

Evolution of heroism in the discourse of Zimbabwe since independence

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Abstract

Heroism is at the centre of every society's value system as it defines what that society upholds as its ideology, vision and aspirations. Heroes are meant to be role models of society who shape its mentality and ideals. The liberation of Zimbabwe from colonial rule has been associated with heroism which has sparked controversies. There have been heated debates about the definition, identification processes, quality and significance of declaring such a status in Zimbabwe. Heroism is not confined in history but is a continuous status coined on the basis of fighting for the liberation of the nation and Zimbabwe in general. This study seeks to look at how heroism has evolved over the years. A desktop research approach shall take a central stage in data acquisition, as the researcher focuses on reviewing primary and secondary data especially from published sources on how heroism has evolved in Zimbabwe. The results from the study showed that initially heroes and heroines were selected based on their participation in the war. However the study also found that in the early 80s some of the heroes were marginalized because they did not support Zanu pf or were critics of Zanu Pf. The findings found that however during this period non political figures such as Jairos Jiri were declared national heroes. The study concluded that in recent times the government has changed its criteria on the selection of heroes with non-political figures such as Oliver Mtukudzi being declared heroes. The study also found that opposition leaders and critics of Zanu Pf were also declared heroes. The study also noted that those from different ethnic groups such as Timothy stamps were declared heroes. Lastly the study found that the number of heroes and heroines who non political and are critics of the government is still limited.

Keywords: Zimbabwe since independence, heroism, controversies

Introduction

In post-colonial Africa, heroism is still a relatively understudied phenomenon, although becoming more common. Although the definition of hero and heroine is a slippery and has been challenged by different scholars (Dandeker *et al* 2006, Alexander and McGregor, 2004) ^[9, 2] this article contends that heroism is not confined in history but is a continuous status coined on the basis of fighting for the liberation of the nation and Zimbabwe in general. Heroism is a social qualification and society determines the criteria from broad principles (Dandeker *et al* 2006, Alexander and Mc Gregor, 2004) ^[9, 2]. It brings in another point, that heroism demands a certain level of sacrifice whose criteria society must determine from time to time. In Zimbabwe conferment of hero status is thus a great honor bestowed on gallant sons and daughters of Zimbabwe.

Webner (1998) ^[21] states that Zimbabwe provides an example of a post-colonial nation building regime which tries to turn the trace of the past into present and legitimacy for itself and tribute for others. Subsequent to Zimbabwe attaining independence from colonial rule through an arms struggle, the first and second Chimurenga, hero's acres were built and dedicated to bury those who contributed to the war of liberation (Masiya & Maringira, 2017) ^[13]. However limited attention has been given to how the selection of these heroes and heroines has evolved over the years.

According to Mpofu (2016) ^[16] the hero 's acre marks the country's physical reminder of the past and acts as a tool of national identity and its symbolic maintenance through state presided rituals that happen at the shrine. Attached at the hero's acre as a permanent symbol of nationhood are the people the burial site was built for the heroes and heroines,

that is the war dead and the living dead who participated in the country's liberation war. It can be argued that national identities are transient and are always changing; hence the selection of heroes and heroines has evolved over a period of time (Mpofu, 2016) ^[16].

In the sad event of passing on of a notable, Zanu PF Politburo meets to decide on a status to accord the deceased (Mhanda, 2011) ^[14]. The status is determined by the State on a case by case basis. Heroes and Heroines are classified in three categories and generally reflect the departed hero's or heroine's contribution to the nation (Goredema & Chigora 2009) ^[10]. The three designated a national, provincial or district hero's status. The highest level is the national hero or heroine status, where the deceased is laid to rest at the National Heroes Acre in Harare. Second, is the provincial hero status, where the deceased is laid to rest at the provincial hero's acre in the deceased's respective province (Mhanda, 2011) ^[14]. Lastly, is state-assisted burial, the deceased is buried at an ordinary cemetery, but with assistance from the State on associated costs (Chakanyuka, 2019) ^[4].

Masiya & Maringira (2017) ^[13] conferment of heroism on an individual has over the years become an emotive issue with some people advocating the setting up of a national inclusive body responsible for according the status to illustrious citizens. However, this kind of advocacy conveniently ignores the fact that the very essence of heroism derives its legitimacy from the liberation struggle waged by two military wings of Zanu (Zanla) and Zapu (Zipra) (Webner, 1998) ^[21]. Zimbabwe became independent in 1980 after a protracted war between armed guerilla fighters and white minorities. Combatants of every rank from the Zimbabwe National Liberation Army (Zanla) and the Zimbabwe People's

Liberation Army (Zipra) were recognized at independence for their contribution to the struggle for liberation with those who had higher ranks in the guerilla military being more revered (Chung, 2006)^[6]. Also recognized were liberation war leaders who served in various civilian ranks particularly in developing the support network, raising resources, recruiting fighters and engaging in negotiations with foes and friends (Chung, 2006)^[6].

According to Mpfu (2016)^[16], despite many of the African male freedoms fighters being well known than their female counterparts a number of women were also buried at the heroes acre. These included Sarah Francisca Mugabe, Julia Tukai Zvobgo, Joanna Nkomo, Comrade Ruth Nomonde Chinamano, Sunny Ntombiyelanga Takawira, Maud Muzenda, Shuvai Mahofa, Vivian Mwashita, Victoria Fikele Chitepo, Sabina Mugabe, Maria Msika and Thokozile Angela Matutu.

According to Mhanda (2011)^[14] some of the first people to be buried at the heroes acre included Dr Samuel Parenyatwa, Ethan Dube, Herbert Chitepo, Dr Edson Sithole, Jaison Ziyapapa Moyo, Rogers Alfred Nikita Mangena, General Josiah Magama Tongogara, Philemon Takurayi Makonese, George Silundika, Dr Simon Charles Mazorodze and Sergeant Masotsha Ndlovu. During this period the majority of heroes and heroines were selected based on their participation in the war with those who had higher ranks in the guerilla military being more revered (Chung, 2006)^[6].

However, many ZAPU and ZIPRA linked would be war heroes were marginalized (Alexander, 1998)^[1]. The fact that people like Ndabaningi Sithole and James Chikerema who shared the same prisons with Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo were not declared hero's status is a clear indication of some of the marginalized heroes. In addition as a result of the outbreak of the ZAPU linked insurgency in the early 80s and were accused of being sellouts, some of the war heroes were marginalized (Chikuhwa, 2004)^[5]. This marked the era of post liberation war in Zimbabwe when any party, organization, or individual who opposed Zanu pf monopoly would be stripped of his/her liberation war status (Chikuhwa, 2004)^[5].

More so other war heroes who fought on the wrong side of Zanu pf or belonged to smaller parties also lost the hero label from a Zanu pf perspectives (Mhanda, 2011)^[14]. As such, would be heroes such as Ndabaningi Sithole (Zanu's first president), James Chikerema and Wilfred Mhanda among others were denied the accolade. Forming their own parties in the 1990s, Edgar Tekere, Margeret Dongo and Enock Dumbutshena also faced various forms of vilification (Chikuhwa, 2004)^[5]. Nonetheless those who later joined Zanu Pf had their heroes status restored (Ndlovu Gatsheni, 2009)

According to Baines (2009)^[3] memorials served as significant makers of post colonial societies (re) construction of its past but during this period in the Zimbabwean context the recognition of the heroes and heroines was more of the present than past historical participation in the liberation struggle. The past memories of war were renewed and reconstructed in the present, (Baines, 2009)^[3]. Thus during this period heroes and heroines were selected based on past history of being active in the war and allegiance to Zanu Pf. However during this period in 1982 Jairos Jiri was declared a heroes status for his excellent philanthropical work, but however he was buried in his home village in Bikita despite

not actively participating in politics (Chakanyuka, 2019)^[4]. However he was also not a critic of Zanu Pf (Chakanyuka, 2019)^[4]. The sitting president at the time was one of the guest of honor at funeral.

The is evidence that in recent times, the government has critically revisited and corrected defects in the system of conferring the national hero's status, which since 1980 appeared to be confined to politicians with a bias towards a liberation struggle (Chakanyuka, 2019)^[4]. Those who excelled in other fields or disciplines were seldom awarded the honor but they are now awarded this honor (Chakanyuka, 2019)^[4].

Evidence in literature also clearly shows that in recent times, music superstar Oliver Mtukudzi was declared a national hero and became the fourth non political figure to conferred hero status. According to Chakanyuka (2019)^[4] Dr Oliver Mtukudzi was declared a national heroes stautus for his contribution in music, human rights activism and philanthropical work.

Chakanyuka (2019)^[4] adds the other non political heroes to be conferred with the hero's status are philanthropist Jairos Jiri, former chief secretary to Robert Mugabe, Dr Charles Utete, and National University of Science and technology founding vice chancellor, Professor Phineas Makhurane. The evidence in literature suggests the redefining of the process of how one is accorded the hero's status. The honoring of Jairos Jiri, Dr Charles Utete, Prof Makhurane and Dr Oliver Mtukudzi with heroes status demonstrates a shift in the selection criteria of the heroes in Zimbabwe and that those from other fields can also now be declared national heroes (Chakanyuka, 2019)^[4].

Furthermore according to Tshili (2019)^[20] Dumiso Dabengwa was declared a national hero by the government for his contribution before and after independence despite, him being buried in his rural home in Ntabaziduna. Tshili (2019)^[20] adds that the decision to declare him was unanimously done. This is despite Dumiso Dabengwa being a president of another party and contesting against Zanu Pf in 2018 elections.

In addition according to Masiya & Maringira (2017)^[13] Mabhena, a notable, before passing on, was also declared a national hero by the government and Zanu pf Politburo. However, in spite of Zanu PF and the government according Mabhena hero status Mabhena was a major critique of Zanu Pf. However his remains were laid to rest at Lady Stanley cemetery in Bulawayo.

More so according to Chakanyuka (2019)^[4] Robert Mugabe the former president of Zimbabwe was also declared a national hero despite no longer participating in Zanu Pf and showing support for the opposition Leader Nelson Chamisa in the 2018 elections. Chakanyuka (2019)^[4] states that this showed that anyone in recent times could be declared a national hero or heroine, despite his/her political affiliation. However Masiya & Maringira (2017)^[13] postulates that during this period Chinx Chingaira was also not given the national heroes status because he was not a member of the politburo and did not actively participate in politics after independence despite him being active in motivating various comrades during the war through music. In addition it can also be noted that during this period heroines like Thenjiwe Lebeso who were declared national by the ANC were not delared national heroes by the Zimbabwean government and were critics of Zanu Pf (Masiya & Maringira (2017)^[13]).

Despite the government insists that it has opened the door for

other heroes and heroines from other fields and political spheres and some signs of this, there is still debate on whether this is reality and on how heroism has evolved over the years in Zimbabwe. This document sheds light on how heroism has evolved in Zimbabwe over the years.

Research method

Research design

Research design is defined as the conceptual organization within which a research is carried out (Kothari 2017) ^[11]. Cooper and Schindler (2016) ^[7] add that it includes the blueprint for the collection, measurement and analysis of data. For this research the researcher employed a desktop research design. The researcher focuses on reviewing primary and secondary data especially from published sources on the causes of Zimbabwean poverty especially in the 21st century. Cooper and Schindler (2016) ^[7] indicate that a desktop research is the research method which is mainly acquired by sitting at the desk. Desktop research is essentially concerned in the collection of data from existing resources therefore it is usually considered to be a low cost method as compared to field research, as the major cost is involved in executive's time, telephone charges and directories (Cooper and Schindler 2016) ^[7]. Though it could be a complete waste of time and finance when the researcher has limited knowledge or improper knowledge of how desktop research is carried out (Cooper and Schindler 2016) ^[7].

Desktop research is very efficient and effective and can be carried out in research as it is quite fast and not expensive, since most of the essential information for the research can be easily collected which could be a benchmark in the research process (Kothari 2017) ^[11].

Research instruments

The researcher made use of desktop research to collect data from the participants. Cooper and Schindler (2016) ^[7] postulates desktop research as the research technique which is mainly acquired by sitting at the desk, and which mainly focuses on reviewing past publications. Using desktop was important because it was cheaper and less costly. The data was collected from various from published sources on the causes of Zimbabwean poverty especially in the 21st century.

Data collection procedures

The data was collected from various from published sources on the evolution of heroism across Zimbabwean and worldwide. The researcher collected the data over a period of three months. The researcher made use of publications that included newspapers, journals, magazines and past research studies.

Findings

Evidence from the study shows that the question on who qualifies to be a national hero has remained debatable for a longtime. More so there is evidence in the research that the concept of national hero's status is noble, but previously it has been selectively limited to liberation war combatants. More so evidence from the study indicates that initially heroes who were recognized at independence included those in the guerilla military and liberation war leaders who served in various civilian ranks particularly in developing the support network, raising resources, recruiting fighters and engaging in negotiations with foes and friends.

However, evidence from the research also showed that with

time in the early 80s many liberation war combatants were marginalized. The evidence from the study also showed that people like Ndabaningi Sithole and James Chikerema who shared the same prisons with Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo were not declared hero's status for various reasons including critiquing Zanu pf and fighting on the wrong side of Zanu pf or belonging to smaller parties.

However there is also evidence in this research that shows that in 1982 at the same period when Jairos Jiri died he was honored with a national hero's status despite not participating in Zanu Pf, but his family opted for him to be buried at his home village Bikita. Evidence from the study showed that the then president Robert Mugabe was the guest of honor at the funeral of the national hero.

Furthermore there is evidence in the study that in recent times, the government has critically revisited and corrected defects in the system of conferring the national hero's status, which since 1980 appeared to be confined to politicians with a bias towards a liberation struggle and showed that those who excelled in other fields or disciplines were seldom awarded the honor.

In addition evidence from the current study clearly shows that in recent times the government of Zimbabwe bestowed the highest honor of hero's status to Professor Phineas Makurane, whose academic contribution can be argued to have outweighed his political activities. Additionally the evidence in the study also clearly showed that it cannot be disputed that Prof Makurane, was a hero on the academic front.

The same goes for Mtukudzi in the music and entertainment circles. There is evidence in the study that the late legendary Zimbabwe music superstar Dr Oliver Mtukudzi was conferred with the national hero's status for his contribution in the musical industry, but however he was buried in his rural home in Madziva. Additionally evidence from the research clearly shows that Dr Charles Utete was also declared a national hero. More so evidence from the study shows that Authur Guy Clutton- Brock a British social worker who continued to assist the independence struggle even after he was expelled by Ian Smith's government was the first white man to be declared a national hero despite his ethnic difference. In addition evidence from the study also shows that Timothy Stamps the former Zimbabwe Health Minister was also declared a national hero despite his different ethnic origin. Furthermore evidence from the study also shows that Kantibai Gordanbhai Patel was also declared a national hero despite his different ethnic origin. It is clear from the evidence from the study that in recent times, anyone was declared a national hero despite his/her ethnic difference.

Furthermore evidence from the study also shows that heroes like heroes like Dumiso Dabengwa were also conferred with the Heroes status besides being leaders of another party other than Zanu Pf. The results from the study show that Dumiso Dabengwa was declared a national hero for his contribution in the war besides contesting the 2018 elections under Zanu Pf. In addition evidence from the research also clearly shows that Mabheba, was also declared a national hero despite being a major critique of Zanu pf. However his remains were laid to rest at Lady Stanley cemetery in Bulawayo. More so there is evidence in the findings of the study that Robert Mugabe the former president of Zimbabwe was also declared a national hero despite no longer participating in Zanu Pf and showing support for the opposition Leader Nelson Chamisa in the 2018 elections.

Discussion

The findings in the research shows that the concept of national hero's status is noble, but previously it has been selectively limited to liberation war combatants. In addition the results from the study clearly indicate that initially heroes who were recognized at independence included those in the guerilla military and liberation war leaders who served in various civilian ranks particularly in developing the support network, raising resources, recruiting fighters and engaging in negotiations with foes and friends. This information corroborates with the view of Chung (2006)^[6] who postulates that combatants of every rank from the Zimbabwe National Liberation Army (Zanla) and the Zimbabwe People's Liberation Army (Zipra) were recognized at independence for their contribution to the struggle for liberation and that also liberation war leaders who served in various civilian ranks particularly in developing the support network, raising resources, recruiting fighters and engaging in negotiations with foes and friends were also recognized. Mhanda (2011)^[14] also supports this by indicating that some of the first people to be buried at the hero's acre included Dr Samuel Parerenyatwa, Ethan Dube and Herbert Chitepo who had fought in the war of independence.

However, the findings from the research also showed that with time in the early 80s many liberation war combatants were marginalized. The findings from the study also showed that people like Ndabaningi Sithole and James Chikerema who shared the same prisons with Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo were not declared hero's status for various reasons including critiquing Zanu pf and fighting on the wrong side of Zanu pf or belonging to smaller parties. These findings are supported by Alexander (1998)^[1] who indicated, many ZAPU and ZIPRA linked would be war heroes were marginalized. In addition Chikuhwa, (2004)^[5] also postulates that as a result of the outbreak of the ZAPU linked insurgency in the early 80s and were accused of being sellouts, some of the war heroes were marginalized. Chikuhwa, (2004)^[5] adds that this marked the era of post liberation war in Zimbabwe when any party, organization, or individual who opposed Zanu pf monopoly would be stripped of his/her liberation war status. More so (Mhanda, 2011)^[14] stated that other war heroes who fought on the wrong side of Zanu pf or belonged to smaller parties also lost the hero label from a Zanu pf perspectives.

However the findings in this research also shows that in 1982 at the same period when Jairos Jiri died he was honored with a national hero's status despite not participating in Zanu Pf, but his family opted for him to be buried at his home village Bikita. The findings from the study showed that the then president Robert Mugabe was the guest of honor at the funeral of the national hero. These results are in line with Chakanyuka (2019)^[4] who also indicated that during this period in 1982 Jairos Jiri was declared a heroes status for his excellent philanthropical work, but however he was buried in his home village in Bikita despite not actively participating in politics. However Chakanyuka (2019)^[4] also adds that Jairos Jiri was also not a critic of Zanu Pf (Chakanyuka, 2019)^[4].

Furthermore the findings in the study showed that in recent times, the government has critically revisited and corrected defects in the system of conferring the national hero's status, which since 1980 appeared to be confined to politicians with a bias towards a liberation struggle and showed that those who excelled in other fields or disciplines were seldom

awarded the honor. This is in line with Chakanyuka (2019)^[4] who insisted by that in recent times, the government has critically revisited and corrected defects in the system of conferring the national hero's status, which since 1980 appeared to be confined to politicians with a bias towards a liberation struggle Chakanyuka (2019)^[4] added that those who excelled in other fields or disciplines were seldom awarded the honor but they are now awarded this honor.

The findings from the study clearly shows that in recent times, music superstar Oliver Mtukudzi was declared a national hero and became the fourth non political figure to conferred hero status. This is supported by Chakanyuka (2019)^[4] who stated that Dr Oliver Mtukudzi was declared a national heroes status for his contribution in music, human rights activism and philanthropical work despite not being a politician.

In addition the findings from the current study clearly show that in recent times the government of Zimbabwe bestowed the highest honor of hero's status to Professor Phineas Makurane, whose academic contribution can be argued to have outweighed his political activities. Additionally the findings in the study also clearly showed that it cannot be disputed that Prof Makhurane, was a hero on the academic front. More so the findings from the research clearly shows that Dr Charles Utete was also declared a national hero for the work he contributed in the president office. These findings are in tandem with Chakanyuka (2019)^[4] who stated that some of the non political heroes to be conferred with the hero's status are philanthropist Jairos Jiri, former chief secretary to Robert Mugabe, Dr Charles Utete, and National University of Science and technology founding vice chancellor, Professor Phineas Makhurane.

The findings from the study show that the selection criteria of heroes and heroines has shifted with heroes from other fields other than politics now being able to be declared national heroes. This is supported by Chakanyuka (2019)^[4] who stated that the honoring of Jairos Jiri, Dr Charles Utete, Prof Makhurane and Dr Oliver Mtukudzi with heroes status demonstrates a shift in the selection criteria of the heroes in Zimbabwe and that those from other fields can also now be declared national heroes.

More so the findings from the study show that various heroes have been declared national heroes despite coming from different ethnic groups. The findings from the study also show that the different heroes from different ethnic groups that have been declared national heroes include Authur Guy Clutton- Brock a British social worker who continued to assist the independence struggle. Timothy Stamps the former Zimbabwe Health Minister and Kantibai Gordanbhai Patel. Thus the findings clearly show that now anyone can be declared a national hero despite his/her ethnic difference. This is supported by Smith (2009) who postulated Authur Guy Clutton- Brock a British social worker who continued to assist the independence struggle was the first white men to be declared a national hero despite his ethnic difference. Mpofu (2017)^[15] also adds that Timothy Stamps the former Zimbabwe Health Minister was also declared a national hero despite his different ethnic origin. More so Manavire (2017) postulated that Kantibai Gordanbhai Patel was also declared a national despite his different ethnic origin. This is proof that in recent times, anyone was declared a national hero despite his/her ethnic difference (Mpofu, 2017, Manavire 2017, Smith 2009)^[15].

Furthermore the findings from the study also show that

heroes like heroes like Dumiso Dabengwa were also conferred with the Heroes status besides being leaders of another party other Zanu Pf. The results from the study show that Dumiso Dabengwa was declared a national hero for his contribution in the war besides contesting the 2018 elections under Zanu Pf. These findings are in line with Tshili (2019)^[20] who stated that Dumiso Dabengwa was declared a national hero by the government for his contribution before and after independence despite, him being buried in his rural home in Ntabaziduna. Tshili (2019)^[20] adds that the decision to declare him was unanimously done and this is despite Dumiso Dabengwa being a president of another party and contesting against Zanu Pf in 2018 elections. Chakanyuka (2019)^[4] also states that this showed that anyone in recent times could be declared a national hero or heroine, despite his/her political affiliation.

In addition the findings from the research also clearly show that Mabhena, was also declared a national hero despite being a major critique of Zanu pf. However his remains were laid to rest at Lady Stanley cemetery in Bulawayo. These findings are in tandem with Masiya & Maringira (2017)^[13] who stated that Mabhena, a notable, before passing on, was also declared a national hero by the government and Zanu pf Politburo despite being a major critique of Zanu Pf and that his remains were laid to rest at Lady Stanley cemetery in Bulawayo. Chakanyuka (2019)^[4] also states that this showed that anyone in recent times could be declared a national hero or heroine, despite his/her political affiliation.

More so the findings of the study that Robert Mugabe the former president of Zimbabwe was also declared a national hero despite no longer participating in Zanu Pf and showing support for the opposition Leader Nelson Chamisa in the 2018 elections. This is supported by Chakanyuka (2019)^[4] Robert Mugabe the former president of Zimbabwe was also declared a national hero despite no longer participating in Zanu Pf and showing support for the opposition Leader Nelson Chamisa in the 2018 elections. Chakanyuka (2019)^[4] also states that this showed that anyone in recent times could be declared a national hero or heroine, despite his/her political affiliation.

However the findings from the study also show that during this period Chinx Chingaira was also not given the national heroes status because he was not a member of the politburo and did not actively participate in politics after independence despite him being active in motivating various comrades during the war through music. In addition it can also be noted in the study that during this period heroines like Thenjiwe Lebeso who were declared national by the ANC were not declared national heroes by the Zimbabwean government and were critics of Zanu Pf. These findings are in line with Masiya & Maringira (2017)^[13] who postulated that during this period Chinx Chingaira was also not given the national heroes status because he was not a member of the politburo and did not actively participate in politics after independence despite him being active in motivating various comrades during the war through music and that heroines like Thenjiwe Lebeso who were declared national by the ANC were not declared national heroes by the Zimbabwean government and were critics of Zanu Pf.

Conclusion

The findings of the study indicate that the changing and dynamic environment in Zimbabwe has been a evolvement of National Hero and Heroine are conferment. The study

found that initially heroes and heroines were selected based on their participation in the war. However the study also found that in the early 80s some of the heroes were marginalized because they did not support Zanu pf or were critics of Zanu Pf. The findings found that however during this period non political figures such as Jairos Jiri were declared national heroes. The study concluded that in recent times the government has changed its criteria on the selection of heroes with non political figures such as Oliver Mtukudzi being declared heroes. The study also found that opposition leaders and critics of Zanu Pf such as Dumiso Dabengwa and Robert Mugabe were also declared heroes. The study also noted that those from different ethnic groups such as Timothy stamps were declared heroes. Lastly the findings of the study still show that the number of heroes who are not political figures or critics of the government is still limited.

Recommendations

The study made the following recommendations:

- An increase in the now political heroes and heroines that are selected
- An establishment of an autonomous body with all stakeholders' representation that is governed by a set of well-defined principles and procedural guidelines that seeks to establish a permanent body that is governed by a set of well-defined principles and procedural guidelines. The body shall consist of representatives of all key stakeholders such as political parties, war veterans associations, professionals, and Ministry of Home Affairs, among others.
- The study also recommends that Parliament to have the powers to accord national hero and heroine status
- Need to improve transparency in the selection of heroes and heroines
- There is need for public participation in the selection of heroes and heroines
- There is need for participation from other stakeholder in the selection of heroes and heroines

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