

SPEECH BY THE HONOURABLE THE PRIME MINISTER  
AT MARAKABEI'S ON THURSDAY, 21ST NOVEMBER,  
1968

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Immediately on my return from my visit to Canada, Italy and Israel, and after giving a report on my visit at a Pitso in Maseru on Saturday, the 9th November, 1968, I felt it necessary that I should come and give a similar report to you here at Marakabei's today - and in other mountain areas of Lesotho - with the sole purpose that you, as well as our people in the lowlands, should know what your Government is doing for your success and welfare.

But, above all, I am compelled by my own desire and by the love I bear you to come to you to hear from you about your difficulties and hardships - so that the Government can assist you in all possible ways.

I bring you greetings from the Governments and the Peoples of the countries I visited. These countries are Canada, Italy and Israel and even Switzerland and Greece, where I called in passing. More than that, I bring you also greetings and good wishes from the Holy Father in the Vatican City, who promised that he and the whole Church will continue to pray for us - that God should bestow on us His Graces for our prosperity and that of our country; that we should live in peace and love with our brothers and with our God, the Creator of all things.

Just as in the case of all other visits that I have previously made, the main purpose of my visit on this occasion was to ask for peace and true friendship from those nations I visited - and I can sincerely assure you that I bring you back peace and true friendship from the peoples of Canada and Israel and those other countries that I visited during my tour.

The second purpose of my tour was to ask for assistance - so that we can help ourselves; so that we shall be enabled in the future to be self-sufficient and cease to have to ask for assistance from other people. As the Basotho very rightly say: "Self reliance is the best thing." - "Mphe-mphe e ea lapisa, motho o khonoe ke sa ntlo ea hae."

You will be happy to know that even in this regard my efforts were crowned with success; I have been promised even more assistance than I had expected. Now it remains with you, the people, to decide whether or not you will join with me and stand together - man and woman - and work hard in order to free ourselves from the poverty and hunger in which we are living. If we can, without/.....

mins to engage in politics and acts of subversion, such as to cause the derailment of trains.

To all of you to whom these remarks apply, I give you one month to put your house in order - otherwise I shall have to intervene most ruthlessly.

I should like to end my talk with you on a note of great hope and optimism. I spoke to you earlier in this speech about your own candle factory in Kolonyama. This past week history has been made when the first factory in Lesotho, here in Kolonyama, produced its first candles and put them on the market in Lesotho and, what is more, on the market in South Africa. This is a red-letter day for us. I am told that before the end of the year the factory will be producing fancy candles for the overseas market. The necessary equipment for this operation has already been ordered from Hong Kong.

I and my Government are very proud to say that we consider Kolonyama one of the potential development areas in Lesotho. We have started by establishing the candle factory. Very soon we will have a tarred road link-up between Leribe and Maseru, passing Kolonyama. By February next year the telephone services will have been modernised. By September of next year we hope to have ESCOM power available at Kolonyama and we are at present investigating the water supply position so that we can take more industry to you here.

You, the people of Kolonyama, have much to look forward to, and I have great confidence in wishing you all

KHOTSO! PULA! NALA!

Sethabathaba Fund to meet the cost of higher education. I cannot see any reason why they should not once again apply themselves to the task rather than see this University stagnate - when it should, on the contrary, now be growing from strength to strength, to the extent where it can provide all the facilities necessary for this country's development. The performance of this University deserves such consideration. It has turned out men of standing in the African society of today. To mention but a few, I would name the first pre-independence Prime Minister of Uganda, Mr. Benedict Kiwanuka, who is today the Leader of the Opposition in that country's Parliament; Mr. John Tembo, the Minister of Finance in the Government of Malawi is the product of our University and so is Mr. Masinde Muliro, a Minister in the Republic of Kenya. These men represent praiseworthy achievements for which we must be proud of our University and particularly grateful to those friends of the University who have assisted so far in its establishment and development. The United Kingdom, over and above the grant-in-aid to Lesotho, makes a special contribution towards the maintenance of the University; the Americans and the Canadians have in a number of ways also extended a helping hand. Here I would like to express a special word of thanks to Canada, because the establishment of our University was the direct result of the work of missionaries of Canadian extraction.

Like all emerging countries in Africa, we are faced with many problems. We are no exception to the rule that education needs to be adapted to the changing requirements brought about by development. It will require hard work and great effort - but I am positive that the response of all sectors of the population to this appeal which I and my Government are launching will bear wholesome fruits. We shall then go on to build properly for the future on a clear-cut policy which will lead to success.