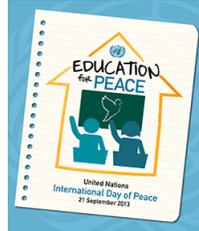




REFLECTION for SEPTEMBER 2013

"It is not enough to teach children how to read, write and count. Education has to cultivate mutual respect for others and the world in just, inclusive and peaceful governments, parties to conflicts, media, academics, or civil society peace education programmes, help rebuild schools destroyed by access to a quality education that preventing conflicts. "



Education has to cultivate mutual respect for others and the world in which we live, and help people forge more just, inclusive and peaceful societies.... I call on everyone – whether religious institutions, community leaders, the groups – to play their part. We must support protect students and teachers from conflict, war, and ensure all girls and boys have includes learning about resolving and

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

2013 International Day of Peace theme ' Education for Peace' message

The International Day of Peace, celebrated on 21st September, as an annual day of non violence & ceasefire, offers an opportunity for the world to pause, reflect and consider how best to break the vicious cycle of violence that conflict creates & honour a cessation of hostilities during the Day. The theme for the Day this year is "Education for Peace". The United Nations will examine the role education can play in fostering global citizenship...Education has to cultivate mutual respect for others and the world in which we live, and help people forge more just, inclusive and peaceful societies.

Children are affected by armed conflict in many different ways. In order to advance the goal of protecting children during armed conflict and ending the impunity of perpetrators, the United Nations Security Council identified six categories of violations – six grave violations. They serve as the basis to gather evidence on violations and include: [Killing or maiming of children](#); [Recruitment or use of children as soldiers](#); [Sexual violence against children](#); & [Attacks against schools or hospitals](#); [Denial of humanitarian access for children](#); [Abduction of children](#).

PRAYER

[Deuteronomy, 30:19](#) -I have put before you life and death, a blessing and a curse: so choose life for yourselves and for your descendants.

[Deuteronomy 32:4-5](#) -The work of the Mighty One is perfect because all G-ds ways are just, a G-d of Faith without wrong doing, He is righteous and moral. Corruption is theirs, not G-ds, the fault is G-ds children's – a perverse and crooked generation.

[1 Samuel 25:33](#) – May you be blessed.... For keeping me from bloodshed/vengeance

[Psalm 37:37](#) -Consider the blameless, observe the upright; there is a future for the person of peace.

[Romans 14:17-19](#) - For the kingdom of G-d is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to G-d and approved by people. Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.

[Matthew 5:4/ Luke 6:7](#) – Love your enemies, pray for persecutors

[Luke 22:51](#) Jesus said, 'No more of this!! (Striking with the sword).... And he touched his ear and healed him.'

[Jeremiah 4:19](#) – I writhe in pain...I cannot keep silent...for I hear...the alarm of war

[Isaiah 54:10](#) - Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

REFLECTION - צדקה *tzedakah* (divine & human right, justice, righteousness, claim, faithfulness, justness, mercy)

- What do I/we need to do and be to live righteously, offering mutual respect, in my life/our lives today in responding to conflict, violence, war and relationship breakdown in my life & in our world today?
- What can I do, and when can I speak out/write letters against the killing, maiming, forcing children to be soldiers, sexual & physical violence, abduction, denial of human rights and military recruitment of children?
- What insights can I share with others about children learning how to resolve and prevent conflict & violence?

For further resources see: <http://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/>

<http://www.un.org/en/events/peaceday/2013/resources.shtml>

Sion UNANIMA International Team 2013