

SIGNIFICANCE OF LANGUAGE IN PEACE EDUCATION

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Abstract

Peace is another faction of human psychology. When one expresses peaceful behavior, then it signifies that he/she is in a state of spiritual peace and has sufficient knowledge of peaceful qualities with proper endurance of staying calm at any situation.

Well it may be defined as the absence of violence and also the presence of states of mind and of society such as harmony, security accord, and mutual understanding. In order to better understand how to achieve peace on the global level, it can be marked as the absence of violent conflicts or wars between nations, states, and communities. It is equally important for us to examine the personal attitudes, values, and knowledge that provide the basis for working toward peace making and keeping it.

While almost all of us want peace and prefer to live and work in a peaceful situation, there are some who wants to lead an anarchical life, since they are ignorant about the values of peace in their lives. The elements of peace must be explored and incorporated in the language we use in our discussions. Tolerance, understanding, empathy, cooperation, respect and gratitude are at the core of our peaceful coexistence on earth, but each of us may interpret these concepts somewhat differently based on our social and cultural values, our life experiences, and our beliefs about the world.

Students and the peers are the building blocks of each and every generation and hence they must be equipped with various peaceful qualities such that they can carry this exclusive thought forward in the near future. For reflecting ideas, beliefs and concepts, children are encouraged to cooperate with peers to share information. Students are left to discuss, comment or decide about the solution to the problems regarding unethical activities. Students are also invited to ask questions throughout the peace education classes.

We are growing up in a world where the remedy of every problem; may it be political or racial or religious or otherwise, tends to be solved through means of violence or unethical means. We have fallen prey to numerous World Wars, countless rebellions and mass massacres which ultimately leads to mass murders or genocide. These phenomenon have increased generation wise and now we are standing on the grounds of the 21st century. To maintain peace all over the world, several nations have indulged in making peace treaties to maintain international relations among them. Well, a better solution to maintain peace at high grounds is peace education which is a bright and innovative step to equip the countrymen with sufficient knowledge and different values of peace. It is a fact that peace education is one of the most planned processes to raise the learners' critical and psychic consciousness. Mostly peace educators believe that it provides students with a better understanding of their social, cultural as well as political contexts while at the same time considering the possibilities for action and change.

Therefore, in our paper we would like to discuss on why and how language is the core requirement for peace education at both academic and international level.

Keywords: Peace, harmony, security, accord, mutual understanding, tolerance, peace, education
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Introduction

Well, peace is one of the elements of human psychology. The actions by which peace can be expressed in one are self-actualization, tolerance, understanding, empathy, respect and gratitude. These principles must actually be shown through our daily languages and actions in order to maintain harmony in our daily lives. Absence of these actions may lead to chaos and anarchy in the society.

Peace education is the process of acquiring the values, the knowledge and developing the attitudes, skills, and behaviors to live in harmony with oneself, with others, and with the natural environment. It is the way by which the masses can be educated with proper knowledge and the importance of the values of peace. It also promotes the understanding of social, judicial and cultural issues.

Defining the Keywords

Peace: From general view, it is one of the many elements of human psychology, which is expressed by one when he/she is in a state of complete calmness and is able to nullify all the disturbing actions within him/her and also within his surroundings in order to maintain harmony.

Harmony: If people in the society lives in harmony, it means they are in peaceful accordance with each other.

Security: This term generally means to offer protection, to someone or to a particular group from any hazardous incident or activity. Before performing any kind of activity if the people plan for their safekeeping also, there always remains a guarantee that peace will be maintained at any cost. This is because there would be less numbers of casualties, and less commotion in the society.

Accord: An accord is sort of an agreement which is generally brought into force when majority of the masses agrees on a rightful cause. It generally takes place in global or international level. When a large number of people agree on it, the accord becomes a treaty which remains permanent. The world has been a witness of various peace treaties made after major wars between nations in order to maintain peaceful international relations.

Mutual Understanding: The word _mutual 'signifies something which is very common between two or more people. A mutual understanding is developed between two or more people when they sort out some solution of a problem together. It gives rise to a accord.

Tolerance: It is the power of endurance present inside one. It may be both physical and mental. May it be harsh conditions, may it be someone strong humiliating nature towards one, he power of tolerance gives victory in both cases. It teaches one how to adapt his/her mind to that condition he/she is in without the person even reacting to it, thus preserving peace.

Peace Education: By linguistics itself, it is possible to educate a large number of people the values and qualities of peace which is termed as peace education.

Importance of Linguistics

Linguistics is generally the scientific study of language and its structure as well as its components. It teaches us the different parts of speech and unlimited use of vocabulary. It also gives everyone the capability of mastering the language and using it for appropriate purposes.

In various educational institutions, a separate _linguistic‘ department is being opened. Though, a lot many pupils does not that much importance to this category, yet it holds a major responsibility of bestowing the students with a resources of better understanding of different qualities of peace. This linguistic training can easily be provided to a layman also who does not hold sufficient knowledge in the field of peaceful qualities. That’s why students are encouraged to freely participate in different activities in language classes such as debates, speeches, group discussions etc. where they have sufficient freedom to be indulged in. Moreover students are allowed to question other students and teachers about how to maintain an accordance of peace starting from a smaller area to a larger area and are also left to discuss the solution of these kind of problems.

Peace Education at Academic Level

For each and every generation, the youths and the peers are the one who carry forward the qualities, virtues and responsibilities of their previous generations towards the near future. One of the major factors is the background in which one grows up. For example, there will be a clear distinction between a child growing in a slum area and in a metropolitan area. Their background would affect the differences in their nature. In the first case the youths born will generally be more carefree carry less sense of responsibility and might actually be bereft of the knowledge and importance of peace owing to the financial stability of the family or unhygienic atmosphere. This is also the result as the previous generation in that area are also unaware of the peaceful atmosphere. But, in the second case a child is growing up, he/she would be equipped with proper education of various qualities that can bring peace in his society. There might be problems in tat family too but with the power of tolerance he/she could calm the latter’s mind and maintain harmony.

Linguistics is the most important weapon in order to spread the qualities of peace among the masses through education. If we bring out the peaceful qualities of ourselves through the language we use daily while interacting with others around us, nothing can be more fruitful way to avoid hostility and conflicts. Nowadays, in various institutions a subject known as _Value Education‘ is introduced. Owing to this subject one can learn the proper values, sufficient etiquette and also the knowledge of maintain peace in his/her society. This can also be visualized from the subject called _Ethics‘, which is about how to prevent unethical activities in a society. It also states any kind of organization (government or private) are bounded to follow a proper code of ethics. If these things are maintained gradually, then at no time our nation would be a peaceful one.

Peace Education at Global Level

The world had been a witness of major wars, conflicts and riots at local, national as well as international level. Many of these conflicts are a curse to human life. These not only discord international relations but also cause the destruction of life and property. The main objectives of these conflicts are as to who would be superior among all and hence remain in power. But actually these conflicts achieve nothing except losses and sacrifices. Some major examples include World Wars 1 and 2 in 1939 and 1945, and also the Cold War which was a skirmish between the USA and the USSR. A large number of harmful weapons such as nuclear and atom bombs were used to completely destroy a large range of area with a single strike.

But when mankind realized and felt the loss of the innocent, it was too late to acknowledge and

the wars were over. Then the leaders of various nations all over the world went over various discussions and through mutual understanding came up with a common solution to restore peace and order. That was none other than the formation of the United Nations (UN), an overall peace keeping organization whose function was to monitor and take action on any kind of hostile action at both national and international level that might affect the harmony all over the globe. There were various peace treaties made way back after the wars were over to maintain proper sense of cooperation and peaceful relation between nations. These kind of treaties include the Treaty of Paris (1815) signed after the battle of Waterloo, the Treaty of Versailles signed after the Second World War. The leaders such as the President or Prime Minister of any nation holds a very important responsibility as it is upon their sense of ethics, their language and their behavior that a country be actually in a state of peace or war. Even now in the 21st century we are not at all safe, as the people of some nations become blinded by hatred and follow some leaders who brainwashes them and in turn gives birth to terrorists. They make various amends to the governments of various nations and if they are not fulfilled they openly attack the entire population by any means. All the nations, cooperating with each other are trying to put an end to terrorism. Gradually, each and every day every nation is progressing towards a peaceful day step by step.

Conclusion

The following paper was about giving an idea of how to implement peace around the society in which one lives in and slowly striving it to a larger level. There must be certain footsteps that are needed to be followed, such as self-actualization, calmness of mind, being spiritually at peace and also the use of appropriate peaceful language at desperate times. Peace education is an efficient way to equip every people with proper knowledge, virtue and benefits of peace all around the person.

Works Cited:

The following information is being taken from:

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