

THE CONTEMPORARY ISSUES AND SIGNIFICANCE OF PEACE EDUCATION IN INDIA

SHRUTI ANAND

Assistant Professor, Faculty of Education, S. S. Khanna Girls Degree College, University of Allahabad, Allahabad,
Uttar Pradesh, India

ABSTRACT

In present scenario, the entire world is running behind the materialistic living and self-satisfaction of modern needs irrespective of thinking about the social world and society where they exist, and it has made the living more complex and miserable. With the passage of time, they realize the importance of peace in their life and within them. People, no wonder, are living only for self happiness which comes from peace but they are unaware of it and busy in satisfying it from materialistic needs. Peace is nothing but the state of soul consciousness in which lies the true happiness of human beings. Many of laureates has expressed their views regarding peace in different context such as, social context, individual context, global context, etc. All have them have their different importance. For instance, an individual context, by J. Krishnamoorthy, man himself is world. He is the only source of peace in world. Therefore, it says, that no other living being has requirement of peace or soul satisfaction but only humans are the one who needs peace and thats the basic requirement to live satisfactory life.

Peace itself have an immense importance in world even it has been expressed in Veda, i.e., $\text{vkVe } ?\text{kkS\% 'kkfUr vUrfj\{kHoa 'kkfUr i`Foh 'kkfUrkj;\% 'kkfUrkj\%kk/k;\% 'kkfUr orLirk;\% 'kkfUrfo'osns\% 'kkfUrcz\text{a} 'kkfUr loZ 'kkfUr 'kkfUr jso 'kkfUr lk ek 'kkfUr jsf/kA 'kkfUr\%A 'kkfUr!!$ which clears explains the state of peace in human life and its importance. Human are required to understand the importance of peace in their living but many of the people are unaware of peace actually is irrelevant of understanding peace they are running behind other unimportant things. For this purpose peace education is required. Peace education is nothing but an education which helps in development of humans and leads them to live a better and meaningful life. Today, Humans are standing in the middle of cross road unaware of which road to go. Peace education helps them in walking to the right path and lives the utmost sensible life. Peace education with every section of life, it teaches human about every context of life such as, social, personal, democracy, religion, conflicts etc. and teaches humans how to deal with failures and high time of their life.

KEYWORDS: Peace Education, Significance and Issues in Peace Education

INTRODUCTION

In the era of globalisation, we see so many confusions, conflicts and turmoil every where. Majority of us are running behind the materialistic achievement and self happiness. No one is worried about the peace of society and the surrounding environment. Our needs are becoming enormous. We become selfish and demanding. Therefore our life has become complex and miserable. These are the factors which are affecting our life.

Peace is nothing but only a state of mind. When a person is in the state of soul consciousness only then we can say that a man has found true happiness. In other words peace is a virtue which we develop through regular practice. There are so many views in different context about peace.

Some thinkers relate the peace to absence of war and some relate it to social justice and secure society.

Ian M. Harris (1988) explains "Peace is a concept which motivates the imagination, connotes more than the cessation of war, implies human beings working together to resolve conflicts, respect standards of justice, satisfy basic needs and honour human rights".

Guttung J. (1969) described about peace that peace is the positive concept which implies much, rather it is the practice of love and necessary conditions of human survival.

Federico Mayor explain that Peace is possible for life at all stages and it is up to man choose his destiny or suffer from the harrow of war. Today mankind is at the cross road where it has to choose between these two with courage determination and imagination.

When we talk about peace in individual context or in personal it will be a subjective term. According to **J. Krishnamoorthy** man him self is world. He is the only source of peace in the world. He describes that the peace as a freedom from violence. He wrote that if we know how to look at violence, not only outwardly in society, the wars the riots the national antagonism and class conflicts but also in ourselves then perhaps we shall be able to go beyond it. That means peace is an experience of inner calmness by and individual himself by practice.

Concept of Peace

In social context, peace implies social justice and secured society thus peace in society has been subject of discussion. Justice and social security has been also discussed in Rigved. There is a peace chant which declared that state or Rajya should have proper management to punish any person who indulge in evil work. Justice should be provided to every person. They also pray to God that weaker person should be secured by powerful citizen or man. It means, peace depends on social justice, collective and secured society. Plato a western philosopher, gave an idea of justice. According to him, the nature of social justice could be discovered only by strengthening the harmony in the state. Karl Marx's concept of classless society, Gandhian theory of Non Violence and Ram Rajya are some of the contemporary thoughts which lays down path towards peace.

In the Global context, peace is associated with absence of war and global trades. World witnessed two world war in 19th century. Thanks to Paris convention we saw a ray of hope in United Nations towards peace. Today we have many conventions and treaties which had lead us to bury the hatchet and solve all the problems on table through negotiation. Democracy has replaced Monarchy. Now people elect and change their government through peaceful manner by exercising their voting right.

However on economic front we still find division in society as well as among the states some time it appears that powerful countries exploit the poor countries. It is after alleged that world trade rules are tented in favour of rich countries. It ultimately create turbulence in smooth water. As a result we find many kind of conflict in various part of world like Nexalism, Separatism, Terrorism, Bigotism and sometimes coup against democratically elected Government which breaches peace of society at large.

Thus peace has immense importance in world without peace we can't have an orderly society. Veda also incorporates a peace chant - vk·e lkS% 'kkfUr vUrfj{kXoa 'kkfUr i`Foh 'kkfUr ---- 'kkfUrjso% 'kkfUr (which declares that Prithavi, Antariksha, Vayu, Agni Aushadhi, Vanaspati, Aakash, Patal everything should be in peaceful

state, when all things will be in proper manner human beings will be secured from natural disaster.

What is Peace Education

Every body has right to live their life according to their choice. Peace will be the first requirement by which they can live happily. **Fedenco Mayor** said "Peace is possible for life at all stages and it is up to man to choose his destiny or to suffer from the harrows of war. Today mankind is at the cross-road where he has to choose with courage, determination and imagination. Education is a better way to suggest how they choose a better life. Education is a tool of development. Any development is directly related to human beings and other natural creatures. Non living and living things are affected from development in a negative way too. It suggests that peace of society will be surely disturbed by some development programmes.

It means education is also associated with peace. Peace education is a process by which we can change our attitudes and behaviour about violent conflicts, acquiring the values, the knowledge and developing the skill and behaviours to live in harmony with others. It is a means by which we can change our thinking and approaches.

Peace education is the education about how to make or to develop such type of society where justice and peace should be present and every body lives with happiness.

Koichiro Matura the Ex Director General of UNESCO, has stated by recognizing Peace education as being of fundamental importance to the mission of UNESCO and the United Nations. He also defines the peace education as a training for conflict resolution, such as learning to manage anger improve communication skill, resolve interpersonal disputes.

Jeffries R. (71, 19-22) a Pioneer Meditation

A pioneer meditation coordinator says that conflict is very natural and normal but you can't go through your entire life beating every body you have to learn different ways to resolve conflicts.

According to **R. D. Laing** (1978) a peace education is an attempt to respond to problems of conflict and violence on scales ranging from global and national to the local and personal. It is about exploring ways of creating more just and sustainable futures.

Dimensions of Peace Education

If we agree that the peace education is a training process for developing our positive attitude, and behaviours among other, then this education has several dimensions which can be enumerated as below:

- Education for war control.
- Education for develop tolerance in human beings.
- Education to establish positive willingness and unity for international society.
- Education for promotion of human right for salving to the problem of social discrimination.
- Education for conflict resolution.
- Education for democracy.

- Education for international understanding.
- Education for environmental responsibility.
- Education for coexistence and general equality.
- Some have also addressed a dimension that is spiritual dimensions.

Objectives of Peace Education

Objective of peace education can be stated as below:-

- To grow ability in student for giving space to all living being.
- To enhance ability in student for religious tolerance.
- To inculcate positive attitude towards religious and moral values.
- To develop interest in student about world wide knowledge and judicious thinking through broad mindness.
- To develop the emotional attitude of co-existence and positive attitude towards every human beings.
- To create the awareness in children, young people and adults about justice and injustice.

Curriculum for Peace Education

When we have decided the aim and objectives of peace education, now the question arises how these aims and objectives would be achieved. Only after resolving this we can decide curriculum for peace education.

Many countries have developed the curriculum for peace education which is based on different activities like communication, co-ordination and problem solving. In India peace education can be taught in.

On Primary Level: By very simple method like story telling, poems and games.

On Secondary Level: Secondary level of teaching is related upto age of 16 years student. This level of students has different mental abilities and emotional attitudes so according to their thinking process, peace education should be given by Bio-Graphics of Ideal persons who had sacrificed themselves for peace.

On Higher Level: Higher level of study is related to research and higher study because of that curriculum of peace, its need, importance, methodology for teaching, peace education and its impact on family, society and world. At this level we can also teach about different institutions and their works for peace like UNO, UNESCO, Red Cross and Scout Guide. We can educate about different philosophers and their views about peace.

Teaching Methods for Peace Education

For peace education some methods by which we can inculcate the values for peace among different level of student are inter alia as follows:

- Jurisprudential Model of Teaching
- Role Playing
- The Enquiry Method

- Introspection
- Nishedh Vidhi
- Literary Activities
- Social Service Camps
- Yoga & Meditation
- Games & Sports

Jurisprudential Model of Teaching

This model is used to teach:

- Moral dilemma
- Confront a moral dilemma
- State a position on the original moral dilemma
- Testing the reasoning for a position on moral dilemma
- Reflect on a reason for the position are the steps which consist this model.

Role Playing

Through this method students explore human relation and problem by enacting problem situation. Through this method students can explore feeling, attitudes values and problem solving method.

The Enquiry Method

This method is also called problem solving method. Defining the problem developing a tentative solution, collecting and classifying data related to the problem, testing these evidences and generalising the results, are the procedure which are involve in this method.

Introspection

By this method any individual introspects himself and become aware of his strengths and weaknesses. This process leads to self improvement and self awakenings.

Nishedh Vidhi

From the ancient times our Rishies told us that what to do is useful, what should we do and what should we not do. It means from the early childhood we can teach peace education by using this method.

Literary Activities

Some literary activities are very interesting way to motivate students for peace education. These activities are painting, Quiz, Drama, Poetry etc.

Social Camp

Some extra curricular activities can be used in this method i.e. Red Cross, Bharat Scout & Guides, N. C. C., N. S. S. Camp.

Meditation and Yoga

Meditation and Yoga includes physical purification, mental calmness, physical exercises and breathing exercises. By these exercises student will able to control their emotions.

Games and Sports

Games provides satisfaction, tranquility and relaxation of mind to students. The games provide them positive energy. Games provides sportsmanship and teachers the student to tackle the positive as well as the negative situation.

CONCLUSIONS

Peace education has its own level as per the human requirements. Every human has its own mental level such as, adolescence, adult, old. Everyone has different maturity level as well as understanding level and peace education deals with it for example, jurisprudential model of teaching, role playing, introspection and Nishedh Vidhi, social service camps, Yoga and Meditation, games and sports etc. There are based on the level of human and these are also teaching methods of peace education. Therefore, the entire details conclude with the statement that peace is a universal truth and need of human life. No matter how old human is and how much high living he has in worldly things at the end what is actually needed is peace and only peace.

At the last we can conclude by saying that peace is the conceptual truth and universal need for every one and we should try for this by formal and informal education. We can trained our generation to make our surrounding peaceful. Knowledge skills, values and action are the methods to imbibe the peace education in students.

REFERENCES

1. Harris Ian and Synott Jhon (2002). Peace Education for a new century, Social Alternatives, 21 (1): 3-6.
2. Galtung Johan (1975). Essay's in Peace Research Volume I- Copenhagen Eljers, pp. 334-339.
3. Ian M. Harris (1988). Peace Education London Mc Farland and Company Mc Publication.
4. Upadhyay Pratibha. Education for Peace Utopia or Reality, Kalpaz Publication.
5. J. Krishnamorti Freedom from violence is true liberation, except from total freedom. The Times of India 2009, Jan 25.
6. Rawl J. (1971). A theory of Justice Cambridge Mass.
7. Government of India (1986). Report of National Policy on Education New Delhi MHRD Govt. of India.
8. Government of India (1953). Report of Secondary Education Commission New Delhi Ministry of Education.
9. Mookerje R. K. Ancient Indian Education.

10. NCERT (2006). National Curriculum Framework 2005, Position Report Focus Group of Education for Peace
New Delhi N. C. E. R. T.
11. Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, htm file://1H:/Peace education.
12. Jeffries R. Examining barriers to effective peace education reform. Contemporary Education 71, 19-22.

