

43-Elimination of Prejudice

Racism is a disease in society. We're all equal. I don't care what their color is, or religion. Just as long as they're human beings they're my buddies.

Australian Indigenous, Mandawuy Yunupingu

I am equal to all beings; none are hated by me and none are particularly dear.

Hinduism, *Bhagavad Gita* 9:29

Your duty is to treat everybody with love as a manifestation of the Lord.

Hinduism, Swami Sivananda

O, my brethren, follow the example of love, the same as you have hitherto followed that of hatred. Imitate the virtues of the nations whose vices you hitherto thought you must imitate. If you would be protected, tolerated and indulged, protect, tolerate and indulge one another. Love, and ye will be beloved.

Judaism, Moses Mendelssohn,
Jerusalem: A Treatise On Ecclesiastical Authority And Judaism, p. 2.4

A seeing man will see name and form, and having seen he will understand those (things); let him at pleasure see much or little, for the expert do not say that purity exists by that.

A dogmatist is no leader to purity, being guided by prejudiced views, saying that good consists in what he is given to, and saying that purity is there, he saw the thing so.

Buddhism, *The Sutta Nipata*, 909-910

And so they are made different for different people, according to their several notions and prejudices. For those spirits which are bent upon deceiving, take care to provide for each person the same sort of omens as they see his own conjectures and preconceptions have already entangled him in.

Christianity, Augustine of Hippo,
St. Augustine's City of God and Christian Doctrine, Chap II, 2.24.1

Seest thou not that Allah sends down rain from the sky? With it We then bring out produce of various colours. And in the mountains are tracts white and red, of various shades of colour, and black intense in hue. And so

amongst men and crawling creatures and cattle, are they of various colours. Those truly fear Allah, among His Servants, who have knowledge: for Allah is Exalted in Might, Oft-Forgiving.

Islam, *Qur'án* 35: 28

Then it is evident that excellence does not depend upon color. Character is the true criterion of humanity. Anyone who possesses a good character, who has faith in God and is firm, whose actions are good, whose speech is good--that one is accepted at the threshold of God no matter what color he may be.

Bahá'i, 'Abdu'l-Bahá,
Promulgation of Universal Peace, pp. 427-428

You who are the servants of God fight against oppression, hate and discord.... Only have faith, patience and courage--this is but the beginning, but surely you will succeed, for God is with you!

Bahá'i, 'Abdu'l-Bahá,
Paris Talks, p. 101

Of the spiritual prerequisites of success, which constitute the bedrock on which the security of all plans, projects, and schemes must ultimately rest, the following stand out as preeminent and vital....a high sense of moral rectitude in their social and administrative activities, absolute chastity in their individual lives, and complete freedom from prejudice in their dealings with peoples of a different race, class, creed, or colour.

Bahá'i, Shoghi Effendi
Advent of Divine Justice, p. 19