

42 The Gettysburg Address

Abraham Lincoln

Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting-place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But in a large sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little nor long remember what we say here; but it can never forget what they did here.

四十二 葛底斯堡演說詞

阿伯拉罕·林肯

八十七年前，我們的先輩在這個大陸上建立起了一個嶄新的國家。這個國家以自由為理想，以致力於實現人人享有天賦的平等權利為目標。

目前我們正在進行一場偉大的國內戰爭。我們的國家或任何一個有着同樣理想與目標的國家能否長久存在，這次戰爭就是一場考驗。現在我們在這場戰爭的一個偉大戰場上聚會在一起。我們來到這裏，將這戰場上的一小塊土地奉獻給那些為國家生存而英勇捐軀的人們，作為他們最後安息之地。我們這樣做是完全適當的，應該的。

然而，在深一層的意義上說來，我們沒有能力奉獻這塊土地，沒有能力使這塊土地變得更為神聖。因為在這裏進行過鬥爭的，活着和已經死去的勇士們，已經使這塊土地變得這樣聖潔，我們的微力已不足以對它有所揚抑了。我們今天在這裏說的話，世人不會注意，也不會

葛底斯堡在美國賓夕法尼亞州。1863年7月1日至3日，北軍在此重創了南軍，扭轉了戰爭局勢。此戰役後這裏修了一個戰爭犧牲者的公墓。本篇是1863年11月19日公墓落成典禮上的演說詞。

It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us: that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

記住，但是這些英雄們的業績，人們將永誌不忘。我們後來者應該做的是獻身於英雄們曾在這裏爲之奮鬥、努力推進、但尙未竟的工作。我們應該做的是獻身於他們遺留給我們的偉大任務。我們的先烈已將自己的全部精誠付與我們的事業，我們應從他們的榜樣中汲取更多的精神力量，努力使他們的鮮血不致白流。在上帝的護佑下，自由將在我國得到新生。我們這個民有、民治、民享的政府將永存於世上。