

Week Ending Friday, September 29, 2006

**Message on the Observance of  
Ramadan**

*September 21, 2006*

I send greetings to the many Muslims observing Ramadan in America and around the world.

Ramadan is the holiest time of the Muslim year and an important holiday when Muslims take time for prayer, fasting, and personal sacrifice. According to Islamic teachings, this month represents when God delivered His word to the prophet Muhammad in the form of the Qur'an. Ramadan is also an opportunity to gather with friends and family and show thanks for God's blessings through works of charity.

Ramadan and the upcoming holiday seasons are a good time to remember the common values that bind us together. Our society is enriched by our Muslim citizens whose commitment to faith reminds us of the gift of religious freedom in our country.

Laura and I send our best wishes for a blessed Ramadan. Ramadan Mubarak.

**George W. Bush**

NOTE: The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 22. An original was not available for verification of the content of this message. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

**Proclamation 8056—Family Day,  
2006**

*September 22, 2006*

*By the President of the United States  
of America*

**A Proclamation**

Families instill values, shape character, and are the foundation of a hopeful society. On Family Day, we celebrate the rich traditions of family life and emphasize the impor-

tance of stable and loving relationships between children and parents.

Families are a source of inspiration and strength, and they provide hope and solace in the face of adversity. Children especially benefit from the bonds of family. During critical times in children's lives, family members encourage them to aim high and achieve their dreams, herald their successes, and promote positive behavior. Through their guidance and support, family members prepare young people for the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and other caregivers are the first line of defense in helping young people avoid the dangers and temptations they face each day. By being attentive to children's activities and choices, families can help young people grow into successful adults.

My Administration remains committed to strengthening American families. We are working to protect the institution of marriage, promote responsible fatherhood, encourage parents to be involved in the education of their children, and provide every child with the opportunity to learn. By helping America's families thrive, we can build a brighter future for our country and give our young people the foundation they need to make good choices and build lives of purpose.

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim September 25, 2006, as Family Day. I call on the people of the United States to observe this day by reflecting on the blessings of family and participating in family activities that strengthen relationships between children and parents.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand six, and of the Independence of the United