

# WE SEEK TO SERVE – FOCUSED THEMES

## WORLD RENAISSANCE

### Groups And Leadership In The New Civilization

We on planet Earth are in the beginning phases of a World Renaissance that affects all of humanity. This World Renaissance brings us social networking, demonstrations in the streets, economic upheaval and burgeoning technology like Google Glass, humanoid robots and Apple TV. It is a time of culture shock for many, yet our World Renaissance, like the European Renaissance, is a time of transition.

When this transition is complete, humanity will find itself settling into a civilization as conceptually and culturally different from our world today as the heliocentric universe of the 18<sup>th</sup> century (when the Roman Catholic Church finally dropped its general prohibition of books advocating heliocentrism) was different from the 15<sup>th</sup> century geocentric world. The European Renaissance was a time of culture shock. Foundational truths shifted beneath humanity's feet, challenging ignorance and isolationism as well as the authority and power of the Holy See.

The Roman Catholic Church was not, and is not, alone in its slow adoption of new truths. While today we accept advances in the field of technology, we aggressively resist information, teachings and evidence that challenge established dogma, whether that dogma relates to the texts we hold holy or to the cultural ideals we hold sacred. We have established rules, written and unwritten, to justify which gender, race or class is worth educating, who is and is not allowed to vote, to govern, to be ordained, join clubs or live in certain neighborhoods. And we aggressively defend these ideals, citing history, biology, custom, common sense and, all too often, God's plan for the world.

It is no wonder that expansions in human consciousness are both lengthy and tumultuous. Today, we are entering a period of both rapid and extensive change. One of the ideals we staunchly defend, at least in the Western world, is our individualism – individual leaders, individual achievement, individual success.

We love our heroes, our gurus, be they sports- or entertainment-based, military, economic, scientific, political or humanitarian. We offer Nobel prizes, Person of the Year awards, gold medals, the Humanitarian Award and many other recognitions, the vast majority going to individuals.

It is this emphasis on individuals that will begin to change during this

Renaissance period of transition. The sustainable group serving the good of humanity will become the foundational unit of culture, and the successful groups in the new civilization will be quite different from the groups and organizations we consider successful today. The age of the individual charismatic leader and the power-profit motive is ending.

### **Focus Reorientation For The New Civilization**

The definition of a successful group will evolve. Sustainable groups in the post-renaissance civilization – whether that be a small civic group, an international business or a national government – will place service to humanity and the good of the whole front and center, above profit, power or market share.

One can see the beginnings of this focus and cohesion in some organizations today – even among small for-profit businesses. Unity and harmony, transparency, fairness and cooperation on a global scale will become the earmarks of a sustainable organization. The success of the organization will be realized in a balance that has participation of the wealthy/powerful end of spectrum as well as the most impoverished. A mindset of brotherhood and equality will emerge. No longer will the populace accept the exclusive allocation of freedom and opportunity to those who already have both, excluding those who have neither.

As these changes begin to manifest, we will see structural changes within groups and organizations. Those groups who transition to a new leadership-structural paradigm will be sustainable.

### **Leadership-Structural Reorientation**

The first thing successful leaders will do in forging a sustainable organization is to train their replacements – more than one. Why? Because the service to humanity mission of the group/organization is more important than any individual leader. Loyalty and dedication must remain focused on the organization's purpose rather than on any specific leader or leadership group.

Leadership, therefore, will rotate. So will those who advise the leadership. The successful leader will have an open ear and an open mind. The successful advisory group will represent many aspects of an organization and have an open ear to all. Succession will be planned at every level of the organization. This rotation and planned succession will spawn new ways of interacting with management, workforce, suppliers, clients, associates and society in general.

Internal relationships will evolve. The workforce will be accepted, appreciated and respected by management, and management will be accepted, appreciated and respected by the workforce. All members of the group or organization will embrace and build on their commonalities rather than recount their differences.

While the mission and purpose of the group is more important than any single individual, attention to the needs of the individual is mandatory. In the sustainable group/organization, individuals will be heard and respected, whether they be a supervisor, subordinate or coworker. All views will be valued.

These new, evolutionary relationships will be embraced by those groups and organizations that best serve humanity's Oneness.

### **Earmarks Of The Sustainable Group/Organization**

With the evolution of leadership and structure, with the evolution of respect-based relationships and dedication to the group's mission, humanity will foster an amazing evolution of group characteristics.

Harmony and productivity will prevail over polarization and competition, both internally and externally. Group members will devise ways of resolving differences that lead to and restore flexible cooperation. Individuals at every level of the organization will pool their strengths and learn from each other. Each will learn to value vastly differing views on how to reach the same objective. All will benefit. As a group view evolves from diversity, the group will move forward with an agreed upon focus.

Leaders at all levels, if they understand and embrace this concept of productive, harmonious groups, can help the membership/workforce achieve sustainability. It takes work, but this is leading by example. Humanity is vastly creative and pathways to the new definitions of success will emerge.

Groups/organizations who embrace a transition to these new-civilization paradigms will attract both new members and other groups like a magnet. They will position their group/organization for networking. Networking will become the norm.

### **Networking – The New Normal**

Networked, interlaced groups/organizations will become the norm. Harmonious, productive groups committed to serving the good of the whole will search out and be open to collaboration with groups outside their own who have overlapping purposes.

The successful group will build as many bridges as possible and have strong diplomatic relationships with 5 to 7 groups who serve a similar purpose. Groups will be open to dialog for the purpose of finding common ground with those not working directly in their field. They will develop alliances of mutual respect.

This bridge-building will require patience, trust, transparency and honesty as harmonious relationships and the networking concept are embraced. New

ideas, new outcomes for the benefit of humanity will result.

### **Applications – Today and Tomorrow**

We are transitioning to a culture where the foundational unit will be the sustainable group rather than the individual. There are signs of this already. The current Nobel Prize rules restrict the division of any award to a maximum of three. There has been speculation that it is time to change the rules and acknowledge development teams.<sup>1</sup> The Ramon Magsaysay awards, considered to be the Nobel Prize of Asia, already recognize groups for their achievements.

Those organizations dealing with global issues of Health and Social Services have learned that cooperation pays off. They prove that problems solved globally are to the benefit of all. Altruistic cooperation, not competition, benefits everyone.

Egypt, as it creates its constitution, stands a chance at being a leader in the concepts of rotating leadership, rotating advisors, and an open ear to the people and networked groups. It can create a pattern for governing constitutions that spreads throughout the region. Group networking is a concept that leaders can demonstrate in order to create the possibility of national harmony.

Tunisia also has a chance to create a governing pattern in its constitution, if it extends and expands the concept of cooperation. If it considers the advice of human rights groups, Tunisia may even outstrip the United States and embed women's rights into their constitution.

Constitutions can provide a vision of the future that inspires people to make the necessary sacrifices in order to reach harmony within a nation of networked groups. This is a huge change, but huge changes start with small sustainable changes. Those small sustainable changes add up until they reach a critical mass and something totally new emerges.

### **Utopian?**

These groups and organizations will be interconnected to create a vast, sustainable network – all in service to humanity. No organization that serves humanity will crumble when its leadership or membership changes. That may sound a bit Utopian, but 100 years ago, so did the idea of traveling from London to New York in 8 hours. Fifty years ago, the idea of the USSR breaking into membership nations without violence was Utopian and so was the idea of the Berlin Wall crumbling without violence. The concept of non-white presidents in South Africa and the United States would have been ignored.

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<sup>1</sup> "Expand the Nobel Prize to Award Teams, Not Just Individuals," *Scientific American*, October 2012.

Human beings are creative beings – we have the imagination and the power to create a new civilization, a civilization based on the Oneness of humanity, a civilization that creatively implements President Roosevelt's four freedoms, and implements them world-wide:

- Freedom of speech
- Freedom of worship
- Freedom from want
- Freedom from fear<sup>2</sup>

The new civilization is ours to design, ours to build and ours to implement. The current World Renaissance is but our transitional pathway to that civilization.

*It is the belief of those who bring you this message that we do not travel this path without guidance from our elder brothers and sisters who are further down the road of spiritual maturation. If you reject the concept of elder brothers and sisters, that is perfectly acceptable. If, however, you wish to glean in-depth information on the new civilization and the assistance our elder brothers and sisters offer, we invite you to visit our websites [WeSeekToServe.com](http://WeSeekToServe.com) and [ThoughtsFromAMaster.com](http://ThoughtsFromAMaster.com) and browse the many discussions offered there. Our FaceBook page is [WeSeekToServe](http://WeSeekToServe).*

*With faith in humanity's future,*

*The Team who brings you*

- *[WeSeekToServe.com](http://WeSeekToServe.com)*
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<sup>2</sup> These freedoms were articulated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on January 6, 1941.