

Uni(Tea)

Unity of Religion

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White Tea

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In striving to recognize the primacy of Fire and Light,
I feel kinship with my Zoroastrian brothers and sisters.

In striving to obey the Ten Commandments,
I feel kinship with my Jewish brothers and sisters.

In striving to be kind to neighbour and the needy,
I feel kinship with my Christian brothers and sisters.

In striving to be compassionate to creatures great and small,
I feel kinship with my Buddhist - Jaina brothers and sisters.

In striving to surrender myself completely to God Almighty,
I feel kinship with my Muslim brothers and sisters.

In the recognition that wisdom flows from enlightened masters,
I feel kinship with my Sikh brothers and sisters.

In remembering that serving people should be the goal of religion,
I feel kinship with my Baha'i brothers and sisters.

In my respect and reverence for Nature that sustains us,
I feel kinship with my Native American brothers and sisters.

In feeling that these and more are all paths to the same Divinity,
I feel kinship with my Hindu brothers and sisters.

In my love and laughter, joy and pain,
I feel kinship with all my fellow humans.

In my need for nourishment and instinct to live on,
I feel kinship with all beings on the planet.

In my spiritual ecstasy with this wondrous world,
I feel kinship with the Cosmic Whole.

V. V. Raman

The holy Manifestations Who have been the Sources or Founders of the various religious systems were united and agreed in purpose and teaching. Abraham, Moses, Zoroaster, Buddha, Jesus, Muhammad, the Báb and Bahá'u'lláh are one in spirit and reality. Moreover, each Prophet fulfilled the promise of the One Who came before Him and, likewise, Each announced the One Who would follow. Consider how Abraham

foretold the coming of Moses, and Moses embodied the Abrahamic statement. Moses prophesied the 198 Messianic cycle, and Christ fulfilled the law of Moses. It is evident, therefore, that the Holy Manifestations Who founded the religious systems are united and agreed; there is no differentiation possible in Their mission and teachings; all are reflectors of reality, and all are promulgators of the religion of God.

Baha'i Faith, Abdu'l-Baha, The Promulgation of Universal Peace, p. 197

O YE PEOPLE THAT HAVE MINDS TO KNOW AND EARS TO HEAR!

The first call of the Beloved is this: O mystic nightingale! Abide not but in the rose-garden of the spirit. O messenger of the Solomon of love! Seek thou no shelter except in the Sheba of the well-beloved, and O immortal phoenix! dwell not save on the mount of faithfulness. Therein is thy habitation, if on the wings of thy soul thou soarest to the realm of the infinite and seekest to attain thy goal.

Baha'i Faith, Baha'u'llah, The Persian Hidden Words 1

They, who serve even other god's with a firm belief, in doing so, involuntarily worship me. I am He who partaketh of all worship, and I am their reward.

Hinduism, Bhagavad Gita

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Green Tea

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Knoweth thou this, O Prince, that whenever the world declineth in virtue and righteousness; and vice and injustice mount the throne - then cometh I, the Lord, and revisit my world in visible form, and mingleth as a man with men, and by my influence and teachings do I destroy the evil and injustice, and re-establish virtue and righteousness. Many times have I thus appeared; many times hereafter shall I come again.

Hinduism, Bhagavad Gita

The people of Islam who glorify Christ are not humiliated by so doing. Christ was the Prophet of the Christians, Moses of the Jews -- why should not the followers of each prophet recognize and honour the other prophets also? If men could only learn the lesson of mutual tolerance, understanding, and brotherly love, the unity of the world would soon be an established fact.

Bahá'u'lláh spent His life teaching this lesson of Love and Unity. Let us then put away from us all prejudice and intolerance, and strive with all our hearts and souls to bring about understanding and unity between Christians and Mussulmans.

Baha'i Faith, Abdu'l-Baha, Paris Talks, p. 49

"I am not the first Buddha who came upon earth, nor shall I be the last.."

Buddhism, Pali Text (attributed to Sariputra)

“I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come he will guide you into all truth.”

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, before Abraham was, I am.”

“For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me...”

“When the Comforter is come... he shall testify of me.”

Christianity, John 16:12-13, 8:58, 5:46, 15:26

We believe in God, and that which hath been sent down to us, and that which hath been sent down to Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac and Jacob and the tribes; and that which hath been given to Moses and to Jesus, and that which was given to the prophets from their Lord. No difference do we make between any of them...

Islam, Qur'an, Sura II:130

“I have come to attest the law which was before me.”

Islam, Qur'an Sura III:45

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Oolong Tea

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It is the same Avatara that, having plunged into the Ocean of life rises up in one place and is known as Krishna, and diving down again rises in another place and is known as Christ.

Hinduism, Ramakrishna

Likewise the divine religions of the holy Manifestations of God are in reality one though in name and nomenclature they differ. Man must be a lover of the light no matter from what day-spring it may appear. He must be a lover of the rose no matter in what soil it may be growing. He must be a seeker of the truth no matter from what source it come. Attachment to the lantern is not loving the light.

Baha'i Faith, Abdu'l-Baha, Foundations of World Unity, p. 15

The word of truth no matter which tongue utters it must be sanctioned.

Baha'i Faith, Abdu'l-Baha, Foundations of World Unity, p. 15

Why not put an end to this religious strife and establish a bond of connection between the hearts of men? Why should not the followers of one religion praise the founder or teacher of another?

Baha'i Faith, Abdu'l-Baha, Baha'i World Faith - Abdu'l-Baha Section, p. 279

Inasmuch as our God is one God and the creator of all mankind, He provides for and protects all. We acknowledge him as a God of kindness, justice and mercy. Why then should we, His children and followers, war and fight, bringing sorrow and grief into the

hearts of each other? God is loving and merciful. His intention in religion has ever been the bond of unity and affinity between humankind

Baha'i Faith, Abdu'l-Baha, Baha'i World Faith - Abdu'l-Baha Section, p. 279

Truth has many aspects. Infinite truth has infinite expressions. Though the sages speak in divers ways, they express one and the same Truth. Ignorant is he who says, "what I say and know is true; others are wrong." It is because of this attitude of the ignorant that there have been doubts and misunderstandings about God. This attitude it is that causes dispute among men. But all doubts vanish when one gains self-control and attains tranquillity by realizing the heart of Truth. Thereupon dispute, too, is at an end.

Hinduism, Srmad Bhagavatam 11.15

As the records of man are imperfect, And the memory of man unstable: The names of many of these messengers are known in one place and not in another, or among one people and not among others; and some of their names may have perished utterly; but their message stands one and indivisible, even though it may have been forgotten, or twisted by ignorance, error, superstition or perversity; or misunderstood in the blinding light of time or tortuous Circumstance.

Islam, Qur'an 9,3

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Black Tea

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If we investigate the religions to discover the principles underlying their foundations we will find they agree, for the fundamental reality of them is one and not multiple. By this means the religionists of the world will reach their point of unity and reconciliation. They will ascertain the truth that the purpose of religion is the acquisition of praiseworthy virtues, betterment of morals, spiritual development of mankind, the real life and divine bestowals.

Baha'i Faith, Abdu'l-Baha, Foundations of World Unity, p. 15

The Bahá'í teachings point out that the growth of religion is like the growth of a tree. In the teaching of Krishna we see the "seed," in that of Moses the "shoot," in that of Zoroaster the "trunk," in that of Buddha the "branches," in that of Jesus the "twigs," in that of Muhammad the "leaves," in that of the Báb the "blossoms," in that of Bahá'u'lláh the "fruit."

Baha'i Faith, William Sears, Release the Sun, p. 209

The purpose of religion as revealed from the heaven of God's holy Will is to establish unity and concord amongst the peoples of the world; make it not the cause of dissension and strife. The religion of God and His divine law are the most potent instruments and the surest of all means for the dawning of the light of unity amongst men. The progress of the world, the development of nations, the tranquillity of peoples, and the peace of all who dwell on earth are among the principles and ordinances of God. Religion bestoweth upon man the most precious of all gifts, offereth the cup of prosperity, imparteth eternal life, and showereth imperishable benefits upon mankind

Baha'í Faith, Baha'u'llah, Tablets of Baha'u'llah, p. 129

My whole soul rebels against the idea that Hinduism and Islam represent two antagonistic cultures and doctrines. To assent to such a doctrine is for me a denial of God.

Mahatma Gandhi

All the prophets have been the promoters of these principles; none of them has been the promoter of corruption, vice or evil. They have summoned mankind to all good. They have united people in the love of God, invited them to the religions of the unity of mankind and exhorted them to amity and agreement.

Baha'í Faith, Abdu'l-Baha, Foundations of World Unity, p. 15

Blessed is the spot, and the house, and the place, and the city, and the heart, and the mountain, and the refuge, and the cave, and the valley, and the land, and the sea, and the island, and the meadow where mention of God hath been made, and His praise glorified.

Baha'í Faith, Baha'u'llah, Baha'í Prayers