

# Ikeda's peace proposal for humanity

The Bharat Soka Gakkai Peace Symposium based on the Japanese Buddhist Leader Daisaku Ikeda's peace proposal for 2018 was recently held in New Delhi, titled—'Toward an Era of Human Rights:Building a People's Movement.' The event was presided over by the former President of India, Pranab Mukharjee.

The goal of a life of dignity for each human being remains a distant hope in the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, but the way forward to achieving this grand vision came alive at a symposium. A writer, a poet and a peace philosopher, Daisaku Ikeda, the president of Soka Gakkai

International (SGI), has been recognised the world over for his contribution to peace, culture and education.

Mukherjee in his keynote

address said."What struck a deep chord with me is a statement of Ikeda: Being able to contribute in some way to the happiness of others and the world, be it through work or in some other capacity, brings one joy and fulfillment in life." Dwelling on the concept of global nationalism, Mukherjee urged educationists to draw upon visionaries, such as Tagore and stressed that in achieving global recognition, our universities should not forget the difference between 'world-class' and 'world-minded'. One of the



themes of the peace proposal is that the bonds that form a culture of human rights are woven through the experience of joy shared with others. The chairman of the Institute of Social Sciences, George Mathew, focused on the need to strengthen local bodies and empower women. He stated that the Gandhians

believed in the immense potential of panchayats to actualise true democracy and power to the people and that wherever elected women are in power from village to block to district panchayats, there is peace, development and vision for the future. He said, "Ikeda's vision of promoting human dignity and expanding the

solidarity of people linked in their desire for peace, could be achieved through knowledge exchange of grassroots level governments in countries where the SGI has an active presence." The chairperson of the Bharat Soka Gakkai (the Indian affiliate of SGI), Vishesh Gupta, echoed Ikeda's firm belief that humanity must move beyond reliance on what we would now term as 'hard power'-use of military, political or economic might to dominate others. Instead, humanity must aspire towards a world in which the 'soft power' of culture, spirituality, and character inspires a mutual striving toward humanistic excellence and achievement.



#### Fear, mistrust at heart of increasing violence: Pranab Mukherjee

Pranab Mukherjee said youth must become the "voice of change", adding: "Compassion and empathy is the true foundation of our civilisation, but every day we see increasing violence surround us.

Former president Pranab Mukherjee Wednesday said there was a difference between "world-class" and "world-minded", and that universities need to remember that.

He also said youth must become the "voice of change", adding: "Compassion and empathy is the true foundation of our civilisation, but every day we see increasing violence surround us. At the heart of this violence is darkness, fear and mistrust... We must free our public discourse from all forms of violence, physical as well as verbal."

Speaking at a symposium on Soka Gakkai International president Daisaku Ikeda's 2018 Peace Proposal, 'Toward an Era of Human Rights: Building a People's Movement' at Chinmaya Mission, he said that India's association with the human rights movement "runs deep" and that even before Independence, "India was active in the international level in its advocacy for the promotion and protection of human rights".

## Peace symposium: Pranaburges youth to be voice of change



Former President Pranab Mukherjee inaugurating the Bharat Soka Gakkai Peace Symposium at the Chinmaya auditorium in the Capital on Wednesday.

#### STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, 26 SEPTEMBER

A symposium was held here onWednesdayto discuss Soka Gakkai International president Daisaku Ikeda's Peace Proposal for 2018 titled 'Toward an Éra of Human Rights: Building a People's Movement'. The chief guestat the eventwas former President Pranab Mukher-

In his keynote address, Mukherjeesaid: "Whatstruck adeep chord with me is a statement of Ikeda: Being able to contribute in some way to the happiness of others and the world, be it through work or in some other capacity, brings one joy and fulfillment in life'."

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Endorsing President Ikeda's view that "the challenge of creating the new reality of a global society where all may live in peace and dignity is not mer President urged educa- beyond our reach," Mukher-

jee called on the youth to "unite together, become the voice of change to make the world one global society in which no one is left behind".

In his address, George Mathew, chairman, Institute of Social Sciences, focused on the need to strengthen local bodies and empowerwomen. Echoing President Ikeda's belief that solutions lie within, Shovana Narayan said, "Why does peace seem so elusive today? Perhaps the

answer lies within and aroundus. Have we been able to accept differences?... We need to have dialogues with each other. We also need to listen. We need to appreciate differences and celebrate diversity."

Vishesh Gupta, chairperson of the Bharat Soka Gakkai (BSG-the Indian affiliate of SGI), echoed President Ikeda's firm belief that humanity must move beyond reliance on 'hard power,' or the use of military, political, or economic might to dominate others.Instead. humanity must aspire towards a world in which the 'soft power' of culture, spirituality, and character inspires a mutual striving toward

humanistic excellence and achievement, he added. The event was held at the Chinmaya auditorium.

### Mukherjee calls on youths to unite and become 'voice of change'



New Delhi, Sep 26 Former president Pranab Mukherjee on Wednesday called on the youth to unite and become the "voice of change" to make the world a global society in which no one is left behind.

Mukherjee, during a symposium on Soka Gakkai International president Daisaku Ikeda's 2018 Peace Proposal 'Toward an Era of Human Rights: Building a People's Movement' organised by Bharat Soka Gakkai here, dwelled on the concept of global nationalism and urged the educationist to draw upon visionaries such as Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore.

"What struck a deep chord with me is a statement of Ikeda -- 'Being able to contribute in some way to the happiness of others and the world, be it through work or in some other capacity, brings one joy and fulfilment in life," Mukherjee said in his keynote address.

Ikeda, the president of the Soka Gakkai International, is a Buddhist philosopher and prolific writer.

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"One of the themes of the peace proposal is that the bonds that form a culture of human rights are woven through the experience of joy shared with others. Ikeda talks about a sense of mutually shared joy which arises from efforts to support each persons cutting across differences," he said.

The veteran Congress leader said "compassion and empathy is the true foundation of our civilisation, but every day we see increasing violence surround us. At the heart of this violence is darkness, fear and mistrust".

"We must free our public discourse from all forms of violence, physical as well as verbal," he said, adding that in the unviolent society, one can ensure the participation of people of all sections, including the marginalised.

The peace proposal also mentions the concept of global nationalism which means creating a world where the people whatever their nationalities may be could never find their rights and interests trampled, Mukherjee said, citing the concept of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' - the whole world is one family.

"India's association with the human rights movement runs deep. Even before independence, India was active in the international level in its advocacy for the promotion and protection of human rights," he said.

"The quest for realisation of human rights and respect for human dignity was core to our Independence movement," Mukherjee added.

On the occasion, chairperson Vishesh Gupta of Bharat Soka Gakkai -- the Indian affiliate of the Soka Gakkai International, a global association that seeks to promote peace and respect for all people -- presented mementos to former president Mukherjee, Institute of Social Sciences Chairman George Mathew and eminent dancer Shovana Narayan. CPS CK

## **Business Standard**

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"In achieving global recognition, our universities should not forget the difference between 'world-class' and 'world-minded'," <u>Mukherjee</u> said. The former president called on the youth to unite together and become the voice of change to make the world a global society in which no one is left behind.

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"We must free our public discourse from all forms of violence, physical as well as verbal," he said, adding that in the unviolent society, one can ensure the participation of people of all sections, including the marginalized. The peace proposal also mentions the concept of global nationalism which means creating a world where the people whatever their nationalities may be could never find their rights and interests trampled, Mukherjee said, citing the concept of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' - the whole world is one family.

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## बौद्ध दार्शनिक के शांति प्रस्ताव पर हुई गोष्ठी में बोले प्रणब मुखर्जी

# सार्वजनिक संवाद को हिंसा से मुक्त करना होगा

जनसत्ता संवाददाता नई दिल्ली, 26 सितंबर।

देश और समाज में बढ़ती हिंसा पर चिंता जताते हुए पूर्व राष्ट्रपति प्रणब मुखर्जी ने कहा कि हमें हमारे सार्वजनिक चर्चाओं या संवाद को किसी भी तरह की हिंसा से मुक्त करना होगा। चाहे वह शारीरिक हिंसा हो या मौखिक। बौद्ध दार्शनिक डॉदाईसाकू इकेदा 2018 के शांति प्रस्ताव पर आयोजित गोष्टी को संबोधित करते हुए पूर्व राष्ट्रपति ने युवाओं से बदलाव की आवाज बनने का आह्वान किया और देश के विश्वविद्यालयों को नसीहत दी कि उन्हें विश्वस्तरीय और विश्व की सोच रखने में अंतर को नहीं भूलना चाहिए।

अपने अध्यक्षीय भाषण में पूर्व राष्ट्रपति प्रणब मुखर्जी ने कहा, 'दया और सहानुभृति की क्षमता हमारी सभ्यता की बुनियाद है, लेकिन हम अपने आसपास प्रत्येक दिन हिंसा में इजाफा देख रहे हैं। इस हिंसा का केंद्र-बिंदु है अंधकार, डर और अविश्वास। हमें हमारे सार्वजनिक चर्चाओं और संवाद को सभी तरह की हिंसा से मुक्त करना होगा चाहे वह शारीरिक हिंसा हो या मौखिक'। मुखर्जी ने कहा कि केवल एक अहिंसात्मक समाज ही लोकतांत्रिक प्रक्रिया में सभी वर्ग. विशेषकर सीमांत और वंचित लोगों की भागीदारी सुनिश्चित कर सकता है। पूर्व राष्ट्रपति ने देश के युवाओं का आह्वान करते हुए कहा कि उनकी एकजुटता एक ऐसे वैश्विक समाज के लिए जरूरी बदलाव की आवाज बने जहां कोई भी पीछे ना रहे।

वैश्विक राष्ट्रवाद की अवधारणा पर बात



करते हुए प्रणब मुखर्जी ने शिक्षाविदों से टैगोर जैसे दुरदर्शी लोगों से सीख लेने को कहा और जोर दिया कि वैश्विक मान्यता प्राप्त करने के लिए हमारे विश्वविद्यालयों को विश्वस्तरीय और विश्व की सोच रखने में अंतर नहीं भूलना चाहिए। इसके साथ ही उन्होंने कहा कि सभी को लाभ पहंचाने वाले समाज के लिए आवश्यक है कि संवैधानिक प्रावधान आम आदमी की पहुंच में हों। मुखर्जी ने प्रसन्नता प्रकट की कि शांति प्रस्तावना में इस बार भी चर्चा की गई है कि मानव अधिकार की संस्कृति को जोड़ने वाले संबंधों का राजन केवल सखद अनुभवों से ही होता है। सामाजिक विज्ञान संस्थान, दिल्ली के अध्यक्ष जॉर्ज मैध्यु ने अपने संबोधन में स्थानीय निकायों और महिलाओं के सशक्तीकरण की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया। उन्होंने कहा कि जहां कहीं भी प्रखंड, जिला स्तर पर पंचायतों में चुनी हुई महिलाएं सत्ता में हैं वहां शांति, विकास और भविष्य के लिए दृष्टि देखने को मिलती है। वहीं प्रसिद्ध नृत्यांगना शोभना नारायण ने कहा कि हमें

एक दूसरे के मतभेदों की सराहना करने और विविधता का जरून मनाने की जरूरत है। उन्होंने महिलाओं के चेंजमेकर के रूप में उनकी भूमिका पर बल दिया। शोभना नारायण ने कहा कि महिलाएं भविष्य की पीढ़ियों के मिरतष्क का प्रतिपालन कर उन्हें प्रभावित करते हैं, इसलिए महिलाओं को शिक्षित करना उनके सशक्तीकरण के लिए महत्त्वपूर्ण है।

भारत सोका गाक्काई के अध्यक्ष विशेष गुप्ता ने कहा कि इकेदा हमें एक ऐसे जीवन दर्शन की ओर प्रोत्साहित कर रहे हैं जिसमें हर व्यक्ति दूसरे को उत्कृष्ट बराबरी का और खुशी पाना का अधिकारी है। उन्होंने कहा कि इकेदा की विश्व नागरिकता की भावना वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम जैसी प्राचीन भारतीय सोच को प्रतिबिंबित करती है, यानि की पुरा विश्व एक परिवार है।

इकेदा हर साल एक ज्ञांति प्रस्ताव का प्रतिपादन करते हैं। इस साल का प्रस्ताव है, 'मानव अधिकार के युग की दिशा में एक जन आंदोलन का निर्माण'।



#### **Contradictions in India must be removed early: Pranab**

New Delhi, Sep 26 (IANS) Former President Pranab Mukherjee on Wednesday said that contradictions in India must be removed at the earliest or else those suffering from inequality will blow up the structure of democracy. Despite India's outstanding constitution, a plethora of sound laws and policies will count for nothing if implementation is lacking in form and spirit, he added while speaking on "Towards an Era of Human Rights: Building a People's Movement" at the Chinmaya Mission Auditorium here.

Quoting the Constitution's Drafting Committee Chairman B.R. Ambedkar, he said that " ... we must remove this contradiction at the earliest possible moment; else, those who suffer from inequality will blow up the structure of democracy which this Constituent Assembly has so laboriously built up."

"How long shall we continue to live this life of contradictions? How long shall we continue to deny equality in our social and economic life? If we continue to deny it for long, we will do so only by putting our political democracy in peril," Mukherjee said to loud applause.

In a talk that combined global nationalism -- Rabindranath Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi -- and human rights, Mukherjee laid out his vision of human rights.

He said that human rights are fundamental to the very existence of mankind and not merely for the benefit of one class or one section of society.

The right to life and personal liberty is available to all people within its territory and not just its citizens, he said. Citing a statement of peace philosopher Daisaku Ikeda, Mukherjee said that "being able to contribute in some ways to the happiness of others and the world, be it through work or in some other capacity, brings one joy and fulfilment in life."

He said that Ikeda's words echo the desire to contribute to the welfare of society and reflect.

The symposium was also attended by eminent dancer and Padma Shri awardee Shovana Narayan and Institute of Social Sciences Chairman George Mathew.

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## स्थोट समायार

## સોકા ગક્કાઈ ઈન્ટરનેશનલના વખાણ



વિશ્વશાંતિ માટે કામ કરતી આંતરરાષ્ટ્રીય સંસ્થા સોકા ગક્કાઈ ઈન્ટરનેશનવના પ્રમુખ દાસાકુ ઈકડા દ્વારા આયોજીત 2019 શાંતિ પ્રસ્તાવ ટૂવર્ડ્સ એન એરા ઓફ હ્યુમન રાઇટ્સઃ બીલ્ડિંગ એ પીપલ્સ મુવમેન્ટસ સિમ્પોસિયમ કાર્યક્રમમાં દેશના પૂર્વ રાષ્ટ્રપતિ પ્રણવ મુખરજીએ હાજરી આપી હતી. પૂર્વ રાષ્ટ્રપતિ મુખરજીએ આ કાર્યક્રમના આયોજનના વખાણ કર્યા હતા અને આયોજક સોકા ગક્કાઈ ઈન્ટરનેશનલના પ્રમુખ દાસાકુ ઈકડાને અભિનંદન પણ આપ્યા હતા. પૂર્વ રાષ્ટ્રપતિએ કહ્યું હતું કે યુવાનોએ હવે બદલાવ લાવવા માટે એકજૂથ થવું પડશે. પ્રણવ મુખરજીએ વિશ્વશાંતિ માટે કામ કરતી આંતરરાષ્ટ્રીય સંસ્થા સોકા ગક્કાઈ ઈન્ટરનેશનવની કામગીરીના પણ וב בלוכז ורווו כוז

## अमरउजाला

# दूसरों को खुशी देने से मिलता है सबसे बड़ा सुकून : प्रणब

नई दिल्ली। दूसरों को खुशी देने से चिन्मय मिशन ऑडिटोरियम में दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा सुकृन आयोजित मानव अधिकार के युग मिलता है। शिक्षाबिदों को टैगोर की दिशा में एक जन आंदोलन का जैसे दूरदर्शी लोगों से सीख लेते हुए निर्माण विषय पर संगोष्ठी में पूर्व वैश्विक मान्यता पर कार्य करना राष्ट्रपति ने देश के करोड़ों युवाओं चाहिए। वैश्विक मान्यता प्राप्त से मजबूत भविष्य बनाने की करने के लिए हमारे विश्वविद्यालयों अपील की। सार्वभौमिक वैश्विक को पूरे विश्व के परिदृश्य में घोषणा की 70वीं वर्षगांठ को लेकर विचार रखने चाहिए।

मुखर्जी का। बुधवार को दिल्ली के

आयोजित इस कार्यक्रम में बौद्ध ये कहना है पूर्व राष्ट्रपति प्रणब दार्शनिक डॉदाईसाक इकेदा ने अध्यक्षता की। व्यरो