

# *Barbados celebrates 53rd anniversary of its independence*

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Bridgetown, December 1 (RHC)-- The people of Barbados celebrated the 53rd anniversary of their country's political independence from the United Kingdom on November 30th, with colorful parades, musical spectacles, and other events.

This year's parade included "community groups, sporting, and cultural icons; some 5000 students, life-sized portraits of our national heroes, vendors serving traditional Barbadian items, secondary school students taking part in cultural activities and a special guest performance by Edwin Yearwood," local media What's On! reported.

During her live Independence Address to the Nation, Prime Minister Mia Mottley highlighted this Caribbean country's latest and most important economic achievements. Simply put, the economy of Barbados is on the right track," Mottley said and announced that "our preparations for a significant number of investment and development projects are now well underway," outlet Buzz Caribbean reported. She also mentioned that the people of Barbados next year will see "the beginning of a transformation that will touch just about every aspect of our daily lives."

On this day the Barbados government also awarded Independence Awards to musicians and educators who have significantly contributed to the cultural transformation of their society. "The three top National Honors for Independence Day 2019 have gone to musical icon Anthony Nicholas Mighty Gabby Carter, leader of the world-famous Merrymen Charles Emile Straker and Principal of the Cave Hill Campus of the

University of the West Indies (UWI) Professor Violet Eudine Barriteau," outlet Barbados Today reported.

On the occasion of the 53rd anniversary of the independence of Barbados, its embassy in Venezuela honored Liberator Simon Bolivar with a floral offering before the sarcophagus that keeps his remains. Hope, peace, and dialogue.

Nicaragua's President Daniel Ortega sent greetings to Prime Minister Mottley on the occasion of the anniversary of the independence of her country. "The path to independence, freedom, and prosperity for our peoples is a challenging one and the people of Barbados have traveled it with a profound sense of pride and national dignity," Ortega said.

"We acknowledge your leadership to achieve meaningful advances for the well-being of the people of Barbados, and your actions in favor of regional integration and dialogue, upholding the principles of self-determination, sustainable development, and non-intervention."

The Caribbean Movement for Peace and Integration secretary David Denny also sent greetings to Barbados and recalled the importance of moving towards the full constitution of a Republic, which requires to formally remove the Queen of England as Barbados's Head of State. "We need a people's Republic... and we look forward to our Prime Minister leading the people of Barbados to a new form of democracy and development.

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