

*15 FEBRUARY 2021***MONDAY, 15 FEBRUARY 2021**

*Mr Speaker took the Chair at 9:29am.*

Prayer.

**MR SPEAKER:** I announce that the Proceedings and the Work of the Legislative Assembly will now resume.

I express salutations to the members, good morning and blessed day to the sanctity of the Parliament with the presence of the Hon Prime Minister, the Leader of the House, and also the attendance of the Ministers, Associate Ministers and Chairpersons, especially all the honourable members of our Parliament.

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 2020/2021  
– continuing debate on the second reading – Day 19**

**MR SPEAKER:** Before the Work of the Legislative Assembly adjourned on Friday last week, the member for Faleata West was speaking.

But before I call on the honourable member to continue the speech, I would like to first call upon the Hon Leader of the Government, the Leader of the House for his Ministerial Statement.

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER  
Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti  
Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi**

**Susuga Hon TUILAEPA AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI  
LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI  
(Prime Minister):** Mr Speaker, the honourable members of the Legislative Assembly, let us join together in the offering that you have conveyed to thank God for the good life and for guiding us all this new morning to the Assembly of the Parliament of Samoa.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021***Ministerial Statement by the Prime Minister**

For the conclusion of our Responsibilities for which we were ordained as the selected members of the constituencies, so that Samoa can hear your opinions, and your foresight for the development of our Government, as it is the Government for our people to respond to the various needs to develop and to improve the livelihood of our families through the efforts for better health care and treatment, as necessary, due to the various diseases that are affecting us. The drinking water, good roads for farms, easy access to a variety of food products, as well as the protection from outside influences so that we can continue to increase our prosperity and friendships and for the Leader of the country to say, “Alas! It is disappointing to see the different acts and thoughts from within our villages, which is why this Assembly is important, whereby the Chiefs and Orators of Samoa with all its honorific salutations are gathered. As well as those who are praying, for the Assembly of Samoa and its Government, from which the decisions of the country are made, not only for the special benefits for the villages, and for the communities or the constituencies. In addition, the major changes for the common good of all the people of our country. The focus of any Government should not be limited, but their vision should be broad for major developments to bring all the people of our country together.

Not only the extensive prioritizing of major developments and decisions of the Government for all people of Samoa, but also foresight for permanent developments. Not only for the generations of today, but also the future generations of our country, like schools, universities, future international wharfs and airports, to make it easier and to safeguard the lives of our people who are travelling through the serious weather conditions. In addition, the major disasters faced by Samoa and the whole world, the serious change in the climate conditions due to the damaged ozone layer from excessive developments of developed countries in the world which has wrecked the balance of natural environment created by God, for us to live safely and happily in with our children. Samoa is therefore affected from risky rare storms. The torrential rain we have witnessed is very different these days, which is why it is necessary that the Leaders of Samoa prioritize and bear deep thinking on future plans and future generations.

In this Parliament, the plans are not made carelessly with the decisions that our people depend on in times of need. It is reason Samoa is listening to our wisdom and prudence that is discussed in this House of Samoa. Consequently, no one is topmost.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021***Ministerial Statement by the Prime Minister**

When discussing recommendations, statements should not be mixed up. Even though the members voices have started getting louder, but these are the usual behaviors that are seen in here.

Mr Speaker, when thinking back to the past 50 years, there has been many great changes that have been brought about by the work we are doing together in this Parliament, in increasing and improving our work, for we are the servants of Samoa who have been appointed to come and work for the good of the generation today and the generations to come. We do not value good things for ourselves. We cannot neglect the Assembly of Samoa to seek personal benefits. Whatever you may call it, whether it is known as a Political Party benefit, or to be used as leverage.

But back in my youth days when I worked in the Government, I was called to attend the Parliamentary Committee in those days for the clarification of each development, and the funding, and we would often come together with members of my Ministry every day and it would continue until the evening and night. When I attended the Parliamentary Committee there were a few honorable members, so they called me to bring some members of our Ministry so that we could start the Committee meeting. The Financial Committee or the Regulations Committee or whatever Parliamentary Committee, it is mandate to stop all our work and to meet the Leaders, the Honorable Leaders of our country, as they were elected to come and make decisions, for a prosperous future of all the people of Samoa, but not for their personal benefits. I waited for almost 2 hours while they were calling for each member on the phone to the RSA or Mount Vaea to come to the Committee Meeting, because we were waiting, for we are the servants who work in the Ministry that is carrying out the service. We turn to our Leaders that have been specially chosen by their constituency. But what are they doing? They are being searched for in pubs. This is not a good example for us who are working, as we are the right hands of the Government, who studied abroad and returned to give back to the people of our country using the knowledge we received from the education that was funded by the Government. After 2 hours of waiting the members came to the Committee intoxicated, and then we would continue with our discussions while they were drunk.

There was also a small store in the premises of the Assembly House that sold alcohol, which ended up closing promptly, because it was bankrupt. But I also witnessed and rolled the sleeping mats and pillows for politicians who slept in the Assembly room at night to make it seem like they had a meeting overnight so that they could get more allowance.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021***Ministerial Statement by the Prime Minister**

This type of behavior was not acceptable from the point of view of the Government employees, these old characteristics are no longer seen today.

Mr Speaker, in the years that have passed before the HRPP came into power, there were hardly any Parliamentary Sittings. Since these Assemblies would give the members opportunities to voice their requests. Why? The Leaders of the Government at that time refused to hold Parliamentary Forums so that there would be no opportunities given to the dignitaries to complain to the Government or to convey their useful advice, because these are the ways of this Parliamentary Forums, to allow opportunities for the members of the constituencies to give criticism and make suggestions. This is not something that needs to be stated. The country is listening as the Minister is arguing with the other members of HRPP that have been selected as the Opposition to the Government. It is an independent check within the Party, whereby the Party checks its own Government.

Mr Speaker, I recall other years when the Parliament only held Assemblies once, since it is enforced under the Laws, that the Parliament must convene to approve the main budget to carry out its Governmental work in the new fiscal year. It is a must for the Parliament meet, whether it is only once, but it is compulsory for an Assembly to be held every year. The Clerks of this House have tried to persuade the members to make changes, and there were also many changes made by the Chief Executive Officers of the staff that served our Assembly. Starting from the very beginning with the first Clerk of the House, the honourable Feesago, and then the very first female Clerk, the honourable Doctor Toia, followed by others like Afioga Fepuleai until now, with the many changes that have taken place, so that other Government Parliaments will also notice our Parliamentary procedures, as these are the procedures of a Democratic Government, so that the decision making of a country runs smoothly.

We had a meeting when I became a politician, which ended at 12 midnight on Christmas Eve. And so we also conducted a sermon in this House. Why? That is the strength of the Opposition, the members of the Parliament during the emergence of the United Government, as Tupuola Efi Tupua cooperated with our first Leader Hon Vaai, and they unified their Leaderships to oppose the HRPP at the time and the Coalition Party became a government that is based on the decisions made by the dignitaries, not based on the decisions made by the country through elections. And then we moved to that side and became the Opposition for the Government.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021***Ministerial Statement by the Prime Minister**

The opposition was different, as the Government did not sit still as we used the opportunity to challenge the Government and to convey our suggestions to further improve the services of the Government. This is the importance of having other members oppose the Government, instead of Ministers.

Nowadays, Mr Speaker, the Parliament has had multiple Assemblies, and it has provided many opportunities for members to speak and to convey their suggestions and complains, as every complain is important for the establishment of our government. Whether we accept it, but there is value in the feedback given, that is the respect given by the Government to the honourable members of the constituencies, as they represent the chiefs and orators who are supporting from their districts. And only the truth and virtuous acts can be conveyed through this House. How so? Because when an unconstitutional opinion is expressed, or a fraudulent idea, or a demeaning comment, that is when the Government will immediately turn to the Standing Orders for confirmation. Any comment or accusation will be investigated by the Special Committee set up by the Parliament to look into fraudulent statements and accusations before the decision is made by the Parliament, either to dismiss or to resign.

Therefore, the Members of this House must be careful not to spread false information in this House of the Assembly of Samoa. But the authorities of the Parliamentary Acts of this House do not extend outside of the House, which allows fraud, slander and rebellion to revolt against the Government to bring about chaos and violence by the people of this country because they are easily swayed by false ideas. This will also affect our families overseas who do not understand this type of behaviour, and it will mislead the public that is listening to these comments made outside the Assembly of Samoa, as well as our people listening in from other countries and thinking that we are ignorant for easily accepting false opinions. The ideas are very shallow. Why? Because that is not how the public thinks, they are very intelligent. They also listen to the debates that are currently being held in this House and broadcasted on the Radio and Television to make them understand with amazement the statements being made in this House, but they are making influential speeches about their activities being held on their own lands, which is far different from what they spoke about in this House. What is the verification of these things? This is the live testimony of the behaviour that is often discussed in simple language, as this is a clear form of words used by a person who is deceitful.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021***Ministerial Statement by the Prime Minister**

Mr Speaker, the good changes that is now experienced by this Parliament, is that most of our Parliamentary Sittings have been scheduled for each year. And a Sitting will take place due to certain circumstances that makes it necessary to call a Sitting or additional Sitting in terms of our Assemblies that have been laid down to be made official and passed in this Parliament within a year. Other Parliaments such as New Zealand almost have continuous Sittings during the day and night.

Other changes that we have now is the pre-Sitting used by the honourable Members to converse with the Chief Executive Officers of the Ministries, to further clarify the Act that will be discussed in the Parliamentary Sitting the next day. This was not a norm for this Parliament. And ever since I took office, the Parliamentary Bills are always tabled on that morning. And it takes a few minutes to conduct the first reading, followed by the second reading, and then the speeches begin. The method that was used by this Party is that the Leader who has been in Parliament for a long time takes the floor first. And then the rest of the members of the House are given the opportunity to speak, while we hast through our reading. After the Prime Minister's speech, we would be halfway through the Bill. And then the members will talk about the sections that have already been read. By the third reading the entirety of the Bill has already been read. Even the majority of our Opposition Party members have fully understood the Bill. That is what we experienced. But what has happened? The clarification of the Bill is now done on a different day, and then the Parliamentary Sitting convenes on the following day. When the Minister takes the floor to clarify the Bill, all the Members of this House have already understood it. But there are a few members that did not want to attend the pre-Sitting on the first day, because they have the desire. When the Assembly convenes, they want to stand up and showcase their wisdom, their unrefined wisdom to oppose the Bill. Mr Speaker this is the case; it is why the Ministers stand to make a Point of Order. But what are we hearing now? They are not giving the opportunity to the minority members to speak, when they are addressing issues incorrectly. That mistake was specifically made with awareness, in order for it to be suspended before this accusation is given the chance. There are no bad remedies under the sun, as it takes one dead fly to fall in the scented oil to ruin its scent.

Another major change that was made Mr Speaker, it is now possible for the Parliamentary Committee to travel to the constituencies to further clarify the Legislations. It has been coerced by a strange force that is based on ignorance.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021***Ministerial Statement by the Prime Minister**

This is a good mentality, since it is not bad to give a clarification. But others say that the Committee are visiting the constituencies to persuade the people. The Committee are conducting enlightenment and not persuasion, in order for the Bill to be approved. So, it is an explanation of the issues that needs to be made clear for those who want to understand it correctly. Mr Speaker, the management of the Governments of the world, especially the Governments in the Commonwealth. This is the type of Government system which is planned in advance for our government. These are the prominent guidelines to judge the administration of a government, as this is the most important Law, which is translated in the English language as good governance. It is translated in Samoan with these words, “The guidelines for good Governance.”

The guideline for good governance in English. With these procedures, this should be utilized by any Organization which includes the Sports Organizations or the Clerical Organizations. This guideline as translated in English, good governance. There are two important aspects that are enveloped in the guideline, as this is the general term to explain it.

The first English term is transparency, to ensure that everything has been made clear. There should not be any confusion, uncertainty or hypocrisy in any decision made by the Government, the Parliament or the Judiciary, for they are the Three Arms of our Government.

The second guide in the English language is accountability. In the Samoan version, in anything we do, any decisions made or any developments we implement, the actions that will be taken should be made clear, and the expected results. To ensure that we are following the policies properly, with transparency to the Laws that have been approved to manage them. When the implementation is distorted, the culprit will be uncovered and the penalty is imposed, which is appropriate. If the implementation of the work goes well, then those who worked with sincerity will also be recognized. They will become well-known and received proper compensation, either they get a promotion which will increase their salary, or their contract will be continued on any work that will be tendered at the time. Or they are re-elected as a member due to the way they conducted their duties as a dignitary. Or even the continuation, of their duties as a reverend within the village, upon returning from their break. This Law is applied to any organization.

It is easy to return someone who worked with sincerity, why? You are judged on the work you do, as you have followed the inspiration of the Spirit of God, on the decisions you must make. The statement made by the representative of Palauli West, the honourable Afoa.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021***Ministerial Statement by the Prime Minister**

Since he participated in the work of the Parliamentary Committee, he has gained a lot of knowledge about the various activities in the Government. This is one member whom I never see working in the Government. In other words, the Parliamentary Committee was his classroom. It has increased his understanding of Parliamentary works, and the complexity of activities carried out by the Ministries and Organizations, and the numerous employees of our government, who workday and night.

Mr Speaker, and the honorable members of the House, any opportunity that uses the honorable positions of the Parliament of Samoa, is very important to the members. The Member is considerate. He has to keep in mind that the constituency is observing in support, with the essence of pride, as their member has contributed to the construction of the Government of Samoa. It is something that our late forefathers strived to achieve. The responsibility has been placed on our shoulders to continue their goal, to properly use the offices appointed by our constituencies, under the authority of village council. As the members have the full support of the different peers of the village, such as the wives and caregivers, the elders, the heads of the families, the strength of the village and the clergy. For their support, to ensure our efforts are successful, so that our work is carried out with prestige, virtue and cheerfulness together. This showcases a member that is still eminent and noble. And to ensure that God's tranquility is still within us, which is displayed through the quality of our actions as chiefs. This leads the authority of the village council to a peaceful life. It guides our true Samoan way of life today, from thousands and thousands of years ago ever since we settled in these lands, which is the inheritance of Samoa from God. The Government plans to give its thorough responses to all the issues that have been presented before the Cabinet this week. It will also include matters that were raised in your speeches. In order to clearly showcase the heavy burden that is being borne by the Government and this Political Party. In addition to the development of Samoa, but also with the security that we are able to achieve. To protect our people from the deadly disease that is now contagious. And the series of unfortunate events that have escalated due to the greed of those in power which has led the country on the road to disaster. But we are still persevering, because of the unseeable solace from the Holy Spirit that is inside us all. All we have to do is ask and He will provide a suitable answer to the ideas that are based on the good leadership of our country.

Mr Speaker, to conclude my speech this morning, I would like to recite a very important story to this House. It is a guide for us in times of trouble. There was a plea made by a King, the King of Barak to Balaam the Prophet of God.



*15 FEBRUARY 2021***Ministerial Statement by the Prime Minister**

To curse the Israelites who were trespassing in their lands when they were leaving Egypt. The Prophet travelled to fulfil the King's request to curse God's people. As he was riding on his donkey it suddenly stopped on the road, he struck it with the whip, but the donkey did not move, he struck it again and when the donkey finally moved it reversed behind the wall. Then the donkey fell down exhausted, as it was hurt from the beating.

Then the Prophet said, "If I had a sword, I would have killed you." Then God bestowed speech to the donkey. And then the donkey spoke, "why are you doing this to me? For many days I have served you. But why are you saying such excessive words to me?" Then God opened the Prophet's eyes, and when he opened them, there was an angel standing with a flaming sword. The angel said, "The donkey is right, you are alive because of the donkey, if you came here with your horse, I would have slain you with my sword, if you had continued forward." Therefore, since you have decided to go. How are you going to curse God's people? It is a nation that God has blessed. But you may go, and the angel said to him. "I will put words in your mouth, and you will utter them." Then the Prophet of God went to the mountain together with the king. They observed the 603,000 Israelites walking, together with their donkeys and camels that carried their loads of belongings. And then they conducted sacrifices, as animals were slaughtered and burned on the altar. Then as the Prophet prepared to curse the nation of Israel, but when he opened his mouth, these words came out. "Bless you." God's people who have been blessed by God should not be cursed by anyone. These words are very important at this time with the situation that our country is in, with the abundance of fraud occurring.

But it makes me recall the words of the servant of the Prophet Elisha. As he was sleeping in the tent in the morning, as his servant was going to wash his face. He noticed that they were surrounded by enemies, as there were about 100,000 or more. They were the enemy forces that came to seek the Prophet and kill him. Then the Prophet prayed and said, "Oh God, reveal to your servant what he does not see." Then the servant's eyes were opened, and he looked at thousands of chariots of fire, which were circling from behind. They were God's fiery chariots sent to protect Elisha and his Prophet and his servant. What happened next? Only one angel defeated 100,000 of the enemies. Mr Speaker and the honorable members of this House. What is the message that is being conveyed through these important Bible stories? It is consolation, to not be afraid, for God will not abandon the Government and the Parliament that He chose. Mr Speaker, God will not abandon us. It does not matter how much profanity is occurring we have nothing to worry about, leave it to God.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Ministerial Statement by the Prime Minister**

It is a very important comfort for our families, who live overseas, as they do not know the behaviors of the people who are making such exaggerated comments. These words violate the sanctity and the peacefulness of this country.

And my suggestion for them is to be patient. In case you might travel abroad and get deported from overseas for conducting such fraudulent behaviours. This is our duty as leaders, we stand as leaders. We should lead by example by showing patience and maintaining peace from God so that Samoa is in harmony. And as the Lord had stated, no Kingdom will last if it is divided.

Mr Speaker, this concludes my statement this morning. Goodbye and God bless our Assembly.

*The Parliament expressed their appreciation by applauding after the Ministerial Statement of the Hon Prime Minister.*

**MR SPEAKER:** I would like to offer congratulations to the Hon Prime Minister for the speech.

**Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga (Palauli le Falefa):** Mr Speaker, I move the motion, *That the Ministerial Statement of the Hon Prime Minister be tabled on the Table of the Legislative Assembly.*

*Seconded by the member for Aleipata Itupa i Lalo.*

*The motion was approved.*

**FOFOGA FETALAI:** It will be tabled, it is a Ministerial Statement which must be tabled, but I appreciate the motion being moved so that the will of Parliament is met. Congratulations, I wish not to readdress it, nor will it be debated upon.

The speech made by the Hon Prime Minister is enough, as it will encourage our Parliament. We must depend on God. If God is with us, then we do not need any other power. Everything we do should be done with love, together with peacefulness and patience.

It has been heard by the Parliament as well as the country, but now it is time for the speech by the Hon Member for Faleata. I call on the Hon Member for Faleata West to stand and start your speech.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

**Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI (Faleata West):** I thought I would start when we return from our morning tea. It is also difficult to follow up the speech by the Leader. However, I will heed your instructions, since it has long been delayed especially for Samoa who wants to hear the speech of Faleata.

Thank you to the Hon Prime Minister for this morning and for your speech of encouragement. But Mr Speaker, I enjoy days like this. Because such days are used as indicators to identify a person who is faithful, patient and is not easily annoyed. But we are thankful for your restraint for the sanctity of Samoa and its Parliament. Because this is the story that is being told by your family and by people. I am not trying to praise you; this is the truth. Hon Prime Minister, the Leader of the Government. We have been through countless worldly challenges. This country has experienced famine from all natural disasters that have occurred in the past. We have all experienced them. And you have managed Samoa even to this beautiful morning. I woke up in the morning and had a prayer with my wife. Then I said, alas, this country is so blessed, as they sleep in happiness and wake up with renewed strength from God, not worrying about anything. In the love and kindness of God in this blessed country of Samoa. Mr Speaker, I have been tirelessly trying to take this matter off of my mind, but thankfully it has already been addressed by the Leader of the Government. And I will not talk about it more. Since in this Parliament, there are a few people who have died. They have gone to the polls many times but never got the opportunity to enter the Parliament of Samoa. What about this golden opportunity given by the constituencies to some of the members? But are ignored. They disregard and overlook the House and the Assembly of Samoa. They are lucky, as for the rest of the government employees, once they miss only one day of work without permission, or are on leave without pay, they would not get any salary. What about the honourable members? However, I will no longer address it. Now Faleata will make its speech.

Iuli's speech took two days and two nights, whilst Faleata took the chance to speak freely in this House. Why? Because I will be making the opening speech, to protect the Assembly and the House of Samoa. But before I speak, I ask for a minute to say something to my mother. This is the first time in the 15 years that I have made my speech in this Parliament that she is not listening in support. Because I would firstly ask for her blessing before I come to Parliament. And when I conclude my speeches, I would thank her. According to the story, when they had just started carving the statue of liberty and enlightenment in America, which was the symbol of freedom and understanding by the French artist Batholdi. He looked for beautiful famous French women to find a face to be carved on the statue.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

However, the man chose the face of his mother at last. Do remember that it took 20 years for this statue to be built. He really said, why do I have to choose another face, but not my mother's, whose face is nice and kind, and it stays with me every day. The face of your mother is carved and matched with your mind and whole body, until you die. Mama has been and will always be my statue of liberty enlightening my world forever. Because she planted the seed of light in our hearts and minds, she directed and showed us a leading life. A true reflection of woman in leadership. From her fragility and trivial occupation, she built a stable and strong home. A true reflection of woman in leadership. She was our strength and rescue for many times. How truthful is the saying, "We cannot see the face of God, but we do see the honest and compassionate face of our mothers, that is indeed the face of God."

I said something at the Samoa College's prize giving. My mind was trying to figure out these words from the bible, "A wise son makes a father glad, but a foolish man despises his mother." Yet, then I thought, any child will only see his or her father after nine months, but the mother does that since the very beginning of the child's life. So, the meaning of the phrase from my own point of view, the fathers, or most of us fathers, we are pleased if our children are wise and disciplined. The mother, however, whether they are unintelligent or whatever, she loves them regardless. Mama, I have never said these words that people usually say at funerals, may you rest in peace. Because I honestly believe, you are with your Master, because you fought the good fight, and you have finished the race. You have left behind many generations to continue your legacy.

You have left with so much satisfaction, knowing you ran your race with grace dignity and honor, and you have left behind a legacy of generations that will continue to write your story. My advice to the young people of Samoa, take good care of your parents, that is the only life insurance that is guaranteed and certain.

To end my speech Mr Speaker, I would like to offer great appreciations to Members of Parliament who extended their support during my mother's final resting day. This is the only funeral where almost all Members of the Parliament went to, including the Members of the FAST Political Party and the TAUTUA Political Party. Well, that is the politics of a Samoan. We have different beliefs, but we are still one. Therefore, the best wishes and blessings from this Member, good luck with all the preparation upon the General Election. Because when the old lady found out that I do not have an election, she then went happily.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

I am disturbed...this lengthy Samoan necklace, it is my brother's, and I am using it today, to Salelesi, thank you. This is the only costly necklace I have ever worn, which worth the value of \$300.

Mr Speaker, your respectable Leader of the House and this Side of the Government, the seating of the Heads of Government Ministers and Associate Ministers. To that Side of the House, to the upstanding Chairpersons and Deputy Chairpersons of the Select Committees, the esteemed Members of the Parliament. This is the full circle of the House of Samoa, pardon Samoa who are listening and its respected standards.

To the distinguished Heads and Chief Executive Officers of Government Ministries, notably the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

I stand with profound respect Mr Speaker, to utter a few final words from this Constituency of Faleata West for the XVI Parliamentary term of the Independent State of Samoa. Yet, an initial remark from the Member for Faleata No. 3. These are my last words as this Constituency has been divided into three, it is not a sad news, but a dream come true for me, and it is a change by the Government in accordance with its policies.

Nonetheless, the sacredness of this House, and the divinity and reverence of Samoa, may they be still remaining untouched, as my knowledge cannot be compared to its supremacy. And that as well goes to the excellences and sanctities mentioned in orations and remarks by this House, I will not mention it again. May the greatest ship of he who travelled be still, because the Parliamentary Session of Samoa has begun at the field of constructing spears, the field of throwing spears and so as the domain of Samoa's spear-throwing contest, with one goal, for Samoa to thrive and live in peace.

Thus, to my Constituency of Faleata West, may you pray boldly with spirit, I will stop by sooner or later, as we have arrived at the end of this Term, but I will always remember your great respect upon me.

Mr Speaker, our God has heard our thanksgiving, but the heart still wishes to praise Him. Because if we recall the past 5 years of this Parliament's journey, how kind is our God, for He has led and guided the lives of your Honour together with the Members of this House in His loving hands. Despite His divine calling that has troubled our journey in the beginning of this year, with the sudden passing of our brotherly Member, the late Vaafusuaga, yet, that is life, God had already planned it, the morning of blooming and the evening of withering and so as the chance we get to greet each other in the morning of a brand new day that our Lord has granted for the righteousness to awaken to. In addition, I offer sincere condolences of this House to the grieving wife Vaেলা and daughter, as well as the family and the Constituency.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

However, Vaafusuaga, thank you for this bond. You were an honest and kind brother; you are not forgotten. I really wanted to give a eulogy for the brother on his final day, but I did not get a chance to. Even so, thank you, thanks to the family, our farewell to our brother has so far been great.

Mr Speaker, the Samoan language is quite funny. Many of the words that are rude and uncivil starts with the letter F, and the most decent and valuable words, also starts with the letter F. This was highly valued since we were little kids, the F Fa'afetai for thank you and F fa'amolemole for please. If you want something say please, if you receive it, say thank you. All remarks and discussions of this Term and our final Session, it all starts with thank you, best regards, and then words of encouragements, which is advising. But I have been thinking that I would like to apply the F that was used in ending the works of our Savior in this world, the F fealofani – unity. God already knew that this is the supreme Law, because unity gives life to all good things. If there is no harmony, there is no blessing. No unity, no blessings. Because unity, gives birth to compatibility. Standing together, can generate a good and stable Government. A good and stabilized Government blooms a peaceful country. In a peaceful country, its' people are happy and free.

So, the question is, why do we have a stable Government and a peaceful country? My answer is simple. A stable Government and a peaceful country are a product of sound and stable leadership. Any Organization which contains happiness, peace and consistency, the first question that is asked; who are the leaders? Who are authorizing it? That is because the Bible says, "The blessings of the people descend from the mountain." So, who are the leaders that are handling the affairs of Samoa? My response Mr Speaker, the Leaders of Families, Villages, Churches, Companies, Government Ministries and Corporations, the Judiciary system, and most especially the Leader of the Government and his Parliament. Families unite because of parents or Sa'o. The responsibilities of parents and chiefs are carried out because of stable and sound leadership of the village council, ali'i and faipule. The good leadership provided by the village council is due to the spiritual works of the Servants of God.

Leading the Government and its Parliament is strong and stable because of the great effort and support of the Government Heads. Government will find it easy to lead due to the collaboration with the local businesses. The Government is firmed in granting the autonomy of the Judiciary System to conduct its works. These pillars of the Government work tirelessly day and night in managing the affairs of Samoa. But I believe Mr Speaker, the completion of all these services, have reasons.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

The first reason is, our Leaders adheres to their solid grounds and their fear of the God of Samoa and the whole world. I appreciate the courage and attentive manners of Leaders of the Government and everyone, because not only do we speak the words, but there is also perseverance with the Constitution.

Ever for 55 years ago, it was instilled in the cover and we knew it by heart, however there was no constitutional power for us to tell the entire world that Samoa was a Christian nation Founded on the Living God. In the year 2017 there was the amendment of the Constitution was done and this insertion was made – it was the first matter – “Samoa, is a Christian Nation Founded on the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.” Which means, that even though our nation was founded on God, but it was not clear who this God was. Our forefathers and descendants were aware of it too, but the Constitution does not say, the God the Son and the Holy Spirit. This means to say that, ever since Samoa was founded 55 years ago, there was always a chance for any Church in Samoa to create their own God based upon their own freewill because this part was not clearly stipulated in the Constitution.

What I am saying Mr Speaker is that, if we look at countries that are close to us, forget the whole world, but countries like Fiji, New Zealand, Australia and other Pacific nations, these countries are identified as circular states. The religious beliefs do not meddle with the Governments and their administrations. Why? There are many Gods, there are a number of church beliefs. But one thing for sure, it could have happened to us if we did not stay alert and have courage to instill these changes in the Constitution.

**MR SPEAKER:** I apologise to the current speaker, perhaps it is unpleasant to interrupt you given your beautiful speech, and while the people are listening. However, you may continue with your wonderful speech when we come back from our break as we have now arrived at our usual recess time.

As of now, I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly be set aside for usual recess time. Thank you.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside for its usual recess at 10:45 am and resumed at 11:35 am.*

*Debates on the third reading resumed of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2020/2021.*

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

**MR SPEAKER:** I announce the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly be recommenced.

I believe the Parliament have been given the strength to continue our Work. We took our break while the honorable Member for Faleata West was making his remarks.

Therefore, I respectfully call on the honorable Lealailepule your respectable Member for Faleata West.

**Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI:** Thank you Mr Speaker. We were also given the opportunity to renew our strength and energy to continue with our Parliament Proceedings. Thank you also for our breakfast this morning. Even though the Faleata's oration was being marked with the kopai koko, but it is no big deal. I sat with Sala and Lopao, they gave me a bowl of kopai, and I told them, "My apologies your honorable, have your breakfast, I ate this a long time ago when I was 5, I do not eat it anymore." Thank you for your generosity. Well, some of the things we can think of and joke about it. You know the culture of a Samoan Mr Speaker, there was a village concert that went around to entertain, the comedies that was how the message was conveyed, messages about peace and harmony among villages, and to find spouses for connections and extended genealogies. Such is also time for this sort of things, to rest from our usual discussions to bring joy to our souls.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. It seems like you are saying that the food is not important but working together and unity. Certainly. Well, thank you. To the people of Samoa who are listening in, whatever food are we...because that is the question whichever kind of food that the Parliament is having. Nevertheless, the important thing is, the people of Samoa who are listening in to your speech right now finally knows, that, it is kopai, if not kopai then koko araisa (cocoa rice). The food is not important, but it is crucial that we live together, unite, because those were the words of Jesus to His disciples, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." Well, I call the Member to proceed with the remaining of your speech.

**Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI:** Thank you Mr Speaker. That is nothing but thank you. As I mentioned before, how important is the kopai today, I have not eaten it in the last 40 years until today. But be reminded as well, as you have addressed, the words of God, Jesus to his followers. Solomon once said, "There is nothing new in this world." But our Lord Saviour says, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation." The old has gone the new has come.



*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

That was what I was saying before recess Mr Speaker, regarding the profound knowledge and thorough understanding that have been fixed within the Constitution of Samoa and its Christian belief, as some nearby countries have been stated. Each of their Parliament all begins with a prayer to God, but not anymore. Even in schools who used to say the Lord's prayer, have been prohibited by other countries from doing it. Alas! Before the civil attack in America occurred, there was a Senator who said a prayer to start the American session, he ended his prayer, by saying, "Amen and amen." It appears that he was making fun of it, like it was a joke. Well, these are things we are trying to protect and safeguard for Samoa and her journey towards the future.

Since 2017 Samoa has now become a complete Christian nation for the first time according to her Constitution. A Christian Nation as stipulated by her Constitution. The profound meaning of this Mr Speaker, Samoa does not allow any other God or belief that is different from Christianity. Moreover, whatever Laws that comes into this Parliament, any Law that may cause contradictory with the Christian belief will never be accepted. Hence, I offer great appreciation for this unimaginable and fine change. We have now witnessed it, Mr Speaker? Neither do we have natural resources, nor an excellent economy, but there is nothing more resourceful than the resources that Samoa is Founded on, where the blessings descend from. It is proved, that the economies of the wealthy nations cannot respond to the virus that is attacking the whole world today. But for Samoa, she is a fortunate country, because her Constitution is firm.

I have now come to the second reason why there is unity and a stable Samoa Mr Speaker. The other cause for the stability of our Constitution and our Government, is when the current Term had made it possible for our culture to be stipulated within the Constitution, which is our inheritance from God. From the 58 years since the independence of Samoa, it is official and implanted in the Constitution for the very first time, the rights to authority of village council, the respected authority of village council, which is our inheritance from God. The first priority was given to the rights of individuals, but our inheritance from God is our culture from which we find peace and harmony but had no place in the Constitution. I give thanks to the Leaders of the Government, all of us, the respected Members of the Parliament. These thoughts and impressions are not from a person. Why? A Leader who lives with faith and kneels before God Day and night for the whispering of the Holy Spirit. That means, for the very first time it is now possible for a chance to use the rights of village council in authority if it is right and appropriate, to be aligned with the rights of individuals, and the rights of villages and the community.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

If there is any contradiction, it will be brought to the Law for a decision regarding the right to maintain peace and the right that is true.

After making these big changes to the Constitution, for the very first time based on my beliefs Mr Speaker and the House of Samoa, the body of the man has now been completed within the Constitution, especially the Democratic Government of Samoa. Samoa has now stood out in terms of its' Democracy that is certainly appropriate for her environment and daily lives. Her Governance beliefs is now consistent with her Christian belief as well as her culture. And I believe, our ancestors who wrote the Constitution applauds us because we have reached their goal.

Hon Prime Minister and the Government, there are many times, we have made a lot of changes, but this is the very change which had topped many of our excellent works, because the Constitution cannot be touched excessively, but you have definitely touched the heart of the surroundings of Samoa in our daily lives, her culture and Christianity. One of the old men who had served Samoa in the Parliament and the Government for many years, Hon Feesago Fepuleai, stated when Samoa reached her 50 years of independence, "I hope that whoever is chosen to the position of Leadership, must hold fast to the principles that has held us together from 50 years ago." To my belief, the two main things that have held us together from the beginning till the end, is our Christianity and our Culture that are now recognized and included under the administration of the State.

As I stated before, it was not an accident. Samoa guided the Pacific to many good things, to her Independence, and is now also leading the Pacific and the whole world with regards to merging these significant elements into her Constitution. Thus, I give great appreciation to the Government.

And now Mr Speaker I have come to say a few words about the economy of Samoa since I entered Parliament. It has been 15 years since I first entered here, well perhaps only a Samoan with no eyes, pardon me, will not believe and see the standard where Samoa is at today. An old lady from my family who just came from America said, she has not been to Samoa for 20 years, "Man, if you go give my great appreciation to the Government, the excessive misleading information reported overseas. Look, I am in our village, if I want to go to church, I just call a taxi that comes and drops me off, when we come back we stop by the store, it has every products that you can find in Apia so I do not have to go there, then I come and turn on my TV, there are many different channels. If I want money, I can just call my children. My kids say, "Check your phone it has the money inside." These changes are amazing Mr Speaker; such wonderful changes we now have.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021***Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

When I came into the Parliament as one of the senior Members of the House said, we were named as a Least Developed Country. It is almost 10 years since the standard of the country has been shifted, becoming a nation with a sound and stable economy, a developing country. Those are the records Mr Speaker, it is not big, but it cannot be unsaid or hidden, based on the economy and the daily living of people. If you want to know and have a look at the state of economy of world countries, there are several measures and indicators. These indicators, they tell us about the state of economy of any country. Every country of the world is uniform no matter where you go. These are the first things to look in a country, what is their financial wealth status, the GDP. Check how its foreign reserves look like for trading and for times or periods lest our general economy can be affected, foreign reserve. These foreign reserves, we have to look at the mortality rate, or the numbers of babies who have reached one year old. We can also look at the life expectancy rate; the number of years a person can expect to live. We should look at the state of its employment, how it is doing. These concerns Mr Speaker, I will generally say that these are the things that you should first consider.

It is measured from there, the state of a country and their performance in these areas. Not only the health of people but also the state of its economy. In here as well, the foreign entrepreneurs evaluate whether they want to come to set up their businesses in Samoa or not. Whether Samoa is a peaceful country, or a country that has great standards in these areas. The assistances and aids from abroad are determined by records. In the general economy, it is GDP, I believe the Minister of Finance will further discuss it.

But I will only outline a few points, when I got here in 2006, there was only \$1.5 billion. In 2015, it increased to \$1.9 billion. Up until the previous year, 2020 it has attained \$2.2 billion. Which means there is improvement in the economy of Samoa. If we have a look at our foreign reserves, I only want to give 2 years as examples. In 2019, for up to 6.2 months, our foreign reserves were able to buy and bring our imports for survival, in December 2019.

From then to December last year (2020), these foreign reserves had covered almost 12 months. It was the first time that something like this has happened since our independence. Then I asked the Central Bank who brought these figures, if these records were correct. But that did not usually happen, because the foreign reserve only goes on one area, so that means we did not get any foreign good, it was decreased, or we did spend our income. Especially the remittances from our people working overseas, that means it has increased. It is amazing Mr Speaker, because we have also seen, our church minister said something last week. Last year was a surprising year for our church donations.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

It was amazingly greater than any other years. But I also heard it is the same case for other congregations. Therefore, these things speak volume and are indeed records, Mr Speaker.

Then I come to what I stated earlier Mr Speaker, another indicator, called the mortality rate. The numbers of infants born each year, to measure the health conditions of the public, especially new-born babies. The mortality rate was very high when I came into this Parliament. However, statistics say that the numbers of new-born babies had extremely dropped last year. Hence, there is a great relief from this situation, whether the number of babies born this year is small, I am not sure. But that is the obvious matter at the moment, in accordance with the records.

Then I come to...which is called life expectancy, the average number of years a person is expected to live. In 2005, roughly in the 70s, a lot of people who reached their 70 years of living, were Samoans. But in 2005, it increased to 75 years, and it is still growing. This tells us that there is a great change in the economy and the daily livings of people. These figures, also means, that there is a rise in the number of people who have received their pension allowances. Yet, you can hear the rumours and false information spread to overseas countries. Which says that when they come back the pension will be raised, extremely high.

But for the record Mr Speaker, the money that is given to them is cash, and it is still increasing. There are some elders who spend approximately \$1000 or more used in one month. The evidence of this information Mr Speaker, remember they travel freely between Savaii and American Samoa, and obtain drug prescriptions free of charge, free fees at the hospital and so forth.

The proof of this, is my late mother. We took her to the hospital two times this month and we stayed there. We took her for an X-ray test, but that thing called echo said, do a CT scan. These things are not cheap, but they were all free of charge. She was then admitted to the hospital, slept with the oxygen and IV. She ate five times a day, five times. Because other than the 3 usual meals she also had 2 refreshments. Then I sat and thought to myself, man, I cannot believe if people do not think about these things, they are done without a cost your honour. They are all free, then, I estimated the amount of money that was spent on January to the beginning of February when we were at the hospital. It was more than \$2000 that cash was different from the services which are compensated by the Government.

Therefore, my parents, my mother has now gone to heaven, and left behind my father, they are both 85 years old. Which means, it has been 20 years since they benefitted from these services, 20 years.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021***Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

I also have an aunty whom I treated as my mother right now, she is 89 years old. So that means she has more years of enjoying these favours, therefore we shall remember. Those statistics are real but not promises. Because in 1991, there were only 5,000 elders who received these favours, that is the evidence of these numbers. But from 2000 up until now, there are 11,000 people who have received these benefits, right now. The number has doubled and more, the meaning of that confirmation is that people are living much longer than before. Why? The economy is getting stronger, and it has well taken care of, since the Government has offered a helping hand.

Another significant point of this matter, I have been notified. These things, forgive me your honour and the people of Samoa who are turning in, tooth. These things are very expensive, I thought they were not done costless, but they are also under the benefits for our elders. But there are others and our elders from overseas, who came and use these benefits in our country. As they are in very high cost there, but they are free here, they are done without a cost by the Government. Mr Speaker, the things I am talking about are sure.

Then I move to the state of education and the literacy rate. In 2016, there was 99% male and 99.3% female who were able to go to school and were literate. There is an English saying which goes like, “you cannot uneducated someone who can read.” When a person is able to read, we can never trick him or her anymore, here are the numbers. No wonder why the Minister of Education is happy and free, the records speak for themselves since he started, well done Loau.

I want to say something about Samoa College, Samoa College is the finest College in Samoa right now. Why? Because the President there is Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi. What I mean Mr Speaker is that, according to documents, the result of the 2019 exam which can also be confirmed by the Minister. There were 100% students who passed the national exam and were able to enter the National University of Samoa, thanks to the teachers, the school committees, the parents, but the meaning of what I am saying your honour, the student only pays \$40 a year, \$40. How can you go to the finest school but only pays \$40 in a year? That is what I always say to the parents.

Yet, that \$40 does not go to the Government, it goes to the school committee which helps with the affairs of the school. But do be reminded, we here in the Parliament, our parents used their own money to fund our education whilst growing up.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

**MR SPEAKER:** I allow the member for Palauli le Falefa

**Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga:** The Member who was speaking may take a break. I told the Member about the road inside Samoa College, it is full of holes, sometimes the kids get wet from it, but he is the President there. So, I asked him last year, to fix the road and he said it was already planned to mend. But I wish to again remind him about this very bad road. With due respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Go ahead Minister of Works.

**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang (Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure):** Thank you for saving time to hear the pleasing statement of the honored member. Just a small correction to make for the sake of the elderlies. Leala did mention free traveling to Tutuila. No, it is only to Savaii, this is the correction, lest the old men and women think that we are free to travel to Tutuila. No, the benefit is for Savaii only.

**MR SPEAKER:** Perhaps Tutuila was also covered here too in the past. Previously I had mentioned that Tutuila was also included whereas today that is no longer the case.

**Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI:** Thank you, it is reason I refused to mention it. Such things require you to use...but never mind. I was praising your job; however, you have slandered it, never mind. The fact of the matter is, I did not know, I had thought it was covered but it is simple to include it. That is not a difficult thing to do, although, our government is very easy to raise it to \$1,000 the pension per week. It is nothing difficult, however that is a deceit, flattery and a fraud, so it is not right. But thank you Hon Papalii, you are the best Minister...

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon Papalii and the road he had mentioned.

**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** Thank you, we will not debate this issue, because I am being blamed that it was I who had removed this benefit. When it was longed being removed way before I came on board. Thank you.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** It is necessary that I remain vigilant of the way we joke around particularly when we say things that seems easy to implement and matters such as pension increase. As such, there are rules on matters involving variation. You can shrink one and expand another. Stretchy balloons can expand one whilst another can shrink.

Pensions are easy to raise whilst the entire budget can be cut allocated for the execution of schools. Because the reason for attending school is because the Government is responsible for paying the teachers and all other Secondary Schools in the village communities. These are the new undertakings that cannot be implemented unless an investigation can be done first.

The most important aspect is the word sustainable development. The whole world is putting emphasis on sustainable development. These good ongoing developments however there are so many issues happening from the implementation of development projects with regards to promises made. It only takes a short while for one development to go through and all of a sudden it is stopped. Because they are rushed without proper planning and end up going nowhere. I will give an example, there was financial assistance from NZ and Australia and our Government at that time suddenly decided to offer free education to Government schools given this foreign aid from NZ. So precipitously there was a sudden full stop as the money was finished. So, what happened next?

Now that some of these Government projects have been put on hold, so this is the money to resume the works that were ceased. Financial aid from NZ and Australia that were cut off and have ceased the projects from resuming. We cannot go back to what we used to do; it was during the time when we went to school. Our own parents sought coconuts to pay for our school fees. So, what is happening now? Many are now having free education. Even with Mission Schools the Government is now stepping in. Because it is not pleasing for public schools to have low salary. Because the Government is playing the part of compensating the fees of children schooling in public schools but what about the Mission Schools?

Such is the entire purpose for the support given to the Church in order to provide some sort of balance. Hence talks are beginning to be on other things, and as such, this will be done. It is impossible to do anything without the Law in accordance to matters and their variations. Whenever you want to do something, thick and thin are always involved. What must be contracted to avoid financial aid from other Organizations. This is a matter of vitality before a step is taken. What is the normal process? Take a first look at your first step.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

Whether there is a huge hole, or a trench that will make you fall and could result into your appalling death. Mr Speaker, such are the plans of the State which must be done wisely. But you must not be confused, do broadcast it, that the growth rate of Samoa be raised to 20%.

Even there is a huge currency rate for the State of America and China and what does it do? But what must be done? This is the nature of things done here, word has been spread out. When we take over, we will do this and do that. Luckily the correction is coming from inside this Parliament regarding these serious and false information made. So, in relation to this matter, there is wariness with matters of this sort, word can get across too quickly. This Government, they must investigate first, whether possible to do it, then they can look at the budget allocation whether possible to implement it. I am only giving this talk, to make good use of this matter being argued by these two. But it is useful, because further from this House, the promises given are quite unthinkable.

**MR SPEAKER:** Everything that must be done, farsightedness must be a priority. What is the priority? Such is the overall will of the Prime Minister. Do upstand to conclude your statement.

**Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI:** The interjection is correct. I will come to this matter. The meaning of my words, the Government, there is human right to do anything. But no stupid promises must be made, pardon the listeners, when it cannot be implemented, that is the meaning of my statement. Never mind I will come to it later. The reason I am referring to it is because it has interjected my speech. The member was being impetuous, my father. There are 2 ways to slowdown the speed of cars. The hump or the ford, this is the reason your honour. Nevertheless, I am thankful to the Hon Minister now that I know that these matters fall under our portfolio. Be mindful of this road which is mainly used by our school children. Very well, leave it to us, it seems that your entire strength has gone upon the academic side of children, forgetting the physical side and the social side. Alright we recognize your concern. The meaning of my words because there is a mix up but never mind. We have the financial report and the public expenditure allocated for the elderlies every year. When these 2 budget allocations are combined, it is close to \$50million per annum. This amount is used to educate our children, it is not just talks, but what is implemented. Why? The intention of the State is to free our children and to bring prosperity upon Samoa. Another huge challenge goes towards taking care of our senior members. So, it can never be disbursed freely, the Government is implementing its job.



*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

I therefore heed great appreciation to the ongoing works, and ongoing services. The promises and words given were not lies.

Then I come to public servants. By record, up to 2001, the total is 50,000 public servants. Up to 2016, 55.5 thousand public servants. This is the statistics from the Bureau of Statistics. It covers any public servant and whatever job they do. This is a huge number, and in comparison, to this number, there is an unemployment rate of only 3%. In relation to the statistics of NPF, there was an active employment for NPF contributors. In 2015, total employment was 30,000 and in 2019 over 35,000 employment was recorded. This was a very significant record not only with employment, but also with the increasing income tax collection together with our NPF contributions. Since 2010, NPF had a profit of \$27million and up to 2020, there was an additional profit of \$60 million. This will indicate the good management of our fundings and the periodic investment for the benefit of our contributors including all of us. The employment contribution amounts to \$100 million accumulated from each Government Ministry. NPF contribution is paid out in portions and there is one more dividend payout remaining in March. I hear from the Hon Minister, that the cash payout will be raised. Well hopefully, and if not, then allow us to receive the disbursement of the next dividend.

Mr Speaker, these appropriations tell us and the entire world the situation our government is in, in terms of her developments. In fact, our developments can never push through unless, there is good and stability with its leadership in accordance with the first part of her speech. Note that the most important thing is when we have urgent matters happening such as the recent floodings. Which has majorly affected us, access roads, and things like that, pipelines with no water supply and power. It takes two to three days before everything returns back to normal. This indicates the good status our people are in and how we are able to implement recovery works on our own. Whenever we have bad days, take Samoa back to where it was. I therefore acknowledge everyone and their efforts, the Cabinet and all the Government Heads in particular.

Truthfully speaking we are in a world that is far different from the world we used to be. The pandemic has completely changed us, our perspective and the situation the world is in daily. Therefore we must change our plans in order for us to counter the changes in the world. Because we do have the Strategic Plan 2040, this is the Samoa Development Strategic 5-year plan. Currently, even with the 2-year program, it is difficult for us to predict the status of these plans if possible to achieve or not.

Today the world is talking about survival. How to live every day before we have revival when we return to the normal way of life.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

The advantage of this new thing is the various critical aspects that have arisen from it ever since the pandemic disease. Firstly, food security. Normally we would use what is available in our lands. And I wish to acknowledge the Hon Minister as we all work collectively. Although it is true that we love the farmers and the situation with our taro produce, but it is a pity. Because I do buy from the market, I am a town boy, I go to the market and buy my taro. I am not a farmer like your honour and the many. This Saturday I went and the cost of one taro was \$10 tala. Then I returned cheerfully, and it was the poor farmers.

The advice I wish to put forth Hon Minister, where have the plans of the SROS gone to in relation to these matters. Because for the time being, it is necessary to use the various agricultural products with regards to these plans and works. Because we have so many of our own people, thanks to the RSE Scheme that is currently being implemented. I further wish to thank the Minister and the Government. This is our huge assistance; it is like a formal direct aid. This is direct revenue send straight to their families in the village. Many of these benefits, during the return of these workers, they will acquire special skills and experience from these things. So, we can utilize them locally in the warehouses/industry and going forward into the future. Such concern is very significant.

Then I come to this small matter before discussing the wharf. The most difficult challenges faced by the State and this Parliament today most particularly the general elections we are about to conduct. This is called misinformation, creating hate and false hopes for our people. This is the first time ever since I came into Parliament that there has been an increase in amount of misleading information and hatred amongst our people due to severe and untrue promises put forth which could not be implemented. These are normal activities when it comes to general elections. Promises made by the different political party, on the things that they will implement if they win, and such is the norm. However, the disappointment here is the use of social media for the first time. It had made easier the publication of the words and promises made which are deceiving, grave and dishonest. Such is the concern of the heart.

Your honour, they have gone ahead and promised that there will be the returning of customary land and land... When it comes to land, it is vital to me, because only Vaitele village out of the rest of Samoa where the sales of its entire land were sold to the Tama Aiga during that time. The entire village was put up for sale and there was no land plot left. The question therefore is, can these lands be returned? Is it possible? It is impossible and I thank the Government as there was a plea put forth and they responded by releasing 29 acres but with payment. The land could not be given for free.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

Even the Government and I, despite the many attempts to clarify this land issue to our families and relatives, if you have a land in Samoa that is affected, let us know, show us the place. It was in 2008 where this Law was passed, 12 years and it is going on to 13 years for this Law and nobody, no village, no group have come up and say that their lands have been affected. There are only words spoken or promises made including slandering words, when nothing is happening. A lot has happened your honour, do not be eager lest the net is torn apart. We have all done this but do keep love in mind.

They are now saying, when they come they will lower this and that, and raise this and that. But they are not even saying anything about...

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

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** I rise given the importance of this matter on land. The member has also mentioned their lands in Vaitele. I do not know how many court cases were done in the Lands Court. The Court cannot change the first decision that was given.

Ever since the German colonial times. The importance of this matter, because I am unaware of the many attempts by the village of Satapuala. Including the events that have occurred in the village of Siumu. Which eventually reached the Government and a legal decision was given by the Court..

Up to 1,500 court cases on land purchases were done by the Supreme Court during the German Colonial Administration. In addition many lands were repealed from the trades that were implemented, because it was found that there was a significant sales of lands than the lands that were available in Samoa.

That was the notice from the Cabinet in relation to the disorder that had happened between Siumu and the Government, whereby there was a traffic enforcement stop from Apia towards the roads of Siumu. Perhaps if I had not prohibited the many policemen, many lives would have been affected.

These are the words spoken by people who lack insight and could have resulted in civil unrest within Satapuala. People who ignore the Law and the decisions of the Court had led to the harmony agreement that was done and if I had stopped the police from going there, a lot of deaths would have occurred consequently. Resulting from words being spoken simply by the fool, when that was the word that should have been said.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

The fool speaks of things that they lack knowledge of, thus affecting the lives of those who are being misled.

During the initial administration of the Government, there was disorder and the forceful land settlement by one of the villages which almost caused much chaos in Faleolo. Luckily, the entire police force was able to avoid this incident from happening at 9.00 o'clock in the night and in the words of the inhabitants, they said that they will turn into dust whilst living in these lands.

The State will never lie. There is no connection with the words spoken. So what happened? It was good that the Leaders made it in time after thinking deeply about these serious statements. Because the Government can never avoid the Law on the necessary thing to do. Everyone knew about it, the houses were demolished and the people had to leave and only the lands of the Government was left behind.

The words of the former Police Commissioner during that time, to those who are taking the lead in this crime and those leading treason, it is now 5.00. The difference between us, you were not sworn in. The police are to be sworn in, and they die whilst serving the Government of Samoa. We will now depart, and for all present policemen, you will be summoned to meet us at 9.00pm, and you will bring the weapons in order for the Law to be implemented. Comes 7.00pm and the Lawyer came and pleaded to us again, and these were the words of the Commissioner of Police, if you or us will die from this, then what? These public lands will be returned to the Government as they belong to the country.

Mr Speaker, it is very light to the fool, they are eager to catch the fish and end up tearing the net.

Mr Speaker, such is the support given, for people who lack insight, or the fool, and those who are talking about these things, when we are referring to blood. Because these matters refers to the lands of the country, they are the lands of the Government and the Government belongs to the entire Samoa.

Mr Speaker, this is the assistance.

**MR SPEAKER:** Well done thank you...

**Afioga Hon Afamasaga Lepuiai Rico Tupai (Minister of Communications and Information Technology):** Mr Speaker...

**MR SPEAKER:** I give the chance to Afioga Toeolesulusulu or Afioga Afamasaga as this was the constituency that have had many rising issues. We have also seen it with our own eyes in the past. But I will allow Afamasaga.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

**Afioga Hon Afamasaga Lepuiai Rico Tupai:** Thank you Mr Speaker. With respect I upstand in accordance to the mentioning of our village by the Hon Prime Minister. The villages of Saoalii and the Satuala Lineage, also the orator Vaili and Faleaana Lautinalaulelei ia Tapuala and Vainalepa.

There is no mistake in the statement of the Prime Minister. Those were the dark days in our constituency, and the many misunderstandings regarding all these things. I too had taken part in this recent events with situations like the road block. During my preparations for the general elections...

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

**MR SPEAKER:** I beg your pardon your honour as I...

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** No that matter was way before HRPP became the Government of the day, I am referring to Satuimalufilufi. So the matter here is quite new as you mentioned and it was not Satapuala that...and because all those lands were occupied. No it was during the initial time the HRPP had taken over administration whereby this had happened.

**MR SPEAKER:** True, I am...

**Afioga Hon Afamasaga Lepuiai Rico Tupai:** Respectfully I rise at this time, this matter is well understood by my constituency. The Government had also attended the launching of our water and the great support of Satapuala and Faleatiu upon the plans of the Government because they have now been clarified.

Therefore, the main aim is collaboration and standing together with the Government to implement good things for the benefit of our village. This is our statement with great respect, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well thanks. No the concern of the Prime Minister, and the Government...

**Afioga Faalogo Iosefa Sopi (Siumu):** Mr Speaker...

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well lest more misleading information is put forth and thus misguides the dignity of this Parliament. Resulting in bloodshed, because reflecting back to the old times when...regarding the words that could fool the country at the end of a day. Hence let us uphold the will of our God so that light is shone upon us.

I observe the member for Siumu is upstanding, I call upon Faalogo...

**Afioga Faalogo Iosefa Sopi:** No this is no interruption it is a point of clarification because the constituency was mentioned. True is the statement by the Hon Prime Minister at that time as there were attempts by the constituency on lands and such matter. So there was the releasing of lands for the constituency. The main attempt was, do note the shifting of the house of Asomua on the mountain, such was the main attempt of this constituency, to reflect on the old foundation of the house of Asomua. This is the clarification at this hour please.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well thanks, go ahead member for Faleata.

**Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI:** Thank you, do realise that the border between Safata and Siumu was done by a man with a bent back who was carrying the heavy rock, so I refuse to go there as you are getting deeper. These lands as emphasised by the Leader of the Government, it is like a strong weapon used by these people. Our relatives and families are sending the wrong message across our families and relatives living abroad saying that if they win then our lands will be returned.

Mr Speaker, I pity the no love, I am stunned. Where is your oath of allegiance? How can these things be done like this? Our village of Vaiusu is also affected here and you too are aware of it. These were also done. Where is it? The playing field has been set up for the benefit of the entire country and the Government. These cannot be forced not returned, this statement is a lie, it is misleading, and unloving your honour.

Then there were promises saying that they will reduce the cost of living as soon as they take over and raise the benefits here and there. With a disappointing heart, we have a few senior members here that are taking part in this Matter, with 15, 30 years of service here in Parliament. Any country in the world, money must be spent wisely in accordance to its revenue earnings.

We are earning money, and there is sufficiency for our survival everyday. But the reason for making small borrowings, is to develop of Samoa.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

Now that they have gone ahead and mislead the country, then true is the english saying ‘a little knowledge, very dangerous’. If your knowledge is small, Samoa will become very problematic.

Now I come to the use of facebook and social media. There are some members of the Parliament who took the advice to the Government and the Prime Minister to turn it off. It is difficult because it is not only us, especially now at the time of Elections, it was also done by other countries in the Pacific and the world. Nearing Elections, it is turned off, and it is turned back on when it is over. Because there is alot of wrong information, and slander, however, we are also satisfied with the response of the Leader of Government. To be forgiving, and let them continue to do what they want.

As you stated Mr Speaker, Samoans are not stupid, not all Samoans are fools, they do not believe such nonsense, let it be, let them do whatever. Why? Because the things seen by the eyes is stronger, like objects, instead of rumor and insults.

The sad aspect is the youth. I spoke to my children, blessed are you. As for us Mr Speaker, I am over 50 years old and most of us are over 60 years old, we grew up and live in Samoa. We did not grow up elsewhere. Therefore we have a good understanding of Samoa’s problems. We also know the solutions needed to resolve our problems. And we also witnessed the development of Samoa over the years, the progress of development. The majority did not see it. Now the generation in their 30s and 40s are reaping the benefits. But do not forget the great scarifice, the great scarifice made by Leaders and our parents for us and you, do not forget it. It seems the new generation do not care and are not taking this seriously.

As for the question, is there something wrong with the Government? It has already been talked about. If there are some in Parliament, that have criminal offences you know of, then take them to Government. Do not hide it. There is no Government that lives on secrets, and deception. I am saying this because I grew up in Malifa. In Malifa we only had one TV that we used to watch when we were little. My parents bought a piece of land from Alafua and it is where we are living, only one family had a TV that we go to watch. Even the dirt roads, the things mentioned by some have been forgotten based on the development of Samoa today, we should not forget, the trials faced by our Government.

One more thing in regards to the development of the wharf at Vaiusu, since there have been a lot of talks on it. One of the members, who is competing from there, said if he wins he will stop it. First Mr Speaker, I want to thank the Government for the foresight and courage to carry out this development for Samoa

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

But I am most grateful, for choosing our constituency to do this development because it is a blessing for the whole of Samoa, especially our constituency. Just as there are blessings in the villages like Matautu, Apia and Salelologa, we will also be blessed especially this is our contribution to the development of the Government.

But first of all, Mr Speaker, there is no country that initiates a big development that is expensive without reason. These developments are planned over the years, research is done on all levels, the environment, expenses, and income earned. But above this are 2 important things Mr Speaker, first is it necessary? Does it need to be done? Second, who will benefit? I believe all these questions have been answered. The port is very much needed, according to the data provided by the Manager of Ports Authority, this is one Manager who is intelligent and vigilant, because he also resides in the Faleata area.

This port is no different, if we look at the market, how many times has the market been relocated? It was moved to Apia, to Fugalei, now it is relocated to where it is now. Our hospital has been renovated. We just recently opened our airport, which cost hundred of millions. These major developments were made because they were necessary, and these groups are no longer able to bear the current state of Samoa's economy and the high standard of developments.

Mr Speaker in 2015, to 2019, ships anchored at our port have increased by 70%. As for fishing boats, it has increased to about 340%. The condition for containers, it has increased by 30%, or more than 10,000 boxes are added in one year. Those records, Mr Speaker, is the reason why we need this and I thank the Government.

If this development were to be delayed for another time, the cost will be three times more expensive. But I am grateful if this development is carried out quickly. Not only that, but it will make it easier for people travelling here to Mulinuu, to come around where it will be set up.

**MR SPEAKER:** Well, the member has not long to go.

**Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI:** Well, I do not want my speech to reach tomorrow, I want to finish it today, unless there is a lot of time overtaken by interruptions, then it will continue tomorrow.

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

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



*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** The reason for taking the floor, is to comfort the member, incase he might worry, but Government does not tolerate a member who does not understand the matter. Secondly, I note that he is not a matai of Vaiusu. I do not know what his business is talking about Vaiusu, when he is not a matai of Vaiusu.

He also has no right under the Constitution, which I explained, these are lands owned by Government, starting from the sea to where it ends. It is not something that we just implemented now. It was initiated by our forefathers, with the participation of elders from Vaiusu. This little one who was born yesterday does not understand it. Well, that is the correction to the connection, this is just an outline of what we have now, but there will be a way coming from the seaside to inland Vaiusu port. As for the construction of the storage area, it will be located in Faleula. It starts from Vaiusu, it is depicted that the road might be expanded which is why there is a lot of land used, it will go on without limits, like the one in Matautu.

As for Vaiusu, there is a huge mass of ocean for boats to go around. A road will go through there directly across from Vaitele, then it is connected inland, planned according to Government lands, all the way to the center of businesses and factories where these products are needed, therefore heavy trucks will not be coming through the main road anymore. As for the port in Matautu, it will continue to cater other ships like cruises because it is not possible to stop the danger of the ships due to the force of the current in ocean swells, which affect the ships, during stormy weather. The strong current rams the ships against the harbour, which is why there is damage to the port and is constantly repaired.

We have noticed how strong the current can be, which resulted to one ship being pushed out to sit on the reef. There are other things that have happened as confirmed by the research of the engineers, which critics those who were born yesterday do not understand.

Mr Speaker, that is an announcement.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well, I call upon the member Lealailepule, to continue your speech we do not have long to go before we conclude our work for today, remember we had yesterday and today which is now 2 whole days, including the time that was adjusted with the interruptions.

**Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI:** Thank you Mr Speaker, I will conclude my speech on some matters, but I will leave my vote of thanks because it is too long for tomorrow if the Chair allows.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

No the speech of the Hon Prime Minister, the term worry, I cannot seem to find it in my dictionary. I do not have what you call stress, I live happily, because God only cares about one thing, your heart. If your heart is pure and you live happily, you will not worry. Because now they are making promises to the public. Mr Speaker, God appointed His Parliament. But the reason why I have touched upon this matter, is that the Prime Minister is right.

I am the member of Faleata West up to now until the dissolution of Parliament. It is why I am trying to explain and clarify this matter because the people of our constituency are listening who are deceived by these people. But I am grateful that it has been clarified that this is an important development, not only for Samoa but our constituency

It is here in Vaitele for information look into the Hansards, this is where the plans for the port is stated, the airport, and everything else as it was in the beginning. However there were also those in politics back then that made plans for our forefathers, I do not want to talk about it while I am here, they were all there. Therefore I want to give a recommendation to Government, Hon Prime Minister, thank you for putting a stop to the selling of Government lands. I also believe that when there are vacant lands, the Government should look into it and get a hold of it for future developments. Not only within Vaitele but in the town area

Thank you to the National Provident Fund, Accident Compensation Company and others who valued these lands. In my opinion, the Government should hold onto all lands within the town area for the whole of Samoa and upcoming developments. This is a recommendation and suggestion, moreover, it is not a secret, that the Government does not know the developments that have been affected due to the pandemic like tourists and those affected.

I believe the Hon Minister will speak on this later, as we all know, some of the businesses and developments that have been affected, Government have given assistance because the world will return, it will come back to our people, if they get this assistance and help needed for those who are mainly affected and suffering.

The Unit Trust of Samoa, since it was mentioned, this initiative is important. This development is very useful for us in general. I recall the funeral preparation for my mother. I called the Director, to send someone over with the cheque to sign. These dividends are useful, because if we put it in the bank, you will tend to use it. But these savings are useful. I was then given \$50,000, and I asked, how much is the balance? Leala it is small your remaining balance is \$450,000. Well the constituency is listening, it was all spent on the funeral.

**MR SPEAKER:** Praise God for the wealth.

1907

15 FEBRUARY 2021

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

**Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI:** Mr Speaker what is your opinion if I finish it tomorrow, I will conclude my speech only on a vote of thanks, incase it might be stopped abruptly this evening, but I want to voice a thank you of 50 minutes, but I will only do so according to your will. If not, then I will finish it now.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well, thank you please conclude.

**Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI:** Mr Speaker, this constituency will now conclude its remarks. This member will return whilst the support of the constituency and families. I thank the support of Samoa, to His Excellency Le Ao O le Malo, and his Goodlady, the Member of Council of Deputies and his Goodlady.

I thank the Clergy for their contribution in the spirits of Samoa for the faith and life everlasting. It is your prayers that have blessed the duties of the Parliament of Samoa. It is your prayers also that will let our Lord choose the Leaders of Samoa. However a humble request to some church Ministers, do not pray based on favouritism, this is not the will of God, but let us pray for the blessings of Samoa. Do not use the altar to preach to change the Government. How would you feel if you hear us speak in Parliament, to change the church where people should go?

Mr Speaker, this is a request. It is not all Pastors, but we have heard some Pastors, I humbly convey this request, especially the church that I treasure, the Congregational Christian Church of Samoa. Mr Speaker my church life started with the Congregational Christian Church, Elder Reverand Alesana and wife Vii, followed by Rev Sulufaiga and wife, Sulufaiga was Chairperson of the Church, followed by Iupeli Ieremia. Then later followed by Anesone Tavita and Tavita Anesone. It is not one but six Congregational Christian Church pastors witnessed my upbringing. Therefore I want to say thank you. I also want to thank the Pastor of the church I am attending now, Susuga Pastor Samoa Unoi and faletua. Wherever we go, we cannot forget our church. But I am grateful for the services, thank you for the work of devotion to God. This is the only humble request, please be compassionate...

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, I do not really understand the members speech, because it does not mean that the whole church is included.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

Maybe only a few of them have been swayed by the persuasive speech. Well, it does not mean that it includes all of the Church, such are the characteristics of the situation these days. It does mean than one or two people will be the reason why the whole church is mentioned, this is the biggest Church in Samoa. It has long been in service to save souls.

Mr Speaker this is assistance on the matter.

**Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI:** Thank you. I apologize to the servants of God, but that is my gratitude and humility in your work, because it is important.

To the sanctity of Samoa in all its aspects, from the tide inland, I commend you on your worship, especially your leadership, you have garnered authority, recognized by the Government through its Constitution on the dignified authority of Alii and Faipule. Because we believe that the peace of Samoa in the future is due to your orderly and dignified administration, especially your cooperation with the Government in its development. The truth is Mr Speaker, once there is a weakness in the authority of Alii and Faipule, this is the time when Samoa will face challenges. Such authorities Mr Speaker approved in our constituency; I must thank them.

To this day, right now, I am trying to sort out in my mind and my weak self the authority and the trust that has been put upon me by my village and constituency. It is something that rarely happens, and it was far from my thoughts, because I am just a simple person. Also, for services I could not fully convey, you have given me honor and dignity with the highest respect, this reflects the administration of the authority, in consultation of ideas and understanding.

The respectable Tama of the Fale, Afioga Mataia Lynn, your adage when you became the sa’o of this village and family, is kindness and friendship as per my speech today. Thank you for thinking of your village, your motherhood. The respects of our village to Afioga Aloalii Galumalemana and Tupuola, Tagaloa and Siliga, and your wives Toi and Pula, women and the respects of the village, well, this respect is not taken lightly. Samoa has witnessed the current state of governance in our community with your respect. I hope my life is useful in serving you wholeheartedly.

We will not forget the respect and dignity of Samoa residing in this village of Vaitele. You are no longer discriminated, we are one, and my opinion does not differ on one side of the other. I will work faithfully so that we can have a peaceful village, because the population of Vaitele does not decrease. This is one village blessed with young people, but you have given me authority and respect. Thank you, thank you very much.

15 FEBRUARY 2021

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

My village of Vaiusu, *i le susu o Seiuli o le Alo o Malietoa, ia, lau fetalaiga Ulugia ma lo outou Aiga Sa Ulugia, le Falefia o Alii*. We had an official farewell. I came with my contribution in return for your high respect and we spoke, whether I will not return, but that is your decision.

The respects of Toamua *i le afifio o Ale ma Ulu ma o la Aiga, le Gafa o Aatoe*, I thank you for your high respect, especially the village of Saina with respect to *Tuitoga, Motuopuaa and Lauaki*, especially the worship of a few pastors, and the clergy within the constituency, I would like to express my gratitude. We will still continue to meet.

Mr Speaker, I am sad, that we will miss your kindness, modesty and generosity. The Legislative Assembly of Samoa is not easy, it requires a person who has enough patience and foresight and relies on the assistance of the Spirit. I do not have to praise you, because you are one person who has contributed your life of service to Samoa. Not only in developing your own family, but your contribution to Parliament and politics, from a humble person. You have been the Speaker twice and was a former Minister.

I would like to thank you for your tolerance and patriotism. You have resigned under your own discretion. These records are permanent. May your life be prolonged so that you may reap the fruits of your labor. May God also bless your wife Naoupu, your children and family who are in support.

Hon Prime Minister, if it was God that put the person on the Chair, then it is only Him that removes them. But if they are chosen by people, people will remove them. You are a gift to Samoa. Samoa is well known to the world because of your praise and work carried out in the whole Pacific, you have become a Senior Leader that the Pacific consults. The Commonwealth, and the whole world, have given high regard of you and the Government. I am surprised that a Samoan does not think of such things. Why? The major challenges of the world that we faced under your leadership are over. There is only one reason, you live in faith and trust in God. God bless your leadership.

Hon Ministers of Cabinet especially the Hon Tuitama, whom we call the good Minister. It is believed that you will not be coming back. You have contributed a lot, not only as a member, but as a doctor. Thank you. I have a gift for you and Mr Speaker. The Israelite banana that is creating so much commotion because I know both like farming, my dad told me, “Do you know the solution to the Israelite banana, you should plant it together with the misiluki banana, and then you will get a new type of banana called Misielu.” Mr Speaker this banana, it is bearing very good fruit now. I will give both of your young banana shoots to grow, but you can name it according to your names, Misitama and Misifoa.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

Well, to our senior member the Fetalaiga Saleaula, my brother Mulipola who is not present and the elder member Hon Aeau, all the best with your rest period. In my opinion, I hope that when I get to this point, I will retire on my own free will, but not be removed by the people of the constituency.

Respectable members of Parliament, I also give you all my blessings, we will all come back. With respect to the member Afioga Leaana told me, “If we look at the record and 50% will not come back, it is heartbreaking.” I said to him, “Leaana, do you know that your record is to live in Samoa, between the Leader of Opposition and the Minister you are the one that wins? Do not be weak, do not be.” Yes.

To all the Chief Executive Officers of Government Ministries, I commend you all for your hard work, and never giving up. At the beginning of this term together with Afioga Afamasaga, I spoke to the Chief Executives of our Ministry and Sectors, and I said this, the top priority of the work carried out, is protecting the Minister and his Office. You have to protect the integrity of the Office of the Minister. How do you do it?

Do the work, and do not be afraid to give recommendations on what should be done. We are lay people, we do not have a deep understanding of many issues, but you were appointed by the Government, because of your expertise in these positions. If you love the Minister, implement the advice that needs to be done. I commend everyone. As stated by one American Leader, “We are Leaders who only make decisions, as for the people, they are the ones that go fight in the war and die there.” Well, I thank you all for your efforts, God bless you all, and especially those in charge of hospitals, police, Fire department and Emergency services, God bless you all.

Now I come to the Hon Minister, Afioga Afamasaga, well I do not have to make a testimony. But Samoa is witness, they have seen the major developments you have done, TV, Radio, other things like big cables, small users, big users, everything. I thank you for your courage in appointing me to work with you because Leala is rarely wanted by people. There are times when we overstep the boundary with our talks, but I thank you for your patience, I thank you as well for the work done for your constituency, now Satapuala have access to water, and Faleatiu are now using good roads since the independence of Samoa. God bless you Afamasaga in your return.

Lastly, I want to conclude with a word to my family. Papa be strong, we have 10 more years to be together. I thank you for being the one to encourage me to call you for your blessings. To my sisters and brothers, to my grandmother Kesa, my wife’s parents and everyone, my friends in Samoa and overseas who are giving their support, thank you for your support and worship.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

I am strengthened due to your prayers. Thank you for the love, thank you for the support given to Samoa.

Mr Speaker, finally, I will end my speech with a word to my beloved wife. My wife and children, thank you. I thank you for the courage. They are the ones which the saying states, they are affected without doing anything. Thank you for your courage, the devil will try to corrupt your mind, but Jesus always wins. Yes. Why? Because you are the only one that knows Leala and his heart. Leala did not choose a precious pearl or a precious stone, I choose a person with a love that is faithful. God bless you.

My children who are on scholarships in order to gain knowledge and understand the difference between right and wrong. Do not be overzealous in case you might want to be smarter than Leala, Leala is wiser than you.

Samoa, I pray that you forgive a transgression of this constituency. Blessings upon the Legislative Assembly of Samoa. Bless all of Samoa in its support, especially the Court and those whom I have missed in my remarks, God bless you all in your duties. Bless Samoa. Soifua. Thank you.

*Parliament showed their happiness with applause after the speech of the member of Faleata West.*

**MR SPEAKER:** I commend the respectable member Afioga Lealailepule, Samoa and your constituency have heard, especially this Parliament, because you are one of the members who speaks directly. A member who also expresses his will to Christ, “Who will go up to the Lord? Only those with clean hands and a clean heart.” That is why the other member spoke directly, especially the implementation of the will of the district. Well, I think you are right, it does not matter whether the time is long or short, but the works that have been done are important because work speaks. Well, Saul’s words to David are true, “You will do what is best for the constituency and you will always win.” Now you are contesting, you are blessed you do not have polling. Well, that is the calling of God. As you have mentioned, God appoints a person, and only God can remove them, but if people appoint a person, they are removed by other people. That is how it is.

You have given word for our Leader especially the Political Party, well those are my sentiments as well. This is why I believe that we should pray and spend time with God that is the best weapon. It is also where, we will build our relationship with God, our prayer is that we continue to speak with Him and return God will help us with our problems. Well, that is a feeling and belief.

*15 FEBRUARY 2021*

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021  
– debate on second reading**

I hope that the Lord continue to bless the member especially our Parliament. Samoa and your support that is it, that was the speech of the member of Faleata West in regard to the purpose of our work this Sitting day.

But before we...since we have arrived at the conclusion of our orders for the day.

Before we adjourn, I call upon the member of Anoamaa West, Susuga Lufilufi or the pastor to conclude our Sitting with a prayer.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were adjourned at 1:12pm until Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 9:00am.*