Remarks By

HIS EXCELLENCY JOSEPH NYUMA BOAKAI, SR.

President of the Republic of Liberia

At the Unveiling of the Liberian Civil War Memorial.

Executive Mansion, Monrovia

Friday, 6 November 2026

Excellencies, Distinguished Members of the Diplomatic Corps;

Representatives of International Organizations;

Members of the Legislature and the Judiciary;

Members of My Cabinet;

Traditional and Religious Leaders;

Families of the Victims, Survivors;

My Fellow Liberians:

Good morning.

We gather here today, in this historic Parlor, not simply to unveil a prototype of the Civil War Memorial. We gather to unveil a memory, a memory long carried in silence, in grief, and in hope by the people of Liberia.

For too many years, the pain of our civil wars was something we spoke of in whispers, if we spoke of it at all. Today, we speak of it openly, with dignity, and with love for those we lost.

This Memorial stands for every Liberian life that was taken by war, mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, children who never had the chance to grow old, neighbours, friends, and strangers whose names we may never know, but whose humanity we will never forget.

To the families who are here today, I see you. Liberia sees you. Your loss was not in vain and your loved ones are not forgotten. This nation owes you more than words. It owes you truth, it owes you remembrance, and it owes you a future in which no family will ever again endure what you endured.

To the survivors: your resilience built the peace we enjoy today. You carried this country through its darkest hours; you rebuilt your homes, your communities, and your lives, and you taught us that forgiveness is not weakness. In fact, it is strength.

Fellow Liberians,

A memorial does not heal a nation by itself. What heals a nation is what we do after we leave this room. It is how we treat one another. It is whether we choose dialogue over division, justice over vengeance, and unity over the old lines that once tore us apart.

That is why this Memorial is inseparable from the work of the Liberia Peace, Reconciliation, and Memorial Museum, whose Steering Committee will meet on 16–18 November, after today's unveiling. They will preserve our history, teach our children the full truth of what happened, and help us build a culture of peace and harmony that outlive us all.

Let this Memorial be a promise, a promise to our children and to generations yet unborn that Liberia will never again go down the path of war. Let it be a lesson that when we allow grievance to harden into hatred, we all lose.

And let it be a call, and a call to every Liberian, at home and abroad, to be a builder of peace in your family, in your community, in your county, and in this nation.

To our international partners, I thank you. You stood with Liberia in war, and you have stood with us in peace. Your presence here today reaffirms that the world has not forgotten Liberia and that reconciliation is a shared human cause.

As I unveil this Memorial, I do so in honor of the victims, in solidarity with their families, and in hope for a Liberia that is united, peaceful, and just.

May their souls rest in perfect peace. May God bless Liberia, and may God bless us all as we keep the promise of never again.

I want to thank you. God bless you.