



## FOUNDATION EXPO '88

*'Progressing the World Expo 88 Vision'*

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### *press release*

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#### **AUSTRALIA CELEBRATES NATIONAL DAY AT AICHI WORLD EXPO 2005 PRIME MINISTER JOHN HOWARD PRESIDES OVER NATIONAL DAY EVENTS**

Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Honourable John Howard MP, yesterday presided over the Australia National Day events at Aichi World Expo 2005, Japan, as part of his whirlwind trip to the Asia-Pacific.

"It's a wonderful performance and a terrific showcasing of contemporary Australia", enthused Mr Howard to gathered members of the travelling Press Corp at a door-stop interview at the Exposition site. "The company Think! OTS. Think Outside the Square has done an absolutely magnificent job", continued Howard. The Melbourne-based Think! OTS was commissioned by the Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade, whose responsibility it is to represent Australia at World Expositions, to design and operate the Australia representation at Aichi World Expo 2005.

Amongst the varying entertainment and cultural performances presented for the Australia National Day at the Exposition were some of the nation's top dance and music performers including the indigenous dance Bangarra Dance Theatre, a joint Australia-Japan presentation by the Sydney Children's Choir and the Nagoya Children's Choir, as well as internationally renowned jazz multi-instrumentalist and musician James Morrison, accompanied by the Wollongong Conservatorium Jazz Orchestra. The Australia Pavilion's own resident theatre company, as well as Nagoyan High School children, formed a 250-strong song, dance, lantern and puppet presentation to end the day, in a imaginatively presented work entitled "Rivers of Light".

John Howard joins with other Australian leaders in praising the Australia representation at Aichi, including the Honourable Peter Beattie, Premier of the State of Queensland, who presided over Queensland Week just one week ago.

The Pavilion continues to run for the full 185-day season of this year's World Exposition in Aichi, and expects to attract 3.5 million visitors.

*For further information on Australia at Aichi,  
visit the Australia Pavilion web-site, at <http://www.expo2005.com.au>  
For further information on Aichi World Expo 2005, Japan,  
visit the Aichi World Expo web-site at <http://www.expo2005.or.jp>*

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