



22 SEP 1969

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SPEECH BY THE HONOURABLE THE PRIME MINISTER,  
CHIEF LEABUA JONATHAN, AT A NATIONAL PITSO, AT  
MASEMOUSE, ON SATURDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER

(Translation)

We are one people -- the Basotho nation; one country of Lesotho; one language - Sesotho; one Basotho Government. Thus we are a peaceful, progressive nation, while other developing African states, because of internal differences in politics, find themselves continually at war with one another - a factor that is detrimental to the healthy unity of African states. So far, there does not seem to be any effort made to combat this - not even by the Organisation of African Unity. This political friction grows at the very roots of African unity.

I therefore wish to exhort my people to unite and co-operate with the Government of the Basotho people, so that we can avoid such political frictions steered by Opposition parties of the Mahatammho (B.C.P.), Marematlou Freedom Party and others, which sow seeds of dissension. This is a mishap which has already befallen our African brethren.

The Leader of the Opposition has now consumed the Marematlou Freedom Party. If you are not careful, he is likewise going to swallow you. These days he speaks a different language of politics. He comes to you like a wolf in sheep's clothing.

This opportunist and communist pretends to be a Christian, when, in fact, he never sets foot on the doorstep of any Church. He employs the name of the Church as a stepping stone to ensnare you Christians, Church and Missionaries. Moreover, this our Opposition friend, so well known for attacking my policy of peaceful co-operation with the Republic of South Africa, now advocates neighbourliness with the Republic of South Africa, if - as he would wish - you elect him.

The fact remains that if the leaders of the B.C.P. and M.F.P. were not such opportunists, they would immediately join the ruling B.N.P. because all those who supported the leader of the Opposition Party in the 1965 General Elections have now deserted him and are continuing to do so in large numbers by joining the ruling Basotho National Party.

Such a developing country as ours should not tolerate these subversive acts and I am pleased that all our people in the various districts of Lesotho are deserting the Opposition campe to join the ruling Party, which has shown in practical ways that if you re-elect it, you can expect a great deal more in spire of the obstructions put in the way to topple it.

If the.....