

**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT  
MZEE JOMO KENYATTA AT THE INSTALLATION  
CEREMONY, 29th JANUARY 1970**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN . . .

This inaugural ceremony of our new Government, marks the climax of an election period in our Republic. I am pleased to take this opportunity to thank you, Wananchi, for the confidence you have shown, not only in me personally, but in the Kanu Party that I have the honour to lead. On behalf of the Party, the Government and myself, I wish to assure the country that we shall do everything in our power to justify the confidence that you have shown in us once again.

Tribute is due to our people for having provided such abundant evidence of national maturity. There were false prophets who believed that some kind of "election fever" might sweep the country, leading to outbreaks of bitterness and conflict. Nevertheless, our election was carried out in an atmosphere of good order and good humour. All those concerned with the official arrangements deserve high praise, for it was the dignity of the Kenya people which has enhanced the image of our country within world society.

Let me assure you, the victory for Kanu in the elections was at no time in doubt. I have known all along that you would not fall victim of cheap politicians and their false promises. I have always believed in honesty in politics and I have told you what the Kanu Government can do for you.

The elections have taught Members one good lesson. There was no easy way for any past Member or Minister to return to Parliament. All candidates were bound by the same regulations, and enjoyed equal opportunities. Everything depended on the people's choice, and results made it clear, that this choice was exercised without fear or favour. There

have been many consequent changes in our political and executive leadership. It may truly be said that my new Government, and the National Assembly, have sprung from the authority of all our people.

Previously, I have emphasized, that we must go to the elections in the true spirit of sportsmanship, as there were bound to be losers and winners. I therefore appeal to those who lost, to stop grumbling and divert their efforts to nation building. Parliament, as we all know, is not the only place where one can serve one's country.

The oath that we have just taken, and the oath that the new Members of Parliament will take next week, binds us to do right to all people without fear or favour. It is my duty as head of this new Government to urge all its Members to work together with our people.

This new political phase, together with the inspiration of the current Development Plan, is the time to move with new resolve into a period of great endeavour. We have the solid foundation of all that has been achieved during the difficult years of our nationhood. We have overcome many shortcomings, and have gained much experience in the hard school of economic challenge. Now we can move, in a more deliberate and skilful manner, towards the fulfilment of planned objectives. However, we must never lose sight of compassion, or the aspirations which underlined our long struggle for national integrity. Our aim is social justice and the provision of economic amenities in the place of hardship, and lack of opportunity which afflicted this country for so many years.

The key to all this is unity, and unity means nationhood. Our nationhood, under the Kenya Flag, has become real in the minds of men. Today, whether in public life or in private enterprise, our men and women carry out their tasks as Kenyans. When confronted with difficulties, we have learned to stand together as Kenyans. The source of true strength is dedication to common ideals and targets of national endeavour, by every man and woman.

National unity ensures also, stability in economic advancement in which social aims can be pursued. Here in Kenya, stability is part of the structure of our nation. It was maintained, during vulnerable years, by vigilance, and by the people's constant readiness to defend our hard-won national integrity.

Let us go on working together for a new future of prosperity and contentment, inspired by national unity and encouraged by the living spirit of *Harambee*.

*H A R A M B E E !*