

What can we do?

I think the first thing is that we should face the fact individually and together. Once we face the fact we might begin to think of what we can do. At least we can face death. One can face death and still enjoy life. But you cannot be truly alive if you have not faced your inevitable death. It is said that a typical feature of a dying species is that it fouls its own nest. We have fouled our nest, we have desecrated the Creation. And we should face this and realise the extent to which our deaths are upon us. It's no use asking: What solution is there? because this is simply a way of not facing the imminence of the catastrophe. We must face it and think about death and what it means. It is not a matter of seeking answers. It is a matter of asking the right questions. And in doing so we may begin to see matters, including ourselves, in a different light. We may discover what it means to be human. We may find the courage to stop what we are doing, to stop wasting our time. In facing death, one sees what is relevant and what is not; what is important and what is trivial. But nobody will meditate on it. The ideology of our society is based on false optimism and progressivism. Our politicians and our leaders are all dedicated to denying what is staring us in the face.

We will not be the first race of men to die out. The question upon which we should all be meditating is that of the ultimate truth of human reality. What is it to be human, and what am I? But in our society that is called sick. Such a society cannot survive. Nemesis is upon us.

Reprinted from Arbours Network News

Enlightenment.

*Flowers in the Buddha's hand
Like the lotus flower
But we do not stay with it
Contemplate it,
Flowering too
We project
And reflect
Oscillating
Between the past-been
And future imagined
The flower seen
Is now
Not how I feel - or is it real?
Enlightenment
Lies in the hand.*

Avril Ruddock