

PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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World Peace is everyone wishing for, but peace can start in us. To have peace to everyone, to have peace to each other, to have peace here in our world, must start in ourselves. Have peace at the same time the human rights, our rights. But, if everybody has the right to do whatever they want to do and those rights they will use for some bad things, still can we have peace?

We want to live in a serene and secure community, with a harmonious and good relationship with other people or with our neighbors. A tranquil place may have harmony among others and us as well as with the environment. Peace is ultimately desired, to the transformation of the culture of war and violence to a culture of peace and the ability and willingness to resolve conflict in non-violence ways. Among the desired alternatives are demilitarization and disarmament. It refers to the presence of equitable cooperation and just relationships in the economic, political and social spheres, between and among nations. It requires to a society that can control the abuse of power and can honor the aforementioned values of non-violence, cooperation and justice. As for the human rights in achieving a just and peaceful society, an integral understanding of human rights includes not only fundamental freedom and the fundamental equality of regardless of gender, race, beliefs and social status. It includes the fulfillment of basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, work, healthcare and education.

Human Rights is an important issue these days. It's not often that there isn't something on the news concerning the rights of some individual or a group. On the other hand, human rights encompass a much wider range of possibilities. As an equal and non-discriminatory human rights is complemented by the principle of equality, as it stated in the article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights". But as being free, are we all free to do those things that we want to do, but still some people stopped us, as what they also think that as having rights of all the things, we have also to look that its right and not be the cause of some conflicts even starts in a small things, but it can be a big effect especially in having our peace, because as peace is the mother of progress, and without peace, a nation cannot make any progress. So peace ever is ever desirable. But now-a-days if there be no peace the whole human race will be destroyed. That usually started in a war, destroyed everything what we have, our family, our properties, and can be loss our lives, our future.

As today, when we arise in the morning and listen to the radio or newspapers, we are confronted with the same sad news about violence, crimes and disasters. Even me I cannot recall a single day without a report with something terrible happening somewhere. Even in our modern times it is clear that one's precious life is not safe. No former generation has had to experience so much bad news as we face today, this constant awareness of fear and tension should make any sensitive and compassionate person question seriously the progress of our modern world. But

there are lot of ways to have peace at the same time our rights, having a human approach to world peace.

There is no doubt about the increase in our material progress and technology, but somehow this is not sufficient as we have not yet succeeded in bringing about peace and happiness or in overcoming suffering. We can only conclude that there must be something seriously wrong with our progress and development, and if we do not check it in time there could be disastrous consequences for the future of humanity.

Of the many problems we face today, some are natural calamities and must be accepted and faced with equanimity. One such type arises from the conflict of ideologies, political or religious, when people fight each other for petty ends, losing sight of the basic humanity that binds us all together as a single human family. We must remember that the different religions, ideologies, and political systems of the world are meant for human beings to achieve happiness. We must not lose sight of this fundamental goal and at no time should we place means above ends; the supremacy of humanity over matter and ideology must always be maintained.

Every being wants happiness and does not want suffering. If we, as intelligent human beings, do not accept this fact, there will be more and more suffering on this planet. If we adopt a self-centered approach to life and constantly try to use others for our own self-interest, we may gain temporary benefits, but in the long run we will not succeed in achieving even personal happiness, and world peace will be completely out of the question. In the end, such shortsighted actions bring suffering to oneself as well as to others. To be born a human being is a rare event in itself, and it is wise to use this opportunity as effectively and skillfully as possible. We must have the proper perspective that of the universal life process, so that the happiness or glory of one person or group is not sought at the expense of others.

The increasing interdependence among nations might be expected to generate more sympathetic cooperation. It is difficult to achieve a spirit of genuine cooperation as long as people remain indifferent to the feelings and happiness of others. When people are motivated mostly by greed and jealousy, it is not possible for them to live in harmony. A spiritual approach may not solve all the political caused by the existing self-centered approach, but in the long run it will overcome the very basis of the problems that we face today, all problems that have been caused by the existing self-centered approach, but in the long run it will overcome the very basis of the problems that we face today. If humankind continues to approach its problems considering only temporary expediency, future generations will have to face tremendous difficulties.

Within each nation, the individual ought to be given the right to happiness, and among nations, there must be equal concern for the welfare of even the smallest nations. This variety enhances the ceaseless human quest for happiness. Thus each community should be free to evolve its own political and socio-economic system, based on the principle of self-determination. The achievement of justice, harmony, and peace depends on many factors. We should think about them in terms of human benefit in the long run rather than the short term. Nations have no choice but to be concerned about the welfare of others, not so much because of their belief in humanity, but because it is in the mutual and long-term interest of all concerned.

Under present conditions, there is definitely a growing need for human understanding and a sense of universal responsibility. In order to achieve such ideas, we must generate a good and kind heart, for without this, we can achieve neither universal happiness nor lasting world peace. Present-day governments do not shoulder such 'religious' responsibilities, humanitarian and religious leaders must strengthen the existing civic, social, cultural, educational, and religious organizations to revive human and spiritual values. Where necessary, we must create new organizations to achieve these goals. Only in so doing can we hope to create a more stable basis for world peace.

Living in society, we should share the sufferings of our fellow citizens and practice compassion and tolerance not only towards our loved ones but also towards our enemies. This is the test of our moral strength. We must set an example by our own practice, for we cannot hope to convince others of the value of religion by mere words. We must live up to the same high standards of integrity and sacrifice that we ask of others. The ultimate purpose of all religions is to serve and benefit humanity. This is why it is so important that religion always be used to effectively bring the happiness and peace of all beings and not merely to convert others.

As also to have peace in our society, we have also as what others promoted peace education. This peace education programs centered on raising of human rights that focus at the level of policies that humanity ought to adopt in order to move closer to a peaceful global community. The aim is to engender a commitment among participants to a vision of structural peace in which all individual members of the human race can exercise their personal freedoms and be legally protected from violence, oppression and indignity. Just our aim is to produce "responsible citizens" who will hold their governments accountable to the standards of peace, primarily through adversarial processes. However peace education will help us in promoting also for the human rights, our rights. As this education aim is to prevent a conflict in advance or rather to educate individuals and a society for a peaceful existence on the basis of nonviolence, tolerance, equality, respect for differences, and social justice.

The success of these efforts will be seen in the ending of conflicts between countries and nations, in a more just distribution of goods, and in reducing the differences in economic development and life standards between the countries of the under developed and developed worlds. For the culture of peace to become established, it is necessary to accept the principles of uniqueness in diversity and to establish the social norms of respect, dignity, and the rights of every individual.

Peace education aims to help students acquire skills for nonviolent conflict solution and to reinforce these skills for active and responsible action in the society for the promotion of the values of peace. As here in our country, we promoted peace education as well as also for our rights, the human rights. As peace education, which has been a third important element of having peace, takes two forms - self-education, and education of others. But the question is having this education that even here in our country we started it. Is it effective? Are we not experiencing any conflicts? Is it really we have peace here in our country?

Well, we can't deny that our country is also hoping for a peace, especially in some of our provinces here, particularly in Mindanao and in some of the Muslim areas. And some of the

reason of having conflicts especially between the Muslim and the Christians is also their rights, rights as it the difference of their religion. But current armed conflict in Mindanao reflects the recurring call for the fulfillment of the right to self-determination of the Muslim population in the Philippines in order to obtain sustainable peace. With a stronger foundation in nonviolence, conflict resolution, and the other areas related to having as peace, we have to organize various outreach activities to provide a peace education element to the overall program. The aim is to help empower individuals to resolve the conflicts nonviolently, and to strengthen the strict democratic civil society. Nonviolence and Human Rights can serve as example, within beyond its borders, of the sort of institution which can, through the commitment of concerned individuals and the application of creative energy, make a very real contribution to the difficult task of reconciliation.

In this regard there are two things important to keep in mind: self-examination and self-correction. We should constantly check our attitude toward others, examining ourselves carefully, and we should correct ourselves immediately when we find we are in the wrong. We have to carefully know those good and bad things that we have to do, to avoid such bad things that can be cause of having conflict with others. As peace that we are wishing to have at the rest of our lives and the human rights, our rights that we wanted to have and to use those rights in good ways and not abusing it.