

Reflections on the 50th Anniversary of Congo's Independence

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This is a great opportunity for all the Congolese to remember the time. Leaders of that time fought not for their own interest but for the common Congolese interest and we need to be proud of them. This needs to recall us to know that we are mature enough to change our way of doing things, a time to do all to bring about prosperity to this particular land.

We as Congolese need to stop fighting between us, but do our best to restore peace which will give us an opportunity to develop and reconstruct the country that has been seriously damaged because of the past hostilities.

When I am thinking of Congolese independence, I am thinking of what Independence means in the Bible, where 49th years represent a year of propitiation when people have to lead their behaviour to make God turn away from His anger about us as human beings. It is also a year where all Congolese had to confess their sins in preparation for the 50th year, a year of expiation, a year when God is able to forgive our sins and allow us to forgive one another in order to seek for real unity, real excellent relationship with one another.

50 years of independence is a year where a Congolese has to forgive his brothers and sisters and send them back to live a wonderful life together. It is a year of forgiveness, a year of prosperity, a year of new vision, a year of end of hostilities, and a year of marvelous relationships. I hope that all Congolese will sit down and think and rethink on what they were doing in the past years and see if they can do things differently to bring a positive transformation of mentality.

I am glad that I was born few months before the independence day, so I feel like I am also old enough to do things differently, as my birthday is January 26. I am a man born in a moment where people long for freedom.

May the Lord shine his gracious face upon us and be gracious to us.