



The Hundredth Monkey

Ken Keyes Jr.

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The Hundredth Monkey is a classic work on the danger of nuclear weapons.

The Hundredth Monkey Details

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From Reader Review The Hundredth Monkey for online ebook

Jack says

Well, so far, we haven't had a nuclear war, so maybe this book helped. At the height of the Reagan Cold War era, this book helped me cope.

Paul says

Was looking for links in how to approach and avoid despair towards the ecological crisis. I don't feel like I found what I wanted, but the book was presented in a fun way and I can appreciate the cause that brought it forth.

Robert Zimmermann says

Short, simple, to the point. No one could ask anything else out of a book. The message that we are all in danger of being involved in the first (and would be only) nuclear war in history, a war that would bring the end to everything as we know it, is a punch in the face to anyone who reads this book. There is fluff anywhere in this book. The message is clear. The call for the world to united under one opinion to step away from the looming man-made Armageddon is what Keyes wants everyone to understand and he does it well. The information in this book is backed up by leading experts on the material and isn't just the ranting of someone with a typewriter. Pick up a copy of this book, or find it online (it's free for anyone to reproduce, which makes it even more intriguing, however you obtain it don't take it too lightly just because the Cold War is "over." We can all benefit by having a global consciousness to solve whatever threat to civilization arises.

Volkert says

Deals with the immediate need of changing our collective consciousness regarding nuclear arms. Simply written, supported by startling facts, ends in a "human potential" appeal.

Abbas says

Thomas Paine wrote Common Sense to wake Colonialists up to tyranny gone too far; Ken Keyes Jr. wrote The Hundredth Monkey to wake up Americans (and all human in general) to total nuclear inhalation. After reading this short book (or essay) I find it hard to believe that anyone could refuse Keyes's call to thinking of humanity a deeply interconnected human family. As a member of the Baha'i Faith, the message of love echoes the central beliefs of that the "earth is but one country and mankind its citizens"-Bahá'u'lláh (the Founder of the Faith). "The well-being of mankind," Bahá'u'lláh wrote more than a century ago, "its peace and security, are unattainable unless and until its unity is firmly established." Though I feel the book falls

short on that specific framework of unity of mankind, implying that removing nuclear weapons will solve the problem nuclear weapons are themselves a product of; spiritual bankruptcy. The book touches upon unity and thinking of humanity as a human family, but falls short of pinpointing the framework specifically. The Universal House of Justice, in *The Promise of World Peace*, explains the need of this framework precisely;

"Banning nuclear weapons, prohibiting the use of poison gases, or outlawing germ warfare will not remove the root causes of war. However important such practical measures obviously are as elements of the peace process, they are in themselves too superficial to exert enduring influence. Peoples are ingenious enough to invent yet other forms of warfare, and to use food, raw materials, finance, industrial power, ideology, and terrorism to subvert one another in an endless quest for supremacy and dominion. Nor can the present massive dislocation in the affairs of humanity be resolved through the settlement of specific conflicts or disagreements among nations. A genuine universal framework must be adopted."

All in all, though, I find that this book jives with truth that humanity can't survive with a separatist mindset, and I find it was worth the read.

Avel Rudenko says

Short, sweet and to the point. If every Earthling were to read this thin book, the world will change for the better. Covers so many points that could improve the human experience. Sadly it's all in "theory." Nothing is ever going to change, is it? Be the change you want to see. Yes, we are all but dust in the wind, and evil is indwelling in all of us, we need a spiritual cure for the human journey collective, we have all been lied to and poisoned, we have to fess up and admit that NOW is the time to make things better and to set things straight. This book also confronts the "confines" of human thought with the nuclear age. It's amusing, though, nonetheless, with little foreboding monkeys in the margin of the pages hinting at the destruction a nuclear war might bring. Idealistic, this book hopes to accomplish at least an awareness of what policies such as mutually assured destruction might hold for us in the future. Crime is not the answer, peace is. Love solves all issues in the greater scheme of things. We are all energy beings. This is a great book because it makes you compare monkeys and people in their thinking... you wonder, if a large group of monkeys can finally come to a conclusion, why not people? This is a book against the use of nuclear power and, of course, nuclear weapons. It is based upon a phenomenon observed that when a critical amount of monkeys began using a certain tool, that skill was automatically transferred to the rest of the species - even if the other monkeys lived far away and in isolation. It is a controversial theory of evolution which borders on the spontaneous. In the book 'The Hundredth Monkey', Ken Keyes applies the theory to humans; in this case, if enough humans decide that nuclear power and nuclear arms are bad, then automatically everyone in the world will come to that same conclusion. Although it sounds like 'wishful thinking', until the Hundredth Monkey phenomenon is disproved, it will hold to its sliver of light. While I agree that nuclear power and nuclear weapons are far too dangerous for us to be tinkering with, I do support space exploration. If the public did not prevent NASA from using nuclear-powered space conveyance, we could be making leaps and strides into the galaxy; The main problem with standard long-distance space travel for humans is that it takes too much rocket-fuel, and carrying it out of our atmosphere becomes an impasse. With nuclear-powered rockets, a space vehicle could be fully powered for many years, making long-distance space travel not just possible, but most probable. I'll leave you with this thought, "Impossible" is a word only found in the dictionary of fools - Napoleon.

Dawn says

I've carried this book since 1984ish—moving with it, keeping it on my nightstand. I've read parts over the years, maybe all of it once long ago, but today I read it through. It connected in different ways, with reminders of who I am and want to be “I may crystallize my mind against what you do or say and fail to notice your good intentions...which usually are just like mine! Even if you drop a bomb on me your purpose is to settle arguments—create peace! These are good intentions—just like mine! You just need a more effective way to realize your positive intentions!”

Sofie says

This kind of inspired me to become more politically aware, but I am not convinced of the hundredth monkey theory. Collective consciousness makes perfect sense, but the claim that it has magical brainwashing powers sounds like nonsense.

K.D. Absolutely says

Ken Keyes, Jr. (1921-1995) must have been part of the reason why the cold war ended in 1989. This book, **The Hundredth Monkey** was published in 1982 at the height of nuclear arm armaments build up between the USA and the former USSR.

I should know. I graduated from my first college degree – a paramedical course - in 1984 and when I went back to our family's house in Quezon City, our bathroom wall was fully plastered with all these posters and articles about the impending nuclear doom. Since the college where I just graduated from was run by apolitical Jesuit priests and my course had nothing to do with politics, I just did not know how to react to those information. I just wanted to work, earn a living, marry my girlfriend and start my own family. In short, and this is a late confession, I did not do anything to contribute to the end of the cold war. I did not even pray or contribute to the collective consciousness that led to the fall of the Berlin Wall. When it happened, I was already 25 years old and already working while finishing my second college degree and all I remembered now was that I was flipping this newly-arrived coffee book in the university's library showing all the colorful and huge pictures about the fall of that wall.

If I only knew about this book and I had money to spend, I would have heeded what Keyes was suggesting: buy copies of this and distribute to my friends. This book is based on the idea of *hundredth monkey effect* which is a supposed phenomenon in which a learned behavior spreads instantaneously from one group of monkeys to all related monkeys once a critical number is reached. By generalization it means the instantaneous, paranormal spreading of an idea or ability to the remainder of a population once a certain portion of that population has heard of the new idea or learned the new ability. The study originated in Japan where a group of scientists observed this behavior in *Makaka fuscata* monkeys that in 1952 were abundantly living in the island of Koshima among other nearby islands. They were fed with boiled sweet potato dropped on the sand. They liked the potato but they hated the dirt. One young monkey learned to wash the potato in the nearby stream. Other monkeys learned from him. When the 100th monkey got the trick, the practice became known to the monkeys in the other islands as if the monkeys communicated in a paranormal way.

So, the objective of this book was to help in gathering 100 monkeys, err ...human beings to oppose, only by

thinking about it, the nuclear build up of both countries and it must have worked since the Berlin Wall fell, the USSR disintegrated and China opened up its economy and hosted the 2008 Olympics.

Now that the whole world is facing a serious threat of Global Terrorism, I think somebody should rewrite a similar book since this felt quite dated now and Keyes is already dead. However, the idea still stays: if we all collect our thoughts into stopping the evil, regardless in which side you belong, then there is nothing impossible.

James Williams says

This books attempts to raise the conscious awareness of individuals in regards to nuclear weapons. It captures the destruction of producing these deadly weapons, from exposure to radiation and to potential fatal cancer diagnoses in the future. The book purports that there is enough nuclear weapons to annihilate every homo sapien on earth, but we are brainwashed into believe more nuclear warheads keep us safe from our foes. This book seeks to charge every individual with a consciousness to love, peace, and tolerance, in an attempt to eliminate nuclear weapons. It was a fun and extremely quick read. It is worth your time.

Dr. James A. Williams
Author of From Thug to Scholar

Tabatha says

This book isn't the one I was thinking of, but he did reference it. I think I was looking for Lifetide by Lyall Watson which goes into the Hundredth Monkey theory. This one is charmingly dated. I love the way he stresses, as if it were a surprise, that radiation is bad for you! It can cause cancer! Well it's been about 21 years since this was written. Since the dangers of nuclear war are well-known and feared, perhaps this book did what it was supposed to do. Although we haven't completely disarmed yet, maybe this book did reach the hundredth monkey.

I feel like I should now mail this to India or Pakistan. North Korea?

Barbara says

Looking back across the years at some of what has happened since this book was first published in 1982 - including Chernobyl; the rise in the number of cancer cases; the ozone depletion - the predictions are frighteningly accurate.

Wes says

So this is more of a pamphlet, really. If you have about 45 minutes to kill, you can crush this because at the most, there are three paragraphs on a page in large enough font for a children's book.

That being said, the message is a simple and wonderful one that we all inherently know. We should really stop fucking with nuclear weapons and learn to love one another better than we have been up to this point.

Whether or not you believe in the Jungian Hundredth Monkey Idea it is clear that Keyes deeply cares for the human race and really wants to make a better place for all of us to live in. At one time it was essential for Keyes to spread his ideas through printed material like this, but I imagine that with the explosion of the Internet Keyes no longer needs to publish tracts like this, but can put them up online and reach millions instantly.

Moments of Kabir says

What you can gather from the book is.....

Chris Brown wrote, "Biologists Observe Evidence of Dream State Communications.
(portions of Ken Keyes book follow)

The story of the Hundredth Monkey.

Written from memory by Christopher A. Brown 12/19/02 from a reading of the original book produced by the team of biologists studying the *Macaca Fuscata* on Yoshimi island in the 1950's.

The bios had been watching the monkeys for many years and had come to know them so well that they had names for them. One year there was a tremendous period of storms lasting over three months. The monkeys inhabited a valley that mouthed at the sea in a cove. There was a wide floodway that emptied near the center of the cove.

On one side of the cove there was large stand of trees bearing fruit that was the major food source for the monkeys. That side had no water. The other side had a spring and some fruit trees but not as much food generally.

It had been very dry and most of the monkeys were spending their nights on the side with the spring so water was available in the morning. later they would cross the small valley and harvest fruit to return later in the day for water.

One night the storms began with a exceedingly heavy downpour. So much rain fell that the monkeys could not cross in the morning to the side with food. The monkeys searched out what food they could find. This was not the most plentiful time of year. The biologists worried about the large population on the side with little food and projected that the food would not last long.

After about two weeks the monkeys were starving and the rain continued every few days or so keeping the flood channel 2 to 3 feet deep and flowing 15 to 20 mph. In this period the bios had decided to break their primary rule. To feed the monkeys interfering with the validity of their research. They reasoned they had been their for years and learned most of what was valuable about the behavior of their subjects while watching with telescopes from their floating barge blinds just beyond the gentle waves. They were able to see well enough to tell individuals apart and had developed names for them to distinguish them in their notes. They had become attached to their subjects and had affection for them. This sentiment overcame the strict scientific attitude of no interference and it was decided to help the monkeys to survive.

Sweet potatoes had been ordered up for the bios because they kept well and there were many on hand. A method of delivery had been devised that kept the bios hidden and actually provided a new type of observational study of the monkeys. In the night a raft was dispatched from a barge and taken into the mouth of the fresh water outlet. Beaching in fresh water flow, the bags of sweet potatoes would be dipped in the fresh water to remove what human smell could be washed away. The potatoes were then thrown by the bios onto the sand, spreading them out providing opportunity for the diverse group to be separate in the discoveries of the food in the hopes to reduce squabbling. When the wet potatoes hit the sand and rolled the sand stuck to them thickly.

The monkeys on the side with plentiful food still had plenty. A week or two went by and the bios watched the monkeys gather and eat the potatoes. They did not like the sand on them. Some nights it was raining still and they were washed on one side. The monkeys enjoyed them more. Around this time the routine of waking up in the middle of the night became tiresome and everyone was taking turns. The heavy rainfall gathered on the wide flat beach and formed a puddle during one particularly heavy rain. The puddle broke over the edge of the fresh water creek flowing to the ocean lowering the average 2 foot bank and created an eddy area where the bios could get closer to adjacent banks to distribute some of the potatoes. A few days after the potatoes were distributed there the first potatoes was washed.

One morning a baby female monkey with her aunt was near the fresh water eddy handling a sandy potatoes. The baby went down the easy slope to the fresh water and rinsed it off before eating it. The bios had several observation barges and one had a diagonal view upstream to the eddy. Through the powerful telescope they could see the baby enjoyed the clean potato much more than the gritty one. This continued for over a week. Suddenly one morning the aunt, after the baby female washed her potato, took hers to the fresh water and followed the actions of the baby. Within a day or two her mate had mimicked the behavior. After a week and a half the practice had spread to the extended family of perhaps 15 to 20 monkeys. Slowly over the next 3 weeks up to 70 or 80 monkeys were washing potatoes in fresh water. The bios were having no trouble counting the monkeys involved with the practice until the numbers reached this point. They did their best comparing notes and they moved a barge to give a better view of an up stream area where a few monkeys had taken potatoes to eat. Around this time it was decided to distribute most of the potatoes nearer the ocean so they could observe and count the monkeys who were washing the potatoes better.

Sometime just before this the monkeys on the other side were beginning to starve. They had depleted all of the food growing naturally there and the bios had no trouble in deciding to break their rule a second time. One had decided to leave the island and explain to a higher authority why they needed such an increase in potatoes. They explained that they had garnered all the usable information they could from the monkeys over the last for or five years when the monkeys were living in a natural state and that there was a new opportunity to study the learning structures in the community of monkeys by feeding them. Larger quantities of potatoes were delivered.

(note) In the original book telling this story there was a break from the account of the monkeys behavior to note that there was a distance of perhaps three hundred feet between the two banks of the fresh water creeks and that the monkeys could not see each other or did not even pay any attention to the monkeys on the other side. Only in the upstream areas where the channel was narrower did the monkeys even notice their counterparts on the opposite banks. There was a mention that predators existed in the thicker vegetation and the monkeys liked to stay in the open near between few trees for sanctuary if needed. It was stated in this portion that because of what happened next that the bios realized that the retelling of the story, as it had happened, might be questioned due to the possibility that the monkeys on one side had learned from watching the monkeys on the other. The original story emphasized that the monkeys on one side almost never even noticed the monkeys on the other side. It was speculated that the monkeys could not see well at those distances. This realization contributed to the bios decision to distribute the potatoes closer to the ocean to improve the counting of the potato washing. In the beginning they had worried that the monkeys that rarely spent time by the ocean might notice the barges floating at the back edge of the waves while collecting

potatoes nearer the ocean. it was also stated that the fresh water channel widened some making it very unlikely that monkeys near the ocean could see at all, monkeys on the other side.

At a point when about 90 monkeys were washing potatoes in fresh water the original baby monkey to first wash its potato went to the ocean to do so. It was speculated by the bios that the move of the potato distribution took the baby monkey away from its area of easy access to the fresh water and forced the baby to go to the ocean to rinse its potato. The bios noticed that the baby relished its potato greatly after rinsing in salt water. A few days later after washing the potato in salt water the aunt noticed the increased pleasure of the baby eating somewhat more potato than it had and going back and forth to the ocean for rinsing. the aunt again learned from the baby female and followed her to the ocean to rinse her food.

The learning spread quicker, the count the bios had been struggling to keep was approaching 100. At this time the monkeys on the other side were still eating sandy potatoes. One morning all of the monkeys on the side where the feeding began went to the ocean to rinse their potatoes. A few days later the all of the monkeys on the other side did the same.

the bios were astounded and immediately documented independent of the funding source what they had observed and wrote the original book titled, "the Hundredth Monkey" because by their very best count it was right at 100 when all of the monkeys on the side first fed began to rinse their food in fresh water. the bios noted that for a time prior to that a number of mostly older monkeys did not learn to wash potatoes at all even though they had tasted the food washed in fresh water."

A friend of Mr. Brown's, (over a decade ago) insisted that he read another account of the Hundredth Monkey. It was written by the team of biologists referred to in this account. The story was a little different but basically the same. The one important thing left out in this account was the fact that one day the monkeys woke up and they ALL were washing the potatoes.

If monkeys can do this it is logical to assume that we can do it better, more completely in a larger variety of ways.

What if the group had NO conscious awareness or control over the information? What would control the sharing of information? Compulsions? Is this why our society is out of control?

To check the story out that Mr. Brown shares, visit:
<http://truthasaur.com/psychology/100t...>

Ant says

No bad, succinct & full of information & anecdotes as to why nuclear weapons are really not a good idea at all. Published in 1982, it seemed to have made an impact on the Soviet/US arms race. Either that or just a stroke of luck. A little preachy at times but then again it really is a topic one should feel passionate about. It appears every line is a potent mantra as to the evils of nuclear arms & energy. The book concludes with a brief sermon on the true root of all evil; Not the enemy, not even the bombs, but the spiritual isolation our society places each one of us in & the resulting Us Vs. Them mentality. A good little read. Fast paced & crisp.
