

# **CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE GAMES OF THE XXX OLYMPIAD**

London, 12 August 2012

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**Your Majesties,  
Your Royal Highnesses,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**After 17 unforgettable days, we are indebted  
to so many tonight.**

**The Organising Committee, well supported  
by the public authorities, did a superb job.**

**Thank you, Lord Coe and your great LOCOG  
team!**

**We will never forget the smiles, the kindness and the support of the wonderful volunteers, the much-needed heroes of these Games.**

**You, the spectators and the public, provided the soundtrack for these Games.**

**Your enthusiastic cheers energised the competitors and brought a festive spirit to every Olympic venue.**

**You have shown the world the best of British hospitality.**

**I know that generosity of spirit will continue as we marvel at the dedication and talent of the wonderful Paralympic athletes.**

**Dear Athletes, you have earned the respect and admiration of a global audience and you have written a new chapter of Olympic**

**history that began in Ancient Olympia 3,000 years ago.**

**Through your commitment to fair play, your respect for opponents, and your grace in defeat as well as in victory, you have earned the right to be called Olympians.**

**These were happy and glorious Games!**

**The legacy of the Games of the XXX Olympiad will become clear in many ways.**

**Concrete improvements in infrastructure will benefit the host nation for years to come.**

**The human legacy will reach every region of the world.**

**Many young people will be inspired to take up a sport or to pursue their dreams.**

**And now, in accordance with tradition, I declare the Games of the XXX Olympiad closed and call on the youth of the world to assemble four years from now in Rio de Janeiro to celebrate the Games of the XXXI Olympiad.**

**Thank you, London!**