

REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

ON

GLOBAL EDUCATION FOR PEACE, HARMONY AND DEVELOPMENT

Army Institute of Education organised one day International Conference on **Global Education for Peace, Harmony and Development** in association with World Without Anger (WWA), Nepal and Global Harmony Association (GHA), India on 07 Oct 17 at Manekshaw Auditorium, Delhi. The event started with an auspicious lamp lighting ceremony to give the conference a kinetic initiation. Chief Guest, Lt Gen MM Naravane, AVSM, SM, VSM, GOC Delhi Area, started his speech by apprising the gathering about the relevance of the topic of the Conference in present context. He gave a discourse on the importance of infusing the ideals of tolerance and acceptance in the minds of the younger generation. He advocated developing empathetic attitude among learners to create peace, harmony and development. Major General (Dr) Sunil Chandra, VSM (Retd), Managing Director Army Welfare of Education Society, New Delhi and Brig SS Bhogal, VSM, BGS HQ Delhi Area also graced the event with their presence. Guest of Honour, Mr. DM Basnet, President/CEO, World Without Anger, Nepal talked about teaching practices introduced by WWA in Nepal where emotional training has been made crucial for students to produce non-violent and peace loving individuals. Special Guest Dr. Markandey Rai, Senior Advisor of the UN - HABITAT, focussed on illiteracy and unemployment being the reason for social unrest in the world. He emphasised on the fact that a teacher is equivalent to God and has the power to change the system. He further recommended provision of equal opportunities to all and suggested to practice yoga for harnessing peace and harmony. The keynote speaker, Prof Subhash Chandra, President GHA shed light on spreading peace and spirituality through global education. He also talked about Indian philosophy of transformation of values to create global citizenship. Afterwards there was an oration by Prof. Dhananjay Joshi, USE, GGSIP, Delhi who highlighted the need of inner peace for creating a peaceful environment all around. His focus was on propagating real sense of humanity by implanting ideas of non-violence and peace in young minds. School principals, teacher educators, and pupil teachers from various educational institutes attended the conference. The Inaugural session was concluded by Ms. Pratibha Garg, convenor of the conference with a vote of thanks.

The aim of the conference was to inculcate the values of harmony and humanity and to facilitate peaceful coexistence through education. The motive of the conference was to propagate global education and universal peace values for global citizenship, global education and youth leadership for democracy, the use of digital technology in global education for sustainable development, and global education and cultural democracy.

Technical Session I commenced at 11:30 AM which was based on two themes “**Global Education and Universal Peace Values for Global Citizenship**” and “**Global Education and Youth Leadership for democracy**”. Global Education opens people’s eyes and minds to the realities of the world and awakens them to bring about the world of greater justice, equality and human right for all. In the history of the world, change often starts with young, young people look at the world with fresh eyes. They see the world as it is and imagine a different world. The session emphasised the necessity of global citizenship, education as well as the explorer relationship between globalization and global citizenship. The session started with the felicitation of the guests which was succeeded by a discourse by the Guest Speaker, Prof. Surendra Pathak, HOD Department of Value Education and Director Research IASE, Deamed University, stressed that materialistic education leads to conflict and our education system should be harmonious and human-centric. Guest speaker, Dr. Hemlata, Director National Centre for Disability Studies IGNOU, addressed the conference and talked about inclusive

education and suggested how to inculcate values of tolerance and sympathy among students by unifying classrooms. She also advocated that reformation in education system is required to maintain peace and harmony in the society. Dr. Yadav Ram Kumar, President, Yadav Institute of Research, India and Peace University USA was up next with his stimulating talk on teacher idealism. The session was concluded with an address by Dr. Laxman Shakya, Vice President, WWA, Nepal. In his address he opined that he is looking forward to be helpful to people by sharing his Buddhist teachings. He described India as 'The Land of Enlightenment' and the session ended on a perspicacious note.

In technical session II, the sub themes were **Role of Digital Technology in Global Education for sustainable development – Innovation and revolution in the new millennium** and **Global Education and Cultural Diplomacy- creating human bonds through cultural diplomacy**.

Education is an essential tool for achieving sustainability. People around the world recognise that public awareness, education and training are key to moving society towards sustainability. The concept of sustainable development should be actively pursued as a global goal. The relationship between education and sustainable development is complex. Education and sustainable development consequently promotes competencies like critical thinking, imagining future scenarios and making decision in a collaborative way.

Guest Speaker of technical session II, Dr. Sanjay Tiwari, UP Athletic Association, State Co-ordinator of IAAF kids Athletics Program, India delivered a remarkable speech on the role of sports in global education and in blurring boundaries marked by hatred. He talked about Generation Y, their thinking and ways of working. Next Guest Speaker Dr. Bharti, Assistant Professor, Department of Education of Groups with Special Needs, NCERT, shed light on the changing role of teachers with social and physical inclusion of education for children with special needs. Guest speaker, Dr Chand Bhardwaj, trustee of Global Harmony Association, India opined that understanding the self is most important for a child. He further elaborated that wherever the attention goes the divine energy flows. Chairperson of the technical session II, Mr Ramesh Kumar, Executive Director & Vice President, Global Harmony Association, India emphasised the need of Global Peace Science (GPS) for sustainability of the society. He stressed that Global Peace Science should be the part of school/college education.

The Valedictory session started with the felicitation of the Chief Guest Major General (Dr) Sunil Chandra, VSM (Retd), Managing Director Army Welfare of Education Society, New Delhi, special guest. He shared valuable experiences on education system of various nations. He exemplified the fact that only education can bring peace and global harmony. Ms Kriti Guleria, co convener, read proceedings of the conference. Chairperson of the conference, Dr. Laxman Shakya, Vice President, WWA, Nepal thanked everyone for the providing him the platform for putting forth his views on global education for peace, harmony and development.

Finally the participants were encouraged with certificates. Dr. Laxman Shakya, Vice President, WWA, Nepal felicitated Dr. Saksham Singh, Principal, AIE by presenting a memento as a token of thanks. Principal, AIE and Ms. Pratibha Garg were bestowed with a certificate of **Doctor of Rights** by Dr. Yadav Ram Kumar, President, Yadav Institute of Research India & Peace University, USA. Ms. Pratibha Garg, convener of the conference, proposed a vote of thanks to distinguished guests, resource persons, participants from various institutes and all the faculty members for their cooperation and for making this event a grand success.

