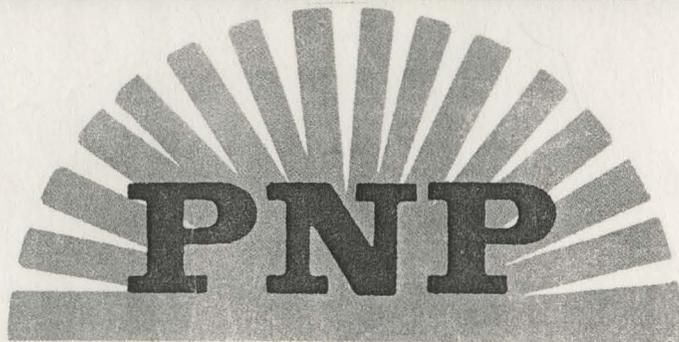
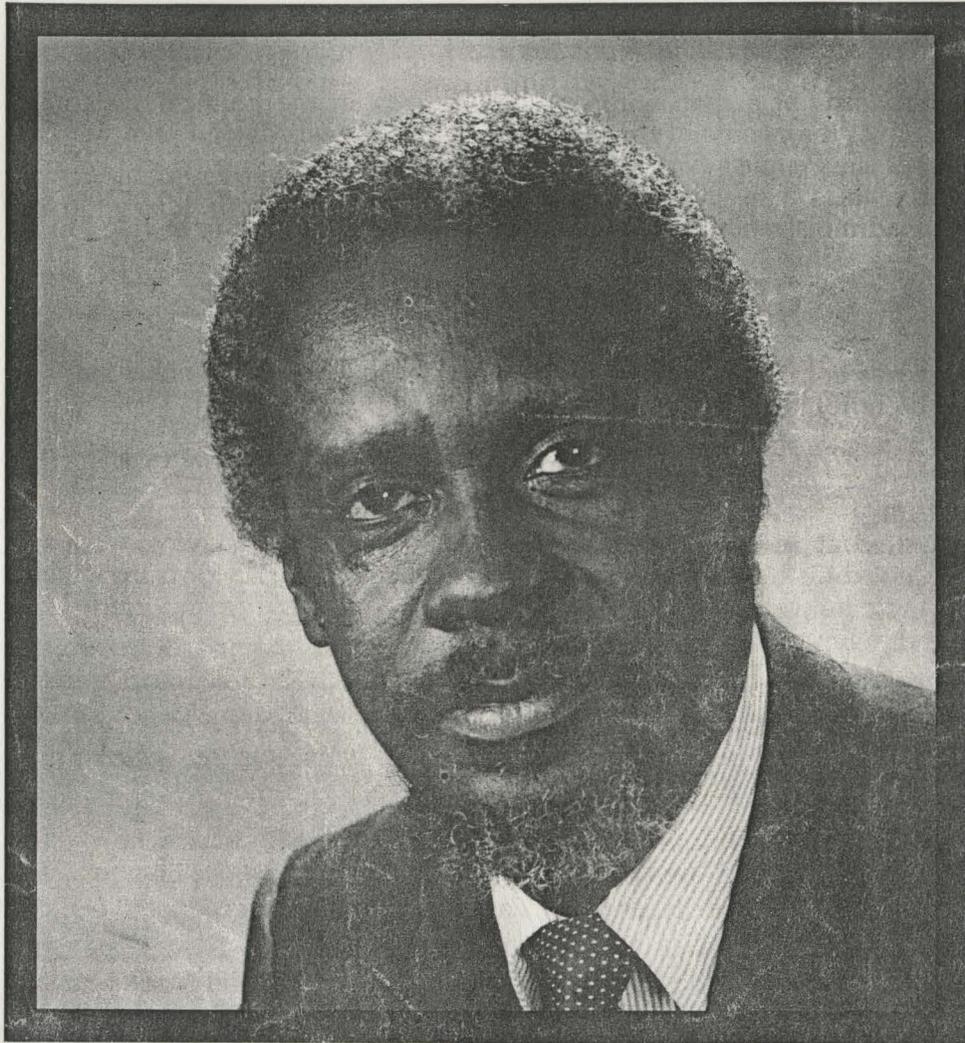


P.J. PATTERSON

Q.C., M.P., CHAIRMAN PNP



Man of
Vision and Experience

MAN OF EXPERIENCE MAN OF VISION

"I committed myself, very early in life, to the cause of helping the political and social advancement of my country. I have tried to remain faithful to that commitment." (1991)

"Our party has a history of bringing out the best in our people, of providing the inspiration and leadership that is needed when our nation faces seemingly insurmountable obstacles to economic and social progress." (1989)

These are the words of a man with an abiding faith in the political system, as a means of improving the life of the people of the land of his birth; the words of a man who has contributed to the building of the People's National Party with unswerving loyalty and commitment for the past thirty four years; a man who has proved his capacity for leadership at the highest levels, in succeeding PNP administrations and a man who has kept the humility instilled in him as a child.

THE BEGINNING

P.J. Patterson was born in the year 1935 to Henry Patterson, a farmer and Ina James, a primary school teacher both from the parish of Hanover.

"The educational opportunities I enjoyed have been the mainspring of my success." (1991)

He was educated at Somerton Primary School, St. James and having won a Purscell Trust Scholarship, received his high school education at Calabar High School from which he graduated in 1958. From there he went on to the University of the West Indies and graduated in 1958 with a B.A. (Honours) in English.

"Law and Politics have always shared a close inter-relationship because it is through the proper exercise of political power that one is able to achieve justice, which is the primary objective of Law." (1987)

He studied Law at the London School of Economics (LSE) where he continued to excel academically: he was awarded the Leverhume scholarship and the Sir Hughes Parry prize given to the top student at LSE for Excellence in the Law of Contracts. He graduated from that institution in 1963 with an LL.B.

He was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple in 1963 and in the same year admitted to the Jamaican Bar. In 1984 he had the distinction reserved for lawyers who have performed when he was called to the Inner Bar as Queen's Counsel.

MAN OF EXPERIENCE EARLY POLITICAL LIFE

"It should be remembered that my entry into Politics preceded that into Law, and not the usual way round." (1987)

The young P.J. Patterson began political activity, from his earliest days at the University campus at Mona, where he was one of the founders of the Political Club. As its President, he presided at the first political address given in the Caribbean by the late Dr. Eric Williams, who had stopped

in Jamaica to confer with N.W. Manley prior to returning to Trinidad to form the People's National Movement (PNM).

In 1955, he took part in a UWI research project which brought him into contact with such PNP stalwarts as Wills O. Isaacs, A.G.S. (Father) Coombs, Florizel Glasspole, Ivan Lloyd, N.N. Nethersole and Edith Dalton James. That year, he made his first appearance as a speaker on a political platform in the election campaign for the candidate for Western Hanover.

After that experience, he never looked back. Political involvement would take precedence over every other interest in his life.

In 1957 he was part of a team of students who campaigned throughout the island in the Federal elections of that year.

On a number of occasions he interrupted his academic studies to become involved in political activities: among these were the times when, during his studies at the UWI, he constantly chose travelling overseas on External Affairs Commission student activities over his academic studies despite the advice of his Professor; in 1961 when he was invited by N.W. Manley to return home from London to assist in the Federal Referendum campaign and to help in the General Elections of 1962. – he happily complied, again against the express advice of his Dean and Professor.

SERVICE AT THE GRASS ROOTS

"The constituency is the foundation on which our party is built and which helps to ensure that national programmes are firmly rooted in the reality of the everyday life of our citizens." (1989)

P.J. Patterson's political career progressed from student activity to solid organising at the grass roots level.

After graduation from the University of the West Indies in 1958, he joined the Party's organising staff under the tutelage of Vernon Arnett and O.T. Fairclough. He received training and served his apprenticeship in St. Thomas and St. Catherine and was then assigned as Organizer in St. Elizabeth, assisting from time to time in Manchester and Westmoreland. There was no better training ground for the role of leadership which he was destined to play in national political life.

SERVICE TO THE PARTY

He has served the People's National party as:

Party Organiser 1958-60
Member of the Constituency Executive
Member of the National Executive Council
Member of the Party Executive 1964-69
Vice President 1969-1982
Chairman 1983 – present

To each of these positions in the Party, P.J. Patterson brought the weight of a considerable intellect, a belief in the value of his contribution to the development of the Party and the country, and a sincere love for the people sought and served.

"One of the aspects of a political career that makes it so interesting is its unpredictability. One faces fresh challenges on a daily basis... We are constantly reaching for new solutions as we grapple with the age-old problems." (1991)

As early as 1967, there was a recognition of the important contribution that P.J. Patterson was making to the Party. That year saw the Party bitterly disappointed by electoral defeat. It was time

to seriously re-examine the structure and the policies of the Party. Young P.J. Patterson was entrusted with the challenging task of chairing the Re-appraisal Committee. The result – a re-structured Party, with new policy directions that led to a resounding victory at the polls in the next general elections.

A PREDICTION OF LEADERSHIP

When the report was presented to a conference at Excelsior High School, Norman Manley probably predicted that he would one day become the leader of the PNP.

P.J. Patterson's genius for working in a non-confrontational and principled manner with party cadres, for guiding discussions in a manner that allows equal respect for the opinions of all involved, has stood the Party in good stead. He has the ability to understand policy dynamics and to reach out to various sectors in order to formulate a policy that can gain wide acceptance.

"The conduct of an election campaign ... requires special skills of management ... It is always full of surprises ... I enjoy the excitement of the hustings and hitting the campaign trail..." (1987)

SEASONED CAMPAIGNER

P.J. Patterson's love for the campaign trail is well known in Party circles; he is acknowledged as being among the best campaign managers the Party has seen. He served as Campaign Director in the general elections of 1972, 1976 and 1989 where his skills as team player and team leader; his experience as a tactician; his capacity for hard, gruelling work on the campaign trail as well as his calm way of handling pressure and unforeseen problems all contributed to the Party's resounding victories in all three elections.

No aspect of a campaign escapes P.J. Patterson's plan of action – the selection of candidates, the training of field workers, nomination day planning, house meetings, street meetings, regional and national conferences – all are carefully discussed, organised and executed.

In addition to carrying out his duties as Campaign Director and running the campaign in his own constituency, P.J. Patterson is well known for his generous dedication of time and his assistance with fund raising to individual candidates, who seek his advice or who are thought to need special help.

THE PARTY CHAIRMAN

Since being elected to the post of Party Chairman, P.J. Patterson has brought new stature to the position. He never misses a meeting that it is his duty to chair. He comes fully prepared to concentrate on the issues that are on the Agenda, no matter how pressing affairs of state may be. In this way, he demonstrates his true dedication to the concerns of the people.

"In constituency terms, I am pleased with my contribution to ... the improvements introduced to South East Westmoreland which improved considerably the conditions of life there." (1987)

THE PARLIAMENTARIAN

While making a major and consistent contribution to Party activities at the national level, P.J. Patterson has also had the responsibilities that come with being a Member of Parliament.

He was first elected to the House in 1970 in a by-election occasioned by the death of the sitting Member for South East Westmoreland – Maxwell Carey. He held that seat until 1980 and was again re-elected in 1989.

He serves his constituency faithfully and in addition to improving local amenities such as water tanks and stand-pipes and seeking to improve roads, water supplies, assistance with schools, etc. he has struggled hard to have major developments at the national level that will assist his constituents. These include expanded educational and training facilities as well as access to opportunities created by such programmes as MIDA for new players to enter the economic playing field, in projects which include agriculture, craft, fisheries and small scale industries. South Coast Tourism Development is also providing new opportunities for young people in the leisure, entertainment and service fields.

P.J. Patterson has always stressed the importance of sports in his constituency and personally promoted sports competitions in his constituency.

SERVICE TO THE STATE

"It is no accident that the last three Prime Ministers - Shearer, Manley and Seaga - have all at various times served in the Upper Chamber ... our Senate has served as a political nursery for many." (1989)

THE SENATOR

P.J. Patterson's first taste of political service to the state came with his nomination to the Senate in 1967. From 1969 to 1970 he was Leader of Opposition Business in the Senate.

"(I had) the privilege of participating in an administration that implemented the most profound, far-reaching programmes of social change."

THE MINISTER

In 1972, victory at the polls for the People's National Party saw the beginning of a distinguished Cabinet career for P.J. Patterson. His first appointment was as Minister of Industry, Foreign Trade and Tourism.

Among the many accomplishments of his tenure in that position was the development of the small business sector. For the first time, persons of modest income had the wholehearted and practical support of the Minister of Industry. Relevant legislation was passed and funding made available to this sector.

In the tourism sector, P.J. Patterson was the architect of the integration of tourism into national life; again for the first time, Jamaicans were able to enjoy the resources of their own country and become a part of the industry. Decisions taken in the 70's laid the firm foundation for Jamaican ownership of the country's hotels and attractions, a foundation which has resulted in the primacy of the tourism industry of the 90's as the chief earner of foreign exchange for our country.

THE INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATOR

In 1978, P.J. Patterson had a change in portfolio responsibility when he was appointed Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade. His training in Law, his skills at human relationships were now called into play, as he led international negotiations, not only for his own country but for countries of the region as well as the developing countries of Africa and the Pacific in forums the world over.

THE CARIBBEAN INTEGRATIONIST

"CARICOM countries have limited human, financial and natural resources, but collectively, they are substantial ... we can pool our efforts to yield considerable benefits to individual nations and to the region as a whole." (1991)

In the region, his links with other Caribbean leaders formed at the University of the West Indies and the London School of Economics stood him in good stead. He worked with Prime Minister Manley of Jamaica, Eric Williams of Trinidad, Errol Barrow of Barbados and Forbes Burnham of Guyana on the evolution of CARIFTA into CARICOM. He was Jamaica's CARICOM Minister when the Treaty of Chaguaramas was signed in 1974.

He led Jamaica's team to the Conference on Economic Cooperation in Paris in 1976-77.

THE INTERNATIONAL MAN

An ardent supporter of the Commonwealth, he participated in Summit conferences in Toronto (1973); Kingston (1975) and London (1977).

Jamaica was a member of the United Nations Security Council during this period and P.J. Patterson put his mind to the complex problems facing the Council – Kampuchea, Afghanistan, the Middle East. He won wide admiration for his eloquent, comprehensive and forceful analyses of the issues facing the U.N., in his wide ranging policy statements during the period 1977-80.

He was Ministerial Chairman of the Group of 77 and is still remembered for his role as architect of the Lome Convention. His other international achievements include the ACP Sugar Protocol, access for bananas to the European market as well as the historic Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement signed in Kingston in 1977.

He attended UNCTAD meetings in Chile (1972); Kenya (1975) and the Phillipines (1978). As Foreign Minister, he led Jamaica's delegation to meetings of the Non Aligned Countries in India, Sri Lanka, Belgrade and Yugoslavia.

He has actively participated in SELA, ECLA and UNDP Conferences.

THE DECADE OF THE EIGHTIES

The decade of the eighties saw the People's National Party out of political office. It was a time in the Party of introspection, a time for re-examining the issues and concerns of the nation, a time for seeking new solutions to Jamaica's continuing underdevelopment, in a world where the vision of a new international economic order, which would make concessions to the countries of the Third World, had died a slow death.

PRIVATE PRACTICE

During this period, P.J. Patterson returned to the practice of law. With his partners, he used his considerable legal skills as well as his experience in the state, to be advocate of workers' rights in a number of landmark cases. His rate of success in the court room in this period, qualified him for the professional recognition of being called to the Inner Bar as a Queen's Counsel in 1984.

His international reputation as a skilled negotiator, led to his appointment as adviser to the government of Belize, during the final negotiations with Guatemala and the United Kingdom that led to the independence of Belize in 1982.

He was engaged as a consultant by the Commonwealth Secretariat, to assist in legal drafting of the Constitution for independent Belize, and was special guest of the Belize Government, on the granting of independence in 1982.

His dedication to politics was in no way diminished and in 1983 he became Party Chairman, a post which he still holds. He served on a number of Party Commissions, notably Communications and Outreach, as the Party worked steadily to rebuild its support. During that period, he was a regular participant in the People's Forums, through which, after the bogus elections of 1983, the Party sought to have its views on national issues heard.

RETURN TO STATE SERVICE

"Our great Party is once again at the helm of government at a very difficult period for our country. But we have faced similar situations in the past, have risen to the occasion and worked assiduously in the interest of our country ... We need the unity, strength, dedication and commitment of all our comrades, because we are all in this together."
(1989)

After a well-fought campaign, with P.J. Patterson as Campaign Director, the thrill of electoral victory was once again experienced by the People's National Party. On the dawn of the 10th of February, it would have been difficult to imagine what the Party and nation would face after the euphoria had worn off.

P.J. Patterson was once again appointed Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Development, Planning and Production.

THE ACTING PRIME MINISTER

Over the past two years, he was called upon to act as Prime Minister for long periods of time, as Prime Minister Manley was unfortunately the victim of ill-health. P.J. Patterson has been widely praised for his careful and sensitive, but firm handling of the affairs of state, during a period that included the declaration of the Gulf War and the implementation of full exchange control liberalisation, regarded as the most far-reaching economic development since independence.

Between 1989 and November 1991 he was responsible for:

- the preparation of the National Five Year Development Plan;*
- the establishment of the National Planning Council;*
- the National Productivity Council;*
- the Natural Resources Conservation Authority;*
- and the promulgation of a National Policy for Science and Technology.*

Between November 1990 and December 1991, he held the portfolio of Minister of Finance and Planning.

His achievements include:

- the drafting of the new Banking Act;*
- modernisation of the preparation of the annual Budget;*
- modernisation of the taxation system, including the introduction of the General Consumption Tax - in order to tax consumption rather than production;*
- reduction of stamp duty on imports of raw material and capital goods;*
- reduction of tax on bonus shares;*
- increase of the income tax threshold of \$14,352 per year, removal of wage guidelines;*

- re-activation of Hotel Incentives and Resort Cottages Act;
- tax exemption of gratuities of 10% or less;
- increase of revenue collection;
- introduction of removal of income tax on approved productivity schemes.

THE PRIVATE PERSON

(He is the father of two children, Richard and Sharon) who are now both pursuing Graduate Studies in the fields of Geophysics and Educational Psychology respectively.

P.J. Patterson is a man with a genuinely quiet personality. His many friends know of his love of music – in fact, in his younger days, he found time to serve as manager of the legendary Skatalites band. He has an encyclopaedic knowledge of the roots of Jamaican music and is a jazz enthusiast.

He is an ardent fan of cricket, boxing, tennis and track and field and finds time to enjoy a number of other spectator sports.

Among his best kept secrets are his many acts of personal charity.

He also has a very special rapport with young children.

MAN OF VISION

"A driving force in my life has been an undying belief in the ability of the Jamaican people to see to their own development." (1991)

Without flamboyance, P.J. Patterson is fiercely dedicated to the cause of the people of Jamaica. Those who take time to listen to his words will detect a steady, unswerving conviction that, despite the serious economic problems that we face as a nation, the Jamaican people can, and will, bring about a change for the better, to the disadvantaged which make up a large portion of our society.

"In trying to facilitate the personal, material and social development of each of our citizens, we must also maintain certain basic principles: we must preserve our values of freedom and justice; we must seek to protect the most vulnerable and disadvantaged ... We must be mindful of the critical role that our women and youth need to play in building our country ... We must place education and training at the top of our list of priorities. We must put people ahead of all else." (1991)

P.J. Patterson is a patriotic Jamaican, a humanist, an astute politician, with a track record of leadership at all levels; he is respected at home and overseas; he has served his country steadfastly, sincerely and well.

His experience in affairs of government is unparalleled. He is uniquely equipped to lead Jamaica as we enter the twenty-first century.

"P.J. Patterson has today's vision of tomorrow's society."