



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 13, 2023

I send my warmest greetings to all those celebrating Korean American Day.

One hundred and twenty years ago today, a group of 102 Korean men, women, and children arrived in Hawaii in search of a new start. Like so many immigrants who have come to our shores, they shared a quintessentially American trait: courage. Their courage sparked new traditions, customs, and perspectives that are forever woven into the rich tapestry of our Nation.

Today, Korean Americans continue to shape and unite our country, strengthening every industry and every community and contributing their unique talents to our American story. From serving our country in uniform and advocating for civil rights to breaking new ground in the arts and sciences, opening new businesses, serving in our hospitals and health centers, and making history for Team USA in the Olympics, the contributions of Korean Americans enrich our lives every day and lift our Nation to new heights.

In the face of ongoing threats and challenges to peace, democracy, and stability around the world, this day also offers us an opportunity to reaffirm our ironclad ties to the Republic of Korea, especially as we commemorate the 70th anniversary of our alliance this year. I was honored to travel to Seoul last May, reaffirming that our partnership has never been stronger or more vibrant than it is now. Our nations are growing closer, not just because more Americans are calling Korea home but because generations of Korean immigrants and Korean Americans have enriched our culture and proven that diversity is—and always has been—our greatest strength.

As we come together to celebrate the storied history and accomplishments of Korean Americans, I want to express my gratitude for all that this community has contributed to our Nation. May the stories of Korean Americans continue to remind us all of the promise of the American Dream. Together, we are stronger. Katchi Kapshida.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Biden".