

110th Anzac-Day-Speech-for-High-Profile-Events-Honouring-Valor-Unity-&-Sacrifice-Through-Generations

Ladies and gentlemen, honoured veterans, service men and women, esteemed guests, and fellow Australians,

This morning, as we gather here on [Gadigal] Country, we acknowledge and pay our deepest respects to their Elders past, present, and emerging. We honour the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have contributed to the defence of Australia, both in times of peace and in war.

I would also like to take this moment to recognise all current and former members of the Australian Defence Force with us today, as well as the families of Defence personnel. Your sacrifices and unwavering support for your loved ones, as they serve our nation, are deeply appreciated. Thank you for your service, your courage, and your dedication.

Today, on the 110th anniversary of Anzac Day, we come together to reflect, remember, and express our gratitude to the courageous men and women who have worn the uniform of our nation. They gave up their comfort, their safety, and, for many, their very lives in defence of the values that make Australia great.

As we mark this significant milestone, we remember not only the bravery of the men who fought on the shores of Gallipoli in 1915 but the enduring legacy of the Anzac Spirit that has shaped our identity over the last century. This is not merely a commemoration of one battle or one day; it is a remembrance of the countless acts of courage, sacrifice, and camaraderie by all who have answered the call of duty, from the trenches of the Great War to the modern-day theatres of conflict.

The story of Gallipoli, etched in the hearts of every Australian, is a tale of immense hardship and immeasurable sacrifice. Yet, it is also a story of resilience. A story of young men who, when faced with insurmountable odds, displayed extraordinary bravery, an unwavering sense of duty, and a commitment to each other that lives on in the Anzac Spirit. Their sacrifice on that fateful day 110 years ago laid the foundation for a nation's identity, and their legacy continues to inspire us all.

But the Anzac Spirit extends far beyond Gallipoli. From the Western Front, the Pacific Islands, the Vietnam War, and the Middle East, to the ongoing efforts of our Defence personnel, we have witnessed generations of men and women who have served with honour. They have shown the same courage and resilience that we celebrate today.

As we stand here today, on the 110th anniversary of Anzac Day, we remember the lives lost, the battles fought, and the enduring sacrifices made by those who answered the call of duty. We also remember the families who supported them through uncertainty, absence, and grief, and who have carried that legacy forward.

This anniversary is an opportunity to reflect not only on the history of our nation but also on the responsibility we hold in preserving the Anzac legacy. The Anzac Spirit – a spirit of mateship, courage, and sacrifice – is woven into the very fabric of our nation.

It is not confined to the history books; it is alive today in the way we treat each other, in our unity as a nation, and in the values we hold dear.

In this year of reflection, we are reminded of the importance of telling the stories of those who served. We must ensure that their sacrifices are never forgotten, and that their legacy lives on in future generations. We must also ensure that we continue to uphold the values for which they fought – values of freedom, democracy, and respect for one another.

As we gather today to mark this significant milestone in our nation's history, let us be inspired by the Anzac Spirit. Let it serve as a reminder that in times of adversity, we stand stronger together. Let it inspire us to face the challenges of our time with courage, to show compassion for one another, and to continue to build a community that reflects the values of those who came before us.

In closing, on this 110th anniversary of Anzac Day, let us rededicate ourselves to ensuring that the spirit of those who served lives on. Let us strive to be worthy heirs of the sacrifices they made, to live our lives with the same honour, courage, and commitment that they showed. Let us remember them not just today, but every day, as we continue to walk in the footsteps of those who have given so much.

Lest we forget.