ROLE OF EDUCATION IN EMPOWERING YOUTH FOR DEVELOPMENT OF PEACEFUL WORLD

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Abstract- The world of today is marred by the race to materialism and satisfying ones need for materialistic pleasures. The world is shrink inking and the understanding and empathy for other human beings is also shrinking. All these lead to dissatisfaction and conflict within the man and its surroundings. In this scenario it becomes imperative that the ways and means to reduce this conflicts be evolved peace education and strategies to inculcate peace is the need of the hour .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. Peace itself have an immense importance in world even it has been expressed in Vedas also that 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. and the role of youth in peace is of utmost importance . At our nation today needs is the power of youth. Young politicians need not have a political background. They need to have zeal and desire to serve the nation. The world is in deep need of such people who hold the fervor of leading a nation or doing good deeds.. According to the latest studies, young people are the ones who are aware of latest things, about which the old people may not be aware of. The old saying, "slow and steady wins the race," has been replaced by, "fast and competent wins the race." Hence on the basis of review from numerous studies present paper would highlight strategies to highlight role of youth in building peaceful nation and empowering them in this process through education. Moreover paper would stress on dimensions of curriculum which could strengthen youth in their journey towards peace.

1. INTRODUCTION

Peace is nothing but the state of soul consciousness in which lies the true happiness of human beings. Peace in itself has an immense importance in world. Human are required to understand the importance of peace in their life but many of the people are unaware of the need for the peace in their lives. For this purpose peace education is required. The role of youth in promoting peace becomes utmost impertinent in this world. Our nation today needs is the power of youth. Young politicians need not have a political background. They need to have zeal and desire to serve the nation. The world is in deep need of such people who hold the fervor of leading a nation or doing good deeds. On the basis of review from numerous studies present paper would highlight strategies to highlight role of youth in building peaceful nation and empowering them in this process through education.

1.1 Role of Youth in Today's Scenario

Youth is the foundation of new generations and civilization. In a world which is increasingly being habituated by the age group 15-24 years old it's imperative that their thought, will and action be incorporated in every sphere of change and development. With eye on their side and technology in their hands and minds filled with ideas and innovations the opportunities for them are immense to communicate, influence and act on their decisions. Moreover the kinds of challenges they are facing are unexpected in history: Challenges of technology, globalization, climate change, inequalities, distress, conflicts etc make them more vulnerable at same time.

Hence participation of youth is inevitable in the whole development. According to UN. Sec, General Ban Ki Moon "**youth are often the first to stand against injustice….young people are a force for transformation**."

Young people have made repeatedly tend their voices for the kind of future they want. Their voices matter because they are the addressing "intergenerational", issues for which the young generation today will become the future custodians.

2. EMPOWERING YOUTH TO BUILD PEACE

"Youth voices in peace building are present everywhere, but sometimes not recognized," Matilda Flemming, leading coordinator at the United Network of Young Peace builders, told Devex. "The creation of spaces for youth to

express their opinion to decision-makers and broader society ensures that they have the opportunity to be heard." The society in general, teacher's parents and community and religious organizations in particular needs to pritorise and form platforms for the youth to express their thoughts and ideas. Social media, internet groups and various forums can lead to better communication and expression of ideas.

2.1 The Peace-Building Knowledge and Skills of Young People Needs to Be Identified and Nurtured

The youths are the future change makers; hence it is imperative that they should be provided with appropriate tools and knowledge to bring forth this change. Teachers, facilitators, counselors, media educational programs and social platforms are the avenues where they can hone their conflict resolution skills and grow into effective leaders. Interventions like music, sports, media, technology informal education, relationship building exercises also help to build the skills of the youth. Infect, it has been found that youths are more likely to remember conflict management lessons they've learned through sports.

2.2 Trust the Youth Especially in Governance and Related Matters

The role and participation of youth in local and national government needs to be understood. Their role and responsibilities in the functioning and implementation of government plans and policies shall strengthen youth toward more responsible citizens. According to Piet Vroeg, Child and Education director at Cordaid, "It's also important to encourage young people to learn about national or regional peace priorities while helping them work toward their own peace priorities."

2.3 Intergenerational Exchange is Vital for the Promotion of Peace

"Young people alone by no means have the answers to the challenges the world and communities around the world are facing. Neither does older generations. By bringing together the vision of young people today, and the experience of older generations, new answers to challenges are created."— Matilda Flemming, leading coordinator at the United Network of Young Peace builder.

Communities, schools and NGOs through partnerships youths can demonstrate the benefits of their peace actions. Such communication and collaboration channels also enable young people and adults to explore the common problems they face and to tackle them together, thus participating in the emergence of sustainable solutions.

Community participation, involving elders in the youth programmes and initiatives, open channels of exchange and communication helps all to understand exchange and explore common solutions to their problems. This will help in reducing conflicts with in family and community at micro level and within nations at macro level.

2.4 Strengthen Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation activities need to be undertaken, improved and made routine across all peace-building initiatives capitalizing on youth engagement. "Surveys, focus groups and interviews are considered as the gold standard of inquiry, but those are adult methods of articulating evidence and showcasing impact, which ultimately benefit only adults,"

2.5 Recognize and Reward the Efforts of Youth

The youths who are inspirational and positive contributors to the peace imative processes needs to be recognized for their efforts and appreciated and rewarded for the same. They should become the face of any peace initiating efforts. The general notion of mistrust on youth especially on sensitive issues results in the feeling of ignorance and being marginalized by others. They believe that their voices are not heard nor their opinion matters. Instead, if they commit violence or misdeeds they are specifically targeted. Prelis noted. "We have to be more conscious, cautious and thoughtful in our approach to youth engagement and avoid sending the message that we only care about you when you cause harm."

3. ROLE OF EDUCATION IN EMPOWERING YOUTH TOWARDS BUILDING PEACEFUL SOCIETY

Education, world over, is considered as a life transforming activity that empowers its receivers to contribute positively to the growth and development of a society and peace education is a multifaceted educational programme that encompasses different approaches capable of transforming the behavioral patterns of people through the inculcation of desired knowledge, attitudes and skills for effective contribution to the cultural, social, economic and political development of their countries (Alimba, 2007).

Peace Education also encompasses process of promoting the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values needed to bring about behavior changes that will enable children, youth and adults to prevent conflict and violence, both overt and structural; to resolve conflict peacefully, and to create the conditions conducive to peace, whether at an

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intrapersonal, intergroup, national or international level (Fountain, 1999). The society gets benefit by peace education because it is participatory as people citizens are supposed to collectively conceive, imagine and decide for constructive feedback. Peace education promotes skills, attitudes and knowledge that are germane for the inculcation of peaceful behavior and the promotion of a culture of peace in a society. The culture of peace can be cultivated through the proper transaction of peace education among the youth and more important to sustain it for better results.. Peace itself is a virtue as well as a condition and it is essential for the productivity and development of the family, organization, community and country. It is a term that has a point of tangency with concepts such as freedom, equity, justice, development and so on, and has assumed various interpretations because of its elastic nature. And when peace adjoins with education it has tendency to empower youth to build peaceful society. As the transformative power of peace education has been attested to by research findings. For instance, in a study conducted by **Bar-Tal (2002),** it was discovered that peace education "changed attitudes, increased tolerance, reduce prejudices, weakened stereotypes, changed conceptions of self and of "other" and reinforced sense of collective identity". Ohanyan and Lewis (2005) assessed the impact of peace education on shaping the attitudes of people in an interethnic contact and they showed that "feelings for the other side have changed since taking part in the (peace education) programme. The analysis of the relationship between interethnic contacts showed statistically significant outcomes, meaning that "specifically interethnic contact has made students more tolerant and open minded of the other side (Ohanyan and Lewis, 2005). Peace can not be cultivated in vacuum and in isolation. Hence it is necessary education should result in the implementation of peace virtues in the education system. The other important aspect of Peace education is that the students and workers are able to imbibe, understand and implement these values and virtues.

4. PEACE RECONCILIATION THROUGH EDUCATION AND EMPOWERMENT

"Peace education and civilization are inseparable dimensions of human progress. Expressed differently, peace education is the only route to true civilization and true civilization is both peaceful and peace creating" (Danesh, 2006).

Education and empowerment serve as tools to unify communities, to focus on vulnerable groups, such as youth and women, and can be used to establish a culture of peace in the community from the ground up. H. B. Danesh concludes regarding the relationship between education and peace that one of the main reasons for what he refers to as "high [incidences] of conflict and war in different societies" (2006) is the nature of education provided. He reaffirms this by stating that "Education has enormous impact on the presence or absence of a proclivity to violence in every new generation" (2006). Empowerment of youth in building peaceful world can be done by interlinking **Transactional Partnering Model (**TP) given by Chinman and Linney, 1998:

> ➢ By providing a welcoming and safe environment
> ➢ By ensuring meaningful participation and engagement
> ➢ By ensuring g Meaningful participation and engagement
> ➢ Engagement in critical reflection on inter-personal and sociopolitical processes
> ➢ Participation in sociopolitical processes to effect change
> ➢ Integrated individual and community level empowerment

5. EDUCATIONAL APPROACHES FOR EMPOWERING YOUTH FOR DEVELOPMENT OF PEACEFUL WORLD

Education is at the heart of any strategy for construction of a culture of peace. It is through education that the broadest possible introduction can be provided to the values, skills, and knowledge that form the basis of respect for peace, human rights and democratic principles.

5.1 Approach With Focus on Development of Peace Education Programme

Without an environment of peace, appropriate direction to development of peaceful human systems cannot be pursued so it becomes utmost important that there should be structuring of participatory-directed program within and between human systems, such as individual, family, community, country, and the world community of nations. It is characterized by spiritual growth, ecological balance, decreased violence (which is not limited to physical but includes economic, technological, structural, political, social and ideological forms), and increased cooperation, justice and equity leading to self-reliance, especially on the part of the youth.

5.2 Approaches on Providing Relevant Educational Experiences

Educational experiences should be provided to youth with an objective to enhance their tolerance level and help them understand the merits of tolerance and respect for "otherness". "Respecting the others" goes much farther than tolerance. Education must promote an aptitude of free inquiry, frank and vigorous discussion and willingness to

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work in teams. The youth should be educated to accept, tolerate and respect differences as it is. In a more meaningful way, peace development can also become essential curriculum content at all levels of education. The pedagogy for Peace education should include the development of skills, attitudes, and knowledge required for inculcating peace .it demands participatory and cooperative methods taught and learnt in the atmosphere of tolerance, care, and respect. The practice of peace development education is an opportunity to promote the welfare of students, advocate for the just and equitable treatment of youth, and promote individual and social responsibility for both educators and learners.

5.3 Approach Focusing on Developing Understanding about Peace Among Youth

Program in peace education must develop an understanding among the youth (who will take the leadership tomorrow) on human systems, their environments, and their interactions between and among themselves. This approach will enable them to understand the interconnectedness between their local programs and the large socioeconomic and politico-technical issues and the need for cooperation between and among various human systems for long-lasting integrated solutions. This program should also help them to perceive situations (programs and complexities) from a world view with its different values, beliefs, attitudes and aspirations, and from there develop effective skills to communicate and to coordinate their inter-personal understanding across various barriers.

5.4 Approaches with Focus on Organizing Peace Tournaments

The peace tournaments are organized between rival groups in the community, meaning groups that were on opposite sides of the conflict. They come together, with activities before and after the actual sporting event. Each team wears t-shirts that promote messages of peace, so that while they are playing spectators will be able to read these messages and also will see the rival groups intermingling, conversing, and playing with each other. Youths participating in the sports activities can also contribute in a long way for promoting peace through education

5.5 Approaches with Conduction of Peace Workshops

Peace workshops are organized in order to include elders and youth. They are organized to integrate people of different communities and develop harmony with each other.

CONCLUSION

This paper focused on the role of the youth in promoting peace across the world. The paper focused on the role and importance of the youth with a view that they are the future torch bearer of this imitative. Their sensitization, involvement and opinion are a matter of concern and needs to be valued. The future holds many challenges and opportunities for them and hence they needs to be educated , resourced and guided for the same.

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