



**National Day of Voodoo
Republic of Benin – Grand Popo Ceremony
PROMETRA International Speech
January 10, 2019**

I give honor to God
I give honor to the Spirits of the land of Benin, Africa and world
I give honor to the memories of our Ancestors
I honour all the dignitaries and the temples guards who accompany and guide us

It is a great honor for me to speak in the name of PROMETRA International pilgrims' delegation which gathers people who come from many horizons, Europe, Africa, United States, Bahamas, Caribbean and elsewhere. We are gathered around the pilgrimage "The Ways of Remembering".

Remember

We come to remember the dehumanization which afflicted us through the slave trade which involved all our ancestors and which links forever our blood, our spirits and our fates.
We come to look together at the disaster and the sadness left in our souls, in our hearts, in our families.
Look together at these wounds which bleed even today, all the wounds imposed on our humanity.
Look at them together in a spirit of repair and reconciliation

Remember

We also come to remember that Africa is our mother, our native land. The only land able to welcome us as her children, without discrimination, without exclusion.

Mother Africa
We come back to you
We come back home,
On the land of our ancestors, all our ancestors,
At the source of our humanity.

We come back to you
To recognize each other as children of the same mother
To reconcile us
To repair wounds
To calm the spirits
To find Peace and harmony inside and between us
To rebuild on the ruins of all our disasters
A brotherly and spiritual world.

We beg on us your help and your blessing.
Only you can heal our deep wounds,
Only you can comfort our pains,
Only you can calm our angers,
Only you can gather your children,
All your children,

ALL OF US.





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