

THE PROFILE OF COURAGE

May 7th 2017 represented two memorable events which took place across two continents – the ascendancy of Emmanuel Macron the youngest President in France (since Napoleon Bonaparte) and former President Barack Obama being a recipient of the Kennedy Award for the Profile of Courage.

So how are these two events even remotely correlated?

For starters one young man is being heralded into the highest seat of power fresh with ideas and dreams to transform his country and a not so young retiring President has lived that dream and dared to challenge his country to want change and had set America on fire chanting **“Yes We Can”**

Last night a somber and reflective yet always eloquent Barack Obama, as usual took the high ground in his acceptance speech and shared his audience, his perspective of the true Profile of Courage and I would like to take this opportunity to highlight a few

- Courage speaks to listening to one another and seeking common ground and embracing a principled compromise
- Courage speaks to standing up to hate and not just towards each other but also in ourselves
- He went on to say that “True courage derives from that sense of who we are and what are our best selves and what are our important commitments and to believe that we can dig deep and do enduring things for the benefit of others”
- Courage speaks to having the courage to champion the vulnerable and the sick and the infirmed and those who do not have access to the corridors of power
- Courage also speaks to the ordinary people who do the right thing day in and day out

The Profile of Courage, we are reminded of is that it lies within each and every one of us – we may never get medals nor be recognized in our life times for the acts of courage that we do every day, but it is important that in the spirit of humanness we endeavor to do the right thing every day as best as possible, because we influence those around us and inadvertently make a difference.

We applaud President Emmanuel Macron in his new journey and hope his Profile of Courage will shine and transcend all boundaries as he embarks to take office and fulfill his elected mandate.

We pray that former President Barack Obama who more than broke the ceiling of colour for the office of the President in America – took every opportunity in his tenure to remind the world of being decent and dream big and work hard and be the best human being you can possibly be – we hope that you will continue your expedition in the Profile of Courage and you will be that beacon to uplift others along the way.