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Racial Discrimination

IT ALWAYS AMAZES ME that some white people really believe that they are superior to others of darker colour. In fact, the skin is only the outside cover of the identical internal organs of all human beings. So how can we possibly judge a human being by the colour of his skin?

Skin colour is undoubtedly connected to climate. Those born in cold or temperate regions of the world are lighter in skin and hair colour. Those born in tropical or equatorial regions normally have light brown, dark brown, or black skins, with dark hair to match.

Throughout history, people have travelled, first on foot, then gradually by modern means. If they marry into a foreign race, their children will probably be slightly different in colour, but otherwise there is no difference.

Racial discrimination may also result from the varying customs and cultures of people of different colour. For example, most white Europeans are Christian. Most darker-skinned people in the Middle East are Muslims, while in Asia they may be Buddhists or Hindus. There are other religions, but I have mentioned only the mainstream ones. In the modern world this pattern is changing, and we find that quite a lot of people have even changed to other religions.

Now that people of all races may emigrate to other countries for various reasons, there is no excuse for social or political discrimination. Racism should have been abolished long ago. Alas, we still find people who discriminate. They only show their ignorance.

Perhaps the greatest cause of racism was colonialism. Before World War Two, some European nations acquired colonies in Asia, Africa and other areas of the world. Because the invading countries had more dangerous, modern weapons of war, they considered themselves superior. But is that superiority? No, surely, it is greed. They acquired land and resources for themselves by killing and robbing native people. They should, in this twenty-first century, realize that all nations should be respected as equal human beings; every country should be free from foreign aggression. Unfortunately some countries never learn this lesson from history.

When we meet people of a different colour, we may feel shy to speak to them. We may think he will not understand our language, but we should never disrespect him for any reason. Remember, a person of another colour is just like ourselves – we all laugh when we are happy, and weep when we are sad. In fact, we are all one human race, one world. Let us not forget this fact. Next week we shall read of a tragedy because of discrimination.