

We are outside the Iron Curtain and we intend to stay outside the Iron Curtain. That is the message that I have received from this nation as I have met with you. Whoever tries to separate us will find that spirit, that unity in comradeship that I mentioned a moment ago, when the soldiers of our nations stood together to defend the world from tyranny, to preserve the sacred ideals of liberty and justice. When our engineers build dams together, when our students learn together, when our statesmen and national leaders confer and confide, we bring about within this Commonwealth of different races and religions, of different forms of government, a unity in the spirit, a dedication to the assurance that any disputes that we have (families will always have disputes) can, and must be, settled in an amicable way.

And I think, Sir, that it is sometimes forgotten what contribution the Commonwealth countries in Asia and Africa have made to the evolution of the concept of the Commonwealth. I saw it a year and a half ago in London when as a novice I joined that Conference of Prime Ministers. Our peoples do not share a common British ancestry; your mother tongue is not English. Nevertheless when your country, like the others, emerged to independent status, it remained within the Commonwealth as an act of choice because of that something that touches our hearts, the common heritage of free institutions, the common recognition of the worth of man. And I see this Commonwealth greater in the years ahead. It has a message for all mankind. Its common heritage - that is something; its dedication to the worthwhile things of life - that is something more. It is a bridge of understanding spanning the five continents of the earth and linking together peoples of every race and creed and colour.

Sir, it has been an inspiring experience for me. I see this new land, and I say new land because it is a new country among the countries of the world. We, who are growing older, look at the student body and wish once more that we could be with them to see something of what will happen in their life times. If I could give a message to the student body of this University, now mine by adoption, it would be this: to the young men and young women - be participants in the great opportunity that has come to you. In the practice of your citizenship, don't be standers-by. Join in the achievement of being architects of Pakistan's future. What vistas of opportunity are open to you. Leaders, leaders needed today, leaders that only the universities can give, you have a challenging future and great opportunities. May you be the leaders whose principles will never be tailored to materialistic aims or to the winds of ill-considered public opinion. May you never deny yourself the courage to take the offensive for the things that are just and right. May you always, understanding freedom, live it and cherish it. May you be the architects of the greatness of a great Pakistan. May you