

Sette Giugno Recorded Message, Australia

Insellimkom! Ferħana ħafna, li għandi din l-opportunita', nibgħatilkom dan il-messag ta' awguri.

It is truly my pleasure to address the Maltese Community Council of New South Wales, on the occasion of the anniversary, of the Maltese Uprising of the 7th June, 1919, known as Sette Giugno.

By commemorating this event ... an event which is so important in the history of the Maltese nation, you are honouring our united heritage of values.

I am so pleased that you are still active contributors, towards the preservation and the strengthening, of our Maltese identity, around the world.

It was a memorable experience to be with you, in Australia, in 2016.

It was truly an opportunity to meet with many of you, and to listen to your authentic experiences, about your lives in Australia.

Thanks to this experience, I could feel the strong ties of family and friendship, which still unite you with the home of your ancestors.

I was much impressed by your sense of pride, which you feel for Malta.

This sense of pride is an encouragement to others, and a reminder of the importance to continue to foster strong historical, cultural, and familial roots, in an increasingly globalised world.

To effectively reach out to diverse groups in society, we must first of all respect, the dignity of our own identity and traditions.

The more we are aware of our own rich heritage, the more we will respect and honour the traditions of others.

Our historical heritage is evidence of the resilience which characterises our national identity.

The events of Sette Giugno, are especially powerful, because they show us the importance, that our ancestors placed in achieving self-determination and parliamentary democracy, as one united people of Malta.

During these events, the Maltese revolted, to gain full and free participation for all the citizens of our nation, in the economic, political, and social destiny of our country.

Our ancestors stood up, to build a free and democratic nation.

During your annual commemoration at the Maltese Bi-Centennial Monument, which commemorates the stories of Maltese migrants to Australia, let me also encourage you, to remember the struggle the Maltese people experienced, during the journey towards liberation.

We must be inspired by the bravery and the sacrifice of our ancestors, who struggled to achieve a robust democracy, which is built upon the values of solidarity, of peace, and of wellbeing.

Furthermore, let us continue to nurture our Maltese identity and culture, especially among our young people.

Your efforts to conserve Maltese history are evidence of the commitment we all share, to celebrate our historical heritage, for generations to come.

May you continue to promote the legacy of our struggles, to give identity to our culture and heritage of values, among our families, our friends, our communities, and across Australia, for many years to come.

Jiena kburija hafna bikom, u nixtiqilkom kull suċċess għall-futur. Nittama li nara hafna minnkom f'Malta din is-sena wkoll.