

**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT
MZEE JOMO KENYATTA ON JAMHURI DAY,
12th DECEMBER 1969**

Today the people of Kenya have reached a new moment of triumph. We look back first to the sacrifice and struggle which led to the attainment of *Uhuru* in 1963. Then we celebrate what we call *Jamhuri Day*, recalling the birth of the Kenya Republic at the dictate of the people.

All this coincides now with the end of the first term of office of a Government provided by KANU. The Party can look back with pride on this period of service. By working together, the Government and people have built the strong framework of one Kenya nation. Now we must go on to furnish and equip what has been built, so that every family may know the fruits of social justice.

The mandate which was given to KANU in 1963, and was faithfully carried out, has been renewed in a popular election. As Head of our ruling Party, I express my personal thanks, not only for the confidence of the people, but also for the wise and mature way in which the verdict was recorded through secret and universal ballot. Election rules and methods were designed so that the people could choose, and must choose, a truly representative Government. Kenya has now completed a great and successful experiment in democracy.

It will be my task to form a new Government from the people recently elected to Parliament. I assure you that this will be re-dedicated to the service of the people, in pursuit of clearly stated economic and social objectives. Through the popular will, there have been some changes in the make-up of the National Assembly. The authority of the people has also ensured a vital continuity, in the values and policies that laid all the foundations of our nationhood, and that have won for Kenya an honoured place in modern world society.

During these past years, the people have triumphed over many different challenges. The greatest of these has been the false and wicked threats that can be manufactured out of tribalism. Some observers have tended to think that our Republic was headed for conflict or disaster. I was sustained, however, by faith in the wisdom of Kenya's people, which has been unwavering for 50 years.

Let us use this anniversary, and its whole meaning, to resolve that we reject outmoded fears and threats of tribalism. Let us bury this concept so deep that it can never rise again. We are all Kenyans, in all corners of our country. There is no place for tribalism in my Government, or in our social ambitions and economic programmes. The people have destroyed tribalism, through the unity and hard work which give living expression to the *Harambee* spirit of one united and progressive country.

Not all foreigners understand the way we think and work in Kenya. The people have done more in five years than some false prophets thought was possible in 50 years. And all this was accomplished openly, with mutual confidence between the Government and people. Throughout this time, accepting all the risks in support of vital principle, we have allowed fullest freedom of speech and of debate. We have upheld the Bill of Rights, and maintained a free Press. We have defended the freedom of the Judiciary. We have passed no legislation to make Kenya a one-party State.

None of these freedoms will in future be curbed. Neither Government nor people can tolerate persons who seek to spread communal hatred, or opposition that is subversive, or any affront to the integrity of our Republic.

It is fitting that this anniversary should also coincide with the launching of our Development Plan for the period up to 1974. A popular version of this Plan has also been published. All our people must understand the way in which our Republic, as a reward for stability and effort, can now move into a more prosperous future within modern world society.

During the Plan period, the total Central Government Budget will amount to seven hundred and twenty million pounds. This will be nearly three hundred million pounds more than was provided in our previous Development Plan. Such a fact is an impressive symbol of the national strength already gathered, from the people's own productive capacity and domestic savings. Moreover, taking development and recurrent outlay together, overseas finance will have to be sought for only 12 per cent of the total programme.

This is the key factor in what I have described as a policy of economic independence. Such a policy does not mean that investment or initiative from overseas will no longer be welcome. We require and will attain the fullest control of our own economic destiny, and complete involvement of our people, in all forms of economic enterprise. No developing state can become a prosperous nation, in this space age, through proceeding to isolate itself from the world outside. External capital and productive activity will be required, and will be regulated in Kenya along lines that are fair to both parties. Then, it may valuably serve our underlying national purpose.

We have provided in the new Plan that an increasing share of total resources and efforts should be directed towards the rural and outlying areas. All economic progress must be fully balanced, on a national scale. It must bring into account the talents and capacities—and the social aspirations—of people in all parts of our country.

Those in the rural areas will be able to find in the Plan schemes for great expansion of all social services. Projects included will raise the level of agricultural incomes, assisted by improved extension services, new lines of research, and better marketing arrangements. Special efforts will be made to promote development in the pastoral areas, and to modernize further such primary industries as forestry and fishing.

In respect of all the rural and outlying districts, the Development Plan has recognized that economic enterprises

outside agriculture or primary production must also be assisted. There will be special training programmes to fit primary school-leavers for self-employment careers within rural communities, and district development centres will also be operated.

On a national scale, Primary Education by the end of the plan period will embrace another half a million of Kenya's children, and more than a dozen new Primary Boarding Schools in outlying areas will be built. We already operate a generous scheme for remission of school fees in the case of needy parents. The scale of this fee remission will be doubled in the coming phase, as another significant step towards our ultimate goal of free and universal education.

Secondary school enrolment will be stepped up by another thirty-five thousand before 1974, and we shall then be self-sufficient in teachers except in a few vocational subjects. There will be new emphasis within secondary education on science and mathematics, in tune with the evolving needs of any nation in this age of technology. Many more secondary schools will also offer practical courses in Agriculture, Commerce, Industrial Arts, and Domestic Science, enabling students to become better fitted for careers and conditions in Kenya. At a higher level, enrolment in the Nairobi University College will be doubled by the end of the Plan period.

Great attention will be paid to the health and living conditions of the people. The Development Plan has provided for Hospital construction making two thousand additional beds available to the people, while strengthening the links between Hospitals and Local Health Centres. The acute shortage of Medical Personnel will be met by the training of nearly five hundred more Doctors and eighteen hundred Nurses.

Total investment in Housing during these next five years will be more than fifty million pounds. Investment in Water Development is to be trebled, and twenty-five District Water Teams—having both operational and advisory functions—will be set up.

As a main source of our national wealth, a great deal will still depend on Agriculture. The Development Plan target is to raise crop and livestock production by more than one-third in this period. Another five million pounds will be made available to support agricultural credit. Thirty-three thousand more unemployed families will be settled on unused or mismanaged land, and extended land adjudication work will cover nearly nineteen million acres.

Planning for overall development of a mixed economy, this coming period will see massive expansion of industry in Kenya, with output increased by seventy-five per cent. This will require, from the private sector alone, an anticipated investment of over ninety million pounds. The Government will both encourage and continue to regulate such investment. Within all this industrial and commercial enterprise, the system of work permits will reduce the holding by non-citizens of jobs which our own people become fully qualified to do. Moreover, practices of Trade and Transport Licensing will ensure that citizens play their rightful and increasing part within the private sector.

Apart from some major new industries, the Plan looks towards greater expansion of existing food-processing industries, chemicals and textiles. New Government surveys will lead to mass production in Kenya of simple goods in constant demand, and promote the manufacture of complex products hitherto imported from the more developed nations.

We shall move ahead more rapidly than before in fields of power and communications. Expenditure on roads will be doubled, with particular effect on improvement of the secondary road system. There will be further heavy investment in airways and railways, and two more new berths will be built to expand the port operation at Mombasa.

Much of this latter development will assist the Tourist Industry. This has been growing at a faster rate than any other sector of the economy. It is provided in the Plan that such a rate of growth will continue, with foreign exchange earnings

from Tourism reaching thirty-seven million pounds by 1974. A national tourist week in Kenya started yesterday, and visitors will realize now that they are seeing this Republic move onto the crest of an economic wave. A Land Use Commission is also to be established, which will help in seeing that the principal raw material of Tourism is scientifically managed and safeguarded for all time.

Countrymen, this whole inspiring future lies within our grasp. Here is more than we dared to hope for, at the milestones of *Uhuru* and *Jamhuri*. Here is the outcome of the original mandate which the people gave to KANU, and the purpose now that lies in its renewal.

In the spirit of *Harambee* let us go forward in unity and hard work dedicated to the ideals of our nationhood.

H A R A M B E E !

State House,
Nairobi.

8th December 1969.