

Christian Democracy

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1. The one form of government that the world in general, and the Philippines in particular, needs to solve its many and varied problems today is democracy. A democracy that is fundamentally genuine in essence and in spirit, and not in letter and form only.

2. Time and again experience has shown to us that a government can pretend to conduct its affairs in compliance with democratic practices and constitutional provisions and yet still remain a mockery of true democratic ideals.

3. A close analysis of this dilemma will reveal that such a sham is made possible when the legal technicalities of government are allowed to overshadow the Christian principles of charity and love which are really the basic pillars of democracy.

4. All attempts at a government "of, for, and by the people" can be utterly empty if the people charged with the responsibility of guiding that government are obsessed by personal ambitions of self-aggrandizement and self-interests.

5. Similarly the voting public can be equally guilty if it votes into power only those people who will take

care of its selfish interests and conveniences at the expense of the public welfare in general.

6. A democracy dominated by self-seeking leaders and supported by a selfish voting public will not long endure. It will move to and fro to the tune of human caprice and machinations, skimming the dangerous abyss of dictatorship and communism. It can never be as permanent as that Christian democracy that is motivated only by a sincere desire to serve the most good to the most number.

7. A sham democracy is doubly dangerous because it is a bad wolf disguised in sheep's clothing. It will perpetuate the crimes of dictatorship beneath the protection of so-called democratic processes.

8. On the other hand, Christian democracy will slowly weed out selfish ambitions of nations and individuals and finally achieve that universal harmony for which Christ redeemed mankind.

9. It is imperative that we give our unstinted support to Christian democracy because only in that condition of universal peace and harmony may we hope to achieve ultimately our own individual happiness.

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