

Administration of Donald J. Trump, 2017

Statement on the Observance of Hanukkah

December 12, 2017

Hanukkah is a time for Jewish families around the world to come together around the lighting of the menorah and celebrate the miracles of the past and promises of the future. Melania and I wish all of our Jewish brothers and sisters celebrating this meaningful holiday a happy and healthy 8 nights in the company of those they love.

The miracle of Hanukkah began more than 2,000 years ago, when the practice of Judaism was made punishable by death. A small band of Jewish patriots rose up and reclaimed their Jewish identity by vanquishing a mighty army. In their pursuit to rededicate their holy temple, the Jewish heroes found only enough oil to light the temple's menorah for 1 night. However, a miracle occurred, and with God's grace, the oil lasted for 8 days.

On this holiday, we are proud to stand with the Jewish people who shine as a light to all nations. We also stand with the people of Israel, the Jewish state, which has itself a miraculous history of overcoming the tallest of odds. We hope that those observing the holiday here, in Israel, and around the world have a wonderful holiday.

Categories: Statements by the President : Hanukkah.

Names: Trump, Melania.

Subjects: Holidays and special observances : Hanukkah; Israel : Relations with U.S.

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