



The Hon. Anthony Albanese MP

Leader of the Opposition

DIWALI 2020

I wish all of you a wonderful Diwali festival. As a celebration of the victory of light over darkness, it is a most welcome and timely antidote to the uncertainty that surrounds us. The glow of your diyas will take on even greater importance this year.

We have all had to adapt to the realities of the coronavirus pandemic, yet even amid all this upheaval, Diwali will stand tall as a striking expression of your tradition and your spirituality, your devotion and your faith. Diwali was here long before the pandemic, and it will be going strong long after the pandemic has passed into history.

The pandemic means the nature of your celebrations will be different this year, but what doesn't change is Diwali's promise that the darkness will be broken by the light. I sympathise with those who aren't able to return to their ancestral homes, and to those unable to celebrate with their families this year.

I wish you joy, I wish you good feasting, and I wish by this time next year, we'll all be gathered together again in the glow of the diyas.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Albanese'.

Anthony Albanese
Leader of the Australian Labor Party