



Internet Lodge 9659
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Paper 21/2007

Title **Freemasonry is the Need of the Hour**
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Today religion, as practiced, is the cause of strife all over the world. Instead of uniting people, religion is being used to split men into groups and divide them. Freemasonry is the **only** organization that brings men of **all** religions together as brothers and demonstrates how men of various religions can live as one big family helping each other. Men of all religions are united under the banner of Freemasonry.

When you join Freemasonry you are not asked to what religion you belong; all the organization wants of you is to believe in God, by whatever name you call Him. We meet in a temple where you are welcome, to whatever religion you may belong. We recite a common prayer invoking His assistance in what we are about to do.

We show our respect for all religions by keeping the **Volume** of the **Sacred Laws** of the main religions on the pedestal. This practice is normally done in countries like India where brethren may be members of many different religions. Usually the VSL of the religion the Master belongs to is kept open. If there is a candidate, the VSL of his religion is kept open to enable him to take his oath on his VSL.

Freemasonry thus brings together men of all religions, inside a common Temple, showing that they can live together in love, peace and harmony as brothers, yet following their own VSL. Freemasonry is not a religion, as emphasized, but an organization to show men that all religions are basically the same by whatever name they may call themselves and whatever name they call their God.

This is why Freemasonry is the organization for **today**, to help quell the hatred that is spreading like fire. Imagine what the world would be like if all the politicians were Freemasons, and practicing Freemasonry as it should be practiced. This is a dream no doubt, but everything starts as a dream and think what would happen if this dream could become a reality. The world would indeed be a different place. Freemasonry is the need of the hour. But to do this we have to first imbibe the spirit of Freemasonry ourselves. We have to show the outside world what Freemasonry can do to us as individuals and then to the rest of the world. Time is running out fast for us and the rest of the world. Let us catch it before it is too late. This is why I say that **Freemasonry is the need of the hour**.

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