

Address by
PLP NATIONAL CHAIRMAN BRADLEY B. ROBERTS

44TH ANNIVERSARY OF MAJORITY RULE DAY PRAYER
BREAKFAST

9TH JANUARY 2011

Mr. Party Leader and Mrs. Christie, Ministers of the Gospel,
Parliamentarians, Stalwart Councilors, Party Officers, Members and Friends,
a very pleasant Good Morning and special welcome to all.

As we celebrate the 44th anniversary of Majority Rule Day, we must begin by
looking around us and giving thanks to Almighty God for all that we as a
nation have accomplished over these years.

We reflect on and pay homage to the heroes and freedom fighters who
sacrificed much in the name of freedom and social justice for their
unwavering tenacity, perseverance, blood, sweat and tears in the cause were
not in vain.

We gather at this prayer breakfast this morning keenly aware that the struggle
for social justice continues because we have not wiped every tear from every
eye and too many of our brothers and sisters have fallen through the social
safety nets and exist on the periphery of the Bahamian mainstream. The level
of crime is unacceptable which affirms the serious social problems in our
Bahama land. Our Educational and Justice System are broken. These
conditions are unacceptable and the PLP must recommit itself to correcting
this serious vexing problem.

I acknowledge that in some respects, many Bahamians have regressed,
especially over the last generation or twenty years. Forty-four years later, the
dream and promise of economic justice through equitable wealth distribution
remain unfulfilled.

The philosophy that Bahamians are to be the principal and primary
beneficiaries of our nation's resources and bountiful harvest has been for the
most part abandoned in favor of the appeasement of special interests and

foreigners. Further, too many Bahamians feel that the wants and desires of the privileged few take primacy and are satisfied at the expense of the needs of the many. This is a fundamental betrayal of the spirit, intent and promise of not only Majority Rule, but democracy and we as freedom and justice loving Bahamians have a moral and constitutional responsibility to correct this national and pervasive malaise.

Let me be very clear and specific in stating unequivocally that it is this generation's responsibility to vigorously pursue economic justice and this must and will be one of the major watch words of the next PLP administration.

My Brothers and Sisters, we must never forget the promises of Majority Rule Day as we continue to shape the modern Bahamas. Where ever there is injustice, be it social, political or economic, we have a responsibility to speak out and to correct it. Where ever freedom is being stifled and replaced with dictatorship and oppression, we have a responsibility to fearlessly stand against it.

Please be warned that when the cult of personality pre-empts public policy and ideology in public life, we are in danger of derailing the principles of democracy; we must not be derailed or distracted. I repeat that this generation has the responsibility of continuing the struggle and fulfilling the promises of Majority Rule which are deeply rooted in the principles of democracy, justice, freedom and fair play which collectively embody the Bahamian dream. Your country demands no less of you.

On behalf of the leadership of the Progressive Liberal Party, I express my sincere gratitude to the fearless soldiers in the struggle for keeping the spirit and the promises of Majority Rule alive and may Almighty God continue to bless the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

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