

**President Dr. George Manneh Weah Christmas Message as Delivered
On Monday December 24, 2018**

Fellow Christians, citizens and residents of Liberia, as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, let me on behalf of the Government and in my own name, wish all of you a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

The Christmas story is a unique story that inspires our faith as Christians, teaches us to love one another; and encourages us to give to the needy. It is a story of peace and unity, one filled with compassion and hope. It is a story that strengthens our resolve and grounds our faith as Christians. It is a story told by our forefathers, and a tradition deeply cherished and rooted in our history. Not only does it renew our Hope, but gives us the courage to look forward to new beginnings and better endings filled with endless opportunities.

As we join Christians around the world in celebrating the birth of our Lord, it is important that we retrospect on the true meaning of Christmas and exhibit a Christ-like attitude by inspiring Hope to the hopeless, caring for the elderly and disabled, giving to the needy, and be our brother's keeper. These are traits that epitomize the true spirit of Christmas and the character of the one we celebrate.

My fellow citizens, I would like to implore every one of you to soberly reflect on how far we have come as a Country: the challenges we have overcome, and ways in which we can collectively address the daunting tasks that lie ahead. The deeper we reflect, the more we are inspired by our perseverance and our resolve to confront these challenges as a people in unity and strength—a trait deeply rooted in our heritage.

As we embark on a new beginning and take on new set of responsibilities, let us not forget those common denominators that bind us together as Liberians;

such as our resilience as a people, unity in diversity, our rich cultural heritage; and our passion to serve humanity and build a better Liberia and society at large.

It is my fervent prayer that this Christmas will instill in us a sense of nationalism and the courage to persevere. May the joy and blessings of Christmas give us inner peace, grant us hope, and unite us as we endeavor to make Liberia a prosperous nation for all.

Let us all celebrate a Christmas filled with compassion for the needy, hope for the hopeless, and love for one another.

Merry Christmas to you all!

***And please remember not to drink and drive.**