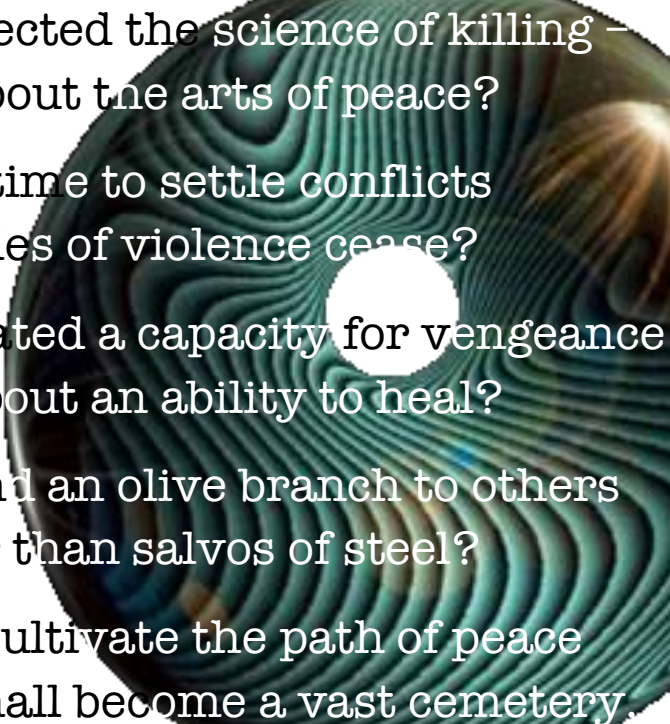


ARS PACIFICA: **Thoughts about Conflict Resolution**



We have perfected the science of killing –
What about the arts of peace?
Isn't it time to settle conflicts
so circles of violence cease?
We've demonstrated a capacity for vengeance
What about an ability to heal?
Can we extend an olive branch to others
Rather than salvos of steel?
Unless we cultivate the path of peace
This planet shall become a vast cemetery.

Response –

Haa!
Sounds nice, but far too ideal.
The real world is based on military strength.
No one pays attention to nations
without bullets, oil, or steel.

Frida: Why is peace so often ridiculed?

Ying: It boils down to our view of human nature. Are we savage beasts with few qualms about killing? Or are we compassionate beings striving for the good of all and optimal ways towards harmony?

Satoru: (sighing) Well, perhaps a bit of both.

- T Newfields

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