

SPEECH BY THE HONOURABLE THE PRIME MINISTER  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE 9TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
BOITEKO-KOTA THRIFT AND CREDIT SOCIETY, ON  
FRIDAY, 5TH DECEMBER, 1969  
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CHIEF OF LERIBE, CIVIL SERVANTS, OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS OF  
BOITEKO-KOTA THRIFT AND CREDIT SOCIETY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

It gives me great pleasure to be with you this day. As you all know, we are approaching a general election and this is the time when we politicians run up and down the country soliciting your votes. But although elections are so close, I felt it my duty to respond affirmatively to your invitation to join you on this significant occasion rather than decline your invitation for a political rally.

As we move up and down the country appealing to people to join and vote for my Party we are in fact trying to get the Basotho to co-operate on a national basis to solve the problems that confront the Basotho as a whole. Consequently, whilst members of the Boiteko-Kota Thrift and Credit Society co-operate under this society to solve their local problems, we politicians attempt to unite the Basotho on a national basis to solve national problems. Consequently the structural base of the Government and your Co-operative Society is the same.

Let me explain briefly what I mean when I say the structural base of Government is similar to the structural base of the Boiteko-Kota Thrift and Credit Society or any other co-operative society. Lesotho has a constitution which sets out various organs of Government and their functions. Similarly, Boiteko-Kota Thrift and Credit Society has its own constitution which is called the Bye-Laws of the Society. These bye-laws set out various organs of your Society and the various functions they perform. Springing from the Lesotho Constitution is a Lesotho Parliament which consists of Basotho Parliamentarians and these have the power to make laws for the country. You too have a general meeting of members only who make laws for the Society. In other words, you have your own "Parliament". Under the Lesotho Constitution we have a Cabinet which is responsible to Parliament. In the same manner you have a Committee which is responsible to your General Meeting. In other words, you have your own "Cabinet". Under the Lesotho Constitution we have a Prime Minister who is the head of government. Similarly, you have a chairman or president who is the head of your society. Again, in other words, whilst

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