

# Memorial Day Statement

May 21, 2014

Each Memorial Day, we stand united in remembrance and in grief. Gone from someone's life is a son or daughter, a husband or wife, a sister or brother. This is a day to cherish their memory and to celebrate the deeds of all veterans who have served our nation.

Let us give thanks every day of our lives for them, for they have rightfully earned our gratitude, our respect and a place of honor among us. And we must strive to instill and keep their honor.

As Americans, we have been blessed to have so many people who were genuinely committed to something larger than themselves — people who understood duty for the greater good. And we must never forget that the freedoms we enjoy today are due to these men and women. The sum total of who we are as a nation and as a people is mirrored in their sacrifices.

There is no better way to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice than to remember them, and their courage, and draw upon it to strengthen our spirit as a nation.

May God bless all who have served, and may God bless America.

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