



THE PRESIDENT

Jerusalem, March 2015

To Jewish community leaders

Dear friends,

This year we mark seventy years since the end of World War II. The year 1945 reminds us how the lives of the survivors were played out in reverse: first they knew death, then life. Seventy years ago they started picking up the pieces upon which they built a living memory of the life that the Nazis took; a living memory of a culture, of a nation.

As we approach Yom Ha'Shoah, Israel's Holocaust Remembrance Day, we acknowledge the fact that there are two components of memory- past and future. The past- in the form of actual objects, names, pictures and testimonies, that are all collected so the memory of those who did not survive will not fade away. The future is before our very eyes, as we mark seventy years since the rebirth of the survivors, and we look at them as a living proof of creating life from the ashes.

Today, there are fewer and fewer survivors among us. We must work harder to ensure that the memory- both for the sake of the past and the future- will not fade away. 'Unto Every Person There is a Name' is one of the most significant tools that we have to fulfill this mission; a mission that is our shared responsibility, for the Jewish People and for human kind.

Sincerely,

Reuven (Ruvi) Rivlin