

SPEECH BY THE HONOURABLE THE PRIME MINISTER
AT A NATIONAL PITSO AT BEREA ON SUNDAY, 7th
DECEMBER, 1969

CHIEFS, CIVIL SERVANTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

Please accept my humble thanks for affording me the opportunity to address you this day. I know that many other people have attempted to buy your votes with accusations against my person and my Party. I am aware that at this very moment some honourable gentlemen have suddenly decided to be unusually polite to you and your children. All they now look for is your vote.

I am personally delighted that these Opposition political traitors come to you for judgment. The fact that the Opposition Parties now come to you is a clear indication of the reality that power now lies with the people - yourselves. When my Government came to power we were insulted, abused and opposed. We were criticised for maintaining a democratic form of the Constitution. The Opposition members ran to Motlotlehi, the British Government, the O.A.U. and U.N.O. in the struggle against us. They even sought the help of South African lawyers. None of these bodies helped them. They spent a lot of money on their fruitless opposition exercise. In the final resort they now come to you. Remind them that they opposed democracy during the independence struggle and that consequently you have no confidence in them.

Had it not been for my Party, my Government and our principles, no one would ever think of coming to the Basotho people for anything. Under our system of

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