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May Peace Prevail

Message from the Head in Chief

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Welcome to the first issue of "May peace Prevail" First I'd love to thank each and every person who helped for the release of this Magazine and this great project... Peace was always the Ultimate debate and the most critical and important Issue every time and everywhere, that's why we thought of giving it great care and share of our activities... In this project we are trying to do something and help to promote and spread peace , sending a message of Peace to all the world and trying to say that all people all over the world no matter their nationalities, languages , Races, localities, Educations, Thoughts, Jobs , religions or beliefs, Peace shall always Unit them Hope You'll enjoy our Magazine....

*Mohamed EL Zoghby
 International Under-
 standing Director 07/08
 Alexandria COSMOPOLI-
 TAN Rotaractclub
 Egypt -RI District 2450*



*"Imagine all the people
 living life in peace.
 You may say I'm a
 dreamer, but I'm not
 the only one.
 I hope someday you'll
 join us, and the world
 will be as one."*

-- John Lennon

Radwa Tarek
 RAC Cairo
 Head of Cairo Committee

Message f our President

PEACE has to be created, in order to be maintained. It is the product of Faith, Strength, Energy, Will, Sympathy, Justice, Imagination, and the triumph of principle. It will never be achieved by passivity and quietism, I am inviting you all for not to search for it but for you to latterly start making it.

Amr EL Fayoumi

President Alex.Cosmopolitan 07/08

District 2450 ,Egypt

Let's talk about Peace

There has been a lot of talk of "peace" lately. It seems the word is everywhere. There are rock concerts and congressional hearings and meetings and protests for "peace." But I doubt people have even taken the time to define what they think "peace" is. After all, if you look up the word "peace" you are likely to find at least five, if not twenty-five, different definitions of the word - everything from "agreements to end hostility" to "silence."

Frankly, I'm a bit tired of the word. It has been greatly overused as some type of panacea for every problem in the world.

"Peace" is an abstract, a generalization. Telling people you are in favor of "peace" is very popular, it will probably get you elected, but it really isn't saying anything at all. With so many definitions to play with, I think I could say with great certainty that we are all in favor of peace. For example, I would greatly treasure a moment of peace (quiet) away from all these people promoting the vacuous and empty idea of "peace."

Lake Superior State University, a small college in Michigan, publishes a "Banned Words" list every New Year. The words included on the list are, according to their website, a "Words Banished from the Queen's English for Mis-Use, Over-Use and General Uselessness." I think I shall suggest "peace" as a word that should definitely be banned for next year. Meanwhile, I want to share my definition of "peace" with you, and the reasons behind my thinking.

Peace, in my opinion, is something that encompasses almost all meanings of the word - an absence of conflict or struggle, a great quiet, and everything in harmony, etc. I'm sure that this is the idea behind so many politicians' and activists' words. They want a world where all people can be at "peace." It's a nice idea... or is it?

In a religious sense, I think it is a nice idea. If one has great faith and an understanding of an all-knowing, all-seeing, infinite and just G-d, one can believe that there will be, at some time, through the intervention of G-d, a perfect peace. But this is something only G-d can bring. Humanity is incapable of this miracle of peace.

After all, life, as we know it, is a potpourri of conflict, struggle, noise and dissonance. To live life to its fullest, we must make our way through a long list of treacherous and dangerous decisions; we must make sacrifices and ask others to sacrifice; we must compromise and ask others to compromise; we must argue, yell, laugh and make mistakes; we must add spice to our food, our lives and our loves; and we must be demanded of and

be demanding. Life is never a place of "peace." Life is messy, and painful, and beautiful.

Likewise, in order for nations to exist, those nations must fight for their right to exist. Nations must insist upon their own borders, their own laws, their own values, and they must work for the betterment of their own population. There are always challenges to a nation's sovereignty, and I don't think there was ever a time when any nation has existed for even a moment without some challenge from inside or outside their borders. A nation cannot hope to have "peace" unless the nation ceases to exist.

To exist, people and nations must fight to survive. If we fail, we die - and only in death do we have "peace."

So, as I read news stories and hear the speeches of politicians and activists who are promoting "peace," I can't help but say to myself, "They are not G-d, the only peace they can offer is the peace of non-existence, the peace of death."

This new definition of peace is one that has clarified my understanding of a great many things that used to be perplexing to me.

No wonder politicians and activists have never wanted to define the word. If we truly understood what they had been saying all these years, maybe we would have opted for conflict instead.

Lana

*International Committee Director
Amman West RAC , Dist.2450, Jordan*

*You'll never have a
quiet world till you
knock the patriotism
out of the human
race.*

Simple Word

PEACE! Can be said to be the ABSENCE OF WAR, An Agreement or a treaty to end hostilities, Furthermore, PEACE Can be said to be FREEDOM FROM QUARRELS & DISAGREEMENT, HARMONIOUS RELATIONS.

If I have been of service to humanity, if I have glimpsed more of the nature and essence of ultimate good, if I am inspired to reach wider horizons of thought and action, if I am at peace with myself, it has been a successful day.

"May peace prevail on Earth"

Mathew

**ROTARACT CLUB OF ALAGBADO
DISTRICT 9110, NIGERIA**

SIMPLY A QUOTE***The Path to Peace***

If you think you are beaten, you are

If you think you dare not, you don't

If you like to win, but you think you can't

It will be almost certain you won't

If you think you will lose, you're lost

For out of the world we find, success begins with a fellow will.

It is all in the state of mind

If you think you're out-classed, you are.

You've got to think high to rise,

You've got to be sure of yourself before

You can ever win a prize.

Life's battles don't go always

To the stronger or the faster man.

But sooner or later the man who wins

Is the man who thinks he can?

TO MAKE A FILM IS TO CREATE A WORLD.

VIJAYANANDAN UNNI

ROTARACT CLUB OF COCHIN WEST

ERNAKULUM

For everything there is a season,
And a time for every matter under heaven:
A time to be born, and a time to die;
A time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
A time to kill, and a time to heal;
A time to break down, and a time to build up;
A time to weep, and a time to laugh;
A time to mourn, and a time to dance;
A time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
A time to embrace, And a time to refrain from embracing;
A time to seek, and a time to lose;
A time to keep, and a time to throw away;
A time to tear, and a time to sew;
A time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
A time to love, and a time to hate,
A time for war, and a time for peace.
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Best Regards,
Sarah Ibrahim
President
RAC KEN, Cairo Egypt Dist.2450

In the year 1999, Planet Earth was inhabited by nearly six billion human beings. In 2002, 5.8% of those ever born in the history of mankind, was living on the planet. That was five years ago. The world's population is still said to be growing.

With billions of individuals and their zillions of different ideas, concepts and perceptions of reality, how on earth does this planet still remain intact? Time after time, we ask ourselves why people don't see the futility in fighting, war and terrorism. Are ideas the cause of war?

We fight for what we think is right. For what we think the world *should* be. For what we think the world *could* be. We fight for justice, for freedom, for religion, philosophy, moral issues, right and wrong. It's human nature. Whether it's a clash between civilizations, or political groups that fight for different ideologies, or suppressed minorities that yearn for a better standing, or terrorist organizations that want to challenge world order, the business of war *seems* to be fueled by ideas that correspond to social change, or the reluctance to there of.

Have you ever seen ants that climb and fall upon roots of grass? Trying to get to the top and staying in balance. You might have wondered what this ant is doing. For no apparent personal gain, the ant spends all its time trying to stay on top of the root of grass. The scientific reason for this is the ant's brain has been hijacked by a parasitic worm that has to get into the stomach of a sheep or a cow to continue its life.

So this parasite is using the ant's body as a vessel to achieve its goal. Does this sound familiar with regard to human beings? Maybe you haven't come to the extent of being suicidal, but how many of you think that 'country should come before self'? How many of you would go to the extent of sacrificing personal gain in the name of religion, cast or creed.

We have somehow been driven to the conclusion that working for "something greater than yourself" is selflessness.

Since when did something greater than yourself need a marketing campaign? Since when did divine power be trivial enough to be exercised through a mere human being? Since when did Buddhist monks need to be introduced to non-violence? Since when did Jesus Christ declare holy war upon non-believers? Satan must be laughing with delight for the sins that men do in the name of religion.

Ideas are not the reason for war. On the contrary, it's the lack of ideas that promote men to search for a greater cause in life. To commit massacres in the name of the greater cause, and declare themselves as National heroes. Parasitic behavior is not an exaggerated statement.

Humans are natural competitors. It's unrealistic to believe in a world without conflict. But it is possible to dream of a world without violence. A world of peace. The path to achieve that goal would be to stop searching refuge in a greater cause, and instead to place faith in your own ideals. The next time someone asks you "would you die for your country?", reply back in question; "would you kill another human for your country?"

Tharindu Wijegoonasekara

Director IU Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa Sri Lanka

A Dream called Peace

Peace.....is it a dream or a wish hard to fulfill....???

What's peace...? Is it the state of just not being in war ..? Or not fighting...? Or even not having a conflict...??

I believe that peace is a state of life on both the personal level and the national and International level....It's a state of resting , not worrying, enjoying and living life as it should be...

War between nations is the Ultimate form of an un peaceful life...Since long ago and nations didn't save any effort to develop their weapons and military capabilities, along with their efforts to promote peace and make it prevail!!!

Well that takes us to an important question, Do peace exists nowadays...??

Well as long as there is this competition in Using the new technology and inventions to develop new weapons, as long as there is a competition for domination, as long as people don't learn how to love instead of hate, how to build instead of ruin, how to think of peace instead of thinking how to dominate,.....it'll always be difficult to find ultimate peace...

Even if the world is in a state of no war , there shall always be that ghost , that fear of falling into conflicts which is far away from Peace....

Nations have to give more for peace, cause it's peace which make culture and advance...People should live in peace to be able to produce and create which are the main 2 components for making Civilization...that means that peace is the basis for Civilization, for Culture, for making a great history and leave a heritage to the coming generations that is worthy to be proud of but more importantly Peace will give a chance to the new generations to live to see their heritage.....!!

Let's all wish for a Us and our new generations better life, Lets all wish for rest, calmness and relief, let's all wish for peace.....

“MAY PEACE PREVAIL”

Mohamed EL Zoghby

International Committee Director,Alex.Cosmopolitan RAC

District 2450,Egypt

A Country of Peace

My soul, there is a country
Far beyond the stars,
Where stands a winged sentry
All skillful in the wars;
There above the noise and danger,
Sweet Peace sits crowned with smiles,
And One born in a manger
Commands the beauteous files.
He is the gracious Friend,
And—O my Soul awake! —

Did in pure love descend
To die here for the sake.
but thither,

There grows the flower of Peace,
The Rose that cannot wither,
Thy fortress and the ease.
But One, who never changes,
Thy God, thy life, thy cure.

Hassan

*Head of International Committee
RAC Alex Metropolitan Egypt D.2450*

What's Peace..?

**“If everyone cared and nobody and nobody cried
If everyone loved and nobody lied
If everyone shared and swallowed their pride
Then we’d see the day, when nobody died!”
*from song of Nickelback***

“So what is world peace? How can we attain it? First, you must understand that each one of us has a like-dislike mind inside of us. My preferences make my world. Your preferences make your world. But if we can both put down our preferences, our minds can connect with each other. I make my world, you make yours. If your mind and my mind both disappear, then what? Then the world disappears and we can make a new one together.” Thinks Elchin Rzayev, vice president of our club

“For me, there are couple of factors that describe peace. First of all, it’s global. You can’t just say that there’s peace in my country while somewhere else there’s a war, and people are suffering. Second, peace is not only about war, fights and military. It’s also about ensuring that people can live and thrive in their communities, i.e. there’s enough food, work and medical care for everyone. At times, we all feel that peace is just another utopia that the world will never achieve, but I believe the words in Nickelback’s song. Let’s share and try a little harder and we’ll see the day when nobody dies!” says Tarana Bunyatova, president of the club.

“For a country that is involved in a war, the word Peace has a critical meaning. It is about the integrity of borders, no having daily victims, reinstated feeling of personal dignity and absence of fear for historical uncertainty of one’s country.” Gulshan Azayeva, treasurer.

“In order for peace to prevail on Earth, we – people, must learn to live in peace with ourselves. Only then can we expect neighbors, nations and people of the world to live in peace with each other. Therefore inner peace is so important...may peace be with all the people who are fighting for it everyday!” Minai Massimova, international services coordinator for district.

I personally agree with everything stated above. And I think that we – PEOPLE – we must fight for peace. We must clearly understand that Peace is what we want and need in our lives. Life loses its meaning without this harmony, without confidence in our future and future of our children, because in the end of the day we live for continuation of life on Earth not for destroying it.

I would like to finish our article with words of Agamurad Muradov, member of our club, which I liked the most. I really think that in spite of all wars and disputes in the world, Peace still exist in people’s hearts and strong evidences to that are Rotary and Rotaract clubs and lots of other clubs and organizations that trying to make their communities a better place to live.

“Peace is when Americans stay in Northern America and don’t try to stick their nose in the business of other nations. It’s when Ghaza smells of flowers instead of gunpowder, it’s a big playground for children instead of nuclear military factory, it’s the smile on the face of a Jew upon seeing an Arab... peace is ROTARACT with no borders, racism or gender issues.”

***Emilya Aliyeva,
International Committee Chairperson
Rotaract Club of Baku District 2430, Azerbaijan***

Nobel Peace Prize



Lester B. Pearson after accepting the Nobel Peace Prize
Nobel Peace Prize

The Nobel Peace Prize (Swedish and Norwegian: Nobels fredspris) is the name of one of five Nobel Prizes bequeathed by the Swedish industrialist and inventor Alfred Nobel. Nobel died in 1896 and did not leave an explanation for his choice of this Nobel prize category. The categories for chemistry and physics were obvious choices as he was a trained chemical engineer. The reason behind the peace prize is less clear. Some have said it was Nobel's way to compensate for developing destructive forces (Nobel's inventions included dynamite and ballistite). However, none of his explosives, except for ballistite, were used in any war during his lifetime.^[1] According to Nobel's will, the Peace Prize should be awarded "to the person who shall have done the most or the best work for fraternity between the nations, for the abolition or reduction of standing armies and for the holding and promotion of peace congresses".

The Peace Prize is awarded annually in Oslo, the capital of Norway. For the past decade, the Nobel Peace Prize Ceremony at the Oslo City Hall has been followed the next day by the Nobel Peace Prize Concert, which is broadcast to over 150 countries and more than 450 million households around the world. The Concert has received worldwide fame and the participation of top celebrity hosts and performers. The selection of Nobel Peace Prize winners sometimes causes controversy, as the list of winners includes people who formerly used violent methods of problem-solving, but then later made exceptional concessions to non-violence in the attempt to achieve peace .

Appointment process



The Nobel Institute in Oslo, Norway.

The Norwegian Parliament appoints the Norwegian Nobel Committee, which selects the Laureate for the Peace Prize. The Committee chairman, currently Dr. Ole Danbolt Mjøs, awards the Prize itself. At the time of Alfred Nobel's death Sweden and Norway were in a personal union in which the Swedish government was solely responsible for foreign policy, and the Norwegian Parliament was responsible only for Norwegian domestic policy. Alfred Nobel never explained [1] why he wanted a Norwegian rather than Swedish body to award the Peace Prize. As a consequence, many people have speculated about Nobel's intentions. For instance, Nobel may have wanted to prevent the manipulation of the selection process by foreign powers, and as Norway did not have any foreign policy, the Norwegian government could not be influenced.

Nominations



Two Nobel Peace Prize winners: the Dalai Lama and Bishop Tutu. Vancouver, Canada, 2004. Nominations for the Prize may be made by a broad array of qualified individuals, including former recipients, members of national assemblies and congresses, university professors (in certain disciplines), international judges, and special advisors to the Prize Committee. In some years as many as 199 nominations have been received. The Committee keeps the nominations secret and asks that nominators do the same. Over time many individuals have become known as "Nobel Peace Prize Nominees", but this designation has no official standing [2]. Nominations from 1901 to 1951, however, have been released in a database. When the past nominations were released it was discovered that Adolf Hitler was nominated in 1939, though the nomination was retracted in February of the same year. Other infamous nominees included Joseph Stalin and Benito Mussolini. However, since nomination requires only support from one qualified person (eg. a history professor), these unusual nominations do not represent the opinions of the Nobel committee itself.

Unlike the other Nobel Prizes, the Nobel Peace Prize may be awarded to persons or organizations that are in the process of resolving an issue, or creating world peace rather than upon the resolution of the issue. Since the Prize can be given to individuals involved in ongoing peace processes, some of the awards now appear, with hindsight, questionable, particularly when those processes failed to bear lasting fruit. For example, the awards given to Theodore Roosevelt, Shimon Peres, Yitzhak Rabin, Yasser Arafat, Lê Đức Thọ, and Henry Kissinger were particularly controversial and criticized; the latter prompted two dissenting Committee members to resign [3].

Nobel Prize controversies

The Nobel Peace Prize has throughout its history sparked controversy. The Norwegian Parliament appoints the Peace Prize Committee, but pacifist critics argue that the same Parliament has pursued partisan military aims by ratifying membership in NATO in 1949, by hosting NATO troops, and by leasing ports and territorial waters to US ballistic missile submarines in 1983. However, the Parliament has no say in the award issue. A member of the Committee cannot at the same time be a member of the Parliament, and the Committee includes former members from all major parties, including those parties that oppose NATO membership.

A particular claimed weakness of the Nobel Peace Prize awarding process is the swiftness of recognition. The scientific and literary Nobel Prizes are usually issued in retrospect, often two or three decades after the intellectual achievement, thus representing a time-proven confirmation and balance of approval by the established academic community, seldom contradicted by newer developments. In contrast, the Nobel Peace Prize at times takes the form of summary judgment, being issued in the same year as or the year immediately following the political act. Some commentators have suggested that to award a peace prize on the basis of unquantifiable contemporary opinion is unjust or possibly erroneous, especially as many of the judges cannot themselves be said to be impartial observers. In pro-democracy struggles, it may be said that the 'real' peace-makers may not be recognized for their long-term or subtle approaches. However, others have pointed to the uniqueness of the Peace Prize in that its high profile can often focus world attention on particular problems and possibly aid in the peace-efforts themselves.

On closer inspection, the peace-laureates often have a lifetime's history of working at and promoting humanitarian issues, as in the examples of German medic Albert Schweitzer (1952 laureate), Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., an African-American civil rights activist (1964 laureate); Mother Teresa, a Roman Catholic missionary nun (1979 laureate); and Aung San Suu Kyi, a Buddhist nonviolent pro-democracy activist (1991 laureate). Still others are selected for tireless efforts, as in the examples of Jimmy Carter and Mohamed ElBaradei. Others, even today, are quite controversial, due to the recipient's political activity, as in the case of Henry Kissinger (1973 laureate), Mikhail Gorbachev (1990 laureate) or Yasser Arafat (1994 laureate).

A widely discussed criticism of the peace-prize are the notable omissions, namely the failure to award individuals with widely recognized contributions to peace. The list includes Mahatma Gandhi, Pope John XXIII, Pope John Paul II, Steve Biko, Raphael Lemkin, Herbert Hoover, César Chávez, Jose Figueres Ferrer and Oscar Romero. In particular, the omission of the Indian leader Gandhi has been widely discussed, including public statements by the various members of Nobel Committee. [4],[5] It has been acknowledged by the committee that Gandhi was nominated in 1937, 1938, 1939, 1947 and, finally, a few days before he was murdered in January 1948. The omission has been publicly regretted by later members of the Nobel Committee. In 1948, the year of Gandhi's death, the Nobel Committee declined to award a prize on the ground that "there was no suitable living candidate" that year. Later, when the Dalai Lama was awarded the Peace Prize in 1989, the chairman of the committee said that

Research by anthropologist David Stoll into Rigoberta Menchú, the 1992 recipient, revealed some fabrications in her biography, "Me llamo Rigoberta Menchú y así me nació la conciencia" (My Name is Rigoberta Menchú and this is how my Conscience was Born), translated into English as "I, Rigoberta Menchú". Menchú later admitted changing some details about her background. After the initial controversy, the Nobel Committee dismissed calls to revoke her Nobel prize because of the reported falsifications. Professor Geir Lundestad, the secretary of the Committee, said her prize "was not based exclusively or primarily on the autobiography". [6]. According to the Nobel Committee, "Stoll approves of her Nobel prize and has no question about the picture of army atrocities which she presents. He says that her purpose in telling her story the way she did 'enabled her to focus international condemnation on an institution that deserved it, the Guatemalan army'

Karim Badr Rac Tayaran, Dist2450, Egypt

I'm very glad for this opportunity to speak about Peace in the framework of RI. My name is Armenak Hovhannisyan and I'm a political expert. I'm not going to overload you with political terminology and now I speak as a citizen of the Republic of Armenia and as a Rotaractor.

The point is that only those who have seen the war know the value of Peace. In my region (South Caucasus) this word means a lot for all the people living here. At the moment there are several conflicts in the South Caucasus. These are South Ossetia, Abkhazia and Nagorno-Karabakh. Some people see in these conflicts a fight for independence, some others a fight for territorial integrity, some make big money and use these conflicts as a mean to keep their power in the region. In my opinion these conflicts throw huge obstacles in the way of prosperity and Peace in the South Caucasus. Rotary movement can do a great service in promoting peace in our complicated region by using its clubs in these three countries as a unique mean of communication between our societies and this can serve as a bridge of understanding between our nations, which occurred on opposite sides of barricades. Today we (the Caucasians) are in the process of building our newly created countries and civil societies and we need Peace more than ever, as we know the value of it.

Rotaractors and Rotarians in our region has a great chance to become an initiators of bringing peace between our nations for this is the best thing that we can do for the people living in the beautiful region called The South Caucasus.

*Armenak Hovhannisyan
Secretary Rotaract Club of Yerevan
Dist. 2450, Armenia*

*We hope U have
enjoyed our First Issue
Wait for the next issue
with new stuff ...*

“May Peace Prevail”

*Best regards
Editing Stuff*