

THE GREAT NO

This month's Visionary Society Topic

What is superficial and false in your life?
How can we tear off the veils that keep us asleep?
Is freedom and love possible?

The Great No event is a day for non-participation in corporate life, in mass media, in belief systems, in organizations – and especially in the subtle ways that we have integrated with views and motives that have been imposed from outside.

The Great No encourages sovereignty in as many ways as possible: from culture and politics, to everything that seems natural and inevitable, all trivia and sham, all unquestioned obedience.



PRACTICE

What are you willing to sacrifice?

"If you want to help, share something of yourself – not from your abundance – but until it hurts. Give what costs you – make a sacrifice – do without something you like, so you may share what you have saved thus with those who do not even have what they need. Then your giving will be true giving – loving until it hurts." Mother Teresa

PERSPECTIVES

“To be an iconoclast of idolized needs, to defy our own immoral interests, though they seem to be vital and have long been cherished, we must be able to say no to ourselves in the name of a higher yes...Nothing is as hard to suppress as the will to be a slave to one’s own pettiness. Gallantly, ceaselessly, quietly, man must fight for inner liberty. Inner liberty depends upon being exempt from domination of things as well as from domination of people.” Abraham Heschel

See the full Topic to vote on Perspectives and reach the heart of any issue.

INVITATION

- ▶ Do not escape
- ▶ Be willing to suffer.
- ▶ Fight for inner liberty.
- ▶ Resist every automatism
- ▶ No politics, nationalism, religion.
- ▶ No authority, no ideology. No philosophy. No teacher. No belief.
- ▶ No small talk, gossip, entertainment.

Resist all forms of external determinism, including biology, culture and ideology. Refuse to participate in anything that is false, illusory, idolatrous, illusion, trivial or degraded. Avoid artificial sources of mood changes. Do not glorify the tangential. Stop peer consciousness. Do not succumb to the pressure of the everyday. Conquer the strange lethargy that fortifies mere self.

ACTION

What is Visionary Society?

Visionary Society is a way to turn your ideas about how to make the world better into action.

www.visionarysociety.org

*“To wisely live your life, you don't need to know much
Just remember two main rules for the beginning:
You better starve, than eat whatever
And better be alone, than with whoever.”
Omar Kayyum*