



MEDIA RELEASE

From:

African Think Tank Inc.

**WORKING WITH
VICTORIA'S AFRICAN COMMUNITY
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ATT Media Release 3 February 2010

AUSTRALIAN-AFRICANS WELCOME BARACK OBAMA VISIT TO AUSTRALIA

The African Think Tank today welcomes the proposed March 2010 visit of President Barack Obama to Australia.

Dr. Berhan Ahmed, Chairperson of the ATT, said today:

“On behalf of the African Think Tank, and Australian-Africans, I welcome President Obama, to Australia.

Mr. President “Your achievements have lit a beacon of hope in the heart of every migrant in Australia and the world. By the example of your life, you have shown that even the most humble person can attain the highest honours. Moreover, you have put the feet of the United States, and the world, on a path that leads to peace and reconciliation between peoples”.

Your background and life history is the most diverse of any U.S. president. In your own person you combine the West, Asia and Africa. When you were growing up you were able to meet and befriend people of a very wide variety of backgrounds and faiths, and you know, and show the world that people who may have a different faith or colour or background are not mysteries, not menaces, but people, just like us.

At a time when many believed that the United States had fallen from its ideals, you showed the world that the United States has not abandoned the principles that made it the leader among the world. That it is still possible for a person who spoke to the people in the streets to win their hearts and to win the right to represent them.

Welcome to our peaceful land, and to the land of opportunity and hope. Please show yourselves to as many people as possible so that we may gain heart from your presence.. Yes, there is racism, and there is bigotry, in your country and in mine. Yes, there is still much work to be done. But those who would besmirch our lands are not the heart of our lands. Because you have shown that peace and opportunity are still at the heart of our lands, welcome.

Welcome to the our country to inspire the disadvantaged and seed hope for the future generations..

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