

## **PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

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We can see a lot of killings. So many crimes are occurring nowadays in our country and it is evident that there is no peace at all. Where is peace?

Graft and corruption is also evident in the government because a lot of people had suffered. No work for the Filipinos, no justice for the oppressed, no food for the street children. Poverty, poverty, poverty. And why are these things happen? Is it because the government is deaf and mute of real scene that happen every day? Or the people in the higher offices are just too busy for their own survival and leaving only a centavo to those people who brought them for where they are now. Other people are just leaving their luck on "lotto" or "suertres" hoping their one peso will make a change for their viand in dinner. This is the real scenario today ... Yes I am one sided and I am not fair in viewing these scenario that I have seen almost every day. But this is my opinion and this how I view things from what I've seen and observe around me. People kill people because of power and struggle. They fought hard for what they believe is right. Some people kill each other because their right as a human being has been violated. And where is peace? Does fighting or defending our right as a human being supersedes the essence of peace?

In an instance, this country needs a whole lot of changes, changes that should take place within us first, we have to involve our heart, our soul and our psyche, and if we can't live like this any longer then we have to be cruel to ourselves sometimes for us to have peace.

You can see children in the street begging for alms, some people are just sitting in one corner blowing their cigarette while waiting for something, traffic enforcers are in the street, looking for what? Violation of traffic rules? Maybe ... but some of these men are too tight for the roadrunners that even if there is no violation they still ask for penalty or maybe if there is a violation they will ask for a penalty but with no receipt or let me call it "under table agreement". The Police officers, they are supposed to be the peace and order officers. The one who will defend the right of every individual but sometimes we can see that they are the one who violated these rights. The local government officials ... they were supposed to help the less fortunate people but as we can see the help is only for their family and friends. Other people are just leaving their luck on "lotto" or "suertres" hoping their one peso will make a change for their viand in dinner. This is the real scenario today ... Yes I am one sided and I am not fair in viewing these scenario that I have seen almost every day. But this is my opinion and this how I view things from what I've seen and observe around me. People kill people because of power struggle, they fought hard for what they believe is right, some people kill each other because their right as a human being has been violated. And where is peace? Does fighting or defending our right as a human being supersedes the essence of peace?

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When can we hear good news from the radio or television? When will the killing end? There are still another generation next to us, is this the kind of country we want them to have?

The kind of life we want them to live? I guess not, all of us are longing for peace, and I guess all of us want to have a better life that we can leave a good legacy to the next generation, a good life for them. So let us start now, let us make a change ... Let's start within ourselves and the rest will follow.

Start it now, start it today ... no "buts" and "what ifs". Let us go straight forward for a better tomorrow. And with a smile on our lips, happiness in our hearts, openness in our thoughts, let us be open to changes, let us be open to possibilities that will lead us to a more productive and more peaceful life. Be open to change and let's welcome PEACE.