



Edmund Rice Centre

Awareness. Advocacy. Action

ERC JUSTICE UPDATES

May 2023 No.90

Dear Friends,

This 90th Edition of ERC Justice Updates, our regular newsletter from the Edmund Rice Centre, on matters relating to human rights, first nations, refugees and people seeking asylum and environmental justice.

May we never forget those in this broken world for whom we strive to make things better. One must never lose hope and continue to hold dear to Blessed Edmund Rice's three main tenets: **COMPASSION LIBERATION & PRESENCE**

Few will have the greatness to bend history itself, but each of us can work to change a small portion of events ... it is from numberless acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Robert F. Kennedy

Please note that if you come up against a paywall in "any of the articles below - please contact me at: mmcinerney@edmundrice.org and I will send you the full article.

Previous editions are available at <https://www.erc.org.au/newsletters>

Peace & Blessings

Marita McInerney

Communications Project Officer

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are advised that there may be articles in this publication with names and images of deceased people.



Aloi Latukefu & The Hon. Linda Burney MP

Directors Notes

I always wondered why leaders mark the first one hundred days in office as an important benchmark. What can happen in a hundred days really? Well it seems quite a lot. In the last one hundred days to list all the things the ERC team has accomplished or got into play would probably take more than a page or two so here's a condensed list of the highlights.

Celebrating important Milestones

- In the first week of Feb we saw the commissioning of our new centre in Balmain - the day celebrating the achievements of the past twenty seven years

and the contribution of emeritus Director Phil Glendenning while also issuing myself as the centre's new Director.

- Celebrating significant events on the calendar including the day of action along with ERCS and other like-minded organisations as the Yes referendum campaign was launched in Adelaide; and International women's day in March.
- Seeing the announcement of the new senior leadership team of Edmund Rice Community Services (ERCS) – which has seen the ERC Director now taking on the dual role of Director and thought leader of justice and advocacy across ERCS

Advocacy

- Ongoing advocacy engagement in Canberra most with recently Minister for Indigenous. Affairs the Hon Linda Burney MP (pictured) discussing the work of the centre across all our Portfolios and our support for the 'Uluru Statement from the Heart'.
- Meetings with a range of First Nations thought leaders, community leaders and emerging leaders including Professor Marcia Langton, Professor Tom Calma, Joe Morrison (CEO, Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation); Fiona Jose (CEO, Cape York Partnerships); Theresa Roe (Network Coordinator, Aboriginal Peak Organisations for the Northern Territory); Paul House (Ngunawal elder); Nicole Brown (Social Entrepreneur) and Mililma May (Uprising of the People).
- Putting a submission into the recent pal

Policy Engagement, Research and publishing

- Participating on Invitation with ANU First Nation portfolio's First Nations series of Economic Development Symposia Marramarra murr (creating pathways)
- Signing onto the Allies for Uluru along with many other community and private sector organisations;
- Having an Op-Ed in the Canberra Times on climate change and the Pacific during the debate on safeguard mechanisms entitled '**Safeguard mechanism is not reassuring for many Pacific Island communities**'
- Highlighting the important outcomes of the decisions of the TPV and SHEV decision with those who have lived with the ambiguity of their immigration status for over a decade – a tribute to the long and painstaking advocacy undertaken by Phil Glendenning and others.

Outreach and engagement

- Meetings with a range of thought leaders, emerging community leaders, artists and activists from the Pacific at the 'To Hell with Drowning' as well as members of the influential Pacific Elders Voice including former President of Kiribati, HE the Hon Aote Tong as well as former PIF Secretary General's Meg Taylor and Tuiloma Neroni Slade. Following the Conference – the Edmund

Rice Centre was asked to host the prestigious annual Epeli Hau'ofa lecture in 2024

- Undertaking a ground-breaking engagement and Climate leadership and justice training program in the Torres Strait with communities in Saibai and Boigu with participation by former President Tong.

All of which we accomplished in the first 100 days despite a major flooding incident with the Centre, the sad losses of members of our wider Edmund Rice Centre family and the imminent departure of my much beloved predecessor. All in all I couldn't be prouder of the team and their efforts at this time.



Aboriginal athlete Nova Peris, former Australian Labor party senator and Olympian, is among campaigners to ask the King for a formal apology for colonisation. Photograph: Mike Bowers/The Guardian

Commonwealth Indigenous leaders demand apology from the king for effects of colonisation

Josh Butler, The Guardian, 4th May 2023

Aboriginal Olympian Nova Peris says 'change begins with listening' as campaigners from 12 countries ask for 'process of reparatory justice to commence'

Australians have joined Indigenous leaders and politicians across the Commonwealth to demand King Charles III make a formal apology for the effects of British colonisation, make reparations by redistributing the wealth of the British crown, and return artefacts and human remains.

Days out from Charles's coronation in London, campaigners for republic and reparations movements in 12 countries have written a letter asking the new monarch to start a process towards "a formal apology and for a process of

reparatory justice to commence”.

“We know this may be a tough conversation for the royal family, but change begins with listening,” said Nova Peris, an Aboriginal athlete, former Australian Labor party senator and Olympian. Fellow Indigenous Australian Lidia Thorpe, who is an independent senator, also signed the letter.

The letter, titled “apology, reparation, and repatriation of artefacts and remains”, has been signed by representatives of Antigua and Barbuda, Aotearoa (New Zealand), Australia, the Bahamas, Belize, Canada, Grenada, Jamaica, Papua New Guinea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

“We, the undersigned, call on the British Monarch, King Charles III, on the date of his coronation being May 6, 2023, to acknowledge the horrific impacts on and legacy of genocide and colonisation of the Indigenous and enslaved peoples,” the letter reads.

Read full story:

https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/may/04/commonwealth-indigenous-leaders-demand-apology-from-the-king-for-effects-of-colonisation?utm_term=645311a5989eb38b6d4475b2cf1fdd48&utm_campaign=GuardianToDayAUS&utm_source=esp&utm_medium=Email&CMP=GTAU_email



It's time to understand the difference between Native Title and Land Rights.

Nat Cromb, indigenousx.com.au, 3rd May 2023

At every turn, we see First Nations' resistance to destructive industries on Country. The pursuit of land rights is an ongoing battle but as Natalie Cromb explains, there is a difference between Native Title and Land Rights, and these fights happening today originated from the staunch examples we have seen from mob around this country.

Native Title is not land rights.

Native Title is the European property law being applied to ancient concepts of belonging to Country with a clear and skewed application to protect colonising forces. It is not the returning of Country to First Nations people who were dispossessed and lay witness to the devastation of colonisation on this now wounded country. We have seen ecosystems collapse and be irreversibly altered to prioritise industries that contribute to the climate crisis we now face at devastating levels.

Land rights are what our ancestors have fought for, what our Elders and all generations since have marched in protest for. Our #alwayswasalwayswillbe comes from us asserting the truth of this country and the stories of the land. The pursuit of land rights is not materialism, it is responsibility in practice—our stories, our connection and cultural responsibility requires us to protect Country. We want the right to do this.

We see our people rally, mobilise and staunchly rail against continued destruction of Country—the fight against Santos, the fight against Rio Tinto, the other fight against Santos, the fight against all of the governments that enable the destruction and countless other fights we are having. Spread so thin, and yet, our people continue to fight, as it's intrinsic to culture and our very existence. These fights we see happening today originated from the staunch examples we have seen from mob around this country, starting formally with the Yirrkala bark petitions.

Yirrkala Bark Petitions

In 1952 large deposits of bauxite were found by the Australian Aluminium Production Commission in Melville Bay, north of Yirrkala. Following this, the Aboriginal Reserves in the Northern Territory were determined to have commercial value and as a result, the government altered legislation to allow entry onto these reserves for miners and prospectors and later granted leases to this land to mining companies. This was all done without consultation or communication with the Yolgnu people.

The Yolgnu people from Yirrkala in north-east Arnhem Land presented the Australian Parliament with a bark petition. Written in both Yolngu Matha and English, the Yirrkala Bark Petitions protested against the removal of land for these mines. This land being the place that Aboriginal people of Yirrkala lived, hunted and maintained connections to sites of significance for thousands of years—living in balance with Country and duty bound to protect it.

This was the first formal engagement with the colonial power structures to assert land rights.

Read full story:

<https://indigenoux.com.au/its-time-to-understand-the-difference-between-native-title-and-land-rights/>



Aunty Geraldine Atkinson, outgoing co-chair of the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria (Image: AAP/James Ross)

‘Children don’t belong in prison’: We shouldn’t wait four years to raise the age of criminal responsibility to 14

Aunty Geraldine Atkinson, Crikey, April 28th 2023

The Victorian government's plan to raise the age of criminal responsibility to 14 by 2027 is a step forward. But it's too slow.

I don't believe it's a controversial view to think that children shouldn't be thrown in prison cells.

As a Bangerang and Wiradjuri Elder, I know it's certainly not controversial in my community. In fact, it's something we've been calling to change for many years now.

This week I heard the news about the Andrews government's commitment to raising the age of criminal responsibility in Victoria — initially to 12 in 2024, and to 14 by 2027.

I had mixed views. I'm glad to see some progress, and this is a small step forward, but I am disappointed and confused about why we have to wait four years.

To have the age raised to at least 14 is something that I — along with many medical experts, legal experts and dedicated First Nations advocates and legal centres across the nation — have been campaigning for over the years.

Youth incarceration is a vicious cycle. If you lock up kids when they're 12, they may never recover. I know this because it's happened to my family.

When I was young I had a nephew, but we knew each other as brother and sister. When he was about 10, he used to steal from his teacher on occasion. Eventually he got caught.

He was taken from us. First, he was sent to Baltara Boys Home, then Parkville, then they put him in Malmsbury. After that, he went to Sydney, Long Bay Correctional, and then Goulburn jail. After some sorry business, he had to come

home to Victoria but ended up in Pentridge, and when he finally got out, he moved back to the high rises in Fitzroy. But he was sick — he died young at the age of 36.

The trajectory of his life never recovered after the day he was put in Baltara. His life was irreparably destroyed for stealing 20 bob. Today things like this still happen.

Read full story:

https://www.crikey.com.au/2023/04/28/age-criminal-responsibility-victoria-aunty-geraldine-atkinson/?utm_campaign=daily&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter





Afghanistan: Women locked out of schools, logging in online

UN holds crucial Afghanistan talks in Qatar, without Taliban

Osama Bin Javaid, Al Jazeera, 1st May 2023

Doha, Qatar – The Taliban has not been invited to a United Nations-organised conference on Afghanistan in Doha, with the Afghan group governing the South Asian country saying that the two-day meeting would be “ineffective” without its participation.

Envoys from the United States, China and Russia, as well as major European aid donors and key neighbours such as Pakistan, are among the representatives from about 25 countries and groups called to the two days of closed-door talks by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres in the Qatari capital on Monday.

“Any meeting about Afghanistan without the participation of the Afghan government is ineffective and counterproductive,” Abdul Qahar Balkhi, the Taliban foreign ministry spokesperson, told Al Jazeera.

Last week, the UN chief said the de facto Afghan rulers would not be invited to the meeting to discuss the dire humanitarian situation in the country and its international isolation. A UN source told Al Jazeera on Monday that Taliban

recognition was not on the agenda.

His statement came after members of the Afghan diaspora and some Western countries expressed concerns against the possible recognition of the government of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (IEA), as the Taliban refers to the country, in the wake of a statement by UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed.

In an open letter on Sunday, a coalition of Afghan women's groups said they were "outraged" that any country would consider formal ties because of the record of the government that says its handling of women's rights is "an internal social issue".

"The Taliban's brutal treatment of women and girls is unacceptable. We must not forget the progress we have made over the years, and we must continue to fight for women's rights in Afghanistan," Fawzia Koofi, a prominent Afghan politician, recently tweeted.

The Taliban has been criticised for its growing curbs on women, including a ban on education and employment.

Read full story:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/5/1/un-holds-crucial-afghanistan-talks-in-qatar-without-taliban>



Haji Jarullah Khalaf, his wife Fairuz and their family were among the first Ezidis resettled in Armidale in 2018. Photograph:

Simon Scott

I'm Armidaleian': Ezidi refugees put down new roots in New England

Michael Burge, The Guardian (Rural Network), 7th May 2023

About 650 Ezidis have made their home in the New South Wales town of Armidale over the past five years in what locals say is a 'hugely successful' resettlement scheme

When Shiroqe Majid Talo Ali was a child, her friends called her Doctor Shiroque. *"It was my dream to be a doctor in Iraq," she says.* Instead, along with thousands of Ezidis, she was forced to flee her home to escape the Islamic State genocide in northern Iraq. A decade on, Ali, now 21, is studying nursing in Armidale, New South Wales. She and her family are among 650 Ezidis to have resettled in the New England city between 2018 and 2022.

"When I came here, I started – step by step – to work on my dream," she says.

Ezidis are one of the oldest ethnic and religious minorities of Iraq and Syria. Hundreds were massacred or enslaved during attacks in the Sinjar region in 2014 and an estimated 40,000 fled to nearby Mount Sinjar, where they were encircled by the jihadists and left without food and water. More than 100,000 people were forced from the region, igniting global calls for asylum. Ali plays volleyball, and her team recently won a local tournament. She hopes to be working in the hospital system within five years, training in surgical nursing before transferring to become a specialist.

"Australia is much different to Iraq," she says. "We can achieve ... what's in our mind, but it will take time."

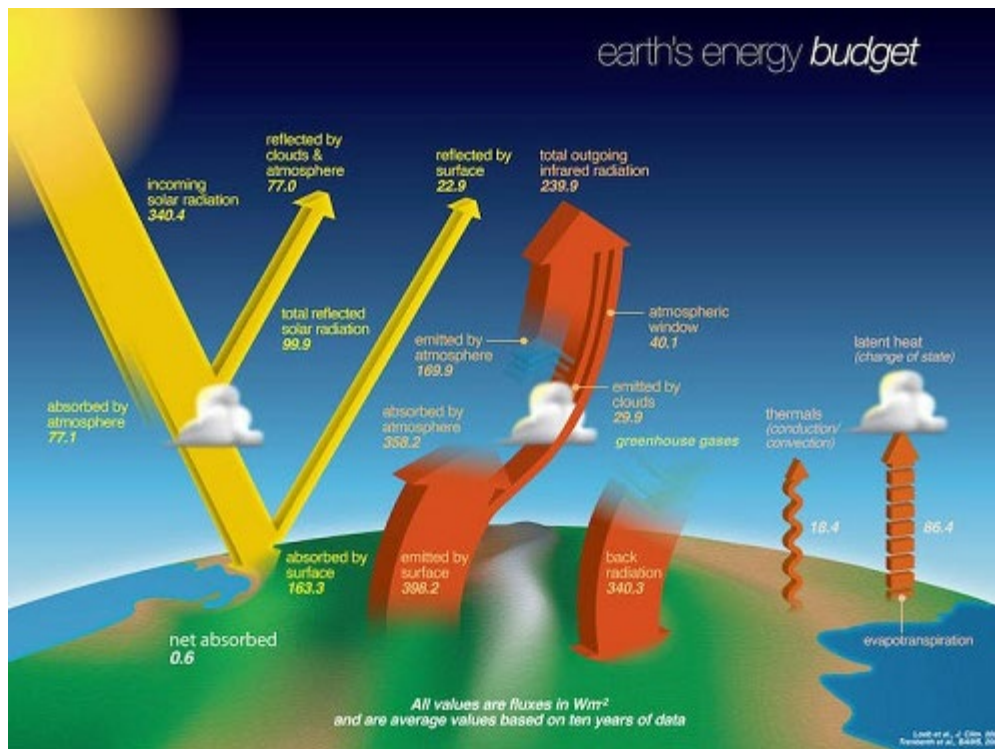
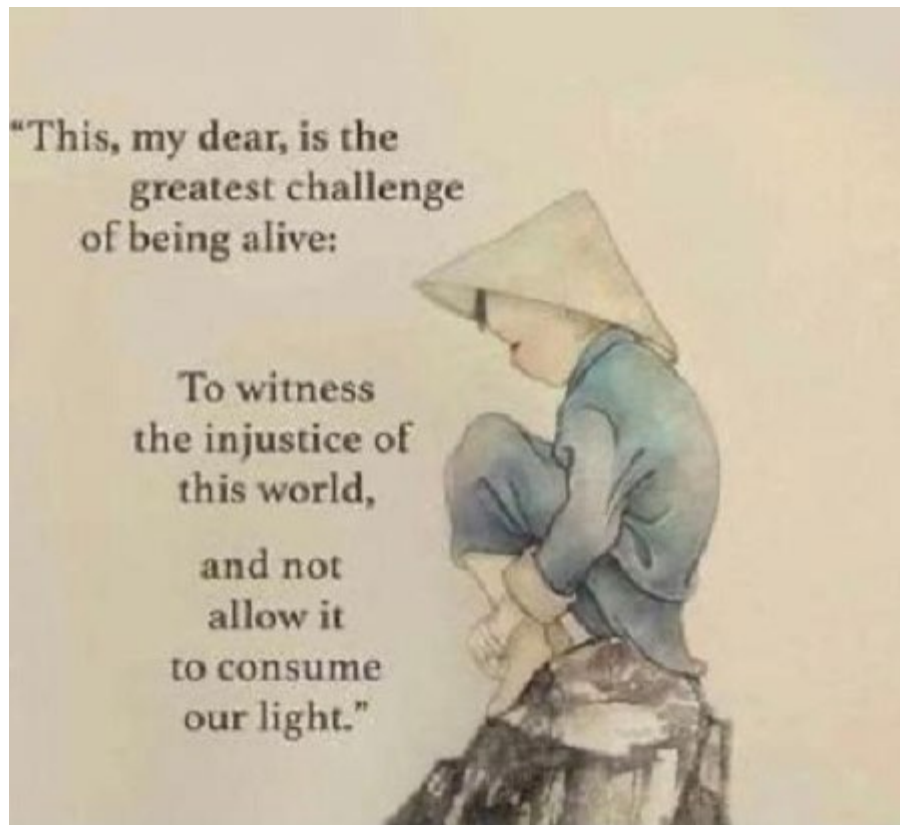
Salwan Muhi, 25, says it took three years of English language training until he didn't require an interpreter. Now, he's employed by the Armidale branch of the NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors, assisting older Ezidis.

"I help them with translating, showing them the government apps," he says. According to Muhi, many Ezidis live with the trauma of the genocide. "They don't talk to people much. They don't enjoy life," he says. "We help them to participate."

Muhi says his work has made a positive difference. *"We just discharged some of them from the program because we saw they could drive, they could work, some had their own business. They could be completely on their own doing their own stuff."*

Read full story:

https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2023/may/07/im-armidaleian-ezidi-refugees-put-down-new-roots-in-new-england?utm_term=6457062432c6a042b90199439c3ea42b&utm_campaign=GuardianTodayAUS&utm_source=esp&utm_medium=Email&CMP=GTAU_email



Incoming radiation from the sun is reflected or absorbed by Earth. There is a net imbalance where more energy is absorbed than emitted by the planet and this causes warming. NASA, CC BY

Two trillion tonnes of greenhouse gases, 25 billion nukes of heat: are we pushing Earth out of the Goldilocks zone?

Andrew King, Steven Sherwood, *The Conversation*, 3rd May 2023.

Since the 18th century, humans have been taking fossil fuels out of their safe storage deep underground and burning them to generate electricity or power machinery. We've now converted coal, oil and gas into more than two trillion tonnes of heat-trapping carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases and added them to the atmosphere.

The current result? The average temperature at the planet's surface is about 1.2°C hotter than in the pre-industrial era. That's because adding new carbon to the world's natural carbon cycle has caused an imbalance in the amount of energy entering and leaving the Earth system.

To warm the entire planet takes an extraordinary amount of extra energy. Recent research shows we've added the energy of 25 billion nuclear bombs to the Earth system in just the last 50 years.

.....
But almost all of this energy to date has been taken up by the oceans. It's no wonder we're seeing rapid warming in our oceans.

The Goldilocks zone

Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun. It gets hot, at an average temperature of 167°C. But it has no atmosphere. That's why the second planet, Venus, is the hottest in the solar system, at an average of 464°C. That's due to an atmosphere much thicker than Earth's, dense in carbon dioxide. Venus might once have had liquid oceans. But then a runaway greenhouse effect took place, trapping truly enormous quantities of heat.

One reason we're alive is that our planet orbits in the Goldilocks zone, just the right distance from the Sun to be not too hot and not too cold. Little of the Earth's internal heat gets through to the cold crust where we live. That makes us dependent on another source of heat – the Sun.

When the Sun's light and heat hits Earth, some is absorbed at the surface and some is reflected back out into space. We see some of the energy emitted by the Sun because the Sun is hot and hotter objects emit radiation in the visible part of the electromagnetic spectrum. (See above picture)

Because Earth is much cooler than the Sun, the radiation it emits is invisible, at long infrared wavelengths. Much of this energy goes out into space – but not all. Some gases in our atmosphere are very effective at absorbing energy at the wavelengths Earth emits at. These greenhouse gases occur naturally in Earth's atmosphere, and keep the planet warm enough to be habitable. That's another Goldilocks zone.

And then there's a third Goldilocks zone: recent history. All of human civilisation has emerged in the unusually mild 10,000 years after the last ice age, when the climate has been not too hot and not too cold across much of the world.

But now, we are at very real risk of pushing ourselves outside of the comfortable climatic conditions which allowed humans to expand, farm, build cities and create.

The energy dense fuels which made industrial civilisation possible come with an enormous sting in the tail. Burn now, pay later. Now the bill has become apparent.

Read full story:

https://theconversation.com/two-trillion-tonnes-of-greenhouse-gases-25-billion-nukes-of-heat-are-we-pushing-earth-out-of-the-goldilocks-zone-202619?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20May%203%202023%20-%202615826318&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20May%203%202023%20-%202615826318+CID_08b6c4088f279d0e7150391b5a0cb068&utm_source=campaign_monitor&utm_term=Two%20trillion%20tonnes%20of%20greenhouse%20gases%2025%20billion%20nukes%20of%20heat%20are%20we%20pushing%20Earth%20out%20of%20the%20Goldilocks%20zone



About 40 Australians – 10 women and 30 children – remain held within the Roj camp in north-east Syria. Photograph: Maya

Alleruzzo/AP

‘Indefinite torture’: the desperate wait for Australian mothers in Syria to get their children out

Ben Doherty, The Guardian, 30th April 2023

Families in trapped in the Roj camp say the environment is ‘toxic’ for their children’s mental and physical wellbeing

Australian mothers trapped with their young families inside one of Syria’s brutal detention camps say they are desperate to get their children out, fearful

they will be taken from them, or they will die.

“The kids are shaken each time they see a soldier holding a gun,” one mother in the camp said. “And each night, when the boys hear a car, they can’t sleep, afraid they will be taken away from their mother.”

About 40 Australians – 10 women and 30 children – remain held within the Roj camp in north-east Syria, near the Iraqi border.

They are the wives, widows and children of slain or jailed Islamic State fighters: most have been held in the squalid detention camp more than three years. Conditions are “dire”, the Red Cross says, and the security situation “extremely volatile”.

Communications inside the camp are heavily restricted. But the Guardian has spoken with mothers inside the camp, as well as with families in Australia, and independent sources with access inside, and knowledge of the camp’s operations.

“Since the earthquake struck in early February it affected the stability of the camp which already was very unstable,” one source said.

“Whenever any event happens in either Iraq, Syria or Turkey it affects us drastically, if one road is blocked we have no more access to clean drinking water, if another is blocked we have no fruit. Disease is widespread, water is scarce.”

The US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces that run Roj camp have regularly been removing boys from the camp once they reach 12 years of age, taking them to adult prisons, arguing they pose a security risk. But UN experts have warned boys removed from the camp “may be forcibly disappeared, and subject to sale, exploitation and ... torture”.

One Australian teenager, Yusuf Zahab, died last year after being separated from his family. He was 11 when he was trafficked into Syria.

Read full story:

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2023/apr/30/indefinite-torture-the-desperate-wait-for-australian-mothers-in-syria-to-get-their-children-out>



Palestinian volunteers clean the grounds outside the Dome of the Rock Mosque at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound ahead of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, in Jerusalem's Old City, March 18 2023. (AP Photo/Mahmoud Illean)

Celebrating our shared humanity by building peace

Bridget Moix, Religion News Service, May 3rd 2023

War is never inevitable.

This spring, people of faith across religious traditions celebrated their holy holidays. Easter, Passover, Ramadan, Theravada New Year, Mahavir Jayanti, Vaisakhi, Ridvan and the spring equinox have all unfolded and overlapped in recent weeks. This brought Christians, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, Jains, Sikhs, Baha'is and pagans into a common time of spiritual celebration and reflection. The convergence of so many religious holidays will not occur again until 2054.

At the same time, the world is also marking overlapping anniversaries related to war and peace. It has been 20 years since the invasion of Iraq, leading to a disastrous war that killed more than 100,000 Iraqis and nearly 4,500 Americans.

This year also marks the 50th anniversary of the signing of a peace agreement in the Vietnam War — or what many Vietnamese call the American War. And 2023 will also mark 70 years since the armistice that silenced the guns in the Korean War, although a peace treaty has still never been signed. It has been 25 years since the Good Friday Agreement was signed in Northern Ireland. And April is also Genocide Awareness Month, commemorating the Holocaust and other atrocities in Rwanda, Cambodia and Armenia.

This season of spiritual convergence, alongside reminders of the horrors and tragedies of war, offers an important opportunity to reflect — and act — on our shared humanity and desire for a more peaceful world. Despite our many differences, we are bound together by our shared values of peace, compassion

and respect for human dignity. As a Quaker, this is what my faith calls me to remember and live into this holy season.

However, it is important to remember that often our religious traditions are manipulated to mobilize violence. Many faith traditions from across the spectrum are facing an increasing threat of extremism that is destroying lives and fueling hate worldwide.

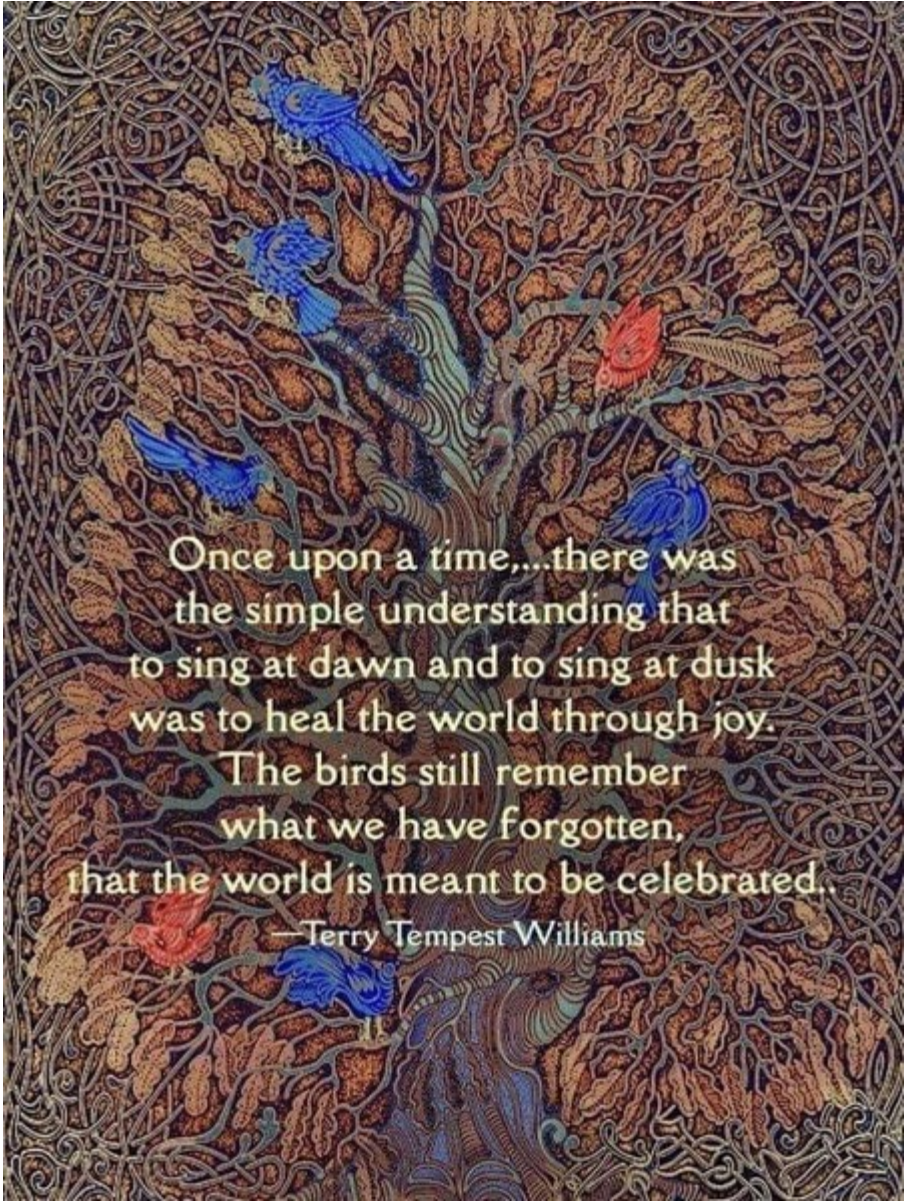
White Christian nationalism is intimately linked with armed extremism and white supremacy at home and abroad. The Islamic State in Iraq and Syria has used Islam to perpetuate violent ideology and armed movements, as has the Taliban in Afghanistan. Even the overlapping religious holidays caused already high tensions to boil over into more violence. Clashes erupted in Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque when Israeli forces stormed Palestinian worshippers during the Ramadan and Passover holidays. That the power of religion can be used for good or evil and has been manipulated in the name of war for centuries is another lesson we should not forget and must ensure we learn from.

While our shared values of peace, justice and compassion can sometimes feel overwhelmed by the divisions and devastating violence in our world, they in fact remain a constant source for renewing our humanity and reconnecting with what binds us together as one global family. They are what remind us that another world is possible. And they call us to work together to build that world.

Read full story:

<https://religionnews.com/2023/05/03/celebrating-our-shared-humanity-by-building-peace/?fbclid=IwAR0HmO8BA-19iq10x1ipPRqLIPckDWFdekN2GqaHhzlcUZsjLF6ZaJyAd1Q>

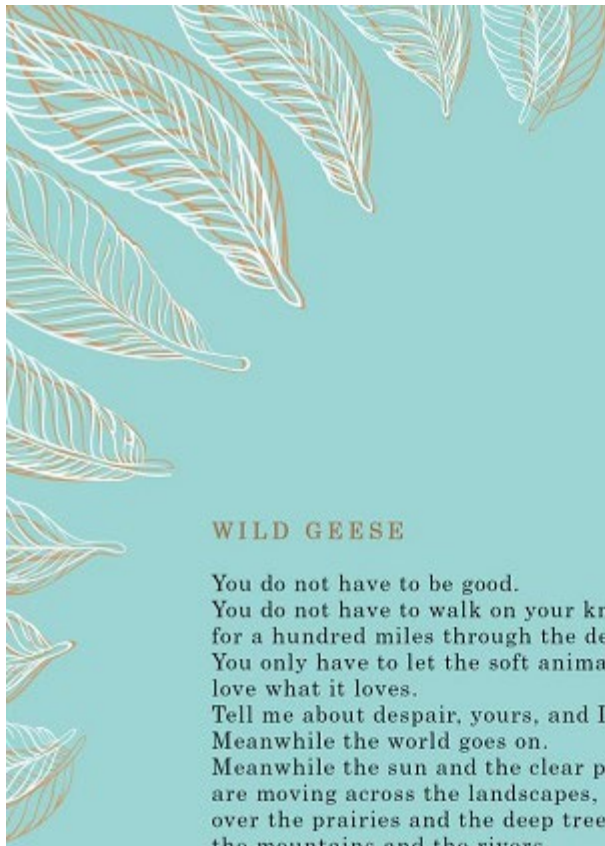
REFLECTIONS



Once upon a time,...there was
the simple understanding that
to sing at dawn and to sing at dusk
was to heal the world through joy.

The birds still remember
what we have forgotten,
that the world is meant to be celebrated..

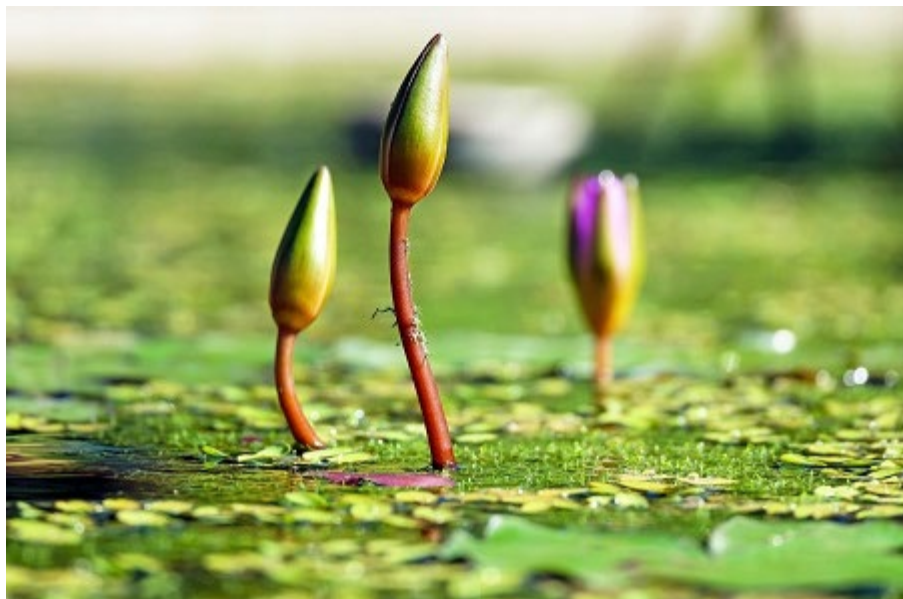
—Terry Tempest Williams



WILD GEESE

You do not have to be good.
You do not have to walk on your knees
for a hundred miles through the desert repenting.
You only have to let the soft animal of your body
love what it loves.
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.
Meanwhile the world goes on.
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain
are moving across the landscapes,
over the prairies and the deep trees,
the mountains and the rivers.
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,
are heading home again.
Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,
the world offers itself to your imagination,
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting
over and over announcing your place
in the family of things.

Mary Oliver



Pace - e - Bene Nonviolence Inspirations

"I did, then, what I knew how to do. Now that I know better, I do better."

Maya Angelou

"Shifting the emphasis to diversified production for local consumption would not only improve the economies of rural communities, but also lessen the gap between rich and poor while eliminating much of the hunger that is now so endemic in the so-called 'developing' parts of the world." Helena Norberg-Hodge

"It seems there is a cruciform shape to reality with cross purposes, paradoxes and conflicting intentions everywhere. Jesus hangs right there amid them, not even perfectly balancing them but just holding them."

Richard Rohr, Just This

"We live in a world where most people still subscribe to the belief that shame is a good tool for keeping people in line. Not only is this wrong, but it's dangerous. Shame is highly correlated with addiction, violence, aggression, depression, eating disorders, and bullying." Brené Brown

"I'll never support any kind of violence. All changes must come from democracy, equal rights, nonviolence, and peace. Saying no to fascism isn't a political view, it's common sense." Greta Thunberg



We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples of Australia as the traditional owners and custodians of the land. We commit ourselves to actively work alongside them for reconciliation and justice. We pay our respects to the Elders; past, present and future. As we take our next step we remember the first footsteps taken on this sacred land.

The Edmund Rice Centre wholeheartedly supports and endorses the
ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART
and urges all Australians to get behind this wonderful statement.

Our mailing address is:

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