

the fact that to win the elections, work had to be done amongst the Basotho. The Basotho alone qualify for voting. Not a single communist, be he of communist China, be he of Russia, be he of Yugoslavia, etc., would be able to cast a vote in the Lesotho elections. Canvassing amongst these nations was the most stupid of actions. The Basotho alone would cast their votes. Indeed, the Basotho voted for the Basotho National Party. Our victory was a painful event to the communist world. Even in the majority of African states our victory was distasteful. The Basotho had decided. We formed the Government.

The Basotho National Party went to the elections with a Manifesto. Amongst other things, our Manifesto pledges our party to uphold the principles and provisions of the democratic Constitution of Lesotho, with a constitutional monarch to whom we pledged full loyalty. In addition, we pledged ourselves to pursue the independence of Lesotho under a democratic constitution.

On 4th October, 1966, the Constitutional Instruments which removed British authority over the Basotho and Lesotho were handed over to Motlotlehi. By this act Motlotlehi became a King amongst Kings; the Basotho became a nation amongst nations; Lesotho became a country amongst countries. The status of subservience was removed. Lesotho emerged, after almost a century of foreign rule, from the colonial shell and became a proud and brave country. The handing over of independence to the Basotho was a great event. We were not alone when this happened. The nations of the world witnessed the attainment of Lesotho independence. Various governments joined us during our independence festivities. The World congratulated us!

Our independence was a saddening event for the Opposition. It was a d sad event for the Opposition and its allies because our independence signified the absolute failure of their attempts to obstruct Basotho independence. We all recall that when the Basotho National Party Government struggled for independence under a fully democratic constitution, we were opposed in Parliament; we were opposed in Britain; we were opposed at the United Nations; we were opposed at the O.A.U.; at all times and wherever we went we were opposed by professed

lovers...../3.