

MESSAGE

As the Republic of the Philippines joins Japan and other nations in observing the **81st Anniversary of the End of the Pacific War**, we honor the innocent lives lost and pay tribute to those who endured its immense suffering and sacrifice.

This solemn occasion reminds us that the horrors of war must never be forgotten insofar as it can awaken in us a yearning for peace and rekindle a sense of hope and firm belief in the power of reconciliation. With courage and goodwill, the Philippines and Japan transformed a relationship once marked by wartime estrangement into an enduring friendship that continues to be strengthened through close cooperation and mutual trust.

Our Comprehensive Strategic Partnership stands as a testament to what nations can achieve when they choose dialogue over dispute and cooperation over conflict.

May the memory of those who perished strengthen our resolve to embrace peace and work together towards our shared vision of a safe and secure future for our peoples, free from the threat of war and conflict.

May the Philippines and Japan, as enduring maritime partners, be firm in their common commitment to uphold international law, advocate the peaceful settlement of disputes, and work together to shape a region where future generations can prosper.

FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.
THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILLIPPINES

MANILA
15 August 2026