

‘QUEST FOR PEACE FROM WITHIN AND FROM WITHOUT’

By: **LUVIMIN S. GORDUIZ**

School of Allied Medicine
Universidad de Zamboanga
Zamboanga City, Philippines

Peace is the term that is one of the most desired condition by the human beings on planet Earth and very elusive in spite of relentless efforts by individuals and organizations. Similarly, the word “love “is a very popular topic of conversation but seldom experienced in its true sense. We can ask ourselves: “What is peace? “ Our concept and understanding is the root cause why the focus is far from reality and fulfillment.

We cannot legislate or make a law to make and observe peace because peace is not something tangible which can be massed-produced, and prescribed for general usage. The peace that mankind is pursuing is not the one that is conceived properly in human perception and as such it is like going after the wind. . .

Peace cannot be obtained in a place where people are not the possessors of inner or peace from within. The peace from within is in the heart and mind of a person who is aware of the need to live for others, the altruistic attitude coupled with spirit of the “Golden Rule”which are the formidable forces and irresistible toward spreading goodwill among men. My point is that to achieve global peace, the approach should be cellular, that is, from every individual who possess peace in its true sense. We cannot give what we do not have, and the key to spreading peace among men is to have as many people with peace in their hearts and minds and inspire them to be peace evangelists. . .

Let us visualize the situation, particularly here in Mindanao, if only there are, 1,000 “Hadjis” in its truest sense, and another 1,000 Christian missionaries to spread in Mindanao, the ripples of peace will overwhelm the sea of human beings here in Mindanao and beyond. The simple fact remains and undeniable, that a person who has peace is the one who has a lifestyle of peace. These individuals are very contagious in their good deeds, speech and attitude. Christian friend shared to me: “Do not let evil defeat you, instead conquer evil with good.” Yes, the quest for world peace begins in the hearts and minds of people who already possess it and spread it in their lifestyle. Peace is not just what we define but what we live for.