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The Two Faces of the Healing Crusade

Mmegi/The Reporter (Gaborone)
March 14, 2005

Posted to the web March 14, 2005

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Bame Piet

Last week's visit to Botswana by Nigerian Prophet TB Joshua was a blessing to many and a frustration to others. Thousands thronged the National Stadium on Tuesday and Wednesday nights but only a few were healed.

Hundreds with various ailments did not receive attention and went back home hopeless. Others came all the way from Lesotho, South Africa and Zambia. It must have been a painful moment for many when the prophet announced that he could not attend to all of them individually. They prayed with their relatives but this did not help. They could not stand up from their wheelchairs and hot blankets. They watched as others stood up. Some people do not believe that the prophet has healing powers.

Shale Dihutso of Mogoditshane who had knee problems was among the healed at the Wednesday crusade. However her husband, Keabetswe Dihutso, a headman of records in the village customary court believes that her problem was exaggerated. He said that she fell sick in the early 1990s but became better around 1996. Since then, his wife only needed crutches when walking long distances. Dihutso said that after failing to get help on Tuesday and having spent hours standing, she decided to use one crutch on Wednesday. "At around three in the afternoon, she phoned me and said that I must bring another crutch. I questioned the reason for bringing the crutch and warned her that if she uses two crutches it would look like she has been using them and therefore people will get a wrong impression that she could not walk," Dihutso said. "She insisted that I bring the crutch because she has been told to do use two crutches by some white people. She also told me that the ushers also told her to hold the crutches until the prophet approached her and ordered her to stand up," he said. Despite his wife's confession that she is healed, Dihutso is adamant that she needed not to take the crutches to the stadium. The couple's daughter conceded that her mother rarely used crutches and she questioned why she needed them when going to the crusade.



Dihutso said that he is relieved his wife has been healed. He admitted that it was through faith that she was healed.

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Mmangaka Motseokae of Merope said that she was feeling better after the prophet attended to her. She told Monitor that she was able to sweep her compound and do other domestic chores. Motseokae praised Joshua's work and added that she has seeking help from a local prophet whose powers are almost the same as

Joshua's.

Meanwhile a family that did not want to be mentioned said that they believed that Joshua had healing powers from God. Though their son is still bound to a wheelchair, they believe that his time for healing would come. They dismissed people who say that Joshua had no healing powers. The family said that the organisers of the crusade were incompetent and this resulted in many people leaving unattended.

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