Wishing You an Enlightening and Elevating 2015

At the twilight zone we need multiple lens to celebrate the beauty, - near and far.



Photography by Partha Ghosh near their home at Winchester, MA

Adjusting our Lens for a clearer view of

the Possibilities Ahead

As we welcome the New Year it is indeed a great time to reflect on the events of the year 2014, so that we could pledge to commit our inner power to trigger a few positive processes for a wonderful 2015.

The most significant perhaps in all our thoughts are the continuous massacres in Middle East and continuous the state of despair and fear in Northern Nigeria, the loss of young minds in places of learning from Pakistan to the United States, and the unsettling dynamics between Russia and the West. Of course while larger percentage of the Global population is still struggling to have access to the basics of life such as clean water and food, Europe and Japan are finding it increasingly harder to get out of the long drawn recession. Disappearances of commercial planes with hundreds of passengers on board in 2014, and regular Internet hacking compromising individuals identity & security, also question how well are we equipped to harness the power of technology for safer, secured, sustainable & equitable socio-economic advance.

 $\mathcal W$ híle we should be thankful to mother nature that there were no mega natural dísasters of the magnítude that we have

observed in the recent past, the unfortunate natural events such as the mudslides in the midst of continuing drought in California, the recent tornados in the middle of North America, to name a few suggest that we as humanity must find ways to secure an ecological balance, - which could perhaps temper the ups and downs of weather.

All of these set backs,- manmade or natural, underscore the need to rethink what must constitute leadership in the years ahead, so that we could be better stewards of our dear planet.

The challenges that we are facing today are indeed significant; equally significant are the possibilities ahead. Unfortunately we are too often drawn into the narrow and dark lanes of being to serve our own personal agenda, not too infrequently distorted by myopic instincts. In the process divides between people only widen, value of human consciousness only diminish, great possibilities fragment and scatter, and most importantly our inner spiritual energy only dilute.

As a result often leadership's capacity to solve problem is either limited by where we – (i) hold the microscope to understand the

problems, or (ii) point and guide our telescope to sense the long term and the distant scenarios. In the process we miss out addressing the issues or serving significant possibilities outside the scope of what we choose to focus on, - influenced by how the observers' mindset have been conditioned.

 \mathcal{D} efinitely what is promising is during the times of crises how we as humanity have repeatedly come together to respond to mega challenges. Only we must find ways to submerge our egos to observe the possibilities without biases, experiment with ideas with courage & integrity – however humble they may be, with the big picture in mind.

May we together pray that the New Year will give us the wisdom to - adjust our lens to observe the beauty of truth and goodness of our planet, build the intellectual and spiritual resilience to examine issues, design solutions from multiple perspectives, and rekindle the courage in our hearts to break the constraints of mindsets to create a "plus sum" eco system in our communities, - which could on the long-term be inspirational for our future generations. At different levels of decision-making – from individual & community level to national & global level, we must not doubt the genuine power of inner being, and draw on the spiritual ardour of inner self to cultivate and celebrate the beauty of human progress.

With this spirit in our hearts, please permit us to wish you, your family and friends, and your colleagues a Great 2015



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