



A message from **THE PRESIDENT**

On Monday, January 15, the nation celebrates the life and legacy of a remarkable man:

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

A seminal figure in the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, Dr. King fought the forces of intolerance, hatred, and bigotry. In August 1963 he spoke to a quarter-of-a-million people who had gathered in the nation's capital as part of the March on Washington. This historic day is remembered, in part, for Dr. King's stirring vision of a country – and a world – in which the misery and grief of racism was replaced with the joyous recognition of our shared humanity.

Standing on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, King spoke:

...I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day down in Alabama with its vicious racists, with its governor having his lips dripping with the words of interposition and nullification, one day right down in Alabama little Black boys and Black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers. I have a dream today.

Dr. King was assassinated in 1968, but his dream lives on. It has inspired millions of people around the globe for more than fifty years. May it kindle in all of our hearts the desire to take action. Our participation will always be required to help create the just and equitable world of Dr. King's galvanizing dream.

Respectfully and in solidarity,

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.
President

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