



MOI DAY

Message to the Nation



Hotuba ya
Mheshimiwa Rais
Daniel T. arap Moi

10th October, 1996

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**HOTUBA YA RAIS DANIEL T. ARAP MOI, C.G.H., M.P.,
WAKATI WA KUADHIMISHA SIKUKUU YA MOI,
ALHAMISI, OKTOBA 10, 1996**

WAKENYA WENZANGU,
MABALOZI,
MABIBI NA MABWANA,

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Nina furaha kubwa asubuhi hii kujiunga nanyi wakati tuna-poadhimisha sikukuu hii ya Moi. Kwanza ningependa kutuma salamu zangu kwa Wakenya wenzangu popote pale walipo na vile vile kuchukua nafasi hii kutoa shukrani kwa marafiki zetu ambao wametutumia salamu za heri na fanaka.

Hapo awali katika sherehe kama hizi nilipendekeza kwamba siku hii iwe ni siku ya kutoa shukrani na huduma kwa wenzetu. Nina furaha kuona kwamba mnamo juma hili lililopita, Wakenya wameonyesha kwa vitendo moyo wa kuhudumia wagonjwa, wasiojiweza na watoto yatima. Ni jambo la kutia moyo kuona kwamba wengine kati yetu waliweza kusaidia katika shughuli za kufanya usafi na kutekeleza juhudi zingine za kijamii katika sehemu mbali mbali nchini.

Jukumu la kuhudumia wenzetu ni jambo ambalo ni la muhimu sana katika utamaduni wa Kiafrika. Kwa hivyo ningependa kuchukua nafasi hii kuzungumzia juu ya mambo mbali mbali na hasa utamaduni wetu. Hii ni kwa sababu nina amini kwamba watu wasiozingatia utamaduni wao ni watu wasio na mwongozo. Siku hizi utamaduni wetu uko katika hatari ya kuangamia kwa sababu ya kuingiliwa na maovu.

Kwa mfano, vijana wetu wamepotoshwa na mambo ya anasa kupitia vyombo vya habari ambavyo vinaeneza maovu kama vile utumiaji wa madawa ya kulevyo, visa vya uhuni na maovu mengine ya aina mbali mbali katika jamii. Kwa hivyo, tabia na vitendo ambavyo hapo awali vilikuwa havijulikani katika jamii ya Kiafrika sasa vimeanza kuonekana miongoni mwetu. Ili tuweze

kukabiliana na janga hili, wazazi na viongozi wa kidini wanapaswa kuchukuwa jukumu la kuwafunza watoto wetu mila na desturi njema.

Mtakumbuka kwamba miaka miwili iliyopita, niliteua tume ya kuchunguza madai juu ya kuwepo kwa madhehebu ya kumuabudu shetani hapa nchini. Tume hio ilikamilisha kazi yake na kutoa ripoti ambayo ilidhibitisha kuwepo kwa madhehebu hayo hapa nchini.

Ingawaje jambo hilo halijaenea sana hapa nchini kuna hatari kubwa ya jambo hili kusambaa katika shule na vyuo vinginevyo vya elimu, kama hatutachukuwa hatua za kufaa za kukomesha jambo hili. Kwa sababu ya mambo muhimu yaliyo katika ripoti hiyo, na ambayo yanagusia maswala ya kisheria, Serikali imeonelea si vyema kutoa ripoti nzima hadharani. Hata hivyo Serikali itatekeleza mapendekezo ya tume hii kwa njia itakayo onelea kuwa bora. Ningependa kuwahimiza wananchi kuwa macho na kupeleka habari mara moja kwa Serikali kuhusu visa wanayoshuku kuwa vya kumuabudu shetani.

Wananchi Wenzangu,

Tatizo kubwa linalokabili vijana wetu hapa nchini ni ukosefu wa nafasi za kazi. Tatizo kama hili kwa kweli linahitaji juhudi na kujitolea kwa kila mtu bila kujali maongozi tofauti tofauti ya vyama mbali mbali vya kisiasa.

Hivi majuzi mtakumbuka kwamba nilianzisha mfuko maalum wa kitaifa wa kusaidia vijana kuanzisha miradi mbali mbali ya kujipatia riziki. Nikiwa ninatoa shukrani zangu kwa wananchi wengi ambao wanaunga mkono juhudi hizi, ni jambo la kuhuzunisha kuona kwamba kuna wachache kati yetu ambao hawaungi mkono jambo hili. Ningependa kuhakikishia wananchi wote kwamba kinyume kabisa na mawazo kwamba mpango huu utawasaidia tu vijana wa KANU, ukweli ni kwamba mfuko huu wa kitaifa wa vijana utawafaidi vijana wote hapa nchini bila kujali vyama vyao vya kisiasa. Kwa hivyo basi, ningependa kuhimiza Wakenya wote wenye moyo wa upendo kuchangia mfuko huu wa maendeleo wa vijana.

Kwa vile mambo yanayohusu taifa ni ya muhimu sana, lazima tutupilie mbali tofauti zetu za kisiasa tunapotatua mambo kama haya ya maendeleo.

Wakenya watakumbuka kwamba hivi majuzi kulizuka tena harakati za kupigania urekebishaji wa katiba ambazo ziliongozwa na makanisa, mashirika yasiyokuwa ya serikali na vyama vya upinzani. Kwa kweli watu hao wanatilia sana mkazo jambo hilo na hata wako tayari kuleta ghasia ikiwa lengo lao halitatimizwa kabla ya upigaji kura ujao. Jambo hili halifai kwa sababu haitawezekana kurekebisha katiba kukiwa na hali ya hofu na ghasia.

Jambo kama hilo si geni hapa nchini kwani hata katika nchi nyingi hapa duniani zilizo na demokrasia ya miaka mingi, mara kwa mara kunajitihada za kutaka kugeuza vipengele fulani fulani vya katiba. Kwa mfano katika nchi ya Uingereza kumekuwa na jitihada nyingi za kutaka kujadili juu ya kuwepo kwa milki ya kifalme.

Kwa vile jamii huendelea kustawi kwa njia mbali mbali, inakuwa ni jambo jema kuwa na marekebisho ya katiba mara kwa mara ili kuifanya ilingane na mabadiliko hayo katika jamii. Hata hivyo ni muhimu kuona kwamba marekebisho hayo ya kikatiba yanafanywa kwa njia inayofaa inayojumuisha kikamilifu mawazo ya kila mwananchi katika jambo hili la muhimu. Marekebisho hayo yafaa yazingatie mawazo na matakwa ya watu wengi wala sio tu ya viongozi na makundi machache.

Katiba ndio uti wa mgongo wa taifa na ndio inayohakikishia vizazi vijavyo utulivu wa kisiasa na maisha mema siku zijazo. Katiba si kitu cha kufanywa kwa haraka haraka, ama kurekebishwa nusu nusu ili kutimiza matakwa ya makundi fulani katika jamii. Kwa vile marekebisho ya katiba ya taifa huchukuwa muda mrefu kutekelezwa vyema, haitawezekana kwa sasa kufanya hivyo kwa katiba yetu kabla ya upigaji wa kura ujao. Hata hivyo yale marekebisho ya dharura na ya muhimu tayari yanachunguzwa kiserikali na bungeni.

Kuhusu jambo la uandikishaji wa wapiga kura, wananchi wengine wameonyesha wasiwasi wao kwamba kura zijazo huenda zikapigwa kabla ya wao kupewa nafasi ya kujiandikisha. Ning-

ependa kuhakikishia wananchi wote kwamba shughuli za uandikishaji huo zitatekelezwa kwa njia iliyo wazi na ya haki ili kuona ya kwamba kila mpiga kura anapatiwa nafasi ya kujiandikisha. Hii ndio maana kamili ya demokrasia. Kwa hivyo Serikali yangu itazingatia kwa dhati jambo hili.

Wakenya Wenzangu,

Kwa vile maendeleo ni mmojawapo wa jambo muhimu sana katika demokrasia, ni vyema kuhakikisha kwamba kila mwananchi anapewa nafasi ya kuishi na amani bila hofu yoyote. Hii ndiyo maana Serikali yangu inatilia maanani sana habari za visa vya uhalifu vinavyoripotiwa kila siku katika sehemu mbali mbali hapa nchini.

Wakenya wataelewa ya kwamba kwa sababu ya ukosefu wa hali ya usalama katika baadhi ya nchi majirani, silaha hatari kutoka nje zimeingia hapa nchini kwa njia isiyo halali na kuwa mikononi mwa wahalifu.

Kwa hivyo ningependa kuwakumbusha wananchi kwamba wao binafsi ndio nguzo ya usalama wao, kwa sababu wahalifu huishi katika jamii kama ndugu na dada. Kwa hivyo ni jukumu lenu kama wapenda amani kupiga ripoti kwa walinda usalama juu ya wale watu mnao washuku kuwa wahalifu.

Ninaamini kwamba kupitia uhusiano mwema baina ya polisi na raia tutaweza kukabiliana vyema na hata kupunguza kabisa visa vya uhalifu katika jamii yetu. Serikali inataka kuhakikishia wananchi kwamba daima itaendelea kuzingatia jukumu lake la kulinda usalama wa wananchi na mali zao kwa njia yoyote ile.

Nikimalizia Wakenya wenzangu, ningependa kuwahimiza sote pamoja kuzingatia kikamilifu mwongozo wa amani, upendo na umoja. Kwa sababu hii ndio njia ya pekee ambayo itatuwezesha kutumia uwezo na nguvu zetu kikamilifu katika jitihada zetu za kuleta maendeleo.

Tukiwa sote pamoja hebu tuendelee kuwaombea na kuwapa msaa majirani zetu wa nchi za Somalia, Sudan na Burundi ambao wamekumbwa na ghasia kuzingatia kwa dhati jitihada za kuweza kufikia amani, ili sote tuweze kufurahia kutunikiwa maisha mema siku zijazo katika kanda hii ya Afrika.

AHSANTENI NA MWENYEZI MUNGU AWABARIKI.

**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT,
HON. DANIEL T. ARAP MOI, C.G.H., M.P., ON THE
OCCASION OF MOI DAY ON 10TH OCTOBER, 1996**

MY DEAR KENYANS,
DISTINGUISHED GUESTS,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I am pleased to join you this morning as we celebrate Moi Day and I wish to start my address by sending my greetings to all Kenyans wherever they are. I also take this opportunity to convey my gratitude to all our friends who have sent us greetings and messages of goodwill.

On previous occasions, I have proposed that this be a day of thanksgiving and a day when each of us can give practical service to fellow human beings. I am glad to note that in the past one week, Kenyans have demonstrated this spirit by extending various services to the sick, disabled, and the orphaned. It is encouraging that some of us have also helped out in cleaning activities and in other social activities.

The need to help others is indeed a strong element of our African traditions. It is therefore appropriate for me, on this occasion to talk on among other things, the culture of our people for I strongly believe that a people without a culture are a people without direction. The culture of our society stands threatened by negative influences.

Our youth have, through the electronic media been exposed to all sorts of evils such as violence, drug abuse and other social ills which have led to serious moral decay. As a result, practices that were unheard of and which are totally alien to African culture are starting to take root in our society. In order to arrest this erosion of our morals, parents and religious leaders should now be more determined in passing over sound moral values to our children.

You will recall that two years ago I appointed a commission of inquiry into the cult of devil worship, an issue which was of concern to all of us. The commission completed its work and came up with findings which revealed that indeed the cult of devil worship exists in its formative stages in the country. This practice, however, threatens to spread in our learning institutions if we do not take quick corrective action to curb it. Owing to the sensitive nature of the information contained in the report and the legal implications of some of the findings, it is not appropriate for the Government to make the findings public. The Government will, however, implement the recommendations in a manner that is most appropriate. I, however, wish on this occasion to remind Kenyans to be vigilant against this evil practice and to report to the authorities all cases of actual or suspected devil worship.

Fellow Countrymen,

One of the biggest problems facing our country today is that of unemployment among our youth. The magnitude of this problem is such that it needs the concerted effort of all Kenyans irrespective of their party affiliation. You will recall that recently, I initiated a fund to assist the youth in this country to start income generating activities. While I appreciate the positive response to this project by the majority of Kenyans it is disheartening to note the negative attitude adopted by a few Kenyans towards the fund. Contrary to the misconception that the National Youth Development Programme is meant only to benefit KANU youth, I would like to assure wananchi that all Kenyan youth will benefit from this fund irrespective of their party allegiance. I would, therefore call upon all Kenyans of good will to contribute generously towards this programme.

Matters of national importance must always be approached in a sober manner, bearing in mind that as much as we may hold divergent political views, we remain partners in development. Kenyans will recall that the country has recently witnessed a renewed campaign for constitutional reforms spearheaded by the churches, non-governmental organizations and the opposition. Indeed those clamouring for reforms feel so strongly about their

cause that they have threatened to unleash violence and call for civil disobedience, if these changes are not effected before the next general elections. This is most unfortunate, because it is not possible for us to undertake a proper constitutional review in an atmosphere of confrontation, intimidation and violence.

Apart from emotions, calls for constitutional reforms are not unusual neither are they peculiar to Kenya. As a matter of fact, some of the world's oldest democracies have begun to question certain aspects of their constitutions. For example, in the United Kingdom, the future of the monarchy has come under great scrutiny. As society changes, periodic review of the constitution becomes imperative so as to make it reflect contemporary social and political realities. However, constitutional changes must be carried out carefully and in a responsible manner. It is desirable for every Kenyan to be fully involved in making proposals in this important exercise of reviewing our constitution. The changes we effect must also reflect the views and wishes of a broad section of the population and not only those of a few leaders or groups.

The constitution, which is the backbone of our country is an important document through which both present and future generations must find stability and continuity. It is not a document to be subjected to short-term ad hoc changes which are tailored to suit the whims of certain groups in society. The review of our constitution is an involving task which takes a long time to complete. It is therefore not possible to carry out a sensible constitutional review before the next general elections. However, most areas of immediate concern are already being addressed at the legislative and policy levels.

With regard to the issue of voter registration, some Kenyans have expressed concern that the general elections may be called before all eligible voters have been registered. I would like to assure Kenyans that the registration exercise will be carried out in a free and fair manner so that all eligible voters are given the chance to exercise their right to vote. This is the essence of democracy and my Government is fully committed to it.

Fellow Kenyans,

As an essential part of the development of our democratic system it is vital that every citizen and resident of this country should be able to feel secure and to live in peace. My Government is therefore concerned about the incidents of crime being reported everyday in various parts of the country.

Kenyans will, however, understand that as a result of the insecurity being experienced by various neighbouring countries, illegal firearms have found their way into the hands of criminals in this country.

I want to remind Kenyans that their best security is first and foremost themselves as criminals do not live in isolation. They are our brothers and sisters. It is therefore our duty as peace loving Kenyans to report all suspected criminals to the law enforcement authorities.

I believe that through continued co-operation between the police and the public we will be able to minimize crime in our society. The Government would like to assure wananchi that it is committed to protecting them and their property at all costs.

In conclusion, fellow Kenyans, let me urge you all to uphold the principles of peace, love and unity. This is the only way through which we can effectively utilize our energies in the development of our country. Let us also continue to pray and provide support for the neighbours in Somalia, Sudan and Burundi in their search for peace so that we can all together enjoy the gift of life as we move forward into the future in this region.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.