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FRIDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2021

Mr Speaker took the Chair at 9:18 am.

Prayer.

MR SPEAKER: I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly have resumed.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

Clerk read out the list of Papers pursuant to S.O.49 (2).

1. P.P.2020/2021 No.134, Office of the Electoral Commissioner Annual Report 2019/2020.
2. P.P.2020/2021 No.135, Office of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly Annual Report 2019/2020.

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 2020/2021
– resumption debate on second reading – Day 18**

MR SPEAKER: Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly adjourned yesterday after the remarks of the member for the constituency of Palauli le Falefa, Afioga Faumuina Tiatia Liuga.

Now the opportunity is given once again to Parliament for another speaker, but first I call upon the Leader of Government, the Hon Prime Minister for his statement.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA AUUELOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI (Prime Minister): Mr Speaker, we are all in one spirit this new morning to give Praise to our Heavenly Father whom this Government of Samoa is founded upon by guiding your life and our life, because our duties are the calling of our Master in heaven, our work is to serve our country.

Especially our constituencies who chose us based on the whisperings of the Holy Spirit, now we meet again this new morning.

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I acknowledge the support of Samoa in all its honorific salutations, also to the support of His Excellency, Le Ao o le Malo, the Member of Council of Deputies as well as the arm of Judiciary whom we are working together in relation to our duties and calling upon us.

Mr Speaker, I take the floor, to emphasize we who value our duties, that we will soon be finished with our work, we are considering the Supplementary Appropriation continue our work. As for the programs of this year it ends in June, it is still in progress as set in our Main Estimates passed by this Parliament, in June of last year, to start this financial year from July to June. It is where our long-term plans are laid out so that members can be prepared to read and understand. If there are things that need be understood, well, there is a time for consideration in detail where questions can be asked. It is not an old system, all the plans are in progress especially in confronting the deadly disease that is affecting the whole world, and the Government is trying to control it from getting into the country, with the assistance of our doctors and Committee in charge of the border. Behind our actions, we do not stop asking, we ask the Lord to protect us and take care of us as foolish people, so that we understand what we do and must be done, according to our calling.

And these are the characteristics of our Lord from the beginning, these are the characteristics of God who uses the weak to defeat the strong. From the very beginning to the many philosophers who were there at that time, Paul was not stopped, the person who started his work not believing in God. But it is the secret power from God that turned him to become an apostle and was able to overcome the arguments of those who were wise in worldly knowledge, and finally they accepted the Christian preaching in those days in Greece that was preached in the world, in worldly wisdom. Now we are meeting this morning to continue our Sitting, and at some point, we will move on to the Budget to discuss various areas including loans, I do not know how many times it has been clarified, the amount of money borrowed by Government, based on the GDP, or the overall income of the country where they cannot afford to take out loans. This means that with the strength of the country's economy, it is very difficult for some who are not responsible to understand.

The proof of these things, assistance has continuously been given from overseas, that is the proof and confirmation that the major organizations of the world know, that there are experts in financial management, who have good prudence on the actions taken by the Government of Samoa in proper planning of funds, and how it is spent. There is no Government of Organization that wants to make a loan or donation to a government that abuses their aid, to give out money, to buy beer and cigarettes for the people of the country.

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It is a government of a reckless Political Party that misuses the authority of Government. I have mentioned this, to explain to those who are carrying out false preaching, yesterday, the day before yesterday and today, while the Parliament is holding its Sitting, it is being irresponsible, it is why the seats of those members are not occupied, they are doing these things, which are being posted by social media. Mr Speaker this is where we converse of the truth, however it seems they are tired of speaking in here. Why? Because the announcements that they make do not have any foundation.

Mr Speaker, there are no customary lands being bought by the Chinese. That is the truth. Customary lands can be leased. After the lease is done it is over, they move away whilst the family chiefs earn their money, especially to use for family faalavelave. The rumor heard today, is that Chinese have taken customary lands. Is there any proof? No. This is an important opportunity as we progress with our Sitting for the country listening in on the multitude of baseless remarks that is creating conflict. Not only for Samoans here, but also our families overseas, because they are giving them these fraudulent ideas, to trap their money from overseas, and misuse it.

The most questionable thing in my mind on what is happening, is opposing of Chinese people, but Laauli is living on the lease of their shop leased to a Chinese businessman. In addition to that, Mr Speaker, an inquiry came from the Embassy of China which copied me in a letter given by Laauli. Whether there is a province in China to establish a special partnership with the new organization of China in Samoa chaired by Laauli, the member of Gagaifomauga No.3, and another Chinese businessman. I invited this Chinese businessman, and asked what is this new organization that have created, and if they are aware that you cannot do such thing without asking Government?

Mr Speaker, such occurrences are useful. The significance of this, it generates a form of pretense, which is done by the member Laauli Polataivao Fosi Schmidt. The Government cannot accept such attitudes and affects people who are well known for it. It may humiliate the Government of Samoa to foreign countries.

The reason why I have mentioned this, it is because there is a lot of unfounded information mentioned in constituencies, those from Salafai nowadays. They are not participating in Parliament Sittings, but still behave to insult their constituencies. I pray that such actions do not happen again in future. We are heading towards our elections. All these things will be set aside, to be considered thoroughly by the next Government that will come in power, to oversee such behaviors of creating conflict and humiliating Parliament.

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A Parliament that tired Leaders who gathered at Mulinuu for many months to discuss the type of Government that Samoa will deliver to the United Nations, to accept a Christian Government that will bring peace to its people, for Leaders to emerge that will find peace and not seek chaos and incite hatred, which was mentioned by the respectable member of Palauli le Falefa.

Mr Speaker, this is why I thought, to start this morning with my statement. In all the Parliaments I entered and sat in, I observed the same spirit and hope. The desire to have opportunities for members to speak. As for the power of the Speaker and the following of Standing Orders, there are times when opportunity is given, but there are also times when the Chair is steadfast and puts a stop to speeches under our Standing Orders. All members are willing to take the opportunity to speak when Parliament meets. Now the Chair has given more opportunities, why, because this is our last meeting. But what is happening? The length of Sittings is being cursed, by those who oppose the Government. After they spoke and were given opportunities by Mr Speaker, even though I and the Ministers of Cabinet have been insisting for a long time, to conclude because we have worked that need be done. Why? Because Ministers are needed by the country in their offices.

Mr Speaker, this is the first time to hear something happen, the Chair has given opportunities for members to speak, but they despise and mock how long the Sittings are going. They say, it is bad politics. This is not bad politics. Bad politics is not accepted in this Parliament. Yesterday, the member Olo spoke and mentioned the dignified Assembly of Parliament, as a sport. Look at how this member undermines the sanctity of this Parliament. The nobles and high chiefs of Samoa are listening to this Assembly, yet they are saying such disrespectful words. This Assembly is to publicly announce your views, the views of respectable members who have been chosen, all of us, we come here to voice our views on the grounds of Tiafau, to make a contribution as we are supported by our people.

Mr Speaker, this is the reason for taking the floor. I also apologize to those of you who are the most affected at this time in Salafai, with baseless accusations against you. This was also mentioned by the elder member Tofa Hon Faasootauloa yesterday to voice his sorrow, at allegations made by the member of Gagaifomauga No.3 which are not true. Leave the constituencies of the members, they are well aware of the truth, even though they are constantly lobbying to use serious accusations and slander. Where is this power coming from? This is going too far. The authority in Safotu is Lavea? Laauli is the authority in Saleaula or rule. But the actions that they do it seems like they are the officials of Salafai.

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Mr Speaker, another matter, which was voiced by the member of Palauli le Falefa, refers to the significance of policies to reduce the Government's excessive expenditure. And the importance of positions in foreign organizations. There are parts that was touched upon by the member and moved away, but I must address it for further clarification.

When Faumuina was first elected, I appointed him as Minister of Works. At this time, the new policy was proposed. It abdicated other large projects undertaken by the Ministry of Works, especially the construction of Government roads. At that time, more than \$20 million was spent on road construction. But what happened? After this, nothing was being done to the standard it should be, and the large sums of money are being wasted. This problem occurred right when Faumuina returned from overseas, and the new policy of our government was implemented, the work was renounced and the group in charge of road works was dissolved and road construction was publicized. It was a major change. I recall that about 400 workers were laid off, including a respectable politician, the member who is now representing Siumu, he was one senior member of the Public Works Department. But given this decision, it was quite astounding.

Even in Cabinet with consultations, it was difficult because it is the first time something like it has happened, this was the dissolution of the Ministry of Works and keeping only part of it as we have now. Of the 300 workers were only 100 was approved, to keep afloat the Ministry of Works. A decision was made for it to progress. When their planned retirement allowance was released, the other 100 saw, they did not want to be forced to retire, because the allowance for the retirees was a lot. Then they came back and asked, "Please Faumuina, we also want to be laid off."

I came in the other morning and the Minister called me, "Please come over." What? "We are having a farewell party for the 400 employees being laid off." Then I went over and gave a speech saying, "Blessed are you who have just now experiencing resigning. As for me, I have resigned four times. First, I resigned from here, I went overseas and worked. Then I resigned again and came back to Samoa. Then I resigned again to go to the Elections. I was not elected in a Minister position, then our Audit Office was setup with some colleagues. Not long after that I was appointed Minister.

Then I resigned again from our Audit Office. As for me, I had to resign four times, if I had not resigned, I would not have been standing here speaking to you all like this. The will of God is different.

Mr Speaker, 10 years later, we got a visit from Fiji, Tonga, Papua New Guinea and others they wanted to understand the new changes that we made.

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Their methods are also very flawed, and they want to do what we are doing, which was reported by overseas Organizations. Then I explained to them our policy. So far, they have not done it. They are afraid of doing something new and serious like it. It requires political courage, Mr Speaker, because when a decision is made you see a knife wielded towards you. The Cabinet did not go back on its decision because we knew this was done to benefit Samoa. But what is now happening? Now we have more skilled companies constructing our roads, which was mentioned yesterday. If it were not for that approach governed by the Minister, the member of Palauli le Falefa, these positive changes would not have happened, and until now, our roads would still be in the same condition, we would not have had such good companies in the Private Sector. The capability to make roads today is outstanding. These are the characteristics of this Political Party, once they know what is important for the country, they act on it. Follow the Lords words, “What you know you should do, but not do, is a sin before God.”

Mr Speaker, I cannot put this aside, because this is the result of what happened in 2001 coming into now, it is the result, which is the reason why the Government saves a lot of money, to allocate for other projects. This is the same with the 3 Acts that concluded recently, the courage of members in the House who insisted on implementing them. Why? The standards insisted by our Leaders on what to do was too high that they could not do it. Then they thought, leave it to a future Parliament to carry it out.

The objections that were shown recently, is caused from a lack of understanding of policies and work of HRPP, by members to implement these Laws. Laws that may weaken a person who has a weak heart, or weaken someone who has not political courage, to do something important, not hide from doing something important. It is not trying to say to do this, then you respond by doing it. Mr Speaker this is not how to lead a country. Not everyone can be pleased. But what happened? Nearing elections, the members of this Party are not dissuaded from working, because they are united in what is valuable for Samoa. It is also the reason for the objections that were raised, because they did not read the Constitution and the will of our forefathers that caused all these things and the deep meaning of words, implemented by the forefathers and not read by these people. They just now understood, when it was explained by the Attorney General, the knowledge of the Office and the Chief Executive of the Office of the Attorney General has been released to elucidate the meaning of these three Laws. Now the Lawyers who objected have understood, also a few Judges who nearly noted it as Criminal offence have understood.

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Mr Speaker, it is noted, that none of those who objected questioned the announcements of the Attorney General, the Lawyer provided by the Constitution of the Government of Samoa. They are the only lawyers that the Government listens to, because they are the lawyers of the Constitution, which the Constitution states, they are the lawyers who advise respectable members. It is impossible not to speak on it because the contribution of the member of Palauli le Falefa is important. These are the policies that are followed by Government, which generated growth in road construction business for our local people. In the next 10 years, there will be a lot of expansion of the skills of our road builders, and it may be possible to get the opportunity to go abroad, where some have made contracts with Tutuila, making roads for Tutuila, and have contested and won. No one can stop us from reaching Fiji, Tonga, Niue, Cook Islands, Papua New Guinea, in future because of the growing proficiency based on the many projects carried out funded by consent of those who own money, our partners, because of the good management of our plans.

Lastly Mr Speaker, are foreign assignments, this is the first time that we have been appointed to hold the position of Leader or President of the Council of Ministers on African, Caribbean, Pacific and European Union. This is the first time, not only to hold the position of President, but we also hold the office of President of the Association of ACP and EU politicians.

The headquarters are in Luxemburg, and now the President is Samoan, the Hon member of Palauli le Falefa. Due to the rotation of these appointments, our ambassador is now the Chairman of the Committee of Ambassadors of all 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific Nations in Brussels, or Belgium. In opposition to the Commission of the United Nations of Europe, it talks about serious issues that affect the benefits of European Nations and all Nations, the African Caribbean and the Pacific. This is also why when people are appointed here, they are not ordinary people, it is those who have the knowledge, and those who have degrees. People who understand when talking about deep international issues. These are connections that help.

In the context of the emergence of this organization, it follows the order of classification of Governments and Parliaments, Democratic Government like us. The Government is different, from Parliament. The Government opposes Parliament, whereby Parliament opposes Government also both Parliament and Government opposes Judiciary. This is the meaning of the Three Arms of Government. One authority opposes the other. This is the same within the organization of European countries that are not affiliated with the ACP or African, Caribbean and the Pacific. This organization, the politicians of Europe, the Caribbean and the Pacific, is the council of members that oppose the council of Ministers.

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This is the forum where they regulate the future aid plans and necessary actions. In encouraging connections, so that it will continue and remain strong. This time all the Chief Executive Officers of these Organizations have travelled to Samoa. Since I left from overlooking it, because it was under my designation, but when Joe Keil was Minister, he was assigned under Government, as Minister. When Afioga Fonotoe arrived, he was also chosen to sit in this council, seating of Ministers. As for now, it is under my designation, and the member of Palauli le Falefa is representing our Parliament in the council of members, for Africa, Caribbean and the Pacific. This is the same for politicians in Europe, at the main center in Luxemburg. As well as center for Ministers in Brussels, Belgium.

Mr Speaker, this is the important aspect I want to highlight, so that members will understand part of the speech given by the member. Even though he spoke on it briefly, but behind that, there is a great significance to it in the view of the world on our government. Why? These appointments are very important to African countries. Why? There are 4 major zones of Africa, the South, the East, East Africa, West Africa and Central Africa.

There are 4 regions, there are 4 different regions of Africa, there is one from the Pacific and one from the Caribbean, so there are 6 different regions within the ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific). It is just like the Pacific, there is Micronesia, Polynesia and Melanesia. There are 3 different kinds, however, they are all on the board of Pacific Leaders. So that is how the Organisation of these Sub-Groupings is administered, or these large groups of the ACP as well as Europe. Then I thought of how inconsistent this is, after African A becomes the President, then the Caribbean C will be made President, which then last to Pacific P. So that was how it worked, in this state of, the board of Ministers. There was a time when Mara the Prime Minister of Fiji led this panel.

Because of how crucial where aids flow from for these countries of Africa, Caribbean Pacific. Hence, Mara who was a well-known Prime Minister of Fiji was appointed, to be a representative for Fiji in the panel. The prince of Tonga was also elected, who was crowned as King George and ruled Tonga. Mara for Fiji, this prince, before he was crowned King George, was assigned as a representative for the Kingdom of Tonga. Because discussions were quite intense inside, concerning the pulling, of assistances for the Pacific. As the rotation of Presidency proceeded, disagreements arose. They were in conflict because this issue continued to happen, the appointment is only 6 months long, it was not long before Fiji comes again. There were 6 months for the Caribbean, 6 months for Africa, 6 months left, then again, they realized that the respect had been given to Mara once again. The oldest leader of the Pacific, Mara went again.

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Thus, the Government of African grew envious. These guys who constantly holds very prestige positions at the top, apparently, they have very high standards. Therefore, they tried, tried, tried, until it was time, there was a time when I was appointed as the President, and again it emerged right away.

Then I thought they were right about what they were saying. I then made a decision, I would give them a half an hour, for them to discuss, the sub-committee to discuss this issue. After half an hour I would call again, then you will have to give some suggestions. This issue has been in discourse for many years. If you do not come up with any suggestion, then this ends this very evening. We will not talk about it again and we will still remain at the rotation in the ACP. It had not been 10 minutes yet and they came back, there was a compromise. “What is the compromise?” It will go like this. AAP, AAC, AAP, AAP that means, after an African followed by another African, then the Pacific, goes back to Africa followed by another African, then the Caribbean. Thus, that is the rotation at the moment. When the share reaches the Pacific, it takes a while till it comes again, because it is now proceed using the formula or this guideline, the basic. The A, African, African Caribbean, African again, African, Pacific.

That is why these things are important, I think it is a must to clearly specified, because these postings are significant. It advances, not the person but the good reputation of our government will be promoted as well as our people. They go abroad, but they work hard to ensure that good fortunes will fall upon Samoa and her Government who are cheering from home. Mr Speaker, my clarification of the matter is a bit longer, but these things should be detailed, because of how important were the issues raised by the member for Palauli le Falefa.

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the Hon Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Tofa Hon Lopaoo Natanielu Mua (Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries): Thank you Mr Speaker, I should like to add on the foreword of the oration made by the Prime Minister. For I knew he was going to talk about this issue concerning lands. But I have with me a file of investigation that was done relating to lands. Because they are spreading this rumour, the HRPP has donated almost every customary land, this Government.

MR SPEAKER: Who is spreading it?

Tofa Hon Lopaoo Natanielu Mua: I am saying that it is a rumor, now there...

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MR SPEAKER: Yes, I want to know who is spreading it.

Tofa Hon Lopao Natanielu Mua: It is spread by these guys either it is called FASI or whatever...But they are not here, so that is that. Hon the people of our country have already seen in 2019, when the amount of \$250,000 was distributed in the village of Sasina, I have the records. Which company, who is the owner, and who is behind this? It was Hon Laauli, the company is called the USO Company. It has a partnership with a company called the Sunglory. I will not state the name of the country, because it is one of our very precious partners. But it is more, approximately 500 acres was used for the agreement over there. If we assess it according to this list, like the Hon Prime Minister said, it is more than that, this Government are not doing things like these, but it is what it is Hon. I came here last week with this, not knowing it has a worth. But today the Hon Prime Minister had spoken about it.

Therefore, I wish to add a little note on the remarks by the Hon Prime Minister, pertaining to gossips going around here. But he should ask himself. That was during the Sa'o Faapito's time when the agreement was signed. We do not know maybe sooner or later we will see them doing it, the both of them went ahead and form their own side to proceed these things. Mr Speaker, the reason why I speak, is because the bible says, "If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them." Mr Speaker with respect thank you.

MR SPEAKER: We will move on with our...I grant opportunity to the member for Lufilufi, followed by the Hon Minister of Communication, Information and Technology.

Afioga Alaiasa Muagututi'a Moefaaouo Malagaitutogiai Sepulona Moananu (Anoamaa East): Mr Speaker, to God be the glory this morning, He had wakened your Hon and the esteemed members of this House from a good rest. I have listened attentively to the remarks given by the Prime Minister, this has been constantly raised in our House, the absence and not participating of esteemed members of this side. For me personally, we must move to a different approach, to set the limit for cases like these. Because I have noticed Hon, the duty of a whippy and other respective duty, is to pay attention if the quorum is complete to execute our work. But I have been thinking, because it has been raised frequently, apparently these guys are playing with the Standing Order. It should be three-days, a one day, then count another three, but some restrictions should be given so that we will not discuss these again. We think that we should raise a concern if it is accepted, by this House and Mr Speaker.

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They must not be accepted in this House; it seems like they are waiting until the Ministers speak and respond. Then they will come and do what please them, but not acknowledging your Hon and the respected members of our Assembly. Second of all it is new to me these statues that are standing from behind here, they have *soga'imiti*. I am shocked to see those, it was not usual within these 5 years, but I offer acknowledgement to Mr Speaker. Your decorations are very lovely. I assume it was your Hon who prepared these, they are wonderful to beautify our House. That is my short opinion, because we oftentimes talk about it, but it is best to tell them about a tone like that Mr Speaker. Bless the session.

Afioga Hon Afamasaga Lepuiai Rico Tupai (Minister for Communication, Information and Technology): Thank you Hon, we have met with the grace and love of God, to which should I join the thanksgiving you offered, as well as the oration by the Prime Minister. It has been mentioned by his Hon the Lufilufi whip regarding the situation of this morning, looking from this side of the House, those guys are no longer participating. But this is the very important issue that I want to talk about Mr Speaker. The issue regarding lands as mentioned by the Prime Minister, because I know we have reached to our destination this morning. To the constituency where this issue derives from, the constituency of Palauli le Falefa, this is where the strolling of this party of FAST is at the moment. In 2015 the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment went to visit the mountains of this constituency, to find out the kinds of animals living in that area, the animals, the documents and everything, and examine the forest pertaining to their work.

This is also another constituency that is severely wounded by this issue, the whole of Palauli, from Palauli West, Palauli le Falefa towards, the constituency of Palauli and Satupaitea. They were involved in this research by the Ministry; however, this party had got it wrong, and said the Government are measuring the lands, of these constituencies of Palauli, and offer it abroad to China to settle our debts. And they are very misleading information like the Prime Minister said. But I have noticed, that today is the day they have arrived in constituencies of Palauli. I think there will be a time that the Hon Prime Minister will re-discuss this, to explain every significant aspect. But here is the thing, because I am sitting right next to these four from that party. Another thing that I noted yesterday, Hon, since the entire morning, the Hon Sa'o Faapito was persistently coughing, so I was a little worried Hon, because it affects this side. I sort of guessed that there might be a disease that is infecting this side because of smoking.

But if it is something appropriate, I request, that they should be checked-up first before they enter the House if they participate to the Session again.

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But I personally, what is happening to the Session right now, I am grateful to myself that I will be ending my very first Term. I am not influenced by some leadership by these kinds of people, because now they are no longer attending the Sessions, no excuses, these are the things that I can look at my leader. A leader that can direct people like me. But I am thankful, you are able to endure Mr Speaker, these conditions. Despite the fact that the Standing Order is violated, yet you are still calm, you have great wisdom to tolerate these kinds of members. Therefore, this is my only request, the people of the nation are listening to what I have just raised regarding lands.

If they are able to provide proof for these accusations, that Samoa have already offered her lands overseas to settle our debts to China, then bring them. Because now I have known this morning, this is what is happening, the things they are saying, is different from they are doing. They are saying that China should be rejected, decline China, decline the harbour which will bring Chinese, but we have now seen that they are embracing China for their fundraisings. But the only thing Mr Speaker is to thank you for the opportunity.

MR SPEAKER: Samoa have listened, especially the Parliament, besides the constituency of Palauli le Falefa and the Hon Faumuina Tiatia Liuga, to the oration and so is the re-clarification given by the Prime Minister with respect to the sailing ship of our government previously, and the allocation of assignments in that time.

It was not a small job that the Hon Faumuina Liuga was responsible for regarding the appointments by the Prime Minister of his crew of Cabinet. There are many great developments which were able to be done by that time, it was not something that any member is capable of except for them, especially Faumuina Tiatia Liuga, because most of his life, he worked abroad internationally. Hence, how blessed is the constituency, they have been able, to appoint a representative to carry the Chair of the constituency. He has the blessings of God, through his competences as mentioned by the Hon Prime Minister. Whatever we do, as the proverb says, “Once we finish a good work, may the glory be to God.” But bless the constituency for appointing this capable old man for the country.

Considering that the fellow member Lufilufi mentioned the issue about members who are not attending our Session. I turned on the TV last night and it broadcasted the speech by the member for Gagaifomauga No 3, about the dragging of our Sessions. Then I thought, perhaps there is a time, that I will be straightening out this matter. But now that the esteemed Lufilufi has raised it, whilst the people of the country are listening.

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You are all well aware of our sessions in the day and at night. Once we get to the Financial Statement then we assemble the day and night. On these days, it extends to 2 am in the morning, or 3 in the morning, the sittings of the Parliament. These are also the only days that I come to the Parliament. I feel weak indeed, yet we work accordingly to the oath of allegiance. However, in this Term, you knew already, this is the first time we have consecutive sittings. But most of the time, there is morning session and night session, morning session and night session, in order to chase the opportunity for our work to be quickly done and allow the execution of the country's developments through the demands of things to be repaired from this constituency and this constituency.

Just as you stated Hon members, for the Government to see where the utmost priority should be given to, based on the funds we get. The fellows of Chief Executive Officers are also listening and paying attention, because they are the ones who are providing guidance, in order for the boat of the Cabinet to sail smoothly, bring it in the Parliament, where it will be talked and discussed. But our Sitting today, is only in the daytime, I have been thinking, we should also see the effects, find the strength, to avoid these critical diseases which we are currently dealing with. Then I thought, the daytime is enough for us to sit in. And this will be our last Session for this Parliamentary Term, besides to relax the people who are listening, to our Sessions. Because we are working to seek fortunes for the devotion of Samoa, but not the Parliament.

To seek blessings for Samoa through improving the country. That is like the reason why I am sad, about them saying that the sessions are dragging. No, while the people of Samoa are listening, that is my concern. You are well aware, it has been laid off, the Speaker is always left hanging, pertaining to our assigned time. However other members are willing, to be given the opportunity, as this will be our last Seating. I have also thought that it seems like the Speaker will be blamed for this. When I offer respect, they complain. These four have already spoken as well, the respected members as stated, they were not disturbed, and one of them almost took the whole day for his speech. Then I thought I will just let him finish if...but then the Prime Minister stood as well and said, be kind Mr Speaker, I move, that the members should be granted the opportunity to finish their speeches. I did not stop or forbid that.

Therefore, as the people of Samoa are listening to such rumours, that the seating is dragging because other situations, that is not the case, each and every one has different interpretations. But I am not used to this behaviour of slandering people. That is because the Bible says, love your neighbour, as you love yourself. How can you love God, if you hate your brother?

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The reason why I talk about these things, is because I did not attend the session yesterday, I was excused, because I went to prepare our church Ministry immense assignment at Malua. Those were the words from the church ministers, leaders of the congregation. Do not loathe your brother, what is hate to your brother? Do not slander your brother, but love your brother just as you to yourself, something like that. That is why I do not take it seriously. I have talked to these members; they have not thought about the authority of the Speaker in the House. Because I refuse that, they might say that hate them.

But I feel sad, because they should be summoned, ask for pardon, ask for permission from the Speaker. But no, each do what they pleased, yet our sessions are done through summon letters. Pursuant to our oath, the members are formally informed about the day when the Seating will be held. The seating of the Parliament should be prioritised as this is where you get paid from. Because even if you do not attend the session, you still get paid, except for our allowances. So, what is the meaning of this? But whose money is used to pay you? Pardon the inappropriate language. It is the people's money, so who is embezzling? That is the question that each of us has an answer to. The person who attends the session and the person who does not but is paid? That is what you call embezzlement. Revert it to the Speaker, but the idea is to clarify and be clear, because this side might be blamed.

Samoa, I suppose these things are new, it is not normal as the House understands it, I never express my opinions, but just some advice. To us who are performing to fulfil our vows and responsibilities be patient. But my only concern, is we do not instruct the authority of constituencies. I am saddened, this is what I also said to our village, when the FAST arrived there. My words to my village were, Satuala you are the Aiga Faalagilagi who was first in appointments, but the Savaiians cannot come and instruct your prudence. Your judgement should not be instructed, that is such a downfall. The ordering of families from behind, while other constituencies came and instruct the wisdom and prudence of my constituency, but that is such a huge loss. Yes. That should have never happened because Samoa is not used to it, each village has its own sacredness which pertains to the land. Yes. The ghost speaks in its own grave, but it does not go and make noises on the grave of another ghost because it will be beaten up by many others. That is the supreme manner Samoa, your prudence must not be questioned, we are not like other overseas countries because they do not have cultures. Then they roll and twist it everywhere. But Samoa, it is forbidden, it is not allowed for a village to instruct another village. So, that is my clarification of the matter thus should I apologise to the Parliament. Indeed. I am sorry, deeply sorry but the fool King is not there in the constituencies and the nation, it is not there.

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Let us do our work, let us proceed with our Session but let them go and do whatever they want whoever they are, if any HRPP is going with them that does not matter. But that is the most embarrassing thing to watch when other villages come and order our own village and constituency.

Therefore, Samoa be patient, because Samoa is already appointed. Tonga has stories of wars, but Samoa has been appointed already, it can never change, it will not change. Hence, I am sorry. I have reached this state of apologizing, be generous, because I know you will be hurt by it, but let us all work together, let us not...well, Solomon says, “Answer not a ...a...answer not a...lest you be like him yourself.”

The Parliament is open...So, I will give the opportunity to the Old Man then followed by Loau.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, I apologise to the Minister. I believe that this morning is quite different, and the Mr Speaker has conveyed his influential wisdom.

That is the proper conditions of our Parliamentary Term which is ending. Now we are trying to complete our work as members, and then our Tenure will be over. Perhaps this is another thing that has been forgotten, it is overlooked by those who are reaching out to the newspaper and insulting the Assembly saying that we are prolonging the Assembly and such things. But now the hammer has fallen straight on the head of the nail, which has been properly made clear by the Hon Speaker, that our work from the very beginning, as these are the usual procedures, we have been carrying out day and night. Some nights I have conversations with the Hon Speaker, it was suggested that the morning starts at 9, 10, 11, 12, 1, and then adjournment, it is 4 hours. But due to the eagerness of the Minister and the work that they are faced with, which is the reason why I am encouraged to advice the Hon Speaker to continue our night Assembly at 5 o'clock. That means 4 hours in the morning and 5 hours at night, starting from 6 until 11, if we have a lot of work left.

This is another complaint directed at the Government, that there are many unsettled works, why is it late? Now the work is in progress, but they are not in attendance, they are prioritising personal matters, but neglecting the matters they were chosen to prioritise and swore to uphold in front of God, swore to uphold in this House, swore to uphold in front of the country who are paying close attention to these Assemblies which value the appointments. And now it has come to an end, just as the work is also coming to an end.

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Mr Speaker, after our Assembly adjourned yesterday, and then I went with some Ministers to finish the work as is customary in culture and in the Church, when a work is complete, we sit down and say a prayer of thanksgiving that the work is finished, and then it is formally submitted. So yesterday, this event was carried out in 2 villages, these are opportunities that will be available after our Assembly.

We also apologise to the majority of our country for the interference caused by the police vehicles that are blocking the road for our arrival, the village has been waiting, and they have waited with the spirit of happiness and joy, for now they have water. There was an orator that wept while giving a speech of thanksgiving on behalf of their village, since this is the first time, they have seen such clean water.

His mind went to the time of his parents and then he thought about himself and then thought about his children at this time, there was no clean water. He wept. This shows how important this initiative is. It is not as important to the villages that have rivers flowing continuously and towards the sea.

Mr Speaker, these are some opportunities, to complete our work. This means that there is still more asserted wisdom that is being implemented in our House. The eagerness to work and stay up late at night, forgetting that there is only one Assembly Day at that time, but it is 9 hours. And what is that? Because some of the members became ill.

I attended until 9 o'clock and I could not continue the Assembly due to the coldness, but I am also ill. And what happened? As soon as I left, I went to the hospital and got straight on the table in the emergency room, then I said to the nurse, "Call a doctor, I am very sick." The next day I was sent to New Zealand. That is not the intention, for us to get sick while conducting our work. God has already given us a conscience, the judgement, the gift to do what you should do with your right judgement, but the devil is also trying to tempt and stop you to do what should not be done.

That is the reason why we are like this; we have become ignorant because of the opportunity that was given to Adam and Eve. Then what? Then Adam and Eve decided to ignore the instructions they were given and did something they were not supposed to do, and now it has resulted in all of us becoming ignorant. But at that time, Mr Speaker, there was no disease, no illnesses, and no quarrels. Even the plants were flourishing. But as soon as this wrong decision was made, then God made His judgement that human beings will die. And there were 2 judgements made by God that can never be changed. What were these Judgments?

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The judgement that was bestowed upon Lucifer was for him and the other angels to be banished from heaven, abandoned, thus a war broken out between the forces of heaven who obeyed God and those who supported Lucifer, in the end they retreated down to earth, causing the children of men to come in contact with the devil, which results in people being born with abnormal bodies that should not be found anywhere in this world. Yes. I have heard stories of people that are born abnormal almost like Goliath. What about the sermons that are being conducted? A strange man once walked from the peak of mountain Malaka to the Fao Mountains, to our village. This means that there were such people like Moso back in those days. As this is the result of the intercourse between these evil angels and the children of men.

Mr Speaker, the things we are discussing is important, as they are all found in the Book of Genesis. It is not something that I heard, but it is something I read about. Because the people who do not read books are not present. The Hon Speaker has spoken, as our work is conducted depending on our health. When I returned from New Zealand, and then I thought, oh, this is the final Assembly, there are a few more days left until the election, so no one should get sick, therefore, our Assemblies will only be held in the morning and no more evening Sittings, because I have experienced it Mr Speaker. I have already experienced it, and it is not good. We should conduct ourselves depending on the strength we have, and to use the intellect that God gave us accordingly, but not to be used improperly just like the many rights, with the multitude of appropriate rights and inappropriate rights corresponding.

That is what is happening in our country, they exploit the word rights, and they have also included inappropriate rights. This is what we are seeing in here, as a member would just come and make a false oath in front of the Hon Speaker. This is unbelievable. What happened? Even for our Lord, this is his great preaching, to love and forgive, love and forgive. And what happened? These preachers have repeatedly proclaimed to misuse the temple of his Father to conduct their businesses, what happened? Jesus reached for the whip, since his patience ran out. But I am thankful to God that you still have enough patience Hon Speaker. Yes. It can be seen with some Ministers trying to rush things, we should be patient, in case someone else might get sick. That is why I am worried, if a member were to get sick, a dishonest person will enter our Parliament and represent your constituency. Then what? Then our country will be managed by deceitful members, not only will they disrespectfully lie in this House, but they will spread even more appalling lies to our constituencies, by conducting these road events, while the Assembly of Samoa is underway. It will be left to God, the God of Mount Sinai, He will judge people like this.

Mr Speaker that is the end of my discussion this morning.

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MR SPEAKER: Well done. I apologise to the Hon Minister for Education and the other Ministers, since we have early recess on Fridays.

Well, the Work of the Legislative Assembly is set aside for its usual recess.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside for its usual recess at 10:34am and reconvened at 11:16am.

Debates continued with the Responses by the Government on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021.

MR SPEAKER: I announce the resumption of the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly. I commend your patience. I believe that we have gained additional strength to continue our work.

Before the break some of the members have already finished their clarifications, the Hon Prime Minister, as well as some of the Ministers who stood up. It is noted that this may be a good opportunity for the member for Faleata West to begin his speech.

Well, since there is... I call on the Minister for Education, Hon Loau.

Afioga Hon Loau Solamalemalo Keneti Sio (Minister of Education, Sports and Culture): Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. But I stand with the utmost respect at this hour of the day, as I believe that the Hon Speaker and the sanctity of the House have already finished eating lunch, in order to gain additional strength to continue our work and duties.

However, I would like to add on to the statement of the Cabinet as the Hon Prime Minister said and also expressed his opinion on the importance of this situation, which is being publicised, not only in newspapers, but also TV and radio. Since my constituency is also involved in this situation.

Last Saturday, the FAST Party also crossed our lands in Foga'a. Well, I do not have to say much, this land is where the country's discussions are held. However, not only in the case of attracting people with inappropriate statements, but it also affected the politics and traditions, the heritage of this village. Even in the lands of the Malietoa, the things which are loved and cherished by this village.

This is the reason I am upstanding, it should be arranged properly, because as you said, the person and his identity, the earth and its landscape, the land and its map. Yes. But it is named Aele because....

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The land that refers to the Malietoa and that is where the title originated. Now it has been discovered that even the lands of our government are said to be returned to Faleula and Aele, lands that are controlled by Faleula and Aele. Well, these are the things to worry about. Since we have yet to meet, it was also stated by the respectable member, well, the land has been overstepped of what is held in the hands of Loau, but I have been patient.... But that is my observation. This announcement has also affected our community in Aele, now the lands will be returned, the lands that is not being used and all the lands in Tafaigata that belongs to Faleula and Aele.

Well, there is a concern since my village is listening to what the representative has to say. The title that I am given.... for all of us in this House, we are the Representatives of the constituencies. Yes. That is also the title I am given by Aele whenever I visit, every day when I walk around in that community. So, I am thankful for these circumstances. Because I will be meeting with Aele tomorrow, so that is the reason. As Aele is listening, Aele.... Yes. I only have one question to ask tomorrow, what is your opinion, the FAST Party or the Government? Then I will leave. Yes. That is the true essence, do not be tempted by the coolness of the morning tide. The statement is great, yes. A wise gentleman who is in charge of many Government Organizations, but he forgets about those supporting him. Yes. But something also happened.

Therefore, I finally have the opportunity, since my village of Aele in all its honorific salutations is listening, well, Loau will meet you tomorrow. With all due respect.

MR SPEAKER: Very well thank you. I give the opportunity to the member of Lufilufi, Anoamaa East.

Afioga Alaiasa Muagututi’a Moefaaouo Malagaitutogiai Sepulona Moanau: Mr Speaker, as you have said and proclaimed in the past and raised a point regarding our plans. But now it has been stated, and I feel that this is enough. The essence of the whip is to organize, so that we can retain the peace and harmony in our House.

There is no essence to make such an intention, but it seems that the constant proposal of the opinions and....this is the reason for why it is given. But my speech is also secure in accordance with the country listening, as we are focused on the theft of money and time, well, to be honest, money is time. And now.... I recall the proverb that is said in our constituency and our community, “*A soua lava le tolotolo I Utuloo, ae toa lava ma malu le Vaifagaloa*”. Yes. No matter the turbulent of the situation on this Side, but the Hon Leader is still calm, as well as our Political Party. As for my speech, this is enough for today.

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Well, the Father has spoken, the Leader of the Government and conveyed the scriptures of the Bible. Due to your position as a Pastor, the Divine Subject being conveyed is correct, as this Divine Subject stated by the Leader has a deep meaning, well, it is necessary to bestow an Apostle to the Honourable Leader of the Country. Well, I convey best wishes for the success of our Assembly, Hon Speaker. With all due respect.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. Well, you can take the floor since you mentioned the Leader of Government. I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, I am reluctant to disclose that I have been an Apostle for a long time. Mr Speaker, there is a point of view in the circumstances that were mentioned by the members, but I think that this is a significant situation that Samoa is in, as there are those who are causing envy in the country. The events that have occurred are noteworthy, but the Constitution is also discussed, for the people who are committing treason, and I will look into it. The election is not an excuse for such people to do whatever they want, especially when it is very clear in this House with the observation of Samoa. That is why I enjoy these announcements which are made by a person who is creating false rumours. Only the truth is brought before this House, but it is very apparent that they are showcasing such rude and disrespectful behaviours in this House. This is a strange situation, if the Law does not step in, conflicts may arise in the future. I am very worried for our children who are overseas, because the spiritual influence is very strong which is being conveyed abroad and causing a dispute for people living overseas.

I advise them to keep calm, but there is also a belief that these are trials, they are trials for us so we must stay calm. At the end of the day, the evidence will speak for itself. Is there any evidence of such things? Are there any proofs? If there is evidence, publish it in a document and bring it before the House. The leader of this Party has stated many issues without verification, but other corruptions were also discovered.

Mr Speaker, I have not seen people like this in the previous Parliamentary Term, and this is the first time Samoa has witnessed someone so strange, very dangerous. It is very dangerous. They will create chaos, as these kinds of people will bring about wars in Samoa. Mr Speaker, that is the matter which will be covered by the Act soon, later on in the future, but not now, let us first proceed with our elections, so that it will be successful. May God give blessings to our country.

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We do not know what the plans of the Almighty God to solve matters like this, because as I have already stated, God is looking at the country that is founded on Him, so such things are not taken lightly by God.

Mr Speaker, let us proceed as the House is eager to hear the speeches for this morning.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I would like to apologise to the members who are trying to stand, no, this is the discomfort that is felt due of the roadshow conducted by the Political Party, I will state them directly, the Faatuatua I le Atua Samoa ua Tasi, which affects all the constituencies. There is an idea, let us depend on God, as there is no need to instruct the country regarding... just like the proverb, *e le tau fautuaina e le matapia le manaia, po o Laupua foi ia Tamafaiga*, especially with the Governmental wisdom and prudence, as there are families and their own associate of chiefs that controls the orderly governance of each constituency. But there is a belief that we should be patient.

But I think, there would have been an opportunity because the Speaker cannot address it, so the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet, but the plans for the future are to consider it, to look towards the future. Because when the Gospel arrived, the country was arguing over which is the constituency and which is the Tama a Aiga, these were the conflicts we were also faced with. Yes. But it means that it is better... when the Gospel arrived Samoa became peaceful. But that is the concern we have in case we revert back to that state, because of these foreign behaviours influencing us, but the events that occur are useful as guidance for the future.

Whoever will emerge as Government, I hope they establish a ban to ban these circumstances, because Samoa is a chosen country, so we should no longer be afflicted by these behaviours again. The predecessors and ancestors have already laid the foundation for each village.

Therefore, I will offer my suggestion since we will be retiring, whoever will emerge as Government either the Hon Prime Minister and the HRPP, or another Political Party because we do not know where the will of God is, to ensure there are measurements or a restriction in the future so that we do not get into a situation like this ever again.

But there is an opinion that we still have enough time for the member for Faleata West to start his speech. Well, I would like to give an opportunity to the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour.

Afioga Hon Lautafi Fio Selafi Purcell (Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour): Thank you Mr Speaker.

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There is no intention to disobey your instructions for the continuation of our Assembly as well as the desire of the Hon Prime Minister to set this matter aside and continue our work. MR Speaker, since the issue that I wanted to talk about should be addressed immediately, in the event that if it is delayed it will make it difficult to correct our records later on. Mr Speaker, I would like to apologise for a statement that you mentioned earlier, and so I want to make a suggestion accordingly to remove this statement from our records.

Mr Speaker, the part of your speech stating that the FAST Party came to your district and did some lobbying or other conditions that you stated, “A representative from Savaii cannot come and change the constitution of the constituency”.

This is my request, as the island of Salafai is listening. Also, there are many members here in the House who are representatives from Savaii, who support our Political Party. In case your statement is misinterpreted to mean that the FAST Party is a Party of Savaii. Well, they are aware, no, they are different since it does not involve the whole of Savaii. Whereas Savaii is thinking that they are being incorporated in the events that the FAST Party are conducting due to your statement.

It is my humble request, Hon Speaker, if this expression can be removed from our records, so that it is not misunderstood by anyone in the future, as for that matter, no, the FAST Party is not owned by Savaii. The FAST Party only consist of members that established the Party, as the whole of Savaii do not partake. They are still supporting our Party. As those who are supporting us might be listening and thinking that we have abandoned them to the FAST Party.

Those are the only issues I wanted to address, whether it is possible to remove this expression from our records, so that it is not misunderstood. Well, with all due respect.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Well, the statement made by the Hon Minister is true, but that is the intention. The language that was conveyed has a different definition. However, it will be done according to your desire and to insert the words, do not try to mislead the opinions of other constituencies. Well, this sounds better. I call on the Hon Toeolesulusulu or the Afioga Afamasaga.

Afioga Hon Afamasaga Lepuiai Rico Tupai: Mr Speaker, your instructions are heeded with your management of our Assembly.

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But there is an important part in our records that I wanted to address, because majority of the time the honourable member has made his speech and striving for the constituency of Gagaifomauga No.3. To fight for inadequate matters and to fight for good things, but there are two members for Gagaifomauga No.3. The Honourable Faaulusau and the Hon Laauli. Well, I believe, because of the Standing Orders, and since the situation is different as the member is always mentioned in your addresses.

Well, I am very happy with the situation that you mentioned about the FAST Party in the constituencies. Since it is no secret to the House, as my constituency of Satapuala was the first to object to this. And that is reason why the opinions of the elders were heeded, to prohibit an outsider from ordering the wisdom of Saoalii Vaili and the Faleaana.

Unfortunately, they have already visited the Communities of Taufanua of the Malietoa, especially Sala and Tuala and Matua Fetalai, but there is one thing that was mentioned in the Prime Minister's Speech, the revelation that he made on the intercourse between Lucifer and a human being, which resulted in people with disorders. But you are all aware that my Associate Minister is another person with a disorder in our House.

Well, Lealailepule, good luck with your speech.

MR SPEAKER: Well, these are the characteristics of a good friendship. Yes, that is the reason why the Hon Minister mentioned his fellow Associate Minister in his speech but thank you. There is a word that we transcribed last week, and then the Parliament resumed, and the members' friend made his speech.

I call on the member for Faleata West, but the situation mentioned by the Hon Afamasaga is correct. But it is no secret to that the female members of this Parliament are not like that. Yes, that member for Gagaifomauga No.3 is not like that. She is one of the angels of our Parliament, the Hon Faaulusau.

Well, I call upon the Hon Lealailepule to commence your speech.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI (Faleata West): Mr Speaker, David confronted Goliath holding 5 stones, but it only took one stone to kill Goliath.

My father made a testimony on my birthday, he said that this boy, he was hit by a car, and he did not die, he fell from a mango tree and he did not die, I disciplined him a lot but he still did not die. This means that he is a person who has been blessed by God. Times like this are useful, because I am often called on by the honourable members of Parliament, Leala, Leala. I replied to them, look here, my full name is Lealailepule.

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The matai title was not procured with half a cow, it was a whole cow. So, when Leala makes his address, he does not speak for half an hour, he speaks for days. If Iuli spoke for 2 days and 2 nights, it is due to having a lack of understanding. But if I were to get an opportunity to make my address, since these are the lands of Faleata.

I did not want to interfere with Tuisamau because I am sympathetic towards my fellow member, but do not mislead the youths. Do not deceive Samoa that has already been ordained. This is Faleata, where the HRPP was founded, where the Tautua was founded, and I am also hearing a story that is it also where the FAST Party is founded. But only the Parties that have been blessed by Leala will be successful.

This is the reason why I founded the Tautua Party and then I left. Where are they now? The claims are being made playfully, and it is interesting to hear especially for Samoa that is listening. We have been discussing this matter in Parliament for countless days now.

Since it is something new and it sets a bad example for the children of Samoa who are observing and attending. Because this is the House that Samoa admires. This is the Land of opportunity. The Land where decisions are made for the prosperity of Samoa. But if such behaviour is derived in this House, which is the helm of Samoa, then I am concerned for Samoa's future.

I wanted to make this statement in the presence of Fiame. As the members of the Tautua Political Party are listening, I carried out a proper farewell and stated the reason for my departure. Then I went to the HRPP Committee, and I was interviewed through the usual process. There were a few elder members who are no longer present here, and I recall Fonotoe was there as well.

Only one person asked me a question saying, Lealailepule, why do you want to join when you stood against and opposed the Government? I replied, Fiame, I came only because of one person and that is Tuilaepa. This is the only reason why I came here. The person who has been chosen by Samoa and I give him my support, that is all.

MR Speaker, what I am trying to say is that, when I joined this Party, I would observe them in amazement. I feel sorry for them, as they are not familiar with the Opposition. It is new to them, since they just stand up and leave when asked to make a statement. The Assembly of Samoa is underway, yet they are carrying out these events. No, it may seem like the statements being made are trivial, but I am grateful that they are carrying out these events, as the country is listening to your statement and the appeal of the Hon Leader of the Government.

What is the use of disputing over Democracy and such things, since our culture and our Christianity will always be victorious. What is the word I keep hearing? Forgive, who is being forgiven?

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The reason for my concern is because of our records for the future. Have you seen what is going on in America? It was the country that was prioritized by the world in terms of Democracy, but recently... riots broke out and people destroyed their Parliament. If people destroy and attack the Parliament, it is also seen as an attack on the country.

This is my concern. But thankfully the discussion of this matter has concluded here today. Let them be, since a living person can feel it in their heart that what they are doing is wrong.

On that note Mr Speaker, it would be better if I start my speech properly next week. This is the second time that you have come wearing a new suit, with the tie that your wife ironed, but you only came here to observe. Alas, I am sympathetic towards your wife. It is the first time since I have been alive seeing her in attendance to support your speech. Maybe it is because... Mr Speaker and the Parliament, this is the first time in Samoa for a member to make their address but has also confirmed their return to Parliament.

Yes, you are ambitious with the love of God. As we are in conflict over rumours and gossip. Mr Speaker, Lealailepule has already experienced it. I also had my own Political Party, and yes, I brought over more people with me than any of these members. My words are true because my methods were different.

Yes, which is why I feel sorry for my brother Loau, the Hon Minister, he is in distress, don't be. That person also competed against me, and he is also my friend. I was friends with Loau, and before the election, he told me that we will be competing against each other. I gave him my blessing, and I said to him, I am very happy that you are running in the election. I have been looking for someone to take last place in our campaigning. My words are not wrong, because this is something I say to everyone. You....

Afioga Hon Loau Solamalemalo Keneti Sio: Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture.

Afioga Hon Loau Solamalemalo Keneti Sio: Thank you, since the member has mentioned my name, but Leala is right. The person campaigning against me is his friend. Yes, our constituency has already met, especially this village. And they have all agreed upon a decision, since the large vessel has raised its sails. However, the fellow candidate who is campaigning against came to me and said, good luck on your return in the next Parliamentary Term. Yes, to strain out a gnat but gulp down the camel.

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So, the village is also waiting because it is not simple, as the foundation of this village has collapsed. These are the words, but the cause of all this is Leala. He alone persuaded him to run in the election. Which is why I had to redo my election again. And that is the truth.

Yes, Leala refuses to be associated with me regarding the situation that has arisen. Nevertheless, Leala, I accept the advice that you have given to your friend. Well, I have made this important statement to use up Leala's time. Mr Speaker that is my intention, since my village is listening. Faleula, be patient.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Thank you to the honourable member, but remember that on days such as this, Faleata is the sole vanguard of Samoa, and it is also where the oratories of Samoa are sheltered. Faleata is a collective of Samoa, where the words of Samoa are housed. It stands at the front and at the back, the sides and in the centre. How come? Because Samoa is at Peace, as there are no wars to be fought, and no one to fight against. The Samoan wars are over. I am also eager to fight in a war. Fortunately, it is over.

But I would like to give some advice to the honourable members of Parliament, the members who want to go to the polls, as there are many members that I have talked to who want to go to the polls. The first thing I would tell them, listen here, if you want to run in the election, you will be disrespected tomorrow, your wife will be disrespected, your children will also be disrespected. Whatever private affairs that you have done, it will all be revealed to the public. But if you cannot accept or ignore these things, you should not try to enter the House of Samoa.

That is the first test. This is the first challenge faced by those who want to run in the election. And this is still happening to this day. Leala has been called by many different awful words in the world. I only feel sorry for my parents, my wife and my children. That is all, as for Leala, he is already accustomed to it. It does not faze Leala at all as it encourages me to continue. Look at me, I do not need to campaign, I am unopposed. Glory be to the Mighty God.

But the issue that was stated by my brother the Hon Minister, this is the exact issue that is clearly shown in our Act. The Electoral Act that we implemented. Yes, the village makes their own decision. They chose whoever they want to participate in the election, but the opportunity is not restricted. These are the processes from which we used but now the Act has been implemented.

Now it has been carried out by our village, it is not that no one else wanted to run in the election. The village made their decision, as the Sao le Tama a le Fale in the village and Galumalemana the Aloalii stated, to show respect for Leala since he is a seasoned member. But if people wanted to campaign, the opportunity was unrestricted, as it is stated in the Act.

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We have already discussed this matter, the rights of many and the right of the individual. The right of the individual is not obstructed by the rights of many. The chiefs and dignitaries have their own opinion, and an individual has their own opinion. So where does the individual go to seek assistance? They seek assistance from the Court. The trial was held, and the judges investigated why this man could not be stopped, and the... as you have already heard. Those things are clear and sure, there are no secrets and no Acts to restrict anyone. This was also done in the village of the Hon Minister. Loau is one of the Hon Ministers, so what village would not be proud? They should be proud when their representative becomes a Minister. Lealailepule will retire before becoming a Minister, and I am surprised at your lack of compassion. When it comes to qualifications, I have the most qualifications. So, what I mean is that, even though the statements are made jokingly, but it is because it was done, since the Acts are being tested here. All these Acts are being tested here, to inform the country and the world, that individual rights are not obstructed, the rights of the village council and dignitaries are not obstructed as well. Make your own judgement, the Government, chiefs and dignitaries. The argument being made is true, and the one who did not confirm his testimony is wrong. If the Hon Minister were to make a court case, in the end, the majority will lose, while individual wins. That is the truth.

Now the opportunity is given, go, go compete with Loau, but I am amazed with this constituency, with such a person like Loau, he represented Samoa in international sports. He studied at Samoa College, and although... but never mind.... If you consider the Pacific Games that ended recently. All the preparations were solely done by Loau. If only there was an Associate Minister, no, I congratulate my brother from Lufilufi. Now this is happening during Loau's time at the University of the South Pacific. Now you have heard, the Minister has enough wisdom and is very intelligent. His only weakness is that he gets scared easily, but it does not matter. Good luck to you Loau.

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the member for Lufilufi.

Afioga Alaiasa Muagututi'a Moefaauouo Malagaitutogiai Sepulona Moananu: I acknowledge the statement made by the Hon Associate Minister for Faleata. There are times when he would state his full title Lealailepule, but there are times when he would refer to himself as Leala. There was only one unpleasant thing he mentioned, since my village and constituency are listening. When he mentioned Iuli and stated that the words used by Iuli were unacceptable. I request the honourable member to remove the... because if I were to full explain the genealogy on why the elder's speech was long.

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I refuse to do so in case he might know. But from this day forward, that man is prohibited entering Falefa again. With all due respect.

MR SPEAKER: I ask Lealailepule to be patient as I state my... Lufilufi do not worry about this matter, the thing is, I can testify that Iuli and I were the ones to make statements at that time. It is 2 days and 2 nights, since it was Pulemagafa who responded to the speech made by Iuli. But do not worry I am aware, as Leala is young, so he does not know about this matter. I call on Lealailepule.

Tofa LEALAILERPULE RIMONI AIAFI: I apologise to the member for Lufilufi, you already that Leala's navel is buried in Falefa, the village of the king. Yes, the genealogy that is linked to Niusina. But it does not matter, so I apologize, and I ask that the words of Leala be forgiven. Pulemagafa is correct, because the only thing Faleata is good at is fighting. The garbage men are fighters with respect to the sanctity of Samoa. This is the meaning of my statement to finish our Assembly for this week, but I will properly start my speech next week. Therefore Mr Speaker, I have yet to start my speech, in case you might think that I have already started now. Unfortunately, today and its events are important. Each day and its circumstances, especially in the morning since the Assembly of Samoa is seen as playful.

Each day has its obstacles and challenges and its occurrences. As for this morning with our discussions, this is the first time that we have conversed. I asked you for your blessing. I arrived early in the morning, but I was devastated due to the loss of my mother, but I will start my speech properly next week Mr Speaker. But we should end our day; accordingly, it should be concluded in happiness and with the Spirit of God, while these matters should be set aside. Since it is not acceptable from our point of view and from our observation. The Hon Speaker is given priority, the Speaker of the House. We are the Members of Parliament, and we took the oath of honesty, the oath of sincerity. Because it is not good for us to gather here at the Assembly of Samoa, while they are laughing from outside the House. They are laughing and spreading false rumours, insulting and conveying slanderous words to the country. Mr Speaker, these things are unacceptable to me. But thankfully my mind is at ease with the suggestion that was made.

Your fatherly advice and your nobility will be missed by the Parliament, as well as your suggestions. But the important thing is that it is recorded in the records of the Parliament, the opinions of the Government and all of the members. To ensure that this situation does not occurring again in the future.

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It makes the Parliament of Samoa seem insignificant and demeaning. Since our independence which was sought by our ancestors is forged in blood. The Independence of Samoa and the major changes that we have made did not transpire on accident. Its' never by accident, this situation is never by accident. Samoa was the first island in the Pacific to become independent. That was the quest of our ancestors, our parents. Therefore, this should be prioritized by anyone who enters this Parliament of Samoa. The changes that we made will be detailed in a moment, as these are changes that were introduced by our forefathers for when the preparations of the children of Samoa was completed. How come? When the Constitution was being inscribed, it was written by Westerners, and they also advised our forefathers. But this time, it is being carried out by us, the children of our forefathers. Thank you Papa.

MR SPEAKER: I respectfully interrupt the speech of the honourable member, since we have now arrived at our time to end our work, and to adjourn our work for today. But we will accept your suggestion to start your speech next week. Before we adjourn, I would like to ask the member for Faasaleleaga No.2, Tofa Namulauulu or Susuga Papalii, to end our Assembly today with a prayer.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly adjourned at 11:59am until 9:00am
Monday, 15 February 2021.*