

H.M. KING MAHENDRA



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HISTORY

A Collection of Proclamations, Messages
and Addresses delivered by
His Majesty King Mahendra

December 15, 1960—December 10, 1961

Series I

Series I

Pages of History

A Collection of Proclamations, Messages and Addresses
delivered by
His Majesty King Mahendra

December 15, 1960—December 10, 1961



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December 15, 1960

*Proclamation dismissing the Cabinet
and dissolving both Houses of Parliament
to make room for a new system suited to
the genius of the country and the people*

To all our beloved people greetings,

Whereas We, as is known to all, had a general election conducted in the country about two years ago in the belief that the representatives chosen by the people would, realising their greater responsibility towards the country, create an atmosphere conducive to the consolidation of democracy and lead the country forward in an accelerated pace of development under conditions of stability;

Whereas, the Nepali Congress having come out victorious

at the polls, we had the gratification to bestow on them the charge of administration and make them partners in the responsibility towards the country in a manner prescribed by the Constitution;

Whereas, as a consequence thereof, it was but natural for Us to experience a freedom from anxiety, induced in Us by the instability obtaining in the country over the past few years;

Whereas, on the basis of a close study of the situation prevailing in the country, We have, as all of you might recall, given indications from time to time to the elected representatives and the persons associated with the government not to deviate from the path of duty;

Whereas, contrary to the popular hope and belief that the representatives elected in accordance with the democratic procedure would attempt to dispel the atmosphere of misunderstanding prevailing between the government and the people and make an all-out effort to promote the progress and well-being of the nation, the elected government, taking shelter behind the democratic system, set aside the interests of the country and the people, and wielded authority in a manner designed to fulfil the party interests only;

Whereas, in defiance of the laws of the realm, the Council of Ministers made an attempt to dislocate and paralyse the administrative machinery in the name of investing it with speed, smartness and competence;

Whereas, the misuse of power resulting in the encouragement of corrupt practice had led to wide-spread prevalence of misunderstandings and misconceptions and weakened the administrative apparatus, rendering the Council of Ministers wholly incapable of maintaining law and order in the country;

Whereas, as a result of the encouragement received by the anti-national elements, a situation was developing which,

as was apparent to all, would have the effect of imperilling the national unity;

Whereas, the economic measures, undertaken on the basis not of scientific analysis and factual study but in pursuance of purely theoretical principles, produced among the people a disturbed and vitiated atmosphere instead of producing desirable changes in the social set-up;

Whereas, the continuance of this state of affairs was deemed proper neither in the interest of the nation nor in that of democracy;

Whereas, Ours is the ultimate responsibility for protecting national unity, nationality, and sovereignty, maintaining law and order and safeguarding the country from deterioration, no matter whatever be the cause thereof;

And whereas, an especial set-up has been deemed essential for clearing up the aforesaid atmosphere, for maintaining law and order, and for saving the country from the critical situation facing it;

Now, therefore, keeping in view nothing but the good of the country and the people, We have this day, in exercise of the powers conferred on Us by Article 55 of the Constitution, dissolved by this Proclamation the Cabinet along with both the Houses of Parliament; and have assumed unto Ourselves the entire administration of the country till such time as may be required for the installation of an alternative arrangement.

Further, by this Proclamation we have suspended for the present the operation of the following provisions of the Constitution —

All the provisions of Part 2

All the provisions of Part 3

All the provisions of Part 4 with the exception of Article XI

**All the provisions of Part 5 with the exception of Article LV
Chapter 3 of Part 9 with the exception of Article LXXIII
All the provisions of Part 10**

Because of this new set-up, no government servant, civil or military, should deviate from or be in doubt of his or her duties, functions, and responsibilities. We have, on the contrary, full faith that everyone will continue to discharge the duties appertaining to the station he or she occupies and that, with the goodwill of all the countrymen, everything will go well with the country.

In the field of foreign affairs, We shall continue, as We have done hitherto, to hold firm to the principle of neutrality and friendship with all the friendly countries. Meanwhile, We re-affirm Our desire for peace and friendship throughout the country and the world.

May Lord Pashupatinath bless the country and the people.

Jaya Nepal !

December 26, 1960

*Proclamation forming a new
Council of Ministers headed by
His Majesty King Mahendra himself*

To all our beloved people greetings,

We express our cordial thanks to all the people who have unanimously supported the steps taken by Us in order to safeguard the interests of all and who, mindful of the national interests at stake, have with patience helped maintain peace and security throughout the Kingdom as a mark of the faith they have reposed in Us since the proclamation of December 15. Nor must We forget to acknowledge with thanks the loyalty and devotion to duty displayed in particular by

the officers and men of the brave Royal Army and the officers and men of the Police Force. Our thanks are also due to other government servants of every sector.

Everyone of you is well aware of how under the leadership of Our August Father of Revered Memory democracy was ushered into our country to replace the age-old system of administration with the goodwill and co-operation of the people and how subsequently We too had to the best of Our ability made every effort from time to time so that the task of national construction under a democratic system and convention might march forward.

It is not, however, the duty of a Nepali to give impetus to forces of lawlessness in the Kingdom, disintegration of national unity and other forms of mismanagement through a spirit of irresponsibility and misuse of power in the name of democracy. Unfortunately for all of us, we were subjected to this sort of experience.

Nevertheless, the final aim of all of us should be to build up the country and strengthen the basis of democracy by all fair means. The situation confronting us to-day is such that rather than allow the country to go to ruins in the name of democracy, we are called upon to adopt whatever method is suitable for laying the foundations of democracy securely. To achieve this end we need honest young men endowed with national outlook and progressive mentality.

The task before us being to foil or counteract the various mischiefs stalking the country to-day and to ensure the democratic system for to-morrow, We have under the circumstances formed a Council of Ministers under Our own Chairmanship composed of the following in their individual capacity for the time being. We are fully convinced that in every step that We

may undertake for the good of the country and the welfare of the people, every Nepali will come forward, as always, with his or her whole-hearted co-operation.

The country is common to all. We cannot exist unless the country exists. Therefore, we have still to perform together many deeds with patient realism, and with honesty and nationality as the guiding-spirit. We have still to make known to the world the glories of Nepal and the Nepalese. We would, therefore, like to reiterate once again that granted the goodwill and co-operation of all the Nepalese, we shall take our stand before the world and prove our mettle as the true Nepalese. This is Our belief and firm resolve.

And now, therefore, We do hereby by these presents appoint and constitute a Council of Ministers under Our chairmanship and composed as hereunder :—

Mr. Tulsi Giri	Minister
” Vishwabandhu Thapa	”
” Rishikesh Shaha	”
” Soorya Bahadur Thapa	”
” Aniruddha Prasad Singh	”
” Nageshwar Prasad Singh	Assistant Minister
” Khagendra Jung Gurung	”
” Kazi Man Limbu	”
” Bhuban Lall Pradhan	”

May Lord Pashupatinath protect the country and everyone of us.

Jaya Nepal!

January:5, 1961

*Message outlining the policy and
programme of the Government and
announcing the Panchayat System as
a substitute for the Parliamentary
system of Democracy*

To all our beloved people greetins,

Since the revolution of 1951 the nation had to strive like Bhagirath to make a success of the democratic system. Though, during the interim period, We ourselves could have assumed the reigns of administration, We wished the cabinets of that time to have representative character and thus gave the opportunity to the prominent leaders of almost all the well-known parties to carry on the administration in a democratic manner. During this period of about eight years no

tangible progress was made nor could an atmosphere conducive to democracy be created.

In this context, we could not think of any way of establishing the democratic system in the country other than that of holding general elections. Before the elections, the constitution committee which included representatives of political parties prepared the Constitution. In the elections held under this constitution candidates of the Nepali congress returned in a majority. The people discharged their duties and responsibilities well under these conditions by conducting themselves in a peaceful manner in the elections casting majority of votes in favour of that party. The Nepali Congress Government also was subsequently formed.

This government, being an elected one, it was only natural that it would have more powers than its predecessors. It received assistance from friendly government in plenty, it had before it the experience of the last eight years as a lesson. In spite of all this, the Ministry constituted after the elections, failed even in maintaining law and order, which is the primary task of every civilized government. It is well known that as a result of the arbitrary steps taken in the name of reorganization and improvement of the administrative system, the administration itself virtually came to a standstill. The difficulties and hardships of the people remained unresolved. The Ministry did not pay any attention to the miserable and poverty-stricken conditions of the people. On the contrary, an atmosphere of uncertainty and instability was created in the country on account of the abuse of power and the lack of a spirit of mutual trust and co-operation even among the ministers. Those at the highest level were found involved in bribery and corruption. Communalism, regionalism and other anti-social and

anti-national elements acquired an ascendancy in the affairs of the country, as a result of which not only the peace and tranquility of the country was disrupted at the roots but seemed to pose a direct threat to the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the nation.

When the people, seeing the country go down day by day, sought to point out the defects and the failures of the government the latter tried to divert the popular attention elsewhere, in a highly irresponsible manner and against the feelings and sentiments of the people, by dragging the Crown and the Constitution themselves into political controversy. The result was that a very dangerous situation came into existence which seemed to threaten the future of the nation and besmear its reputation for ever.

Hence, to save the nation from the imminent disaster and to ensure in future the ordered progress and development of the country, We had to constitute under Our Chairmanship a Council of Ministers only a few days ago. Besides maintaining law and order it will be the foremost duty of this government to make every possible effort to remove the difficulties and hardships of the people in every sphere.

Since peace, order and stability are based on respect for law, the government will spare itself no pains to strengthen the foundation of rule of law. It is our wish and resolve that the courts in the country should under all circumstances protect the rights conferred on the people by law. The administration of justice will be so improved as to make justice cheap and expeditious throughout the land.

To the extent that resources permit, primary, secondary and higher education will be expanded. The government will pay special attention to provide education that

will enable the students to stand on their own legs and able to make their living by working on their own. Such a policy will serve as a preventive measure against the problem of the educated unemployed in future and will ensure the training of technicians needed in implementing the development programme. As we have our own National University now, educational institutions will have to adopt a syllabus based on national policy and outlook. The government will eventually provide for a national and scientific education system that will suit our national genius and requirements, and will generate a new spirit of awakening in the country.

The government will pay attention to make health services as easily available to the people as possible and expand them as resources increase. To that end, staff and equipments in health institutions will be added and doctors, nurses and medical assistants trained.

It will be the duty of the government to bring about such administrative reforms as will make the machinery efficient and able to redress the grievances of the people quickly. The government has taken upon itself the responsibility to eliminate bribery, corruption and favouritism as a result of which the people had lost confidence in the administrative systems of the past.

In any attempt to effect all-round development of a country, plans should be implemented after a careful examination of the resources, the proper utilisation thereof, the effects on the economy etc. But the government which we recently dissolved did nothing of the kind. There was no overall planning outlook; no regard was shown to existing conditions, necessary resources, technical personnel and practicability, nor were schemes properly formulated.

Individual and unco-ordinated projects were taken up in haste. The result was that on the one hand the target could not be achieved and on the other, limited resources of the nation were wasted. The faith of the people in planned development itself declined as there was no satisfactory progress in the implementation of the plan. Aid received from friendly governments could not be properly utilised as they could not make the administrative machinery meet the requirements of the plan.

The present government will bear these defects in mind and will prepare a plan that will be practical and successful in bringing about an all-round development of the country.

Since there was no tax system in the country so far, it was necessary for some time in the beginning to inculcate in the people the habit of paying taxes. Taxes have an important contribution to make in mobilising internal resources for development. Hence in the early stages it was proper to increase the rate of the tax, to familiarise the people with the tax system and gradually enhance the rate of new taxes.

But a tax system was adopted without educating the people that no development is possible without taxation and without sufficient regard to existing conditions and considerations of equity. As a consequence an atmosphere of economic uncertainty spread among the people. The land tax was imposed with a view to bringing about distribution of land among the cultivators. It was never hoped that this tax would bring much additional revenue. But it produced just the opposite result. As there was no record of land-tiller's rights, even those who could have acquired the rights of protected tenants were evicted. The result

was there was mass eviction creating a serious problem. There was some land distribution but very little land went to the cultivator. The landlord stopped all credit for food, cultivation etc., even to those who were protected tenants who thus found themselves in a helpless conditions.

The present government has resolved to abolish the Birta system and to introduce the tax system. It will be its duty to implement both these measures after a careful consideration of what has been referred to above, in the light of the past experience, and on the strength of a practical policy based on scientific analysis of facts and figures.

As Nepal is predominantly an agricultural country the standard of living of the majority of the people cannot be raised without adequate reforms in the present system of land tenure. The ownership of land is vested in a very small number of people and the majority of cultivators are exploited. Such a situation is a great obstacle to economic development and to democracy. The government will make a thorough study of all problems connected with land system and will certainly take necessary steps to end exploitation in the land as soon as possible.

The government realises that industrialisation is necessary for economic development and will pay attention to overhead requirements like transport and communication and power, without which there can be no industrialisation. In the meantime the plan for economic development will assign well-mapped-out fields for the public and private sectors and will provide proper safeguards for private capital, special facilities and encouragement in industries. Since domestic private capital alone is not sufficient for development, foreign private investment will be most welcome.

It will be the objective of our foreign policy to maintain

friendly relations with all friendly nations and to strive for the ideals of world peace and international economic co-operation. Our foreign policy will be inspired by the principles and purpose embodied in the United Nations Charter. Our foreign policy will be one of non-alignment with any international military power bloc, and of neutrality.

If we are to raise Nepal to the level of other developed countries, we have to accomplish in 10 or 20 years what they took centuries to do. There is nothing to despair of, for in these days of international economic co-operation it is not so difficult to acquire and master techniques of progress. But we must certainly work very hard for it and give up ease and comforts of life. The call to the Nepalese nation to-day is for sacrifice and discipline. In our long history we have more than once successfully met challenges of the times and difficult circumstances. We have full confidence that as in other historical epochs, Nepal and the Nepalese will come out of the ordeal successfully. The only thing is we should not forget the lessons of our history and have faith in ourselves. We will certainly have a bright future.

We have been able to overcome great difficulties and calamities in our national history because of our patriotism, national pride and discipline. We have to create a new consciousness in the people so as to enable the country to meet the demands of the time. We have to enthuse them anew for development, construction and increased production. To fulfil our selfless and sacred desire to bring about this mental and spiritual regeneration in the people and to associate them in the task of all-round development of the nation under our leadership, we invite the active co-operation of all specially those people who had the same objective but were hitherto lost in party politics. As political parties may prove ob-

stacles to this task of creating a favourable climate for this new movement for national reconstruction we have by this Proclamation declared for the present illegal and banned all the existing political parties and class organizations affiliated with such parties.

For national development and reconstruction, we have to open up a new spring of power which will remove the centuries old poverty, ignorance and backwardness of the country and which will nourish to maturity and fruitfulness the tree of democracy rooted in our soil and suited to our conditions. Since Panchayats are the basis of democracy and a democratic system imposed from above has proved unsuitable, as is apparent from the present experience of the country, we have now to build democracy gradually layer by layer from the bottom upwards. It is our aim to associate the people in the administration at all levels and to develop village, district and town Panchayats, with a view to enabling them to take active interest in the problems and progress of the country. So it is our hope and belief that those who have been in political parties heretofore will participate at different levels in fulfilling our aim of creating this new consciousness. We have to preserve and canalise the popular or national force to be generated by this new consciousness in profitable and constructive channels from the very beginning.

May Lord Pashupatinath give us the strength to fulfil the assurances I have conveyed to my people this day.

Jaya Nepal !

February 12, 1961

*Address to the inaugural session
of the National Planning Council,
formed on February 6, 1961*

Members of the National Planning Council,

The problem before our country as in other under-developed countries of the world is to step up the standard of living of the people within a reasonable period of time. To that end, planned economic development is of immense importance. As all of you are well aware, Nepal has been adopting a planned approach for national development since 1956. Experience gained in other countries as well as our own has taught us, however, that, unless the organisation which is to

supervise and direct the execution of long-term plans is strong and is of the highest level, works undertaken under a plan are apt to lose tempo and miss proper execution. That is why the National Planning Council has come into being.

The general objectives of the Council will be— (1) to lay down on the basis of proper study the policy of economic development, (2) to draw up and finally approve practical development plans and remove any obstacle that may come in the way of the implementation of the plan and (3) to review and assess the progress of the plan from time to time. The Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs will assist the Council in the study and assessment of the plan as well as in achieving the objectives.

A clear-cut definition of functions, besides unification and co-ordination between the fields of action of the Council and the Ministries and Departments of the Government, should prevail from the beginning. Once the Planning Council has decided on a plan or a specific project, the responsibility for carrying it into effect should be that of the Ministries or the Departments concerned. Similarly, when the Ministry or the Departments of Government themselves have to prepare plans under instructions from the Council, mutual co-operation and understanding between the two parties become imperative. In this connection, the Planning Council will have to give constructive suggestions from time to time, according to need. This will have the effect of resolving beforehand any obstacle that may arise while giving final approval to the plan. I am confident that, you, the members of the Planning Council, will remain alive to your duties and carry out the trust, which I have reposed in you by nominating you as members, with the interest of the people and the country at heart, You have on your shoulders a great responsibility, and that is to lift the

country from the subsistence level to a developed and self-supporting economy within the shortest possible time.

May Lord Pashupatinath confer on each of us wisdom and strength to live up to the responsibility of each !

Jaya Nepal !

February 18, 1961

*National Day Message announcing,
among other things, the formation of
the Ministry of National Guidance*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are celebrating to-day the Eleventh Anniversary of our National Day. This great occasion calls upon all of us to evaluate the experiences of our past ten years of living in a 'democratic' environment, to eliminate our shortcomings and weaknesses and to rededicate ourselves heart and soul to the task of an all-round development of this land of ours. Now, let us forget our petty and narrow outlook and indi-

vidual and partisan interests and courageously march forward united in our aims to work hard for the greater glory and interest of our Motherland. This much is certain, and it cannot be otherwise, that, if even now we fail to heed the lessons of history and past experiences and to take to the right path, the road of progress may remain blocked for us for ever.

Every thing will become crystal-clear if we patiently think over the circumstances under which in 1951 His late Majesty, Our August Father, ushered in democracy in the country with the co-operation of all patriotic countrymen, with the high ideals and objectives of the welfare of the country and people always in view, and over the various efforts made to bring about, secure, preserve and maintain political stability within the framework of democracy during the last ten years. We can learn a good deal from this experience by way of lessons, evidence and the chastened feelings and aspirations of the people and thus chart out a new course of action and avoid certain pitfalls. But we must never be discouraged in the least because of the instability and weaknesses seen during the past decade.

Our countrymen are also fully aware of all possible efforts made by Us for the general welfare of the people from time to time with a view to securing and establishing political stability, democratic procedure, consolidating and furthering the unity of the country, making proper use of the country's manpower in the nation-building task, enhancing the prosperity of the Nation and preserving peace, order and tranquility in the country. Let everyone pay special attention to our proclamation of December 15, 1960 and subsequent pronouncements, messages and proclamations. It is a matter of gratification for all of us that following the policy enunciated in these announcements, the people throughout the country, from one end to

the other, are experiencing a renewed sense of security, and the simple, innocent, self-respecting, self-reliant children of the soil, following different professions and callings, are also pleased and happy.

During the short period that has elapsed since the dissolution of the previous administration, an atmosphere of alarm and terror has happily turned into one of confidence, peace and security. This clearly shows whither the faith, aspirations and active co-operation of the people lie. Despite all that may be said to the contrary, it has hence been proved that the previous government was run by a few self-seeking individuals who, in the name of democracy, flouted the interests and aspirations of the people and did not even hesitate to imperil national unity, solidarity and sovereignty. Let every patriotic Nepalese, however, understand that the success of the timely steps we have, in response to the genuine wishes and aspirations of the people, taken with a view to preventing any further national deterioration that would have been an inevitable result of the continuation of the former government, depends on the labours, the love for the nation and the devotion to national unity on the part of every Nepali. These steps have been taken by us with the intention of making a real beginning of the Era of Development.

Let all unhesitatingly offer their usual, nay, increasing co-operation in this task so as to make it possible to build up the strong foundations of a democracy suited to our national genius, tradition and temperament, so as to enable us to scale the peak of prosperity by leaps and bounds and so as to empower us to give resounding proofs of our sovereign national entity. Now is the time for work and labour, not for meaningless rumour-mongering, pointless comments and false and

baseless propaganda.

It is, therefore, natural for all patriotic Nepalese to deplore the malicious and baseless propaganda in which a handful of people, deaf to national sentiments, are still thoughtlessly indulging. This shows they have not been able to shake off their old ways. These people have failed to appreciate the changing circumstances as well as the sentiments of the people. It is, however, gratifying to note that the Nepalese people have not a shadow of doubt about the blatantly harmful nature of such anti-national activities.

On this occasion, we would specially like to caution our people against the anti-national elements and their activities which are clearly against the interests of people and progress. Do not give any kind of encouragement to such elements and be always ready for the development of the country. Let none be in doubt on this score : this land belongs to us all and its advancement is also dependent on our own united efforts.

The present administration is striving with a special sense of urgency to remove the anomalies and straighten the angularities in the state of affairs. As you must be knowing, it is also devoting its attention to preparing a practicable plan of development, to bringing about a new economic set-up, to consolidating and streamlining the administrative machinery and to accomplishing a greater sense of peace and security.

With a view to accentuating common and united efforts to work out a plan of targets and goals in various fields of national activity and attaining these goals within the scheduled period, we have this day constituted a new Ministry of National Guidance. The principal duty of this new ministry will be to work in the broader interests of the country and to achieve a greater measure of progress and development in all sections of

society and among its various classes, to co-ordinate the rights and interests of the various areas and their people and not to let regional interests conflict with national interests or with similar interests of other areas.

This newly set up ministry will also try to inspire people of every walk and profession including agriculture, the young people of the country and specially students, in all spheres of activity, cultural, social and ideological, to devote themselves to the service of the nation. Many problems await solution and a new atmosphere has to be created throughout the Land. I hereby appeal to all to render all possible help to the administration in its task of building up the nation and advancing the welfare of the people.

Everybody must be aware that, for the past few years, our policy of friendship and neutrality has been paying dividends by way of better and stronger international relations. In the light of this, our State visits to India, Ceylon, USSR, Japan, USA and UK and similar historical visits to our country by Their Excellencies the Presidents of India and USSR and Their Imperial Highnesses the Crown Prince and Princess of Japan and by the Honourable Prime Ministers of India and China acquire special importance.

Next week we shall have the pleasure and opportunity of welcoming, at our invitation, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a country with which we have been happily bound by time-honoured bonds of friendship. We firmly believe that wherever Her Majesty goes, the Nepalese will welcome her and her suite in the finest traditions of our hospitality and thus further strengthen the already subsisting ties of friendship between our two countries.

May Lord Pashupatinath ever keep alight in our hearts the torch of national awakening and enthusiasm ! May He ensure the lasting well-being of all of us ! With these sentiments at heart, I hereby convey to you all my heartfelt greetings.

Jaya Nepal !

February 26, 1961

*Speech proposing a toast to the health
of the Royal Guests, Queen Elizabeth II
and the Duke of Edinburgh, at the
State Banquet given in honour of the
visiting Queen*

Your Majesty,

We are very happy to welcome you, His Royal Highness Prince Philip and the other distinguished guests to this function to-night. It is no exaggeration to say that this is a landmark in the age-long history of unbroken friendship between our two countries. Your welcome arrival to-day has certainly strengthened the growing relations of friendship between our two countries.

The happy memories of our pleasant visit to your country last October are uppermost in our mind on this occasion. I have been greatly inspired by the British national character and the intellectual attainments and material progress of Your Majesty's subjects. We are also grateful for the co-operation and assistance received from your country.

Engaged in the task of development of their country, my subjects can learn a good deal from your glorious Kingdom. Your Majesty's land, justly called the land of the Mother of Parliaments, is also, I believe, aware of the difficulties that beset a country recently dedicated to the development of this system.

Although, on account of many and diverse errors and shortcomings, my desire to work out a strong and unalloyed form of parliamentary democracy for the betterment of my Kingdom could not be a success at the moment, I am still firm in my earlier belief that your experiences in the development and working of your institutions can be and are of great value to us. At the same time, it is but natural for any good and successful system to take time to strike roots.

Despite the courage and well-known devotion of our people to arts and matters cultural, there is a lack of modern amenities in our ancient land and this fact must have told upon Your Majesty's comforts. Even then, I trust that our honoured guests must have felt to-day how happy and pleased my people are to welcome Your Majesty.

I hope that the fresh breeze from the High Himalays of Nepal will make Your Majesty's historical visit a pleasant one.

And now, I propose a toast to the health and long life of Your Majesty and that of His Royal Highness Prince Philip and to the continued prosperity of the people of the United Kingdom.

April 10, 1961

Speech inaugurating the Block Development Officers' Conference in Pokhara

Ladies and Gentlemen, and Block Development Officers,

It is indeed with great pleasure that I welcome this opportunity to declare open the present Conference of the Block Development Officers organized under the aegis of the Village Development Department.

Various developed as well as under-developed countries of the world are doing something or other under various names and styles for the socio-economic development of their backward and rural population.

As almost 97 per cent of our people live in the villages and as their conditions of living and methods of agriculture are extremely backward, we have also been trying to realize our aim of all-round development of the rural population of Nepal through the agency of the Village Development Department. The various works undertaken by the Village Development Department up to date have enthused our Village folk. This shows that the Villagers of Nepal can confidently stand comparison with their counterparts elsewhere in courage and enthusiasm for national development. The only thing that is lacking is the proper harnessing of their courage and enthusiasm. Let every Block Development Officer remember that on his shoulders lies the great responsibility for raising the standards of living of the rural population through close association with the needy villagers scattered through every nook and corner of the country.

For their progress and improvement, the people of the country should not only ask the government what it can do for them but should also ask themselves what they can do for the development of their localities. The role of the government in this task of awakening and enthusing the people will be just to extend to them aid and co-operation according to the conditions and resources of the country. Thus alone will the development and progress achieved in the villages acquire permanence. Thus will also be inculcated in the villagers the habit of taking the initiative and working with a sense of responsibility. The government cannot, under the Village Development Programme, provide any aid to any individual for the promotion of his own selfish ends. The government has to assign priority to national social organizations inspired by a will to work for the development of the country according to

the principles enunciated by it and to make available financial and other helps according to need and in fulfilment of the demands submitted by such organizations.

I do not think it would be appropriate for us to say that a particular locality has been developed just because a certain number of schools or hospitals have been set up there. We can say that a village has prospered only when the villagers succeed in gradually removing outmoded and obsolete superstitions, when they effect social and psychological changes within the framework of the fundamentals of our cultural heritage, when they acquire knowledge of their own real good and when they make a collective effort to achieve it in a spirit of mutual co-operation. The chief aim of the present set-up also is to evolve a structure which is capable of assuring basic happiness to the greatest number and to promote gradual improvement of the standards of living. And this will become a reality only when every Nepali learns the habits of initiative and enterprise.

The financial and technical aids that we have been receiving from our friendly countries — India and America — in the development programmes of Nepal, particularly in the field of Village Development, seem to have been of considerable benefit in a way. But our re-generation becomes possible only if and when a plan or programme suitable to our country can be hammered out in our own country. All of us should take due cognizance of this fact. On the contrary, if our attempt is confined only to the imitation of what has been done or performed in other progressive countries regardless of our own conditions, it will not be a success, it will remain just an imitation.

The history of Nepal of the past ten years has clearly proved that in the absence of social, economic and psychological

transformation, political changes can neither be lasting nor effective. Whatever be the plan or programme, if it is imposed from above, its consequences can never be desirable. Any programme, therefore, which is to be executed under the auspices of the Village Development Department, will inspire the people with confidence and encourage them to march forward only if its implementation is undertaken at the village - level according to the wishes of the villagers themselves.

This concourse of the Block Development Officers of various areas, in order to remove the difficulties and obstructions that each of them has come up against and adopt a simple, easy and concrete method for national construction, represents, in my opinion, a very commendable effort. I need not perhaps reiterate that the Block Development Officers have a very important and responsible part to play in the execution of the village development programme. Still, I wish to add that the dominant aim and duty of the Block Development Officers is to make a timely analysis of the immediate problems facing the villagers, to live in close touch with them and try to remove their hardships, and to induce in them discipline and awakening. To bring about the development and progress of their particular areas, they must make a ceaseless endeavour to arouse and inspire the people with a broader perspective of national interest and enlist the co-operation of all to achieve this objective. It should also be advantageous to them to keep themselves abreast of administrative problems. The present Conference, composed as it is of representatives drawn from different parts of Nepal, may do well to deliberate on what can be done for the creation of a new Nepal and how national development can be made more effective in

consequence and smoother in operation.

May this Conference be a full success! When at the end of the Conference you go back to assume charge of your original assignments, get down to business with a new inspiration and new enthusiasm.

I declare this Conference open with a prayer that as a result of what you do, the economic condition of the people of Nepal may improve from day to day until all of them are assured of their basic requirements, at least.

Jaya Nepal !

April 12, 1961

*Speech in reply to the Address of
Welcome, presented by the Chairman
of the Pokhara Municipality*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Under the existing conditions of our nation, the task of building up the nation has come to be the responsibility of the people of every region. It can never be claimed that the country has developed unless provision has been made for the wants of every locality. The people can be said to have done their duties if, though to a limited extent, they can meet all their local requirements. Although, ordinarily, a municipality's principal function is considered to be making proper arrangements for

the necessities of daily life, it has also a great responsibility in enkindling disciplined civic sense among the people by teaching them how to lead an unblemished and truthful life. I hope this municipality will be fully successful in this task as well. I thank all concerned with this reception, including its chairman, for organising today's function. My good-wish is : May every Nepalese be more and more qualified to build up the nation truthfully and honestly !

Jaya Nepal !

April 13, 1961

*New Year's Day Message
broadcast to the nation, calling
upon all to work with the supreme
aim of national development*

Beloved countrymen,

It gives us great joy to give you on this New Year's Day a message of awakening with the prayer that this auspicious day may be, for all of us, a bringer of lasting inspiration to march along the path of progress with new thought, fresh enthusiasm and a vernal vision.

On this sacred occasion, I should like to draw the attention of all our fellow-countrymen to the one supreme aim of national development while reminding them once more of

the changing times.

Everybody has understood by now that rapid development, by all fair means, is the crying need of an underdeveloped country like ours. Our quest for the system best suited to our national genius and necessities led us through the depressing experience of the democratic experiment of the last ten years. It is, of course, true that every organization and ideology has progress as its goal and its motivating force. But it is our common experience that absence of probity and integrity makes the same organization or ideology a stumbling-block on the way of the country's advancement. This experience is not peculiar to us. This has, in fact, been the experience of several countries of South-East Asia. For us, the vital question is the question of national development, not the question of the superiority or inferiority of any ism or ideology based on pure theories. We have to solve our problems in our own way and accomplish the development of our country. We are all fed up with the devastations wrought in our national life by blindly copied isms. All the same, some sort of system is absolutely necessary for the progress of the country, That is why we have evolved a new system based on the bedrock of popular feelings and aspirations and having for its sole aim the establishment of a democracy suited to our national genius. It is but natural, therefore, that our countrymen should have increasing faith in the necessity and correctness of this system. It is, indeed, a matter of pride for all patriotically minded people that this has been possible within such a short period of time. When people have shown such faith and also redoubled enthusiasm for useful pursuits, we can unhesitatingly say that the gateway to national prosperity is now open. This is a matter of joy for us as well as for our compatriots.

Let those who have understood the purport of this

system explain it to those who have not. Any unselfish work in this direction will surely be a contribution to the nation and commendable as such. Let all rest assured that sycophants and selfish-minded people will get no quarter whatsoever in this new set-up. Hence, let all co-operate in the noble task of national development by faithfully discharging their duties from their respective posts. For the time being, we shall march forward on the basis and with the goal of a basic democracy suited to our national aspirations and built up from the bottom. Then after five years or so, people will be in a position to judge what kind of ideology is in their best interests and adopt the same. This kind of ideology alone will be an asset, instead of a liability, in the work of advancing our motherland along the luminous path of all-round advancement. Then alone will many benefit instead of just a few. Let us, therefore, not have diverse goals or indulge in pointless controversies. Let us single-mindedly attain higher and higher targets of progress. Nothing is impossible for man. Our success is assured.

With this idea in view, some steps have been taken to organise various classes and communities and various works of common welfare and national development have been set afoot, with more to follow, through the basic organization of rural, town and district councils. In this very way, people will be made development-conscious and their constructive energies will be fruitfully channelised. The reason for laying special emphasis on this type of organisation and the Panchayat principle underlying it, is that it enables people of all levels to take an active part in national welfare work and also makes possible an actual representation of each and every individual.

Planing, capital and labour, these are the essentials for national development. Practicable plans will soon be ready. Capital is also available with the co-operation of all friendly countries

including India. We Nepalese are industrious. So, there is no dearth of labour. Now the only necessary thing is to apply ourselves to useful activities. With this aim in view, the government is going to show the way. It is, however, the duty of all countrymen to engage themselves in work with enthusiasm and dedication. Thus, to lay the foundation of an enviable future with all possible kinds of co-operation is the demand of this era of development.

On one side, we see progressive order and stability in our country. On the other side, outside our country some people are still indulging in all sorts of misleading propaganda based on lies and invented by imagination. This is regrettable. Truth is always truth and defies all attempts at hiding it. But, truth has no meaning for those who, for selfish interests, go about spreading lies based on imagination. Even such people, however, have not been denied the opportunity for finding out the truth and clearing up their delusions.

On this occasion, I should like to make this also quite clear that our government is run wholly on the basis of the laws of our country, which were made in accordance with our peace-loving and law-abiding traditions. Thus also peace and tranquility is being maintained throughout our country. The same spirit will also be observed in future. Also, rights and duties have received due legal protection. Just because a handful of people indulge in thoughtless utterances and challenges saying there is no scope for anti-national activities like political hooliganism and bickerings, rivalries and double-dealings, no reasonable person should say that there is no law and order in the country. We have also no hesitation in saying that if anybody has still dreams of making our country a playground of their whims and fancies, he is in a dreamland. The fact is that since the change of 1951 our fellow countrymen

have never before felt such a sense of security as they do now. The experience of the last four months is a signal proof of that.

The hearty support and co-operation which the people have accorded to the steps taken for the real welfare and advancement of the country has now cleared the way for our happier days. It is also known to all that firm and unblemished arrangements have been initiated by clearing up vicious atmosphere. Thus a strong foundation is being laid for the great works to be undertaken in future.

How we have been striving our best for promoting the best interests of our country and countrymen regardless of the risks and exertions involved is also no secret. During the short period of four months, many irregular works of the past have been set right. Important works like administrative reorganization, abolition of feudal lordship, National Planning Council, District Inspection, National Guidance, Judicial Reforms, New Anti-corruption Measures are the highlights of this period and they are within everybody's knowledge. The Royal Commission on Taxation also has submitted its report and now it will receive our active consideration.

With a view to expediting nation-building works including the full utilization of our economic resources in a co-ordinated and consolidated manner throughout our hill and Tarai regions, the Kingdom of Nepal has been divided into fourteen zones and seventy-five Development Districts. In an agricultural country like ours, the work of reformation and reconstruction cannot be solidly based till the land tenura system has been reformed and the outstanding difficulties of peasants have been removed. Bearing this truth in mind and realizing its urgency in the context of the fact that we are now bent upon the real development of our country, we have also

constituted a new Land Reforms Commission. In the field of education also there will soon be an appropriate arrangement. In all these new activities and arrangements, the co-operation of every patriotic Nepali is indispensable.

On this New Year's Day, I should also like to express my earnest desire that world peace may be consolidated through the effective solution of the problems currently agitating mankind and that international good-will and co-operation may grow from strength to strength.

In conclusion, I once again convey to you all my cordial good wishes, headed by the prayer to Lord Pashupatinath that He may bless our determination to pool together our new zeal and enthusiasm for the all-round development of our country.

Jaya Nepal !

April 13, 1961

*Address amidst an impressive
ceremony to mark the unveiling
of Nepal Memorial, Kathmandu*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives us much pleasure to have this opportunity to unveil this Nepal Memorial on the New Year's Day to-day and to render our homage to the memory of the valiant dead as a sublime part of our duty to appreciate the good wherever we find it.

Our traditions tell us that an idol is a sign and symbol of a sacred principle. These memorials shall, therefore, act constantly as beacon-lights to keep our daily life steady and firm on

the path of principle. Those brave master-minds had played the role of guiding-stars to lead the country on the path of democracy with no other aim except the good of the country and the people and never in their life had they swerved an inch from the Nepalese tradition and culture. History is witness to this.

Our August Father, His late Majesty King Tribhuvan, had also understood beforehand that the then system of administration, which had less faith in popular sentiment and was less alive to popular well-being, could by no means be conducive to the happiness and welfare of Nepal and the Nepalese. How much His late Majesty was alert and active on this subject was made manifest when he took the field in 1950-51, on which there is no need to dwell further just now.

Unfortunately, however, my August Father was called to Heaven before he could redeem his pledge to the full— an event, which is deeply engraved in the memory of every Nepali. Every Nepali has been curious as to when the dreams of the illustrious dead would come true. It has now, therefore, devolved on all of us to carry to the farthest corners of our country the true significance of their ideals and sacrifice. We shall succeed in our endeavour if we fulfil our duty and discharge our responsibility truly and well. And this shall be our genuine tribute to the brave departed.

As it has been my earnest and long-cherished desire to set up this memorial in a sacred form, I ordered the construction of the present monument on my own expense. Today, therefore, when we see it standing up before all of us, in all the majesty of its eternal message, it is natural for me to feel elated along with the relatives concerned. Let this memorial be a constant reminder to all of us of the duty of patriotism. It is our firm conviction that this will continue for all times to give us a

lesson that to act in a manner out of time with the historical evolution of Nepal is not becoming to a Nepali.

I must thank all those who have worked diligently in the construction of the monument, including General Arun Shumsher, Chairman of the Memorial Construction Committee, and other Committee members and Engineer Shankar Prasad Rimal.

Before concluding, I pray that Lord Pashupatinath may bestow on us the strength to advance along the path of national construction in a spirit of devotion and dedication so that, following the path of truth, we may translate into reality the dream of the martyrs.

Jaya Nepal !

May 7, 1962

Speech inaugurating the Centenary Celebrations of the Indian Poet-laureate, Rabindranath Tagore, in the capacity of His Majesty as the Chief Patron of the Centenary Committee

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a matter of pleasure and gratification for me to get this opportunity not only to participate in but also to inaugurate this Birth Centenary Celebration of that late Rabindranath Tagore. The poet was well-known all over the world. He was a great son of India and one of the leading lights of the Asian continent. There cannot be two opinions about this.

The fact that, like many other countries, Nepal is also celebrating the birth centenary of this exalted soul is both a matter of joy and a testimony to the greatness of Tagore's personality.

The late Tagore's contributions in extending the bounds of art, culture and literature of the world have ever been regarded as of a very high order. He was rather repelled by the artificialities of the modern world and his ideals had in them very much of the liberality and bountifulness of natural beauty. Perhaps in Shantiniketan, an institution mothered and nurtured by him with profound love and care, we still have pure and peaceful glimpses of this natural, humanitarian idealism of his. I am of the opinion that, even in the Sputnik age, the currents of fresh, deep and liberal thought, set in motion by him continue to give light and guidance to humanity in an enhanced manner. The homage we are paying to his memory to-day is but a measure of the extensiveness of the influence produced on our minds by his various contributions. In fact, it will be no exaggeration to say that if all of us adopt and follow the teachings of the late Rabindranath Tagore, universal peace and prosperity will no longer remain a mere romance. It is enough to pay lip, homage to such luminaries of the world : we have to be capable of following their great teachings every moment of our lives. Thus alone will their efforts have served their purpose and real benefit accrue to us.

Taking part in this special celebration, we have acted in accordance with the time-honoured Nepalese tradition of rendering proper respects to master minds from all countries of the world.

I hope that all of us will benefit from a recollection of the noble thoughts and blameless character of personages like the late Tagore. This is my cordial good-will and also my tribute to his sacred memory.

My thanks are due to all those assembled here as well as to those who have had a hand in organising this function.

Jaya Nepal !

June 2, 1961

Full proceedings of an interview granted by His Majesty to the directors of the Sagarmatha Sambah Samiti

“There can be no two opinions on the fact that the development of the country is not possible until the economic structure is boosted up. So far as the economic policy of the government is concerned, it is imperative that it should be determined as soon as possible, and, with the co-operation of all it will be determined very soon. But everybody should, however, realise that an economic policy got up in haste without proper study of the different aspects of the questions may hamper rather than help the country”.

In a reference to the report recently submitted by the Royal Tax Commission His Majesty revealed, "The report will be published in its entirety in a day or two. It is unfortunate at present the conditions are such that we have to deal with not just one or two instances of mal-functionings but overhaul the whole machinery. It is my firm conviction that if we adopt the habit of working together coolly and collectively the task can be done. I see no reason for despair or despondency. We need not at all be defeatist in our outlook.

"That there is no unity and understanding among the ministers is nothing more than mere rumour. I have noted no dissension among them. The rumour may have been originated partly in the old habit, which still persists, of wishing for quick changes of governments and partly in the hope that he may be taken in the place of the other. So far as the difference of opinion among the ministers is concerned, it may have appeared so because they have to speak in a restrained and responsible manner. Else I have not experienced personally any such difficulty so far.

"There is a big difference between the Council of Ministers and a Cabinet manned by a political party. I do not have, therefore, felt the need to keep somebody in good humour in order to strengthen myself. The main objective of the present Council of Ministers is to work with the good of the country as the supreme determinant. As far as I am able to see, the objects of the entire people of to-day is the same. How regrettable it is that even now there are still certain individuals in the country who have not learnt the habit of working honestly. It is not unnatural for anyone, who wishes to take the country forward, to feel concerned when he detects such individuals at all levels of the social hierarchy whose sole aim is to work for their own betterment and for fulfilment of their own selfish

interests. We should face it with courage and not surrender to it in despair. The present Council of Ministers has a big load to carry. But I do not mean to suggest that it is going to be expanded soon. I repeat what I have said earlier that a Council of Ministers with membership ranging from 7 to 9 will be just enough. Although I have not been able so far to give the final decision on it, I do not feel that I shall hesitate to take such steps as may be necessary to advance the cause of the country, which is supreme. I am not squeamish about admitting my mistakes, if mistakes indeed they are. My only interest is the good of the country and the people. I have nothing to hide or conceal. He who has done no wrong needs harbour no fear.

“Whenever a Government was formed, it treated administrative reorganization as problem No. 1. Yet none of them came forward to do what should be done in this respect because most of them, actuated by selfish motives, acted in a manner calculated to bring to them cheap popularity. The problem therefore remained unsolved.

“The present Council of Ministers has worked in this direction to the maximum extent possible and according to the need of the country. As you know, although it can not be said that there is no dearth of honest and efficient workers in our country, attempt has been made to get the work from officials who are in government service.

“If there exists any grievance among the officials who have not been released from service in course of the reorganization of the lower class of government personnel, I have instructed the persons concerned to review wherever possible, and so certain changes are still likely.”

His Majesty stated clearly, “Since 1951 no action had been taken on anyone however grave might be his or her

offence. That is why, the number of officials released from service this time has appeared so big. It may be that as a result of this reorganization someone or the other might have had to wonder where the next meal was coming from. It should, however, be borne in mind that they were not reduced to this state for no reason, I do not feel that I am enunciating a new principle when I say that in the times of change, attention should be devoted to the good of the greatest number rather than individual cases. I have pity on the poor fellows, yet I need hardly repeat that mercy and policy are like two banks of the river.

There are many problems facing the country, some of them are time-taking and some of them demand diligent labour and I am happy to note that the majority of the people of Nepal are prepared to undergo the highest degree of suffering and sacrifice and extend the heartiest co-operation to achieve the goal of national development. This is a matter of good fortune as well as deep satisfaction.

If there are some who are discontented, it may be traced back to either of the two causes— (i) Habitual adherence to political and party interests and (ii) inherent antagonism to progress. These elements can by no means stand in the way, because the people are solidly behind the effort to develop the country. The step that we take should be such as to promote the good of the greatest number. It is, however, next to impossible to convince individual by individual. Under the circumstances if somebody gives utterance to the figment of his imagination I have nothing to say to him.

Question— Your Majesty, it is said that the members of the dissolved Cabinet and some others also are at a loss about their future in the country.

His Majesty— On December 15 and 26 last year I said

all that was to say on why I found myself unable to keep the Cabinet in office. And almost all the patriotic Nepalese have accepted it whole-heartedly. The question, therefore, does not arise at all about the whys and wherefores. Although I am not able to forecast the future I am confident that the future of those who strive for the good of the country by word and deed is always bright. I have no doubt, and I have no fear in saying that now no one can have a bright future if he indulges in threat, intimidation, cunning or toadyism and who acts under the impulse of selfishness.

Question— It appears, Your Majesty, that the speed with which the problems should have been solved has not become evident to the desired extent. Do Your Majesty agree to it ?

His Majesty— Certainly the requisite speed has not yet become evident. The speed with which we wish to improve our country will bear a parallel to the speed with which we solve our problems. The speed can be accelerated, not by wishing for it alone but by working honestly. Everybody is putting forth the best of efforts and all of us should expand the area of tolerance and sincerely work for the quickening of the pace. Critical comments that the speed is slow, can lead us nowhere. Problems like them cannot be solved now by mere theorisings, formal imitation and bedroom conferences. All of us must now get down directly to the field of action. At least that is how I feel about it.

The conveners of the Heads of States conference of the neutral nations of Asia, Africa and Latin America have sent me invitation to participate in it if possible. In this connection if the results of the Preparatory Conference now being held in Cairo give indication that participation in it will bring good to our country, I may possibly go to take part in

it. At the moment I can not give a definite undertaking.

I have not yet been able to fulfil the invitation from the People's Republic of China which was extended last year. I have accepted the invitation by word of mouth and I shall go there definitely but till now I have not yet fixed the date.

Our foreign policy continues as usual. No friendly country has behaved improperly towards us, nor have we done anything of that kind from our side. But if our partiality for the benefit of the Nepalese is misconstrued to mean opposition to the interest of others, I have nothing to say on it. The lie will be out.

I have from time to time explained our foreign policy as being governed by the desire to maintain friendship to all countries. Nevertheless it is not unnatural for our friendship with close neighbours to have more intimate character. Ours is a small country, yet we do not want uncalled-for oppression from any quarter. I am fully confident that every patriotic Nepali is determined to maintain the independence of the country. In this context the legal experts may know how far freedom of press is consistent with false reporting. This much, however, I must say that to the best of my belief no Nepali will give recognition to anyone's freedom of freely attacking the freedom of the other. Every Nepali understands it. I am not stating a new thing.

I have adopted various measures to promote the good of the country. Being a believer of democracy I had the general elections conducted in the hope that it might be of benefit. My hope was belied. The effect of it was to bring benefit to a handful of individuals rather than the country as a whole. All that the elected government did was superficial and just a show. I am now resolved to usher in an unsullied atmosphere by promoting the all-round development of the country in the

first place.

I feel that I have explained to you all the points that you have raised. You must understand full well that we have to build our country. We have no time to loose in needless talk. I had to take this step to-day because the different measures I undertook with the aim of building the country have failed. No one can prescribe a precise development formula applicable to all the countries of the world and particularly the backward countries of Asia. If we make a deep and searching study of the situation and need of our country we ourselves may find out a formula to suit us. To err is human and let every one bear in mind that to admit one's error and correct it is a good practice. I hold myself always ready to correct or rectify any error or shortcoming that may be apparent about the policy adopted after careful scrutiny of the situation prevailing in the country. My quest like that of the people at large is comprehensive development of the country. Till now I have launched a number of experiments to achieve this end. I did not find any other medium which is simpler and less complicated than the one we are following at present. If to sit on one's error is a defect, it is greatness on the part of man to correct the error. You, journalists should do well to pay attention to it. For you also carry on your shoulders a heavy responsibility. Do not lag behind or forget to discharge your duties. May journalism produce enthusiasm not excitement among the people. This is my good wishes to you.

August 24, 1961

*Full proceedings of an interview
granted by His Majesty to the repre-
sentatives of the Nepal Sambat Samiti*

“Not that fundamental rights are unnecessary nor that they should not be conferred. The question is how to phase them so that their development might be in harmony with the psychological development of the nation and the people might reap the highest benefit from them. Fundamental rights do not connote license. Performance of our duties and our creative consciousness alone can invest them with basis; and in the equilibrium of these various elements do creativeness and utility find their consummation. If somebody seeks to disrupt peace

and order and produce disaffection against legal authorities in furtherance of his demand that he wants fundamental rights, such a mode of action can never be permissible.”

This was what His Majesty stated to the representatives of Nepal Sambat Samiti (Nepal News Agency) when they were granted audience Thursday last. His Majesty, who was in his usual cheerful self, added with conviction :

“If fundamental rights find their growth in an atmosphere of this kind of development all round, there will be no room for the misuse of rights. In the course of this development the people will acquire such enduring system of values as will transform these rights into a part of public life and will translate themselves into social and individual practice on a plane of progress, discipline and vigilance.

“If anybody in the name of fundamental rights wants to indulge in lawlessness as in the decade now past, it can be adjudged neither as a healthy definition nor can it be acceptable as an honest demand.” His Majesty added.

“The fallacy of the argument that there are no fundamental rights might be exposed with reference to the present interview. For, if there were really no fundamental rights, you could not at all have asked such questions. I note with regret that even now those who ask for rights forget to take even the name of duties. It appears to be the misfortune of the country that there are still such persons.”

Replying to the question about the recent arrest of certain persons, His Majesty said that action has been taken against them not because they have demanded fundamental rights but because, completely indifferent to their fundamental duties, they have sought to create disloyalty against the basic principles of the Government.

Asked when and how the Panchayat principle would be

incorporated as a political system, His Majesty stated that the work of establishing Panchayats was due to be initiated from the coming winter. The programme would be opened with the setting up of the Panchayats in the villages. This system would no doubt develop into a comprehensive political system. But it could not be said how long the process would take.

Giving his views on the performance of the Council of Ministers to date, His Majesty said that he was satisfied with it, adding, "Were I not satisfied, I would not have worked with it at all."

In a reference to the re-shuffle of the Council of Ministers, His Majesty observed, "I have already stated room can be found in the Council for 5 to 7 members. At the moment the Council is functioning smoothly. I am satisfied with its progress. I am not for admitting more members and making it a forum for talk, talk and talk."

When his attention was drawn to the certain individuals who have recently been released from custody, His Majesty said, "I have held those who engage in irresponsible activities and have released those who have behaved otherwise."

Asked whether there was any possibility of the leaders of the dissolved Nepali Congress being associated with the Government, His Majesty replied, "There is no hard and fast rule about the inclusion of anybody in the Council of Ministers. Broadly speaking, I am prepared to consider giving council membership to those who are willing to co-operate with the recently laid down policy. As to those who are not disposed that way, there is no reason why anybody should approach them with out-stretched arms. There is no question of this personality or that."

In reply to the question whether the recently published budget statement, to the effect that development works would

be taken into hand phase by phase so that they might be executed in a self-reliant manner and with less and less foreign aid, was not in contradiction with the objective of initiating an era of national construction at a faster pace, His Majesty remarked: "So far as the development works are concerned, it is much better to take up a realistic approach rather than juggle with budgetary figures. Allocations in the recently published budget do not represent multiplication tables but are conceived as means to ensure effective execution of development works. The budget does not militate against the declared policy of the Government to launch a programme of quick development. On the contrary, it has provided the government efforts in this direction with firm and realistic moorings.

Throwing light on the policy of abolishing useless government departments in an effort to cut down the administrative expenses, His Majesty explained, "It does not mean that the administrative reorganisation is not yet complete. Now and always it is essential and desirable to avoid over expenditure. We may take the case of a post office for example, which handles 2 or 4 letters a year but which is provided with full establishment costs. This sort of expenditure should of course be considered a wastage. His Majesty added, "This is purely an example to illustrate the point. In this connection, the government will take necessary action in the light of the study which it is undertaking."

Commenting on the crisis arising out of the French action in Bizerta, His Majesty pointed out that questions like these would come up for discussion at the summit conference of the neutral powers opening in Belgrade from September 1. "The question will receive proper attention there. In the meanwhile it may be stated that Nepal, being herself a small country, is naturally sympathetic towards small nations like herself. I do

not feel that Nepal will remain indifferent to their plight”.

On Berlin question His Majesty reaffirmed Nepal's stand that all international problems should be settled by peaceful means. It is not necessary for us to dwell further on this matter.

In a reference to some of the recently tabled resolutions that some changes be effected in the UN Secretariat, a committee of three should Nepalese the office of the Secretary General and that the UN Charter be amended, His Majesty said, “Minor changes in the UN Secretariat may be alright, but I do not feel that the UN Charter is ripe for amendment. I do not feel that the time has come for that.”

Asked whether in the course of the State Visit to Pakistan, any financial aid might be expected from Pakistan, His Majesty replied, “There has been no move in that direction. They have been discussed in some newspapers.”

In reply to the question whether the Boundary Treaty would be signed during the State Visit to the People's Republic of China, His Majesty said, “Talks on the boundary question are going on well between the two countries. If any point is raised in this connection during my visit, appropriate thought will be given to it and appropriate action taken. As far as the question of Sagarmatha is concerned, no Nepali, I feel, would like to part with it.”

On the possibility of additional aid from China, His Majesty said, “There has as yet been no negotiation on this subject. Nepal has, however, always welcomed aids from advanced friendly countries if they are without any strings.”

When attention was called to the statement by the Indian Prime Minister Mr. Jawahar Lal Nehru in the Parliament to the effect that the Nepalese seemed to have forgotten all about the financial aid extended to Nepal by India, His Majesty

remarked: "The Indian Prime Minister has his hands full with the affairs of his country. For that reason he may have found no time to give full attention to what has been done here in our country with the help of the 10 or 20 crores of financial aid made available by India. For my part I can say this much that the Nepalese as a race are never ungrateful nor can they tolerate the ingratitude of others." His Majesty was asked whether His Majesty had any special topic to discuss with the Indian Prime Minister while stopping over in New Delhi on way to Belgrade, to which His Majesty replied, "I am to stay at Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi. I may also have meeting with Mr. Nehru and others. Naturally, there will be some talks. But there is no programme of holding such talks according to a special agenda."

In conclusion His Majesty King Mahendra made the following observations to the representatives of the Nepal Sambad Samiti :—

"From the reports that I have received from all over the country, I feel that work is going on everywhere in a satisfactory manner. The country is firmly forging ahead on the path of progress. Rumour-mongers may be busy floating all sorts of canards. That's an entirely different story. But the truth is that work is being done and we should take satisfaction in it. Everyone of us should co-operate actively and put forward our best efforts to fulfil the demands of history, in realisation of the fact that today we are called upon to move ahead on the path of progress at a faster pace."

August 28, 1961

*Message to the nation on the eve of
His Majesty's departure to partici-
pate in the Conference of Heads of
States of neutral countries beginning
in Belgrade on September 1, 1961*

To All Our Beloved People Hearty Greetings !

To-day we are leaving our country for a few days in order to participate in the Conference of Heads of States (or of Governments) of neutral countries commencing in Belgrade from the 1st of September next in accordance with the decision of the Preparatory Committee of the same countries which sat in Cairo in June last. We shall also be going to Pakistan on the friendly invitation of His Excellency President Ayub Khan.

In the present situation of the world, a great responsibi-

lity has devolved upon nations like ours, adhering to the policy of neutrality, in connection with maintenance of world peace, even in their own interests. We feel that if all uncommitted nations succeed, with their united labours, in thrashing out a practicable blue-print for world peace, the chances of the same being disturbed can be nullified to a large extent. Keeping this truth in view and being satisfied that our people are of the same view, we have decided to participate personally in the said Conference. We are fully confident that with the blessings of Lord Pashupatinath and the good-will of all patriotic Nepalese, this journey of ours will prove significant. It is, of course, but natural that such participation by our country will strengthen further our friendly relations with many other participating countries.

It is a matter of gratification that following the change of December 15 last, there has been in evidence an increasing sense of vigilance and self-confidence among our people. Accordingly, our government has also been inspired to take to its duties with added vigour and enthusiasm.

In the fast changing world of to-day we cannot afford to waste our time in personal or factional wrangles. We are called upon to march forward in keeping with the demands of the times without worry and without getting entangled in obsolete superstitions and unprogressive systems. It has become the duty of every Nepalese to conserve our capital in strength and wealth and invest it in works calculated to enhance the prestige of our country as well as our own. It will be not only sheer waste of time but complete perversion to indulge in acts or talks of rancour and self-seeking, which of course every patriotic Nepali understands.

Bearing this truth in mind, our government has announced its aims and policies. Our government is determined to

eliminate poverty, disease and ignorance from our country and to make social justice, economic prosperity and good education the common property of all sections of our people. Accordingly, as every one knows, our government has adopted appropriate measures for the opening and smooth functioning of many mills and factories producing sugar, cement, cloth, herbs, cigarettes etc., with a view to attaining the goal of full employment. All this work is guided by the policy of giving priority to our own countrymen in matters of enterprise and employment. This is further inspired by the belief that there is no dearth of skill and strength for work among us Nepalese. You should also be aware that realising the vital importance of good education for our advancement, government has passed the report of the All-Round-cum-National Education Committee.

And because our countrymen's constant and active co-operation is necessary for the success of all these policies and because we want to build up democracy from the bottom, our government has placed before you all the concept of National Panchayat and how it will be formed. This must have made clear to you how our government has made arrangements to ensure the effective participation by local and national representatives in appropriate fields of the country's administration. Our government will also make clear announcements from time to time about other necessary arrangements to be made in this connection.

How our government is engaged with a sense of urgency in the fields of commerce, transportation, communications, agriculture, health *et cetera* is also there for all to see and judge.

All this has been made possible by the vigilance and co-operation of all patriotic Nepalese. There is no doubt whatsoever that with this vigilance and co-operation, our country will achieve more and more astounding goals in every field.

Every one of us has now understood that it is no time for luxury but for all-out labours by all those to whom the country is dear. Hence, ever bearing in mind that the disappearance of Nepal's sovereign entity will mean an end to the existence of every Nepali and that we rise or fall with our country, we are this day leaving for Belgrade.

There is the Council of Ministers for carrying on the day-to-day administration of the country. Our heir to the throne Crown Prince Birendra Beer Bikram Shah Deva being still in his minority, we have nominated brother Himalaya Beer Bikram Shah Deva Crown Representative for performing, on our behalf, other necessary duties. We are completely confident that members of the Council of Ministers, civil and military officials and all our countrymen will continue to render help and co-operation in the tasks of maintaining law and order as also of advancing various development projects.

May Lord Pashupatinath endow us all with right wisdom and turn into reality our dream of Nepal glowing with the eternal ideals of Truth, Goodness and Beauty !

Jaya Nepal !

September 2, 1961

Speech at the Conference of the Heads of States and Government held in Belgrade (Yugoslavia) re-affirming the neutral foreign policy of Nepal, her unequivocal stand against colonialism in all forms, her firm demand for total disarmament and her deep concern for the world peace and international economic co-operation

Mr. Chairman and Friends,

At the very outset I wish to express my profound sense of gratitude and appreciation to the government and the people of Yugoslavia for the generous hospitality with which we have been received in this country. Arrangements made for our accommondation, our convenience and comfort are so complete even to the last detail that it speaks volumes not only about the efficiency of the authorities concerned but also about their sincerity.

I would also take the opportunity to express on behalf of the people of Nepal, our sincere greetings to President Tito and the government and the people of Yugoslavia.

It is but appropriate that this historic Conference on which eyes of the world are turned today is being held at this beautiful city of Belgrade— a city, whose history recalls the struggle of its patriots for the preservation of the country's sacred freedom through the ages. The struggle of the people of Yugoslavia through the last war and after has been most inspiring to all the lovers of freedom in all parts of the world. So far as we in Nepal are concerned this ancient city embodies a message that is specially significant for the Conference and for the world at large. And the message, as we see it, is this that whatever be the heavy odds set against us, so long as our actions are properly geared to a noble cause, so long as we are honest to ourselves, so long as we do not want to lapse into mental and physical inertia, and so long as we set our foot firmly on reality, we can hold our own and, what is more, in the end we shall not be alone.

We have come to this Conference with some international questions plaguing us for some time— the prospect of the intensification of the cold war and the mounting race of armament.

We are meeting today under the shadow of the crisis over Berlin and Germany between the West and the Communist powers. Deep passions, strong sentiments, firmly held beliefs and, above all, the question of prestige between the two power blocs in relation to their respective positions are involved in this issue. The problem, therefore, is extremely complicated and involved. But one thing is clear on the question of Berlin and Germany, that is, the present arrangement is unsatisfactory to all the parties concerned. Nevertheless, unsatisfactory as the present arrangement is, any attempt to change the *status quo*

by means other than peaceful negotiations between the parties concerned, is, in our view, infinitely worse. Therefore, Nepal is very much concerned over the attitude of threats and counter-threats and the alerting of the NATO and Warsaw forces, thereby creating a situation which is eminently risky. In our humble opinion, the present really war-like propaganda will lead the world nowhere and, therefore, we suggest that all the interested parties on the question of Berlin and Germany so conduct themselves in their actions and speeches as to help them come together rather than drift apart.

This threatening international outlook, when viewed against the background of the unprecedented advance of Science as the hand-maiden of defence preparation, as exemplified in the recent spectacular flights into the space, appears all the more terrifying; and no effort will be fitting and appropriate at this juncture than one directed towards the lessening of the existing tension. In our opinion, the purpose of the present Conference is the relaxation of tension.

My own country of Nepal, lying in the lap of the great Himalayas and overlooked and guarded by its majestic peaks, seems a little remote when called to mind from this part of Europe. Here the pace of life is much quicker than it is in my part of the world. And the reason is not far to seek. During the last four or five centuries Europe has moved much faster than any other continents in many respects and, particularly, in science and technology. For this reason, Europe came to develop a dynamic economic and political system with a certain scale of human values, which, with some formal differences, became the norm for the whole of Europe and a model and a pattern for many other countries and continents which were fascinated, or even dazzled, by the splendours of Europe. On account of the momentum given to it by fundamental economic

changes, European civilisation, as it developed during this fruitful period, acquired an excessively extrovert character, to use a modern psychological expression, making it in the process push outwards. Some West European countries aggressively pushed outwards during the period as torch-bearers of European civilisation, initiating in its trail an extremely painful process, which has become known as colonialism and imperialism. Asian civilisation, on the other hand, is on the whole an introvert civilisation and is, therefore, at its best when it looks inwards, and is at its worst when it seeks to push its elbows outwards.

This natural trait of the Asian civilisation, as expressed in its contemplative bent and its disposition to encourage one to keep to oneself was reinforced when it came into direct encounter with the West European colonialism. Asia shrank closer into its own narrow, individualistic "empire", illumined by its egoism only, while some West European powers, such as Great Britain, France, Netherlands, Portugal *et cetera* enslaved humanity into extensive empires, over which, so far as the colonial peoples were concerned, the sun never rose.

However, as we look at the world today, we find that the most significant phenomenon in the international situation is not colonialism but anti-colonialism struggles of the people of Asia and Africa. After a long and bitter struggle, anti-colonial movement in Asia has almost come to its fulfilment. Almost all the countries of Asia, which were once colonies, have won their independence with only a few exceptions, such as Goa and West Irian. Not only have these countries won their political independence but they have already gone a long way to win their economic independence.

Success of anti-colonial movement in Asia and the powerful support given by the newly-independent Asian

countries have combined to give a great impetus to the African fight for independence. Some of the countries of Africa have won their independence in recent years and, speaking of the continent as a whole, there is a tremendous upsurge of the masses for liberation in all African countries.

Nepal is firmly on the side of the forces of revolution. We believe that colonialism is an unmixed evil. Social and political order involving such relationships between man and man is not acceptable. Anti-colonial revolution, wherever it takes place and in whatever form, must be supported. And Nepal has always taken this uncompromising stand on this question. If the colonial powers say that we do not appreciate their intentions and understand their problems, we reply to them that they do not understand our feelings.

While taking this uncompromising stand against colonialism, we do recognise that some colonial powers have acted with more grace, and with greater statesmanship and imagination in reacting to the challenge of time than others. A colonial power like the United Kingdom, having grasped the fact that the days of colonialism are numbered, has acted on the whole in such a manner as to get the approbation of many countries. Having taken lead in enslaving large masses of people, she has also taken lead in freeing them. But it may be observed at this stage that we will be misled, and misled utterly, if we believe on this ground that anti-colonial struggle is all over. On the other hand, we should still be ready and prepared for a hard and protracted struggle before the liquidation of the colonialism is complete. In Algeria bitter fight has gone on relentlessly and without break for more than seven years against the French colonialism. If the French record in Algeria belies her own great liberal tradition, the Algerian record has simply been inspiring. The people of Nepal have

regarded the courage and bravery of the great Algerian people with unbounded admiration and respect. We are particularly happy that the representatives of the Algerian Provisional Government have come here to participate in this Conference. Portugese colonialism, as is well known, has caused unspeakable agony to the people of Angola and Mozambique. In Kenya the people are still waiting to be free.

It is in Africa again that some disturbing signs of new colonialism are visible. Recent events in Bizerta go to prove that colonialism dies hard and it needs costly fight to remove the last remnants of colonialism. Again, had it not been for the new colonial design of Belgium, the Congo would have been quiet long ago. Both in the Congo and in the United Nations all the attempts directed towards the solution of the Congolese problems failed in the past not because some have supported one faction and others another, but because Belgium has definite neo-colonial ambitions in the uranium-rich Congo.

Neo-colonialism aims at the economic domination of the former colonies and is an even subtler form of exploitation in many ways. Nepal has made it clear in the United Nations and outside that she is opposed to all domination over any country by any other.

Anti-colonial movement is a part of the wider movement for peace. Another factor that is equally important for peace and security is disarmament and drastic reduction of all arms. The importance of disarmament cannot be too strongly emphasised. In the first place, ever-mounting piles of armaments that are being made and stocked by rival power-blocs are the constant source of danger, because, if history is any guide, armaments that have been piled up have always been used. Therefore, armament increases the sense of insecurity. Secondly, armament race is extremely expensive and consumes

resources that could be used for raising living standard of the people. Low living standard generates tension within the community. Finally, the basic source of tension among the nations, in our opinion is not ideology but economic disparity between individuals and nations, and the basic cure is not armament but economic development. Armament, therefore, creates a vicious circle, in so far as it withdraws a large part of the resources that could be used for economic development. And this has the effect of retarding economic development and perpetuating the basic source of tension.

We are no experts on the question of disarmament, and we believe that it is a matter which should essentially be settled between the two parties directly involved. It is for this reason that we have always supported any step, that is likely in our view, to bring the two parties together. Our representative at the United Nations worked in this spirit when he participated in the Disarmament Commission. My government held the same view when supporting the Ten-Nation Disarmament Committee and had expected much more from that Committee than what actually is achieved. The course of disarmament negotiations has been far from smooth and there has been a wide range of ebb and flow in our expectations. The course of negotiations on the ban of nuclear tests has been equally tenuous, though more progress has been made in this field than in other fields. We believe the Conference must make it clear that non-aligned countries are unitedly in favour of the complete banning of nuclear tests.

But the goal is as distant as ever. We must remember, however, that in spite of the great debate over the question of whether disarmament before control or control before disarmament, we have a feeling that the Western and the Soviet positions are not so fundamentally opposed as they are made

out to be. And given the will and determination, it should still be possible to come to an agreement. It is very disturbing to find that the Vienna meeting between President Kennedy and Premier Khrushchev should have actually resulted in increased tension, when our hopes and expectations were so different. As matters stand today, we seem to be heading towards a world of more threats, more incrimination and more tension. For this reason, the Conference we are holding is confronted with a challenging task—the task of doing something concrete in the direction of lessening the tension at the present moment.

The principle of peaceful co-existence, belief in which is the common factor among all of us present here, is the principle which has grown out of the recognition of the realities of the international situation. It is for this reason that peaceful co-existence is being accepted by ever-increasing number of states in Asia, Europe, Africa and Latin America. The principle of peaceful co-existence when used negatively in the sense of military non-involvement becomes one of non-alignment. Belief in the policy of non-alignment implies in our opinion rejection of the theory that the challenge of the modern world is a military challenge.

Western countries have achieved their economic emancipation within a certain social and political system and the Soviet Union has achieved hers in a different political system. They achieved their difficult targets at great sacrifice and after sustained hard work. But the problem collectively facing the under-developed countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America today is far more difficult and demands greater sacrifice and harder work. Exacting nature of the problems, the drastic character of the disease, requires drastic remedy.

In Nepal, as elsewhere, we are passing through a great revolution. The central purpose of the revolution is the raising

of the standard of the people through economic development, and an essential measure of its success is the actual achievement of economic developments. This is a great and exacting task. Therefore, Nepal has striven to achieve this rapid economic development through institutions and organisations which are in keeping with her national genius and tradition, and which are competent enough to effect speedy development. We are fortified in our belief by the examples of our friends in the different parts of the world. Deeply rooted in her spiritual and religious traditions, Nepal cannot be galvanised into action by purely materialistic view of life. Handicapped by extremely undeveloped, monolithic economy, based on agriculture, she cannot solve her problems by the method of trial and error, implicit in the capitalist system of production. A middle way seems to be destined for Nepal—a way, which combines human and spiritual values of life, with adequate rate of economic growth. In so doing, we must develop institutions, that sell to the people, that strike roots among the people and above all that are geared to action rather than talk.

As we are absorbed completely in this national development we want to keep away from all sorts of military alliances and, so far as bloc formation is concerned, we are not in favour of forming even a neutral bloc. It is only in the last ten years that we have started to achieve contacts with international community, and in this short period we have done all we could to strengthen the forces of peace.

But this does not mean that we should not work collectively for the world peace and for the economic development of the underdeveloped countries. We must strive to achieve unity amongst ourselves by developing positive points of contact, cultural and economic, entirely different in quality from those that are usually fostered between big and small powers.

The best form of co-operation is of course the economic co-operation, and a substantial measure of economic co-operation is possible even among non-aligned countries. In political field also co-operation has always been found possible and, in our opinion, the Conference could help to make political co-operation even more purposeful and effective specially in the United Nations. There are a number of questions facing the United Nations which still divide the non-aligned nations and on which agreement could be possible if more effective means of consultation could be devised.

One of the matters likely to engage the attention of the non-aligned countries for some time is the question of the structure of the United Nations. It is generally believed that the structure as provided for in the Charter does not reflect the present political realities in Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe and that the Secretariat too as at present constituted is weighted far too much in favour of Western Europe and North America. The interesting suggestion made by the Soviet Union that the office of the Secretary General be replaced by a triumvirate, composed of the representative of Western Powers, communist powers and neutral countries, seems to us clearly unworkable, and the solution of this question will have to be found, perhaps, in a fairer representation of the countries.

Another difficulty in the United Nations is on the question of proper representation of China. It has been our view that by refusing to accept China in the United Nations the World Organisation has lost much of its effectiveness. Whether in the United Nations or outside, China remains a world power. And not to have this power in the United Nations is harmful to it, and irritating to China.

Nepal regards the United Nations as a guardian of freedom of the small nations and would like it to grow in such

a manner as would inspire the confidence of such nations. This Conference could, in our opinion, give lead in this direction.

I have just outlined very briefly Nepal's attitude to some of the more important international problems. As the agenda before us is very long and fairly complicated, reflecting as it does compromise between various points of view, I feel that we must confine ourselves to a discussion of general issues rather than specific ones. When the idea of the Heads of States of non-aligned countries was first suggested, Nepal readily accepted the idea, and has worked to the best of her ability to make the Conference a success. In our view, success of the Conference lies in the work we do rather than in words we use. We still believe that when this Conference is over, it would have served useful purpose. At this time I can do no better than add my voice to call for peace for which purpose we have gathered here. Peace is possible when complete non-interference in the affairs of other nations is not only preached but scrupulously practised. We are also happy that this Conference has provided opportunity for us to develop personal contacts with some of the leading personalities in the international world. In making this appeal for peace, I feel inspired by the Message of Peace which Lord Buddha of Nepal preached to mankind more than two thousand years ago. Thank you.

September 11, 1961

*Speech in reply to the toast proposed
by the President of Pakistan, Field
Marshal Ayub at the State Banquet
given to honour His Majesty the
King, while on a State Visit to
the Islamic Republic of Pakistan*

Your Excellency President Ayub Khan, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are very happy to get this opportunity of coming to your beautiful country on Your Excellency's friendly invitation, and meeting all of you here.

It is a matter of satisfaction for us to convey, through Your Excellency, the friendly greetings and good wishes of the Nepalese people and ourselves for the ever-increasing happiness and prosperity of the people of Pakistan.

Our hearty thanks are due to Your Excellency and your

colleagues for the occasion given us to see numerous examples of the prosperity that Pakistan has been enjoying under Your Excellency's able leadership. We pray that this great country of yours may attain higher peaks of advancement under your strong and selfless pilotage. During our tour of your country, we also hope to meet some other intellectual and commercial luminaries of Pakistan. It is our belief that this visit of ours has further strengthened the friendly relations so happily subsisting between our two countries.

The Nepalese people will long remain beholden to your country for the opportunity afforded to some of our students to acquire higher training in your institutions. We are firmly of the view that the relations between our two countries can be further cemented through programmes of cultural and commercial exchange.

Now, let me request the assembled ladies and gentlemen to drink the toast to the continuation of the happy relations subsisting between our two countries as well as to the health and long life of His Excellency President Ayub.

September 13, 1961

*Speech proposing a toast to President
Ayub in the State Banquet given by
His Majesty to honour the President,
while on a State Visit to Pakistan*

Your Excellency President Ayub Khan, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are very happy to see the progress and prosperity achieved in every field by Pakistan under Your Excellency's leadership.

On behalf of the people of Nepal, I should hereby like to convey to you our best wishes for the progressive happiness and advancement of the people of Pakistan.

Nestling on the lap of the Himalayas, the Kingdom of Nepal cherishes sentiments of peace fraternity and friendship

towards all countries. We wish ill to none nor can we tolerate anybody wishing ill to us. We believe that mutual non-aggression, territorial sovereignty and independence, non-interference in others internal affairs, and attitudes of friendship and co-operation are adequate for the maintenance and promotion of good relations among all neighbouring nations. Today, the cause of world peace can be helped only by equal faith in principle and practice.

The Kingdom of Nepal is preoccupied with activities tending to people's welfare and calculated to raise their standards of living. We have welcomed free and friendly aid and co-operation of other countries desirous of being helpful in this task.

In our country also now there is no room for persons who want to further their own selfish ends and ruin their country in the name of some ideology and for those who in their eagerness to dance to the tune of anti-national elements forget their motherland's genuine interests. This we have decided and hence, the first government formed according to the usages of parliamentary democracy sponsored by us having proved a failure, a system suited to the genius and traditions of Nepal has been set afoot, as is known to you. We are very glad to be able to tell you that with the co-operation of all our countrymen, our country is showing progress in every field.

Once again, heartily welcoming you. I propose a toast to the welfare of the people of Pakistan as well as to the long life, health, happiness and well-being of Your Excellency the President and all the ladies and gentlemen assembled here.

September 25, 1961

*Message to the nation on the eve of
His Majesty's departure to China
and Outer Mongolia on State Visits*

To All My Beloved People Greetings,

It gives us much pleasure to have the opportunity of going on State Visits of about a month's duration at the cordial invitations of Chairman Lui Shou-chi and Premier Chau En-lai of our friendly neighbouring country the People's Republic of China, and of the Chairman of the Mongolian People's Republic. This has been possible because of the goodwill of all the patriotic Nepalese.

As with other friendly neighbouring countries, our rela-

tions with our friendly country the People's Republic of China, are also very deep and intimate. Today both of our friendly countries, India and China are marching on the paths of progress each in her own way. The progress achieved by India in the different fields within eight or nine years, which we saw in the year 2012 of the Bikrama era had given us valuable inspirations.

We hope and believe that in our task of building the country in our own way we shall derive still more valuable inspiration from this our forthcoming visit to China.

Today a system suited to our country has been ushered in. This system is based on the awakened consciousness of the people. And all the patriotic Nepalese, realising full well the fact that the one and only aim of this system is to remain active in the cause of the happiness and welfare of the people in all ways and always, have been extending, to the best of their ability, help and co-operation to our government. We are immensely hopeful of bright future which is in store for our country. In this age when man has successfully achieved his dream of space travel, however, all of us have to sincerely and comprehensively devote ourselves to the performance of our duties drawing a higher and higher degree of inspiration from the supreme ideas. We have also to march at a faster pace on the path of all-round advancement in every field with an unquenchable thirst for the highest source of knowledge.

That, when there is the unity of the objective and principle between the government and the people the country, can make rapid progress is sufficiently borne out by our experience of the past nine months. All of us have realised and understood that when we get down to business in a spirit of unity and awareness, those who do not know of and those who do not want the good of the country meet with failure. The truth is

now self-evident, therefore, that the march of our all-round progress will continue, no matter whoever tries to check or side-track it.

There is of course the Council of Ministers to conduct smoothly the day-to-day administration of the country in our absence. And as our beloved son Crown Prince Birendra Beer Bikram Shah Deva is still of tender age we have appointed, as before, our beloved brother Himalaya Beer Bikram Shah as our regent to carry out on our behalf such duties as we have to perform by ourselves; we hope and believe that the members of the Council of Ministers, government officials, both civil and military, along with all the patriotic Nepalese, will extend their help and co-operation on this as on other previous occasions.

Although it is painful for us to have to leave the country, we are today going to China carrying with me the goodwill of the freedom-loving Nepalese, because we feel this our visit will benefit the country.

May Lord Pashupatinath always bestow His favour on all of us.

Jaya Nepal !

September 29, 1961

*Speech in reply to the Address of
Welcome on His Majesty's arrival at
Peking Airport to open the State
Visit to the People's Republic of China*

His Excellency the Chairman, and Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are here on a State Visit including a programme of participation in the National Day Ce'lebrations of China in response to the friendly invitation of Their Excellencies Chairman Liu Shou-chi and Primer Chou En-lai. We are very much happy to convey to the people of China the greetings of all the people of Nepal on this occasion. The Nepalese people want to see all of you Chinese people enjoying increasing progress, happiness and prosperity.

Your neighbouring country, Nepal, is world-renowned as the habitation of warrior and gallant race, the Nepalese are second to none in their love of peace, friendship and independence. It is our belief that during this visit of ours we shall have talks with your great leaders on ways and means of further strengthening and consolidating the friendly ties subsisting between our two countries. During this visit we shall avail ourselves of the opportunity to convey our Chinese brothers and sisters living in different parts of China the messages of goodwill, greetings and brotherhoods from the Nepalese people. Our hearty thanks are due to you all for the reception accorded to us here this day.

May Nepal-China friendship be eternal ! Thanks.

September 29, 1961

*Speech in reply to the toast proposed
by Chairman Liu Shao-chi at the
State Banquet given in honour of
Their Majesties the King and the
Queen, while on a State Visit to China*

**Your Excellency President Liu Shao-chi, Your Excellency
Prime Minister Chou En-lai, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Please accept our cordial thanks for the warm receptions accorded to us on our arrival at the capital of this vast country upon the friendly invitation of Your Excellencies President Liu Shao-chi and Prime Minister Chou En-lai.

It is a matter of immense joy for us to convey to the leaders and people of our neighbour, the great country of China, on the occasion of her National Day celebrations the greetings of the government and people of Nepal and our own as well as

our best wishes for China's brilliant future and for the happiness and prosperity of the Chinese people.

The relations between our two countries are very ancient. We hope and believe that, with new China piloted by her seasoned leaders, the ties of friendship between our two peoples will grow stronger from day to day that there will be no chance for any unfriendly behaviour calculated to spoil our good relations. In the present-day world, international amity cannot be maintained on the basis of the strength of arms and the pride of power alone. Friendliness, goodwill, non-aggression, sovereign independence, identity of moral values, non-interference in internal affairs, peace and other allied attitudes are the needs of the day. Conformity between profession and practice is called for.

Nepal aims at the maintenance and cementation of relations with all countries on the basis of peace, friendship and equality. She would heartily welcome the co-operation of neighbouring big countries in this task. She does not want that there should be any bitterness or misunderstanding between countries. It is also a matter of common knowledge that Nepal has made her best possible contribution to the cause of world peace. We have no intention of following any particular country or power bloc. It is our conviction that a small nation can make contributions in world affairs only by adopting such a policy.

We intend to have a candid exchange of ideas with you with a view to further strengthening our mutual relations and keeping these beyond the bounds of suspicion. Now, with renewed thanks for the opportunity given to us to see examples of the progress and prosperity achieved by this great country as also to make personal contacts with her leaders and people, I propose a toast to the health, long life and ever-growing prosperity of all the people of China, Your Excellencies the Presi-

dent and Prime Minister as well as all the ladies and gentlemen assembled here.

May Nepal-China friendship live long ! Thanks.

October 5, 1961

Speech at a mass rally of the people of all circles of Peking welcoming Their Majesties and celebrating the signing of the Nepal-China Boundary Treaty, while on a State Visit to China

His Excellency Chairman Liu Shao-chi, Premier Chou En-lai, Mayor Peng Chen and Friends of Nepal,

Permit first of all to convey to the great and heroic Chinese people the greetings and goodwishes of the people of Nepal. We are very happy to come to this friendly and hospitable land of our great neighbour in response to the kind invitation of Chairman Liu Shao-chi and Premier Chou En-lai. We are happier still to find ourselves in your land at a time of the twelfth anniversary of the founding of the government of the

People's Republic of China.

Personally, I am very happy to be able to meet and develop personal relations with and offer hearty congratulations on your great success to Chairman Mao and the leaders of the People's Republic of China. I am happy to tell you that after our accession to the throne, we took immediate steps to initiate talks with the representatives of the People's Republic of China with a view to establish our relations in a formal manner and we are very pleased to see that the relations thus begun has developed since then in a friendly manner to the entire satisfaction of the peoples of our country. And we think that this mutual relation has been further consolidated and strengthened by the present visit.

The Mayor in his speech has just made a reference to the cultural contacts that has existed between our two countries through the ages. We have not had the opportunity to study your monuments and relics as extensively as we would have liked to do. But still though what we have seen is very little, we have been very much struck by the existence of many things in Peking and around which remind us of the living contacts which existed between us long ago.

We have been deeply impressed by the zeal and enthusiasm with which the National Day has been observed throughout China. Twelve years ago in your country the victory of the revolution under the leadership of Chairman Mao of the forces that stand for progress and economic regeneration of the entire people of China was complete during this relatively short period of twelve years. After that glorious victory of revolution, China has achieved quite a lot in the economic field. As a result of this China has grown in strength and power.

The determination and singleness of purpose with which you are taking up the Herculean task of raising the living

standard of more than 600 million people against heavy odds has been a source of inspiration to many people in many lands. Therefore, we have been watching with the greatest interest the peaceful achievements of New China which you are working hard to build up.

Ten years ago in Nepal, too, a great revolution took place. Though our revolution envisages a social and political system different from yours, it has the same economic objectives, namely, rapid economic development of the country through industrialisation. Besides, we want to live in a peaceful world. We want to live in peace with our neighbours. We believe that a world of peace and prosperity will be possible only when the five principles of peaceful co-existence, the principle of absolute non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, is scrupulously observed among nations. Therefore during the last ten years, we have invariably worked in this spirit and we expect others to work in the same spirit too.

The People's Republic of China has extended a friendly helping hand in our programmes of economic development at a time of great stress and strain in your own economy. And we appreciate this very much. We are grateful for this and we further hope that in spite of our different social and political systems this kind of friendly relations will continue to be developed extensively in many spheres and fields. We are also grateful to you for the opportunities you have extended to our students for studying in your institutions of learning.

In the course of the past few days we have had the pleasure and the opportunity to meet your great leaders, Chairman Mao Tse-tung, Chairman Liu Shao-chi, Premier Chou En-lai and other leaders, and we have been very impressed by their wisdom and statesmanship. I take the liberty of recalling a part of the conversation we had with Chairman Liu Shao-chi

in which he frankly stated that like all big powers the People's Republic of China might have the tendency to ignore the just and rightful claims and respect the rights and susceptibilities of small neighbours and nations, that China in the past oppressed other peoples and had in turn been severely oppressed by others and that the present government led by the Communist Party of China have learnt the lesson of history very well and will never take the road of aggression and invasion against the territorial sovereignty and political independence of its neighbours and for that matter any other countries, that China will take meticulous care to avoid the repetition of such blunders. We have taken note of this assurance made by Chairman Liu Shao-chi and we deeply appreciate the sentiments which led to the expression of this statement. And it is at the same time a significant message to the world at large. This shows the wisdom and statesman-like spirit of your leaders.

Perhaps you are aware of the fact that we have been all along advocating the necessity and prime importance of having the just and rightful representation of more than 60 million people of China in the United Nations. We do not believe in the theory of two Chinas and we have made this point sufficiently clear on all appropriate occasions and places.

For nearly a year the Joint Boundary Commission has been working in a spirit of mutual co-operations, sympathy and accomodation and have held meetings in the capitals of the two countries in a very cordial atmosphere. We are glad to tell you that with the conclusion of the Boundary Treaty signed this afternoon between our two countries, the work of this Commission is now almost over. According to the Treaty of the Boundary which has been signed, the entire boundary line between the two countries has been formally delimited on the basis of the traditional, customary boundary in accordance

with the principles of equality, mutual benefit, friendship and mutual accomodation. All outstanding problems regarding the boundary between the two countries have been solved to the satisfaction of both the parties. This is a cause for happiness for our two nations.

The conclusion of the Treaty is another milestone in our growing friendly relations. Throughout our negotiations with the great friendly neighbouring country of China, we have been guided by the principle of peace and friendship and respect for each others' rights, territorial integrity and sovereignty, and political independence. We are happy to tell you that your leaders have fully responded and reciprocated our feelings.

We must live like two ideal friendly neighbours. Peace and friendship with all has been the basic plank in our foreign policy. And we have consistently followed this policy. We will always support and uphold the forces of peace and progress. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mayor Peng Chen and through him the people of Peking for the warm reception and hospitality extended to us. We have been much impressed by the remarkable progress achieved in the construction of a New China and we wish further successes in your efforts of peaceful building up of your nation for the benefit of the Chinese people.

Long live peace and friendship between Nepal and China!

October 7, 1961

*Speech at the State Banquet given by
His Majesty in honour of Their
Excellencies Chairman Liu Shao-chi
and Prime Minister Chou En-lai,
while on a State Visit to the People's
Republic of China*

**Your Excellencies Chairman Liu Shao-chi and Premier
Chou En-lai, Ministers, and Ladies and Gentlemen,**

We are most happy to welcome you all at this State Banquet in honour of the leaders of our great neighbouring country of China and to convey to you the message of peace and friendship on behalf of Nepal and her people.

The relations between Nepal and China go back to the dawn of history. Following the appearance of New China in the

first year of our reign energetic steps were taken to give a formal status to our relations with China subsequently. Our mutual relations were further strengthened through exchange of cultural tours as well as of visits by prime ministers of our two countries. Today a fresh chapter has been added to the history of these good relations.

Nepal is for peace and friendship with all countries, specially neighbouring countries. We do not entertain a war-like attitude towards any country, though we keep ourselves ever ready so that we may not be found wanting in the event of any aggression against us from any quarter. We would request to rest assured that Nepal will ever be striving with stern determination for the cause of peace. The deepening friendship between Nepal and China is a matter of joy for the people of Nepal.

We are thankful for the goodwill and co-operation evinced by China in Nepal's development programme. We are also grateful for the aid extended to us by China as well as for the opportunities given to our students to acquire training in your institutions. We are hopeful that you will all be co-operative in our efforts to keep the friendship between Nepal and China as ideal as it is now for neighbouring countries.

It is universally known that Nepal has all along been doing her best for ensuring an appropriate place for China in the United Nations Organisation. In the course of history, after many years, the people of all parts of this vast country have received the benefits of a strong and well-organised central government. An adequate proof of this is the progress and development achieved by the Chinese people during the past decade. The people of Nepal cordially desire the ever-increasing progress and prosperity of China and the Chinese people.

Now please permit me to conclude by proposing a toast to the growing friendship and advancement of China and Nepal as also to the glowing future of our chief guests Your Excellencies Chairman Liu Shao-chi and Premier Chou En-lai.

October 19, 1961

*Vijaya Message broadcast to the
Nation wishing for success to all in
their endeavour to make a prosperous
Nepal*

To All My Beloved People Greetings,

Today is the Vijaya Dashmi, the most important day in the Dashera Festival of all of us Nepalese. Though I am far away from you, I, on this auspicious occasion, send my goodwishes for the happiness, prosperity and welfare of all the Nepalese.

Although I am celebrating the day at a place far away from my country and my beloved people, I see before my mind's eyes the customary manner in which the Nepalese might be observing it. Fraternal feelings are reflected in the

face of each and every one and I think that the practice of every Nepalese on this day to call on one another to show respect towards the elders and love towards the juniors is the living proof of the way in which a Nepalese should fulfil his duties towards one another and the country. Unhappy though I am to have to spend this day far outside the country, I am thrilled with pleasure when I remember that the Nepalese celebrate this day with deep feelings of brotherhood.

On this sacred day my heart's prayer to Goddess Durga is that all may succeed in building a prosperous Nepal.

Jaya Nepal !

October 20, 1961

*Reply Speech by His Majesty King
Mahendra at the banquet in honour of
Their Majesties the King and Queen
by His Excellency the Chairman of
Mongolia*

Your Excellency the Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are very happy to get the opportunity of coming here upon the friendly invitation of Your Excellency the Chairman and conveying the greetings of the Nepalese people to the people of Mongolia.

The occasion we had on January 5 last of welcoming in our Capital H.E. Mr. Mang Lyam Duger Suren as the first Ambassador of Mongolia to Nepal gave us great joy. Similarly, our Ambassador also participated in your last National Day

celebrations. Thus, the growing relations of friendship between our two countries have afforded satisfaction to the peoples of both our countries. This visit of ours will, in our opinion, bring our two countries still nearer to each other.

Nepal is desirous of fostering relations with all countries, especially neighbouring ones, on the basis of peace, friendship, freedom and equality. In this sequence, the deepening relations between our two countries have made us happy. We have now to contemplate ways and means of further strengthening these relations.

We are thankful for the kind words Your Excellency the Chairman has spoken about our country and people.

Now, please allow me to conclude by proposing a toast to the health, happiness and prosperity of all the citizens of Mongolia as well as of Your Excellency the Chairman.

October 20, 1961

*Address by His Majesty the King at
Mongolia-Nepal Friendship Rally*

Mr. Chairman, Office-bearers of Mongolia-Nepal Friendship Association, Ladies and Gentlemen and Friends,

We are extremely happy to meet you all in this rally.

Naturally it has given us special pleasure to convey, on behalf of all the inhabitants of Nepal and on behalf of ourselves, greetings and good wishes to all of you assembled here as well as to those of your compatriots who, living in different nooks and corners of this wide country, could not attend this rally.

The strength and the enthusiasm with which you have assembled here make a hopeful indication of the relation of

friendship and brotherhood between our two countries as well as its future prospects.

Just like your country, our country, Nepal, also lies in between two big nations, in our case, China and India. Our country has not got her own free outlet to the sea. Two-third, of the nation is mountainous. Our people are accustomed to working hard for earning their livelihood. We are votaries of freedom. We do not like to involve ourselves in quarrels with others, but like to have peaceful and friendly relations with all. This has been our fundamental policy. Nepal will do her best to get Mongolia represented in the United Nations Organisation.

Today we shall complete the fifth day of our stay in this beautiful country. We have been highly impressed with all that we have seen and heard during our stay. May your country grow strong and affluent and may her people live happily, joyfully and prosperously.

We are of the view that this our visit has strengthened the friendly relations subsisting between our two countries. It is our belief that by means of such personal contacts, exchanges in the fields of ideas and of culture, exchange of students etc., we can further consolidate these relations.

We are about to leave this beautiful country for our homeland. Memories of the splendour of this nation and of the goodwill respects and hospitality evinced towards in by the people here will remain fresh in our minds for a long time to come. In fine, with expressions of our heartfelt thanks to you, we would like to record our conviction that all of you too will incessantly strive for peace and friendship not only between our two nations but also among all the nations of the world.

May friendship between the peoples of Mongolia and Nepal last for ever ! Thanks.

October 21, 1961

*His Majesty King Mahendra's
Speech at the Banquet in honour of
the Chairman of the State of Mongolia*

Your Excellency the Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a matter of great joy for us to get this opportunity of welcoming you all here at the Banquet in honour of His Excellency the Chairman of the great country of Mongolia. Our joy is no less that we have got this occasion to convey to you the message of peace, friendship and fraternity on behalf of the people of Nepal.

There are many similarities between the peoples and the ideals of our two countries. Hence, it is but natural that there

should be diplomatic and cultural exchanges between us. While following ideals like world peace and brotherhood of mankind, the citizens of our two countries are also engaged in the all-round development of their respective countries. We are, therefore, of the view that friendly exchange of views between our two countries will tend to the well-being of both.

Geographically far as we are today from our country, your affectionate hospitality has made us feel perfectly at home and strengthened in us the feeling that, though physically separated, the people of our two countries are animated by similar feelings.

Now, with renewed thanks to Your Excellency the Chairman for the opportunity given to us to see many inspiring examples of the progress achieved by Mongolia in various fields, allow me to propose a toast to the ever-growing progress and well-being of Your Excellency the Chairman, the people of Mongolia and all the ladies and gentlemen assembled here.

Thanks.

October 27, 1961

*Speech in reply to the Address of
welcome presented to His Majesty
at a Civic Reception on his return
to Kathmandu at the end of the
State Visits to China and Mongolia*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is but natural for all of us to feel happy to have this opportunity of speaking a few words today as we came back to our country at the conclusion of about a month-long friendly visits in the friendly neighbouring countries, China and Mongolia, by way of friendly countries India and Hong Kong. We were on about two-week visit to the friendly country China and on about a week-long visit to Mongolia at the respective friendly invitation of their Excellencies Mr. Liu Shao-chi and Premier Chou En-lai, on

the one hand, and of His Excellency Mr. Sambu, on the other.

We held talks with the leaders concerned of those two countries in a very friendly and cordial atmosphere on subjects of mutual interests, which has further strengthened the happy relations subsisting between our country and these two countries. Agreement has been signed at the Foreign Ministers' level on cultural exchange with Mongolian country, with which Nepal has had cultural relations from ancient times. I felt that with the signing of this agreement the long-standing relations have been further consolidated.

The Boundary Treaty with China has delimited the boundary between the two countries in a definite manner, thus bringing to a happy conclusion the exchange of views and controversies which had been going on eighteen months since. The boundary-markers will be now erected at the convenience of the two countries. This too has helped consolidate the friendly good relations existing between the two countries.

By the northern boundary treaty the Kingdom of Nepal has gained three hundred sq. miles and I feel that all the Nepalese will experience a sense of glory when I state that Sagar-matha, on which the eyes of the world seem to be focussed, continues to be as it has been ours and within our territory. It may also be mentioned in connection with the border area and Sagar-matha that the northern boundary area dispute, which had been going on without settlement since the time of Bhimsen Thapa's premiership, has been solved in such a manner as to benefit Nepal. Our thanks are due, therefore, to all those who served on the Joint Boundary Committee headed by the Defence Secretary Mr. Padma Bahadur Khatri for having honestly performed their duties regarding the boundary.

It is also a matter of pleasure that China is to give three aircrafts suited to our terrain. The Agreement on the Construc-

tion of Nepal-China road has in definite manner provided for the building up of a road linking Nepal and the Chinese border in accordance with the demands of the modern times and in the interest of the commercial traffic subsisting since ancient times. I take this opportunity to express once again cordial thanks on behalf of Nepal and the Nepalese and on my own for the reciprocal goodwill and friendship displayed by China. Similarly, we also express thanks to the government and people of Mongolia.

Wherever we went in China and Mongolia, we did not omit to convey the greetings and goodwishes of the people of Nepal and I am happy to state that I bring from the people of those countries expression of goodwishes to the people of Nepal.

In the course of the visits to both of those countries, we saw the people engaged patiently and perseverently in the task of national construction and progress. To advance our country, to raise the standard of living of the people and to achieve progress we ourselves must make a determined effort and strive diligently as if we were engaged in building our own house. Neither the habit of depending on others and building castles in the air nor mere pursuit of visionary idealism nor wishfulness alone can lead to the fast development of a backward country like ours which has been a prey to poverty since centuries past.

As a result of our recently-concluded visits, there has been a further confirmation of our belief that all the countrymen should take to the task of nation-building whole-heartedly, unhurriedly and honestly for years. We are also convinced that the country can neither prosper nor advance unless everybody feels that national construction is a sacred task of all and unless we give up the habit of entangling ourselves in trifles. This is a theme which I do not think I need harp on, because I am sure

everybody has understood it all.

During this tour abroad, I also met the Nepalese and British Officers and men of the Brigade of Gurkhas stationed in Hong Kong. We were pleased with the training facilities, welfare provisions and living standards we saw there.

Finally, our special thanks are due to all the patriotic Nepalese, Government officials both civil and military, members of the Council of Ministers and my beloved brother, Himalaya Beer Bikram Shah, who have performed their respective duties, maintained peace and order and carried out the task of national construction during the days of my visits abroad. We also thank all those who are connected with this function today.

May Lord Pashupatinath confer blessings on all of us !

November 18, 1961

*Speech inaugurating the Parthi Dam,
and issuing the historic call for
popular co-operation for the Con-
struction of the East-West Highway*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me joy to inaugurate this Parthi Dam, a pilot development project. Many other development works are, of course, expected in a beauty-spot like Pokhara. All the same, the completion of this dam is not only a matter of gratification for the inhabitants of Pokhara but also a spring of inspiration for all the people of Nepal. If this speed is maintained, the task of development will certainly see rapid fulfilment, as is highly desirable.

This dam is what it is now through the help and co-operation extended by our great friend, the neighbouring country of India. You all know that India has made available to us not only large sums of money but also experts in sundry fields. I judge that they are bent upon the completion of the other projects they have taken in hand in the same spirit as they have shown in completing this dam. Hence, we have no words to express our gratefulness to India adequately.

But if we make a habit of looking to friendly countries alone for carrying on our projects for development and economic prosperity, we shall remain no better than a lame man limping with the aid of a staff. In this way we shall never learn to stand on our own legs. Let us all clearly understand this. Our country can achieve worthwhile development only by the sweat of our brows. What is needed is to make proper use of our abundant natural resources for everybody's happiness and prosperity. We Nepalese are called upon to produce heroic records in the field of development as well through our own determined efforts. I see no ground for believing that we Nepalese shall fail to acquit ourselves honourably in this respect.

It is a matter of satisfaction for me that I have got many opportunities for coming to this Pokhara region and meeting its inhabitants. This time, however, I am especially happy, and who would not be happy over the completion of a development project, though but one ? On this occasion I pray that other development projects may see speedy fulfilment in our country in this very manner.

This is all I have to say in this particular connection but if you all are desirous, I would like to dwell on a couple or so of topical matters as well.

I am still not happy to see some of the things that come to our notice in our country. Unfortunately, there are still

some people who are designedly and deliberately trying to float misleading rumours of several descriptions among the patriotic, honest and unsophisticated people of our country. True it is—and I am not unaware of this — that by now all genuine, patriotic Nepalese have no doubt whatsoever as to who these mischief-mongers are, what their antecedents, who shout themselves hoarse from foreign soil and how, and, on the other hand, who are straining every nerve and staking their all in the service and for the glory of their motherland.

Nevertheless, as truth bears repetition, I would like to say something, for example, on the subject of pointless rumours. Some say that democracy is dead, some opine that communism has stepped ahead, some forecast Cabinet changes in the immediate future, some imagine the absence of law and order etc. And along with this, they complain about the lack of right to speak and are at the same time freely indulging in reckless speeches.

I am also fully awake to all these facts. If some people are after building castles in the air or are giving vent to their whims or tantrums generated by set-backs to their narrow-minded and questionable designs, I have nothing to tell them. But as I have some obligations to truth, I should say something. As for the saying that democracy is dead, I would say that democracy denotes a system approved of by the real majority and beneficial to the real majority of the people, it is not a freak of nature. If democracy or fundamental rights is a synonym for licentious acting or speaking and if it is to be just a supplier of glamour to a handful of cunning people, I am definitely not agreeable to it, I do not want this type of democracy.

The democracy I am after is the one which we can properly assimilate, which is favourable to the security of our

country and its sovereignty and which can bring about the happiness and prosperity of the maximum population of our country.

This is real democracy for which I have ever been, am and shall ever remain desirous as well as up and doing, and for which, as usual, with the co-operation of all patriotic Nepalese, I shall never hesitate to take any step whatsoever demanded by necessity. Let none harbour any illusion on this point.

As regards the saying that communism has stolen a march, I would say that any ism or ideology is not an independent growth to be picked up on a near-by tree or grassy land, that it is something to be adopted or rejected in accordance with time and circumstances and in the inevitable light of the genius, culture, traditions and position of a particular country.

I have heard that some interested persons are floating the rumour that the projected Kathmandu-Lhasa Road will be tantamount to an invitation to communism. I find it worth a good laugh, for this road is no new thing at all. Every Nepali is aware of the prime importance of the East-West Road inside our country. Many efforts have been made by us for the attainment of this objective. RTO is taking up the construction of roadways totalling 900 miles going from north to south.

Likewise, this north-south-road is to be additionally constructed in an up-to-date way where there has already traditionally existed a commercial mule-track. Now, if oblivious of this simple fact, some individuals, ready to give cold storage to their human rights and independence for gaining some nefarious favours, blindly shout that communism immigrates in a taxi automobile. I have no reply to these persons who have mixed loyalties and who, even though vanquished, can argue still, I can only convey to them my regretful sympathies.

Next, with respect to the kite-flying about changes in the

cabinet or the civil service, I would only like to reiterate that with the blessings of all the Nepalese people, I have never been under the necessity to gain any personal purpose by playing up some and playing down others or to bolster up my position by fostering any particular party.

If changes there must be, they can affect only those who betray their country, who are partial only to their narrow interests and whose intentions are ambiguous or questionable. Such can expect no mercy at any time. Rumour or anything else has no meaning for them. But as for those who are honest, loyal to their country and devoted to the service of the people, I would ask them not to waste their time and energy in such useless matters. But if even blatant rumours perturb them I have no words to console them.

I can only present to them the facts of the matter, tell them that the country is a vast thing, common to all and ask every Nepali to ponder selflessly over where the country's best and worst interests lie because it is not a matter which needs any wooing or teaching from me.

Now, as regards the question of law and order, there is perfect peace, order and tranquility throughout the length and breadth of the country and the people's love for their country and their enhanced enthusiasm in her cause have been an endless satisfaction to me. I have also satisfactory reports from all quarters of the progress of whatever development works could be tackled with our resources.

Hence, with the blessings of all the freedom-loving Nepalese I am confident about our future. I should only like thankfully to remind every patriotic Nepali that this love for the nation should grow from strength to strength and from more to more.

But, one thing, the nation cannot be built up through

mere wishful thinking. Many problems we face. There should be rightly directed perseverance in every work. The time factor too cannot be discounted. So, the bulk of my attention is at present taken up by this question of accomplishing every one of tasks in the proper manner, in an honourable spirit as well as with necessary patience. This alone can ensure the attainment of our goals to-morrow, This alone can enable us to hold up our heads in the world.

The building up of a country is not a trick of jugglery. To swear by such jugglery or to please anybody by dealing in lies can only land us in woeful disillusionment. We have had bitter experience of that. I do not want to see its repetition.

I believe that all patriotic Nepalese have the necessary patience and understanding. Hence, in connection with this function on construction work, I would like to say a new thing, viz., let all the Nepalese people, from their respective positions, put forth all possible efforts for the construction with all possible speed of the East-West Highway, alluded to above, which is vital for the all-round genuine development of our country. This is my heart's call to all to-day, my appeal.

Let us all work hand in hand and shoulder to shoulder, success shall be ours. It may take time but it will do enormous good to our country. Government will provide the required scientists and technicians. I just want the labour and co-operation of every Nepali for this. For the rest, there are our friendly nations, the world itself is friendly to us, our goal shall be steadily approached and attained. This is my new request to all for the bright future of our country and countrymen. I hope and believe that this task will be acceptable to all.

Now, before concluding, I would once again like to ask all concerned not to be led away by idle rumours and to be faithfully industrious in the country's cause from their respective

position. In this alone lies our welfare. We have to work with determination for to-morrow, though we have to suffer some discomforts to-day. Mere sentimental outbursts can neither solve our problems nor can they ensure a place of pride for us in history. This is why I make this repeated request.

And now let me conclude by conveying my cordial thanks to all those who have laboured to make this dam what it is, experts from India, other concerned officers and all those connected with this function including the Bada Hakim.

Jaya Nepal !

December 10, 1961

Proclamation announcing the Restoration of Fundamental Rights enshrined in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal

To All Our Beloved People Hearty Greetings,

Whereas, in order to save the country from the grave danger facing it, We had, according to Article 55 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal, suspended some provisions of the Constitution including those relating to Fundamental Rights on Decembre 15, 1960;

Whereas, it has now been found inessential to keep in suspension more provisions than now necessary to tackle that situation;

We do hereby, by this proclamation, again declare operative

the following provisions of the Constitution :—

Part II— Article 2

Part III— All the Articles excepting the contents of clause (2) of Article 8 dealing with contempt of Parliament.

Part IX— Sub-clauses (a), (b), (e), (f) and (g) of clause (1) of Article 72; clauses (2) and (3) of Article 72, and Article 74.

Part X— Article 75, Article 76 and clause (1) of Article 77.

Also, We have hereby suspended the contents of clause (4) of Article 60 of the said Constitution, which deals with the presentation of a copy of the Annual Report of the Public Service Commission to the Parliament, as well as the contents of clause (3) of Article 62 dealing with the laying of the Annual Report of the Auditor-General before the Parliament.

As, in view of the welfare of the country, the situation necessitating the operation of the Proclamation of December 15, 1960 is still found existent, We have, according to Article 55 of the Constitution, by this Proclamation, renewed the said Proclamation with the above-mentioned changes.

May Lord Pashupatinath be favourable to the well-being of the country and her people !

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