



Triangles

BULLETIN

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THE POWER OF GOODWILL

In so far as it is considered at all by intelligent thinkers and commentators on human affairs, goodwill is rarely thought of as a quality of will. One of the tasks of the Triangles network is to change this. Typically, this might be understood as an educational challenge: teaching in schools and universities and more informal settings, accompanied by research and study to generate publications, ideas and theories which might spark national and global conversations.

The Triangles network uses a different method: through thought, visualization and the concentrated use of the Great Invocation, participants create geometric patterns of relationship in the etheric realm through which divine energies of light and love radiate into the mental atmosphere, nurturing and stimulating all the potencies of goodwill that naturally exist.

In every human community, no matter how large or small, people apply varying degrees of will to their lives: the will to survive, the will to persist in the face of hardship, the will to improve one's own life or the life of the family. Will drives activity.

Just as the will is often applied for selfish and even positively harmful purposes, it is also often used to advance goodness, beauty and truth. Usually it is driven by a complex mixture of motives. The quality of goodwill finds expression in any community at varying levels of refinement from a rare, concentrated will-to-good, and even a will-to-love, through to the more widespread simple, natural will for a comfortable harmony to prevail and the best possible outcome in any situation.

When the quality of goodwill in all of its shades, subtleties, and degrees of refinement is noticed, valued and positively empowered in a community, it can be fused into a united and working potency. When it is ignored, or treated as if it is simply a sentiment, goodwill can appear to be a passive force. But when it is valued and creatively nurtured it emerges as the greatest treasure of a community (or a family or a nation), and an enormously positive energy.

There are plenty of examples of waves of goodwill spreading through a community, initiating countless acts of kindness and goodness. This is the power of goodwill in action. Often this happens in response to collective grief or crisis (sometimes these waves of goodwill are so powerful that they reach out to embrace the global community) but it can also be triggered by design: one example on a global level is the annual celebration of the UN International Day of Peace on September 21, when millions of people give expression to their vision of the One Life through countless acts of goodwill.

REFLECTIONS ON GOODWILL

The task of Triangles is to help to bring energies of lighted goodwill into the ocean of the etheric plane, thereby changing the substance of that plane and conditioning the vital bodies of humanity, and creating as a consequence the “new heavens and the new earth”.

Alice Bailey (adapted)

I call you from your dreams of vague beauty, impossible Utopias and wishful thinking to face life as it is today; and then to begin, in the place where you are, to make it better. I call you to the experiment of right human relations, beginning with your own personal relations to your family and friends, and then to the task of educating those you contact so that they also start a similar work. It is the work of attaining right individual relations, right group relations, right intergroup relations, right national relations and right international relations. I call you to the realisation that in this work no one is futile or useless, but that all have a place of practical value. I call you to recognise that goodwill is a dynamic energy which can bring about world changes of a fundamental kind, and that its mode of expression is through the activity of the individual man and woman and through their massed intent. The massed power of goodwill, the dynamic effect of intelligent and active understanding, and the potency of a trained and alive public opinion which desires the greatest good of the greatest number, are beyond belief. This dynamic power has never been employed. It can, today, save the world.

ibid.

There is only one true way and there are indications that it is a way towards which many millions of people are turning. *Unity and right human relations—individual, communal, national and international—can be brought about by the united action of the men and women of goodwill in every country.*

These men and women of goodwill must be found and organized and thus discover their numerical potency—for it is there. They must form a world group, standing for right human relations and educating the public in the nature and power of goodwill. They will thus create a world public opinion which will be so forceful and so outspoken on the side of human welfare that leaders, statesmen, politicians, businessmen and churchmen will be forced to listen and comply. Steadily and regularly, the general public must be taught an internationalism and a world unity which is based on simple goodwill and on cooperative interdependence.

This is no mystical or impractical program; it does not work through the processes of exposing, undermining or attack; it emphasizes the new politics, i.e., politics which are based upon the principle of bringing about right human relations. Between the exploited and the exploiting, the warmongers and the pacifists, the masses and the rulers, this group of men and women of goodwill will stand in their organized millions, taking no side, demonstrating no partisan spirit, fomenting no political or religious disturbance and feeding no hatreds. They will not be a negative body but a positive group, interpreting the meaning of right human relations, standing for the oneness of humanity and for practical, but not theoretical, brotherhood. The propagation of these ideas by all available means and the spread of the principle of goodwill will produce a powerful organized international group. Public opinion will be forced to recognize the potency of the movement; eventually the numerical strength of the men and women of goodwill in the world will be so great that they will influence world events.

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Their united voice will be heard on behalf of right human relations.

ibid. (adapted)

When you extend your goodwill in every direction, regardless of circumstances, you begin to see that we are all one.

Lao-Tzu

Many people, concerned at the trend of international affairs, are deeply interested in finding ways and means of contributing to the solution of world problems in new and practical ways. To this end, the most contagious human quality which can be organised and made effective is *goodwill*. It seems that we have tried organising practically everything except the goodwill present in human hearts.

Goodwill is something which we all recognise as a factor in human beings but which many find indefinite and hard to define. One of the best definitions is, "Goodwill is the will to that which is good and ought to be". Goodwill is a heart expression of the fundamental goodness in all peoples which is an evidence of our inner spiritual selves. God is good, His purposes are good, His Plan for humanity is a good Plan. The will to that which is good and which ought to be is a natural quality of the human soul, for we all have a spark of divine life in us. Goodwill is, therefore, very much more than a feeling or an intention, or a kind attitude; it is an energy in its own right because it is a basic element in the expression of God's life in the human family. It is, therefore, a natural quality in all human consciousness.

What will the record of history show as the keynote of the new civilisation if we cannot implement a system of co-operation and sharing voluntarily accepted as the only proper standard of modern civilisation? There is no other group

so likely to achieve this most difficult goal as the intelligent men and women of goodwill. They have the needed quality and the capacity to understand. They are in fact in a key position and when they realise it they will assume their rightful responsibility to express goodwill and to initiate action.

The promotion of goodwill is a task worthy of the best of us and, in discovering what is good in national and international affairs and as applied to the social structure, we have a task requiring the greatest hearts and the most brilliant minds. Goodwill does not have to be created. The need is to recognise its reality and potency, to identify and aid its expression and to apply it to world problems.

One thing is sure. The world cannot remain as it is now. Many are thinking about and working for changes that will bring a better world. In the process they are becoming planetary citizens. One of the most amazing of all emerging world changes is that millions of people have begun to think of the human family as one whole. This first essential for the new better world has already emerged.

Foster Bailey, Things to Come (adapted)

I still believe that one day mankind will bow before the altars of God and be crowned triumphant over war and bloodshed, and nonviolent redemptive goodwill will proclaim the rule of the land.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

The transcendent importance of love and goodwill in all human relations is shown by their mighty beneficent effect upon the individual and society.

George David Birkhoff

GOODWILL MEDITATION GROUP

For many years, each week, individuals across the world have been linking up in thought and joining in a meditation on goodwill. The purpose of this meditation work is to strengthen and increase the energy of goodwill in a troubled world.

The members of the group do not need to meet physically because the work is done on mental levels; they simply link up mentally for 10 to 15 minutes each week on a Wednesday, wherever they happen to be. The function of this subjective group work is to act as a channel through which the energy of goodwill can flow from spiritual levels of awareness into human minds and hearts. The meditation has a constructive and healing effect which not only helps to establish right human relations but also lifts and transforms human consciousness.

Goodwill is an expression of the energy of Love which is said to be the universal characteristic and quality of divine life in our solar system and on our planet; it is both an attitude and a harmonising energy. It is not a sentimental or negative desire it is rather a practical and dynamic force for constructive action and an expression of the “will-to-good”. Problems that seem incapable of resolution can, over time, be resolved through the power of goodwill – it is that “magic” ingredient – a catalyst that has the potential to build bridges between opposing interests, one

example being the high profile work of the United Nations Goodwill Ambassadors.

Energy follows thought is the basis of the Triangles work and the energy of goodwill is no exception to this rule. Directed goodwill can help transform, change and uplift the quality of human relationships because everything in the objective world is the result of some thought or desire. Linking up in thought we can imagine the energy of goodwill flowing into humanity, uniting the human family, strengthening the mental atmosphere, helping humanity solve complex problems and heal differences and cleavages.

The Goodwill Meditation Group seeks to work in co-operation with all who are working towards the same end. It is not necessary to formally join the group or to write to anyone. But those who do wish to signify their participation in this work can do so by writing to **World Goodwill**, and such communications are welcomed.

It is suggested that the work is done at noon each Wednesday – the midpoint of the week and the focal point of the whole group endeavour. However, if this time is not convenient another time is fine.

The meditation outline is available from World Goodwill by post or via the following link:

www.lucistrust.org/en/service_activities/world_goodwill/more/goodwill_meditation_group#10

Triangles is a world service activity in which people link in thought in groups of three to create a planetary network of Triangles of light and goodwill. Using a world prayer, the Great Invocation, they invoke light and love as a service to humanity. Further information is available on request from Triangles.

The Triangles Bulletin is for men and women of goodwill and is published four times a year in Czech, Dutch, English, Farsi, French, German, Greek, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Swedish. Triangles is an activity of the Lucis Trust, a non-profit educational charity which exists to promote right human relations.

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