

However, we should not be content with a relationship based merely on economic complementarity. I believe that we, the free nations of the world, should aim at building a world where nations, unfettered by the parochial interests of each or by the walls between states, exchange freely, help one another, highly respect each other's cultural values, and prosper together. That will be a world of true interdependence.

In this context, I note with keen interest Canada's unique role in the international arena. Canada has not just reacted passively to superpower politics but, taking full advantage of its self-defined role as a "middle power", is contributing actively to the building of peace as an international mediator or as a quiet but effective negotiator. This course of foreign policy chosen by Canada has amply demonstrated that any nation should and can play a valuable role appropriate to its characteristics in international politics. You have thus encouraged many nations of the world and have also made them aware of their respective responsibilities. Your contribution in this regard has indeed been immense.

Japan, for its part, is playing its own role in the international community through the world policies I have outlined and is exploring new ways of contributing. In this context, I propose that Japan and Canada consult and co-operate even more seriously on such problems as world peace and disarmament and on our policies to achieve prosperity in the developing countries.

With the Tokyo Summit in May and the expected start of the new round of multilateral trade negotiations in September, 1986 is an important year for the international community, which may determine whether we can expect a sustained growth in world trade and economy. It is also an important year in the sense that we shall see whether progress can be made toward world peace and disarmament through the second summit meeting between the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union. For these endeavours to succeed, co-operation and unity among the free nations of the world are essential. It is indeed significant that the exchange of visits between Prime Minister Mulroney and myself is taking place in 1986, a year which may well determine our course toward the 21st century. Let us together set the basic agenda for Japan-Canada co-operation and start our joint actions on global issues, so we can develop our partnership in breadth and depth into a truly mature one.

Ladies and Gentlemen, located in a corner of the galactic system and inhabited by six billion people, our planet Earth now enjoys a most advanced material civilization. At the same time, however, our planet is exposed to the most barbaric attacks since its creation. Limited fossil resources have been exploited nearly to the point of depletion; green tracts of land are rapidly being reduced to deserts; clean air and water are being contaminated with toxic materials; and rare species of animals are being forced to the verge of extinction. Furthermore, many human beings are being driven to starvation, and tens of thousands of nuclear warheads are threatening the annihilation of all living creatures on Earth. If left unchecked,

these merciless waves may doom our spaceship Earth to a lifeless wreckage.

[*Translation*]

It was with reference to this picture of the present situation on our planet that I said the following on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations Organization in New York last fall: "If we are to preserve this planet Earth and ensure the survival of mankind, I believe we must create a new world ethic and set up mechanisms to support that ethic."

[*English*]

We must now rid ourselves of arrogance toward Mother Nature. Japan's traditional religion teaches us that nature is the mother of all creatures and that all living things are essentially brothers and sisters in the natural universe. Such philosophy is not exclusively that of the Orient but can also be found on other continents. Needless to say, I am not suggesting that religions unique to different peoples should be united under one great Oriental theology. Instead, I submit that it is perhaps high time for us to redirect our thinking toward the basic feelings of awe, intimacy, respect and love toward nature, which mankind has had over the millenia, and to appreciate afresh what they mean to us today.

When such reorientation has started on a global scale, what I call the grand enterprise of establishing a new global ethic will have begun. The groundwork for this significant enterprise needs to be laid through promoting mutual understanding, not just among nations, but also among peoples and cultures, and through fostering mutual appreciation and respect based on such understanding. We should spare no effort in this regard.

I believe the current of history is steadily heading us in the desired direction. There are two major civilizations represented in the world today, the Occidental and the Oriental civilizations. They both emerged on the Eurasian continent. One grew and matured in the Atlantic region and has reached the eastern edge of the Pacific Ocean on the American continent. The other has already reached the stage of maturity on the western edge of the Pacific. In historical terms, it is only a matter of time until the two civilizations converge and are joined in a ring. When these two civilizations of the West and East are brought together, our planet Earth will become a full and true "globe", marking another important stage in world history and emitting an unprecedented glow. Then all living creatures on Earth will enjoy the supreme bliss of their existence.

This convergence of the different civilizations of the East and the West is no easy task. There will be difficulties and barriers in the process. But I am convinced that they will be overcome.

I believe this because history has shown that different civilizations attract each other, and come closer together, just as in physics positive electric charges repulse each other but positive and negative charges attract each other. I believe that, in the 21st century, the Pacific Ocean will be a grand and