



THE PRESIDENT

Jerusalem, February 2, 2012

Excellency,

I was deeply saddened by the news of the death of Wislawa Szymborska, and want to express my profound condolences to you and the people of Poland.

With her death, not only has Poland lost a great poet, but the world will lament the disappearance of her distinctive voice. Her poems have made a valuable moral and cultural contribution to the world and she has said, quite rightly, that "it is not the dreams that are mad – it is reality that is mad." But nonetheless, she dreamt of a globe dressed in civilian clothes.

We mourn together with the Polish people that she has been taken from us. Her poems will continue to breathe also in the lungs of the young generation.

With the expression of my sincere sympathy,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shimon Peres".

Shimon Peres

His Excellency
Mr. Bronislaw Komorowski
President of Poland