

# Ancient Indian Vision: A path towards Humanity

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## Abstract

Since the beginning of civilization man is engaged in repeated wars throughout the history of mankind. Expansion of territories, religions, ideologies are the different reasons of war. Some people believe that war is necessary to bring peace. But the truth is that mostly wars lead to short term peace for the victors. Long lasting peace can never be established with violence. Historically it was also seen that after the conflicts, fierce war the priest of peace or idealistic thinkers contemplated on the alternative ideas. So that disputes can be resolved through other means.

In the very context the most ancient & prestigious philosophy of the world is Indian. Philosophy, which consists of an urge for the achievement of internal peace, harmony & serenity among human beings. In spite of different nationalities, cast, religion & colour we all are the creation of the one mother earth. The priest of ahimsa Mahatma Gandhi said war is not a solution, an eye for an eye will make the whole world blind. If something is stripped on the strength of the sword, then it can be stripped of with the bigger sword. Eternal peace can bring only after the success in our inner war against our inherently selfish and egoistic nature. In this research paper we have discussed how Indian philosophy leads us towards that direction.

**Key words:** war, violence, humanity, Indian philosophy, world peace

With the advent of civilization the burning issue was how to make people organized and human life convenient. One more thing which we also need, an atmosphere of peace & harmony among people. Because academic & intellectual advancement can be possible only then. In a favourable atmosphere constructive activities can flourish as well as the existing resources can be used for development. To fulfill our needs formation of individual states came into existence and Science through various inventions brought these states closer by reducing travel, time and distance.

But the other side of the coin is that science behaves like a bad master, especially when the rules of the country make use of science for their own selfish ends. The politicians muddle with science and force them to manufacture bombs and weapons.

## The present era insecurity

In the fight of power and superiority the world has come on the stage of many global issues like war, construction of weapons, terror attacks, refugees etc. Today we have not only atom bombs but hydrogen bombs too. We have a pile of different kinds of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons also. The existing stock of weapons have the capacity to destroy the entire planet i.e. the earth and render it uninhabitable by any future species. The world is precariously perched on the precipice of nuclear holocaust<sup>1</sup>. We have faced the consequences of first & second world war. Instead of this many countries are busy in creating new weapons and taking the world towards the hazardous situation.

Max Learner described the present era as the age of overkill. The overkill potential of nuclear weapons has created a situation, where power is powerless and use of power by one nation state on a sovereign basis is an absurd, suicidal proposition<sup>2</sup>.

A report by the organization for the prohibition of chemical weapons (OPCW) also found that the nerve agent Sarin<sup>3</sup> was used in an attack on the Syrian town.<sup>4</sup>

Nations, those who can not fight in front, they take revenge through proxy war and terrorism in the ceiling. According to global terrorism database in between 2000 to 2014, in 61 thousand of terrorist attacks approx 1 lakh 60 thousand common people were killed.<sup>5</sup> BokoHarom, ISIS, Lashkar-E-Taiyba, Zash-E-Mohammad and many other terrorist organizations are there, which are serious threat to Human rights, World peace & harmony and security.

Due to dictatorship, war and terrorism, another global problem has emerged of refugees. The lead

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international agency co-ordinating refugee protection is the UN office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reported that there are 21.3 million refugees.<sup>6</sup>

The consequences of war, terrorism and armament compelled us to remove the scourge of war, control on terrorism, opt disarmament and other alternatives to settle disputes and to bring peace and harmony among the nations. It is very true that conflict is almost present in one form or the other in human system from family to state. Now it depends on human beings, how do they dissolve the conflicts.

### Steps taken to establish peace

Now the question arises how we can stop this violence and bring peace and security among nations?

Peace can never be established with violence. Historically it was also seen that after the conflicts, fierce war the priest of peace or idealistic thinkers contemplated on the alternative ideas. So that disputes can be resolved through other means like negotiation, punch decision, international law and court etc.

- Following the thirty years of war in Europe and the battle of Louis XIV, the principles of international legislation and balance of power were developed. After the Napoleonic maneuvers in the 19<sup>th</sup> century the Holy Alliance was born.
- Heague Conferences in 1899 and 1907 were among the first formal statements of the laws of war and war crimes. It is for the settlement of international disputes through arbitration.<sup>7</sup>
- League of Nations was created after first world war for the maintenance of International peace and security.
- After second world war UNO came into existence to strengthen world peace. But like previous associations UN could not work successfully as it had hoped for. The founding members of the UN established it with the purpose of maintaining international peace and security and developing friendly relations among nations and taking the appropriate measures to strengthen Universal Peace. But as we all experienced due to cold war UNO could not act in such a successful manner.
- One of the other ways by which the UN can maintain international peace and security is through Peace keeping force<sup>8</sup>. But the majority of the UN members considered peace keeping just as a tool of great powers.<sup>9</sup>
- UN declared "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1948, as an absolute yard stick. Human Rights constitute the common language of humanity.<sup>10</sup>

There is still dismay at the barbaric realities world wide, arising from the indiscriminate use of power, crimes of genocide, ethnic cleansing political repression and denial have returned in new forms to haunt the world community.<sup>11</sup>

Why man become so cruel? Researches are going on. Hibu University of Yerusalam brings forth a latest study. There is genetic basis of ruthlessness. Research has found that the gene called MVPR1A is responsible for ruthlessness and selfish tendencies. This organism creates a receptor in the brain that identifies hormones called Vasoprosin. This hormone produces charity and philanthropic trends in humans. This hormone and its associated behavior have been confirmed by the experiment. Research has found that if a particular change occurs in the receptor of a person then the expression of that person, appears as cruel and heartless.<sup>12</sup> Therefore, it is essential that this type of hormone be kept in the awakened state by the love, peace, harmony and good thoughts for creating a non-violent society.

So we can say that all the actions of a person are influenced by the surrounding environment and thoughts arising in the mind and brain. The heart who is responsible for arising of feelings, first must be holy & moral. Only then Violence, hatred, proud etc. feelings can be stop and world peace & security can be established by sacrificing narrow mindedness. The feelings of humanity will be as fierce human welfare will be at the large level.

### Indian Philosophy

In this very context the Indian philosophy can rebuild the broken man by offering him internal peace. The most ancient and prestigious philosophy of the world is Indian philosophy, which consist an urge for the achievement of internal peace, harmony and serenity<sup>13</sup> among human beings (humanity). The Vedas and Upnishadas speak of the ways of attaining spirituality and the supernatural knowledge of the world. It is the result of contemplation of our Rishi-Munis (Sage). Vedic knowledge is the path of all humanity beyond the boundaries of time and place, through which all the world's welfare can be done. In today's materialistic era,

due to the race of dangerous weapons there is unrest and insecurity everywhere. In the Indian context the idea of world brotherhood and human welfare is included in each area of life Indian philosophy believe in "ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय" and "ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय" The reason for the existence of Indian culture is its basic virtue and value.

Indian philosophy aims for a balance, harmonious welfare society. We believe in all people are the creation of the one mother Earth- *ekrak bhavati i bhavati gai bhavati*; *matr*<sup>16</sup>

We start our day with the fundamental Vedic Mantra and Hindu Prayer-

*Aj fo' okfu no l fornj r'kfui jkl p*  
; *n-hknar'uvkl p*<sup>17</sup>

Which means O! supreme creator of world please take away all our bad deeds, habits and miseries.

Give us all the good qualities and blissful life and auspicious objects.

Vedas preaches us- *ekfgd h'i q 'ka t xr*<sup>18</sup> A it Means human beings should not do violence.

We Indians are descendent of Samrat Ashok, after invading and conquering Kalinga war, Ashoka's heart filled with deep sorrow and regret. He became a follower of Buddhism & spread it beyond India through missionaries, not by force. **Swami Dayanand** setup the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> rule of AryaSamaj, **“One should not be satisfied in their advancement they should understand their advancement in the advancement of others.”**<sup>19</sup>

**Gandhi Ji** believes in **“SarvjanHitaySarvjanSukhay.”** He ridiculed the idea of war to establish peace. War did not end anything except mankind.<sup>20</sup>

Vinoba Bhave also said that politics and army can not save the country and world. Only science can not save the world. When every one's heart experiences compassion then only the world is protected.<sup>21</sup>

There are plenty of examples before us, which proves that inequality, discrimination and fire feeling of revenge damaged both sides

Due to indiscrimination in Iraq ISIS emerged and started taking revenge. Today US and NATO armies want to abolish them completely. US promoted terrorism to control India, but later he had to face of its attack. He is not able to forget 9/11. Australia, France, UK and other European countries are also facing terror attacks. During cold war USSR never focused on the problems of their region, because he was in competition of increasing weapons. And the result is fragmentation of USSR on the other hand Germany demolished the Berlin wall in 1989 and becomes the biggest economy of European Union.

Pt. Nehru played key role in determining India's foreign policy. Nehru ji opted doctrine of Panchsheel.<sup>22</sup> He was a great nationalist, he believed in co-existence, peace and ideas of one world due to the intellectual and practical needs of human welfare. Therefore he pursued a policy of Non alignment<sup>23</sup> rather than joining the bipolar world.

Thus we can say since ancient times to the present, Indian has always hearted the principles of peace and co-Existence. Just after independence in 1947 India has to face multiple social, economic and strategic problems. US supported Pakistan in its war against India, China back stabbing India in the name of brotherhood. India's Nuclear weapons program has not been free of controversy and criticism. Even today India is facing terrorism.

But in all these odd circumstances India never lost its patience, Indian strongly believe in the feeling of nobility and humanity. With the Motto **Live and let live** India is trying to become the supreme power. But no one should be in the delusion that India is weak. We believe in the tradition of *kekohjL; Hk'k.ke^* it means giving pardon to everyone is sign of brave. It is not the ornament of cowards. But if anyone shows eye to India by trying to take advantage of India's generosity or noble mindedness, we also know the principle of *'kB; 'kB; a l ekpjr*<sup>24</sup> (tit for tat) it means equivalent retaliation, which we have proven recently through Uri surgical strike & Balakot Air strike.

## Conclusion

Thus we can say in the contemporary world, we are facing multiple problems of class conflict, proxy war, terrorism, increasing number of nuclear weapons, violence against the weak, religious fervor, refugees etc., and we are taking breath under balance to terror. The root cause of all these problems is deteriorating value system. So the need of the hour is to follow a philosophy which can strove for ethics i.e. a code of conduct for an individual as well as for the whole society. Here, Indian Philosophy is like a boon. It can provide us a sigh of

relief, because it focuses on human values system. Its aim is to enlighten life with foresight and insight. Hymns of Vedic Literature are full of peace mentors because only peace can bring prosperity in the world. These peace mantras are an essential part of Hindu worships. They are supposed to calm the mind of the reciter and the environment around him. We always pray to God-

ॐ | ks 'kkfUrjUrfj {k% 'kkfUr i Foh  
 'kkfUrjki % 'kkfUr jks k/k; % 'kkfUr%  
 ouLi r; % 'kkfUrfoz onok%  
 'kkfUrcāk 'kkfUr% l ol 'kkfUr%  
 'kkfUrjō 'kkfUr% l k ek 'kkfUrjks/kAA<sup>25</sup>  
 ॐ 'kkfUr% 'kkfUr 'kkfUr% ॐ

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