



Indian Diaspora Council

Indian Diaspora Council International

Shared heritage, aspirations and interests

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PRESS STATEMENT

For Immediate Release

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MEMORIAL DAY 2023 IN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



The Indian Diaspora Council International (**IDC**) joins with other organizations and institutions in commemorating Memorial Day 2023 in the United States of America. We express sincere gratitude to all who served in the military services to defend the nation and made the ultimate sacrifice; as well as to medical, police, fire and essential front line workers who risk their lives to save others. We also salute all volunteers, advocates and supporters who provide materials, resources and services to those in need at crucial times of natural disasters and the consequences of violence.

While we commemorate Memorial Day 2023, we are immensely grieved by the increasing levels of violence nationwide, wanton killings of children in schools and in neighborhoods, attacks on others because of race, religion or ethnicity, and resorting to unprovoked attacks and violence to resolve disputes and conflicts.

President Joseph R. Biden of the USA proclaimed Memorial Day, May 29, 2023 as a day of prayer for permanent peace, and designated 11:00am as a time when people might unite in prayer and reflection. "I urge the press, radio, television, and all other information media to cooperate in this observance. I further ask all Americans to observe the National Moment of Remembrance beginning at 3:00 p.m. local time on Memorial Day. I request the Governors of the United States and its Commonwealths and Territories, and the appropriate officials of all units of government, to direct that the flag be flown at half-staff until noon on this Memorial Day on all buildings, grounds, and naval vessels throughout the United States and in all areas under its jurisdiction and control. I encourage families, friends, and neighbors to post tributes to our fallen service members through the Veterans Legacy Memorial at vlm.cem.va.gov so that we may learn more about the lives and contributions of those buried in National, State, and Tribal veteran cemeteries. I also request the people of the United States to display the flag at half-staff from their homes for the customary forenoon period." *US President Joseph Biden.*

Memorial Day is observed annually on the last Monday of May. It was formerly known as Decoration Day and commemorates all men and women who have died in military service for the United States. It started in 1868 as Decoration Day after the Civil War and in 1968 the US Congress declared Memorial Day as a national holiday.

With reverence, remembrance, reflection, respect and gratitude, we pay homage and tribute to all those in the US Armed Forces who made the ultimate sacrifice with their lives defending the freedoms and safety we enjoy and so dearly cherish. We also express gratitude for the extra-ordinary contributions of those who served and are serving in the US Armed Forces, as well as all in various branches of civilian law enforcement, firefighting, aviation, transportation, medical, auxiliary services and community volunteer services.

We are grateful for the enormous sacrifices made to maintain and advance freedom and liberty which universally endear the USA as a beacon of hope, freedom and refuge for the persecuted and downtrodden. USA's efforts in promoting freedom exemplify the indomitable human spirit to choose and make decisions for "the pursuit of life, liberty and happiness", and has inspired nations and individuals to advance their own struggles for freedom and human rights.

Indian Diaspora Council International (**IDC**) conveys its best wishes to the government and people of the United States of America, and in close collaboration with other countries, for continuing vigilance and championing the cause of freedom and liberty throughout the world, while protecting its citizens at home.

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Indian Diaspora Council International (IDC), established in 1997, is an international non-profit organization with global affiliates and membership in 21 countries with the objective to embrace, engage and enhance the shared heritage, aspirations and interests of persons of Indian origin with optimum inclusivity.