



Friday, August 9, 2019

NFP President assaulted by Prime Minister

Friday August 9, 2019 will go down in the history of our nation as a shameful day when the Prime Minister of our nation, surrounded by his bodyguards, twice assaulted a honourable Member of Parliament.

The incident happened around **11.40am** when I was walking out of Parliament after moving and replying to my Motion calling for a Special Parliamentary Committee to be established to look at the national problem of drugs in Fiji.

I had walked outside parliament when I heard the Prime Minister's voice and he called out to me in i-taukei language "Pio, come here".

I turned around walked back to him where he was within the precincts of Parliament near his official vehicle surrounded by his bodyguards. He started swearing at me in i-taukei language – swore at my mother and my father, and assaulted me. In the process he broke my pair of eye glasses. He then again warned me in i-taukei language "Qarauna tiko" or Watch Out.

I then started walking up the parliamentary steps to go back into the House and report this to the Honourable Speaker. For the second time, the Prime Minister came up to me and assaulted me.

This is of course an act of downright cowardice and an act of thuggery. This act of violence was also witnessed by Honourable Qereqeretabua and members of our staff .

And worse – the PM's bodyguards stood around him and did nothing to hold him back.

I regard this as the most shameful and despicable act to have been carried out by any Prime Minister in our independent history.

All Correspondence Should Be Addressed To The General Secretary

HEADQUARTERS

124 Princes Road, Tamavua, Suva, Fiji Islands. / P.O. Box 4399 Samabula, Fiji Islands.

Telephone: (+679) 338 5916 | Facsimile: (+679) 338 1991 | E-mail: nfp@nfpfiji.com | Website: www.nfpfiji.com

@nfpfiji | FijiNfp | national_federation_party_fiji

An assault on any member of this house is an assault on our voters an assault on the sanctity of parliament and consequentially an assault on democracy. I am a member of the parliament of Fiji. I am a proud son of Fiji and I would not in earnest think of assaulting a member of this house—no matter how bad our disagreements.

After this, I will be going into the Totogo Police station to lodge an official police report. I will also be tendering a letter to the Speaker of the house of parliament to look into this very grave and serious matter. Violence in any form cannot be allowed to be perpetuated or condoned. I was assaulted in the presence of Hon. Qereqeretabua our youth members and members of the parliamentary staff.

This day of shame brought upon democracy in Fiji by the Leader of the nation must become a thing of the past.

AUTHORISED BY: -

Pio Tikoduadua

President

- ***The matter has been reported at Totogo Police Station this afternoon.***