



Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC  
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

Message from Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC

## **Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia**


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As you gather in Peace Park to remember the fallen and find courage in peace and friendship, what lies at the heart of your gathering is a shared humanity: shared across borders, faiths, and families; shared across transgression and loss. Subdued by these violent acts, we nevertheless find hope in our solidarity and promise in the strength of what we share.

I think of the words of Indian activist and writer Arundhati Roy, who urged us:

*To never get used to unspeakable violence and the vulgar disparity of life.  
To seek joy in the saddest places.  
To never simplify what is complicated or complicate what is simple.  
To respect strength, never power.  
To watch.  
To understand.  
To never walk away.*

Her words resonate today. My thoughts are with you as you meet in their spirit.

  
8-12-08.