

a mighty torrent, and one thing is certain: we are in the midst of an historical change which is vital for the whole future of mankind. It is a nationalist torrent, and that torrent is not directed against anyone or any nation. It is a torrent whose object is the greater freedom, the greater liberation, of mankind. I say this in all seriousness: any attempt to stand against that torrent will be vain, just as every attempt ever undertaken to stand against an historical process has been vain. This torrent is directed only against the outworn principle of colonialism. You may call it a destructive torrent, but it is one which is destructive only of colonialism, and one which will lead to a greater and wider horizon of freedom for all men everywhere and in every country. In the framework of history it is constructive and progressive.

Today most of my own country is free, most of my own nation is enjoying the fruit of independence, but to our sorrow and continued dissatisfaction a part of our nation and country still suffers under colonialism, that plague on mankind's fulfilment. West Irian—perhaps you know it better as West New Guinea—is still unfree. Until West Irian is rejoined to the rest of my country, Indonesia will feel herself incomplete and insecure. There can be no question that West Irian is part of Indonesia, and indeed until 1950 no one in the world would have dreamed of denying that fact. Until we are united with our still unfree brethren, we of Indonesia will never be content, because we know just what colonialism means in terms of human unhappiness, in terms of human misery and human degradation.

In this world of ours, troubled and uneasy though it is, there is still much success and many gains for the peace and security of men. Whatever we have gained has been won because man's understanding of other men as brothers has increased.

This is essential. Mankind the world over is basically the same whatever culture or ideological details may appear to divide him. Understanding and sympathy are necessary. Active understanding and active sympathy will help relieve the strains and tensions in the world. This is really my message to you. Give us your understanding and your sympathy. Give us, if you can, your active understanding and your active sympathy. If you do that, and if we of Asia and Africa retain that active sympathy and understanding, then the future of the world can indeed be bright.

Yes, mankind is basically the same, whatever racial or ideological details may appear to divide him. Why should mankind divide himself? Look, Indonesia is a country with many religions and many faiths. We have in Indonesia Moslems, we have Christians, we have Civa-Buddhists, we have peoples with other creeds. We have many ethnic units, such as Javanese, Achenese, Balinese, Madurese, Sundanese etc. But thank God, we have our will to unity.

We try to practice our State motto "Bhinneka Tunggal Ika", which means "Unity in Diversity". We are tolerant to each other, we are one nation. One of the most remarkable phenomena in modern history is that we of Indonesia, although living on three thousand islands, are united in one nation, without pressure, without compulsion, without civil war.

What, then is our unifying force? It is the will to unity, it is "le désir d'être ensemble", instead of suspecting each other, dominating each other, threatening each other and colonising each other—living at each other's expense.

We of Indonesia try to practice "Bhinneka Tunggal Ika" amongst ourselves. Let us try to practice "Bhinneka Tunggal Ika" amongst nations.

Then, only then, can we look up again to the stars, and say: "Thank God, for You have given us this world, and we have lived according to Your Word."