

# A NEW CULTURE OF PEACE FROM SOCIAL HARMONY

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**YES** - TO SOCIAL HARMONY AND HARMONIOUS PEACE

**NO** - TO WARS, TERRORISM AND POVERTY

*International, Cosmopolitan, Multicultural and Interdisciplinary Website. A daughter Website of the International Forum for the Literature and Culture of Peace: IFLAC PAVE PEACE. This remarkable organization, and especially the tireless work of its founder and president, Professor Ada Aharoni, a true global citizen, have inspired us to start this Website "Peace from Harmony"*

## Key definition:

A new culture of peace, preventing wars, terrorism and poverty, is generated when a natural order of social harmony gives priority to the well-being of children, parents, and caregivers, who make up 50 to 80% of the population in any given country. These groups are basically peace-loving, and provide the social foundation for a harmonious, new culture of peace

## Website's Mission:

**To build a harmonious, new culture of peace, and to strengthen its social foundation**

Our site is open to all persons and organizations sharing this mission

## Basic Ideas and Purposes

The traditional culture of peace, inherent in an industrial society, is a culture of balance of power and military forces. This balance is always unstable. It is directed, not on exclusion of wars, but on limiting them, or setting them aside to deter the arms race. Therefore, this culture has developed no effective actors and institutions for preventing

wars and terrorism. This is confirmed by about forty modern local wars and almost daily terrorist acts. The source reproducing them is a culture and order of social disharmony of an industrial society that prioritizes money. A global information society can change our priorities and focus on harmonious peace. Modern society, in different countries, is 60 to 90% industrial and only 10 to 40% informational, but this is rapidly changing. Traditional peace is fragile and unstable, fraught with poverty, terrorism and wars, including global wars. Traditional peace is a break between wars, preparation for war, and peace on the verge of war. Therefore, it is peace that is subordinate to war, instead of peace for the sake of peace, happiness, and harmony. In the name of peace, industrial societies prepare children for war instead of for peace.

The new culture of peace is a culture of harmonious peace, arising in an information society. Its foundation is an order of social harmony, from a sustainable balance of social groups and ethnicities that give priority to children, parents and especially mothers, who carry the basic burden of care for children, and also all caregivers. These groups make up 50 to 80% of the population in different countries. They carry the basic energy of peace-loving and social harmony, and they provide the social foundation for a new culture of harmonious peace. Only social harmony, creating a new, harmonious and sustainable peace, is capable of preventing wars, terrorism and poverty.

Contrast of new culture of peace with traditional, and their connection: the traditional culture of peace, inherent in an industrial society, only limits opportunities for wars and terror, but does not prevent them or poverty. The new culture of peace, arising in an information society, prevents them by means of a new social order of harmony. It is created in a new society on the basis of new priorities, actors and institutes. Whereas the traditional culture of peace is industrial, money-oriented and disharmonious, the new culture of peace is humanitarian, information-based, and harmonious. The new culture of peace qualitatively differs from the traditional, but simultaneously modernizes and strengthens it. Harmonious peace prevents wars, terrorism and poverty, while disharmonious (traditional) peace only limits them. But the new culture of peace emerges from the old, from within it.

Social harmony is an integrative value in a global, information society, which unites in itself love, peace, justice, freedom, equality, brotherhood, cooperation, nonviolence, tolerance, humanism and other universal values, and prioritizes children. Harmony is the top value of oriental culture (Confucianism, Buddhism, etc.) but it did not become a priority value for industrial society. At the same time it is not alien to western culture (Pythagoras, Plato, Aristotle, Renaissance, Leibniz, etc.). Therefore, harmony is a common value for western and eastern cultures, and can eliminate the clash of civilizations. Social harmony creates a harmonious and sustainable peace, beyond wars, terror and poverty. Harmonious peace (social harmony) begins with harmony of genders (mothers and fathers), and generations (parents and children), and continues in the population with harmony of sphere classes, through harmonious partnership.

An order of social harmony is constructed on the value of social harmony and priority of children, their parents, and caregivers, which creates a sustainable balance of social

groups and ethnicities. This order is created by appropriate actors and institutes, which overcome the social origins of wars, terrorism and poverty. An order of social harmony can arise in an information society and gradually remove the social disharmony produced in industrial societies. Post-industrial society can strengthen harmonious peace through the creation of information technologies to discover, and new legal institutes to legitimize, the innately peace-loving priorities of children, parents and caregivers. The order of social harmony (harmonious peace) is a new, qualitative step in the development of civilization. It is an alternative to a global order of disharmony (traditional peace) of industrial society, constructed on priorities of money and power, which generate wars, terror and poverty. Disharmony of modern society has put it on the verge of self-destruction in wars, in weapons of mass destruction, in nuclear proliferation, in terrorism, in the clash of civilizations, in the destruction of family and the environment, in the poverty of five of our six billion human beings, in the "poverty, discrimination and neglect of children" (by definition of the UN Special Session on childhood, May 2002) who are our future. Only a new culture of peace can prioritize children, parents and caregivers, and be capable of overcoming this self-destruction. The creation of a new culture of peace, on a foundation of social harmony, to prevent wars, terror, poverty and self-destruction, is impossible without this vast, peace-loving potential, which is not claimed until now.

### Institutes, projects, and resources for a new culture of peace, as themes for discussion

1. Implications of Tetrasociology, as a scientific theory of the natural order of social harmony of four sphere classes of the population, for an information (global) society,
2. 'Polylog' of civilizations, as a multicultural and multidimensional dialog, to evolve social harmony as a foundation to achieve harmonious peace,
3. Sphere democracy in civil society, constructed on an equal distribution of power between sphere classes, genders and generations, as the low-based state for social harmony and harmonious peace.
4. "Mothers for Peace," as a global association, to be an influential movement toward social harmony, and a powerful peace-loving force in achieving a new culture of harmonious peace,
5. "Fathers for Peace," for men who love and care for children, to oppose violence and war,
6. Children's suffrage executed by parents, as a socio-cultural institute and legislative mechanism, to prioritize the well-being of children, parents and caregivers, to consolidate the social foundation for a new culture of peace,
7. Antiterrorist (anti-deviant, nonviolent) immunity, as social capital for a new culture of peace.
8. Other institutes, projects, and resources for a new culture of harmonious peace.

### Tetrasociological model of harmonious peace for an information society

Tetrasociology is a four-dimensional, holistic, interdisciplinary theory of an information (global) society, considered as a cybernetic system of four spheres of social reproduction. These spheres cooperate to form a natural, underlying order of social harmony, which has the potential to generate harmonious peace in an information age. Tetrasociology is a synthesis of the western structural idea of social-sphere reproduction and the oriental value idea of harmony. A naturally occurring 'harmony of spheres' is the central focus and key premise of tetrasociology. On the basis of this harmony of spheres premise, tetrasociology comes to the following six expectations or predictions of peace-enhancing innovations of a global society:

1. Self-identification of sphere classes: Socioclass, Infoclass, Orgclass, Technoclass, by those employed in corresponding spheres of social reproduction, transforms them into conscious actors of social harmony,
2. Sphere democracy of civil society is promoted by an equal distribution of power among the sphere classes, between genders, and among generations (including children), which enhances the natural order of social harmony and contributes to harmonious peace,
3. Sphere sociological statistics provide quantitative measures of social harmony,
4. Sphere information-statistical technology calculates potentials for social harmony,
5. Sphere socio-cultural technology advances achievement and maintenance of social harmony, including children's suffrage executed by parents,
6. Sphere strategic management ensures harmonious governance of spheres and sphere classes at all social levels.

These innovations of a global society help to create a self-organizing order of social harmony, and a new culture of harmonious peace, which seeks to prevent wars, terrorism, and poverty and to meet other global challenges. Such an order arises not from giving priority to money and property, but from prioritizing the well-being of children and those responsible for their care: parents, teachers, doctors, etc. These groups, counting the children, make up 50 to 80% of the population in various countries, and have the greatest potential to be peace-loving.

The tetrasociological model of harmonious peace is offered as one of the basic subjects for discussion on our Website.

## Languages

We plan to present new cultural institutes, projects, and resources for harmonious peace in three basic languages: Russian, English and Esperanto. We begin from our concepts of multiculturalism and bilingualism, recognizing English and Esperanto as languages of the international community. In addition, we will publish contributions on our site in the following languages: Japanese, Spanish, Chinese, Portuguese, German and French.

## Readers' Forum

This includes an exchange of ideas and information on the topic of a new culture of harmonious peace, on the basis of a variety and pluralism of opinions. We encourage from our readers: abstracts, articles, reviews, messages, critical remarks, etc., (in limits up to 5 pages). If a reader shares our faith in a new culture of peace from harmony, he/she can become a co-author of the Website, open their own page, and make their own contribution to this culture. Especially, we invite the concerns of children, students, and new parents. The Website "Peace from Harmony" invites a wide, international discussion of innovative ideas for a new culture of peace, and of ways to bring it about at local, national, and global levels. Enhancing the education and upbringing of children and young parents in a culture of peace is another, not less important task of our Website.

## Financing

For the work of this public, noncommercial and not governmental Website, the basic part of which is the translation of materials (documents, articles, reviews, responses etc.) into at least three, and at times nine languages, and for conducting sociological studies of public opinion about the culture of peace, the minimum financing is 36 thousand USD per year, 3 thousand per month. For Website financing we invite sponsors who share the ideal of a harmonious peace, and who value the well-being of children and parents. The contributions of sponsors will support and strengthen public awareness of ideas and work for a new culture of peace, and be considered Website guardians.