

SPEECH BY THE HONOURABLE THE PRIME MINISTER
AT MPHARANE CLINIC, ON THURSDAY, 27TH JUNE,
1968

Speaking today as both the Prime Minister of Lesotho and Member of Parliament for Mpharane, and on my own behalf and on behalf of the Electorate of this Constituency, I wish to thank you, the Minister of Health, and your officials for the assistance which you have given us. Today we shall have a doctor who will periodically be visiting this clinic of Mpharane. If there is a place in this country where people understand the purpose of "self help" - "Iketsotse" - then it is here.

I can truly say that there is no other place where "Iketsotse" is better understood than here in Mpharane. I say this because the people of this area decided to build this clinic - and although at the time this seemed to be only a dream and they had no idea where they could obtain aid or even whether they would ever get a doctor, they nevertheless proceeded to bend all their energies towards turning their dream into a reality. They inspanned their oxen in order to fetch sand; their women made food for the men who were working and all worked together in unity to build this clinic which we see here today.

Shortly after they started the work, however, assistance came in many ways and kinds too numerous to mention, not the least of which was the help which came from the youth of Canada and America who came to us under the Cross Roads Africa scheme to aid in the actual building of the clinic.

But had you yourselves, the people of Mpharane, not been prepared to make sacrifices and start the work on your own initiative, instead of waiting for and expecting gifts of materials and finance; and had you expected the Government only to provide these aids - then I can assure you this clinic would never have been built.

In other words, in practising "Iketsotse" you have demonstrated to yourselves that where you, through no fault of your own, have been unable to help yourselves, assistance has been forthcoming.

Today, on this happy occasion, it gives me great pleasure to tell you that Dr. K. Choi, this Korean doctor by my side, is now here to help you still further. His lady wife is also a doctor and will join him here to add her own professional gifts to his in assisting you. That we now have

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