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01 FEBRUARY 2021

MONDAY, 01 FEBRUARY 2021

Mr Speaker took the Chair at 9:25am.

Prayer

MR SPEAKER: I announce the resumption of the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly.

Greetings to you all on this wonderful day.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MR SPEAKER

MR SPEAKER: In order to maintain the dignity of the Parliament and its proceedings, I would like to remind respectable members to silence their phones from ringing in the House while Proceedings of the Assembly are in progress. If a phone is heard ringing again, the Sergeant of the House will be ordered to confiscate it.

Well, this is the request with respect to maintain the respect of our Assembly.

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 2020/2021 – resumption debate on second reading – Day 9

MR SPEAKER: Before the Assembly adjourned last week, the member for the constituency of Falealupo was concluding his speech.

And I respectful call upon another member to stand and to start off our speeches this morning.

Well, with respect I call on the member for Faasaleleaga No.1 West, Hon Gatoloaifaana. Good luck with your speech.

Afioga Hon GATOLOAIFAANA AMATAGA ALESANA GIDLOW (Faasaleleaga No.1 West): Greetings Mr Speaker on this bright beautiful morning, as the Assembly of Samoa has gathered.

I also convey salutations to the attendance of the Hon Prime Minister, the Cabinet as well as the Associate Ministers. I also acknowledge the presence of the Chairpersons of the Parliamentary Committees, and al respectable members who have gathered here this morning.

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I also note the presence of Chief Executive Officers of Government Ministries and Private Organizations. I acknowledge the presence of the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and the staff who are supporting the work of Parliament.

Mr Speaker, you have addressed our relationship with our Heavenly Father, the same God whom Samoa was founded on. Furthermore, you have conveyed the essence of gratitude for His guidance, because if He is not with us, we would not have a successful meeting today. Well, Samoa is also listening in today. This morning, I am going to start us off, and I am grateful for this opportunity, as this is the first time that I am speaking first in the morning.

And I would like to convey greetings to His Excellency the Head of State of Samoa, Afioga Tuimalealiifano Vaaletoa Sualauvi II the Tuiaana and your Good Lady, as well as the Member of the Council of Deputies, Afioga Le Mamea Ropati Mualia and your Good lady.

The Hon Chief Justice of the Judiciary of Samoa, I offer salutations. Also, to the President of the Lands and Titles Court, the men and women Judges of the various Courts of Samoa.

I would also like to convey greetings to our partners from overseas, those who have been kind enough and assist us in different ways for the development of our country.

Humble greetings to the devotion of Samoa in all respects, *Aiga ma latou Tama, o Tama foi ma latou Aiga, ae tainane le mamalu o le usoga a Pule ma Tumua, Ituau ma Alataua, Aiga i le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti.*

Special greetings to the holy servants of God, who are preaching and comforting Samoa, by pouring the cup of spiritual life and praying fervently every day for the safety and peace of Samoa. Thank you for your prayers.

We cannot forget the sanctity and honours of the Government of Tutuila and Manua, with the presence of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker and representatives of the Two Houses of Government. I greet the respects of *Sua ma le Vaifanua, Fofo ma Aitulagi, Ituau ma Alataua, Saole ma Saleaaumua ma le Launiu na Saelua, ae tainane le afifio o Faatui o le Motu, alaalatai Tootoo o le Faleula ma upu ia te oe le Manuatele.*

I would also like to convey greetings to the support of my constituency of Faasaleleaga No.2 as we are now known in preparation for the upcoming General Election. As for your respects, Iva and the Atitala of Salelavalu and Lalomalava. Salelavalu and the respects of Susuga Sua, le Tupu na Tāusi, Maopu o Nafanua ma le Aiga Sa Sua. Susu Tusani ma le Aiga Sa Tusani, susu Suaalii le Fofoga o Aiga, afio le Taofia ma le Suafa Lelevaga, afio foi le Taumaopu ma le mamalu ia te oe Sasilafaiga.

Iva e afio ai le paia i le Aiga Salevalasi, Ituvai na lua ia Matautia ma Magele, afio ai le Tootooalii, Tofilau na iva i ai Aiga o le Malietoa, o aiga na saili e le o iuogafa, ae na saili i lau tao ma le uatogi. Afio foi le Matua ia Asomua, lau fetalaiga Leauanae o le tootoo o Fuifatu, alaalatai Sasulu ma le nofo a Ituaiga. Afio Toomata ma alo o Le Tagaloa Taito ma Leota, saualii tagata ia Fesaesaeai ma Fatalotu, Fofoga Fetalai o Aiga Lealiiee ma Moemai, o le paia lava lea ia Safune ma Taulauniu.

Lalomalava e afio ai le Tamaitai. Afio ai foi Aiga ma le Faletolu, susu ai le Susuga ia Gatoloaifaana, tainane le susu o le Falefa o alo o Atiulagi, afio ai foi Taito ma le Usoalii ma le latou matua ia Tanuvasamanaia. Alaalatai Safuāmua ma le nofo a Ituaiga. O lo o afio ai foi le Gafa ia Soanai ma Patane, susu Tuilaepa o le usoalii o Malietoa, alaalatai Tevaga o le tapaau fanua ma le Faleono. Afio le Toainafo ma alo o Tamaalelagi, le paia i le Muliagatele ma le mamalu o Salemuliaga.

Least we cannot forget the devotion of the spiritual servants at the different altars in the district who are residing there and praying for the souls that were lost because of the Lord of the world who is strong this year. Thank you for your support, as the work for this Parliamentary term is nearing its end. In due time, I will return to express my gratitude for your devotion, so pray as your member attempts to deliver her speech, as I attempt to convey my gratitude for the projects that the Government conducted during this Parliamentary Term.

Mr Speaker, well, the feelings today are a little different. Perhaps it is due to the fact that this is the last Sitting for this Parliamentary Term from 2016 to 2021. We were grateful for being elected and we came with determination to carry out many projects, a service that will be opportune, not only for the constituency but also for our country. It is a journey into the unknown with an uncertain outcome, as only God knows, because He knows when we exit and when we enter. Now there are a few more projects left in this Parliamentary Term for Samoa and its prosperity, however Mr Speaker, our representatives are incomplete, as the Chair of Lefaga and Faleaseela is vacant, the Hon Toleafoa Vaafusuaga Ken Poutoa, he was always the first to make a speech during any Budget to express the opinions of the constituency and would also be the first to receive blessings from the Government from year to year. Alas, the warriors have fallen, and the weapons of war are lost. We do not have a choice; it is the life that God owns. May God comfort his wife and children, the family, the constituency and his Church.

We also bid farewell to Tofa Pau Sefo, but thankfully as a warrior falls another warrior rises, with the emergence of the Tofa Namulauulu who will continue to represent the constituency in this Parliamentary Term.

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It has also been announced in the House of Samoa the retirement of one of the core members of this House for many Parliamentary Terms, such as yourself Mr Speaker, the Hon Toleafoa Leupepe Apulu Faafisi. Your service is well-known and has been recognized, it is a service of perseverance. Thank you for your patience and tolerance in our House, as there is only one of you but 50 of us who irritate you every Sitting day yet you continue to tolerate us. The Hon Aeau Peniamina has also shown intentions of retiring, as he is also a member that has served the Chair of the Legislative Assembly of Samoa, his hard work has been duly noted. Thank God for providing his servants to help Samoa. The Hon Faasootauloa Taulapapa Pati, I commend you for your hard work and services. As well as the Hon Minister, Afioga Tuitama Dr. Leao Tuitama. I reminisce with the essence of sadness; however, God knows what is best for a person. When His servant completes the appointed work, they are given a rest, but they will continue to be of service to their families, in churches, villages and communities.

Our prayer, may God be compassionate with your lives, bless your lives, to continue to serve your families, villages as well as the sacred work of God.

This very morning Mr Speaker, I believe that it is a morning of thanksgiving. The Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021 is before us. Congratulations to the Hon Minister of Finance and the Hon Minister of Revenue. Our economy is very limited in this period, especially since we are faced with Covid-19, which has affected the economy of the whole world. However, it is noted that the usual work is continuing, so I commend you for your perseverance. Congratulations for the effort and patience.

In regards to our trade with overseas countries, thank you, because it is still ongoing. That is how you know that the distribution is strong. No matter how small and limited the income is, but they always make sure that Samoa's food sources and the resources needed for its development does not run out.

Thank you to the Hon Minister of Finance, it is difficult as you are the *Tama o le Faasalele*, and this is also why I will not say much about the Budget, as you have the trust, the trust of the Government, the trust of the Hon Prime Minister is in your hands, which has been noted. You have my gratitude. I would also like to express appreciation to the Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry, the staff as well as the Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry of Revenue and the staff, to all the Ministries and Private Organizations who saved and accumulated some funds for this moment with the continuation of our work, I commend you for your efforts. Thank you for your patriotism. This constituency of Faasaleleaga No.2 fully supports the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021.

Mr Speaker, I would like to extend my appreciation for the work that has been implemented in this Parliamentary Term, and I would like to use the phrase "continuous service" as a theme for my appreciation speech. Service is the foundation of Samoan life, service without expectation of reward. It starts from infancy with a little boy or girl who is stumbling to walk to give water to their father or mother. As their lives progress, they will be seen serving in the House of chiefs, they serve the kava, and as they get older they will become chiefs and will be included in the village council, to make decisions, whereby they will make good decisions, for the prosperity of the village.

I believe, this is the continuous service. Even when they are nearing the end of their lives, the service does not end, their services will not conclude. Because that is the right time to give advice, to help and humble those who will emerge to lead the families, lead the communities, using the knowledge, using the skills and talents to equip those who will rise to the position of leader.

This continuous service, I feel that this is a situation where God has prepared Samoa in its traditional and chiefly culture as He has equipped us with the foresight and wisdom, for his Kingdom that was prophesised by the Lady Tafaifa of Nafanua, but it only arrived on the lands of Samoa in 1830. When the Gospel came to Samoa the traditions and culture was firm, the matai system was firm, as Samoa was aware of the tools that were needed to conduct its duty and accept the Gospel of God. What are these tools? The foresight and wisdom with a touch of compassion.

Mr Speaker and the sanctity of this House, we have now encountered strong pillars on which Samoa is founded. 1. Christian beliefs. 2. Samoan customs and traditions. In this Parliamentary Term, 2 milestones were implemented to continue the service for Samoa, and it was the will of our Fathers and Forefathers who have passed and were part of the Constitutional Convention of Samoa, but their beliefs were restrained because the priority was to acquire independence for Samoa.

The first amendment of the Constitution was the insertion of the phrase Samoa is founded on God within the Constitution. It was on the cover, but now it has been placed exactly where it should be inscribed, so that the Christian beliefs in God of the Holy Trinity, God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit is not faltered, to initiate the leadership of Samoa and the livelihood of Samoa. Second, three Acts were passed, amending the Constitution to make the Lands and Titles Court independent to respect and value the customs and traditions of Samoa, especially the matai-system. These are very significant Acts, as it shows the importance and priority given by Samoa or the Leader of Samoa to its tradition and culture, and these amendments are still progressing using the pillars that Samoa is founded on, the Christian beliefs and traditions of Samoa.

So I would like to express my gratitude to the Hon Prime Minister, the Cabinet, Mr Speaker and more than 2/3 of the Parliament who approved these 3 Acts, especially the Amendment of the Constitution. We are continuing the service that our fathers and ancestors wanted, in this period of our Parliamentary Term. And in this regard Mr Speaker, I would like to convey my appreciation to the Leader of the House, the Hon Prime Minister for appointing me, the member for Faasaleleaga No.2 or Faasaleleaga No.1 West in this Parliamentary Term that is not yet over. As the Chairperson of the Special Committee that reviewed these Acts. Alongside the Tofa Namulauulu Sami Leota from Faasaleleaga No.2. Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu, the member for Falealili East. As well as Afioga Leaana Posini, the representative of Safata West.

Also the respectable member for Vaimauga East, Afioga Sulmanaia Tauiliili Tuivasa. Tofa Ili Taateo, the representative for Aana Alofi No.3 and the lady representative of Gagaifomauga No.3, Afioga Faaulusau Rosa Stowers.

We were chosen to review and discuss these Acts with the country. Whereby these amendments were presented to indicate and further reflect the priority and value given by the Leaders of Samoa, to its traditions and customs, especially in these times with the introduction of different beliefs from abroad. It is a matter of pride for us and our district that we continue to serve Samoa. As initiated in the Constitutional Convention in 1960. Thank you very much to the Hon Leader of the House for these rare opportunities.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the families and communities of Samoa who have spared their valuable time, to give their opinion, to voice their contribution in the establishment of these Acts. In order to legally safeguard the foresight and deep wisdom that is being used to nurture the villages and communities.

And I would like to extend my appreciation Mr Speaker, to the Hon Leader of the Government, the Cabinet and the Associate Ministers or the Human Rights Protection Party, the HRPP. The continuous service of the plans that were established in 1982, when the HRPP first emerged. Now it has come to fruition, now it has gratified Samoa. Because when we think back to those days, I doubt anyone would want to relive it.

I owned a small store, and I would always stop there when I come to Apia. Not only was there a row of herring boxes, but also a row of chicken boxes, however back in those days it was not a box of chicken but chicken back. What about now? Also in those days, only major businesses were able to import goods from overseas.

As Samoa, which was developing and struggling could never be able to implement such circumstances. Now, anyone who wants to import goods can do so. Why? It is good planning and the courage to make decisions that should be made. By disregarding their way of life, and offering their livelihood to serve Samoa. This is my gratitude to the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet as well as the Associate Ministers; your hard work does not need to be declared, as they are already well-known.

The Hon Prime Minister stated not too long ago, during his tour of Samoa, there is no family that does not have a car parked outside. And it is not just one car, but 2 or 3 cars. That is the change in our lifestyle now and it is a good change. Furthermore, Samoans are no longer ashamed to bring their avocados, and green coconuts, to be placed in front of their houses to be sold, because they are filled with the spirit of development.

Now the Government is working together with the people of Samoa, for the prosperity of Samoa. It is the seed which was planted from the endeavours of the HRPP Political Party, congratulations for your efforts and your services to the Government; I commend you for your patience. Only God will reward such work.

I would like to express our appreciation to the Chief Executive Officers of the Ministries and Private Organizations of the Government, especially the Government staff. Congratulations for your services, congratulations for your hard work, as you are the strength of the Government, because you implement the wishes of the Government. Thank you for your good services, thank you for loving Samoa.

I cannot forget to express appreciation to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Samoa, and the Deputy Clerk as well as the staff. 5 years is not a short time, as you endured the demands of the members of the Parliament, while also continuing to serve. Thank you very much for your faithful service in carrying out your duties, may God bless you and your families.

Mr Speaker, before the woman from Salafai concludes her speech, I would like to convey my gratitude to my constituency who are observing in support. My constituency, I remember the story of Meto, the woman from Amoa, who cried out for a house of her own to be built, covered with beautiful red garlands and posts made of teak. Such a request was given, for an opportunity for me to serve my constituency. Now I am satisfied, I am satisfied with your authority. Your respect and your honour is not one but many. The heart and soul is content, thank you for your support, and your efforts to convey our thoughts, to carry out our services for Samoa. And whatever fault, or the insufficient service of your humble servant, I pray for your forgiveness. The sailor is wise, but he can also make mistakes.

I hope for your tolerance and essence of understanding to forgive my failures. I also pray for more days, for more opportunities to continue my services for our constituency. I cannot forget to thank my spiritual mothers and fathers, as I believe that you are bowing your heads each day to pray for the endeavours of your member. Thank you very much for your comforting devotion, as it has provided motivation to carry out the work for which I was appointed to do.

Mr Speaker, I will conclude my speech, for my final words, may God have mercy, and bless you with your remaining work.

Thank you for the opportunity.

Parliament showed their happiness with applause after the speech by the member for Faasaleleaga No.1 West.

MR SPEAKER: Congratulations to the Hon Gatoloaifaana, the representative for Faasaleleaga No.1 for the wonderful speech. This morning the desire to listen is unyielding, as you have stated that it is... although it was short to conform to our time limit, but you have addressed all the issues as a whole and comprehensively in your speech. From the very beginning, when our Government was striving for ways to develop our country as you mentioned. There is no need for compliments because you are accustomed to making speeches since you were also chosen and appointed by the Cabinet especially this Parliament, to be Chairperson together with your Committee members. As you have declared and mentioned their names, well, our Acts are not simple as they were recently passed. The Constitution and the affairs of the Court, those are the conditions. Thank you very much.

There is an opportunity now so that our work can progress. It would be great if the member for Faasaleleaga were to stand and continue from where Faasaleleaga No.1 concluded.

I would also like to announce to the sanctity of this Parliament, the restricted status of the members. Due to the suspension of the ferries from travelling between the 2 islands of Upolu and Savaii, it has affected the travels of the Hon Tofa Foleni, the Hon Faaulusau as well as my fellow Deputy Speaker. They are confined because the channels between the 2 islands are closed. I ask another member to stand up to speak. I note that the member for Palauli East is getting ready, Afioga Tuifaasisina Misa, good luck with your speech.

Afioga TUIFAASISINA MISA LISATI LELEISIUAO PALEMENE (Palauli East): Mr Speaker and respectable members of this House, as well as Samoa listening in observation, I would first like to make a statement concerning the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021 as tabled on the Assembly Table. Palauli East fully supports the Supplementary Appropriation Bill 2020/2021. And I would like to convey congratulations and thanks to the Hon Minister of Finance, Afioga Sili Epa, the Chief Executive Officer of Finance, I commend you for your endeavours and your virtuous allocation for a prosperous future for our country. Well done.

But this is the last speech of the member from Vailoa for this Parliamentary Term. The district of Palauli East in all its honorary salutations. And then I stand trembling because this House is not simple as well as the observation of Samoa. Its honorific salutations, especially now that our journey in this Parliamentary Term is nearing its end. As well as the support of Samoa.

The honorific salutations of the House and Samoa have already been mentioned by the orators and chiefs of this House in their speeches earlier today. No strength nor wisdom can alter the honorifics of Samoa as the statements have been set out in this House. Therefore, I wish to make a submission given the support and blessings of my constituency. A time will come for me to acknowledge you but now, I entreat for your blessings as my job will be blessed if I bear your support.

Mr Speaker, words are not fabricated, I am one unruly member to the Hon Cabinet Ministers regarding the requests of this constituency. It is why I am reading again. The reason is not to show off but to show a heart filled with gratitude. Because I did not mock around. I had stood at the doors of the Ministers and Government Heads and knocked with a faithful spirit using the words of our Saviour, knock and it shall be opened. Nonetheless these were some of the benefits received by our constituency 1. I wish to extend appreciation to the Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture Hon Loau Keneti Sio, for the support granted to our Secondary school building at Vaitoomuli. I also convey acknowledgement to the Government of Japan for funding this project. Furthermore, thank you to the Government of Australia for the chairs and desks for the school and the books for our library. The renovation of our school building is now being done and it has been witnessed that all activities are now being carried out at our Secondary school in this part of Salafai. I also wish to acknowledge the Hon Minister of Tourism, Afioga Sala Fata Pinati and the Samoa Tourism Authority and the Government of New Zealand for upgrading the Afuaau attraction site in Vailoa. This attraction site has generated more revenue earnings for the tourism development in Savaii.

Furthermore, I wish to extend appreciation to the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, the Hon Tapunuu Niko Lee Hang for the access roads in Vaitoomuli, the minor request, the Star Mound site in Vaitoomuli needs to be extended towards the inner area. This site involved the collaboration efforts of the Committee and the Government representative Afioga Leituala Pulolu of Vaitoomuli in partnership with the University of Samoa.

I also convey gratefulness to the Electric Power Corporation for the generator in Vailoa which has supplied water, and renewable energy for the purpose of the State to achieve its objectives laid out for 2025.

I especially wish to acknowledge the Minister of Health, the Hon Faimalo Kika Stowers and the Ministry of Health, I extend the same to the Government of Japan and the Government of Samoa for the district hospitals in Satupaitea, Palauli East and Palauli le Falefa which are located in the sub-village of Satupaitea. This benefit has gratefully provided light burden for the members of these 3 constituencies. Lastly, I wish to thank the member for Satupaitea, Hon Lautafi Fio Selafi Purcell, and the member for Palauli le Falefa, Hon Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga. I have worked closely with these two colleagues for these 5 year period in implementing this project. Thank you for your support, and your faith and the good works for our constituency.

I also wish to acknowledge the Government for the approved works for the constituency of Palauli East however they have not yet been implemented. The access road in Nuualofa Vailoa and Faala for access road and seawall area. Also, the upgrading of the playing ground for the secondary school in Vaitoomuli and the playing field in the College of Vailoa, as well as the new sports field in Faala.

Mr Speaker and the dignity of the House, perhaps no one remembers my maiden speech in 2016. Two matters were raised, 1. Communal rights and individual rights, secondly, upholding Samoa as a Christian nation. The first matter put forth for thoughts was an amendment of the Constitution and it was supported by Palauli East so that the Court could recognize communal rights and individual rights equally. Depending on the reason of argument, and the observations of past unsuccesful decisions and the purpose of village councils for the development of communal and harmony living of villages and the judgement of those disputing individual rights. The second matter, I did recommend the amendment and maintenance of Samoa as a Christian nation. Given the challenges observed that could likely dispute the Constitution of Samoa as a Christian nation. This is the core and foundation of our Constitution. Thankfully we have arrived at the end of this Parliament, the House has already passed this amendment, and God is now central within our Constitutional Law.

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The House has approved the amendment of the Constitution, and the newly established Law for the Lands and Titles Court. So not only has the status of recognition for the Lands and Titles Court in the country being raised. Furthermore, communcal rights has formally been recognized, majority of our people are living within our village communities.

Mr Speaker, this is the fundamental part of our works for this Parliament. They are not minor; they are deep farsightedness and foresight. I can say that for anyone, it is your contribution in the House. There is no intent to praise the Government, but there is the English saying that goes, "comes the man, comes the time, comes the man." In Samoan, "*e sau le taimi e sau foi ma le tagata o le taimi*, it seems like a promising expression. So despite the storms arising at times, but when our journey becomes rough, God will bring someone at his timing and a season to counter the challenges.

Hon Prime Minister, Tuilaepa, Dr Sailele Malielegaoi, Palauli East does not mean to brag you, a person and its timing, and a person and its calling. A brave person is known for its courageousness and bold perseverance for the best, a person is timing, congratulations and thank you.

Mr Speaker Leaupepe Toleafoa Faafisi, the revered Cabinet and members of the House. We can also say that, we are the people of the current season. Given the difficult milestones we were able to achieve for this Parliamentary Term, God was put first, and so as our Custom and Tradition. This is the heart of any true Samoan. Mr Speaker, there is an end to any journey, where does desperation and fate lies when it follows the requests. I appreciate the prayers and support received on this purpose.

To our constituency of Palauli East, there is an unquenchable flame burning in my heart because of your love and respect. Who is the son of man for you to love? The words of a pleasing heart, *ua tomalie manu o le tai*, the roles of your servant have been blessed because of your support. God has also received your powerful prayers. The heart is filled, great appreciation.

Coming on to my village of Vaitoomuli, thank you for your support, well done Rev Fereti and your faletua, the religious minister of the EFKS church as well as the Catholic priest Alosio and your faletua, pastor Pagamaalii and your Victorious faletua. Also reverend Vaifou and your faletua, bishop Ualota of Vaitoomuli. Great thanks to the support of the successors, the son of Lilomaiava le Faasisina and Niupulusu, the prince and talking chief Fiso and Seumanufagai and Safaleletaua.

To my village of Faala, thank you for your support and prayers Reverend Uili Konelio and faletua, the religious minister of the EFKS church as well as reverend Pauulu and faletua who is the assistant Catholic priest. Susuga Iaulualo and faletua, Bishop of Ualota at Faala 1.

I further wish to voice appreciation to Susuga Ah Chong and faletua, Bishop of Ualota at Faala 2. Thank you also to the pastor of the Seventh Day Adventist in Faala. Well done also to the support of Alo o Lilomaiava Sa Laulū ma le Matua ia Tauvao Fuiavailiili ma Afoa Fouvale, faapea le Sao Fetalai ia Lagaaia ma le uso taua, o Tui ma Tapusoa ma le Tofa a Manusina. Thank you too for your prayers Reverend Iosua and faletua of the Assembly of God. Thank you Priest Manuele Vito, the assistant Bishop of Savaii, Priest Paulo Afamasaga and Susuga Teofilo and faletua, Catholic Assistant. Thank you Susuga Taki and faletua, Reverend Penetekoso. Thank you Deacon Letaulau Mataafa Esau and faletua of the Christian Congregational Church of Vailoa.

Furthermore I extend the same appreciation to Faasisina and Aloalii, the Mouthpiece of Lilomaiava and Faleao and Saletaulua, Toluono and Falelima lineage, the support of Nofoalii, Tofa Savea and Lemoa, Tui, Misa and Ulumea. The support of Senior Tofa Mai and *Latu ma upu ia oe Palauli*. Palauli is known for its seat of Authority and relationship with Tumua, as this ancestry derives the roots of all Tama a Aiga of Samoa and the origination of the Samoan warriors. Thank you very much for your respect.

To my beloved constituency, I have continuous desire to serve you, the appeal before God is to continue his calling upon me and to use me so that my life and strength turns out to be useful for His glory. I do not beat around the bush, whatever you decide it is based on farsightedness I am willing to do so as strength is still gained with the help of the Master. I do not question your foresight, but we entreat the authority of the Master from heavens upon our upcoming general elections. We pray for blessings from God upon our constituency right from those who hold positions and callings to future generations. May everything we do and face bear blessings, as they are all meant for our good living before our Master and for His glory.

Mr Speaker, well done to you and your role in managing the journey of Samoa in this Parliament, we will soon reach the end of this Term. I wish you success in your victorious retirement from your State duties in the many years of your service, may the goodness of God bring strength and good health upon you, your wife and family.

To the Hon Tuitama, Hon Aeau and Tofa Faasootauloa, Susuga Mulipola, gratitude to you and your farsightedness, I wish you blessings on your victorious retirement from your duties and service to the Government and this House.

Hon Leader Tuilaepa Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi, Salevalasi did not wait for Fatialofa and Auelua for a reason, pray for strength and good health upon you and your faletua.

Members of the House, I have thought of the prayer of Palauli East upon you and your families. The support of Samoa and High Highness Le Ao o le Malo and his Good Lady, the honorific salutations of all corners of your administration and the jurisdiction of children, the appeal from me is for God's to be upon your homes, so that the journey of Samoa is guided well this year and future generations.

Blessings be upon the Government Chiefs whom the Government rely on for their knowledge, may blessings be upon the Clerk, Afioga Tiatia Graeme Tualaulelei and the staff of Parliament. Soifua and blessings.

Parliament showed appreciation by clapping their hands after the speech of the member for Palauli East.

MR SPEAKER: Well done thanks. The view within, *o lele ua tu vaga i figota ae olioli livaliva*, as the constituency of Palauli is celebrating joyfully. Similarly to the Christian belief, if God can raise the dead, unless His will is to remove, yes. Such is the belief of the Christian people and the righteous ones. With the listening constituents and the cloth spread out in the open fields, it is the same feeling for this given statement. Palauli has heard us, so may the goodness of God be upon your purpose so that one hero deceases and another one rises, *pau se toa tulai se toa*. It is like that. I do not mean to brag the member and his statement. God will bring you back to Parliament after the general elections, for more matters that need improvement.

We still have enough time for another speaker. I applaud the previous speakers and their speeches. I think the member for Aleipata is reluctant to take the floor. Well...

I call upon the Leader of the Government.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi (Prime Minister): Mr Speaker, you do realize the presence of the members of the Cabinet, we have longed wanted to respond however there is the mutual respect, perhaps our Parliament is different from the other Parliaments of the Commonwealth. There is a book of about 8 inches thick that is commonly read out by the Speaker, I see it is not being used. It lays out the procedures of Parliamentary proceedings for all Commonwealth Parliaments. So our Parliament is unique, it goes hand in hand with mutual respect and integrity maintained particularly in Parliament.

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It is reason there is the wealth of knowledge with the Hon Ministers and our await until the completion of their statements as this is the last Sitting for this Parliament, although I see that the member is striving to continue his service and contribution in accordance with his oath of allegiance.

On that note, our job is to collaborate, I too am the Leader of the House that bears support upon you, what say you, we have 2 minutes left before our break, but I grant the chance to the remaining speakers to improve on their speeches. This is the recommendation.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. Perhaps the support of the Leader of the House is fine towards the Speaker. The main concern is to allow the member to speak when we return from our break.

My concern during your attendance of a business trip overseas, there was a request by one of the Ministers, if possible, for them to proceed with their general statements. Such is the concern as I see that the same Minister is about to take the floor to appeal for a general remark before a Ministerial statement is given.

I appealed to them that it was not suitable n accordance to the thick yellow book you mentioned. Therefore, it will... bear with me, if we return from our break then we will progress lest it will... because if the Ministers are requesting constantly, it will result with a chance granted for them to proceed with their general remarks, even though it is not permitted under our Orders, it is allowed given our mutual respect.

On that note, Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly will be suspended for normal recess.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly set aside for normal recess at 10:38am and resumed at 11:33am.

Debate resumed on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021.

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

Thank you for the added energy upon this Parliament and Government Leaders to resume our works. Perhaps another speaker is prepared to take the floor in accordance with our orders.

I call upon the member for Anoamaa East, the honorable Whip of Parliament, Susuga Lufilufi to resume your remarks.

Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTI'A MOEFAAUOUO MALAGAITUTOGIAI SEPULONA MOANANU (Anoamaa East): Thank you honorable Speaker, we have been invigorated from our break to resume our work. Observing the progress of our Sitting from the previous week, may we praise God for his magnifent love in guiding us here today. Although we do hold different opinions and statements here which signifies the wealth of knowledge that God has shared upon the esteemed members of this House.

I hold great respect before the dignity of Parliament to speak in your presence honorable Speaker and the distinguished House. The support of our country from all corners. Some have also mentioned the fields of this village, Amouta and Amotai. However, what needs to be made known before this House is, with this gap, it was not easy. It is said that when the warriors play, they are carried on stretchers as there is a thing called *vaimagotogoto* or drowning water which barely survives anyone. After the purpose in Amotai, they conclude at the grounds of Moamoa. And when the purpose becomes heated thus affecting the life of a warrior, they are then cast into the water of Tafaaola. This is where the strength of the warriors is sought. Clarity is now being made for this story, and it is here where success and blessings were found.

The speech of this village means 2 nights and 2 days. The speech says that it survived the Tuamasaga House. Despite, we are of the thought that the foresight of families does not torture on the way, it is farsight that it said whenever it speaks, it will make a person die, the culprit will survive it. It does not often object. The advice of Tumua, there is view that the complexity of purpose will not be covered, the purpose of Tumua is direct, whether 1 or 2, the speech of Tumua will have Samoa listen to it.

Therefore, coming this far, the mercy and goodness of God and His guidance upon Samoa has been amazing. The year 2020 has passed which was not easy, hard-pressed paddling in Puava, but at rest in Fagalele this morning. How so? Due to His Love and Goodness. In the Psalmist words, the Book of Psalm 33, verse 12 says, "Blessed is a nation who makes the Lord that God, its people and its inheritance." Such is our celebration today. Some have also spoken that this is now included in the Constitution, and therefore we are receiving more blessings, as God is the Founding Rock. I have no determination to go back and read out the works we have done, whatever we were able to implement, because there is a saying that goes, after we finish a job, we are known as unworthy servants, worthless, as all glory goes back to God.

There is a song sung by the Christians, but I will not sing like the other members, lest I am being marked. Some have criticized the purpose of singers, with different movements. This is why the House of Samoa is wonderful, everyone is unique, but with our differences in nature and thoughts, they can be a lesson and challenge to our lives, as God created all of us differently. Because if we were all the same, then the world would become a problem. But thank you.

I have thought that we will... there is complexity in the oratory language of the country, hence it is difficult to foresee what each orator thinks like the voyage of a fisherman. O lele foi ua silasaaga le seuga tautaialii o le vao, aua ua matalupe le fogatia, o lupe sa i toaga o mauga ma ifo to i vanu and this morning members are pleading here in Tiafau grounds.

Ae ou te le i asaasaina la le vaofilifili na i le tuamafa ma le tualoto e pei o le upu i le ausaga nai Fitiuta, pe matou te vaisausauina Tapuitea ma sama le salefu nai le vai o tausala, aua o lea ua matala ia Sega tupapa nai le ana. Ae matou te le i paia le vai na momoo i ai le Tuiatua nai Mulinuu ma Sepolataemo i tamaitai o Fuatino ma Melegalenuu, o upu lava e fai i le Tuiatua, a le sii se vae pe sii se lima, a le faia se tala, e ao lava ona e faatulou, e pei o le tala ia Matautia faatulou. Ona matou faapea lea, tulou ia ou pa le solo ma ou pa tuloto, tulouna ou galu e fia ma ou auma sa, tulouna ou matagi oo ma ou matagi moliao. Tulouna ou lama sa ma ou lama avea leaga o lele ua faafesagai ulumanu, e pei o le upu e fai i le lagimalofie. Tulouna ou matagi agi pisaga e te tiu malu ai, tulou, tulou, tulouna lava. O ou savili mai Agaae seia paia Agaifo, aua ou paia faalupe Samoa.

Tulou le faafofoga tapuai a le Motusa aua le Laau na Amotasi, Faatui o le Motu, Tootoo o le Faleula. Tulou le afio o Sua ma Vaifanua, Fofo ma Aitulagi, Ituau ma Alataua, Saole ma Saleaaumua ma le Launiu na Saelua. O paia na o le Faleagafulu.

Ia, tulou foi le paia o Aiga ma Tama, o Tama ma Aiga, le usoga ia Tumua ma Pule, Ituau ma Alataua, Aiga i le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti. Tulouna ia le fanua ma lona tapuafanua. O Tiafau o le malae o le Faautugatagi a Tumua ma Pule, o le malae o le tagamanu a Samoa, fai mai ua tatanu ai upu ae fotuai ai Malo, o lele ua fusi le fau o Malo i le malae i Tiafau. Ona i ai lea o le manatu, o paia o Lalogafuafua e tausi e Lufilufi, o Malie ma le Vaitoelau aua Fata ma Maulolo ma Tuisamau, o le paia i Maauga ma Nuuausala e tausi e le Matuanatogi ma Leulumoega, o lea ua tini tauao i Tiafau i lenei taeao.

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Ae a le paia o Fuifatu, o Tuilagi ma Namulauulu, le paia o Vaituutuu lau fetalaiga Saleaula, le paia o le Alii o le Itu ma le malae i Finao, Matia ma Matia Ituau, e afio ai Aiga ma Salafai ma le Fale Vaisigano. Le paia ia te oe Vailoa, Faasisina ma Sa Lilomaiava ma oe le Pule Palauli, paia i le Faletoi aua Asiata o le Vaiti ma le Vaimalae ma le mamalu o le Alataua, o lea ua tini tauao i le malae i Tiafau, aua ua Fonousu tupu ma tamalii ma tootooau o le atunuu. Tulou, tuloun, tulouna lava.

Mr Speaker, there is a saying in the country, *a lafalafa a tuna, fai mai ua ao paga ia Sa Tupua ma Sa Malietoa, ae ulugafa ai le Tuiatua*, we are all one body and one blood. Samoa is a family. It is the reason for our plea this morning, because we share one pillow and one sheet.

Mr Speaker, before I continue with my speech, well, it is difficult to say since a pillar of the House of Samoa is broken, a fellow member whom we worked with has passed away, the Afioga I le Taulagi Vaafusuaga. The sky is torn, *ua gauolosaa i le Matua o Sa Tuala, ua gau foi le tootoo o Maauga, ua solo le fue i le nofo a ituaiga ia Leulumoega*. A brother whom we worked with, well, pardon to the district of Sa Tuala and Sa Tuisavailuu, yes. Condolences to the village, condolences to his wife and children, especially the many families, and his relations.... if we look at genealogy, it is through blood relations such is the mother of Tupua for this side of the country. Yes. May he have a successful journey and find his place in eternal life.

Well, this is my tribute to the brother, sadly Vaafusuaga. You have left us in your journey. But we will never forget you in our hearts brother. Your kindness and your modesty will not be forgotten in our minds. Our morning exercises daily on the road. It is difficult to forget since you would always tell us stories. Well, even though we did not say goodbye. But the will of God the Father has been done. Good luck on your journey, since you are the Taulagi. May we meet again soon in heaven. Well, we have also been taught that when you make a motto, you must also produce a main point, when you reap a bud, you should also reap a ripe leaf. We....it would be good if we are prepared when it is our time. There is only one way to heaven that has been shown, only through Jesus Christ, he said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life", yes. This is the key to the Kingdom. If we accept it, because the things that are keeping us busy are insignificant, yes. What is the point? When you go it is all left behind. While our God is waiting for you, saying enter into the joy of your Lord, praise the Lord, Amen.

Well, as it is intriguing to your Honor, I pay tribute to the devotion of the appointed workers of God at many altars, thank you for the prayers. I also acknowledge the sanctity of our Government, the support of His Excellency O le Ao o le Malo and the Member of the Council of Deputies. I acknowledge the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, Mr Speaker as well as our House.

I also acknowledge the support of the Judiciary, the Chief Executive Officers of the Government Ministries of Samoa. I commend you for the work, thank you.

As enjoyable as it is for such mornings, we are now at the conclusion of our plans. Well, there is nothing more than the spirit of gratitude. Since there are those who were healed by the Lord, there were ten of them but only one returned. Yes, we give thanks. This is also where we realize that gratitude is important before God. Thank God for this period, our ship has not sailed smoothly, as we are starting to see the compromises, which has caused some disagreements in the House. Well, this is how things are as there is constant disorder, for the enemy does not sleep as it attacks yours and our lives. Like the words of Lufilufi, take it easy. We must be observant and implement our plans slowly. As I have said, Samoa is a family.

I would like to express my gratitude to the many sectors of our Government, those who served and implemented the work. The members only pray, but the authority is from above for the benefit of Samoa as well as this constituency. There is no need to announce it, as the constituencies and villages take note, because the usual question. Did you catch any fish? Where have you been fishing? What were you doing? You already possess the answer, but gratitude is given to God for the opportunity provided. Therefore, my constituency and Samoa that has gathered, our job is to pray for the work and the duties faced by the Government, especially the Cabinet and those who are at the helm. Thank you for the major developments, the access roads, drains, tap water, seawalls, these are not cheap. Listen Samoa, this work will be completed and duly celebrated with millions. It is more than 2 million, but I thank God for his distribution and his contribution that has enriched our Government with these duties and these responsibilities.

There are some things that I wanted to convey gratitude for in case I forget, our Ministry of Health for its security, which also includes our Committee. Thank you for protecting our country. The news has spread throughout the world that Samoa is safeguarded from this virus, thank you very much. Let us not be too absorbed in the wealth but focus on protecting our health. I have heard many people wanting to come to Samoa to visit. But this is the essence, our country is small, and we are unable to stop gatherings, but since this is the essence of all Samoans, to work together to raise families.

Therefore, if we prohibit these things, it will save the lives of those in our country. Thank you very much to the Hon Minister, and God bless you. This is also evident in the country, in terms of education and training. Education is for free, blessings that were not available in our time, as we had to use the school holidays to look for school fees from other people and work to get our own fees. As for now, due to the foresight of the Government, children now have the opportunity to learn, through the efforts of our Government.

As for the parents, it is easy to criticize and complain, but it was not easy, the efforts by the Government to raise money for the education of the children to be successful. As they are listening.... perhaps our children who are seasonal workers are listening, I express our gratitude on behalf of our constituency for your work. No, you have inspired and have gained a lot, because of your services, congratulations as the opportunities have been made available to implement the work. To ensure that our country is acclaimed, but good luck with your endeavours. And it is certain Hon Minister, these things have an important contribution, and benefit to the Budget and the economy of Samoa. By the end of the year, construction materials are already sold out. The hardware stores do not have any lumber left, why? The country has developed, even though we are facing a pandemic, but the development of Samoa is increasing rapidly. Thank you for your hard work. The Leader of our country has already informed the country to maintain benevolence and good behaviour in our relationship with other countries.

Thank you to our partners, as this constituency would specifically like to thank our development partners. Your kindness will never be forgotten, your assistance to Samoa and its development. We would not be able to do anything is it were not for the support of the Government, as well as those who were kind and generous, which has made it possible for us to implement our developments. Let us continue our good relations and partnerships with these Governments. May God bless you all and your kindness.

I must express gratitude to the Village Council of each village and community for their contribution, as Samoa is restless. This is the fundamental service of a Samoan; it starts from the *tunoa*, then it comes to the *faleoo* and ends in the *faletele*. If you go straight to the *faletele*, then your life is missing out on the manners of the *tunoa* and the customs of the *fale*, but the majority seen nowadays are those who want to be a *matai*. When you sit in the house of the *matai's*, your words are taken into account, and your voice is taken into account, because you came through this process correctly.

Therefore, we would like to express our gratitude, for the wisdom and the enlightenment, for Samoa is at peace. We do not have enough police officers, there will never be enough, and even our government police are not armed. They are armed with social skills and relying in the Spirit of God for peace. Continue on with such duties, do not cause any disorder in our own country, as that is the wisdom that safeguards Samoa. Thank you very much for your services.

MR SPEAKER: I implore the member as I call upon the Leader of the House.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, I did not want to interrupt the speech by the member, but since an important matter was stated in his speech. It would be best if I stand to clarify this important matter, and some other issues that were earlier mentioned.

Reference to our police officers, I recall that we have about 700 or more police officers. These police officers are not enough, so the whole country should be involved in times of difficulty to solve the problems that arise. This is also the reason why we set up our special posts, or Police Offices, which have been set up in some rural villages. This will make it easier to carry out their work, as there are some offices located nearby, even in the town area. There is also a post in Aleipata in Lalomanu, and it goes all the way to Safata. Even within Apia, there is also a post in Tuanaimato. These posts are useful, since it will speed up the arrival of the police officers at any time of the day or night. There are also emergency service vehicles, but it is not enough.

It is the same for Savaii, thus why there are plans being made by the Government to expand this Ministry in Savaii. And the importance of the arrangement is to take a better look at it again, whether Tuasivi is suitable, or maybe it should be officially established on the town area of Salelologa. The Government has a lot of lands there for the construction of buildings, not only hospitals but also for other different services. This area is important, because it is the border between the east and the west. These are all important things for moving forward into the future to achieve the long-term plans of our Government. It will also make it easier for the people rather than coming all the way to Salelologa, and then taking another bus to go back to the Police Station in Tuiasivi. These are the things that we keep in mind while looking towards the future. Any thoughtful Government cannot remain idle in one place. They should always contemplate and continue to find ways, for the Government to respond to the problems that are arising in the rural areas. Why?

It is due to the continuous mischief from the youths, which is why this level of security of Alii and Faipule is very important. They continue to implement mischief through social media, as well as high-speed walkie-talkies, televisions, together with a form of rude behaviour. These are foreign manners, especially when some elders of the country are the ones who initiate it by preaching about it. So that is the reason why the Authority of Alii and Faipule is important. The police are dependent on them. It is important, why?

The Authority of Alii and Faipule, Faletua and Tausi, can be addressed as, they are all police officers. The Village Council are all police officers, as they attempt to control wickedness, restlessness and corruption. And these type of practises with the usage of marijuana and other illegal drugs, especially the dangerous drug ice. This is a situation that makes the world we live in now different; we are able to witness the events occurring abroad. They do not have the Authority of Alii and Faipule. Riots have ensued, even their House of Parliament have been attacked. They believe in the freedom of the person, an individual rights. They do not have an Authority of Alii and Faipule, which emphasizes communal rights.

It is not only limited for the Authority of Alii and Faipule, but the rights of the United Christian Churches, to control wickedness, and qualities that lead to abusing power. By abusing authority, they create chaos and eventually start resenting each other. It has enticed other young chiefs, to oppose the Authority of Alii and Faipule. Other lawyers go around and try to claim the individual rights of a person who opposes. When banished by the village, they bring up their individual rights. The Authority of Alii and Faipule is significant. Alii and Faipule are 24-hour police officers. As for the Government police officers, they are often called upon to come and enforce the Law.

As for the sanctity of the Authority of *Alii* and *Faipule* together with *Faletua* and *Tausi*, regarding their children, to limit accidents and the preservation of the safety within the villages, to lead the young generations of the village, to participate and listen to the preaching of Gods Holy Scripture. What are these Scriptures? The Words that God gave to Moses and the Prophets. The question is, where was the foresight that created this Law derived from? The answer is God the Father. How was it delivered to the Israelites? It was conveyed through the word. Who is the word?

It has been revealed by John, the Word was in the beginning, and the Word has turned into flesh. It was delivered by Jesus; it was the Word prophesized in the morning when these Laws were given to Moses. What is the reason for this? It was because of love. This is the Holy Spirit.

All the Holy Trinity were present in the morning when these 10 Commandments were revealed to Moses. But the concept of the 10 is love. What Commandment is that? Love is what anchors all the Laws and the Prophets.

That is the importance of the speech by the member this morning. He has clearly stated this situation regarding the work that the police are trying to conduct. And that is the importance of police administration. To pay close attention to those who are detained in the Prison that are in this situation, even though the Law has been broken, but the respect of the Authority of Alii and Faipule should remain, to slowly lead them back on the right path. That is also important to the management of the Prison, to try to convey the Samoan Traditions to the internal authorities to teach them the customs that should be utilized in the villages.

Mr Speaker, this is my opinion this morning, because of the importance of the speech that has been made in the House.

MR SPEAKER: Well done, thank you for making clear the breadth and depth of the issues as mentioned in the speech by the member. Now we have also heard the additional statement of the Hon Prime Minister. Well, those are all important and useful aspects.

I call upon the member for Anoamaa to continue.

ALAIASA **MUAGUTUTIA MOEFAAUOUO** Afioga MALAGAITUTOGIAI SEPULONA MOANANAU: Thank you Mr Speaker also to the Hon Leader of the Government for the clarification. As the Women's Committee was also mentioned, this is one of the important aspects as intended. We should also thank their Committee for organising the women of our country. The Women are blessed because there is a Ministry created specifically for Women but do your best for the prosperity of Samoa. You are also responsible for some of the country's heritage, the creation of traditional fine mats of our country. May you have the energy to implement all these aspects for the prosperity of Samoa. We are also grateful to the untitled men and the young women, as your usual titles, the strength of the village, the strength of the country. May God bless your services. These are the roles of life, and if they work together the prosperity of our country will be guaranteed. The price of blessings is not estimated, and success is earned, because there is a phrase, saying that if our hearts are united, God will arrange blessings for us.

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Thank you also to the Ministry of Justice, I have noticed with the current proceedings, it seems that there is something that has breached the relationship. This is a word of advice. We must work together so that our work will flow smoothly. And whatever differences we had in the past, and whatever you have observed in the Parliament, may you be generous with the grace of God.

But what Samoa needs, is for our country to run smoothly. Since fortune come from the mountains, if we are in harmony, Samoa will also be in harmony. When we are in conflict, our country will also be in conflict.

MR SPEAKER: I implore the member as I call on the Leader of the Government.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, there is just a small matter, I apologise to the member. In my personal opinion there is no dispute. The three Pillars of the Government are still working together, with each pillar opposing the other. But these are the characteristics of life in carrying out our work, as there will be times when each Pillar has its own opinion, different from the rest. It does not mean that the opinions of one or two people comprise of the whole Judiciary. There is a belief that the foresight of the Judges is still firm. If there is a different opinion, perhaps the idea was present at that time. It should have been publicised, but from our perspective it seems political. So, there are situations like that, but it does not mean that it is absolute. Because the Lord of the world is strong, as the devil even went to Jesus the Lord, and tried to tempt him.

For this reason, I believe that the cooperation between these pillars, the Judiciary as well as the Executive and the Parliament is still firm. There are times when things like that happen, they even complain about it within this Party. It is appearing in this House. All of a sudden, a member would start singing, even though they are told to stop singing, but they still sing. Why? These are some theological ideas, <u>philosophical theology</u>. They sing the prayer, and pray in song form, and it is the same with the sermon, the sermon is the prayer as well as the song. Therefore, singing is not something new, as Samoa is famous for its singers. There was a famous singer who started his singing career in the Congregation Christian Church in Dunedin, New Zealand. Then he made it to University and had to choose between becoming a lawyer or to be a singer, he ended up singing. As he continued to sing, New Zealand ran out of lessons to teach him. Then he received a scholarship, to learn the voice of soprano.

The soprano is just like the tenor, and the alto. Those who are part of the church choir understand. Then he went to France to train his voice, not only training the voice, but also learning how to pronounce the words, because most of the words used are in Italian and French. Now he is famous and in great demand to do his shows. But remember, his musical shows are only attended by millionaires and upper-class people. There was a formal banquet held for the Queen of Great Britain, and all the dignitaries of Britain were in attendance, the Lords and Nobles it was full gathering. All the Lords were wearing bow ties instead of long ties, which were worn over their formal suits, because when it comes to formal banquets like this, those are the type of clothes worn by the upper-class people.

Then the servers came to bring the wines. One male server who was holding a large tray accidentally slipped in front of the Queen and broke all the wine glasses that were on the tray. Not long after that incident, another server slipped and broke all the wine glasses. Then the server said, "The problem with this kind of work is that the pay is bad". And another man said, "it would be best to give up on these kinds of jobs as it is a waste of time" and then he started singing. This was how they started their musical show. As the Samoan gentleman sang, the other man responded in song and the guests were shocked by the harmony of the voices. As for the song they were singing, it was a Samoan church song from the LMS. I will not state the name of the song. Because a lot of you will not understand it. This gentleman is very famous, and in the morning, an announcement was made, this Samoan has a very harmonic voice. Mr Speaker, even the most famous of songs. This time, Elvis Presley is another important example of having enough wealth. Therefore, unless it is a singer who does not understand the importance of the song, then the members will be permitted to sing in this Parliament. Why suppress your voices, now that the whole country is listening. This is the opportunity to sing, so that the country can hear the harmonic voices of its members. Good luck with your speech.

MR SPEAKER: Well done. I advise the member to not be tempted by the statement of the Hon Prime Minister. Because one song will return you to Parliament, and another song will make you depart for good.

AfiogaALAIASAMUAGUTUTIAMOEFAAUOUOMALAGAITUTOGIAISEPULONAMOANANAU:I value the advicegiven by the Leader of Government. As for me, I hold this Assembly in highregards, yes, all its sanctities and its high status.

Thus why, I will not be singing. Because when we come to the House of Samoa, it is an Assembly that is of equal value as the meetings in our villages. If I was to attend a meeting in our village, and I suddenly sing while giving my speech, two things will happen to me. They would be like....it seems the member has some mental problems; these are the kinds of things that people will talk about. So, when I come to this House, it is revered, because the House in Tiafau is admirable and sacred. It should not be taken lightly by anyone again. This is why I will no longer.... I apologise to the Hon Prime Minister; I will not be singing. But like I said, this is the only song. *Avatu le Viiga I le Atua*, that is all. I attended a forum in Korea, and I can give it to you.

MR SPEAKER: I beseech the Member, as I give the opportunity to the member for Vaimauga. It seems this member was also a singer, right?

Afioga Sulamanaia Fetaiai Tauiliili Tuivasa (Vaimauga East): Mr Speaker I have no intention of interrupting the speech of the member of Lufilufi. But as mentioned by Susuga Lufilufi, Susuga Tuisamau. Since my constituency and the country is listening, it seems it is being subjective to this House. Because this constituency was the first to sing. I believe this is the reason why other members that followed also joined in singing, since this constituency gave them the opportunity. The song of prayer as stated by the Leader, is to conclude a service and a word of this constituency. Because they are listening and might think what the reason is for singing the song. It was a song to convey our gratitude. But now the song sung by this constituency has been taken as an opportunity for other members to sing as well. The members Olo and another are not present, who are mocking us on social media and television, pardon the EFKS TV, they are ridiculing me and the members who sang. But the opportunity was given to them to sing, but why did they not? But Mr Speaker that was the intention. However, the member of Lufilufi is making an issue of it again, no, the reason we sang, it was to convey our gratitude to give our lives. In order to serve our constituencies.

It is also very clear in the statement voiced by the Leader, the prayer is noted in Psalms, David sings about everything, he is the singer in the Bible. Singing is not a bad thing; it was done to voice the duty to serve especially for the support of the constituency.

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However, it seems Lufilufi is portraying it in a different light especially members who are not present with the mockery. When they come into the House, they do not say anything, but outside of this House they say such nonsense. This House is a place where opinions are voiced, however they are not present here, and it is belittling, but I sang because of my gratitude to my constituency who are listening.

But I thank the members who belittled me, the constituency have seen your faces, because we all have families. Now the constituency and families have seen them, considering the person has many roots. The act of mockery outside of this House, is what worries me.

Lufilufi, my brother if I sing it is the same prayer for you. Moreover, you are Susuga Tuisamau with respect to Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, thank you the matter is now clear...

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the Hon Prime Minister...

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: I wish to add on the statement, incase a word might be taken as an act of conflict. But the truth is, we are all riding on the same boat. I commenced my statement, by saying, a speech can be sung, a song can be a speech, a song can be a prayer, and a prayer can also be sung.

This means, that is how it is done in one of the psalms, those who are happy can sing. Those who are unhappy cannot sing. They scowl, their hearts are not good. Only those who are pure in heart and are happy to sing as stated in the Psalms, "Those who are happy sing."

MR SPEAKER: The matter is now clarified. Yes, a prayer is a song, a prayer is also sung. Praise the Lord. Thank you. I call upon the member to continue.

Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTI'A MOEFAAUOUO MALAGAITUTOGIAI SEPULONA MOANANU: Thank you, I apologise to my brother Tuisamau. I am grateful for this opportunity given to Tuisamau to convey his thoughts in regards to the members who ciritcized his song. But I am thankful for the objective of the matter.

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I went on a trip to Korea for the International Youth Fellowship which was funded by our Government at one time. A Korean asked, bring forth someone to sing a song, they told me to sing a Samoan song. If you had heard my song, it was brilliant. Yes, Lufilufi is not restricted to act within the House alone, I convey my thoughts in overseas countries. I am used to it, so not only here but also overseas, it is there that this member will sing.

Yes, but I am grateful for the wonderful clarification. I am not criticizing that the song was bad, we all feel it, that all the Psalms in the Bible are spiritual songs. It has taught us so many lessons.

I continue a word of thanks to the Government public servants, for the past 5 years of services, I commend you all for the service, and hard work, I believe the Government is trying to give rewards for the work but it is not enough, because our revenue is not the same. But I hope it could be a reward to thank you for services. Do not let it be a way to favortism based on offical status, no may the view be the same for all the people of Samoa, who may come to you for help, give them assitance. If we look at it, people acknowledge such actions. When they go back to their families or travel to Salafai they go with a happy heart.

No one would criticize the Government, as for the members we all know...that you are the hands and feet doing our services. I thank you all and may God bless you all, for the work that you do. There are some members who spoke upon...

MR SPEAKER: Very well, perhaps member has prepared alot?

Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTI'A MOEFAAUOUO MALAGAITUTOGIAI SEPULONA MOANANU: No, I do not have long before I conclude.

MR SPEAKER: Alright, thank you.

Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTI'A MOEFAAUOUO MALAGAITUTOGIAI SEPULONA MOANANU: Mr Speaker, there are some members considering that we are closer to our elections. But in my view with the method that we are using, this term of Democracy. Before we came into this House, there were some who opposed. Because not all opinions are the same, everyone is different. Also we should not take away the opinion of the person who opposes. The only thing we should do is to accomodate them and ensure our relationship is intact.

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Even now, when we come to register our names, I am surprised to see alot of people who are registering to run in the elections. Well there is no need to worry. Even those who do not run for the elections, their voices are still heard, because these are the forms of democracy we are using. There is always someone who opposes a cause, this is why I humbly pray to carry our duties with calm, take it easy. In the game of politics, there is a need for patience. Yes, let us not make statements that will ruin the other electoral candidate.

I will now conclude a statement, to the Hon Minister of Finance, we want to thank you. The Supplementary Appropriation has been tabled before the House, there an adage the more minds the better the outcome. Alot of input can result to better solutions, but I want to thank you and the Ministry and the Chief Executive, I commend you all for the hard work, and thank you for the fair distribution for the benefit of Samoa. It is not easy, especially now with the scarcity of distribution, but you have taken the challenge for our country in such times.

A word to the FAST Political Party. I want to thank Susuga Laauli for the founding of the party. I commend you for the efforts and services. I pray for the best with the cause, as the words of Paul in Philippians, "Adopt the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus. Who existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be exploited, he humbled himself to the likeness of humanity."

They said this is why they were blessed by the Lord, we should all kneel before Him. The objective of Lufilufi, is to let us find success in a humble way, let us do right, the same for HRPP, humble ourselves, for the blessings upon Samoa. Let us trust the Lord for our elections, but if we are arrogant, we will be noted for our attitudes in our time as members. It is said, those who are humble are the most praised and blessed.

Mr Speaker, I will not mention all the Ministers and their good work, but God is our witness and knows all. The Ministry of Agriculture, how is it? It seems the country is very fortunate, thank you for the good plans implemented. Other Ministries in the use of technology nowadays, well it is very important. Hopefully it will be used wisely by students for research and other school work. I pray the Lord bless you all with your duties.

Lastly Mr Speaker I would to convey a word to my constituency...

Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea (Gagaifomauga No.3): Mr Speaker, I note with respect for an opportunity...

MR SPEAKER: I call upon Laauli...

Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea: Well, Tumua Lufilufi, there is no intention to interrupt your speech, however in regards to our relations. I take the floor with respect, I note that you have voiced a concern. Well that is the truth, that is our goal which I will later voice if given the opportunity. But we shall conclude as one as you have requested today.

I sit idle as some of my fellow members were mentioned by Tuisamau who are not present, we are being patient. Let us work together, as those are our thoughts as well, it is our love that we are trying our best. But come a time we will speak, but I thank you for the advise. I am content with the recommendation given our relationship. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you, but for the understanding of the House the member of Vaimauga mentioned the member of Salega East, Afioga Olo Fiti. I have with me, as I was informed by the Clerk that Olo Fiti called in and said he will not be coming because he is unwell. I pray that our Heavenly Father give him strength, so that he will be able to come in tommorrow. But this is an annoucement of the Chair.

I call upon the member to conclude his speech.

Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTI'A MOEFAAUOUO MALAGAITUTOGIAI SEPULONA MOANANU: Thank you Mr Speaker, I also thank the member from that side for his remarks. The spirit is, as earlier mentioned, if the Leaders are kind to one another I am certain Samoa will be as well. If we disagree, it will also be the same with the support of the country. Let us tread carefully as we head into elections, may God show mercy, the enxtension of the name is important to me, which is *Faamuamua le Atua Samoa ua Tasi*. If we were to follow the will of God, it would be great and wonderful.

As for the support of my constituency, thank you so much, to the respects of *Malae i Lalogafuafua, o le Toaiga o Atua, lea na tofi ai Ao, ma Uso ma Iu o Atua. Le Paia aua le Afio o le Tuiatua, o le Tapaau Faasisina, pale feagai e oe le Fale Tuiatua o le Tapaaulefano, aua le Toaono ma le Saofaiga. E susu ai Seutaatia e Alaalamaota, Susu ai Tupai ma Tainau Tuitui o le Tuiatua. Afio oe le Tumua, Susu Oe le Tumua Lufilufi.* I am grateful to the Church Ministers, the authority of Alii and Faipule, as it is known one of the Theological Colleges are situated in this constituency, where they prepare to carry out Gods work. The Director, teachers and women of Piula college are listening, I want to say thank you, for the support given to Lufilufi which I will never forget.

This member was able to voice an opinion because of your neverending prayers. I pray blessings upon our constituency. God bless, as we have seen some of the developments have been accomplished which was needed by our constituency, as I stated, 'do not do it for us, but to praise God'.

The Hon Minister of Health has already spoken, there is a delay because of tenders, but our hospital will proceed. Praise the Lord, I am grateful to our Government. *Ia le Afio o le Sa Fenunuivao, Afio o Afoa ma le Matua ia Lefaoseu, ia matua ia Ki ma tagata ma le saofaiga ia te oe Lufilufi.* Thank you to our village in Lalomauga, thank you for your prayers. I tried my best unfortunately our Government was short. However, it does not end here. I only hope that you pray and support the duties of Government so that some of our hopes come true. As for this village, there was a video on the internet on the transportation of a casket during bad weather. It was taken on the rope bridge road that was constructed by the Government of New Zealand. It was very unstable, is an accident had happened, the people carrying the casket together with it would have been washed away from Falefa due to the strong water. We do not want to experience these things anymore, that was back then, but now we should consider a way to respond to these needs. With respect to Government.

This is just a reminder to consider for your distribution on a road for this side because the water flows for 4 days, and this is also the period where people residing there cannot come into Apia. With respect. But thank you. *Afio o le Tapunuu, afio le Fuaifale o Salevalasi, Usoalii ma Tagata o le Tuiatua, le Matua ia Tai ma Fonotia, aemaise le Saofaiga ia te oe le Tumua Lufilufi.*

Our village in Manunu, thank you for your prayers and support. Praise be to God for your calling, the Government has responded to some of the requests, God's days are abundant.

Mr Speaker then I come to my village of Falefa. *Tulou le afio o Leutele o le Tuiatua faasaosao i le Faasuaga o Aiga o le Tina o Tupua, afio ai le Aloalii faapea foi le Tama a Aiga, afifio Taauso ma Atuga o Tamaitai, lau Tofa i le Matua Moeonoono, tainane Alo ma le Aiga Sa Alo ma le mamalu i le nofoaga o Alii. Greetings lau Afioga Lealaisalanoa o le Tama a Malili e 4, o le Tei o Tupua, afio Falefa ma Usoalii, alaalatai lau Tofa i le Matua ma le Faimatua i Aauga, le mamalu o le Gautaala ma oe le Fuaava o le pulufanaoti a Lafaaua.*

Greetings also to my village to the respects of Alaiasa ma le Aiga Sa Alaiasa o le vaa siitasi o Atua, o le na fitaituga na saili lona faleatua i lona aao malosi. Afio le Aiga Sa Alaiasa, afio Sagaeseese le Matua ia Faonuu ma le mamalu ia te oe le Usoalii. Thank you for your prayers. Le afio o Suluvave o le alo o Tuiavii, alaalatai lau Fetalaiga Leuta ma e na pule i lea itu o le vai ma lea itu, alaalatai lau Fetalaiga Fulumua na falelima ia te oe le aai o le Tupu.

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Afio Neioti ma Gagaeolo, afio le Alo o Malietoa, alaalatai oe le Falelima o le siitaga fita ma le mamalu o le tagata o le Tuiatua. Our village of Falevao. I cannot forget them, some of the villages that are being removed in the upcoming elections have contributed a lot. If they are listening in, I would like to thank you all.

Afio o Leutele o le Tina o Tupua, afio Muagututia o le Aloalii, afifio Usoalii, le Matua ia Limutau ma le mamalu o le Faletolu. O si ou nuu i Sauano.

Afio o Sefaatauemaga ma Aiga, afifio o Usoalii, tainane le alaalatai o oe le putuputu o tagata o le Tuiatua. Such are the respects of Saletele, you will now be voting for Vaa o Fonoti, but I will not forget your trust which led to this member being involved in Government affairs.

A word of your member, even though we may be separated, but I still urge you to attend village events. Yes. Let us meet each morning in God's love, let us continue to meet and bond, because we are one constituency.

Thank you Falefa, Falevao, Sauano and Saletele, your member has been confident with your respect. Thank you for your decision that has caused us to be together with the sanctity and respects of the Parliament of Samoa. As for our prayers, the holiness of the constituency, even though the sailor is wise, but there are times when he also makes mistakes in his craft. What have you observed in your member, and what behavior that has not been noble, be kind as a parent to their child, and forgive the weakness of your servant. We are also heading into our elections; I pray the Lord be kind to all members who will be competing in the elections. There are a lot of men, even a few women candidates with respect to their high titles who we will compete with, I pray, that we carry out our duties steadily. These are the words that the King said in Lalogafuafua, which our House often speaks, the boys compete yet they are brothers. They boys compete but are still one family. This is why we should put our faith in God. Whoever will be chosen by the constituency, let us give praise and thanks to God.

Lastly Mr Speaker, we would like to express our congratulations to those who will be retiring because of the will to rest in victory in this House. You have become the ones to deliver to us an important message, the service carried out through sweat and tears, this is the crown of our calling. Afioga Honorable Faasootauloa and Leao Tuitama, Honorable Aeau, I congratulate you both, thank you. It is our prayer that God blesses your life for His message and His work, for the people and communities. Mr Speaker, I have heard another member say that you will be having a congregation. No, you are the pillar of the church, yes, you are familiar.

Afioga Toleafoa Faafisi I mention your name since it is an honor, I commend you for your patience. The House has been satisfied with your generosity and nobility. Samoa and the rest of the world have heard that the nobleman is distinguished by his manners. I do not have to emphasize it. As for our family in Fasitoo-uta, I saw for myself, and Alaiasa is of the opinion, that you are strong enough to take care of our family. There will come a time, and a say, so be it.

I pray, that the Heavenly Father bless you, may God bless you. I am certain that there will be other ways by which you will be called to use your life, but you are a blessing for us.

To the Leader of Government the Hon Prime Minister, thank you. Your Excellency carries the weight of not only our members, but also the needs and wishes of our country. Thank you for your composure. I heard the other day the mention of Aiga Fenunuivao, but it is true, this is the only matai that makes a man in Samoa prominent, the Aiga Fenunuivao, because it is the family of nobles. This is why, your Excellency, Malaga loves you, and we will hold hands together until death. Yes, wherever the actions of these members may lead, I will observe carefully, I only ask, that you be tolerant, give us your elderly wisdom to mediate everything. May God bless you.

Thus we will now return. But I recall siblings that went to the east side, it was said they saw smoke, then one of them tried to swim first, but the other girl said, 'remember the rule that we made, we are not allowed to swim first,' which is the creation of the name Saleaumua. Then I realized that the spirit is telling me that if we all swim together, our goal will succeed. Also the saying said upon birds, "Birds that fly together fly further." If we fly together, Samoa will be able to reach far. Samoa is giving their support.

Our final words may blessings fall upon the House of Samoa. If a word said this morning is heard unethical, I pray that you forgive this member and your servant. May God bless this day, and may we prosper.

Parliament expressed their happiness with applause after the speech by the member of Anoamaa East.

MR SPEAKER: I commend the member for his remarks, I also commend Lufilufi for speaking as part of a family but not as Susuga Lufilufi. Well, do not dispute it, since it is your upkeep. I thank you. Samoa has heard, Lufilufi I congratulate you for your services, like that of Fetalaiga Ulumu and Lefaoaseu. Thus are the words said in Atua.

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Therefore we will not reiterate further the respects of Susuga Lufilufi and Sa Fenunuivao. Even though there might have been things that need be amended, but I believe we will take it into consideration. That being said, we will withhold our remarks, because there are times when there is a difference in opinion of Lufilufi and Tumua, however, we are one in the same, Samoa is a family, thank you.

I believe we should finish early today I believe this was enough time for our orders, especially to conclude with the speech by Lufilufi, the Legislative Assembly will now adjourn and hopefully tomorrow another brave member will take the floor to start.

Therefore before we adjourn, I call upon the member of Aleipata Itupa i Luga to conclude our meeting with a prayer.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were suspended at 12:53pm until Tuesday, 2 February 2021 at 9:00 am.