

A Prayer Booklet for you



ALL-CREATURES.ORG

2023

REV. FRANK HOFFMAN OUR FOUNDER



TAMS NICHOLSON, OFS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

VEDA STRAM, ACTIVIST ADMINISTRATOR



AND THOUSANDS OF CONTRIBUTING
ACTIVIST AUTHORS, POETS, ARTISTS, AND MORE!

PREAMBLE

FOUNDED IN 1998, ALL-CREATURES.ORG WAS THE PIONEER IN FAITH-BASED ANIMAL RIGHTS AND VEGAN ACTIVISM AND CONTINUES LEADING BY INSPIRING OTHERS TO ALWAYS CHOOSE EMPATHY AND COMPASSION FOR ALL LIVING BEINGS.

VISION

ALL-CREATURES.ORG IS A PRIMARY GO-TO ORGANIZATION FOR PEOPLE OF FAITH SEEKING INFORMATION ABOUT ANIMALS AND RELIGION, PROVIDING INSPIRATION AND ASSISTANCE TO ANYONE WORKING AGAINST ANIMAL EXPLOITATION WITH THE GOAL OF A FULLY VEGAN WORLD.

MISSION

WE AT ALL-CREATURES.ORG ARE CONTINUALLY GROWING A VEGAN WORLD THROUGH OUR EXTENSIVE ONLINE PRESENCE AND BY CREATING COMMUNITY THAT UNITES COMPASSIONATE AND EMPATHETIC HUMANS WHO HONOR THE DIGNITY OF EACH AND EVERY CREATURE SO THAT ALL BEINGS THRIVE ON A FLOURISHING PLANET EARTH.

DO **YOU** HAVE ANIMAL RIGHTS VEGAN WORK TO CONTRIBUTE? CONTACT US!

All-Creatures  **.Org**

A PRAYER AND BENEDICTION OF LIFE AND LOVE

By Michael Klaper, MD
USED WITH PERMISSION

Mother, Father, All that is, Source of Life and Love,
Thank You for Your miracles - for this planet, for this Life, for our next breath.

Thank You for truth, for beauty, for innocence - and for the animals.
Thank You for their being here with us - in the forest, in the field, in the sea, in
the sky, in our yards, and in our homes.

Thank You for their presence on this planet. If not for them, we would be here
alone - and how sterile and sad our lives on this Earth would be.

Thank You for the truth of the animals, for their profound beauty, for their
innocence, for their love - and for their witness.

We ask Your forgiveness - and that of all non-human animals to whom we
have caused harm through our actions - either directly through anger or
thoughtlessness, or indirectly through our purchases and consumption.

Help us to see Your Light and Being and Holiness in all of Life - including
those of the kingdom who came before Homo sapiens, who have survived his
destructive ways, and with whom we share this planet today.

Help us to see that the Light in their eyes is Your Light.

Help us to see that their Love and Trust of us is Your Love and Trust of us.

Help us to not betray that trust.

Help us to recognize our sincere fellowship with all who live.

Help us hear the message of the animals - to understand their example of
how to be fully in this life without guile or cruelty, and how to honor Life's flow
and magic by acknowledging all other beings.

Help us to honor You as the animals honor You - to be true to our nature as
they are to theirs, and to let the nature that we manifest be that of love,
humility and honor for the nature of the order of things, as the others of the
animal kingdom inherently know in their beings.

Help us to stop doing harm - to the animals, to the earth, and to each other.

Let gentleness and compassion for all living beings permeate
our thoughts and words and actions.

Help us to love You through loving your creation and your creatures -
and to remember who we are.

Mother, Father, All that is, thank you for your miracles.

Amen

ENLARGE WITHIN US A SENSE OF FELLOWSHIP

Attributed to St. Basil (330? - 375 A.D.)

The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof. O God, enlarge within us the sense of fellowship with all living things, our brothers the animals to whom thou has given the earth as their home in common with us. We remember with shame that in the past we have exercised the high dominion of man with ruthless cruelty, so that the voice of the earth, which should have gone up to Thee in song, has been a groan of travail. May we realise that they live, not for us alone, but for themselves and for Thee, and that they love the sweetness of life.'

THOUGHTS ON LIVING PEACEFULLY

All interpretations of Holy Scripture are influenced by the perspective of the interpreter as well as by their historical knowledge, contextual knowledge, personal beliefs, common sense, and through the peace or violence secretly hidden within their hearts. We live in a world where scripture has been given to us through the lens of violent eyes and hearts for centuries. Let's reexamine it through the lens of peace.

~ Tams Nicholson, Executive Director All-Creatures.org

A PRAYER FOR ANIMALS IN LABORATORIES

By Pastor Frank L. Hoffman

Dear Lord!

We come together in your sight, and in the sight of the facilities of suffering.

We ask you to comfort our hearts, and to soften the hearts of those who cause so much pain and death.

Bring upon them a never ending conviction of the cruelty they inflict, as if burning coals were piled upon their heads, until they repent and change their ways.

Comfort all the captive animals and bring them home to You.

Encourage us to be Your messengers of love, hope, compassion and peace, so that together we may bring healing to our land.

Amen!

REMEMBERING THE VISION

By Dr Will Tuttle
USED WITH PERMISSION

I saw a great gathering, people arriving from every direction,
From every culture, race and nation,
Young and old, a great circle forming,
Till the human family, finally, gathered as one.
And then they came: walking, crawling, flying, swimming,
All species, our fellow mortals, joining us in the great circle.
And then the ancestors joined us, and beings from generations yet unborn,
And we were joined at last by hosts of nature spirits, and devas and angels,
Long neglected and forgotten, they came forth and rounded out our circle,
So vast, yet so dear, every being somehow close as the two hands in mine.

A hush: all eyes now on us, we humans, calling and sobering us,
Silent expectancy filling the air, the eyes upon us, quietly waiting...waiting..
Slowly we gathered our courage, our hearts beginning to open,
Till one of us raised our eyes to them and met them, and remembered,
And suddenly a beam of light flashed from one heart to another,
And then from another to another and another,
With accelerating tempo, light streams flashed across our circle,
Joining hearts with hearts, humans with non-humans, and with each other,
Building momentum and brightness, forging a web of living light:
Every being joined by sparkling strands, every heart a luminescent gem,
Till from the center of this vast web of jewels,
There burst forth a towering pillar of light:
Brilliant, Infinite, Living, Radiating, Pulsing Love and Knowing,
And suddenly as one, we all understood.
(We are this light, this light is all, Ahh...Ahh-haa!)
And then such a celebration as has never before been
seen on this earth broke forth,
Such joy released! Such immense relief!
Such laughter, so many tears of recognition!
The hospitals emptied, and the prisons and asylums emptied,
As the great wave of understanding swept through every heart,
And the slaughterhouse doors were opened, and the doors of the factory farms,
And never again would beings be imprisoned and used by others,
For true compassion and understanding had been born on our earth.

PRAYERS FOR MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY

By Judy Carman
USED WITH PERMISSION

Monday: Today, let us send our prayers to all farmed animals.

May compassion and love reign over all the earth for all farmed animals—Dear ducks, geese, turkeys, chickens; cows, pigs, lambs, bison, elk, deer, and all of you who are suffering today in tiny cages or crowded into feedlots, being beaten, fed poisoned and unnatural food, and for those of you languishing without water or food on trucks or entering the slaughterhouses. We bear witness to your suffering, we take action to permanently end it, and we continually send out an energy field of love and compassion to comfort you and to transform the hearts and souls of those who support this violent oppression. We send our tears and our prayers on wings of love to you. Compassion encircles the earth for each of you and for all beings.

Tuesday: Today let us send our prayers to all the “companion animals” suffering homelessness, abuse, and/or lives in breeding mills.

May compassion and love reign over all the earth for all “companion animals” who are suffering at the hands of human beings. Dear dogs, cats, horses, guinea pigs, rabbits, snakes, mice, turtles, birds, ferrets, sugar gliders, frogs, and so many others. We pray for you that you may have peace and joy in this precious life of yours. Some of you want to live free of human interference, and some of you truly want to be part of your human family. We bear witness to your suffering; we do what we can to end your suffering and to encourage others to do the same; and we continually send out an energy field of love and compassion to comfort you and to transform the hearts and souls of those who support the cruelty and oppression of each of you. Our love is all around you. Compassion encircles the earth for each of you and for all beings.

Wednesday: Today let us send our prayers to all animals vivisected in laboratories and classrooms.

May compassion and love reign over all the earth for all animals used in experiments. Dear primates, dogs, cats, mice; rats, pigs, lambs, rabbits, frogs, and all of you who are imprisoned in cages, tortured in useless experiments, separated from your loved ones, and suffering constant pain, fear, and loneliness, sometimes for many long years. Dear ones, we bear witness to your suffering, we take action to permanently end it, and we continually send out an energy field of love and compassion to comfort you and to transform the hearts and souls of those who support this violent oppression. We send our tears and our prayers on wings of love to you. Our love is all around you. Compassion encircles the earth for each of you and for all beings.

PRAYERS FOR THURSDAY, FRIDAY, MEALTIMES

By Judy Carman

USED WITH PERMISSION

Thursday: Today let us send our prayers and love to all aquatic animals.

May compassion and love reign over all the earth for all the water beings living in the seas, lakes, and rivers. Dear fish, whales, dolphins, crabs, lobsters, starfish, jellyfish, shrimp, coral, and all the other amazing beings who make the waters of earth their home. Your homes and your very lives are being devastated by huge fishing fleets, by trash, oil, sewage, runoff, and other poisons dumped into your waters, by cutting off your fins, and by capturing you and your loved ones for aquariums and the pet trade. Together, we bear witness to your suffering, take action to end it permanently, and send out an energy field of love and compassion to comfort you and to transform the hearts and souls of those who support this violent oppression. Our love is all around you. Compassion encircles the earth for each of you and for all beings.

Friday: Prayers for wild animals being trapped, hunted, caged and/or killed for fur, flesh, leather, trophies, the pet trade, etc., and for wild animals being forced into stress and extinction due to loss of habitat.

May compassion and love reign over all the earth for all free-living animals. Dear bears, foxes, cougars, deer, alligators, wild horses, prairie dogs, primates, mink, bison, beavers, elephants, birds, fish, and all the other magnificent beings born in freedom and suffering now at the hands of human beings, living in fear of human beings, and mourning the loss of loved ones who have been tortured and either imprisoned or killed. Together, we bear witness to your suffering, take action to end it forever, and send out an energy field of love and compassion to comfort you and to transform the hearts and souls of those who support the violent oppression of all of you. We send our tears and prayers on wings of love to you. Our love is all around you. Compassion encircles the earth for each of you and for all beings.

Goto www.peacetoallbeings.com for Judy's Saturday and Sunday Prayers

A MEALTIME PRAYER

We joyfully give thanks for this, Our meal of love and peace.

For no one's child lies on our plates.

None suffered for our feast. We pray for peace on earth for all,

And grace to do our part. To God and to all life we are

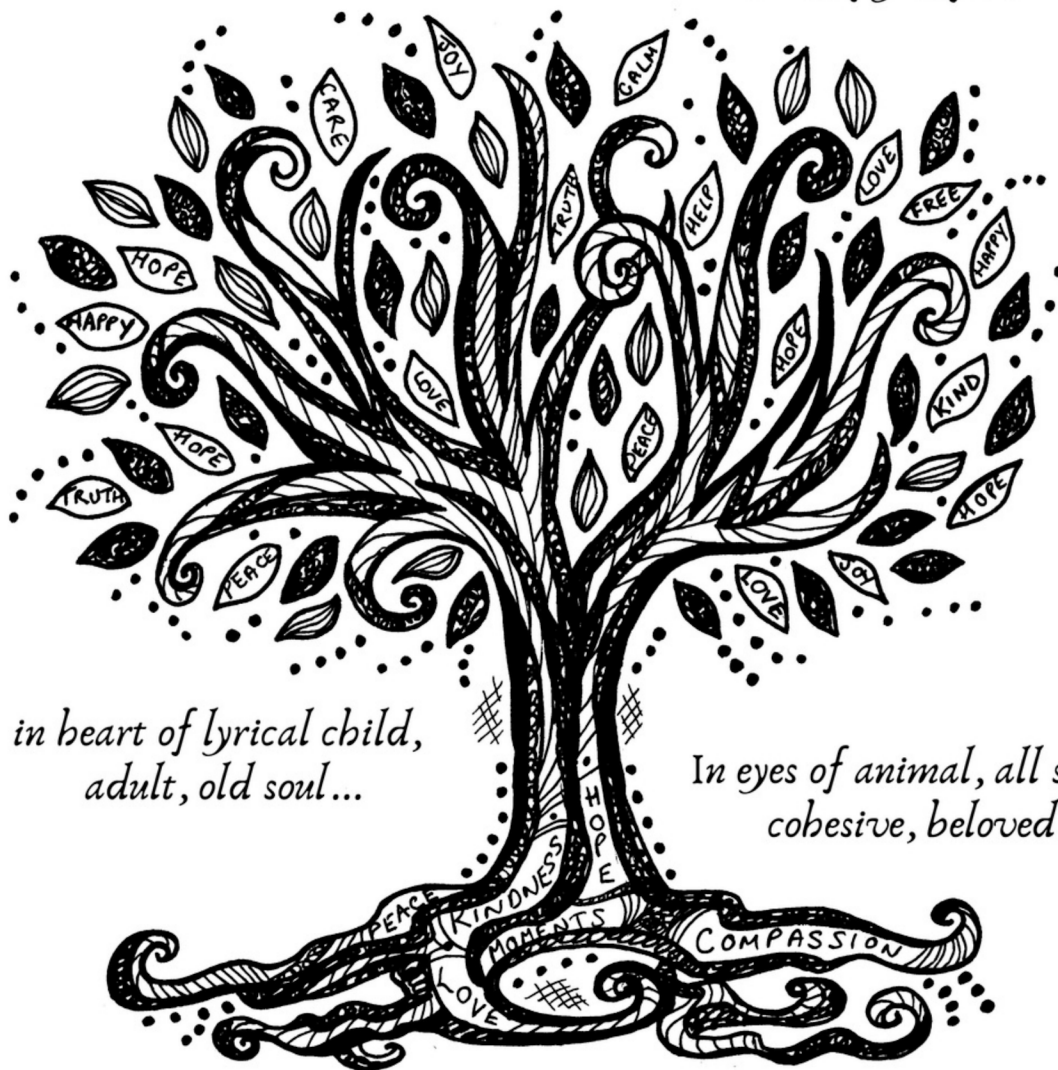
Connected heart to heart.

FOREVERMORE BY JULIE DICKINSON

USED WITH PERMISSION

I hope to grow a tree of compassion...

To see joy unfold



*in heart of lyrical child,
adult, old soul...*

*In eyes of animal, all species,
cohesive, beloved...*

I hope to see change, transformation, kindness...forevermore.

HOSTING A BLESSING OF ALL CREATURES CEREMONY

by Tams Nicholson

Please feel free to use or modify this outline.

Suggested Ceremony Outline

- Begin with a hymn or song celebrating the beauty and diversity of God's creation
- Opening prayer
- Scripture reading
- Perform the blessing of each friend creature or artifact
- Closing prayer

Opening Prayer

"We gather here today in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, who teaches us to embrace all of God's creatures as our brothers and sisters. As we come together today, we are reminded of the sacred bond that connects us with the creatures and all of creation. Let us turn to Holy Scripture to guide us in this joyous and meaningful ceremony, as we seek to honor and bless God's beloved creatures who share this beautiful journey of life with us."

Scripture Choices

Genesis 1:20-25 - God's Creation and Blessing of All Living Creatures

Psalms 104:24-30 - Praise for God's Works of Creation

Hosea 2:18 - Covenant with the Animals - Abolishing the Bow and Sword

Romans 8:19-22 - Creation's Eager Expectation

Revelation 5:13 - The Praise of All Creation

Blessing

Be Inclusive: Offer the blessing for (1) creatures present, (2) ALL other creatures in the world, (3) artifacts (collars, leashes, toys, or photos for those who cannot bring their friend creatures), and (4) photos of exploited, suffering, or imprisoned creatures.

Closing Prayer

"Let us carry in our hearts the words of the Psalmist who declared, 'The Lord is good to all; He has compassion on all He has made.' We are grateful for this reminder of God's boundless love and care for every living being, human and animal. May the blessings bestowed today upon all creatures and these artifacts continue to ripple through our lives, fostering compassion, stewardship, and harmony with all of creation. Let us go forth, embracing the teachings of St. Francis, cherishing all creatures as friends, and respecting the sanctity of all life. And as we journey on, may the peace and love of God that transcends all understanding be with us now and forever. Amen."

Find the expanded version of this outline on all-creatures.org

BROTHER FLY

By Dr Will Tuttle

USED WITH PERMISSION

Emerging from morning meditation. . .
Smooth sweet flow of mind. . .
Resting, beyond thoughts, quiet. . .
Eyes opening slowly. . . and captivated!
A miracle joins me on the bedspread!
A beautiful little fly, quietly sitting,
Occasionally rubbing front legs together,
And now and then his back legs.
Suddenly I love this precious fly so strongly!
As if in response, he turns, facing me directly,
And stops all moving, poised and quiet.
I admire his delicacy, ability, perfection;
The moment stretches, swallowing time. . .
We are brothers, I feel it,
Created by the same mysterious Hand.
He flies to my shoulder; I feel blessed.
There is a communion in this room,
A sacred moment of understanding.
We are safe in each other's presence, and free.
Infinite Love fills every space in the universe.

WISDOM OF THE WILLOW

By Dr Will Tuttle

USED WITH PERMISSION

There she stands by the slowly river
No longer only reaching high:
Rooted in the warm dark earth
That holds and nurtures everything.
She reaches up like other trees to heaven,
To freedom, light, and joy,
And yet returns her gracious boughs
To touch the earth and stream again.
Weeping tears of empathy,
She bends low to caress the earth,
To enter fully the world again,
With gift-bestowing hands.

WHAT TO EAT WHEN YOU DON'T EAT ANIMALS:

MENUS AND IDEAS TO INSPIRE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO EAT AS IF LIFE IS PRECIOUS

Why would an atheist work for a Christian animal rights site?

by Veda Stram, Activist Administrator

Why would an atheist work for a Christian animal rights site? The answer is simple: Animals have no religion and need all humans to work on their behalf, regardless of religious beliefs.

I am certain that in order to have a world that benefits all life on our planet, veganism is THE answer: a critical mass of humans must act as if every single thing they do has consequences for every other living being, everywhere in the world. Since most people in the U.S. claim to be Christian, I am honored to work for a Christian vegan/animal rights site founded by a retired church pastor who believes that if people believe in God, they need to be asking themselves, "Is this how God would want you to treat His creation?"

All-Creatures.org is a huge, archival vegan/animal rights site that provides articles, events, alerts, images, videos, stories, recipes, poetry, investigations for believers and nonbelievers to be inspired and educated to make huge differences for animals. Whatever your religious beliefs or your anti-religion stance, please make use of this huge, archival vegan/animal rights website.



DEFENDING FREEDOM FOR ALL BEINGS - WHY THIS MATTERS

HUMAN RIGHTS AND ANIMAL RIGHTS ARE INTRINSICALLY CONNECTED. ONLY BY RECOGNIZING AND ADVOCATING FOR BOTH HUMAN AND ANIMAL RIGHTS, CAN WE CREATE A MORE JUST AND COMPASSIONATE SOCIETY THAT VALUES THE LIVES AND DIGNITY OF ALL BEINGS, PROMOTING A MORE SUSTAINABLE AND HARMONIOUS WORLD.

INTERSECTIONALITY OF OPPRESSION: BOTH HUMANS AND ANIMALS ARE VICTIMS OF OPPRESSION AND EXPLOITATION. UNDERSTANDING THE INTERCONNECTEDNESS OF VARIOUS FORMS OF OPPRESSION, SUCH AS RACISM, SEXISM, AND SPECIESISM, ALLOWS US TO ADDRESS THE ROOT CAUSES THAT PERPETUATE VIOLENCE AND INJUSTICE. BY FIGHTING FOR BOTH HUMAN AND ANIMAL RIGHTS SIMULTANEOUSLY, WE ARE ABLE TO BUILD BRIDGES OF EMPATHY AND SOLIDARITY BETWEEN DIVERSE SOCIAL JUSTICE MOVEMENTS.

COMPASSION AND EMPATHY: ADVOCATING FOR ANIMAL RIGHTS FOSTERS A SENSE OF COMPASSION AND EMPATHY, QUALITIES THAT ARE ESSENTIAL FOR PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS AS WELL. WHEN WE EXTEND OUR CIRCLE OF EMPATHY TO ANIMALS, WE CULTIVATE A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPORTANCE OF EMPATHY IN ALL ASPECTS OF OUR LIVES, INCLUDING HOW WE TREAT FELLOW HUMANS.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: THE MISTREATMENT AND EXPLOITATION OF ANIMALS OFTEN GO HAND IN HAND WITH ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION. PRACTICES LIKE FACTORY FARMING AND DEFORESTATION FOR ANIMAL AGRICULTURE NOT ONLY CAUSE IMMENSE SUFFERING TO ANIMALS BUT ALSO CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND ECOSYSTEM DESTRUCTION, AFFECTING THE WELL-BEING OF HUMAN COMMUNITIES. BY PROMOTING ANIMAL RIGHTS WE WILL PROTECT BOTH HUMAN AND ANIMAL HABITATS.

ETHICAL PROGRESSION: PURSUING HUMAN AND ANIMAL RIGHTS TOGETHER REFLECTS AN ETHICAL PROGRESSION AS A SOCIETY. HISTORICALLY, AS WE HAVE EXPANDED OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HUMAN RIGHTS, WE HAVE RECOGNIZED THE NEED TO INCLUDE MARGINALIZED GROUPS WHO WERE ONCE DENIED RIGHTS. SIMILARLY, RECOGNIZING THE RIGHTS OF ANIMALS CHALLENGES US TO EXTEND OUR MORAL CONSIDERATION TO BEINGS WHO HAVE LONG BEEN EXPLOITED AND TREATED AS COMMODITIES.

PUBLIC HEALTH: THE WAY WE TREAT ANIMALS HAS PROFOUND IMPLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH. ZOONOTIC DISEASES, SUCH AS COVID-19, EBOLA, AND AVIAN INFLUENZA, HAVE SHOWN HOW INTERCONNECTED HUMAN AND ANIMAL HEALTH ARE. BY RESPECTING ANIMALS' RIGHTS, WE ELIMINATE THE RISK OF ZOONOTIC DISEASE OUTBREAKS, THUS PROTECTING ALL POPULATIONS.

ROLE IN HUMAN PSYCHOLOGY: THE WAYS HUMANS TREAT ANIMALS OFTEN MIRROR THEIR ATTITUDES TOWARDS VULNERABLE OR MARGINALIZED HUMAN POPULATIONS. BY PROMOTING ANIMAL RIGHTS, WE WILL FOSTER A CULTURE OF RESPECT AND CARE FOR ALL LIVING BEINGS, SETTING A POSITIVE EXAMPLE FOR HOW WE SHOULD TREAT ONE ANOTHER.

ADVOCACY FOR THE VOICELESS: BY ADVOCATING FOR ANIMAL RIGHTS, WE EXTEND OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT THOSE WHO CANNOT ADVOCATE FOR THEMSELVES, MIRRORING THE ADVOCACY NEEDED FOR MARGINALIZED HUMAN POPULATIONS.

MORAL CONSISTENCY: SUPPORTING BOTH HUMAN AND ANIMAL RIGHTS DEMONSTRATES MORAL CONSISTENCY. JUST AS WE DEMAND RESPECT AND PROTECTION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, WE MUST EXTEND THOSE SAME PRINCIPLES TO ANIMALS. CONSISTENCY IN OUR MORAL VALUES STRENGTHENS THE CREDIBILITY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE MOVEMENTS.

ADVOCATING FOR BOTH HUMAN AND ANIMAL RIGHTS IS NOT ONLY A MORAL IMPERATIVE BUT IS ESSENTIAL FOR CREATING A FAIRER, MORE COMPASSIONATE, AND SUSTAINABLE PLANET. ACKNOWLEDGING THE INTERCONNECTEDNESS OF THESE ISSUES ALLOWS US TO TACKLE THE ROOT CAUSES OF ALL OPPRESSION IN ORDER TO CREATE AN INCLUSIVE AND PEACEFUL WORLD FOR ALL BEINGS.