



## 內在的改變

**這**些都是需要大聲疾呼和平的時候。中東目前處於多年來最不穩定的狀態。烏克蘭的戰爭是歐洲自第二次世界大戰以來規模最大的戰事，蘇丹及中非部分區域都有武裝衝突。幾乎每個大陸都在經歷大型的武裝衝突。

扶輪在增進和平方面可發揮重要的角色——我經常說扶輪必須為和平拿出像發動戰爭的人一樣的拼勁。那是在我們願景聲明可以看到的**精神**：「在我們一起展望的世界裡，人們結合力量，採取行動，在自身、社區及全球各地創造永續的改變。」我們絕不可錯失最後一項呼籲——要在世界創造改變，必須先促進內在的改變。

要以彼此的締造和平行動為模範，就取決於你我。質疑彼此的動機、妄下最嚴厲的判斷，我們大可不必如此。在聽到讓我們不舒服或不悅的言辭時，我們有機會可以問——帶著同情及好奇心——那些冒犯言語的用意。然後我們還有另一個機會可以修補摩擦。

如果我們想要成為為世界指引方向的明燈，讓我們從成為彼此的明燈開始做起。讓我們幫助彼此找到更多理解及創造性的替代方案，來取代那些傷害及不信賴的話語。讓我們堅守我們的原則，可是不要懷疑彼此都有誠心

終結衝突，而非提油救火。

我想到美國參議員羅伯·甘迺迪 (Robert Kennedy) 在 1968 年 4 月 4 日——金恩博士 (Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.) 遭暗殺後的那個可怕的日子——所做的演講。甘迺迪到明尼亞波利對一個絕大多數居民都是非裔美國人的社區演講。當時那裡的人還不知道金恩博士遇刺身亡的消息。

他告訴他們這個駭人的消息。他推崇金恩博士為正義及和平所付出的一切努力。然後他說了以下這段話打動了憤怒、哀痛的群眾：「對於你們當中的黑人同胞，對於對這種不正義的行為充滿忿恨及懷疑、想要對抗所有白人的人，我只能說我的內心也有同樣的感覺。我也有家人遭到殺害。」這是他第一次公開談論到約翰·甘迺迪 (John F. Kennedy) 總統遭暗殺的事件。雖然許多美國城市在那個晚上爆發暴力事件，但明尼亞波利沒有。

就是在危機及沮喪的時刻我們才最需要同理心。同理心是和平的強大工具，如果我們要踏出勇敢、謙虛的第一步在為世界創造希望，同理心也至關重要。

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## The change within

**T**hese are times that cry out for peace. The Middle East is in its most volatile condition in years. The war in Ukraine is the largest in Europe since World War II, and there are armed conflicts in Sudan and parts of Central Africa. Nearly every continent is experiencing a major armed conflict.

Rotary has a vital role to play in advancing the cause of peace — I often say Rotary needs to work toward peace as aggressively as those who wish to wage war. It's the spirit found in our vision statement: "Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves."

We must never lose track of that last call — that to bring about change in the world, we need to foster change within.

It is up to us to model peacebuilding behavior among each other. We can do better than questioning the motives of one another and jumping to the harshest possible explanation. After hearing words that might strain or offend us, we have an opportunity to ask, with compassion and curiosity, the intent of those offending words. And then we have another opportunity to repair the breach.

If we wish to be a beacon to the world, let us start by being so to one another. Let's help each other find greater understanding and productive alternatives to words that cause hurt and distrust. And let's stick to

our principles, but never doubt the sincerity of each other to end conflicts, not inflame them.

I'm reminded of a speech that U.S. Senator Robert Kennedy made on 4 April 1968, that dreadful day when the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated. Kennedy was in Indianapolis speaking to an audience in a predominantly African American neighborhood where people had yet to learn that Dr. King had been killed.

He shared the terrible news. He honored Dr. King for all he had done for the cause of justice and peace. And then he connected with the fuming, grieving crowd by saying: "For those of you who are Black and are tempted to be filled with hatred and distrust at the injustice of such an act, against all white people, I can only say that I feel in my own heart the same kind of feeling. I had a member of my family killed." It was the first time he had spoken publicly about President John F. Kennedy's assassination. And while many American cities exploded in violence that night, Indianapolis did not.

It is in times of crisis and despair that we need empathy most of all. Empathy is the most powerful tool of peace, and it is vital if we are to take the first brave, humble steps to *Create Hope in the World*.

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