

UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH AFRICA  
SPEECH BY THE HONOURABLE THE PRIME MINISTER  
AT HLOTSE, ON SATURDAY, 24TH MAY, 1969

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15 MAY 1969  
After the 1965 general elections which the E.C.P. won by a large majority here in the Leribe district, history was made this year when the people of Leribe elected members of the ruling E.N.P. to the Land Allocation and Deprivation Appeal Board in the Leribe and Tsikoane wards. In other words, this is a clear indication and proof that the E.C.P.'s days are numbered and that its death warrant is sealed.

Nevertheless, I would warn the Linare people not to be complacent, relax and forget that battling with the E.C.P. is battling with a group that has learnt every possible wily machination for which we have to be on constant guard all day and every day. Therefore I would urge every man and woman here in Leribe to go all out on a campaign for seeking out and destroying this cruel, wicked, envious and treacherous spirit of the E.C.P. until we are satisfied that their delinquent and criminal actions have been totally obliterated in this Leribe district.

Lesotho, by virtue of her geographical position as an enclave within the Republic of South Africa, whose politics are different from those of Lesotho and other African states, can be used as a springboard by irresponsible politicians to mar the spirit of neighbourliness and healthy co-operation between Lesotho and the Republic of South Africa - even to the extent of sowing international dissension - the result of which policy Mr. Ntsu Mokhehle would be the first to regret were his Party by some miracle to be elected into power. Yet, on the other hand, this geographical position of Lesotho in relation to the Republic of South Africa - which is by far the most highly economically developed country in Africa - could enable Lesotho to develop more rapidly towards economic independence if she continues to wear the political mantle of the present Government.

In other words, what I am driving at is that you yourselves must choose between two roads in the coming elections: either you follow the one that has been paved for you by the present Government - the road of peaceful co-existence with the Republic of South Africa, which has shown that it can lead your country to freedom from the bondage of poverty and to the "green pastures" already reached by the Republic; or you can follow the road on which Mr. Ntsu

Mokhehle .....