



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

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# Speech

by

His Excellency

**Hon. Daniel T. arap Moi, C.G.H., M.P.**

President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces  
of the Republic of Kenya

on the occasion of

**The State Opening of the Second Session  
of the Seventh Parliament**

on

Tuesday, 23rd March, 1993

**HOTUBA YA MHESHIMIWA RAIS DANIEL T. ARAP MOI,  
C.G.H., M.P., KATIKA SHEREHE YA KUFUNGULIWA  
RASMI KWA KIKAO CHA PILI CHA BUNGE LA SABA,  
JUMANNE TAREHE 23 MACHI, 1993**

Bwana Spika,

Nikifungua kikao hiki cha Bunge la Saba, nataka kuwakaribisha Waheshimiwa Wabunge wote na kuwapongeza kwa kuchaguliwa au kuteuliwa katika bunge hili. Hii ni sherehe yenye maana maalumu kwa Waheshimiwa Wabunge na pia kwa wananchi wanao-wawakilisha. Inatupasa pia tufahamu kwamba sherehe kama hii inatuwezesha tubadilishane mawazo katika jitihada zetu za ku-imarisha taifa letu.

Waheshimiwa Wabunge wanafahamu kwamba, Bunge hili la Saba ni bunge la pili humu nchini tangu tulipojinyakulia Uhuru katika maongozi ya vyama vingi. Lakini hata hivyo, ingawa mwaka wa 1963 tulikuwa na vyama viwili tu vya kisiasa vilivyowaki-lishwa katika bunge, leo tuna jumla ya vyama saba. Pia bunge hili, likilinganishwa na Bunge katika siku zilizopita, lina idadi kubwa ya akina mama waliochaguliwa na pia wengi wa wabunge wamechaguliwa kwa mara yao ya kwanza.

Bwana Spika,

Kila mmoja wetu katika bunge hili ni mwanachama wa moja-wapo ya vyama saba vya kisiasa vinavyowakilishwa katika Bunge hili. Kila chama kina msimamo wake wa kisiasa. Hilo ni jambo zuri kwa sababu kuweko kwa vyama vingi kunatuwezesha tuwa-kilishe ipasavyo mawazo ya kila mtu. Hata ingawa tunawakilisha vyama tofauti sisi tunawakilisha watu wetu na tuna wajibu wa ku-shirikiana katika jukumu letu la pamoja la kuinua hali ya maisha ya watu wetu.

Inatulazimu tufahamu kwamba tunawajibu wa kutumikia watu wote wakiwa wametupigia kura ama hata ikiwa hawakutupigia kura. Pia ni wajibu wetu sote kuitumikia nchi hii kikamilifu.

Bwana Spika,

Umuhimu wa mawazo hayo utaonekana wazi wakati tutakapanza kujadilia mijadala itakayowakilishwa katika bunge na vyama vya upinzani na pia serikali. Ni matumaini yangu kwamba wakati huo utakapofika, waheshimiwa wabunge watabainisha wazi wazi juhudi zao za kichama na wajibu wao wa kuitumikia nchi hii kikamilifu. Singetaka wajumbe wa Bunge wa chama kinachotawala wapinge mijadala eti tu kwa sababu imewasilishwa katika bunge na vyama vya upinzani. Pia singetaka vyama vya upinzani vipinge mijadala itakayowakilishwa katika Bunge ne serikali kwa sababu eti mijadala hiyo ni ya kiserikali. Kwa hivyo tunawajibika kuitumikia taifa hili.

Bwana Spika,

Katika kipindi cha miaka miwili iliyopita, nchi hii imekumbwa na matatizo yasiyo ya kawaida. Hali ya mchafuko katika nchi jirani imetufanya tusaidie idadi kubwa ya wakimbizi kutoka huko. Nchi yetu imekumbwa na hali mbaya ya anga, na hasa katika msimu uliopita ambako tumekuwa na ukame na upungufu wa chakula. Hali hiyo imetufanya tutumie kiasi kikubwa cha pesa za nchi za nje kununua chakula. Kuanzishwa tena kwa maongozi ya vyama vingi nako kumesababisha matatizo mengine kwa sababu hali ya maongezeko ya vitega uchumi imetatizika.

Kwa sababu ya matatizo hayo, na kuzorota kwa hali ya uchumi ulimwenguni kwa jumla, Serikali inafikiria kwa makini matatizo ya kiuchumi yanayotukumba.

Uchaguzi mkuu umekamilika. Sasa ni jambo la muhimu kwetu sote kuungana na kutumia nguvu na uwezo wetu wote kukabiliana na matatizo ya kiuchumi.

Masilahi ya kila mwanainchi wa Kenya ni ya muhimu sana kwangu mimi binafsi na kwa serikali. Ni muhimu kwa kila kiongozi humu nchini kufikiria kwa makini masilahi ya watu wetu. Serikali imetayarisha mipango kadha wa kadha ya kukabiliana na hali hiyo. Hivi karibuni serikali itawasilisha katika bunge taarifa maalumu ya hatua tunazonuia kuchukuwa katika kukabiliana na

hali hii. Ni matumaini yangu kwamba Waheshimiwa Wabunge watajadilia jambo hilo kwa moyo wa umoja na moyo wa kujali masilahi ya Wakenya wote.

Bwana Spika,

Serikali inaamini kwamba, ni wajibu wa Wakenya wenyewe kujitatia matatizo yanayotukabili kuliko kungojea masuluhisho kutoka nje. Tuko tayari kusikiza mashauri yao lakini ni lazima kila mtu humu nchini na pia katika nchi za nje afahamu kwamba usimamizi wa mambo humu nchini ni wajibu wa Wakenya.

Hakuwezi kuwa na mtu mwingine isipokuwa Mungu mwenyewe ambaye anaweza kufahamu watu wetu ama hali kama ilivyo kutushinda. Ni matumaini yangu kwamba nchi zilizorafiki nasi na pia mashirika ya kimataifa yataendelea kutuunga mkono tunapoyatua matatizo hayo.

Bwana Spika,

Ni wajibu wetu, kama Wabunge, kutafuta masuluhisho ya matatizo kadha wa kadha yanayotukabili, na kufikiria hali yetu katika siku zijazo tukiwa watu wanaoipenda nchi yao. Kulaumiana hakutatuwezesha kutimiza jukumu hilo bali kutatufanya tuhatarishe utengemano wetu, wakati ambapo uwezo na ujuzi wetu unatakiwa kutumiwa kuiendeleza nchi hii.

Bwana Spika,

Katika kikao hiki cha pili cha Bunge letu la Saba, Waheshimiwa Wabunge wataombwa kujadilia mjadala mbali mbali kama mjadala wa madakitari wa mifugo, mjadala wa alama za kiibiashara, mjadala kuhusu uchukuzi wa bidhaa katika anga, mjadala kuhusu shirika la bima la sehemu ya biashara nafuu katika sehemu yetu ya bara la Afrika (yaani P.T.A.), mjadala kuhusu shirika la bima la bara la Afrika, mjadala wa rufani, na pia mjadala kuhusu madawa ya kulevya.

Pia Serikali itaendelea na juhudi za kusahihisha sheria zetu kulingana na mahitaji ya watu wetu. Waheshimiwa Wabunge wanafahamu kwamba halmashauri ya kuchunguza sheria zetu iliundwa

ili kuchunguza sheria zetu mara kwa mara na kufanya marekebisho ipasavyo. Katika kutimiza jukumu hiyo, halmashauri hiyo imeteua kamati maalumu za kuchunguza sheria zinazohusu walemavu, sheria za kodi za nyumba, sheria zinazohusu haki za watoto, sheria za makampuni na pia sheria za ardhi. Ni matumaini yangu kwamba kamati hizo maalumu zitawakilisha matokeo ya uchunguzi wao katika Bunge hili. Waheshimiwa Wabunge pia watapata nafasi ya kuchunguza katiba yetu na kuiwezesha iambatane na matakwa ya watu wetu ya kisiasa, kiuchumi na kijamii.

**Bwana Spika,**

Kwa kumalizia hotuba yangu nataka kutilia mkazo kwamba Bunge hili la Saba litakuwa na wajibu muhimu wa kutimiza. Hasa, ni matumaini ya wananchi wa Kenya kwamba Waheshimiwa Wabunge wataadumisha moyo wa kuelewana wanapojadillia mambo muhimu yanayowahusu katika Bunge. Nataka kiongozi wa Shughuli za Serikali katika Bunge, viongozi wa vyama vya upinzani na pia Wabunge watakaoteuliwa na vyama tofauti kusimamia wenzao washauriane kikamilifu ili kuwezesha kazi ya Bunge ifanywe ipasavyo. Vizazi vya siku zijazo hawatatuhurumia ikiwa hatukutimiza wajibu huo vyema. Nina hakika kwamba Waheshimiwa Wabunge hawatawavunja moyo wananchi wa Kenya ambao wamewapa uwezo wa kuwakilisha.

**Bwana Spika,**

Ningetaka kutilia mkazo jambo moja nikiwa na matumaini kwamba itatusaidia sote kuzidi kuipenda nchi hii. Kenya ni nchi yetu na Mungu ametubariki tuzaliwe na tuishi nchini humu. Ni wajibu wa kila mmoja wetu kuulinda nchi hii.

**Bwana Spika,**

Ninawatakia Waheshimiwa Wabunge wote kikao chenye furaha na mafanikio.

AHSANTENI.

IKULU YA NAIROBI,  
23 MACHI, 1993.

**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT, HON.  
DANIEL T. ARAP MOI, C.G.H., M.P., ON THE OCCASION  
OF THE STATE OPENING OF SECOND SESSION OF THE  
SEVENTH PARLIAMENT ON TUESDAY,  
23RD MARCH, 1993**

MR. SPEAKER,

At the beginning of this session of the Seventh Parliament, allow me to welcome all the honourable members and congratulate them for being elected or nominated to this house. This is indeed an important occasion for the honourable members and the people they represent. We should also recognize that such occasions, as this one are useful as forums of sharing ideas and experiences in the important process of nation building and in the consolidation of our nationhood.

As honourable members are aware, the Seventh Parliament is Kenya's second Multi-party Parliament since independence. But unlike in 1963 when there were only two parties represented in Parliament, today we have a record seven political parties represented in parliament. Also, unlike the previous parliaments, the Seventh Parliament has a large number of elected women members as well as a good number of members who are in Parliament for the first time.

Mr. Speaker,

Every member present here today is a member of one of the seven political parties. Each of the political parties has its own unique political stand. This is as it should be, since political parties are in the first place an expression of diversity of political persuasions. Notwithstanding the parties we belong to, we are representatives of our people. We are therefore duty bound to promote and safeguard the welfare and interests of the Kenyan people.

However, this is only possible if we are prepared to recognize that there is no better calling than to render services to the people irrespective of whether or not they voted for us. Likewise, there is nothing more noble than promoting the common good of our nation.

Mr. Speaker,

What I am saying will have practical application when the House starts to discuss bills either sponsored by the opposition or the Government. I hope that when the time comes, honourable members will draw a clear distinction between narrow party interests and broader national interests. In this regard, I do not expect members of the ruling party to oppose a bill merely because it is sponsored by the opposition. Similarly, I do not expect the opposition to block legislation simply to frustrate the Government. In short, we must all work in the national interest.

Mr. Speaker,

In the last two years, our country has experienced unusual problems. Unfortunate events in the neighbouring countries created a situation which forced us to accommodate a large number of refugees from those countries. We also have had to go through very unfavourable weather conditions, and the last season was particularly unusually dry and food production was adversely affected. This situation forced us to spend considerable sums of our foreign exchange earnings on food imports. The re-introduction of multi-party political system in the country did also have other ramifications as we suddenly found ourselves in a politically fluid situation which affected the investment climate.

With all these problems surrounding us, coupled with the world wide recession, the consequential unhappy economic situation in the country has been of great concern to my Government.

The general elections are now out of our way and it is therefore now absolutely necessary for us all Kenyans to join hands and direct our energies towards tackling the economic problems facing our nation.

The welfare of every Kenyan is of paramount concern to me personally and to my Government. Indeed, every leader in the country should be concerned about the well-being of our people. In this connection, my Government has worked out various recovery programmes. In this regard, my Government will soon

table a sessional paper in this House, outlining the measures we propose to take in dealing with the situation facing us. It is my sincere hope that the earliest opportunity will be taken to deliberate on the matter in the spirit of unity and concern of all leaders regarding the welfare of Kenyans.

Mr. Speaker.

My Government strongly believes that Kenyans themselves must continue to tackle all problems facing our country as opposed to waiting to be guided by all manner of prescriptions from donor and multi-lateral agencies. Their ideas of course are always welcome, but, it must be appreciated by all and sundry, here and abroad, that the management of the affairs of this country shall always remain our responsibility as Kenyans. It cannot be anybody else, save God, who understands our people and the situation on the ground better than us. Indeed, I am confident that friendly nations and international agencies will continue to support us as we continue tackling these problems in a systematic and a properly planned manner.

Mr. Speaker,

It is, therefore, our collective responsibility as elected members, to think out solutions to the many problems facing us and chart our course as true nationalists. Apportioning blame can only compound the problems confronting our people and threaten the stability of our social and political institutions, at the expense of the needed energy to be directed towards developmental activities.

Mr. Speaker,

During the working of the second session of the Seventh Parliament, honourable members will be called upon to deliberate on a number of Bills such as the Veterinary Surgeons (Amendment) Bill, the Trade Marks (Amendment) Bill, the Carriage of Goods by Air Bill, the Preferential Trade Area Reinsurance Company Bill, the African Reinsurance Corporation Bill, the Bail Bill and the Drug and Narcotics Prohibition (Amendment) Bill.



Also, my Government will continue to be committed to constant review and reform of our laws so as to anticipate and respond to changing needs of our society. Honourable members are aware that the Law Reform Commission was set up to specifically review our laws from time to time. In this regard, the commission has established specialized task forces to review laws relating to the disabled, the Rent Restriction Act, law relating to the child, law relating to companies and land law reform. It is my expectation that the reports of these task forces will be brought to the House for deliberation. Honourable members will also have an opportunity to carry out a comprehensive review of our constitution to enable it reflect the current political, economic and social reality in Kenya.

Mr. Speaker.

In conclusion, let me reiterate that the Seventh Parliament has a very challenging task ahead of it. In particular, all Kenyans expect honourable members to exercise the principle of give and take in the course of their deliberations. I expect that the Leader of Government Business, the leaders of the opposition and party whips will consult one another to facilitate smooth transaction of parliamentary business. History will, therefore judge us very harshly if we fail to live up to that challenge. I am, however, confident that honourable members will not disappoint Kenyans who have given them the mandate to represent them.

Mr. Speaker.

I would not wish to repeat the obvious, but if by repeating it will build in us a deeper sense of patriotism then I will. Kenya is our our motherland. It is only here, Kenya, that pleased the Almighty God that we be born and be part of it. It is our pride and we must, individually and collectively, protect it.

With these remarks, Mr. Speaker, I wish all members a happy session and fruitful deliberations.

THANK YOU.

STATE HOUSE,  
NAIROBI,

23RD MARCH, 1993.