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### **Make Love not War**

***“I command you to love one another” - John 15:12-17 (The New Testament)***

The simple truth contained in the above command is more profound than what meets the eye. The creation of universe and procreation of humanity are linked by common bondage. So much so, ever since the Big Bang, galaxies are held in perfect harmony through the massive gravitational pull exerted by the millions of suns on their planets. Through eons and millennia, the bondage between planets has continued as we mortals watch the grand spectacle of the skies.

Our mother earth is no different. Whether it is flora or fauna, bonding for harmony is the founding principle of coexistence and sustenance. As we look into the nucleus of the matter or into the core of the biosphere, mass, matter or the ecosystem, we find that they sustain the spirit of harmonic balance. Whether it be the flora, fauna, planets, suns or galaxies, they are all held together by the universal principle of ‘divine bondage and mutuality’. Co-existence, sharing, interdependence, convergence and fusion appear to be the mantras of this galactic foundation.

Love and one’s capacity to transmit it, so as to charge an individual and his environment with positivity seem to define the divine spirit of universal bondage. All interactions of flora, fauna and the human society powered by the spirit of love, care and compassion, ensures our survival on this planet. Therefore, through ancient and modern literature, writers, philosophers and social reformers alike have propounded the path of love at the top of their lungs. Whether it is the chanting of the ancient Vedic hymns on the banks of the Ganges or the majestic Himalayas resonating the Buddhist prayers, they all carry the same yearning of the infant humanity towards the divine ideal. Cutting across the barriers of caste, creed, religion and sex, from the cave man to the modern Netizen, everyone seems to radiate and bask in the everlasting spirit of love.

But there are many questions that rankle one’s mind. What is Love after all? How does one nurture this spirit in our everyday life? How does one infuse/ transmit/ offer this to his brethren and the community? If when the word fails, then can the sword be used to transmit it to the hapless recipient? If not, then what are the limits of love?

Love is so abounding and universal that for clarity it would be better to define it by what it doesn’t stand for, while the balance can be best described as the ‘kingdom of love’. First and foremost and you all will agree when I say that hatred and the spread of negativity are certainly to be banished from our minds, while thought and the action processes to establish ‘seed of love’ should be nurtured so as to ensure the survival on the planet. Love can only be established when you drive out and shun hatred and processes based thereon forever.

Secondly, we have to shun violence from all our thoughts and actions, both at personal and professional levels to nurture love. “Non-violence”, said Gandhiji, “is not a cover for

cowardice, but a weapon of the brave.” Therefore, while upholding the right of self-defence and survival, we have to take a path based on coexistence rather than confrontation and conservation rather than exploitation. This would ensure the survival of flora, fauna and as well as the natural elements which we have inherited. One must always remember our solemn promise and responsibility of protecting the biodiversity and elemental purity while handing them over to posterity.

Undoubtedly, the path towards the *kingdom of love* is led by selfless action (**Nishkamma Karma yoga**). When you act in the pure spirit of the task ordained to you, without worrying about the fruits of the actions, you are spreading positivity. Moved by care, concern and compassion while providing relief, you will undoubtedly build the bonds between peoples. Eternal heroes are crowding the galaxy - from the valiant Arjuna to the modern day apostles of love and care like Mother Theresa, Dr. Albert Schweitzer and Dr. Kotnis. Take your pick – you will win with *dharma* of love.

And yet there is another path of spreading love. This belongs to those artists, performers, singers, sportspersons and entertainers, who punish themselves to bring a smile to your face and spread the message of love. When the music pouring out of the strains of your violin matches the rhythm of natural elements, the harmony bounded by love is established. No doubt it moved the poet to rhyme, “*Harmony from heavenly harmony this universal frame began*”.

Thus, every positive act spreads the message of love in the society and contributes in building of universal bondage. Our task as mortals, fickle as driftwood floating on the ocean of infinity, is to do our best to contribute to human bonding through pursuit of harmonious thoughts and actions, while spreading the spirit of universal love.