

Peace meet stresses role of dialogue

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
New Delhi, 9 September

To successfully meet the challenges facing humankind, dialogue can play a crucial part as the main message of experts at an event titled "Universal Respect for Human Dignity: The Great Path to Peace" based on Sokka Gakkai International (SGI) president Daisaku Ikeda's 2016 peace proposal.

"The idea of dialogue means: the dialogue you enter into not in the intention of converting the other person but the willingness to be converted by that person," said Nitin Desai, former Under-Secretary General (Economic and Social Affairs) of the UN.

The speakers expressed concern over the recent incident of a tribal in Odisha walking nearly 12 km carrying his wife's body after he was denied a mortuary van by a government hospital.

Former CJI Justice K G Balakrishnan said the purpose of legislation is to bring greatest happiness to the greatest num-



ber of people. "When we talk of human rights, first we have to look around the problems. The real human rights violation is happening in the remote areas. They have nobody to raise their voices to. So we should extend these (symposium on peace and humanity) activities throughout the country, to help these voiceless people," Justice Balakrishnan added.

Veteran journalist and former Rajya Sabha member H K Dua said,

"No war in the world has ever sorted out any problem. It only leads to another war of a different kind, fought in a different place with a different technology." Citing the wars fought between India and Pakistan which are home to around one-fifth of humanity, he said more money is spent on technology for killing rather than welfare of the millions of poor in South Asia.

"Daisaku Ikeda's proposals for peace offer

hope for peace and a way out of the futility of war," he added.

Vishesh Gupta, chairperson, Bharat Soka Gakkai (Indian affiliate of SGI), said, "The preamble of the UNESCO chapter opens with the famous declaration - that since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed. How, then, are defences of peace that are truly lasting to be built?"

Human rights work must focus on lending voice to poor: fmr CJI

PTI | Sep 10, 2016, 10.10PM IST

New Delhi, Sep 10 () Human rights work must focus on lending voice to the underprivileged, former Chief Justice of India K G Balakrishnan has said, while asserting that India is not poor because it lacks resources but for the lack of its judicious use.

Balakrishnan, also former Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission, was speaking at a symposium -- "Universal Respect for Human Dignity: The Great Path to Peace" here last evening.

The event was organised by Bharat Soka Gakkai, Indian affiliate of global Buddhist organisation Soka Gakkai International (SGI), which has come up with a peace proposal to the United Nations on universal respect for human dignity.

"I deeply hope that the United Nations passes and ratifies the peace proposals as conventions to be implemented by various countries. While countries are not strictly bound by UN conventions, they definitely can and do form their municipal laws on basic ideas of UN conventions, of which bringing happiness to the greatest number of people is most essential," he said.

The former Chief Justice of India also said that India as a country is not poor because it lacks resources but because there is no judicious use of it.

Human rights activities must focus on giving voice to those who are stuck in various difficulties but whom we cannot see, he said.

Nitin Desai, former Under-Secretary General (Economic and Social Affairs), United Nations, said United Nations was designed to end the scourge of war and poverty.

"But, we have not succeeded in that task," he said, adding "people's lives have still not been made secure with all the things that we are trying to do."

"The challenge we face is we live in a more globalised world for which we need a global ethic. Our challenge is to design a process that finds common ground," Desai said.

Chairperson of Bharat Soka Gakkai Vishesh Gupta said through one-on-one dialogues, we can build strong and unassailable defences of peace in the heart of one individual after another.

"Since war begins in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed," he added. ANA KND AYP RG AYP

Human rights work must focus on lending voice to poor: Former CJI

K G Balakrishnan former CJI and former Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission, was speaking at a symposium, "Universal Respect for Human Dignity: The Great Path to Peace".

By: [PTI](#) | New Delhi | Updated: September 11, 2016 12:59 am

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Business Standard

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(This story has not been edited by Business Standard staff and is auto-generated from a syndicated feed.)

The Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

'Path to Peace' seeks to reach out to people as the way forward

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 9

In a world where violence expresses an extreme disrespect to human life, where happy, caring communities are no longer the norm, Soka Gakkai International's (SGI) Indian affiliate, Bharat Soka Gakkai (BSG), held a symposium here today that seeks to put humanism centre stage.

Entitled 'Universal Respect for Human Dignity: The Great Path to Peace',

the symposium was based on SGI president Daisaku Ikeda's 2016 peace proposal. The focus of all president Ikeda's writings has been to examine how to bridge gaps between people across different cultures and nationalities in order to actualize a more peaceful world. He believes that the power of dialogue as well as the innate ability of humans to respond positively to difficult situations holds the key. To discuss the main

points, the eminent speakers at the symposium were Justice KG Balakrishnan, former Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission of India and former Chief Justice of India; H K Dua, former Chief Editor, Hindustan Times, The Indian Express and The Tribune and former Member of the Rajya Sabha; and Nitin Desai, former Under-Secretary General (Economic and Social Affairs), United Nations.



SYMPOSIUM - Human rights work must focus on lending voice to poor: fmr CJI

Contributed by NAMPA / PTI.

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Give Humanism a Chance

NEW DELHI: In a world where violence expresses an extreme disrespect for human life, where happy, caring communities are no longer the norm, Soka Gakkai International's (SGI) Indian affiliate, Bharat Soka Gakkai (BSG), held a symposium in New Delhi on Friday that seeks to put humanism centre-stage.

Entitled 'Universal Respect for Human Dignity: The Great Path to Peace', the symposium on Friday was based on SGI President Daisaku Ikeda's 2016 peace proposal. The key focus of all President Ikeda's writings has been to examine how to bridge gaps between people across different cultures and nationalities in order to actualize a more peaceful world. He believes that the power of dialogue as well as the innate ability of humans to respond positively to difficult situations holds the key.

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'Universal respect for human dignity is great path to peace'



Left to right, Nitin Desai, ex-Under Secy Gen (Economic and Social Affairs), Vishesh Gupta, Chairperson, Bharat Soka Gakkai, KG Balakrishnan, ex-NHRCI and ex-CJI, HK Dua, ex-Chief Editor of HT and ex-member of RS; Md Rashi Ahuja, Dir and Head of External Relations, Bharat Soka Gakkai, Gitanjali Aiyer, Member PR Committee, BSG.

HK Dua, Former Chief Editor, Hindustan Times, The Indian Express and The Tribune and ex-Member of the RS and Nitin Desai, ex-Under-Secretary General (Economic and Social Affairs), United Nations.

Speaking of this initiative, Justice Balakrishnan said, "I am delighted that the Bharat Soka Gakkai has decided to hold a symposium focussing on peace at a time when the world over, there are problems relating to terrorism, the refugee crisis and alarming instances of environmental degradation. This is the right time for us to stop, think and address these problems and symposiums such as these will ensure that these matters get attention and action is taken."

Focusing on the peace proposal, Vishesh Gupta, Chairperson, Bharat Soka Gakkai (BSG), raised an important point. "The preamble of the UNESCO chapter opens with the famous declaration, 'That since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed'. How, then, are defences of peace that are truly lasting to be built?"

"In the 2016 peace proposal which is the subject of discussion, Ikeda chief has highlights that by conducting one on one dialogue, we can build strong and unassailable defences of peace in the heart of one individual after another."

New Delhi, Sep 10 (PTI) Human rights work must focus on lending voice to the underprivileged, former Chief Justice of India K G Balakrishnan has said, while asserting that India is not poor because it lacks resources but for the lack of its judicious use. Balakrishnan, also former Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission, was speaking at a symposium – "Universal Respect for Human Dignity: The Great Path to Peace" here last evening. The event was organised by Bharat Soka Gakkai, Indian affiliate of global Buddhist organisation Soka Gakkai International (SGI), which has come up with a peace proposal to the United Nations on universal respect for human dignity. "I deeply hope that the United Nations passes and ratifies the peace proposals as conventions to be implemented by various countries. While countries are not strictly bound by UN conventions, they definitely can and do form their municipal laws on basic ideas of UN conventions, of which bringing happiness to the greatest number of people is most essential," he said. The former Chief Justice of India also said that India as a country is not poor because it lacks resources but because there is no judicious use of it. Human rights activities must focus on giving voice to those who are stuck in various difficulties but whom we cannot see, he said. Nitin Desai, former Under-Secretary General (Economic and Social Affairs), United Nations, said United Nations was designed to end the scourge of war and poverty. "But, we have not succeeded in that task," he said, adding "people's lives have still not been made secure with all the things that we are trying to do." "The challenge we face is we live in a more globalised world for which we need a global ethic. Our challenge is to design a process that finds common ground," Desai said. Chairperson of Bharat Soka Gakkai Vishesh Gupta said through one-on-one dialogues, we can build strong and unassailable defences of peace in the heart of one individual after another. "Since war begins in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed," he added. PTI ANA KND AYP RGAYP

Symposium on Daisaku Ikeda's 2016 peace proposal held

Against the backdrop of mounting violence worldwide, the Soka Gakkai International's (SGI) Indian arm Bharat Soka Gakkai (BSG) organised a symposium here, titled 'Universal Respect for Human Dignity: The Great Path to Peace,' based on SGI President Daisaku Ikeda's 2016 peace proposal. The symposium was based on Mr Ikeda's 2016 peace proposal, who believes that the power of dialogue as well as the innate ability of humans to respond positively to difficult situations holds the key and emphasis on three major points humanitarian aid, ecological integrity and disaster risk reduction. Speaking of this initiative yesterday, former Chief Justice of India KG Balakrishnan highlighted the problems related to terrorism, the refugee crisis and alarming instances of environmental degradation. Mr Balakrishnan said, "There are problems relating to terrorism, the refugee crisis and alarming instances of environmental degradation. This is the right time for us to stop, think and address these problems and symposiums such as these will ensure that these matters get attention and action is taken." He said, "The purpose of Soka Gakki is to have dialogue where we talk about problems and discuss to find the solution, said, Human rights activities must focus on giving our voice, to those who are embedded in various difficulties but are not in our field of vision." "I deeply hope that the United Nations passes and ratifies Mr Ikeda's peace proposals as conventions to be implemented by various countries. While countries are not strictly bound by UN conventions, they definitely can and do form their municipal laws on basic ideas of UN conventions, of which bringing happiness to the greatest number of people is most essential," he said. Highlighting many other issues, famous journalist HK Dua said, "After 70-year of Independence many villages in India do not have drinking water and toilets but more money are been lost in improving technology of killing." "No war in the world has ever sorted out any problem. It only to leads to another war of a different kind, fought in a different place with a different technology," said Mr Dua, who also drew attention to the image of a poor Vietnamese girl set on fire by a Napalm bomb crying and running through a rice field. "Now after so many year a video went viral in which a man carried his wife's body for 12 km for cremation, there is where our humanity is evolving," he added. He said the peace proposals submitted by SGI President Daisaku Ikeda to the United Nations every year offer a sliver of hope to the world riven by conflict. Focusing on the peace proposal, Chairperson of Bharat Soka Gakkai (BSG) Vishesh Gupta said, "The preamble of the UNESCO chapter opens with the famous declaration, 'That since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed'. How, then, are defences of peace that are truly lasting to be built? "In the 2016 peace proposal, Mr Ikeda has highlighted that by conducting one on one dialogue, we can build strong and unassailable defences of peace in the heart of one individual after another." He added that it "compels us to think of some key aspects of human life and behaviour: First, whether we can empower another life. Second, all action should be based on dialogue. Third, to see the world from other person's perspective, and finally, to believe in the power and passion of youth." Mr Gupta quoted President Ikeda, who says, "More than anything, it is the depth and intensity of the commitment and pledge that lives in the hearts of the younger generation that will transform the world from one where global issues threaten the lives and dignity of people to one in which all people can live in peace and fully manifest their inherent dignity." Former Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Nitin Desai said, "people life is still not secured after establishment of UN and other peace organisation, it reflects that what UN has started is still an agenda."UNI SHS CJ AE

News clip from Delhi AajTak

