

Speech By Cde. Janet – March 6, 2004 at Babu John

Son of Guyana.

We come here every March month to celebrate the life of one of Guyana's greatest ~~men~~. It was here at this site that we came in the thousands in March 1997 to pay our last homage to the man who gave purpose to our lives, who provided the leadership we so dearly needed to carry us forward as a people, as a nation.

Born just a short distance to where we stand now, he came from a workers' family and grew up in these environs. He knew from his earliest experiences the sufferings and oppression of the workers of this part of Guyana and to his everlasting credit, never forget his childhood of harsh living conditions and the great distance between the masters of the sugar estate and the workers.

All through his life, he sought to eliminate poverty and oppression and shorten the gap between the haves and the have nots. We all know our history since the 1940's of the terrible pressure, hostilities and sheer hate that his efforts to improve the lot of the people were subjected to. These elements, within and outside our society, still continue their threats and their hate campaigns as his followers continue in the struggle he began.

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that He knew from the earliest of times, ~~then~~ ^{going} giving back almost 60 years, and united Party was the means of achieving the goals of independence, better living standards and real democracy. He spent a great deal of time, energy and serious thought into building the People's Progressive Party. There are those today, who would seek to destroy the PPP and build a Party that suits their greedy ambitions and at the same time, hypocritically calling his name to bolster their intentions.

What we need today are not those who want to destroy what Cde. Cheddi took years to build, but men and women who are patriotic and who will stand by the ideals of justice and unity for which he stood and for which he dedicated his life.

plus 5th para on 1 2003 address