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MESSAGE

We are in the midst of unprecedented development, progress and convenience brought about by enormous scientific achievements and technological revolution.

Yet, we cannot say that the planet and the people are experiencing harmony and peace. All the religions preach and promote universally acceptable human values. Yet, in the name of religion, some negative elements have succeeded in dividing the people and promoting hatred and violence.

Man has forgotten that the natural resources are limited and not inexhaustible and the material progress has to be based on sustainable development. We are threatened with global warming, and ever increasing pollution of air and water. The planet has limited resources, which are plenty to last forever, if they are utilized in a sensible manner.

Nature provides enough for everyone to lead a happy and healthy life. From now on, we have to be aware that the earth no longer guarantees life for us unless we ourselves guarantee the health and life of the earth in the first place.

The time has come to bring about transformation in the individual and through the individual, in the family, the society, nations and all over the world, promoting Peace, Harmony, Justice and mutual respect for the holistic living of not only all human beings but all forms of life on the planet.

The truth is one but the paths are many. All religions preach compassion, understanding and happiness for all. Understanding the basic truths and similarities to solve difficult problems is very important, if we want to make progress in inter-faith harmony.

Spirituality is not a luxury. As Mahatma Gandhi said, spiritual power surpasses even the greatest physical power. It has no limits. To live without spirituality is like being hungry in a pitch-dark room. To find the way, one must have light - light of wisdom based on spirituality. There is no greater need in our world today than for a healthy renewal of human spirituality.

The Vedas proclaimed thousands of years back, *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* – the world is one family. According to the Ancient Indian heritage, we pray to the Divine “to lead us from darkness to light – from mortality to immortality – from ignorance to knowledge and enlightenment”.

In THE WORLD UNITED, we have undertaken the mammoth task of holding the First World Parliament on Spirituality. In this, we are assured of the participation and contribution of great masters from various spheres, traditions and various countries.

Hearty Welcome to everyone from every part of the world to the 1st World Parliament on Spirituality, in our humble effort to heal the individuals and the entire planet.



D. R. KAARTHIKEYAN

Chairperson

Organising Committee WPS

THE WORLD UNITED

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