

que j'ai l'honneur de représenter ici. Ce sont les vœux d'un peuple ami dont les idéaux et les intérêts sont presque identiques aux vôtres. Cette similarité est bien logique étant donné que les racines des civilisations dans tous les pays démocratiques sont en principe les mêmes.

De plus, je profite de l'occasion qui m'est offerte aujourd'hui—unique dans notre histoire—pour vous remercier de l'accueil chaleureux que vous m'avez accordé.

Mr. Speaker, it is obviously true that the land, the climate and the people are the basic elements for the making of any nation. The future of that nation depends greatly upon what is done with the land and its resources. The political future of the nation depends, it is clear, upon the organized strength of the nation, and the social and cultural development of the nation can be measured only by the people's victory over their environment.

Indonesia's Natural Wealth

Like Canada, Indonesia is a vast country. We have more than 3,000 inhabited islands and our archipelago runs from Malaya to the north of Australia. It is a vast country of eighty-two million people and,—I do not say this in any boastful spirit,—it is today the third largest democracy in the world. Our nation is young in this modern world of ours, but it does not enter the family of nations empty-handed. I know that Canada is just beginning to exploit the great wealth bestowed by God upon this country; we of Indonesia are in the same position. The difference between us is that Canada's great natural wealth could not be exploited until science and technology had reached their present level. Indonesia's natural wealth could have been exploited—to the benefit of humanity—long ago. But we laboured under colonialism.

Now we can see no limit to the possibilities of development. It is no exaggeration to say that even we of Indonesia do not know the wealth of our country. It is no exaggeration to say that many of the islands composing our archipelago have hardly been explored, let alone exploited. When modern technology and modern science are devoted to the task of extracting the maximum from those islands, then I say with no fear of contradiction that Indonesia will contribute very, very greatly to the material well-being of this inter-dependent world of ours.

Furthermore, it is my belief that Indonesia and the other newly reborn countries of Asia and Africa have other gifts to bring to the world. I would like to quote to you a passage—a very short passage, but a very important passage—from a booklet distributed by the Canadian Government. This booklet was distributed three years ago throughout the countries of South-East Asia, and, speaking of Asia, it stated that: "Although we may have something to give and to teach, we have also much to receive and to learn. In this vast country of ours, we have found out how we may live and prosper, but from the east, with its ancient cultures, we have much to learn of the abiding things that bring comfort and delight to the mind and heart."

Mr. Speaker, that may well be true. What is equally true is that from the east also can come great material benefit, material benefit for all countries, material benefit both for the west and the east, material benefit for the whole world!

I know that it is a truism to talk of the inter-dependence of nations: I know that almost every speaker today refers to this, but it is sometimes difficult to appreciate just what it means in cold reality. The Government of Canada has obviously a real understanding of the position: this is shown clearly by the fact