



Al-Baschir, President of north Sudan - 2011

The wish to acquire is in truth very natural and common, and men always do so when they can, and for this they will be praised not blamed; but when they cannot do so, yet wish to do so by any means, then there is folly and blame.



Aleksandr Lukashenko President of Belarus - 2011

And he who becomes master of a city accustomed to freedom and does not destroy it, may expect to be destroyed by it, for in rebellion it has always the watch-word of liberty and its ancient privileges as a rallying point, which neither time nor benefits will ever cause it to forget.



Ali Abdallah Salih, President of Yemen - 2011

Hence it is that all armed prophets have conquered, and the unarmed ones have been destroyed. Besides the reasons mentioned, the nature of the people is variable, and whilst it is easy to persuade them, it is difficult to fix them in that persuasion. And thus it is necessary to take such measures that, when they believe no longer, it may be possible to make them believe by force.



Bashar al-Assad, President of Syria - 2011

It is to be added also that a prince can never secure himself against a hostile people, because of their being too many, whilst from the nobles he can secure himself, as they are few in number.



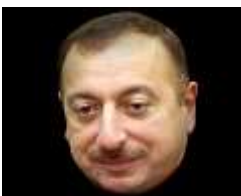
Gurbanguly Berdymuhammedov, President of Turkmenistan - 2011

A Prince ought to have no other aim or thought, nor select anything else for his study, than war and its rules and discipline; for this is the sole art that belongs to him who rules.



Hu Jintao, President of China - 2011

There is nothing wastes so rapidly as liberality, for even whilst you exercise it you lose the power to do so, and so become either poor or despised, or else, in avoiding poverty, rapacious and hated. And a prince should guard himself, above all things, against being despised and hated; and liberality leads you to both. Therefore it is wiser to have a reputation for meanness which brings reproach without hatred, than to be compelled through seeking a reputation for liberality to incur a name for rapacity which begets reproach with hatred.



Ilham Heydar oglu Aliyev, President of Azerbaijan - 2011

This is to be asserted in general of men, that they are ungrateful, fickle, false, cowardly, covetous, and as long as you succeed they are yours entirely; they will offer you their blood, property, life and children, as is said above, when the need is far distant; but when it approaches they turn against you.



Isayas Afewerki, President of the State of Eritrea - 2011

Men more quickly forget the death of their father than the loss of their patrimony.



Nursultan Nasarbajew, President of Kazakhstan - 2011

Every one admits how praiseworthy it is in a prince to keep faith, and to live with integrity and not with craft. Nevertheless our experience has been that those princes who have done great things have held good faith of little account, and have known how to circumvent the intellect of men by craft, and in the end have overcome those who have relied on their word.



Joseph Kabila - President of the Republic of Congo - 2011

But it is necessary to know well how to disguise this characteristic, and to be a great pretender and dissembler; and men are so simple, and so subject to present necessities, that he who seeks to deceive will always find someone who will allow himself to be deceived.



Kim Jong-il, President of North Korea - 2011

... men judge generally more by the eye than by the hand, because it belongs to everybody to see you, to few to come in touch with you. Every one sees what you appear to be, few really know what you are...



Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, King of Saudi Arabia - 2011

And when neither their property nor honour is touched, the majority of men live content, and he has only to contend with the ambition of a few, whom he can curb with ease in many ways.



Muammar Muhammad Abu Minyar al-Gadda, Revolutionary Chairman of the Libyan Arab Republic - 2011

And here it should be noted that hatred is acquired as much by good works as by bad ones, therefore, as I said before, a prince wishing to keep his state is very often forced to do evil; for when that body is corrupt whom you think you have need of to maintain yourself — it may be either the people or the soldiers or the nobles — you have to submit to its humours and to gratify them, and then good works will do you harm.



Mahmoud Ahmadi Nejad, President of Iran - 2011

The best possible fortress is — not to be hated by the people, because, although you may hold the fortresses, yet they will not save you if the people hate you, for there will never be wanting foreigners to assist a people who have taken arms against you.



Paul Biya, President of Cameroon - 2011

A prince is also respected when he is either a true friend or a downright enemy, that to say, when, without any reservation, he declares himself in favour of one party against the other; which course will always be more advantageous than standing neutral.



Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda - 2011

And the first opinion which one forms of a prince, and of his understanding, is by observing the men he has around him.



Raul Castro, President of Cuba - 2011

There are three classes of intellects: one which comprehends by itself; another which appreciates what others comprehend; and a third which neither comprehends by itself nor by the showing of others; the first is the most excellent, the second is good, the third is useless.



Salva Kiir, President of South Sudan - 2011

Therefore it must be inferred that good counsels, whenever they come, are born of the wisdom of the prince, and not the wisdom of the prince from good counsels.



Robert Gabriel Mugabe, President of Zimbabwe - 2011

Nevertheless, not to extinguish our free will, I hold it to be true that Fortune is the arbiter of one-half of our actions, but that she still leaves us to direct the other half, or perhaps a little less.



Than Shwe, the head of state of Burma - 2011

Fortune being changeful and mankind steadfast in their ways, so long as the two are in agreement men are successful, but unsuccessful when they fall out.



Sheikh Sharif Ahmed, President of Somalia - 2011

There is no other way of guarding oneself from flatterers except letting men understand that to tell you the truth does not offend you.



Wladimir Wladimirowitsch Putin, President of the Russian Federation - 2011

One has to remark that men ought either to be well treated or crushed, because they can avenge themselves of lighter injuries, of more serious ones they cannot; therefore the injury that is to be done to a man ought to be of such a kind that one does not stand in fear of revenge.



Silvio Berlusconi Prime Minister of Italy - 2011

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Jose Eduardo dos Santos, President of Angola - 2011

A general rule is drawn which never or rarely fails: that he who is the cause of another becoming powerful is ruined; because that predominancy has been brought about either by astuteness or else by force, and both are distrusted by him who has been raised to power.

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