

Attack on Gigaba's appointment a neocolonial agenda



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Faced with the increasing global onslaught against the agenda to bring about the economic empowerment of Africans in our country, the appointment of Malusi Gigaba as the minister of finance is causing much consternation among those opposed to a meaningful transfer of economic power in South Africa.

So much is at stake as the neocolonial agenda clandestinely mutates itself in so many facets of South Africa's otherwise legitimate and robust political stage.

In a normal society Gigaba's appointment would have been cause for celebration across the length and breadth of the country.

That the contrary is true, as proven by so much bile spewed by various so-

called independent analysts and prophets of doom, reminds us that South Africa remains sharply divided, especially across race and class lines.

Those who today find no good in President Jacob Zuma's recent cabinet reshuffle not so long ago hated former president Thabo Mbeki for being too independent and Africanist.

Seemingly, the image of a president who is a native bent on causing trouble is forever convenient as market forces conspire against democratically elected leaders.

An affront on African leadership rears its ugly head again.

While many of us see Gigaba's appointment as a glorious chapter in the quest for the bold affirmation of

African leadership in our country, a vocal minority whose racist and neocolonial agenda is increasingly becoming brazen and violent, finds this moment spurious.

And so they unleash a litany of insults at Zuma and Gigaba, thereby inviting all of us to swim in the proverbial pool of their own confusion.

In what has become a familiar script, last week rating agency Fitch summarily downgraded South Africa's long-term foreign currency debt and long-term local currency debt to junk status.

This was a hooray moment for the naysayers, who want us to believe that the actions of one individual brought us so-called junk status.

On cue, the most unashamed politi-

cal colony of the West in South Africa, the DA, welcomed the downgrades as proof that the new minister would help bring the economy to its knees.

Of course we all know that this orgy of maddening disdain towards the appointment of Gigaba is essentially aimed at all Africans – especially those who disavow the ideological language of those who control wealth in the global North.

As such, the good African is one who wholeheartedly submits to perpetual white tutelage – even when he or she is supposed to be holding political power.

For the African, power is supposed to be a toy telephone that is owned and manipulated by the West.

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