

*Administration of Barack Obama, 2012*

**Statement on the Death of Pope Shenouda III**

*March 17, 2012*

Michelle and I are saddened to learn of the passing of Coptic Christian Pope Shenouda III, a beloved leader of Egypt's Coptic Christians and an advocate for tolerance and religious dialogue. We stand alongside Coptic Christians and Egyptians as they honor his contributions in support of peace and cooperation.

We will remember Pope Shenouda III as a man of deep faith, a leader of a great faith, and an advocate for unity and reconciliation. His commitment to Egypt's national unity is also a testament to what can be accomplished when people of all religions and creeds work together. On behalf of the American people, we extend our thoughts and prayers to Coptic Christians, Egyptians, and all those who mourn Pope Shenouda III today.

*Categories:* Statements by the President : Deaths :: Pope Shenouda III.

*Names:* Obama, Michelle; Shenouda III, Pope.

*Subjects:* Deaths : Shenouda III, Pope; Egypt : Coptic Christian community.

*DCPD Number:* DCPD201200192.