

94 JAN 1970

SPEECH BY THE HON. THE PRIME MINISTER, CHIEF LEABUA
JONATHAN, MPHARANE, ON SATURDAY 27 DECEMBER, 1969.



I have considered it advisable to visit you, the people of Mpharane. Were it not for your votes, I would not be the Prime Minister. You had and have confidence in me and my party, the Basotho National Party.

It is for that reason I am obliged to thank you. My delaying to visit you is because I am, in fact, not responsible in this Constituency; but, as Prime Minister, I am necessarily responsible in the whole of Lesotho. Nevertheless, for these past five years when I have been your representative in parliament, I have done my best to see to it that Mpharane makes progress and achieves all that is required here.

You have, through my encouragement and inspiration, constructed roads. The Self-Help Campaign has done a great deal in this area. Mpharane now has a clinic and water-sources.

I am aware of the fact that there are many other things you are in need of here. If you re-elect me, I promise to accomplish what you require. I am saying this as your representative in Parliament. May I warn you against careless election next year, 1970.

I wish to caution you again and again, as I am doing in other constituencies that the struggle will be between Christianity and Communism.

I feel duty-bound to make this warning because I know that the Basotho People are a God-loving Nation and is thirsty for civilization, freedom of worship. Only yesterday, we were celebrating Christmas, the birth of our Lord, but, I do not think such freedom was accordingly enjoyed by others where Christianity is taboo.

All this happens in imperialistic, dictatorial, communist countries where Christian Religion is not permitted. You should, therefore, make use of your votes wisely. If you are not jealous of your Christian believes, it will be crushed to nothingness by Communists.

You know that here in Lesotho there are political sects which co-operate with communist countries. The Congress Party has, so far, been the only one that had a representative in a communist countries and has legally visited these countries..../2.