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### HUNDREDS OF JAMAICANS CELEBRATE MANLEY'S LIFE IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, April 2 (JAMPRESS):

Hundreds of Jamaicans in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area turned out to celebrate the life of the late former Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Rt. Hon. Michael Manley, at a memorial service held on March 27.

The Dunbarton chapel on the Howard University campus was filled with members of the Diplomatic Corps, U.S. government officials, members of the Jamaican and wider Caribbean community, and representatives of hemispheric and international organisations, including the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO), the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Jamaica's Ambassador to the United States, Dr. Richard Bernal in his opening tribute, described Mr. Manley as "a statesman, a visionary leader, a scholar and champion for peace, justice and economic progress".

He characterised the former Prime Minister as "one of the towering figures of the post World War II era, a leader of the Movement for political self-determination and economic independence of the Third World".

Dr. Bernal also lauded Mr. Manley as a "man of unflinching courage which he clearly demonstrated in the political arena when he challenged Jamaica to undertake profound social and economic change. He was never intimidated by any task, and was willing to challenge tradition and power even at the global level".

Ambassador Bernal also celebrated Michael Manley as one who had "an extraordinary impact and who made his mark in history. He leaves a rich legacy of his ideals, his example and his policy initiatives. He will be deeply missed in Jamaica, the Caribbean, the hemisphere and throughout the world by all who are committed to peace, justice, democracy and economic progress".

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The remembrance was delivered by Dr. Anthony Bogues, UWI lecturer, friend and former Special Advisor to Mr. Manley.

Dr. Bogues described him as being among those in a line of political thinkers and activists from the Caribbean "who not only changed what we thought about ourselves but what the world thought and thinks about us as a people".

He also remembered Mr. Manley as a man with a passion for equality. It was this passion that motivated Mr. Manley's advocacy for a New International Economic Order, for the end of the apartheid regime in South Africa and his support for political independence in Zimbabwe and Namibia.

Closer to home, Mr. Manley's passion for equality led him into trade union activity in the 1950s to fight for the Jamaican worker, Dr. Bogues said.

"It was in the sugar fields of Jamaica and the bauxite plants of Manchester that he learnt of the stark realities of the inequities of Jamaican society and the external forces in the world which supported that kind of social structure, both in the island and in many other parts of the world," he said.

Dr. Bogues highlighted the fact that a few weeks before he died, Mr. Manley conducted negotiations between all the unions in the Jamaican bauxite industry, securing agreement for a unified approach of all the unions in future labour contract negotiations with the companies, "ending years of union strife in that industry".

Mr. Manley, he said, was "restless in the search for solutions" and that his search for the politics of equality was the essence of his legacy.

Tributes in song of "Amazing Grace" and "Jamaica Arise" were given by Miss Faith Nelson, mezzo-soprano and Kevin Green, bass.

Officiating clergy for the service were the Rev. Kortright Davis, Rev. Izett Scott, Pastor Bertram Melbourne and Rev. Leslie McKoy.

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