



REFLECTION

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY 22ND MAY

The evolving Cosmos is a model of unity and diversity, of emergence from singleness to multiplicity. It mirrors the oneness and the infinite variety of the Sacred. Planet Earth, like the Cosmos, and like the Sacred, is also a complex and paradoxical mixture of unity and diversity. The intensely beautiful variety of the biology of the Earth evokes both awe and wonder. The loss of biological species is a cause for lamentation. When species become extinct the Earth is diminished, the Sacred is diminished.

Let us acknowledge the diversity of life:

Birds of the air; Fish of the sea
Koalas in the trees; Platypus in the stream
Oceans immense; Flowers so fair
Butterflies bright; Fields of grass
Trees straight and tall; Ferns in the valleys
Flies and fleas and bumble bees
Frogs and lizards and green tree snakes
Bracken and brambles and creeping vines
and millions and millions and millions more

We celebrate with joy this multiplicity of life.

Let us mourn the loss of species:

the Tasmanian Tiger; the Great Elephant Bird
the Mauritius Blue Pigeon; the Ivory Billed Woodpecker
the Rat Kangaroo; the Eastern Elk
the New Zealand Quail; the Desert Bandicoot
the Spiny Daisy; the Indian Valley Sedge
the Hot Chocolate Flower; the Stickleaf
the Bigleaf Scurfpea; the Pink Sand Verbena
and thousands and thousands and thousands more

We honour the memory of these extinct species..

Let us remember Australia's endangered species:

Heath Monitor; Little Tern; Southern Day Frog; Sooty Owl; False Water Rat;
Eastern Cave Bat; Regent Honeyeater; Little Whip Snake; Splendid Bush Pea;
Downy Star Bush; Bayonet Spider Orchid
and hundreds and hundreds and hundreds more

We work to preserve these threatened species.

For more information visit <http://www.earthwitness.com>