

Alternative Remembrance Day Prayer

Adapted from a song sung at the School of the Americas vigil.

We pray today for all the countries ripped apart by violence and militarism, including those which have endured such suffering at the hands of Canada.

We cry out "no more."

We pray for all those soldiers on all sides of war whom this culture has sacrificed on the altar of greed, materialism, and conquest, and for all the marginalized communities where army recruiters tempt and trick already poor youth with broken promises.

We cry out "no more."

We pray for all the Indigenous peoples of the world, including those in the territories occupied by Canada and on all of Turtle Island, who have refused to be exterminated or assimilated, and who have resisted bravely in the face of power. We pray for defenders of the land.

We cry out "no more."

We pray for all those who today have the courage to speak out against the culture of destruction, facing overwhelming costs.

We cry out "no more."

We pray for all the ways in which we, ourselves, are still part of the culture of destruction – for our over-consumption, the raging inequalities of our society, racism and privilege, the idolatry of our economic system.

We cry out "no more."

We pray for the courage and compassion to break the cycle of violence, in our world, in our country, in our communities, and in ourselves, that we may become true peacemakers and seek justice for all.

We cry out "no more."