

# AN AFFIRMATION OF HUMAN ONENESS

شِاقِ الْوَحْدَةِ الْإِنْسَانِيَّةِ

SUATU KONFIRMASI BAGI PENYATUAN MAKHLUK

॥ ध्यातव्य-श्रेष्ठो प्रकृष्टो जगत् ॥

五洲为一家 万代同天地

در تایید یگانگی بشر

UNE AFFIRMATION DE L'UNITE HUMAINE

EINE AFFIRMATION MENSCHLICHER EINHEIT

TAKEN MUTUNTAKA

मानवीय एकता की घोषणा

Un'affermazione dell'unità umana

人類共同体宣言

< 인간의 동일성을 위한 선언 >

UMA AFIRMACÃO DA UNIDADE HUMANA

ПОДТВЕРЖДЕНИЕ ЧЕЛОВЕЧЕСКОГО ЕДИНСТВА

Afirmación de la unidad de lo humano

THIBITISHO LA UMOJA WA WATU

ມີຄວາມວ່າວ່າຍັງຄາມ, ມີນຫນຶ່ງ, ເດີຍວັກນຂອງມະນຸດຍືຮາດ

İnsanlığın bir o'duğuna ait bir beyanname

ایک حقیقت کی تصدیق  
دنیا ۛ تمام انسان نجای صحابی ہیں

MỘT SỰ QUẢ QUYẾT ĐỒNG NHẤT CỦA TOÀN NHÂN LOẠI

Joseph E. Schwartzberg

2010

# AN AFFIRMATION OF HUMAN ONENESS

## PREFATORY NOTES

### AN AFFIRMATION OF HUMAN ONENESS

By

**Joseph E. Schwartzberg**

Dr. Joseph E. Schwartzberg, Distinguished International Studies Professor at the University of Minnesota, and until his retirement in 2000 a professor of geography and South Asian Studies, wrote the Affirmation of Human Oneness in 1976. His work was inspired by a reading of *Education for a Changing World* by Edwin O. Reischauer, a former highly successful US ambassador, for educating youth, beginning in kindergarten, to think like global citizens. In keeping with that argument, the Affirmation was written primarily in the hope that it would be used in school assemblies to supplement, but not to replace, more narrowly focused nationalistic statements (e.g. the Pledge of Allegiance) that help shape students' views of their own country and its relationship to the rest of the world. The Affirmation seeks to make students recognize that they are linked to all other human beings, not only those living today, but to past and future generations, as well, and that they have an ethical obligation to act as stewards of the Earth, our shared planetary home.

In 1991, Professor Schwartzberg decided to participate in the 1992 United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro. In preparation for doing so, he made some minor modifications of his original text and undertook the task of obtaining translations of the Affirmation in the twenty languages, in addition to English, that were spoken by more than fifty million people and that were, additionally, the national language of one or more countries. (India has several "official" languages in addition to Hindi that meet the 50 million requirement, but they are not the "national" language. Ditto for Javanese in Indonesia.) The first line of the Affirmation in all twenty-one languages appears on the cover page of this document.

After obtaining the sought-for translations, Professor Schwartzberg wrote to UN Deputy Secretary-General Maurice Strong, who was in charge of organizing UNCED, and requested that the Conference make some official use of the affirmation. While no action was taken in support of that idea, Professor Schwartzberg presented the Affirmation during the proceedings.

**White Bear Lake, MN, USA  
2010**

# **AN AFFIRMATION OF HUMAN ONENESS**

## **PREFATORY NOTES**

**Dr. Joseph E. Schwartzberg**, Distinguished International Emeritus Professor at the University of Minnesota, and until his retirement in 2000 a professor of geography and South Asian studies, wrote the Affirmation of Human Oneness in 1976. His work was inspired by a reading of *Education for a Changing World* by Edwin O. Reischauer, a former highly successful U.S. ambassador to Japan. Reischauer argued the necessity for educating youth, beginning in kindergarten, to think like global citizens. In keeping with that argument, the Affirmation was written primarily in the hope that it would be used in school assemblies to supplement, but not to replace, more narrowly focused nationalistic statements (e.g. the Pledge of Allegiance) that help shape students' views of their own country and its relationship to the rest of the world. The Affirmation seeks to make students recognize that they are linked to all other human beings, not only those living today, but to past and future generations as well, and that they have an ethical obligation to act as stewards of the Earth, our shared planetary home.

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After obtaining the sought for translations, Professor Schwartzberg wrote to UN Deputy Secretary-General, Maurice Strong, who was in charge of organizing UNCED, and requested that the Conference make some official use of the affirmation. While no action was taken in support of that idea, Professor Schwartzberg did distribute many copies of the Affirmation during the proceedings and has been doing so ever since.

March 2010

Following UNCED, Professor Schwartzberg has had the Affirmation translated into many additional languages, totaling 42 as of March 2010. These languages will be understood by well over 95% of the world's literate population and by a substantial majority of non-literates as well. Some relevant decisions follow:

- 1) Esperanto was added because it is the most widely known of all the artificially constructed languages that aspire to become universal.
- 2) Because Professor Schwartzberg lives in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis-St. Paul, additional translations were, and are still being sought, for the region's principal Native American languages, as well as the languages of local recently established ethnic groups as (e.g., Cambodian/Khmer and Hmong) in the hope that it would facilitate their assimilation to their new cultural milieu.
- 3) In time, the major liturgical languages were added to the goal, so that religious institutions could make use of the Affirmation. Thus far, this has led to translations in Greek (but modern Greek), the Gurumukhi way of writing Punjabi (the language of Sikhism), Hebrew, and Sanskrit. Latin and Tibetan remain on the list of sought translations.
- 4) Numerous additional languages have been added (e.g., Finnish and Kashmiri) as Professor Schwartzberg's professional duties bring him into contact with persons capable of providing high-quality translations
- 5) Readers who wish to submit polished text for languages not included in this packet are invited to contact Professor Schwartzberg at (e-mail) schwa004@umn.edu or (phone) 651-429-9562.

In 2008 Professor Schwartzberg changed the introductory portion of the Affirmation's 1991 text. It formerly read, "I am a member of the Human Family, My home is Earth." It now reads "I am a member of the Human Family, a citizen of the World." The new formulation, which was intended to make the Affirmation more suitable for use in civic gatherings, accounts for the slight discrepancy between the original translations and the present text.

\* **The 21 original languages:** Arabic, Bahasa Indonesia, Bengali, Chinese, English, Farsi (Persian), French; German, Hausa, Hindi; Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swahili, Thai, Turkish. Urdu and Vietnamese.

J.E.S.,  
White Bear Lake, MN  
March 2010

## ميثاق الوحدة الانسانية

- أنا عضو من الاسرة البشرية .
- الارض موطنى .
- التقدم والانجازات التى صنعها الانسان على مر الزمن هى تراثى .
- مصيرى مرتبط بكل زملائى من البشر .
- ما نصنع اليوم سوف تحصده أجيال المستقبل .
- أتمنى أن تكون حياتى من أجل صالح البشرية .
- أتمنى أن تكون طريقة استعمالنا للتربة مصلحة للأجيال القادمة .

## MĪTHĀQ AL-WAḤDAH AL-INSĀNIYAH

Ana ʿudw min al-usrah al-bashariyah.

Al-ard mawtinī.

Al-taqadum wa-al-injāzāt altī ṣanaʿaha al-insan ʿala mar  
al-zaman hiya turathī.

Masirī murtabit bi-kul zumalaʿi min al-bashar.

Ma nasnaʿhu al-yawm sawfa taḥṣuduhu ajyāl al-mustaqbal.

Atamana an takūn ḥayatī min ajl ṣālih al-bashariyah.

Atamana an takūn tariqat istiʿmalūna lil-turbah maṣlaḥa lil-  
ajyāl al-qādimah.

# BAHASA INDONESIA/ MALAY

## SUATU KONFIRMASI BAGI PENYATUAN MAKHLUK

Aku adalah sebahagian dari keluarga manusia.

Bumi ini rumahku.

Pencapaian lelaki dan wanita sepanjang zaman adalah keturunanku.

Masa hadapanku berkaitan dengan masa hadapan saudara-saudaraku.

Segala yang dicipta bersama merupakan  
penurunan kita buat generasi hadapan.

Harapanku hidup ini membawa kebaikan untuk manusia sejagat.

Semuga penggunaan bumi ini memberi manfaat  
untuk generasi yang akan datang.

## ॥ মানব-ওইক্যেব একটী শপথ ॥

আমি বিশ্ব-ব্যাপী মানব পরিবারের সদস্য।

পৃথিবী আমার গৃহ।

পৃথিবীর সকল নর-নারীর-যুগ-যুগান্তের-সৃষ্টির  
সঙ্গে আমার-উত্তরাধিকার।

আমার ভবিষ্যৎ পৃথিবীর-সকল মানুষের-  
ভবিষ্যতের-সঙ্গে যুক্ত।

আজ আমার সম্মুখে আছে পৃথিবীতে যা  
সৃষ্টি করবে, আমাদের-উত্তরাধিকারীদের কাছে  
তাই হতে আমাদের অতদান।

মানব পরিবারের কল্যাণ-সাধন আমার-  
জীবনের-ব্রত হোক।

পৃথিবীকে আমরা যেন সম্যক ব্যবহার করি।

একে যেন আমরা সুরক্ষিত করি-আমাদের-  
অনাগত উত্তরাধিকারীদের জন্য।

### MANAV-OIKYER ECTI SHAPATH

Ami Vishva-vyapi Manav Parivarer Sadasya.

Prithivi Amar Ghar.

Prithivir Sakal Nara-Narir Jug-juganter Sristhi Amar Uttaradhikar.

Amar Bhavishyat Prithivir Sakal Manusher Bhvishyater Sange Jukta.

Aj Amra Samaveta-bhabe Prithivite Ja Sristhi Karbo, Amader Uttarsurider

Kacche Tai Habe Amader Abadan.

Manav Parivarer Kalyan-sadhan Amar Jivaner Vrata Hok.

Prithivike Amra Jena Sajatne Vyavahar Kari.

Eke Jena Amra Samrakshan Kari Amader Anagata Uttaradhikarider Janya.

- ឧបសគ្គនៃការបង្កើតស្ថាប័នស្រុក ។
- ផលិតផលរបស់ខ្ញុំ ឬនិយោជិត ។
- ការបង្កើតរបស់ខ្ញុំ មានប្រភពនៃការ  
ប្រើប្រាស់ប្រាក់ចំណូល របស់ខ្ញុំស្រុកស្រុក  
ទាំងឡាយ ។
- ព្រឹត្តិការណ៍របស់ខ្ញុំ ផ្សេងទៀតនៃព្រឹត្តិការណ៍  
វិស័យរបស់ខ្ញុំស្រុកស្រុក ។
- គោលបំណងរបស់ខ្ញុំ ផ្សេងទៀតនៃប្រព័ន្ធនៃការ  
បង្កើត សំខាន់ៗនៃការបង្កើតស្ថាប័ន ។
- គុណភាពនៃការបង្កើតស្ថាប័ន សំខាន់ៗនៃការបង្កើត ។
- គុណភាពនៃការបង្កើតស្ថាប័ន ផ្សេងទៀតនៃការបង្កើត  
ប្រាក់ចំណូល សំខាន់ៗនៃការបង្កើតស្ថាប័ន ។



## 五洲为一家 万代同天地

我是人类大家庭的一员，

大地就是我的家。

自古以来所有人的建树都

为我所继承。

我的命运和全体人类紧密的

连在一起。

我们共同创造出来的一切都是

我们给后代留下的馈赠。

我愿毕生为大家求幸福。

让我们共同保护

全球环境使

世世代代

永享天锡。

Wú-zhōu wéi yì-jia wàn-dài tóng tiān-dì.

Wǒ shì rén-lèi dà jiā-tíng de yì yuán.

Dà-dì jiù shì wǒ de jiā.

Zì-gū-yì-lái suǒ yǒu rén de jiàn-shù

dōu wéi wǒ suǒ jì-chéng.

Wǒ de míng-yùn hé guān-tì rén-lèi

jīn-mì de lián zài yì-qǐ.

Wǒ-mén gòng-tóng chuàng-zào chū-lèi de

yì-chiè dōu shì wǒ-mén qǐ

hòu-dài liú-xià de kuì-zēng

Wǒ yuàn bì-shēng wéi dà-jia qiū

xìng-fú.

ràng wǒ-mén gòng-tóng bǎo-hù guān-qū

huán-jìng shì shì-shì-dài-dài

yǒng xiǎng tiān-xī.

○ drop your pitch then raise it

/ raise your pitch as if you were asking a question.

\ drop your pitch as if you arrived at a full

— hold your pitch steadily.

stop.

**Potvrzení jednoty lidskeho rodu**

Jsem clenem lidske rodiny, obcanem sveta.

Uspechy muzu a zen minulych veku jsou mym dedictvim.

Muj osud je spojen s osudy vsech ostatnich lidskych bytosti.

Co spolecne koname predstavuje nas odkaz budoucim generacim.

At muj zivot slouzi dobru me rodiny.

At nase uzivani Zeme ji zachovava pro ty, kteri prijdou po nas.

**DANISH****En erklæring om humanitetens enhed**

Jeg er et medlem af den menneskelige familie, en verdensborger / kloden er mit hjem.

Mænd og kvinders præstationer igennem tiderne er min arv.

Min skæbne er bundet til alle mine medmenneskers.

Hvad vi i fællesskab skaber udgør vores gave til fremtidige generationer.

Må mit liv tjene min familie vel.

Må vores omgang med kloden bevare den for vore efterkommere.

**DUTCH****Een bevestiging van menselijke eenheid**

Ik behoor tot de menselijke familie.

Mijn thuis is de aarde.

De prestaties van mannen en vrouwen door de eeuwen heen zijn mijn erfgoed.

Mijn lot is verbonden met dat van al mijn medemensen.

Wat wij samen volmaken vormt ons legaat aan toekomstige generaties.

Moge mijn leven het welzijn van mijn familie dienen.

Moge ons gebruik van de aarde haar bewaren voor diegenen die nog komen.

# An Affirmation of Human Oneness

*I am a member of the human family,  
a citizen of the world.*

*The achievements of men and women  
throughout the ages  
are my heritage.*

*My destiny is bound to that of all my  
fellow human beings.*

*What we jointly create  
forms our bequest to future generations.*

*May my life  
serve the good of my family.*

*May our use of the earth  
preserve it for those yet to come.*

## ASERTO de la HOMA UNECO

Mi estas membro de la homa familio.  
Mia hejmo estas la planedo Tero.  
La atingoj de geviroj tra la tuta homara epoko  
estas mia heredaĵo.  
Mia sorto estas kunligita al tio de ĉiuj miaj kunuloj.  
Tio, kion ni kune kreas, formas nian heredigon  
al postaj generacioj.  
Mia vivo servu la bonon de mia familio.  
Nia uzado de la planedo Tero konservu ĝin por tiuj,  
kiuj venos poste.

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## RETRANSLATION TO ENGLISH:

### ASSERTION OF (THE) HUMAN UNITY

I am a member of the human family.  
My home is the planet Earth.  
The attainments of men-and-women through the total human epoch  
are my heritage.  
My destiny is tied-together with that of all my co-existing human beings.  
That which we together create forms our bequest  
to subsequent generations.  
Let my life serve the good of my family.  
Let our use of the planet Earth preserve it for those  
who will come afterward.

