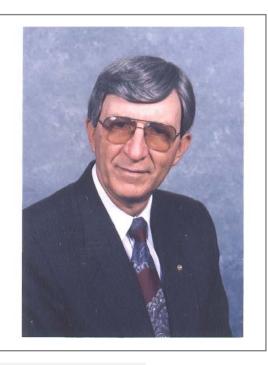
感恩是一種態度的表現 GRATITUDE IS AN ATTITUDE

寫於 2005 年 12 月海嘯
Re: the tsunami of December 2005
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我寫本文的用意是為本題感恩之評論。但回想起 最近幾週飽受廣大毀滅及人類所遭遇到的災難, 我們要如何感恩呢?在這時刻我們能夠有充分的 理由說感恩嗎?

是的,因為和本主題仍然有所關聯,但是我們多 少要稍作修正。12月26日在東南亞發生的大海 嘯攻擊了我們的情感,威脅著擠壓出任何自發性 感恩之情。

然而,感恩是每個人內心世界自然的反應,雖然 常常不被認知或許沒有被正確地闡明。

放假的季節原來是值得感恩的時刻,家族們感謝 有再重聚的機會,孩子們也高與有禮物可收,商 人們也高與獲利提高。

但就在聖誕節的隔天(12 月 26 日),150,000 人的 死亡的悲劇淹沒了原來的感恩,但更多的人為尋 找他們所愛的親人經歷一場毫無所獲的折磨,成 千上萬的生還者無家可歸,他們正需要救濟,疾 病以及飢餓正威魯著他們。

我們冒險嘗試去問 "在這麼多人失去生命和財產 受重創之情況下,是否可能言謝呢?"

扶輪人的關懷,扶輪人的分享。在那時刻我們作的值得感激的事情是看得到的。甚至在全部被毀滅以及人類飽受病苦之時刻。全球的扶輪人對這次的悲劇的回應是傾出他們的慰問以及提供災民的支援。

在印尼,斯理蘭卡,印度和泰國等國隣近的扶輪

This was intended to be a commentary on the subject of gratitude. But in the wake of such massive devastation and human suffering of recent weeks, how can we be grateful? Can we at this moment validly speak of gratitude?

Yes, the subject can still have relevance, but with a somewhat amended approach. The December 26 tsunami in Southeast Asia assaults our emotions, threatening to crowd out any spontaneous feelings of gratitude.

Nevertheless, gratitude is a natural response within each person, although often not recognized, perhaps not correctly defined.

The holiday season was a time of gratitude. Families were grateful for the opportunity of reunion. Children were grateful for presents. Merchants were grateful for elevated profits.

Then on the day after Christmas, tragedy drowned whatever gratitude was felt by the more than 150,000 who died. Countless more were tortured by a fruitless search for loved ones. Millions of survivors are left homeless and in urgent need of relief. Disease and starvation are ongoing threats.

We are tempted to ask, "Is it possible to be grateful in the face of such massive loss of life and destruction of property?"

Rotarians care. Rotarians share. And therein is gratitude made visible, even in the face of utter devastation and human suffering. Rotarians around the world have responded to this tragedy with an outpouring of condolences and offers of support to the victims of the disaster.

Neighboring Rotary districts and clubs in

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地區及扶輪社,提供人力以及物質以援助受難地 區之災民。

因此如果只要我們仔細的觀察,我們仍然可以看 到即便在悲劇時刻,仍然有值得感恩之事證—並 不是感激悲慘的事件而是感謝在悲慘事件發生時 感謝那些提供支援服務的機會。

- 我們可以為扶輪感恩,它擁抱了一個全球性的 能擁護的機構,它不但在聖誕節的時刻同時在 任何時刻,任何地方只要有需要幫助時它都很 樂意地付出。
- 我們也感謝我們擁有一個機構能指揮把援助送 到需要受幫助的人,我們有信心這些救援將受 扶輪社的兄弟、姊妹們有効的管理。
- 我們也感謝,身為扶輪人能將我們的資源與需要的人分享。

感恩不僅僅是為一件禮物或恩惠簡單的說聲"謝謝"。感恩是一種態度的表現,甚至於在困境中一種樂觀的態度。感謝提供服務的機會一種態度,一種回應極貧的需求之利他主義之態度。

身為扶輪人,感恩是和真實一致的存在。我們身為扶輪社員我們擁有友誼,夥伴以及服務的機會。身為扶輪社員我們深知當悲劇在全世界各地發生時我們扶輪是一個隨時隨地可支援的機構。

是的,確實如此,甚至在這悲慘的時刻,感恩是 一個扶輪人應有的態度。 Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, and Thailand, have poured manpower as well as materials into the relief effort.

So if we look closely, even in tragedy we may see evidences of gratitude – not gratitude for the tragic event but gratitude for the opportunities of service when those events occur.

- We can be grateful for Rotary itself, for an organization that embraces a worldwide constituency willing to give not only during the Christmas season, but whenever and wherever there is a need.
- We can be grateful that we have a mechanism for directing aid to those in need, with confidence that assistance will be administered by Rotary brothers and sisters.
- We can be grateful that as Rotarians we have resources that can be shared with the needy.

Gratitude is more than a simple "thank-you" for a gift or favor. Gratitude is an attitude. An attitude of optimism even in troubled times. An attitude of appreciation for opportunities of service. An attitude of altruism in response to the needs of the needy.

Gratitude is consistent with the mere reality of being a Rotarian. As Rotarians, we are blessed with friendship, fellowship, and opportunities of service. As Rotarians, we know that when tragedy strikes anywhere in the world, we can be grateful that ours is an organization that stands ready to help.

Yes indeed, even in these sad days, gratitude is a Rotarian attitude.

