

RIN - GOVERNMENT - JAMAICA

FOURTEEN YEARS OF P.J. PATTERSON

1992: "For my part, I intend, at all times to act and speak with the level of dignity and decorum that befits this high office."

1993: "We must find again the same type of commitment and energy with which we were infused when we struggled as a people to bring about our own independence."

1994: "People want to shape their own future. They do not want to leave to government or private sector bureaucracies, however benevolent, the right to take vital decisions that affect their own daily lives."

1995: "We who are in the vanguard of the political process must ourselves demonstrate that the party system is not guerrilla warfare but a democratic device offering options for guiding the way forward into civil society."

1996: "I want to see the people from my ancestry, from my race, from my

nation, which combines people of different colours, be a model of what the world could look like."

1997: "Without the correct precepts, freedom is empty. It is a belief in self that allows one to make full use of his or her freedom."

1998: "No country can advance if the psyche of its people is not attuned to a positive vision about the future and how each individual can contribute towards it."

1999: "The changes that are occurring in our world and in our country are powerful and fundamental. They are here to stay. This means, therefore, that our institutions, political systems and bureaucracy must either change quickly, or disintegrate and be swept away."

2000: "As a society we must consciously turn to changing this culture of violence through adjusting the ways in which we relate to each other and the ways we solve disputes."

2001: "We must learn as a people that the weaknesses as well as the strengths in the performance of governments are the weaknesses and strengths of all of us who are Jamaicans."

2002: "During the ten years, I have had joyful days but there have also been very challenging days. At all times I seek the inner strength and inspiration which can only come from the Almighty."

2003: "Let us expunge the negativism that is constantly holding us back and exude the positive spirit that will lift us to higher levels of achievement, knowing fully well that whatever may go wrong may be corrected by our own efforts."

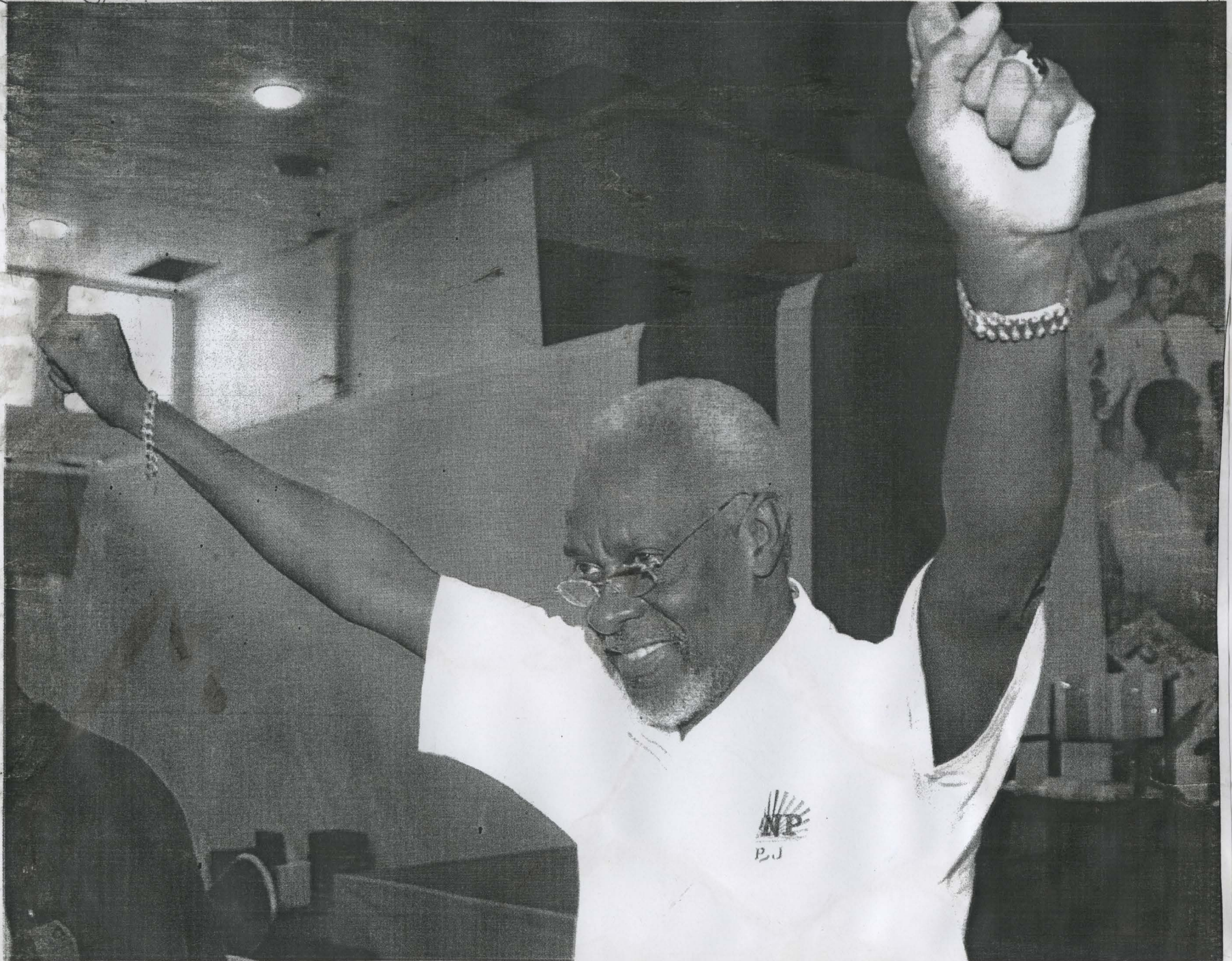
2004: "I affirm my profound confidence in ability to bear their burdens with courage and resilience, heightened by our special Jamaican humour."

2005: "Let us dispel any stubborn lingering adherence to the misguided view that the likes of us can neither rule nor govern ourselves that we can neither dispense justice to ourselves nor safeguard the most precious things for ones like us who have survived a history of denigration, dehumanisation and dependency. I refer to our innate humanity, that most precious possession."

2005: "Never before has any government developed so many policies and amended so many pieces of legislation, established so many independent oversight bodies and brought so many diverse groups with contending interests together for us to achieve our objective of a more open, transparent, accountable and responsive government."

- Compiled by Minister of State in the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade,
Senator Delano Franklyn.

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Outgoing Prime Minister P.J. Patterson in a happy mood at a People's National Party event at the National Arena in Kingston on January 18, 2006.

RUDOLPH BROWN/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

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