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A Melody Called Peace



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A Melody Called Peace

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*A tutti i messaggeri di pace, a tutti gli abitanti dell'universo
ea sua santità, Pope Francis.*

*inviemo il nostro messaggio di amore e pace dal paese della
poesia, dell'amore e della pace, l'Iran.*

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General Image of the Melody

If we live by the Spirit, by the Spirit let us also walk!

(Galatians 5:25)

And A Melody Called Peace, humbly, as an eternal gift, an eternal sign of friendship, love and peace is dedicated to his holiness, Pope Francis; as a memento to the Santa Sede; from around the world who shared their voices; who answered the call of the peace messengers!

The purposes of this book are threefold: to see how people comprehend peace; to represent the language of peace in literature and arts; and to suggest approaches to global peace through the language of scientific works. The undertaking seems to be ambitious. How can this book be a large and multifarious manifestation of peace? However, we hope, the present authors, poets, and artists of all ages from different nationalities speak for others. Similarly, we hope to demonstrate how authors' handling of the current and previous wave of the necessity for peace determines their approach to character, plot, diction, style and creativity.

The information covered in each entry includes a prologue, and pieces associated with the content. Each entry focuses on one genre including poetry, prose, articles, visual arts and musical notes. Each entry heading lists the full name of the authors and their nationality and the following elements are contained in each entry: a preface/ prologue, and representative works. Thus, this anthology provides readers of diverse interests and different ages with a unique comprehensive range of knowledge and miscellaneous perceptions of peace, such as interactive, historical, cultural, national, international, biblical, environmental, and gender-oriented hallmarks.

Input was solicited from our director manager Ellias Aghili Dehnavi, the Vatican Embassy in Tehran, as well as professors from various areas including Dr. Roohollah Modabber. From these discussions, it was determined that this anthology should deal with international, and multicultural significance whose

contributors are artists, musicians, poets, writers or researchers. Here we defend our choice of the contributors. Some of them need no justification since they are the finest, most enduring researchers, poets, artists and musicians included Professor Paul John Amrod, Professor Burger, and Dr. Ziauddin Sabouri. This list may seem to be partial, and there may be disappointment over the exclusion of very few authors; however, we should declare that our decision was guided by our editorial board who shortlisted the works for the publication by thematic and poetic excellence criteria.

I wish to thank members of the M.O.P who gave generously their time and advice, especially during the stages of preparation of this manuscript. And I would like to appreciate Dr. Frosini who was our messenger to invite poets to contribute. As an editor, I welcome suggestions in possible future anthologies. You may contact us via email at **peacemessengers2012@gmail.com**.

Elham Jafari

Immagine Generale Della Melodia

If we walk by the Spirit; by the spirit let us also walk!

(galatians 5:25)

E una melodia chiamata pace, umilmente, come dono eterno, segno eterno di amicizia, amore e pace è dedicata alla sua santità, Papa Francesco; come ricordo della Santa Sede; da tutto il mondo che hanno condiviso le loro voci; che ha risposto alla chiamata dei messaggeri di pace!

Gli scopi di questo libro sono triplici: vedere come le persone comprendono la pace; rappresentare la lingua della pace nella letteratura e nelle arti; e suggerire approcci alla pace globale attraverso il linguaggio delle opere scientifiche. L'impresa sembra essere ambiziosa. Come può questo libro essere una grande e multiforme manifestazione di pace? Tuttavia, ci auguriamo, gli autori, i poeti e gli artisti di tutte le età di diverse nazionalità parlino per gli altri. Allo stesso modo, speriamo di dimostrare come la gestione da parte degli autori dell'attuale e precedente ondata di necessità della pace determini il loro approccio al personaggio, alla trama, alla dizione, allo stile e alla creatività.

Le informazioni trattate in ogni voce includono un prologo, e brani associati al contenuto. Ogni voce si concentra su un genere tra cui poesia, prosa, articoli, arti visive e note musicali. Ogni intestazione di voce elenca il nome completo degli autori e la loro nazionalità e in ciascuna voce sono contenuti i seguenti elementi: una prefazione / prologo e opere rappresentative. Pertanto, questa antologia fornisce ai lettori di diversi interessi e di età diverse una gamma completa e unica di conoscenze e percezioni varie della pace, come tratti distintivi interattivi, storici, culturali, nazionali, internazionali, biblici, ambientali e orientati al genere.

Il contributo è stato sollecitato dal nostro direttore manager Ellias Aghili Dehnavi, dall'Ambasciata vaticana a Teheran, nonché da professori di varie aree tra cui il dottor Roohollah Modabber. Da queste discussioni, è stato determinato che

questa antologia dovrebbe occuparsi di significato internazionale e multiculturale i cui contributori sono artisti, musicisti, poeti, scrittori o ricercatori. Qui difendiamo la nostra scelta dei contributori. Alcuni di loro non hanno bisogno di giustificazioni poiché sono i ricercatori, i poeti, gli artisti e i musicisti più raffinati e longevi, inclusi il professor Paul John Amrod, il professor Burger e il dottor Ziauddin Sabouri. Questo elenco può sembrare parziale e potrebbe esserci delusione per l'esclusione di pochissimi autori; tuttavia, dobbiamo dichiarare che la nostra decisione è stata guidata dalla nostra redazione che ha selezionato le opere per la pubblicazione secondo criteri di eccellenza tematica e poetica.

Desidero ringraziare i membri del M.O.P che hanno offerto generosamente il loro tempo e i loro consigli, soprattutto durante le fasi di preparazione di questo manoscritto. E vorrei apprezzare il dottor Frosini che è stato il nostro messaggero per invitare i poeti a contribuire. In qualità di editore, accolgo con favore suggerimenti in possibili future antologie. Puoi contattarci tramite e-mail all'indirizzo **peacemessengers2012@gmail.com**.

Elham Jafari

Trace Peace!ss

*Ellias Aghili Dehnavi, il presidente e fondatore
dell'Accademia M.O.P.*

At a historical point, Andrew Carnegie shifted his endeavors to the cause of international peace. The global economy was transformed by the last great flow of the Industrial Revolution at the beginning of the last century, which brought remarkable ease in international trade, traveling, as well as communication. It was concretely sensed that a more peaceful, interconnected future would be possible. Others also agree with Carnegie in his opinion that “international war abolishment, the most disgusting blemish on our civilization,” could set out within grasp of humanity. For progressing this goal, he empowered the institutions, inspiring a global peace movement, and they still are among the leading voices nowadays.

However, into the deeper aspects, the international order’s foundations that were dominant in the 19th century were cracked. By the emergence of new major powers, the geopolitical supremacy of well-known players was challenged. The same technological progress as the cause of this optimism revolutionized the capacity of humanity for conflict. By 1919, when Carnegie died, a destructive world war with vast devastation occurred, burring his optimism under the competition of violent great powers and humanity’s failure of imagination.

After a century, another inflection point emerged, which was full of hope and hazards. The optimism waves elevating at the end of Cold War had declined, and misgiving currents in its wake had been left behind. When the Soviet Union collapsed, it appeared that history was directing toward free markets and democracy, and it seemed that the “end of history” had reached and could cause the risk of conflict among the great powers. It seemed that emergence of a nascent Pax Americana transformed the bipolar world. Ultimately, in that euphoric moment, aspirations of Andrew Carnegie early in the last

century proved, with disturbing trends again for foretelling a tsunami of disruption.

The contemporary world is in its most populous, competitive, and complex state. We again are witnessing competition among the great powers. The way of our living, working, and fighting is again shaped by technological revolution. We observe shifting the global political and economic center of gravity from West to East.

The pace of change is veiling responses at every level. There are signs of erosion of the incredible prosperity and peace that we were experiencing during the last seventy years since the displacements of globalization gets more evident and emerging or revived powers return to the international arena. The erosion of faith between leaders and their citizens also exacerbates these challenges. Authoritarianism and Populism are increasing; the pace of the global march of democracy has reduced, and even it has been reversed because of fading the cooperation framed by international law. Again, it seems that trend lines are directing toward profoundly destabilizing collisions.

It is a horrifying task in this new era to advance the cause of international peace against these resistances, and this requires the renewal of diplomacy, which is one of the oldest, and at the same time, the most misunderstood professions of the world. It is believed that no country can handle tricky global currents alone, or just by force. It is particularly true for the USA. USA is not anymore the only big power on the geopolitical block.

Dismissing diplomacy in today's world is sometimes trendy: non-state actors control rising international influence; state headmen and senior officials are able to have easy and direct interactions; and the traditional monopoly of embassies and diplomats on access and information in foreign capitals have been lost. Diplomats sometimes seem as watchmakers of villages that live in a smartwatch world. However, if we want to solve our encountered challenge, diplomacy should be the first tool that we resort.

The task of diplomats is translating the world to capitals and translating capitals to the world. Diplomats are the first agents that warn about the problems and opportunities and can build and fix the relationships. The importance of these tasks is not more than ever. All of these tasks require a subtle understanding of culture and history, a non-compromising skill in negotiations, and the ability of translating national interests in such a way that are consistent with interests of other governments. These characteristics have always been necessary for success of diplomats.

Diplomacy needs adaptation and modernization for being effective. Timeless skills should take higher priority, and the focus of countries should be mostly on the issues with the highest significance in 21st century, including climate change and technological revolution. It is expected that the progress in machine learning, synthetic biology, and artificial intelligence will be accelerated in the near future and these advances have already surpassed the ability of governments for maximizing their advantages, minimizing their disadvantages, and developing practical international rules. Climate change is altering communities around the world and creating new conflicts over resources. In order to deal with these increasingly insecurities, the need for diplomacy is more urgent.

Prior to the First World War, Carnegie had imagined the world as a “neighborhood in instantaneous and constant communication” and now it has come to true. However, it is not such a peaceful world as he envisioned. In order to realize this imagination, diplomacy can be an important tool. However, it would be an effective tool when the communities can also cope with the cut-offs and disruptions that drive the globe toward crisis. In the USA, it means that the gap between the U.S. public and a Washington, DC, foreign policy establishment should be bridged that has been far too headstrong in how it consumes American treasure and blood. Internationally, it means that the losses and disruption associated with globalization should be softened, and its benefits should be harnessed so that more broad-based prosperity can be created. Moreover, it means the international

order of the past half-century should be adjusted so that emerging powers, as well as the new players, can also take a position on the scene and have a contribution to renewal and preservation of its institutions.

One may look at these tasks pessimistically, and consider them as impossible obstacles. We are a hundred years on, and should still remove that “foulest blot.” However, although those hundred years saw awful horrors, at the same time, they have also witnessed exceptional progress in human welfare and peace. Given the peaceful end of the Cold War, we found that leadership and diplomacy are yet important concepts and human agency is still influential. There always will be limits for this human agency, and we will all the time be vulnerable to powerful forces of history. However, it is possible to bend trend lines, and it is possible to overcome even the most durable resistance.

There are essays that indicate this effort; Some of the hardest questions of the world today are addressed in such essays and they attempt for a more peaceful world when the future of that project is again uncertain. It is known that four out of five violence victims around the globe are victims of criminal or state-supported violence rather than victim of formal conflicts. In this situation, wrestling with the governance issues is vital- and the political, economic, and social deficiencies result in instability and grow extremism and alienation. We live in an era that there are cyber conflict threats to alter traditional notions of war. Thus, devising rules of the road with the capacity of capturing technology’s promise and confining its risks is vital. It is an era that the bloom of international justice and law is withering. Thus, we have to keep survive and show the hope of norms and processes that are able handle conflicts and blame those committing abuses. We also should take lessons from our efforts for promoting peace during the past century. There have been scholars who attempted to deal with these questions and they show that importance and relevance of (figures like) Andrew Carnegie’s charge persists.

Even idealists such as Carnegie were aware of the fact that stability and peace are not static concepts. With the continuous

shift of the international outlook, our action and thinking should also change. I hope that one day the poison of the past will be drained, as envisioned by Carnegie, and I believe that for this journey, we require revitalization of diplomacy.

The term “peace” has lost its meaning in the political discourse of today’s world. Politicians are more interested in invoking the somehow more uncompromising concept of “security” to cope with threats and encounter conflicts. The great philanthropists tend to have an investment in issues like global health rather than in peace-related projects. In 17 Sustainable Development Goals mentioned by the United Nations, “Peace” is mentioned in just one goal, and just in the context of the aspiration for promoting inclusive and peaceful communities for sustainable development.

Albeit the term peace is perceived in negative meaning- as absence of conflict, it is an essential determining factor to cure or prevent all the challenges and threats delineated in these objectives, from chronic diseases to children poverty and environmental degradation. As estimated by the World Bank, the cause of 80% of all humanitarian demands is conflicts, and conflicts decrease GDP growth by 2% points annually, on average.

In a higher aspiration, we can regard peace as the harmonious condition and the supreme human right, underpinning everything in a robust world. In different periods, public thinkers in the modern era attempted to make clear this more positive notion. Martin Luther King Jr. in his Nobel Lecture of 1964 stated:

We should establish our vision not only on the banishment of war but also on the positive assertion of peace. It should be found that peace offers nicer music, a cosmic melody, which surpasses the disharmonies of war.

These were not usual words. Why the instinctive caution in talking peace? This word was excessively used, misused, and hurt in the 20th century. Maybe we can blame Leonid Brezhnev and Neville Chamberlain. In 1938, the British prime minister used the term “peace for our time” when he came from a

meeting with Adolf Hitler. It was one of the cloudiest points in the history of Europe, which this invocation is still a bad feeling and memory in minds. The term peace was appropriated by the leaders of the Soviet Union during the Cold War, and they overused this word so much that it became annoying. In 1981, Brezhnev, the person crushing Czechoslovakia's Prague Spring in 1968, declared the Soviet Union and its allies as the major supporters of world peace."⁵ It is not wondering that Václav Havel, Czech rebel, explained that he and his fellow citizens had an allergy to this word for 40 years, and he wanted to overcome this allergy.

In 1900, a different air flew in the world. A global movement appeared with international peace as its goal. The great powers of the world attended in two Hague Peace Conferences during 1899 and 1907, which built a new international frame, prohibiting conflict and winning triumph in officially forbidding certain warfare types.

Andrew Carnegie, Scottish-American philanthropist and industrialist, is known as the greatest inventor and one of the primary advocates of the above-mentioned peace movement. His death was in August 1919, when the slaughter of the First World War had disappointed him. However, he left some institutions with the goal of achievement of international peace.

These essays came out after a century, when the world witnessed global turbulence- although it was not as severe as 1919. The collection of "Peace Conversations" of Carnegie in The Hague was published, assisted by the Carnegie UK Trust and funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace published them. Hence, this is a collective work, reflecting on the heritage of Carnegie's vision, the international peace meaning now and one century ago, and the new context where conflict continues in the globe.

Putting their hopes in the realm of reason, Carnegie and his fellow peace activists believed that the European Enlightenment project was about to win and war could be

abrogated. Mankind had disallowed fighting and disputes among people. Thus, in 1905, Carnegie at St. Andrews University told the move of progress could turnover conflict between nations to history. Following conferences on the peace, he developed the “temple of peace,” which is known as the elegant Hague Peace Palace. It was opened in 1913 and yet hosts the Carnegie Foundation, the International Court of Justice, and the Permanent Court of Arbitration. A note was sent to the trustees of the newly established Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in December 1910 by Carnegie. In this letter, he asked trustees to spend revenue of this center for hastening the war abolition, the foulest blot upon our civilization. After achievement of this goal, the board should make a decision on “the subsequent most humiliating remaining evils” that have to fight against.

The catastrophe of the Great War of 1914–1918 crushed optimism of peacemakers. The fumble peace of 1919 once again crushed their optimism. Jay Winter in his essay, elaborated painful details of the drawbacks in the Versailles Treaty of 1919, its failure in establishing it a peaceful order in Europe. It just paved the way to a new war two decades later. Versailles omitted the defeated and the desires of non-Europeans were ignored. As the German economy crippled, Europe was doomed to economic recession. The 1919 settlement was like a building that had been constructed on fragile foundations, being built under the pressure of the global economic depression in 1929 and the entry of the Nazis in 1933.

In the turbulent conditions of the 1920s and 1930s, the Carnegie institutions were struggling to resist the nationalism, economic crisis, and protectionism. The liberal internationalists, James Brown Scott, James Shotwell, and Nicholas Butler, known as Carnegie men, won a better opportunity in 1945 for promoting their vision. These men had been distracted in the craft of the 1919 treaty. However, they again gained a profound involvement in the development of a new postwar settlement and the United Nations. According to record of Frédéric Mégret, the Nuremberg Trials were a short moment when international justice was respected and there

was a prosecution for crimes against peace. However, this internationalist time mostly known as postwar period. With starting the Cold War, peace again, became an evasive goal.

What lead us all into such a chaos?

By ending the Cold War in 1991, a new brilliant postwar point appeared. However, after a quarter of a century again we saw dark clouds coming. New types of disorders are characteristics of the contemporary world. It seems that the brutal world of the First World War time is returning.

There are three main trends that drive violence and conflicts in the contemporary world which I have described in this preface. The first trend is determination of national leaders for defending the supremacy of state sovereignty against multilateral international organizations. The second one is the elevated capability of non-state actors in the modern era, like drug barons, such as warlords, money-launderers, and terrorists, which create instability and conflict. The third trend reduction of the human agency by technology specifically advanced IT, and accordingly, the smaller size of the world and facilitation of asymmetrical warfare, where a small group of people can create significant disruption.

Andrew Carnegie and the generation of 1900 identified the first trend, although the international organizations dreamed by Carnegie did not still emerge. This story indicates that the power in the world is possessed by nation-states. They have competition with each other for lands and the resources of the world. For this purpose, these nation-states have an insistence on the absolute right or fetishization of state supremacy. One of the most threatening consequence of this phenomenon is deployment of nuclear weapons by the states in defiance of each another, though it might not be the most salient outcome.

This was not 1914 revisited. Robert Muggah and Rachel Kleinfeld noted that state-to-state conflict levels in the world are currently at historical lows. The way of confrontation of the big powers of the world with each other has changed in the

form of proxy war in third countries, digital destruction, or punishing trade tariffs. In addition, the strength of nation-states of the early 21st century is likely less than at any time in modern history, and they are taking their last stand against a long global integration process (consider quixotic isolationist politics of Brexit?). However, the voice of states is getting louder in the meantime. In recent years, governments of such countries as China, Brazil, Turkey, Russia, Pakistan, India, and the USA have fed global disruption for their “national interest.”

Look at some cases from 2019. In August 2019, government of India stated that making decision on abolishment of the Indian-administered Kashmir autonomy is an internal affair, although it could have international consequences and could flame conflicts with Pakistan. Again in August 2019, we witnessed insistence of Jair Bolsonaro, president of Brazil on the Amazon forest fires as a domestic affair of Brazil and the countries of Amazon, despite the fact that these fires accelerated global warming and provoked resistance of local residents. The government of China claimed that those who criticize China’s surveillance operation for monitoring and controlling the Uyghur tribes in Xinjiang Province are interfering in internal affairs of China.

There were severe international reactions to the first two examples, which indicates multilateral diplomacy is still alive. Bernard Bot, former head of The Hague Peace Palace, and William Burns, head of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, are recognized as two esteemed and noble diplomats and Carnegie men, which skillfully showed the necessity of diplomacy. Diplomacy demands crafty and astute and innovative individuals now. Besides, diplomacy requires profound international institutions. Bernard Bot noted that if we want to implement a peace process successfully, long-lasting commitment and planning are needed that only can be provided by a mature and experienced international body.

The second trend is more contemporary. The wars in the globe have always been waged by non-state actors—from Vikings in 8th century to the warriors of the Thirty Years' War. However, their outcome has not ever been very considerable. According to Mary Kaldor, contemporary conflict is described as a social situation or a mutual enterprise where the interests of a large number of armed groups from violence itself are more than from victory. It seems that there is not any end for the conflicts in Democratic Republic of Congo or in Syria where small gangs are supported by remote sponsors or liberated local resources and are operating in regions where regular statehood has vanished.

In other countries, a more robust state constructs similar consequences as the government conspires with or hires out enforcement to offensive actors, and consequently, systematic violence is engendered. Muggah and Kleinfeld depicted a shocking image of the situation in such countries as Mexico and Brazil. Apparently, there is no war in these countries. However, the number of deaths from violence is equal or even higher than death rates in Syria or Afghanistan. They used the term “privilege violence” for describing a cruel circle where security forces and politicians are allowed to have cartels, mafias, and gang impunity, bribes, campaign contributions, and help escape the vote or repress electorates.

There is a third trend that enhances the devastating power of non-state actors. This trend is the increasing democratization and sophistication of technology. Currently, the primary handguns of the world include a smartphone and a laptop. The opportunities that these devices provide for some global citizens have been unimaginable a generation ago. At the same time, if a single laptop is used by the wrong individuals, it has the capability of disabling the electricity grid if a country.

The most frightening indication of this trend is cyberwarfare. Wyatt Hoffman and George Perkovich explained this novel phenomenon and what peacemaking could create if it is to be stopped. They warned about exaggeration of cyberwarfare: all and all, no one has still died from it. This is conflict with no violence (a mirror image of the phenomenon described by