



THE POWER OF WOMEN

The world in the past has been ruled by force, and man has dominated over women by reason of his more forceful and aggressive qualities both of body and mind. But the balance is already shifting—force is losing its weight and mental alertness, intuition, and the spiritual qualities of love and service, in which woman is strong, are gaining ascendancy. Hence the new age will be an age, less masculine, and more permeated with the feminine ideals—or, to speak more exactly, will be an age in which the masculine and feminine elements of civilization will be more evenly balanced.

Abdul-Baha as quoted by J.E. Esslemont

For twenty five years, the span of a generation, the data have been available to document the correlation between a variety of crucial development indicators and the education of girls... it has been amply demonstrated that it is the mother's education that makes the difference and that the positive effects increase with every additional year a girl stays in school. When all the benefits are taken into account, educating girls yields a higher rate of return than any other investment that can be made in the developing world.

Bahai International Community

...there is no tool for development more effective than the empowerment of women. *Kofi Annan*

Only as women are welcomed into full partnership in all fields of human endeavor will the moral and psychological climate be created in which international peace can emerge.

The Universal House of Justice

The emancipation of women, the achievement of full equality between the sexes, is one of the most important, though less acknowledged prerequisites of peace. The denial of such equality perpetrates an injustice against one half of the world's population and promotes in men harmful attitudes and habits that are carried from the family to the workplace, to political life, and ultimately to international relations. There are no grounds, moral, practical, or biological, upon which such denial can be justified.

The Universal House of Justice

If by strength is meant moral power, then woman is immeasurably man's superior.

Mahatma Gandhi

Until the reality of equality between man and woman is fully established and attained, the highest social development of mankind is not possible.

Abdul-Baha

