

**The World Academy of Arts, Literature and Media
- WAALM -
SCHOOL OF CULTURAL DIPLOMACY**



Diplomatic Journal

60Qs WITH

Maestro

SATTAR

Pop-tenor Vocal Artist



On Role of Music in Peace, Understanding and Social Awareness

“Tolerance begins with willingness to understand”

Maestro Sattar

DJ: *Maestro, welcome to our Journal.*

M° S: Thank you

As you know, vocal artists and music communities around the world, often through various programmes try to facilitate understanding, dialogue and encourage social awareness. In one of your recent recorded songs in name of ‘Unison’ created by Maestro Alami, written by Mr Zokaie, your lyrics reads:

*“We are tired of deceit and trickery;
We’ve become acquainted with the pain of grief;*

*A shimmering sky, a world without lies,
without hate;*

*They were all we wished for.
A new and blessing world of wondrous beauty;
We never desired a world as is today”.*

And it goes on....

*“The day, when the heart of the world
Beats with love and freedom;
Life will smile on all people.
...we will be freed of sorrow..”*

Q1 - How do you view the role of music and the vocal artists in particular, in raising the bars of social awareness? For example, in areas such as ‘tolerance’ and ‘peace’.



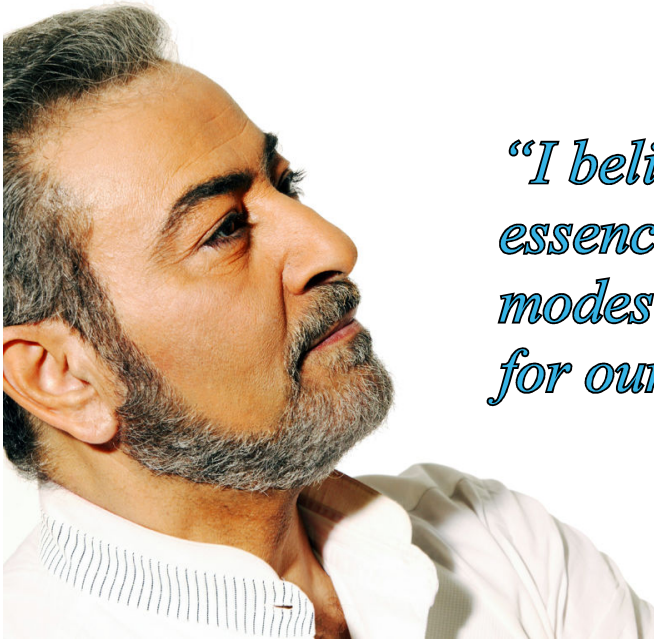
M° S: We need to realize that before agreement comes understanding. Once understanding based on mutual respect is established, agreement can follow later.

Tolerance begins with willingness to understand.

Accordingly, having peace requires tolerance and music can contribute to the promotion of understanding through its universal language.

In my opinion, vocalists have a very important role here to play. Because through their music, people of all the nations can feel their emotions.

I believe it is my obligation to promote peace through my music.



“I believe we should retain the essence of human values & modesty to shape a better future for our children ”

DJ: After nearly 40 years, your career is still dynamic. Not only you are an extraordinary icon but also a true ambassador for Persian music all over the world. You have performed on many renowned stages, from Royal Albert Hall in England, Kodak Theater in the US to LanExss Arena in Germany. You are often invited to international arts and music festivals, which clearly shows your interest in Cultural Diplomacy.

Q2 – In your view, how can ‘Music’ contribute into promotion of dialogue?

M° S: It is simply true that music has 7 notes but musicians from different parts of the world create variety of music with their own emotions and unique features that can interact and touch the people’s feelings.

As you know I sing in Persian, but at international events people often tell me that they feel my lyrics through my melodic voice. I am humbled as an artist to be able to convey my people’s emotions.

No matter what language one speaks or from which culture or nationality, music can be automatically translated by your feelings.

DJ: You have always been caring and sensitive to the calls for solidarity: your name is often found heading the list of artists appearing at projects to support causes close to your heart. And despite of your extraordinary achievements as a renowned artist, you are approachable!

Q3 - What makes you to be a caring individual?

M° S: Our Persian poet ‘Saadi’, wrote a poem eight centuries ago, which is a motto on the entrance of the United Nations’ building.

Saadi eloquently manifested:

*“Human beings are members of a whole,
In creation of one essence and soul.
If one member is afflicted with pain,
Other members uneasy will remain.
If you have no sympathy for human pain,
The name of human you cannot retain”.*

I believe we should retain the essence of human values and modesty in order to shape a better future for our children.





“I shall not take my gift of singing light & will continue to bring message of hope”

Q4 – If you would be able to get one message across the world, what would that message be?

M° S: Treasure love and passion.

Q5 – Any particular experience that you wish to share with your peers and those who are reading this interview?

M° S: Despite of living in Diaspora since 1979, I have had the privilege of meeting with my compatriots as well as Persian speakers of other nations around the world in concert halls and international cultural events and have their love and supports. I shall not take my gift of singing light and will do everything in my power to continue to bring joy and message of hope to their lives.

Q6 – For those who wish to follow you, please tell us about your current and upcoming projects and productions.

M° S: My new album is on its way and hopefully will be out by the end of this year. For more on that and other activities I invite everybody to visit my site or Blog.

DJ: Maestro Sattar, thank you for accepting our invitation to attend this exclusive interview.

M° S: My pleasure



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It is an electronic journal, a media center for WAALM – School of Cultural Diplomacy.

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