

Prayers for World Peace



1. Prayer for World Peace - Dr. Jane Goodall

We pray to the great Spiritual Power in which
we live and move and have our being.
We pray that we may at all times
keep our minds open to new ideas and shun dogma;
that we may grow in our understanding of the nature of all living beings
and our connectedness with the natural world;
that we may become ever more filled with
generosity of spirit and true compassion and love for all life;
that we may strive to heal the hurts that we have inflicted on nature
and control our greed for material things, knowing that
our actions are harming our natural world and the future of our children;
that we may value each and every human being
for who he is, for who she is,
reaching to the spirit that is within,
knowing the power of each individual to change the world.

We pray for social justice,
for the alleviation of the crippling poverty
that condemns millions of people around the world
to lives of misery - hungry, sick, and utterly without hope.
We pray for the children who are starving,
who are condemned to homelessness, slave labor, and prostitution,
and especially for those forced to fight, to kill and torture
even members of their own family.
We pray for the victims of violence and war,
for those wounded in body and for those wounded in mind.
We pray for the multitudes of refugees, forced from their homes to alien
places
through war or through the utter destruction of their environment.

We pray for suffering animals everywhere,
for an end to the pain caused by scientific experimentation,
intensive farming, fur farming, shooting, trapping,
training for entertainment, abusive pet owners,
and all other forms of exploitation
such as overloading and overworking pack animals,
bull fighting, badger baiting, dog and cock fighting and so many more.

We pray for an end to cruelty,
whether to humans or other animals,
for an end to bullying, and torture in all its forms.

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We pray that we may learn the peace that comes with forgiving
and the strength we gain in loving;
that we may learn to take nothing for granted in this life;
that we may learn to see and understand with our hearts;
that we may learn to rejoice in our being.

We pray for these things with humility;
We pray because of the hope that is within us,
and because of a faith in the ultimate triumph of the human spirit;
We pray because of our love for Creation, and because of our trust in God.
We pray, above all, for peace throughout the world.

2. A prayer for world peace (Hopi tradition)

In the Hopi prophecy, our elders told us that there have been three worlds. Each was destroyed because of disrespect of the creator. We now live in the fourth world, signs of its destruction are around us.

At this point in time, two roads appear before us; the road of creation and the road of destruction. We are now at the time where each of us must choose one of these roads with our whole life. The elders taught us that it does not matter if we are Native American or not, the main concern is which road we walk now. Now we are all one, the time of separation is gone. That was illusion.

In this week of great destruction, we must each choose what road we are to walk and live. The road of destruction is war, it has always been so. The road of creation is deeper and more complicated; it has always involved forgiveness, love, light, prayer, and spirit. In this new millennia we have a chance to change the way we see other beings to one of connectedness and unity. We have a chance to let go of the ancient ways of war and conflict, of who is right, of being better, of senseless killing. This week has thrown us back on the old model of the last millennia.

I was taught that we need to walk the road with our whole life, each breath, each heartbeat, each thought. We need to walk it with commitment, intent, and focus. We need to be on that road consciously with power and prayer to see the manifestation of peace. We cannot waste time, this road appears late in the fourth world. We need to be 100% committed with all our actions, thoughts, and prayer. The spirit animals will help us, the Creator will guide us. It is not about the outcome, winning or losing, it is about who we are and what we are to do in each moment of our short lives.

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This is a complex time, those on the road of destruction say their creator tells them to go to war and destroy. On the path of creation we say the Creator has told us to love. There are two sides of energy, good and evil, that is why there are two roads.

3. Christian Prayer for the World (Peace)

by Marianne Williamson

Dear God
We pray for this our world
We ask that you remove the walls that separate us and the chains that hold us down.
Use us to create a new world on earth, on that reflects Your will, Your vision, Your peace.
In this moment, we recognize the power You have given us to create anew the world we want.
Today's world, dear God, reflects our past confusion.
Now, in this moment, we ask for new light.
Illumine our minds
Use us, of God, as never before, as part of a great and mighty plan for the healing of this world.
May we no longer be at war with each other.
May we no longer be at war with ourselves,
Let us forgive this century and every other, the evils of history, the pain of our common fears.
Remove from our hearts the illusion that we are separate
May every nation and every people and every color and every religion find at last the one heartbeat we share,
Through you, our common Mother/Father and the redeemer of our broken dreams,
May we not hold on to the yesterday
May we not obscure Your vision of tomorrow but rather may you flood our hearts.
Flow through us, work through us, that in our lives we might see the illumined world.
Create, sustain that world on earth, dear God, for us and for our children.
Hallelujah, at the thought,
Praise God, the possibility that such a thing could come to be, through you, through your light that shines within us.
So may it be
So may it be
We thank you, God
Amen.

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4. Buddhist Prayer for Peace

May all beings everywhere plagued with sufferings of body and mind
quickly be freed from their illnesses.
May those frightened cease to be afraid, and may those bound be free.
May the powerless find power,
and may people think of befriending one another.
May those who find themselves in trackless, fearful wildernesses—
the children, the aged, the unprotected---
be guarded by beneficent celestials, and may they swiftly attain Buddhahood.

5. Daoist Prayer for Peace

Lao-Tse - 6th century BCE

If there is to be peace in the world, there must be peace in the nations.
If there is to be peace in the nations, there must be peace in the cities.
If there is to be peace in the cities, there must be peace between neighbors.
If there is to be peace between neighbors, there must be peace in the home.
If there is to be peace in the home, there must be peace in the heart.

6. Jainist Prayer for Peace

Peace and Universal Love is the essence of the Gospel preached by all the
Enlightened Ones.
The Lord has preached that equanimity is the Dharma.
Forgive do I creatures all, and let all creatures forgive me.
Unto all have I amity, and unto none enmity.
Know that violence is the root cause of all miseries in the world.
Violence, in fact, is the knot of bondage. "Do not injure any living being."
This is the eternal, perennial, and unalterable way of spiritual life. A weapon,
howsoever powerful it may be, can always be superseded by a superior one;
but no weapon can, however, be superior to non-violence and love.

7. Islamic Prayer for Peace

We think of Thee, worship Thee, bow to Thee as the Creator of this Universe;
we seek refuge in Thee, the Truth, our only support. Thou art the Ruler, the
barge in this ocean of endless births and deaths. In the name of Allah, the
beneficent, the merciful. Praise be to the Lord of the Universe who has
created us and made us into tribes and nations. Give us wisdom that we may
know each other and not despise all things. We shall abide by thy Peace.
And, we shall remember the servants of God are those who walk on this
earth in humility and, when we address them, we shall say Peace Unto Us All.

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8. Baha'i Prayer for Peace

Be generous in prosperity, and thankful in adversity.
Be fair in thy judgment, and guarded in thy speech.
Be a lamp unto those who walk in darkness, and a home to the stranger.
Be eyes to the blind, and a guiding light unto the feet of the erring.
Be a breath of life to the body of humankind, a dew to the soil of the human heart, and a fruit upon the tree of humility.

9. Jewish Prayer for Peace

Come let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
that we may walk the paths of the Most High.
And we shall beat our swords into ploughshares,
and our spears into pruning hooks.
Nation shall not lift up sword against nation—
neither shall they learn war any more.
And none shall be afraid.

10. Native African Prayer for Peace

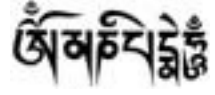
Almighty God, the Great Thumb we cannot evade to tie any knot;
the Roaring Thunder that splits mighty trees:
the all-seeing Lord up on high who sees even the footprints
of an antelope on a rock mass here on Earth.
You are the one who does not hesitate to respond to our call.
You are the cornerstone of peace.

11. Shinto Prayer for Peace

Although the people living across the ocean surrounding us,
I believe, are all our brothers and sisters,
why are there constant troubles in this world?
Why do winds and waves rise in the ocean surrounding us?
I only earnestly wish that the wind will soon puff away
all the clouds which are hanging over the tops of the mountains.

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12. A Prayer on New Year's Eve

By RainbowHawk and WindEagle in Dec. 2008

We send a voice
Out to the universe,
Let the awakening of Peace
Open the hearts of the people.

We send a voice
That this awakening of Peace
Opens a new era of consciousness
In the hearts and minds of the people.

We send a voice
That this consciousness of heart and mind
Touches every land
And brings nurturing and joy
To all children of the Mother Earth.

We send a voice
Of gratitude to all the powers of the universe
Of deep appreciation to Great Spirit
As we realize this consciousness of heart and mind
As the humans on this planet.

13. Make me so pure and strong

- Yajur Veda

Lord, make me so pure and strong
That all creatures may look upon me with friendship.
And may I also look upon all creatures with friendship.

14. "Prayer for World Peace"

—Translated from the Sanskrit

Om Sarveshaam Swastir Bhavatu
Auspiciousness be unto all,
Sarveshaam Saantir Bhavatu
Perfect peace be unto all,
Sarveshaam Poornam Bhavatu
Fullness be unto all,

Sarveshaam Mangalam Bhavatu
Prosperity be unto all.
Sarve Bhavanthu Sukhinaha
Happiness be unto all,
Sarve Santu Niraamayaah
Perfect health be unto all,
Sarve Bhadraani Pasyantu

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May all see good in everyone,
Maa Kaschid Duhkha Bhaag Bhavet

May all be free from suffering.

15. A prayer for those on the path

By the 9th Domo Geshe Rinpoche (Dec 24, 2007)

May all living beings, who are perfection itself and do not know it, find the best of paths and preparation for entry into that understanding.

May all who prepare carefully toward that understanding make the great wish to be of profound benefit to all living beings.

May all who aspire to be of benefit find the best of training.

May all who find the training finish and integrate it with profound wisdom without taking personal gain.

May those accomplished beings, trained and ripe in wisdom, be allowed to work for the benefit of living beings.

May living beings listen carefully.

May all living beings, who are perfection itself and do not know it, find the best of paths and preparation for entry into that understanding.

16. A Prayer To Avert Nuclear War

by Chatral Rinpoche of the Nyingma school

Namo Guru Ratnatraya!

To the Teacher and the Three Jewels, I bow.

True leader of the golden age - Crown of the Sakyas!
Second Buddha, Prince of Oddiyana, Lake-Born Vajra,
Bodhisattvas - eight closest spiritual heirs
High Nobles, Avilokitesvara and Manjushri,
Vajrapani and the rest!

Twenty-one Taras, Host of Noble Elders,
Root and lineage lamas, deities,
Peaceful and wrathful gods!
Dakinis in your three homes!

(the earth, the heavens and the emanated worlds!)

You who through wisdom or karma have become Defenders of the

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Doctrine!
Guardians of the Directions!
(cont on next page)
Seventy-five Glorious Protectors!
You who are clairvoyant, powerful, magical and mighty!
Behold and ponder the beings of this age of turmoil!

We are beings born at the sorry end of time;
An ocean of ill-effects overflow from our universally bad actions.
The forces of light flicker,
The forces of darkness, a demon army, inflames great and powerful men.
And they rise in conflict, armed with nuclear weapons
That will disintegrate the earth.
The weapon of perverse and errant intentions
Has unleashed the hurricane.
Soon, in an instant, it will reduce the world
And all those in it to atoms of dust.
Through this ill-omened devils' tool
It is easy to see, to hear and think about
Ignorant people, caught in a net of confusion and doubt,
Are obstinate and still refuse to understand.
It terrifies us just to hear about or to remember
This unprecedented thing.

The world is filled with uncertainty,
But there is no means of stopping it, nor place of hope,
Other than you, undeceiving Three Jewels and Three Roots,
(Buddhas, Teaching and Spiritual Community, Lama, Deity and
Dakini)

If we cry to you like children calling their mother and father,
If we implore you with this prayer, Do not falter in your ancient vows!
Stretch out the lightning hand of compassion!
Protect and shelter us defenseless beings, and free us from fear!
When the mighty barbarians sit in council of war
- barbarians who rob the earth of pleasure and happiness
- barbarians who have wrong, rough, poisonous thoughts.
Bend their chiefs and lieutenants
To the side of peace and happiness!
Pacify on the spot, the armed struggle that blocks us!
Turn away and defeat the atomic weapons
Of the demons' messengers,
And by that power, make long the life of the righteous,

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And spread the theory and practice of the doctrine
To the four corners of this great world!
(cont on next page)

Eliminate root, branch and leaf - even the names
Of those dark forces, human and non-human,
Who hate others and the teaching!
Spread vast happiness and goodness
Over this fragile planet!
Elevate it truly with the four kinds of glory!
And as in the golden age, with all strife gone,
Let us be busy only with the dance of pleasure, the dance of joy!
We pray with pure thoughts-
By the compassion of that ocean the three supreme refuges
And the power of the Realm of Truth;
The complete sublime truth,
Achieve the goal of this, our prayer
Magically, just as we have hoped and dreamed!

Translated from the Tibetan by Richard Kohn and Lama Tsedrup Tharchin

17. The Words of Truth Pacifying the Dangers of Weapons

- Prayer for Peace by the Great Yogi Tang Tong Gyalpo

Om mani padme hum

Great Loving Victorious One (Maitreya Buddha), Transcendental Sublime
Compassionate Eye Looking One (Chenrezig), Wrathful Victorious Hayagriva,
Fully Accomplished Totally Pure (Jetsun) Tara and so forth,
Merely hearing your holy names eliminates all dangers,
Objects of refuge in the nature of compassion, please pay attention!

When the sentient beings of the time of quarrelling and five degenerations
By the explosion of the great ocean of evil karma and jealousy
Are tormented by the intensive suffering of fighting and quarrelling
Please dry this up by the power of transcendental wisdom and compassion.

By letting great rainfalls of the nectar of loving-kindness fall
On the migratory beings who are enflaming the conflagration of hatred-fire
Please grant blessing with the recognition of each other like father-mother
Then increase happiness and auspiciousness.

May the multitudes of the vicious evil spirits

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Who enter the mental continuum and
Change it instantly to the mind of asura
From now on never run in this area (country/world).

(cont on next page)

I am requesting for even all the sentient beings who have died in the war
To abandon from that time onwards all the evil karma, cause and effect,
Then having entered and been born in the Blissful Field (Amitabha's Pure
Land)

To lead all others to that Pure Land.

Please bless all those who are born and die (samsaric beings)
To have a long life, no sicknesses, to pacify all quarrelling and fighting,
Enjoy the ten virtues, have rainfall at the right times,
always have good harvests
And for all the habitat and inhabitants to be auspicious and increase.

By the ultimate reality which is pure by nature,
By phenomena having ultimate reality cause and result are unbetrayable,
And by the compassion of the Guru, Mind-seal Deity and Rare Sublime Ones,
May these pure extensive prayers be completed.

18. The Door of Happiness - Prayer for the Happiness of all Sentient Beings

- Ngorchen Kunga Zangpo

May the priceless teachings of the Omniscient One, the only door through
which happiness ever appears to living beings, never decline in any place or
time, but spread forth to every direction's end.

May the span of life be lengthened and enhanced for our peerless teachers
and spiritual friends who cherish the Buddha's religion more than their lives
and whose compassion and wisdom are measureless.

May the assemblies of monks who practice His teaching always endure and
their works pervade the ten directions, for they point out to beings the path
of virtue and carry the great burden of teaching and meditation.

May all human beings be free from fears of old age, disease and death, but
live instead with right views of existence in this world. May their minds grow
to love one another, and limitless joys increase always for all.

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May the cities of the earth be beautiful, strung with rows of prayer flags, white and rippling in gentle breezes; may their inhabitants not be poor but wear the fine clothes and jewels they long to have.

May the eyes of living beings be gladdened by skies made splendid by clouds that lightening garlands, while on earth below, the peacocks dance with joy as showers of rain, falling gently, approach.

May the mountains be adorned by rippling grasses, clusters of wildflowers, and by falling waters, and the valleys overflow with grains and commingling herds, while men sing songs that spring forth from joy; in freedom from pride, from wars and discord.

May the rulers govern well in peaceful ways and peoples heed their rulers with unfeigned respect so that, all inner and outer conflicts set at rest, well-being prevails as it did in the Age of Perfection.

May every temple be adorned by many images of the Enlightened One and by books of holy scripture; may there the great rain of worship be increased by infinite clouds of offerings offered by gods.

May the chanting and study of scriptures increase in every monastery, each of them filled with spiritual friends and monks in saffron robes who uphold the teachings of the sage and devote their days to discussing, explaining, and writing about His words.

May the Holy Teaching of the Blessed Enlightened One be enhanced by lay disciples, by novices, monks, and nuns, each endowed with moral conduct that is flawlessly pure and diligent in study, reflection, and meditation.

May meditators who have given up every distraction be increased by those attainments of insight that follow renunciation; away from all bustle and harm, may they ever dwell in tranquil places of solitude.

May this, our own circle of meditators, whose prayers are offered with especial faith, be blessed with prosperity untainted by wrong livelihood, and may our spans of life and our understanding of Dharma increase.

May there also arise within me spiritual qualities of learning and realization, and the perfection of every principle which the Enlightened Ones have taught, through my own wholehearted performance of giving, moral conduct, patience, diligence, meditation, and highest wisdom.

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For the sake of others, may I too grow in harmony with the Holy Teaching and gather others together through kind words and generous deeds; by the power of right explanation, may their actions and mine become attuned to the Way.

This prayer that I offer on behalf of all is that every obstacle to Dharma may vanish and every auspicious condition completely prevail; may every virtue that the Sage has praised increase always in every way!

By the power of the compassionate blessings of the holy masters, by the truth of the Ultimate Reality of all Dharmas, and by the purity of our own noble resolve, may our prayers become actuality.

(This prayer for the happiness of all living beings was written by the Venerable Master, Ngorchen Kunga Zangpo, who established the famous hermitage of Ngor Evam in 1434.)

19. Great Prayer for World Peace - by Shantideva

May all living beings be adorned with love, compassion, joy and equanimity. May they possess generosity, ethics, patience, effort, concentration and wisdom.

Thus by the virtue collected through all that I have done
May the pain of every living being
Be completely cleared away.

May I be the doctor and the medicine; and may I be the nurse for all sick beings in the world until everyone is healed.

May a rain of food and drink descend to clear away the pain of thirst and hunger, and during the aeon of famine, may I myself change into food and drink.

May I become an inexhaustible treasure For those who are poor

and destitute; May I turn into all things they could need and may these be placed close beside them.

Without any sense of loss
I shall give up my body and enjoyments as well as all my virtues of the three times
For the sake of benefiting all.

May I be a protector for those without one, A guide for all travelers on the way; May I be a bridge, a boat and a ship for all those who wish to cross the water.

May I be an island for those who seek one, and a lamp for those desiring light. May I be a bed for all who wish to rest.

Just like space and the great elements such as earth,

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May I always support the life
Of all the boundless creatures.

May the blind see forms,
May the deaf hear sounds,
And just as a rainbow arises
naturally from space, May pregnant
women give birth without pain.

May the naked find clothing,
The hungry find food;
May the thirsty find water
And delicious drinks.

May the poor find wealth,
Those weak with sorrow find joy;
May the forlorn find new hope,
Constant happiness and prosperity.

May all who are sick and ill
Quickly be freed from their illness,
And may every disease in the
world never occur again.

May the frightened cease to be
afraid, and those bound be freed;
May the powerless find power,
And may people think of benefiting
one another.

May all sentient beings have all the
stainless powers, Freedom from all
conditions of non-leisure, Freedom
of action and good livelihood.

May I always be an object of
enjoyment for all sentient beings
according to their wish, and
without interference as are the
earth, water, fire, wind, medicine
and forests.

May I be as dear to sentient beings
as their own life and may they be
very dear to me. May their
negativities ripen for me
and all my virtues for them.

May I give profit and victory to
others, and take loss and defeat
for myself. May I abandon selfishly
cherishing myself, and
continuously practice cherishing
others.

As long as any sentient being
Anywhere has not been liberated,
May I remain in the world for his
sake even though I have attained
enlightenment.

May all worldly beings never
experience war, fighting or conflict
and forever remain without bad
conditions, Such as earthquakes,
disease or drought.

May peace pervade the hearts of
all that they will ever abide in joy
and abundance. May I be the
wishing jewel, the vase of plenty, A
word of power, and the supreme
remedy. Like the great earth and
the other elements, Enduring as
the sky itself endures, for the
boundless multitude of living
beings, may I be the ground and
vessel of their life.

Thus, for every single thing that
lives, in number like the boundless
reaches of the sky,
May I be their sustenance and
nourishment until they pass
beyond the bounds of suffering.

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