

REMARKS

BY

HIS EXCELLENCY DR. GEORGE MANNEH WEAH
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

ON THE OCCASION OF

A FUND-RAISING DINNER

MARKING

THE 60TH BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY

OF

HER EXCELLENCY CHIEF DR. JEWEL HOWARD-TAYLOR
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

AND

THE UNVEILING OF A MOSAIC PAINTING TITLED:

“THE LIBERIAN VOICES.”

EJS MINISTERIAL COMPLEX
TUBMAN BOULEVARD
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

JANUARY 16, 2023

Her Excellency Madam Clar Marie Weah
First Lady of the Republic of Liberia;

Her Excellency Chief Dr. Jewel Howard-Taylor
Vice President of the Republic of Liberia;

Her Excellency Madam Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
Former President of the Republic of Liberia;

Her Excellency Dr. Fatima Maada Bio

First Lady of the Republic of Sierra Leone;

The Speaker, President Pro-Tempore & Honorable Members of the 54th Legislature;

The Dean and Members of the Cabinet;

Other Government Officials, here present;

The Doyen & Members of the Diplomatic Corps;

Distinguished Honorees;

Members of the Clergy;

Members of the Fourth Estate;

Ladies & Gentlemen:

I am delighted to be here this evening to join you in celebrating the Diamond birth anniversary of a very special person; a woman of substance; a woman of faith; a woman of endurance; a Patriot of the highest order, and an exemplary Public Servant.

That person is none other than Her Excellency Chief Dr. Cllr. Jewel Howard-Taylor, Vice President of the Republic of Liberia!

LET US ALL NOW SHOW HER OUR LOVE AND RESPECT WITH A STANDING OVATION AND A BIG ROUND OF APPLAUSE!

Madam Vice President, when we should have been bestowing honor upon you on this your Natal Day, you have instead demonstrated a deep sense of selflessness by choosing to honor us, something that is a rarity in humanity. We thank you!

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

Someone once said, and I now QUOTE:

“When you lift up a woman, you too shall also rise.”

UNQUOTE.

By the unveiling of this beautiful Mosaic, Madam Vice President, you yourself have risen to a higher height by lifting up women in our nation who have worked and are still working for change and transformation. Women who have been trailblazers in their own rights. Women who have broken glass ceilings. Women who have boldly gone where many have feared to go. Women who have suffered, and endured. Tonight, Dr. Jewel Howard-Taylor, by lifting Liberian women up in this way, you are raising the hopes, dreams and aspirations of all Liberians by amplifying and re-echoing the voices of these great Liberian Women.

I am humbled by your preferment of me to receive this honor, but frankly, all I have done, and continue to do for the advancement of women, comes out of my deepest conviction that in Liberia, women are the roots upon which the Trees of our Nationhood can grow and blossom, bringing light and love to all, working in tandem with our Administration to realize the gains for a better and stronger Liberia.

As I behold this wonderful Mosaic, I am without any doubt that all of these women, both past and present, have been strong women. A strong woman stands up not for herself, but for others. She is selfless, and not selfish. In the course of our Nation's history, particularly during difficult periods, it is these strong women who have stood the test of time.

I admire and salute you, my strong Liberian women. Your unrelenting efforts, your strong advocacies, and your persistent attitudes have enabled us to ride out the stormy seas, and advance Liberia to a peaceful shore.

You continue to be firm voices in sustaining the peace in Liberia. As Liberia's Feminist-in-Chief, I am grateful to all of you, but especially to two of the strongest women that I have ever known. I speak of no other than YOU, Madam Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

[PLEASE STAND AND GIVE HER A BIG ROUND OF APPLAUSE],

and YOU, Madam Jewel Howard Taylor.

[PLEASE STAND AND GIVE HER A BIG ROUND OF APPLAUSE],

As we join you in this joyous and auspicious celebration, Madam Vice President, let me, on behalf of my wife, your sister Clar Marie Weah and our children; the Cabinet, and the entire Government, wish you a blessed, peaceful, and wonderful birthday filled with God's special favor. Happy Birthday, Jewel!!