

## WE ARE A NATION!

### A DECLARATION of the INDIANIST MOVEMENT of RUSSIA<sup>1</sup>

Brothers and sisters! As we conduct our ceremonies, we say: “We are all relatives!”<sup>2</sup>

We raise our words of gratitude to the Creator and the whole Nature around for letting us be well and alive on this Earth and for letting us be related to all living beings.

*We are people who grew up on the Indian cultural treasures and we have been keeping it in our hearts in the course of many successive years.*

We have been creating our own life treasures and traditions that have helped us survive during the whole period of the existence of our movement.

We have earned our own life experience and acquired certain knowledge of the *Great Red Way* that we direct to the good of our nation, our children and posterity.

We have acquired this knowledge from the Creator and we must thoughtfully preserve it and pass it along to [other] people.

*For our faithfulness to Him, we pay a precious price – our health, social status, the pains of losses and disappointments, all our lives.*

We have been working on honestly and humbly, and now other people as well as our children follow in our footsteps.

*We have gone a thorny way of socializing with each other, of clubs, communes and organizations; we have united spiritually.*

*We conduct sacred PIPE and INIPI ceremonies for the sake of purification and unity, for the sake of our children and all our relatives in the world of Nature.*

We have become fathers and mothers, kids are growing up among us; they are in need of our care and we are in need of their respect.

We have created what, for many, has become their life foundation, what directs us on the Red Road and makes our hope, belief and longing – our Pow-Wow gathering.

We are calling for everyone who considers himself/herself part and parcel of our nation, we are calling for the sake of a good upbringing for our children and the endurance of the Red Road.

*We have witnessed all possible distortions, speculations and abuse by way of alcohol of our spiritual treasures and our knowledge that we and our brothers and sisters<sup>3</sup> have earned through ordeals and suffering.*

We have long witnessed how this sacrilege has been spoiling our people like the increasing chaos in the whole World.

We are aware of the dangers for the future of the Pow-Wow, and therefore we wish not to abuse our celebration with meaningless pursuits.

We know that our movement faces a crisis that we will be able to overcome only by uniting our efforts with those who have the spirit of the unity of our nation.

For the sake of survival, we are aware of the urgent necessity to protect our spiritual treasures and to put an end to the desecration of our sacred things.

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<sup>1</sup> Throughout the text, the word “nation” (Rus. *narod* “people, nation, folk”) refers not to the Russian nation but to the Indianist (Russian but potentially any other national Indianist group) “nation.”

<sup>2</sup> A standard ritual formula found in many Native American rituals and public speeches, Lakota *Mitakuye Oyasin*.

<sup>3</sup> i.e. Native Americans.

We call our brothers and sisters to open their eyes and ears, to grasp the essence of our words in order to revive their power and courage in the face of the evil – intolerance, hypocrisy, ignorance, alcohol abuse...

We address the hearts of our beloved ones, for the making of a unified decision depends on each and every one of us.

We know that this choice has come from suffering, and we bring together our intentions and pass this Declaration in accordance with the Red Road that we have chosen.

### **WITH ALL RESPONSIBILITY WE DECLARE THE FOLLOWING:**

We are a nation that keeps the knowledge of the Red Way, which is based on Indian cultural treasures.

We consider our Pow-Wow camp to be our Temple that we enter for the sake of purification and mutual unification.

We sojourn in this Temple in order to become engaged with the Creator and follow the Great Red Road together no matter how few of us will have remained.

We accept the treasures of the Red Way in order to live in Goodness, Beauty and Respect with all living beings, in the Total Harmony of Being.

*We follow the Red Road for the sake of our fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, children and old people, ancestors and descendants to make this Knowledge tie together the experience of many generations for the good of our nation, our Mother-Earth and all humanity.*

We are open for communication with all people of search who are interested in our life treasures, our experience and our Knowledge – all that we have acquired for the sake of our nation.

*We will not tolerate the abuse of our tipis, pipes, inipis or other sacred things of our nation with alcohol, drugs and curses, for this sacrilege makes no good to us and our children.*

*We will not tolerate the desecration of our campground, our prayers and ceremonies, our songs and dances, our Mother-Earth with these vices, for all this is sacred.*

We intend to preserve the spirit of our ceremonies and to conduct them in purity in order that our children could comprehend them with their hearts and learn from the higher powers love and respect for life in all forms.

We protest against any speculation, commercial exploitation and distortion of our activities by the mass media.

*We are ready to render any help to those who wish to cure themselves of the vices of modern society and who strive for the knowledge of the Red Road.*

We urge our brothers and sisters to support us not in words but in deeds and to join our efforts in order not to stray away from the Red Road.

We are aware of our predestination and we wish that our children continue to carry along the treasures of the Red Road; it is for their sake that we bind ourselves with these obligations.

We join our intentions for the sake of the future of our children, of all our nation, in responsibility before all living beings to make them continue being well and alive according to the will of the Creator and the sacred laws of the Cosmos.

We are all relatives!