



## Global Issues and Peace Movements

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### Abstract

Peace is the cherished goal of mankind. It cannot be achieved by peaceful measures and cannot be achieved by a group of people or a particular country exclusive of others. It can be realized only through mutual understanding, international harmony and world brotherhood. Peace is one of the most cherished goals of the nations of the world. The peace movement began concentrating on stopping the threat of nuclear war, halting the arms race, and encouraging disarmament. Somewhat parallel to this, the issues of environmental protection and development found their place in peace education programs. Without peace, it is very difficult to achieve other goals like economic and social progress peace became all the more essential as the wars became very destructive and bloody due to development of dangerous weapons in the twentieth century.

**Keywords:** disarmament, destructive, reconciliation, democracy, globalization

### Introduction

The peace movement is primarily characterized by a belief that humans should not wage war on each other or engage in violent ethnic cleansings over language, race or natural resources or ethical conflict over religion or ideology. The Peace Movement tends to oppose the proliferation of dangerous technologies and weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons and biological warfare, for example the 43<sup>rd</sup> president of the United States efforts pursued nonproliferation in the Middle East. The 'peace movements' of yesterday have come of age. No longer confined to a single issue, they have diversified into the full range of issues contributing to a culture of peace: human rights, democracy, social justice, protection of the environment, international solidarity, gender equality. No longer restricted to protest against government policy, they are creating new forms of solidarity and positive action, promoting reconciliation, building bridges and cultivating peace.

### Functions of Human Rights Movements:

Human rights movements are playing crucial role in creating awareness among people and become an important means for protection of rights, democratic norms and attainment of social justice. Through movement various neglected and deprived sections are finding a voice. Hence human rights movements give necessary strength to democracy.

Human right movements the world over have a major role to play to guarantee peace and the survival of the world. The dangers that the human rights movements face have to be confronted head on. This confrontation is only possible if the national, regional and continental human rights movements become powerful, vibrant and acquire a mass following. Such movements will strengthen the international human rights movements that are important pillars in facing the challenges posed by the enemies of human rights.

### Equitable Economic World Order

The world of today consists of consists of nearly 200 states, which are also known as countries. They are similar in many ways. Each enjoys independence, with a government to administer and army to protect the country against foreign invaders. But, at the same time, states are different in their geographical size, population, natural resources, economic conditions and type of government, etc. However, no country – whether strong or weak, big or small – can afford to conduct its affairs in isolation. They need to live together and work with others for mutual benefit. Although world affairs is mainly the sum total of relations among states, it is not limited to states only. Contact and cooperation between ordinary people like us in our capacities as tourists, journalists, businessmen, sportsmen, etc. are growing very fast. With satellite technology and introduction of mobile, telephone conversations between people living in distant countries has become easy. Not only this but also the live telecasts of sports. Political or cultural events or even of wars are brought to our sitting rooms by cable television. All these developments have virtually made the huge world into a village where a sense of togetherness prevails and problems are handled in that spirit. Hence, it is essential for us to be aware of the happenings around the world. That necessarily includes trends in world around us and also its problems.

### Meaning of World Order

'Order' indicates a condition in which everything is in its correct place. It also refers to respect for and enforcement of rules. Day-to-day activities would be normal and peaceful if order exists. In the world affairs, order brings a certain method in the way one country conducts its affairs with other states. The method can be noticed in the form of a set of rules and principles, which are commonly accepted and respected by governments. These rules and principles include equality of all countries, that

one country should not interfere in the internal affairs of another state, that force should not be used or even threatened in the bilateral relations, that prisoners of wars and refugees should be treated humanely, etc. For assisting countries to make and implement these rules, they often establish common institutions like the United Nations. They are meant to assist in sorting out differences and problems between countries through dialogue and diplomacy.

### **Globalization and Economic World Order**

Globalization is a process of integrating the world into one market to enable easy movement of capital, goods, information and even workers across borders with no barriers. Private firms can invest and disinvest at will, locate production centers at a profit yielding or cost reduction anywhere in the world, hire employees of foreign origin on cheaper rates, assign work to far away people with the desired skills and experience, and flood markets in the developing countries with consumer and other goods for sale at rates competitive to local products, and safely take back profits. All this is happening with the help of technology, access to which is not yet universal or equal. The globalization process as manifested in the activities of multinational corporations, media giants and non-governmental organizations has considerably undermined the sovereign prerogatives of the state structure in the Third World. Territorial borders identified with nation state have become less effective to check ill effects of globalization. The bulk of the world community – the developing countries – has become part of globalization with great hope. Let us look at India's experience. With strengths like well-developed and highly competitive computer software industry, the availability of technical and skilled work force and its potential as a very large middle class market, India has hopes to benefit in the era of globalization. Since 1991, India changed the orientation of its economic policy by injecting pronounced features of privatization, liberalization of rules for foreign investment, and disinvestment of public sector companies. Customers are flooded with an amazing choice of goods in the market – from motor cars to food products. India's exports have gone up especially in service sector, investments have come into the country, and our foreign exchange reserves are extremely comfortable. Overall, India during globalization has emerged as one of the fastest growing economies in the world.

### **Role of World Organization in promoting peace**

Peace is one of the most cherished goals of the nations of the world. Without peace, it is very difficult to achieve other goals like economic and social progress. Peace became all the more essential as the wars became very destructive and bloody due to development of dangerous weapons in the twentieth century. Moreover, a number of countries and their people are experiencing the negative effects of wars. Hence, leaders of the world joined hands to prevent war and to manage the peaceful relations among the nations. That is the reason why the United Nations was created at the end of Second World War. The United Nations was created to work for peace in all

parts of the world. In fact, peace is its top most aim. United Nations is today the most important organization dedicated to world peace. Many organs of the United Nations work for peace. The efforts of Security Council, the General Assembly and the Secretary General are notable. There have been more than 300 wars after the Second World War. But to the credit of the United Nations, Third world war has not occurred.

### **The position of Peace education during the World war**

The understanding of the concept of peace has changed throughout history, and so has its role and importance in the educational system from the very beginnings of the institutionalized socialization of children. The end of world war I (1914-1918) brought powerful support for the need for international cooperation and understanding that helped instill a desire to include these ideas in educational systems. The League of Nations and a number of non-governmental organizations worked together on these ideas, especially through the International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation, an organization that was the predecessor of the Intellectual Cooperation, an organization that was the predecessor of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The World War II (1939-1945) ended with millions of victims and the frightening use of atomic weapons against Japan, at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In 1946 UNESCO was founded as an umbrella institution of the United Nations, and it was charged with planning, developing and implementing general changes in education according to the international politics of peace and security.

### **Development of peace education**

The statute of this organization reinforced the principles of the role of education in the development of peace, and a framework was created for including and applying the principles of peace in the general world education systems. The cold war division of the world after World War II and the strategy of the balance of fear between the so-called west and east bloc's redirected the peace efforts. The peace movement began concentrating on stopping the threat of nuclear war, halting the arms race, and encouraging disarmament. Somewhat parallel to this, the issues of environmental protection and development found their place in peace education programs. The contemporary sociopolitical environment (particularly the events in Eastern Europe since the early 1990s, the fear of terrorism, and the increasing gap between developed and undeveloped countries) has created new challenges for the understanding of peace and for the development of the underlying principles of responsibility and security.

### **Conclusion**

The twenty-first century looks forward to creating and consolidating an enlightened platform for teacher education where training and orientation of education for peace encompass a spirit of catholicity and vastness of vision that accommodates and enriches the culture of science in teaching-learning. It is time to realize that the teacher is not simply a taskmaster or an analyst and

evaluator but a learner are well, more a learner than a teacher in the culture of peace. He is a learner-assistant, cordial partner and appreciator of peace Education as it ought to be. His prayer is: Let me wholeheartedly unite myself in idealizing and upholding peace in close cooperation with my learner-students. Let us be joint pathfinders of the world of peace. Let us sing together the victory of peace even under absolutely challenging situations.

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