



**THE PRESIDENT**

Jerusalem, April 2014

To Jewish Community Leaders

Dear Friends,

As the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day approaches, our thoughts are with the survivors and the families of the victims, and dwell on the unprecedented atrocities of the Nazi era and the personification of evil that hunted down Jews to destroy them to the last, even on the eve of the Nazi defeat by the advancing Allied and Red Army troops.

The Unto Every Person There is a Name project, now in its 25<sup>th</sup> year, allows each and every person to revive the memory of a Holocaust victim and restore their identity, thus commemorating the legacy of the rich and vibrant Jewish communities that thrived before their destruction at Nazi hands.

Out of the ashes of one of the darkest chapters of Jewish history the Jewish people united and maintained the deep sense of mutual responsibility advocated by our Jewish values. The birth of the State of Israel, the Jewish homeland, represents the victory of the Jewish people over the heinous attempt to annihilate them, a beacon of hope for their future and a bright tomorrow.

This year, as in previous years, I call upon you to take part in this global Holocaust memorial initiative and hold a name-recitation ceremony on Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day, ensuring that this chilling period in our collective memory is never forgotten.

Shimon Peres