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COMMITMENT TO GREATNESS

The crisis which our country has to face today demands consummate commitment to excellence in every possible field of endeavor from the way we handle our national economy to the way we play politics. If greatness is another name for excellence, our national crisis, can be conquered only by conquering our habits of mediocrity. We still have to see our educators, scientists, artists, physicians, politicians, priests, etc. truly excell in their respective functions motivated only by their sincere desire to concretize their personal response to the Christian message by responding to the challenge of their respective vocations. It is only after they shall have braved the disciplines of excellence will they be able to come to church with a clear Christian conscience because only then can they say in all honesty that their Christian commitment has challenged them to commit both themselves and their country to greatness. - Portion of a letter to Manila Times Columnist A. R. Roces, April 7, 1966, by Fr. Ben J. Villote, University of the Philippines.