

Quote Bank: Intercultural Understanding

Purpose: These quotes are designed to surface cultural assumptions, multiple perspectives, and ethical tensions.

Identity & Perspective

- “We don’t see things as they are; we see them as we are.” (Anaïs Nin)
- “The single story creates stereotypes, and the problem with stereotypes is not that they are untrue, but that they are incomplete.” (Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie)
- “I am not what happened to me, I am what I choose to become.” (Carl Jung)
- “A person who has not done his duty as a human being is a failure, no matter how successful he is.” (Rabindranath Tagore)

Belonging & Difference

- “Diversity is being invited to the party; inclusion is being asked to dance.” (Verna Myers)
- “It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognise, accept, and celebrate those differences.” (Audre Lorde)
- “True belonging doesn’t require you to change who you are; it requires you to be who you are.” (Brené Brown)
- “Harmony is not sameness; it is agreement in difference.” (Confucius)

Voice & Silence

- “I raise up my voice—not so that I can shout, but so that those without a voice can be heard.” (Malala Yousafzai)
- “Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.” (Martin Luther King Jr.)
- “Silence becomes cowardice when occasion demands speaking out the whole truth and acting accordingly.” (Mahatma Gandhi)

Language & Power

- “If you speak only one language, you live in only one world.” (Czech proverb)
- “Until the lion learns how to write, every story will glorify the hunter.” (West African proverb)