

Concept of Peace and Peace Education in India

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Foreword

In the context of India, the current concept of peace education is a natural extension of the global mindset that emerged after the Second World War. The United Nations and its allied organizations proposed substantial changes in education for world peace, suggesting the establishment of peace education as a compulsory subject in schools and colleges. In India, peace education has become a subject of study and teaching in schools and universities. However, its curriculum and teaching methods have a Western framework. Its objective also seems to be merely to protect against the horrors of war. Therefore, it does not align with the current context of India. It is necessary to incorporate some new elements and concepts to make it relevant to the Indian soil. The reasons for peace and unrest in the Indian subcontinent call for a different kind of exploration. While the cause of unrest in the world could be just war, in the Indian subcontinent, the cause of unrest has been the civilization and culture brought from foreign lands. This resulted in the partition of India on 15th August 1947, leading to widespread unrest among the Indian population. The seeds of unrest were sown across the Indian land. Presently, India is again facing the threat of internal and intellectual division. The reason for this is the effort to uproot Indian civilization by the civilization and culture brought from outside. If these appropriate causes can be addressed through peace education, such peace education will be useful in the Indian context. India, in its entire history, has never attacked any other country or seized any land. However, due to the structure of Indian society and the political and cultural forces coming from outside, India, which cherishes the concept of global peace, is today struggling with internal unrest. This internal unrest is visible at political, social, and intellectual levels. Recently, the well-known author Arundhati Roy was subjected to the national security law. This indicates intellectual division. For a country that considers freedom of expression as a legal social right, such an act might seem undemocratic. However, a country is bigger than an idea, and an idea is bigger than an individual. When the country is secure, only then can ideas be protected. If the country is not secure, who will protect the ideas? Through the various aspects of education, addressing this unrest should be the aim of peace education. This will undoubtedly be different from global objectives. The distorted form of the caste system, which has been presented by Western historians in an exaggerated manner, has lost its original purpose and its distortion is dividing and weakening society. A divided and weak society creates an unstable country. The caste-based hierarchical system has led to the emergence of class conflict. The Indian constitution, administrative system, and democratic process have not been completely successful in resolving this unrest. Additionally, the religious conflict and hatred caused by religious conversion contribute to this unrest. The attempt to change the demographic composition of Indian land through foreign infiltration and religious conversion has been ongoing since before independence and continues in independent India. These opposing views are eager to completely engulf Indian civilization and culture. The disrespect shown to Indian languages since the British era, which continues even after independence, is causing the fundamental elements of Indian culture to disappear. The excessive preference for English medium in society and government is causing Indians to detach themselves from their values. As a result, a person without values becomes a burden to their civilization and society and sees the nation as an object of exploitation. Similarly, family, society, and various aspects of life start serving only their own purposes. Therefore, internal conflict, gender conflict, linguistic conflict, caste conflict, and religious conflict are present in Indian society. These should be resolved through peace education prevalent in India. Peace education aimed solely at resolving wars will not achieve its purpose. It should also aim to address economic inequality, social inequality, and religious inequality in India, and foster the feeling of human welfare to establish social and political peace.

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By the grace of the Almighty, this book is the result of the continuous requests from the students of teacher training, ensuring that the subject matter of their curriculum is easily accessible.

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This book highlights the Indian context of peace education. It addresses the internal unrest currently faced by India and attempts to find solutions to these problems based on the subject matter of this book, while also connecting the content with global contexts. The technical support of **Ritvez Tiwari and Pranjal Tiwari** has been very important in writing the book. Without their support, I would not have been able to complete this work in such a short time..

I trust that the scholarly community will accept this book and that learned readers will bless the context of this book.

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Editors

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Disarmament and Peace

When humanity struggled for its existence, it felt the necessity of weapons for its defense. It started manufacturing weapons from the resources available in its environment and ensured its security, initially on an individual level. Gradually, this activity became organized by communities and nations. If war relied on weapons, slowly, in the development of science, those weapons were handed over to humans, capable not only of destroying humanity alone but capable of destroying the entire civilization in a large-scale catastrophe. The accumulation of such weapons began, capable of destroying humanity, including the whole world. Imperialism paved the way for the destruction of humanity through the First and Second World Wars, behind which was the creation of destructive weapons. These weapons include nuclear weapons, chemical weapons, and large-scale weapons, which together are capable of destroying large cities and large countries. This trend towards the destruction of humanity's progress is advancing towards the destruction of humanity. Today, the world's superpowers have so many nuclear weapons that the existence of the Earth can be destroyed many times. Therefore, the guardians of world peace have tried to end this arms race, limiting the construction of weapons of mass destruction. At the same time, cuts should be made in the production of war materials in defense budgets. This could save the human race from the catastrophe of war. However, powerful countries want to disarm others to keep their power intact, but they do not want to cut their weapons reserves. As a result, the treaties on disarmament have not been very effective. The current world is also slowly advancing towards the Third World War, which is increasingly dominated by military weapons, including nuclear and chemical weapons. Consequently, disarmament agreements have been ineffective with the United Nations.

Disarmament and Peace:

The production of weapons and the plans to reduce them globally are widely referenced. This is a significant issue in international politics, aimed at reducing the risks of war and violence worldwide. It can be understood through the following examples:

- 1. Civilian Weapon Management :** Many countries have regulated their civilian weapons and kept them under strict control. For example, Australia imposed maximum restrictions on weapons through laws in 1996, leading to a reduction in weapons.
- 2. Post-War Normalization by the United Nations:** After World War II, several normalization programs were initiated through the United Nations, aimed at reducing harmful weapons. For example, the United Nations' "Disarmament Program" started in 1946, which aimed at reducing the preservation of war weapons.
- 3. International Treaties and Agreements :** Many international treaties and agreements promote the reduction of weapons. For example, under the United Nations Treaty Agreement in 2010, the manufacturing, launching, and preservation of artificial weapons were reviewed.

These examples show that various efforts have been made by different nations and international organizations to reference the reduction of weapons, which increases the likelihood of reducing the risks of war and violence. There have been many disarmament treaties worldwide, wherein efforts have been made to reduce the protection and proliferation of weapons. Some significant disarmament treaties are:

1. **Disarmament Agreements :** Many international treaties, such as the United Nations' Disarmament Program, are designed to handle and negotiate the process of disarmament.
2. **International Treaties :** Some significant international treaties specifically reference disarmament of weapons, such as the United Nations' weapon prohibition treaties.
3. **Trade and Disarmament:** Some countries have used their trade relations to prohibit the purchase of weapons, which promotes disarmament.
4. **Initiatives by International Organizations:** Many international organizations, such as the United Nations, create initiatives to focus on and negotiate disarmament.

These treaties and efforts are significant parts of interventions that promote the disarmament process globally, reducing the risks of war and insecurity. Disarmament is extremely important for world peace. Here are some reasons why disarmament is useful for world peace:

1. **Reduces the Risk of War:** The reduction of weapons can reduce the risk of war, as fewer weapons mean a lower threat of conflict.
2. **Promotes Peaceful Dialogue:** Disarmament treaties encourage international agreements, which are important for resolving disputes peacefully.
3. **Reduces Conflicts in the Short Term:** The reduction in the use of weapons can reduce conflicts in the short term, leading to less severe outcomes.
4. **Helps in the Resolution Process:** Disarmament promotes the resolution process between different countries and groups, enabling them to resolve disputes through negotiation.
5. **Promotes Prosperity and Development :** Disarmament supports research, science, and industry, allowing more resources to be allocated to peaceful activities.

For these reasons, disarmament is extremely important for world peace and security.