

1999 PEACE PROPOSAL CALLS FOR AN END TO WAR

SGI President Ikeda calls for a transition from a culture of war to a culture of peace in his latest peace proposal, which was released Jan. 26, SGI Day. Describing the culture of war as “a chain reaction of revenge,” the greatest victims of which are children, he urges the swift adoption and ratification of an international treaty banning the use of children soldiers and proposes a three-point plan to curtail the thriving arms trade. However, to truly delegitimize war, President Ikeda asserts, the key is creating bonds of mutual trust and collaboration through the promotion of dialogue — not only among governments but among ordinary citizens. We have already seen, he adds, the move away from a world dominated by military power to one dictated by economics. But he contends that the law of the jungle still rules, and that a more humanistic capitalism must be created for the next century. The full text of the 1999 peace proposal will appear in an upcoming *Living Buddhism*.

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