

“We all have within us a center of stillness surrounded by silence”

Dag Hammarskjöld

Peace seems so elusive.



The global escalation of violence awakens fear and profound sadness in alarming proportions. A sense of hopelessness creeps in through the widening cracks.

Conflicts between nations, people and ideologies conducted with all the accompanying extremes of inhumanity, cruelty and injustice flood our world, so painfully visible through the millions of refugees and

immigrants risking all to escape this madness. They risk their very lives in search of freedom and peace ... a place to rest their tired bodies and broken hearts. Some do not arrive. Their anguishing cry is our cry for we know that deep inside we all live and breathe together as one.

Conscious that the violence we project upon each other and our Earth is the violence that lives in darkness within ourselves. But this is not the whole story. The wholeness of who we are as human beings is always seeking balance between dark and light. This is not dualistic but organic like the ebb and flow of the sea. Most often, we get to the light of peace through dark times.

Finding that peace within us ignites a passion that reaches out to a world that longs for healing and comforting presence. A reaching out that comes from a deep knowing within ourselves that peace rests waiting to rise from the depths of each soul. It needs nurturing, respect and compassion between people and nations. I'm reminded of Mother Teresa saying, "If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other."

Their longing for peace is our longing for peace.

When we become more conscious of this truth, our lives soften to rise above these dark times where the light of peace illumines our true nature. We are people of faith, hope, love, compassion who seek justice throughout our divided world. We do not succumb to

tendencies that categorize and judge people whom we consider to be different. If we do, our hearts will bear the pain of such injustice.

In justice there is peace.

As we heal our own broken hearts, we heal the heart of the world. An open heart radiating love is contagious, shedding light all around, revealing the oneness of God's awesome creation ... our home, our place of belonging in the stillness of peace.

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