



World Unity in Diversity

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A daydream

Around the year 2000 it became more and more apparent to the global population that much in the world had to be completely changed and improved. Climate change was lurking just around the corner, the environment was demonstrating ever more signs of destruction, the unregulated global free market economy did not question unjust working conditions and income levels. All over the world product dumping was common practice which took its toll on the environment and on human beings. Masses of cheap articles were manufactured by people working for a pittance at the expense of the environment. These products often functioned for just a short time leading to an increase in gigantic mountains of waste.

It had become clear that the world's free market economy – if unregulated – would not be sustainable. There was no functioning organic world commonwealth. In schools relatively little of spiritual nature was taught while much was made of the rigmarole of marking.

What could come next? Let us envision a future worth living for.

Because of the worldwide problems caused by carbon dioxide, many substantial tree-planting initiatives are starting up. An inspiring impetus for these initiatives comes from children and young people all over the world. The method of tree regeneration is also being used successfully.

A new 5G mobile radio network is being rolled out worldwide – with countless base stations and the deployment of tens of thousands of new satellites in space. A 6G has also already been planned. The urgent call from many medical doctors and scientists to prior, objective, and competent testing of this technology as to deleterious effects on humans, animals, and plant life is being ignored.

What is at stake is no less than the health and diversity of all life on earth.

During operation, many harmful effects have been exposed – yet all over the globe, many more cable-dependent communication networks are now being installed.

A worldwide referendum with approximately 75 million signatures calling for an examination of the effects of RF (radio frequency) radiation is submitted to representatives of the United Nations.

It is resolved that an independent commission of experts determine the official limit for RF radiation (approximately 100 medical doctors and scientists). Sufficient funds are appropriated for research.

After two years of intensive research and rigorous consultations, the commission comes to the conclusion that exposure limits would have to be so low that technologies such as self-driving cars and the IoT (Internet of Things) would not be viable. In addition, the vast number of satellites creates the foreseeable danger of collision fragments causing a "garbage chaos" in the entire area of space surrounding the earth which is described as the Kessler syndrome. It is also a large-scale toxic waste of materials that damages the ozone layer. Due to the general harm accruing to humans, animals and plants, the operating licenses for 5G and 6G on earth and in space are now expiring. The radiation output of cell phones and transmitters or respectively the permissible field strengths will be significantly reduced.

The technical development of zero-emission vehicles and means of transport have been given a tremendous boost, because more and more parliaments have set a deadline mandating the licensing of zero-emission vehicles after a certain year.

In a joint declaration, WWF and Greenpeace team up to communicate to the dwellers on earth that the state of the global climate is dangerously worse than generally assumed, as unchecked global warming follows an exponential course. It has

become imperative that the resolutions made at global climate summits be translated into action by the entire population of the world in their daily lives. This is seen as the only way to avert the impending worst-case scenario, the ultimate climate catastrophe. This campaign is supported by almost every television channel in the world. Hundreds of spots are broadcast showing what steps we, the citizens of the world, can take to affect the climate of the earth positively.

The virgin forests, jungles and rain forests left standing in the world have been declared as UNESCO world heritage sites and are strictly protected. Further clearing will be prohibited, with the exception of approved tree felling with subsequent renaturation of the access roads. The United Nations has created a fund to train hundreds of thousands of forest rangers and pays their salaries in the poorest countries. As a safety precaution, the forest rangers always work in groups. Each group simultaneously receives access to satellite data and is adequately equipped with technical resources. They are charged with working hand in hand together with all indigenous people and their respective tribal councils in a spirit of friendship. The indigenous people are the best custodians of forests and nature and are allowed to cut down individual trees and kill animals for their use. Their land rights are now respected. The poisoning of jungle soil and rivers by illegal gold diggers has also now come to an end.

Today, diverse and systematic agroforestry cultivation is found all over the world. When state subsidies took the increased benefit to biodiversity, climate, soil structure, and water balance into account, agroforestry cultivation gained momentum everywhere. At intervals of about 1,000m, wide strips of land cultivated with flowering plants are being set aside for insects and birds. The focus is on functioning ecosystems.

Permaculture (sustainable agriculture in harmony with nature) is frequently used.

The vast majority of wood-burning stoves are equipped with highly effective fine-dust filters.

A portion of the world's food is now produced in vegetable factories, so-called "vertical farms". These are large halls, multi-storey buildings and roof plantations where in the main vegetables and microalgae are cultivated using artificial light and temperature control. This process is also viable in barren regions and in large cities.

Under the patronage of UNICEF, a World Council for Children and Youth is established. The children and youth also hold three seats for each of three age groups in the UN General Assembly. Naturally, they will be supported by adults who will interpret complicated discussions in age-appropriate language. The World Council for Children and Youth is elected by young people from many different countries using the Internet.

Children and youth wonder why adults tell them not to quarrel; to help one another, to play, make music, do crafts and other activities nicely, without arguing. At the same time, adults can always be seen quarreling on television. This is called 'politics'.

What's more, political parties have been and are continuing to be formed everywhere, leading to nothing but confrontations and protests, actually causing divisions among populations.

Children and youth ask themselves whether democracy could function without power struggles and political parties. That is what a member of the World Council for Children and Youth told a UNICEF official who then explained that such a democracy does already exist in the Bahá'í administrative order.

The children and youth research this subject on the Internet.

Then they decide to learn how to consult properly and effectively – and after that to tackle the great challenges ahead - such as figuring out what a stable, functioning and progressive democracy might look like. The children and youth ask their parents to participate as well, and many of them spontaneously agree. This work takes several months. Here is the result of the children's and youth's research that is distributed among the representatives of all countries at the UN:

"The democratic model we aspire to is conditioned on free elections, open and genuine consultation and rejects the idea of vesting disproportionate power in individuals. Rather "Round Tables" consult as teams and take decisions at various different levels. They are called "Round Tables" because seating at consultations is at round tables.

Such a round table normally consists of nine members. Should demands on the consultative process increase, the number consulting at the round table can be increased. Experts also join in on discussions to bring competent and informed advice to the table - without, however, having the right to vote. If a unanimous resolution – always the preferred outcome – cannot be arrived at, a simple majority suffices for a decision.

The Round Tables forming the democratic base (local round tables) have the great advantage that the nine public servants are always from the immediate area. Because of this, they have first-hand knowledge of local issues. These public servants can be easily contacted, and problems are swiftly solved by means of consultation. Monitoring decisions is thus also not difficult.

The number of "Round Tables" in any particular country, e.g., local, regional, supra-regional and national, depends on the population of the country. National Round Tables work hand in hand with the parliaments which elect them to office.

Trustees appointed by the National Round Tables are turned to by and mediate for those in public service at regional levels.

A world parliament is elected by the people of the world and confirmed by the governments.

The World Parliament will choose from among its members a World Legislative Round Table, which will draw up drafts for world laws. Auxiliary committees will be formed as needed by drawing lots among the parliamentarians. These will, for

example, give advice on matters of detail, collect information, or process proposals from the Parliament. The world laws will always be decided on by the entire World Parliament. A "Consulting Board", which will also be elected, will lead the plenary sessions and will be responsible for internal management.

The parliaments and governments of all countries will send the most suitable representatives to form the World Court of Justice. The number of these representatives should be proportional to the population of the country (see List of References 1). The World Court of Justice has a World Court Round Table elected by all the representatives, and advisory committees established by drawing lots among the representatives, which will conduct negotiations and prepare court decisions in cooperation with all the representatives. The number of advisory committees will depend on the total workload. A "Consulting Board" will also handle internal management in this case.

Half of the World Executive Round Table will be elected from the World Parliament (30 members) and half from the World Court (29 members). The World Parliament and the World Court of Justice will also each appoint an auxiliary committee with no decision - making authority. The members of these auxiliary committees will deal with the implementation of the World laws, the decisions of the World Executive Round Table and Court decisions.

Because of the multitude and weight of its responsibilities and the universal participation of as many countries as possible, the World Council for Children and Youth recommends membership of 59 for each of the three World Round Tables.

Recent technological developments have made scheduling consultations over several days unproblematic.

Resolutions are so important that at least 45 members are required to participate in the complete course of any decision-making procedures. To prevent unilateral actions and power-seeking tendencies, and to preserve a rich abundance of ideas in the world and its diversity, elections for the World Round Tables are organized so that the membership of any one World Round Table comes from various countries (The delegates who have the highest number of votes constitute the membership of the World Round Tables). Only the two most populous nations will be allowed to have two members. Nine members will always be drawn from relatively small countries to protect minorities. Moreover, the makeup of the three World Round Tables will be determined, taking continents and proportional population densities into account.

Most of the members will have already been raised as global citizens. They will be aware that what is at stake is the welfare of the planet, its splendid nature, and the welfare of countless generations to come. All branches will be legally obliged to replace committee members after they leave.

A crucially important regulation is that regarding the prohibition of dealings behind closed doors. All of the decisions of the world round tables are to be made public – though tactical considerations may influence the immediacy of a disclosure. Secretiveness has had dire consequences in the history of the world. Just as there should be no secrets between partners in marriage when the family unit is at stake, here, where the concern is for the human family, the same principle applies. Moreover, without candor, the trust of the world's population cannot be won.

The world parliament will also install a permanent supervisory committee which will equitably appraise the day-to-day work of the consulting and the executive world circles. Furthermore,

measures must be put in place making urgent action and speedy re-elections possible should an emergency arise, for example, at the first sign that a dictatorship may be forming – measures, however, which must be formulated so that they cannot be abused.

Community centers are to be built in every location where people can meet informally and, in an atmosphere free from any pressure to consume alcoholic beverages, where they can get to know one another and can exchange views and ideas. This will reduce alienation and prejudices and will lead to a new form of socializing. People will find it very important to establish who may be suitable to be a politician or a representative. This is not just a question of determining who is knowledgeable or has managerial skills but one of assessing character and purity of motive. Women and men who value justice and harmony and who work well with others will be chosen gladly.

Numerous citizens will introduce themselves, post their CV's and contribute to various discussions forums in so-called "Internet election forums". On these national sites, it will be possible to express one's interest in working in certain round tables and give reasons for this. One may not, however, make untrue statements or, worse yet, denigrate others. Nor will it be permissible to endorse anyone for an elected position. If someone posts inflammatory slogans, for example, their right to participate in the forums is withdrawn by the electoral office following judicial review. These election forums are, of course, not to be abused for entertainment purposes but are important and serious in character. If one wishes to participate actively in an election forum, one registers with an election office, presents proof verifying his/her identity, confirms to the best of his/her knowledge the accuracy of his/her CV and of the independent character of all written pieces submitted. Then, one receives a code to access and post entries on the site. It is, of course, possible to elect people not active in the election forums.

The political parties of former times have now changed their bylaws and have become organizations which operate shoulder to shoulder without in-fighting and which contribute to civic education in their respective countries. For example, they will offer universal certification in courses treating subjects such as urban development, de-escalation of conflicts, communication skills, effective consultation, family relationships, etc. Moreover, they will provide support in social integration of people from other countries. Brainstorming workshops will develop ideas for current and future needs. Candidates for office will no longer be nominated. Members will decide who is suited to hold political office in free and independent elections. Political organizations receive money from the state for their work. In order to maintain neutrality, donations are not permitted, though, to a certain extent, members may support the work financially.

Kings and queens will, in the main, be important as the representatives of their countries, and their interests will be in harmony with those of their democratically elected bodies. They will often participate in the consultations of various circles. Their other responsibilities will be determined by the respective national constitution. Depending on the country in question, the king or queen will have more or less power and influence in political questions. However, they do not have police or military powers. A majority vote by the population will decide whether there should be a "political symbiosis" of democracy and royalty or not. The approval of two independent commissions must be sought before an heir to a throne can be approved.

All this also applies to those citizens seeking the highest office. They will be vetted as to their character, their overall understanding of current affairs, their level of education, and their in-depth grasp of social, economic, environmental and spiritual reality. Candidates must be at least thirty years of age.

An ideal king or queen will be knowledgeable and compassionate, will have a heart-felt interest in children, will hold regular audiences for all of the citizens of the country, will think independently and will constantly be cultivating and fostering international relationships. Kings and queens will apply for retirement, at the latest by the age of 75.

The protection of minorities will be viewed as very important and as axiomatic. The rights of every individual citizen will be respected. Citizens suffering particular hardship will receive generous financial compensation, for example, when caring for relatives who are seriously ill or when an urgent evacuation measure becomes necessary such as when a residential area is threatened by flooding.

The preservation of diversity in the world – of diversity in all of the different countries, in opinions and ideas, in the work of all of the round tables, in the animal kingdom and in all of nature will be seen as a sacred duty.

Diversity and harmony are not contradictory terms! Such a view is but a time-worn prejudice.

The world community found the recommendations well worth listening to. It surprised the children, the youth and their parents that the recommendations were tried out in a small, crisis-ridden country. The deep crisis was resolved after a few years. Thereupon divers countries restructured their governments on the same principles and blossomed in many ways.

As an empowered and organic world polity has now finally been established, licensing by genuinely independent institutes has been introduced. Before any production is launched, due diligence is exercised to make sure that it will have no negative effect on humans or the environment and that production conditions are sustainable, complying with uniform, global

standards. True sustainability in production means: usability and durability of the products, reparability of parts subject to wear and tear (replacement parts), recyclability of the goods produced, of the packaging, of the means of production and of the machines involved in production, and of the use of energy free of CO2. It goes without saying that these standards do not only apply to manufacturing but rather that compliance tests for sustainability standards have been introduced for all types of businesses, including for example, agricultural enterprises, construction companies and the service industry.

Guarantees are valid for at least five years the world over.

Cooperative action has long since replaced the ineffective and divisive, competitive thinking of earlier times. Very many companies now work together as business associates and partners.

It has long been recognized that manufacturing alone not enough, that it is inextricably linked to the way the work is done: Are the employees happy and satisfied at work? Do all the workplaces measure up to the standards for human rights? All over the world workers now are entitled to organize in trade unions. As these production standards are implemented worldwide, product dumping will be entirely eliminated. Companies will be taxed at approximately the same rates so as not to distort global markets.

Production licensing on a world-wide scale will not lead to less but rather to more freedom. Workers will obtain better working and living conditions. The global climate will also gradually improve and, through the efforts of the entire global population, finally be restored to health using these means and E-Cat technology on a massive scale. This is a new and entirely environmentally friendly technology, allowing for the generation of heat and electricity without emissions. Further climate catastrophes would have led to indescribable global destruction and lack of freedom for all people. Showing respect for the environment when deciding on manufacturing processes means more freedom for nature in the final assessment.

Factory workers will share in company profits which will, of course, have a motivating impact. No longer is it possible for owners to sell their businesses and line their pockets with the proceeds. Company assets are accrued through the work of very many people. Now the workers will share in the profits according to the length of time that they have been serving at the company.

So-called ethics advisory councils attend to the just compensation of all company employees, assist in uncovering and remedying serious shortcomings and company abuse, and monitor sustainability.

The human right to work is respected internationally, and employers, municipalities and countries offer as many meaningful job opportunities as possible, be it for 10 or 20 hours a week. Much so called "volunteer" work is being converted into regular jobs.

Other modern problems cropped up:

For example, technical means have been developed, in the main by secret services and the military, to remotely induce voices and visions of all kinds in target persons, to cause burns to their skin, or even to kill them leaving no trace. With this technology, it is also possible to produce annoying, penetrating noises in a remote apartment. Dangerous mood changes can also be caused by inaudible low frequencies.

Although politicians struggled to put an end to this criminally evil state of affairs, it was only the Global Circles that were able to consult on such problems in depth, take appropriate measures and free humanity from them.

After some initial turmoil, AI has developed over time into a fantastic, universal medial tool. This succeeded because AI products everywhere were "trained" above all with global ethical content, and many aspects of each new development step were subject to strict testing before being approved for use.

Thanks to AI, it was possible for a large team of international experts to develop a new world auxiliary language.

At some point, AI obtained a kind of consciousness – but, of course, an artificial one. It turned out that abuse of this technology is the biggest problem with it. As this often occurred in the past, human rights courts are now constantly reviewing the use of AI systems worldwide on behalf of the World Court Circle. For example, it must always be made clear when you are communicating with a computer instead of a human being. The privacy and civil liberties of all inhabitants of the earth are protected. Very great responsibilities must not be transferred to AI systems.

There is a global minimum and maximum wage.

Every person on earth has a right to a guaranteed minimum income.

Should the annual income of a world citizen exceed the global maximum wage by sixty-fold, 60% of such surplus is subject to special taxation and will be withheld. The taxes thus accrued will flow in equal parts into the national and world social funds.

It was formerly customary to influence politicians using so-called lobbying methods to implement self-serving goals. That is forbidden today. Politicians now consult and consistently seek solutions in the interest of all citizens without yielding to preferential interests. Politicians are not allowed to work in businesses during their term of office in order to preserve their neutrality.

Education has seen several changes compared to the past. Every student has a tablet computer on which all of the learning objectives in the curriculum are entered and saved. In addition, the students can access the knowledge of the world, including AI, as they are, of course, linked to the Internet by cable.

A wonderful programme known as "All clear" will teach pupils about the world and the universe. The scope of the

explanations and the intelligibility can be adjusted according to levels (1 = simple, brief explanation, 10 = very comprehensive and scientific wording). In addition, pupils can communicate with the programme and get more and more details or relationships explained to them. Children will learn how humans, animals, and plants can live well together and how the Earth remains fit for the future.

The teachers teach and encourage students to be genuinely friendly to one another. When choosing topics for the lessons, they make sure that the topics and reading material are chosen with character-building in mind. School is regarded as a process of sharing and cooperation. For example, prior to examinations and tests, students use lesson time to coach and practice with each other. Teamwork and consultation skills are acquired this way.

Moreover, a simplified, three-point marking system (good/adequate/inadequate) has long since been introduced. This puts an end to the worldwide, grey tradition of the "marks rigmarole", which has made millions of children depressed and sad. The problem was that parents, universities and employers often required too much of students. They were often driven to achieve consistently high performances, like in a circus, putting excessive pressure on and frustrating many of them. This was further complicated by the fact that different teachers evaluated students' results differently. This led to substance abuse - alcohol or prescription and illegal drugs.

Nowadays it is not only students' short-term memory that is tested and evaluated, but also their equally important long-term memory. This occurs mostly in popular quiz rounds for the whole class. The students all make efforts to type the correct answers onto their tablet computers. Trick questions and funny answers are all part of this activity. AI may also be used in so-called AI exams. What counts is no longer the marks but rather the human character, the virtues and qualities of empathy and service-orientation, for example.

Students the world over are educated to become world citizens.

In religious education at school, all world religions are taught objectively. Students learn about the life and works of the revelators and the Holy Scriptures are read from with enthusiasm and never to the point of tedium.

Almost all schools have fitness centers and spacious workshop areas equipped with students in mind. "Learning by doing" is the motto. Many different skills are taught in the workshops. The students practice teamwork and are better able to decide later whether they would like to pursue a more practical or a more theoretical career path.

In short, the objective of students' learning efforts is to have a good and meaningful life on earth.

This model of a harmonious, progressive and open-minded democracy is a product of imagining and dreaming what life could be like based on the pattern of the Bahá'í administrative order.

As the phrase goes: "Less is more." On this note, my remarks end here but quotes follow revolving around the same or similar issues.

Unity rich in and enriched by diversity

Consider the flowers of a garden: though differing in kind, colour, form and shape, yet, inasmuch as they are refreshed by the waters of one spring, revived by the breath of one wind, invigorated by the rays of one sun, this diversity increaseth their charm, and addeth unto their beauty...How unpleasing to the eye if all the flowers and plants, the leaves and blossoms, the fruits, the branches and the trees of that garden were all of the same shape and colour! Diversity of hues, form and shape, enricheth and adorneth the garden, and heighteneth the effect thereof.

'Abdu'l-Bahá 2

The whole world must be looked upon as one single country, all the nations as one nation, all men as belonging to one race. Religions, races, and nations are all divisions of man's making only, and are necessary only in his thought; before God there are neither Persians, Arabs, French nor English; God is God for all, and to Him all creation is one. We must obey God, and strive to follow Him by leaving all our prejudices and bringing about peace on earth.

'Abdu'l-Bahá 3

Racism is an illness against which all young children in the world are immune.

unknown 4

The day is approaching when all the peoples of the world will have adopted one universal language and one common script. When this is achieved, to whatsoever city a man may journey, it shall be as if he were entering his own home.

Bahá'u'lláh 5

Insofar as technology is affected, the world is actually becoming more and more one world.

Jawaharlal Nehru 6

The fundamental purpose animating the Faith of God and His Religion is to safeguard the interests and promote the unity of the human race, and to foster the spirit of love and fellowship amongst men.

Bahá'u'lláh 7

The day is coming when all the religions of the world will unite, for in principle they are one already. There is no need for division, seeing that it is only the outward forms that separate them.

'Abdu'l-Bahá 8

Love ye all religions and all races with a love that is true and sincere and show that love through deeds...

'Abdu'l-Bahá 9

Unification of the whole of mankind is the hall-mark of the stage which human society is now approaching. Unity of family, of tribe, of city-state, and nation have been successively attempted and fully established. World unity is the goal towards which a harassed humanity is striving. Nation-building has come to an end. The anarchy inherent in state sovereignty is moving towards a climax. A world, growing to maturity, must abandon this fetish, recognize the oneness and wholeness of human relationships, and establish once for all the machinery that can best incarnate this fundamental principle of its life.

Shoghi Effendi 10

The well-being of mankind, its peace and security, are unattainable unless and until its unity is firmly established.

Bahá'u'lláh 11

The unity of the human race, as envisaged by Bahá'u'lláh, implies the establishment of a world commonwealth in which all nations, races, creeds and classes are closely and permanently united, and in which the autonomy of its state members and the personal freedom and initiative of the individuals that compose them are definitely and completely safeguarded. This commonwealth must, as far as we can visualize it, consist of a world legislature, whose members will, as the trustees of the whole of mankind, ultimately control the entire resources of all the component nations, and will enact such laws as shall be required to regulate the life, satisfy the needs and adjust the relationships of all races and peoples. A world executive, backed by an international Force, will carry out the decisions arrived at, and apply the laws enacted by, this world legislature, and will safeguard the organic unity of the whole commonwealth.

A world tribunal will adjudicate and deliver its compulsory and final verdict in all and any disputes that may arise between the various elements constituting this universal system. A mechanism of world inter-communication will be devised, embracing the whole planet, freed from national hindrances and restrictions, and functioning with marvelous swiftness and perfect regularity...

Shoghi Effendi 12

Diversity, which does not structure itself as unity, is chaos and confusion. Unity, which does not articulate itself as diversity, is tyranny.

Blaise Pascal 13

Glorified in the senses He hath given,
Yet beyond sense He is; sustaining all,
Yet dwells He unattached: of forms and modes
Master, yet neither form nor mode hath He;
He is within all beings- and without-
Motionless, yet still moving; not discerned
For subtlety of instant presence; close
To all, to each; yet measurelessly far!

Bhagavad-gita 14

An evolutionary quantum leap: The transformation in mindset from ruling to serving

Blessed and happy is he that ariseth to promote the best
interests of the peoples and kindreds of the earth.

Bahá'u'lláh 15

Everything is inter-connected with all things. Only goals that
serve the whole are worthwhile.

Dr. Brigitte Wolter 16

Historical developments do not move backwards. All states –
including those not yet democracies – will become
with each passing century.

Ernst Moritz Arndt 17

It is dangerous to keep on calling for leaders to run the show.
Especially in difficult times, it is essential to exercise more
democracy and not less. It is only dictatorships that are
fast-paced and simple.

Rita Süßmuth 18

The genius of our founders is that they designed a system of government that can be changed.

Barack Obama 19

When the power of love overcomes the love of power,
the world will know peace.

Jimi Hendrix 20

Power only possesses legitimacy when it is in the
service of reason.

Karl Jaspers 21

Knowledge will give you power, but character respect.

Bruce Lee 22

Trustworthiness is the greatest portal leading unto the tranquility and security of the people. In truth the stability of every affair hath depended and doth depend upon it.

Bahá'u'lláh 23

This is worship: to serve mankind and to minister
to the needs of the people.

'Abdu'l-Bahá 24

The liberty that profiteth you is to be found nowhere except in complete servitude unto God, the Eternal Truth. Whoso hath tasted of its sweetness will refuse to barter it for all the dominion of earth and heaven.

Bahá'u'lláh 25

Human beings sometimes believe that they have been elevated to the station of owners and rulers. This is erroneous. Human beings are only a part of the whole. Their responsibility is that of guardians/custodians and administrators not that of exploiters. Human beings have responsibility, not power.

Indian wisdom 26

Problem-solving by means of effective consultation

Consultation bestoweth greater awareness and transmuteth conjecture into certitude.

Bahá'u'lláh 27

No welfare and no well-being can be attained except through consultation.

Bahá'u'lláh 28

The question of consultation is of the utmost importance, and is one of the most potent instruments conducive to the tranquility and felicity of the people.

'Abdu'l-Bahá 29

Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.

Old Testament 30

Man must consult in all things for this will lead him to the depths of each problem and enable him to find the right solution.

'Abdu'l-Bahá 31

Solve someone's problem for them, and you free them from it for a day. Teach them how to solve their problem and they will be free of it for the rest of their lives.

Chinese wisdom 32

The members thereof must take counsel together in such wise that no occasion for ill-feeling or discord may arise. This can be attained when every member expresseth with absolute freedom his own opinion and setteth forth his argument. Should any one oppose, he must on no account feel hurt for not until matters are fully discussed can the right way be revealed. The shining spark of truth cometh forth only after the clash of differing opinions.

'Abdu'l-Bahá 33

They must in every matter search out the truth and not insist upon their own opinion, for stubbornness and persistence in one's views will lead ultimately to discord and wrangling and the truth will remain hidden.

'Abdu'l-Bahá 34

Antagonism and contradiction are unfortunate and always destructive to truth.

'Abdu'l-Bahá 35

Man should weigh his opinions with the utmost serenity, calmness and composure. Before expressing his own views he should carefully consider the views already advanced by others. If he finds that a previously expressed opinion is more true and worthy, he should accept it immediately and not willfully hold to an opinion of his own.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá 36

The honored members must with all freedom express their own thoughts, and it is in no wise permissible for one to belittle the thought of another, nay, he must with moderation set forth the truth, and should differences of opinion arise a majority of voices must prevail, and all must obey and submit to the majority.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá 37

Whereas, if in one case they take a wrong decision, in a hundred other cases they will adopt right decisions, and concord and unity are preserved. This will offset any deficiency, and will eventually lead to the righting of the wrong.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá 38

The members who are consulting, however, should behave in the utmost love, harmony and sincerity towards each other.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá 39

A thousand people may hold to one view and be mistaken, whereas one sagacious person may be right. Therefore, true consultation is spiritual conference in the attitude and atmosphere of love.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá 40

And who hearken to their Lord, and observe prayer, and whose affairs are guided by mutual counsel, and who give alms of that with which we have enriched them;...

The Qur`an 41

Education

Regard man as a mine rich in gems of inestimable value. Education can, alone, cause it to reveal its treasures, and enable mankind to benefit therefrom.

Bahá'u'lláh 42

Through education savage nations become civilized, and even the animals become domesticated. Education must be considered as most important, for as diseases in the world of bodies are extremely contagious, so, in the same way, qualities of spirit and heart are extremely contagious. Education has a universal influence, and the differences caused by it are very great.

'Abdu'l-Bahá 43

Therefore must the mentor be a doctor as well: that is, he must, in instructing the child, remedy its faults; must give him learning, and at the same time rear him to have a spiritual nature. Let the teacher be a doctor to the character of the child, thus will he heal the spiritual ailments of the children of men.

'Abdu'l-Bahá 44

Schools must first train the children in the principles of religion, so that the Promise and the Threat recorded in the Books of God may prevent them from the things forbidden and adorn them with the mantle of the commandments; but this in such a measure that it may not injure the children by resulting in ignorant fanaticism and bigotry.

Bahá'u'lláh 45

Achieving the good of peace first calls for educating to peace, banishing a culture of conflict aimed at fear of others, marginalizing those who think or live differently than ourselves. It is true that conflict cannot be ignored or concealed; it has to be faced. But if it paralyzes us, we lose perspective, our horizons shrink and we grasp only a part of reality. When we fail to move forward in a situation of conflict, we lose our sense of the profound unity of reality, we halt history and we become enmeshed in useless disputes.

Pope Francis 46

I truly believe the only way we can create global peace is through not only educating our minds, but our hearts and our souls.

Malala Yousafzai 47

The best guarantee of global security is conflict prevention. When you deploy ten thousand soldiers, it costs billions of dollars. If you can prevent conflict, you save resources at a fraction of that cost; more importantly, you save lives.

Ban Ki Moon 48

Furthermore, the education of woman is more necessary and important than that of man, for woman is the trainer of the child from its infancy. If she be defective and imperfect herself, the child will necessarily be deficient; therefore, imperfection of woman implies a condition of imperfection in all mankind, for it is the mother who rears, nurtures and guides the growth of the child...

‘Abdu’l-Bahá 49

What it means to be human

The reality of man is his thought, not his material body.

Although man is part of the animal creation, he possesses a power of thought superior to all other created beings.

Some men and women glory in their exalted thoughts, but if these thoughts never reach the plane of action they remain useless: the power of thought is dependent on its manifestation in deeds.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, working through his soul, man is able to perceive the Divine reality of things. All great works of art and science are witnesses to this power of the Spirit.

The greatest power of the Holy Spirit exists in the Divine Manifestations of the Truth. Through the power of the Spirit the Heavenly Teaching has been brought into the World of Humanity.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá 50

...and do good, for God loveth those who do good.

Qur`an 51

The unleashed power of the atom has changed everything except our thinking. Thus, we are drifting toward catastrophe beyond conception. We shall require a substantially new manner of thinking if mankind is to survive.

Albert Einstein 52

Human beings now stand before the alternative of either being doomed to destruction - or of transforming itself.

Karl Jaspers 53

True loss is for him whose days have been spent in utter ignorance of his self.

Bahá'u'lláh 54

On the one hand, people of all nations proclaim not only their readiness but their longing for peace and harmony, for an end to the harrowing apprehensions tormenting their daily lives. On the other, uncritical assent is given to the proposition that human beings are incorrigibly selfish and aggressive and thus incapable of erecting a social system at once progressive and peaceful, dynamic and harmonious, a system giving free play to individual creativity and initiative but based on cooperation and reciprocity. As the need for peace becomes more urgent, this fundamental contradiction, which hinders its realization, demands a reassessment of the assumptions upon which the commonly held view of mankind's historical predicament is based. Dispassionately examined, the evidence reveals that such conduct, far from expressing man's true self, represents a distortion of the human spirit. Satisfaction on this point will enable all people to set in motion constructive social forces which, because they are consistent with human nature, will encourage harmony and cooperation instead of war and conflict.

The Universal House of Justice 55

...As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence
automatically liberates others.

Nelson Mandela 56

The world is full of conundrums/puzzles for which
the human being is the solution.

Joseph Beuys 57

If only men would search out truth, they would
find themselves united.

'Abdu'l-Bahá 58

Happiness is the only thing which doubles in size
when you share it.

Albert Schweitzer 59

Happiness is being satisfied, enjoying harmonious relationships
– and having one's nearest and dearest close-by.

Anni Friesinger 60

A friendly face is better than chests of gold.

Arabian proverb 61

Life's meaning is fulfilled where there is love.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer 62

Overcome anger with freedom from anger. Overcome evil with
good. Overcome meanness with generosity and overcome
a liar with truthfulness.

Buddha 63

Justice rules when there is neither extreme wealth nor extreme poverty in a society.

Thales von Milet 64

A healthy man with no money is half ill.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe 65

A man who is not hungry say the cocoanut has a hard shell.

Ethiopian saying 66

Scruples or conscience is being aware of the inner court of law in human beings.

Immanuel Kant 67

Bring thyself to account each day ere thou art summoned to a reckoning; for death, unheralded, shall come upon thee and thou shalt be called to give account for thy deeds.

Bahá'u'lláh 68

You can calculate the heavens and measure the earth but you cannot fathom the human heart.

Chinese proverb 69

Have we lost sight of all principles in our belief that human beings must adapt themselves to new technological developments instead of making the reverse a condition for the development of new technology?

Hans A. Pestalozzi 70

Those who work joyfully are able to accomplish much.

Marion Hedda Ilse Gräfin Dönhoff 71

Joy gives us wings! In times of joy our strength is
more vital, our intellect keener,...

'Abdu'l-Bahá 72

Birds leave the earth with their wings. Human beings, too, can
leave the earth – not with wings but with their spirits.

Indian wisdom 73

Vitality itself is the result of vision. If there is no longer a vision
of something great, beautiful, or important, then our vitality
and stamina diminish.

Erich Fromm 74

Joining forces in the interest of the environment

Ban Ki Moon: "Climate change is the defining issue of our age."

The human, environmental and financial cost of climate change
is fast becoming unbearable.

Climate change threatens hard-won peace, prosperity, and
opportunity for billions of people.

Ban Ki Moon 75

I warn against believing that the (free) market is sufficient to get the environment under control. This is a prime example/classical case for public responsibility.

Willy Brandt 76

Human beings have mastered nature before they have learned to master themselves.

Albert Schweitzer 77

We must not regard nature as an enemy which must be controlled and conquered but re-learn to cooperate with nature. Her history goes back four and a half billion years.

Ours is much shorter.

Hans-Peter Dürr 78

We are part of a macro-organism.

Ernst Goetsch 79

The cause of many ecological problems is a poorly structured, monotonous agricultural landscape.

Dr. Eike Luedeling 80

...Special regard must be paid to agriculture.

Bahá'u'lláh 81

You're either part of the solution or part of the problem.

Eldridge Cleaver 82

Don't you know that the forests are the lifeblood of a country?

Babylonian wisdom 83

From nature one can learn how slowly many things develop and how late the noblest fruits ripen.

August Hermann Niemeyer 84

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www.europarl.europa.eu Health impact of 5G

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