

## **Vote for Peace, Not War!**

### **Peace Letter from Asia**

Dear Citizens of America,

We write to you appealing for peace and democracy for our children and your children. We owe it to the children of the entire world, and to their children, to ensure a world free from strife. A world protected from the ravages of war and from irreversible changes to the planetary ecosystem with unimaginable consequences for future generations.

The past four years have witnessed too many killings and sufferings. The strikes against Afghanistan and Iraq have produced nothing but the wanton killing of innocent people and children. Several thousands have been injured and maimed. Some of the most valuable treasures of ancient heritage and civilization have been destroyed or damaged. We do not know, and we may never know, the irreparable damage caused to the health of Iraqi civilians and the US forces. The massive bombings and the use of depleted-uranium in the armaments have terrible long-term consequences. The radioactive

contamination of Iraq's soil is likely to remain for several billion years, causing countless diseases and resulting in birth deformities. The death toll caused by the war on Iraq has been very costly. Iraqi civilian deaths have reached over 10,000, and the lives of over a 1000 US soldiers have been lost unnecessarily. Lost because one man, the most powerful man in the world, George W. Bush, as President of the US did not know the wise use of power.

As a result, we are not in a more safe or peaceful world, nor are the Iraqis, in whose name the war was launched, anywhere near peace, stability and security for them and their children. Their infrastructure destroyed, their lives traumatized, their livelihoods put at jeopardy, and their future uncertain.

Did all this death and destruction have to happen? NO. Leading up to the Iraqi war, there have been many sane voices counseling caution, warning of the dangers of unilateral use of force. Wise counsel from several sources, governments, religious leaders and the millions who took to the streets in protest all over the globe pointed out the futility of war. Yet, George W. Bush spurned both world opinion and the advice of the UN Secretary General. Worse, he rebuffed the UN and told the world body that he has no use for it. He refused to accept the advice of the UN weapons inspectors who were categorical in

their view that there was no convincing evidence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. Bush, by his actions, has led us into a very unsafe world with a very uncertain future.

We therefore make this earnest appeal to all you American citizens of peace and goodwill. Both of us, you in America, we in Asia and from all over the world, have more than ever before a common and shared responsibility. We live in a world that is more interdependent than ever before. America and Americans need to join hands with all citizens, the world over, who are for peace, democracy and justice.

You will soon be presented with a historic opportunity to fulfill your duties to your country, to the world, and to planet Earth, as citizens of peace and goodwill when the time comes to cast your vote in the forthcoming Presidential elections.

Do so in large numbers, in order to ensure that the world will be freed from the perpetrators of strife and from the practitioners of war. The choice is in your hands. Vote for peace, not war on this planet Earth that we all must share.

Appeal to your friends, family and community to vote for a safe and peaceful world and for a government that will respect international law and abide by the UN Charter.

Let us join together as we strive to realize our common aspirations for peace,  
democracy and security for all on our fragile planet Earth.

**Another America is Possible!**

**Asia Defeat Bush Network for Global Democracy**