

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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MESSAGE ON NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY

Nelson Mandela International Day is an opportunity to reflect on the life and legacy of a legendary global advocate for dignity, equality, justice and human rights.

Each year, on this day, Nelson's Mandela's birthday, we pay tribute to this extraordinary man who embodied the highest aspirations of the United Nations and the human family.

Madiba's calls for solidarity and an end to racism are particularly relevant today, as social cohesion around the world is threatened by division.

Societies are becoming more polarized, with hate speech on the rise and misinformation blurring the truth, questioning science and undermining democratic institutions.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has made these ills more acute and rolled back years of progress in the global fight against poverty.

As always in times of crises, it is the marginalized and discriminated against who suffer the most, often while being blamed for problems they did not cause.

The pandemic has shown the vital importance of human solidarity and unity, values championed and exemplified by Nelson Mandela in his lifelong fight for justice.

No one is safe until all are safe. And each of us has a part to play.

Let us be inspired by Madiba's message that each of us can make a difference in promoting peace, human rights, harmony with nature and dignity for all.

Let us all honour Madiba's call to action and be empowered by his legacy.

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KATIBU MKUU

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UJUMBE WA SIKU YA KIMATAIFA YA NELSON MANDELA 18 July 2021

Siku ya Kimataifa ya Nelson Mandela ni fursa ya kutafakari maisha na urithi wa mtetezi mashuhuri ulimwenguni wa utu, usawa na haki za binadamu.

Kila mwaka, katika siku hii, siku ya kuzaliwa Nelson Mandela, tunamshukuru mtu huyu wakipekee ambaye alijumuisha matarajio makubwa ya Umoja wa Mataifa na familia ya wanadamu.

Wito wa Madiba wa mshikamano na kukomesha ubaguzi wa rangi unahusika hasa leo, kwani mshikamano wa kijamii duniani kote unatishiwa na mgawanyiko.

Jamii zinazidi kugawanywa, matamshi ya chuki yanaongezeka na habari potofu zinafifisha ukweli, kuihoji sayansi na kudhoofisha taasisi za kidemokrasia.

Janga linaloendelea la COVID-19 limefanya matatizo kuwa makali zaidi na kurudisha nyuma miaka mingi ya maendeleo katika vita vya ulimwengu dhidi ya umaskini.

Kama kawaida katika nyakati za migogoro, ni wale wanaotengwa na kubaguliwa ambao huteseka zaidi, mara nyingi wakilaumiwa kwa shida ambazo hawakuzisababisha.

Janga hili limeonyesha umuhimu wa dhati wa mshikamano na umoja wa binadamu, kuthamani yaliyopiganiwa na kuwekwa mfano na Nelson Mandela katika maisha yake ya mapambano ya kupata haki.

Hakuna aliye salama mpaka wote wawe salama. Na kila mmoja wetu ana sehemu ya kufanya wajibu wake.

Tuhimizwe na ujumbe wa Madiba kwamba kila mmoja wetu anaweza kufanya mabadiliko katika kukuza amani, haki za binadamu, maelewano na asili na utu kwa wote.

Wote tuheshimu wito wa Madiba kuchukua hatua na kuwezesha na urithi wake.