Sayings on Nature from Different Religions

Presented by Earth Day Network India



Introduction

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Earth Day Network India is a registered trust. We aim to help Restore our Earth. Our initiatives focus on ways to regenerate the green cover, recharge aquifers, rejuvenate soil, reduce air pollution, inspire responsible consumption, minimise and manage waste. We also encourage a switch to clean and green energies and ask that climate education be mandated to develop environmental stewardship from a young age.

This eBook focuses on the reverence all religions have for nature.

Our work is inspired by the global NGO EARTHDAY.ORG™ that grew out of the first Earth Day on April 22, 1970, and today engages with over 50,000 organisations in some 190 countries to take the environmental movement forward.

Please Note: The translations are worded exactly as received from the learned contributors.

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Buddhism

I rain down the Dharma rain, filling the whole world, and this single-flavoured Dharma is practised by each according to the individual's power. It is like those thickets and groves, medicinal herbs and trees which, according to whether they are large or small, bit by bit, grow lush and beautiful.

Lotus Sutra



Christianity

God said, 'I am giving you all the grain bearing plants and all the fruit trees. These trees make fruit with seeds in it. This grain and fruit will be your food.'

Holy Bible Genesis Ch 1, Verse 29

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समुद्रवसने देवि पर्वतस्तनमण्डले। विष्णुपत्नि नमस्तुभ्यं पादस्पर्शं क्षमस्व मे॥ Bhargava Tantram 6/46

samudravasane devi parvatastanamaṇḍale Viṣṇupatni namastubhyaṃ pādasparśaṃ kṣamasva me

O Goddess Earth, the consort of Vishnu (Lord of the Universe), you are the one whose garments are the oceans and whose ornaments are the hills and mountain ranges; please forgive me as I walk on you this day.



Islam

يَا بَنِي آدَمَ خُذُوا زِينَتَكُمْ عِنْدَ كُلِّ مَسْجِدٍ وَكُلُوا وَ اشْرَبُوا وَ لَا تُسْرِفُوا يَا بَنِي آدَمَ خُذُوا زِينَتَكُمْ عِنْدَ كُلِّ مَسْجِدٍ وَكُلُوا وَ اشْرَبُوا وَ لَا تُسْرِفُوا وَ الْمُسْرِفِينَ الْمُسْرِفِينَ الْمُسْرِفِينَ الْمُسْرِفِينَ Holy Quran 7:31

yā-banī ʾādama khudhū zīnatakum ʿinda kulli masjidin wa-kulū wa-shrabū wa-lā tusrifū ʾinnahū lā yuḥibbu l-musrifīn

Children of Adam, take your adornment at every place of prayer. Eat and drink, and do not waste. He does not love the wasteful.



JAINISM

तत्थिमं पढमं, महावीरेय देसिअं। अहिंसा निउणा हुट्टा, सव्वभूएसु संजमो।।9।। Dasvaikalik Sutra

ttthimn pdhmn, mhaavirey desian ahinsaa niunaa hutthaa, svvbhuesu snjmo (9)

No other creatures, love for life, for they are alike. Kill them not; save their life from fear and enmity.



תבותכענ

ָןאוּלָם שְאַל־גֵּא בְהֵמְוֹת וְתֹּרֶךָ וְעַוֹף הַשְּׁמַיִם וְיַגֶּד־לָךְ: בהמות וְתֹרֶךָ וְעַוֹף הַשְּׁאַל־גֵּא בְהֵמְוֹת וְתֹרֶךָ וְעַוֹף הַשְּׁאַל־גַּא בְהֵמְוֹת וְתֹרֶךָ וְעַוֹף הַשְׁ

dar cere de la fiare, de la vitele tale, de la păsările cerului și de la cele care îți spun

But ask the beasts, and they will teach you. The birds of the sky, they will tell you.







ਆਪੇ ਪਉਣ ਪਾਣੀ ਬੈਸੰਤਰ ਆਪੇ ਮੇਲਿ ਮਿਲਾਈ ਹੈ ॥३॥ Guru Granth Sahib, Maaroo Solhay Mehlaa 1

aapay pa-un paanee baisantar aapay mayl milaa-ee hay ||3||

You yourself are the air, water and fire; You yourself unite in union.

ZOROASTRIANISM

ithā āat yazamaide, ahurem mazdām ye gāmchā ashemchā dāt, apaschā dāt urvarāoschā vanghuhīsh, raochāoschā dāt būmīmchā vīspāchā vohū.

Yasna XXXVII.1= Yasna V.1

We worship here, God Ahura Mazda, who has created the cattle, grain, water, the beneficent vegetation, light, the earth and all good things.





Buddhism

We, enjoying savoury earth, feeding on it, nourished by it, continued so for a long while. But since evil and immoral customs became rife among us, the savoury earth disappeared.

Aggañña-Suttanta



Christianity

'And I am giving all the green plants to the animals. These green plants will be their food. Every animal on earth, every bird in the air, and all the little things that crawl on the earth will eat that food.' And all these things happened.

Holy Bible Genesis Ch 1, Verse 30

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अप्स्वर्धन्तरमृतेमप्सु भेषजम्पामुत प्रशस्तये। देवा भवेत वाजिनः॥ Rig Veda 1.23.19

ap-su antaḥ amṛtam ap-su bheṣajam apām uta pra-śastaye devāḥ bhavata vājinaḥ

Within the water rests nectar. In the water reside medicines. O Devas, expedite for praising the water.



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وَلَا تُقْسِدُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ بَعْدَ إِصِلْلَاحِهَا وَادْعُوهُ خَوْقًا وَطَمَعًا إِنَّ رَحْمَتَ الْمُحْسِنِينَ الْمُحْسِنِينَ الْمُحْسِنِينَ الْمُحْسِنِينَ الْمُحسنِينَ الْمُحسنِينَ Holy Quran 7:56

wa-lā tufsidū fī l- 'arḍi ba 'da 'iṣlāḥihā wa-d' ūhu khawfan wa-ṭama 'an 'inna raḥmata llāhi qarībun mina l-muḥsinīn

Do not make mischief in the earth after it has been put right. Pray to Him with fear and hope; His mercy is near to the righteous.



TRINIAD

जावंति लोए पाणा, तसा अदुव थावरा। ते जाणमजाणं वा, न हणे णोवि घायए।।10।। Dasvaikalik Sutra

jaavnti loe paanaa, tsaa aduv thaavraa te jaanmjaann vaa, n hne novi ghaaye (10)

All creatures desire to live, none to die, hence, to kill is to sin. A godly man does not kill.



תבותכענ

יָם בְּיָם לָאָרֶץ וְתֹּרֶךָ וִיסַפְּרָוּ לְּלֶ דְּגֵּי הַיָּם: Job 12.8

sau chemați la pământ și la câmp și vă vor spune peștii mării

"...speak to the earth, it will teach you; the fish of the sea, they will inform you."







ਆਪੇ ਸਸਿ ਸੂਗ ਪੂਰੋ ਪੂਰਾ ॥ Guru Granth Sahib, Maaroo Solhay Mehlaa 1

aapay sas sooraa pooro poora

You yourself are the moon, the sun, the most perfect of the perfect.

ZOROASTRIANISM

az āsmān nek wārēd, az zamīn nek rōyēd, mardōme weh rād ezash bahr bād. Āfrin-ī-Rapithwin, 28

May good rain from the heavens; may good grow from the earth; may good charitable persons derive benefit from these.



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(11

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