

Humanity Needs Peace for Happiness

“The sole meaning of life is to serve humanity” – Leo Tolstoy, Russian writer.

Peace is a far-reaching concept that upholds the establishment of a universal community. For centuries, humanity's ultimate goal to conquer the Earth through ethereal struggle and coerced optimism has abruptly social development. Peace and resolution can only come to the world when we learn to accept others. One does not necessarily have to sacrifice their life for peace because peace is not about sacrifice. It is about compromising and accepting others. Persistently, we have heard promises by world leaders to establish cordiality among all the people in the world, but there still exists a massive divide in society that is barring us from achieving this role. Money and status can only buy temporary happiness, but the art of serving others can light the furnace of personal solace for aeons to come, even in the most difficult of times. The great American social activist Thomas Merton once said: "Pride makes us artificial and humility makes us real".

Humanity's fruitless struggle for land and power bred instability in the global community. Our arrogance and resentment towards each other have ruined the peace in society. Isn't it the same blood that runs through all our veins? We should not think along the lines of religion, caste, race or nationality. All individuals are capable of reason, and because humans are part of the same species, they are obligated to treat other humans as family. It is the absence of serenity in life that is slowly isolating us from achieving this goal. Those who extend care for others face considerable challenges every day, but they can feel the joy that can come with helping others. Some people today cannot stand the sight of their neighbours, friends, and relatives trying to change society for the better. They are so gripped with envy that they want to destroy the peace for everyone. To establish peace in society, we can already see that we need to maintain cordial relationships with our neighbours. A gentle smile, an uplifting compliment, sometimes friendly gatherings, and much more not only brings a sense of belonging to our minds but also helps to bring harmony in times of great distress. For people to do something for one another, we need to establish equality between us. The universal language of humanity is the standard rule in helping others. From ancient scriptures to religious texts, humanity was always instructed to come forward to the help of humankind. We all live on the same Earth, so we should learn to coexist with each other.

The "Bystander Effect" Theory states that people are less likely to offer help to others when other people are present. It is indeed an obstacle in achieving peace because we are more prone to think that – "Eventually, help will arrive from someone else". Everybody should

stand up for those in need within their bounds of giving service. We can only achieve peace when we treat others living in our neighbourhood as our problems. Let this fire of revolution spread to other people, and soon we can eradicate problems in the world as a team. Humanity is still in conflict because of division and sectarianism among most people. As a result, countries should uphold humanitarian governance, which seeks to establish a society with a higher moral principle that sees the protection of life and the alleviation of suffering as the highest value of the action. Unfortunately, humankind's own failure to achieve peace has become more noticeable on Earth.

Peace does not remain confined to only humans. Man's attack on Nature has left the Earth numb and shallow. As long as we do not learn to give peace to our neighbours, we will not learn to love the cradle of Nature that has supported civilisation since the dawn of man. Greenery is Nature's way of showing peace to humanity. Isn't it lovely to hear the chirping of the morning bird? Look at the trees around us – the calm turgid leaves of the olive tree or the mysterious and ancient beards of the banyan tree. This intricate design is truly a blessing from Nature itself! Regardless, humans are continuously damaging the habitat of animals and plants alike. For the past 100 years, nearly 500 animals have gone extinct due to human activity. Humankind has been insensitive in conserving flora and fauna in a bid to conquer the Earth for itself. If we let the gift of Nature flourish alongside us, we can teach humanity that peace is achievable if we live and let live so that Nature becomes man's inspiration for a peaceful society. People should observe and learn from the system of Nature, where everything is dependent on each other. It is how we should learn to help our community grow strong. Nothing in this world is achievable without unity and peace.

The present COVID-19 Pandemic has brought socio-economic inequalities in communities globally. Furthermore, racial and ethnic minority groups are affected by COVID-19 more than others due to multiple, complex reasons. The disproportionate rates of injustices and unfairness in this Pandemic have drawn attention to the artificial divide that humanity has created. Where we should strive to help people disregard their differences, the Pandemic has revealed worldwide that discrimination persists in frontline sectors like health and education. This substantial humanitarian crisis is a perfect opportunity to warn humankind that they have failed as a society. We do not want any diseases to affect us; neither do we want to be treated unequally because of our differences. To encourage sustainability, people need to focus more on human society and its inequalities by suggesting areas to focus on, such as health and wellbeing, moral engagement through empathy, and science of loss for managing grief.

Peace is essential to control the wrongs which damage our society. Although we will indeed keep facing a crisis like today's Pandemic for years to come, we can manage them better through unity and solidarity. Moreover, peace is vital for humankind to survive and strive for a better future. Peace is a concept that exists universally, yet we still fight to prove ourselves right. We can establish peace when we learn to stand up for the oppressed and those closest to us. We should not let our morals be degraded to please ourselves because the most incredible pleasure anyone can feel is serving others. Peace should not be attained through more conflict; it should be attained through neutrality and solidarity. When most of the world believes in the need for peace, only then can we make the world a happier place.

References

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