

Teachers gather for peace and harmony

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IASE Deemed University in association with Gandhi Vidya Mandir to organize INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR On Teacher Education for Peace and Harmony.

Education is very important among all of us, the fact which is commonly nothing to deny among any. It's the education which transforms a person to live a better life and more importantly in a socially well being. It educates us with all the needed attributes in leading our life in a proper lifestyle. Education does make a remarkable effect on one's personality like it involves gathering of knowledge in whatever aspects. It helps a person to draw the best out of their mind and spirit. Education plays a vital role in the personal growth and the social development among all of us. It imparts us with all the power and necessities in making a noticeable mark in any of the field.

Education is one of the greatest services provided by teachers. It is vital for anything. The role played by teachers becomes a very important component and in fact it can be said that they are in way our nation builders. Teachers work in close co-ordination with students to help them in building up their future. They mould the students to bring out their skills or improvise them, teaching good habits/attitudes and helping them to become good citizens of the nation and one realizes the importance of peace and harmony in this world.

IASE Deemed University took initiative in association with Gandhi Vidya Mandir in conducting a International Seminar on Teacher Education for Peace and Harmony at Gandhi Smriti Darshan and Darshan Smriti, Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat, New Delhi from 11th to 13th Feb, 2012 and supporting organizations Gujarat Vidhyapeth, Jain Vishva Bharati University, The Temple of Understanding and National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of India and Global Harmony Association, Russia.

At a Press Conference here in Delhi Shri Kanak Mal Dugar, Chancellor, IASE Deemed University; President, Gandhi Vidya Mandir and Chairman, International Seminar Committee on Teacher Education for Peace & Harmony, apart from India around 250 delegates from America, Russia, Switzerland, Romania, Spain, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh & Africa will participate in this 3-days International Seminar.

On the notion behind organizing the International Seminar, Dugar said, "Recently world has seen nuclear catastrophe during Tsunami in Japan, political Tsunami in *Middle East and Africa*; racial & ethnic conflicts in Sri Lanka, east Asia and middle-east; terrorist and fundamentalist attacks in India, Pakistan, Iraq, Afghanistan and other countries as well as Maoist Violence in south Asia".

This shows the expression of intolerance, manifestations of racial and ethnic hatred, the perpetuation of violence, terrorism and wars with discrimination, inequality and the growing disparities between the rich and the poor. If civilizations aren't tuned to the reality of human existence, they conserve the worst of human behavior and free themselves from any responsibility of co-existential relations. Eventually, they become corrupt and self-destructing. All civilizations that misalign reality with bad decisions, wrong education, moronic people and parasitic leaders, first destroy their surrounding and finally destroy themselves".

Further Dugar quips, “Teachings and practices of peace and Harmony are always relevant and significant for ensuring mutual cooperation, fundamental freedom, peace, humane conduct and co-existence. The educated human being is then a fundamental unit of analysis for the study of mankind, existence and its order for purposeful ends. People found advantages in participating and cooperating with order of nature and society to achieve peace and harmony. Across the world, as well as in the Asian Countries peace, values, morals, character and ethical education are gaining popularity, as nation-states, international organizations, global corporation and civil society organizations increasingly recognize the importance of such education.”

Further he added, “Some Aspects of the Teacher’s Role in Peace Education in an Increasingly Multicultural and Multiethnic Society,” we start with the basics. First, the teacher must understand that multicultural, multiethnic, and multi religious problems in society are not to be dealt with in isolation in bits and pieces of a good peace education program but, being interconnected with all other problems of peace and violence, are addressed in the whole program. For example, developing such qualities as compassion and service to others can help reduce racial, religious, or other prejudices, but students of all backgrounds must take part in the program”.

In the changing global scenario the main aim of teacher education will be to help people to develop themselves as global and local responsible citizens who shall make with conscientious efforts for building a humane world with peace and harmony. The focus of teacher education would be the values of peace and harmony, based on the human mindset, human rights, mutual respect, mutual trust, cooperation and respect for life, social justice, open-mindedness and co-existence. Keeping this in view it is necessary to reorient and restructure the teacher education programs to include education for peace and harmony. Teacher education for peace and harmony intertwine with the concept of peace, which in turn is intrinsically linked to the understanding of global world orders and commonalities of socio-political-economic and legal systems. Content of teacher education curricula and teaching methodologies for moral, ethical, value, peace and harmony education for the development of human values need to be designed and strengthened.

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