at Keetmanshoop last week.

us practise and live unity across the board," he urged.

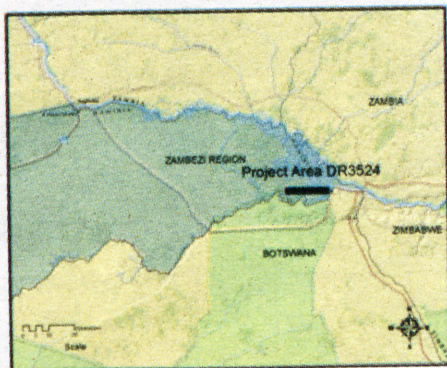
He also commended the festival's theme of 'enhancing diversity and cultural awareness,' saying people in various regions are no longer embracing diversity. "Some people feel that if you are not from this region, then you are not welcome in the structures that be, while others get intimidated with diversity," he stated, adding that some people

want to impose their cultures onto others. He reminded students that each of them is a leader, and thus should take charge to make a positive impact in society. "Take charge and control of your life; do not just maintain it. This means you must take the risk. Let us not surrender leadership to faces, lies and fences. Leadership plays an important role in our economy," he added.

Enviro Management Consultants Namibia is appointed by the Roads Authority to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment and develop an Environmental Management Plan as required by the Environmental Management Act No 7 (2007) and the associated Environmental Regulations for the following road construction project.

This environmental assessment process aims at the construction of a gravel road DR3524 from Nakabolelwa via Mbalasinte to Kasika (Zambezi Region) with a total length of approximately 35 km. This road is phase two of DR3524 which is a gravel road already constructed up to Nakabolelwa.

Take note that all Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP's) are hereby invited to register in terms of the environmental assessment process and to give input, comments or opinions regarding the intended road construction.



Closing date for registration is the 7th September 2018.

Please forward your inputs to the following:

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