



*Wisdom in Common*  
*Words from Various Beliefs*



## A 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 plowshares,  
and our spears into pruning hooks.  
Nation shall not lift up sword against nation-  
neither shall they learn war anymore.  
And none shall be afraid,  
for the mouth of the Lord of Hosts has spoken.*

### From BBC about Judaism:

"Jews believe that there is a single God who not only created the universe, but with whom every Jew can have an individual and personal relationship. They believe that God continues to work in the world, affecting everything that people do. The Jewish relationship with God is a covenant relationship. In exchange for the many good deeds that God has done and continues to do for the Jewish People... The Jews keep God's laws

"The Jews seek to bring holiness into every aspect of their lives."



A Coast Salish Prayer From Bill White (Nanaimo-Cowichan):

## THE WINDS BLOW, MAKE YOUR MINDS STRONG

Creator, we thank you for this  
day

Ancestors we thank you for  
walking before us

Ancestors we thank you for  
walking behind us

Make your minds strong!

Behold it is a time of change!

Behold it is a time of  
transformation!

It is the old people who have  
saved the teachings from ages  
past

It is the old people who have  
saved the songs of our  
ancestors, of the Creator

It is the words of the Creator, of  
the ancestors brought forward  
for a new time and a new place

With great humility we thank you  
for these gifts

Change for self, Change for the  
community



has been foretold and will like  
the wind be persistent.

Change and transformation is  
powerful and can be frightening  
Make your Minds Strong!

The Creator has provided songs  
for such things

The Creator has provided dances  
for such things

The Creator has provided words  
for such things

The old people, the ancestors  
knew of the times of change

and the wind blows,  
and the teachings and the songs  
flow

and the winds blow,  
hear the wind, hear the songs  
Behold it is a time of change!  
Behold it is a time of  
transformation!

### Wikipedia on Coast Salish beliefs:

“Belief in guardian spirits and transmutation between human and animal were widely shared in myriad forms. The relations of soul or souls, the lands of the living and the dead, were complex and mutable. Vision quest journeys involving other states of consciousness were varied and widely practiced. The Duwamish had a soul recovery and journey ceremony.”



## Buddhist Prayer

*May all beings be filled with joy and peace.*

*May all beings everywhere,  
The strong and the weak,  
The great and the small,  
The mean and the powerful,  
The short and the long,  
The subtle and the gross:  
May all beings everywhere,  
Seen and unseen,  
Dwelling far off or nearby,  
Being or waiting to become:  
May all be filled with lasting joy.*

*Let no one deceive another,  
Let no one anywhere despise another,  
Let no one out of anger or resentment  
Wish suffering on anyone at all.  
Just as a mother with her own life  
Protects her child, her only child, from  
harm,  
So within yourself let grow  
A boundless love for all creatures*

### From Simple English Wikipedia on Buddhism:

Buddhism teaches people how to understand themselves better. Some see it as a religion, other people think it is a philosophy. The teachings of the Buddha - a man who lived between about 563 and 483 BC - tell us how to live a good life. The Buddha was a rich prince. He gave up everything to work out how best to live. His teachings started in India and slowly spread, after his death, through most of Asia, to Central Asia, Tibet, Sri Lanka, Southeast Asia, and the East Asian countries of China, Mongolia, Korea, and Japan and has now spread to the west.



## The Beatitudes (King James Version)

*And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,*

*5:3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*5:4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.*

*5:5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.*

*5:6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.*

*5:7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.*

*5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.*

*5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.*



*5:10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

### **Wikipedia about Christianiy:**

"A Christian is a person who adheres to Christianity, a monotheistic religion centered on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ as presented in the New Testament."



## A 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 of all miseries in the world. Violence 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 be superior to nonviolence and love.

### From Wikipedia, about Jain faith:

“Compassion for all life, human and non-human, is central to Jainism. Human life is valued as a unique, rare opportunity to reach enlightenment. To kill any person, no matter what crime they committed, is considered unimaginably abhorrent. It is the only religion that requires monks and laity, from all its sects and traditions, to be vegetarian. Some Indian regions have been strongly influenced by Jains and often the majority of the local non-Jain population has also become vegetarian. History suggests that various strains of Hinduism became vegetarian due to strong Jain influences. Jains run animal shelters all over India.”





## Prayer At Time Of Adversity An Inuit Prayer

*I think over again my small adventures. My fears, those small ones that seemed so big, for all the vital things I had to get and reach. And yet there is only one great thing, the only thing, to live to see the great day that dawns, and the light that fills the world.*

From Wikipedia about Inuit beliefs:

“The Inuit practiced a form of shamanism based on animist principles. They believed that all things had a form of spirit, just like humans, and that to some extent these spirits could be influenced by a pantheon of supernatural entities that could be appeased when one required some animal or inanimate thing to act in a certain way. The angakkuq of a community of Inuit was not the leader, but rather a sort of healer and psychotherapist, who tended wounds and offered advice, as well as invoking the spirits to assist people in their lives. His or her role was to see, interpret and exhort the subtle and unseen. Angakkuqs were not trained, they were held to be born with the ability.”



Hindu Prayer By Rabindranath Tagore:

## Where the mind is without fear

*Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;  
Where knowledge is free;  
Where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic wars;  
Where words come out from the depth of truth;  
Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection;  
Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way into the dreary desert sand of dead habit;  
Where the mind is led forward by thee into ever-widening thought and action -  
Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake.*

### From Wikipedia about Hindu faith:

"Hinduism is the world's oldest extant religion, whose earliest origins can be traced to the ancient Vedic civilization. A conglomerate of diverse beliefs and traditions, Hinduism has no single founder. It is the world's third largest religion following Christianity and Islam, with approximately a billion adherents, of whom about 905 million live in India and Nepal. Other countries with large Hindu populations include Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Mauritius, Fiji, Suriname, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago.



## Hopi Prayer

*Do not stand at my grave and weep.  
I am not there, I do not sleep.  
I am the thousand winds that blow.  
I am the diamond glint in the snow.  
I am the sunlight on the ripened grain.  
I am the autumn's gentle rain.  
When you awaken in the morning hush,  
I am the swift uplifting rush,  
Of quiet birds in circled flight.  
I am the soft stars that shine at night.  
Do not stand at my grave and cry;  
I am not there,  
I did not die.*



### About Hopi beliefs, from Questconnect.com:

The Hopi's beliefs are based on their religion, which is an integral part of their lives. They live simple, humble lives while following the teachings of their supreme deity "Maasawu" (earth god). The Hopi believe that they were given the land to take care of by Maasawu and it is their responsibility to keep all things in balance through prayer and ceremony.

adi granth - guru arjun dev ji (circa 1604 ce)

## Sikh Prayer

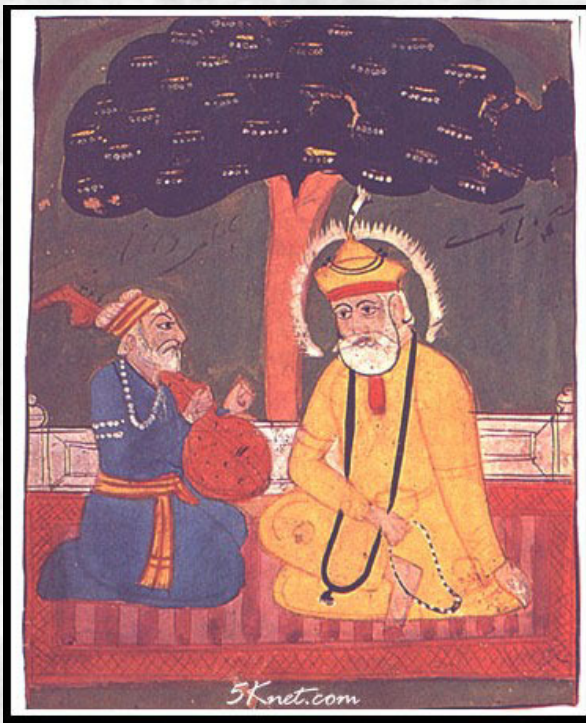
*I see no stranger, I see no enemy  
Wherever I look, God is all I see*

*I don't think of us and them  
No one do I hate or condemn  
I see God's image - each one a friend.*

*Of any religion, caste or race  
All I see is God's shining face  
His smiling face, His gracious face.*

*Accept as beautiful all His design  
I learnt this truth in sangat divine*

*One Word resounds in me and you  
Waheguru ... Waheguru ...  
In him, in her, in me and you  
Waheguru ... Waheguru ...*



*Beholding in every being His light  
I bloom like a flower in joy and delight.*

## Wikipedia on Sikhism

The principal belief of Sikhism is faith in V higurk—represented using the sacred symbol of k M aE-k r, the Universal God. Sikhism advocates the pursuit of salvation through disciplined, personal meditation on the name and message of God. A key distinctive feature of Sikhism is a non-anthropomorphic concept of God, to the extent that one can interpret God as the Universe itself.