**Message by President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan on the occasion of August 30th Victory Day**

“I celebrate the August 30th Victory Day of our nation.

I commemorate Ghazi Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the commander-in-chief of our War of Independence, and all the members of our military who gifted us this victory, with gratitude and respect and wish Allah’s mercy upon our martyrs and veterans.

This last ring in our chain of victories gained in August took its place in history as one of the symbols of the Turkish Nation’s determination to protect its liberty and future.

We declared in the Battle of Çanakkale, in which we fought the great powers against all odds, that our fight starting with the Battle of Malazgrit to keep Anatolia as our homeland will never end.

The Victory of August 30th is the stamp of our determination’s new upsurge.

On July 15th the Turkish Nation showed the world its ambition to protect its liberty and future against the imperialist desires.

Today, we fight for the oppressed and the victims who set their hopes upon us, as well as for ourselves, as we did throughout our history.

This magnanimity is not a weakness of our nation, on the contrary, it is our greatest source of power.

Turkey’s achievement of its 2023 aims will guide our own future as well as the future of our whole region.

Like our other victories, August 30th also marks that there is always an open path in front of us to reach success, no matter how challenging the conditions are.

The progress achieved by our country in the last sixteen years has proved to us that this is possible.

And today, I believe we are on the verge of new victories and successes.

We will surely win this fight too, with the support of those who trust in Turkey and in the Turkish Nation.

On this occasion, I wish Allah’s mercy upon our martyrs and veterans once again.

Happy August 30th Victory Day!”