

S P E E C H

given by

PRESIDENT ANWAR EL SADAT

in the Municipality of Rome

April 6, 1976

Mr. Mayor of Rome :

It is a great occasion for us to visit the ancient capital of your country with all its glorious history, its genuine civilisation and its artistic heritage which is incomparable.

Being in your country, gives us the feeling of the continuity of history, and gives us confidence in the march of humanity throughout the ages.

Similarly, Rome, was one of the cradles for literature and arts which gave the life of man new dimensions, and supplied it with immortal aesthetic values, and issued a complete set of laws that became the decisive step towards man's effort for achieving justice, truth and legality.

Throughout history Rome, was a meeting point of civilisations of the East and West, and it continues today to stand high and lofty among the other countries, proud of its eminent past, of its prosperous present and full of confidence and hope in the future.

We not only look upon your beautiful country as a strategic centre of rehabilitation, culture and commerce, but we also regard it as a bridge that brings civilisations together, and binds up the interests of the various peoples of the world, approaching their views. Moreover, it used to be, and still is, a glittering centre of intellect and culture, and has played an active role in drawing European civilisation closer to Arab and Islamic civilisations.