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Dear friends and co-workers!

Humanity stands today between two lines of force. One is characterised by a brutal, materialistic-oriented attitude that seeks to make profit out of all beings and circumstances throughout the world. The other is characterised by those who see it as their highest value to live according to universal and eternal values and ethics. In between, there are millions of people who have to struggle to survive and to try to preserve their rights as human beings as laid down in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the United Nations Charter.

The political structure of the world of today was established by a generation who divided the world into different national states, organised institutional religions and fed a strong sense of competition between the industries of the different countries. Today, the division does not seem to run any longer between different States but between a small minority that takes decisions in its own interest, regardless of the cost to humans and nature, and those who see the need for decisions that are in the interest of all, humans and nature.

In order to ensure a prosperous existence not only for ourselves but also for future generations, a new attitude is required, based on an inner code of conduct characterised by active goodwill, inclusiveness and respect for all life. Respect for all life is the attitude which will help us achieve global good governance and overcome illusion, glamour and misunderstanding.

We live today in a world imposed on humanity by people with narrow-minded national and religious interests. Those who have developed a global view but who remain attached to their personal interests exploit these divisions to continue to divide and weaken us. Our national States and institutional religions are like straightjackets that prevent us from establishing constructive cooperation beyond and above all borders and barriers of nationality, race or religion. If we all work together as human beings, we

will create a new world civilisation and world culture of mutual respect in which the resources of the different countries will not be controlled by national governments and international corporations. We will work together and exchange the natural resources and the products of our labour for the betterment of all. A global awareness based on universal values and eternal ethics will form the basis of a global attitude of respect for life and will lead us to produce only what is useful for the physical, mental, social and spiritual health and evolution of all living creatures on our planet.

Individual responsibility and pure motivation are necessary to develop a mental matrix for building a world based on healing cleavages and misunderstandings between nations, cultures and institutional religions. The first step towards this new world is love of truth. If we realise the importance of seeking and loving truth in all circumstances, towards ourselves and others, and abandon our fears to lose face, to acknowledge our mistakes to ourselves and whenever necessary also to others, we will start to develop insight in two directions simultaneously. We will gain insight into the background of events around us, and we will develop a deeper understanding of life itself within us.

Insight into and true understanding of individual and world concerns is urgently needed for us to come out of the present world crisis and the thousands of concomitant problems which we keep creating all the time because of our inability to abandon our old patterns of behaviour that lead us to repeat again and again always the same mistakes.

Insight demands a certain discipline of quietness and silence for it to open us to new aspects of life and planetary evolution. Especially today, insight into the human kingdom prepares us for a shift from national to global awareness, for an understanding of humanity as a global family.

Insight could be defined as the art of "seeing into". For example the cultivation of contemplation and reflection upon events and circumstances leads us up into the realm of mental functioning, moves us out of the purely emotional or astral reaction to "effects" and into the thought processes of asking **why** is this happening? Why did this happen (again)? In other words, we train ourselves to look into (in-sight) events and by so doing train ourselves to pay attention to causes on all levels of human activity.

Insight is also the readiness to observe, recognise and face one's own weak points in the light of a healthy common sense and of one's own conscience, and then to take the steps that are necessary to overcome them. What we improve in ourselves of our own free will, applying goodwill and love of truth, reverberates in our environment through our example, adding to the sum total of spiritual awareness in the world.

The more soul light is let in, the better functioning the insight, which is a means of empowering

Urusvati knows that hypocrisy is based on heartlessness. Indeed, the bond with the higher spheres is formed through the heart, a heart generous in all its expressions. But the violent rage of heartlessness is fierce and spreads widely. People may intend to harm only one, but then injure many. Terrible is the karma of these heartless fools who mumble lofty utterances about truth, while actually defaming it.

Heartless thinking is the plague of humanity. Ancient philosophers did not include heartless people in their concepts of government. Plato in his Republic and Aristotle in his Politics had in mind organized societies of intelligent co-workers, and did not tolerate tyrants, hypocrites, or swindlers. It is impossible to imagine a strong state consisting of hypocrites and swindlers. Hypocrisy is incompatible with the highest beliefs and knowledge, and a false foundation will serve only a false structure. We do not approve of the slightest manifestation of hypocrisy, and believe that this vice begets all other corrupt feelings. (Supermundane I, §244)

and using the mentality to live and work. One no longer feels a helpless victim of circumstances because insight helps one to see **why** such and such happened and therefore we can take measures to avoid a "repetition" and also to predict how certain situations may evolve.

Thus **insight** is a most valuable tool for each one of us, individually, and even more so in group work and relations, in world service, in meeting human need and being insightful about what that need is and how best to meet it, and ultimately for humanity as a whole.

"Ultimately, the final decisions in world affairs have to be made through mankind's deliberate choice... In a unique manner, men are today facing a period of the freeing of the human soul, or a period of its imprisonment indefinitely; the right decision will lead to the Kingdom of God, and the other to a retrogression which will defy the past and prolong past wrong action..." (The Externalisation of the Hierarchy, page 643).

GROUP MEDITATIONS AND PRAYERS

FULL MOON MEDITATIONS

Capricorn, Aquarius, Pisces and Aries Full Moon meditations with the Arcane School group in Geneva

UNITED NATIONS STAFF MEDITATION FOR PEACE

- 07.01.2003 The new world order and essential divinity
- 14.01.2003 The One Life
- 21.01.2003 Preparation for the reappearance of the Christ
- 28.01.2003 OM SHANTI - The light and love of the soul
- 04.02.2003 Spirituality and spirit
- 25.02.2003 Light and love, Buddha and Christ
- 04.03.2003 Manifesto 2000 - six aspects of a culture of peace
- 11.03.2003 The five practices for developing full consciousness: compassion to stop the suffering caused by destruction of life, love and generosity to stop the suffering caused by social injustice, responsibility to stop the suffering caused by sexual misconduct, right speech to stop the suffering caused by reckless words and lack of communication, dietary and psychic discipline to stop the suffering caused by unhealthy consumption patterns
- 18.03.2003 The Aquarian mission of the World Teacher - letting in the light
- 25.03.2003 To open oneself to the beauty of life
- 01.04.2003 Letting in the light
- 08.04.003 To be one with Life

29 January 2003, Inter-religious meeting for peace: "**Pacem in Terris: a Permanent Commitment**", at the Church of Saint-Nicolas-de-Flüe, Geneva, Switzerland.

20 March 2003, Prayer for Peace at the Ecumenical Centre in Geneva

1 March 2003, Circle of Compassion, silent meditation for peace organised by the Women's World Summit Foundation once a month at the Hotel Beau Rivage, Geneva

GROUP CONTACTS AND ACTIVITIES

18 January, 5 April 2003, Lucern, Switzerland: study group on the seven rays, facilitated by Rudolf Schneider (IPS Geneva) and organised by the Foundation Unity of all life (address: Mettenwylstrasse 5, CH-6006 Lucerne, Suisse, +41-041-420.05.88, e-mail: foudeal@bluewin.ch).

21 February, Geneva, Brahma Kumaris University: Inner stability in a world of upheaval, talk followed by exchange of ideas and experiences.

9 March 2003, Geneva: thanks to Mr. Nikolaï Pantchichin, the IPS contact in Minsk, Belarus, we had the pleasure of a visit by Dr. Alexander Pelmenchikov, PhD in quantum chemistry, and Dr. Ricardo Missaglia, his colleague at Milan University. We had a lively exchange of ideas on universology a new scientific paradigm that bridges the gap between the materialistic and idealistic theories of cognition. We are enclosing with this newsletter a presentation of his work. His address is: *Association for Systemic Synthesis*, Via Santa Margherita 123, I-20047 Brugherio (MI), Italy, alexanderpelmenschikov@unimi.it.

24 March 2003, Geneva: World Bank seminar on globalisation and the fight for decent work, with Mr. Zafiriz Tzannatos, author of the book "Unions and Collective Bargaining - economic effects in a global environment" (ISBN 0-8213-5080-3).

2-6 April 2003, Arizona, USA: 17th Annual International Conference of the University of the Seven Rays (Seven Ray Institute, 128 Manhattan Avenue, Jersey City Heights, NJ 07307-3812 USA, Univ7rays@sevenray.com, <http://www.sevenray.com>, Fax +1-201-659.3263. Tel. 798.7777.), entitled "Science and the Soul, Cosmology, Healing and the Illumination of Consciousness", on the theme of science and the 5th ray. Maria Cristina Amaral, of the Unit of Service for Integral Education, an IPS group in Brazil, participated and found the talks and workshops truly inspiring. The speakers embodied the illumination of the 2nd ray of love-wisdom and the practical application of the 5th ray of science. Here are some of the speakers:

Keith Bailey - founder of the Masonic Order, Grand Lodge, Ancient Universal Mysteries

Lawson Bracewell - astrologer, co-president of the Seven Rays Foundation NZ

Thomas Brophy - PhD in Physics, author "The Mechanism Demands a Mysticism"

Leslie Carmack - psychologist, esoterically trained observer, energy healer

Stefan Dobiash - PhD in Psychology and trainer in Rhetorics

Amit Goswami - PhD in Physics, author, "The Self-Aware Universe", "The Visionary Window", and "The Physics of the Soul"

Uma Goswami - Child Psychiatrist, Yoga Biomedical Trust

Halina Bak-Hughes - PhDE in Esoteric Philosophy, organisation development/transformation consultant
Sheldon Hughes - MBA in organisational behaviour,

PhDE in Esoteric Philosophy, organisational and management development consultant

Dr Konstantin Korotkov - PhD in Physics, author "Light After Life", "Experiments an Ideas on After-death Changes of Kirlian Pictures"

Daniel Krummenacher - PhD in Geology, interest in connection between science and esotericism

Zachary Lansdowne - PhD in Engineering, MA in Philosophy and Religion, MA in Psychology, author "The Chakras and Esoteric Healing"

Eila Laurikainen - PhDE in Esoteric Philosophy, esoteric Astrologer and therapist

Karl Maret - MD, research interests - sound and healing

William Meader - PhDE in Esoteric Philosophy, teacher of the Ageless Wisdom

Brett Mitchell - author "The Sun is Alive", "The Spirit, Consciousness and Intelligence of our Solar System"

Harold Moses - President of the Institute of Harmonic Sciences, composer and performer

Michael Robbins - PhD and PhDE in Esoteric Philosophy, author "Tapestry of the Gods", "Infiniteisation of Selfhood", composer of Solar Fire Festivals ritual and music

Lisabet Sahtouris - PhD in Biology, UN consultant on indigenous peoples, author "Earthdance; Living Systems in Evolution", "A Walk Through Time; From Stardust to Us"

12 April 2003, Odessa, Ukraine: International Congress "Genofund 3000"

The main purpose of this Congress was to create permanent international headquarters of the "Genofund 3000" project for solving the problems of regenerating, maintaining and improving the quality of the genetic fund, which is the main resource for a sustainable development of life on Earth. Rudolf Schneider was invited to participate. Part of his contribution on "Attitude" has been integrated into the editorial of this newsletter. Organisers: a.P. Verbickiy, V.D. Kovtun, tel. +38-0482-40.26.16, e-mail: genofund3000@medicua.com, fax +38-0482-34.97.58.

At the end of the congress, Rudolf participated in a television broadcast on the congress, its achievements and projects.

Rudolf Schneider was hosted by Alexey and Maria Yakovtsev, who run their own integrated spiritual education and social development project, called "Sothis" (e-mail: sothis@bk.ru). They arranged for several meetings with local authorities and the media, including a local television broadcasting station.

29 April 2003, Geneva: the "Réseau Universitaire des Etudiants Africains" organised a talk on "**Peace and disarmament in West Africa: what future for regional security?**" with Anatole Ayissi, expert from United Nations Institute on Disarmament Research, UNIDIR, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland, unidir@unog.ch, <http://www.unidir.org> tel.: +41-22-9173186, fax: 9170176), and coordinator of the Western Africa Disarmament Project.

SWISS FORUM OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

23 January 2003: talk on "Indian foreign policy: challenges and prospects", with H.E. Mr. Kanval Sibal, Foreign Secretary of India.

27 January 2003: talk on "The peaceful resolution of conflicts after September 11", with Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, director of the Center for International Health and Cooperation, former Secretary General of the United Nations, former Secretary General of the International Organisation of French-speaking Countries.

24 March 2003: roundtable on "The ideas of Henry Dunant, as embodied in the International Committee of the Red Cross and humanitarian law - are they still relevant today?" Speakers: Mr. Jacques Attali, director-general of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Mr. François Bugnion, director, ICRC; Mr. Paul Grossrieder, former director-general of ICRC; Mr. Nicolas

Michel, ambassador (Switzerland); Mr. Jean-Christophe Rufin, Vice-President of *Médecins sans frontières* and *Action contre la faim*. Held shortly after the beginning of the Irak invasion, this roundtable addressed a number of questions related to humanitarian law and war. The multiplication of armed conflicts in the world places a heavy burden on humanitarian organizations. The warring parties often fail to respect humanitarian law, especially as embodied in the Geneva Conventions. Humanitarian aid is withheld or hijacked by the military in order to gain military advantage. Nevertheless, as expressed by Mr. Michel, the fact that people contravene the law does not mean that the law should be abolished. Otherwise, we would also have to abolish traffic laws. Henry Dunant saw the importance of considering every soldier first of all as a human being, and not as an enemy. This is the universal basis of all ethics and all laws, and is eternally valid.

ACTIVITIES DURING THE 59TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS March-April 2003, Geneva

25 March: meeting of World Resisters International (WRI, 5 Caledonian Road, London N1 9DX, Britain, e-mail: info@wri-irg.org, http://wri-irg.org, tel. +44-20-7278.4040, fax +44-20.7278.0444.) to support Israeli conscientious objectors and to call on Israel to recognize the right to conscientious objection. Today, there are more than 2000 conscientious objectors in Israel and 40% of young Israelis try to escape military service. Israel does not recognize the right to conscientious objection, which is derived from Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, of which Israel is a signatory. In Israel, conscientious objectors risk prison and court martial.

26 March, 2 April 2003: briefings of CONGO (Conference of NGOs with Consultative Status at the UN) for NGO delegates participating in the Commission on Human Rights

1 April 2003: briefing organized by the Department of Public Information of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with Mr.

Paul Hunt, Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.

3 April 2003: presentation by Ms. Hanifa Mezoui, Chief, NGO Section/DESA in New York, of the **NGO Section ECOSOC Outreach Programme UN NGO IRENE (Informal Regional Networks)** The purpose of the regional NGO networks is to facilitate communication and cooperation between NGOs and to enhance their participation in the programme and activities of ECOSOC.

26 March 2003: roundtable on racism organised by the CONGO sub-committee of NGOs against racism and discrimination (Geneva), with Mr. Doudou Diène, special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; H.E. Mr. Juan Enrique Vega, permanent representative of Chile to UNOG; Mr. Imtiaz Hussain, advisor at the permanent mission of Pakistan, moderated by Mr. Jean-Jacques Kirkyacharian, president of the sub-committee.

COOPERATION WITH NGO COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON SPIRITUALITY, VALUES AND GLOBAL CONCERNS

10 January, 4 February, 11 and 27 March 2003, and 29 April 2003: meetings for exchanges of ideas and planning of activities; final drafting of the Mission Statement.

COMMITTEE ON FREEDOM OF RELIGION AND BELIEF

29 January, 5 and 24 March 2003, Geneva: meetings for exchanges of ideas and planning of activities, including a hearing with Mr. Amor, the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion and Belief on "Threats to the freedom of religion or belief today".

In addition, Rudolf Schneider also attended meetings of the **NGO Caucus on Healing** (28 March), the **Women Caucus** (3 February) and the **Interfaith NGO Committee** (7 February).

ENCLOSURES

Calendar of forthcoming group activities
Universology - Compassion Response - Genofund