Economy the driving force behind prejudice against migrants: IIM-A Director

IM-A DIRECTOR Prof Errol D'Souza on Thursday said that the economy was the driving force behind migrants in various countries being denied their basic human rights.

Speaking at the symposium on ‘Towards an Era of Human Rights: Building a People’s Movement’ organised by the Bharat Soka Gakkai (BSG) the Indian affiliate of Soka Gakkai International (SGI), a global organisation promoting peace at Ahmedabad Management Association, D’Souza said that it was only through dialogue that the issue could be resolved.

Taking the example of Britain, he said, “Recently I was in London and I met some MPs in the House of Lords to understand what led to BREXIT. It was pointed out to me that a resident of the United Kingdom would invite his relative to live with him, who was actually a native of some other European or neighbouring countries. This relative would basically seek low skill jobs and would access the social welfare benefits awarded to every citizen of the country. As a consequence, the budget for the welfare of each resident started to reduce creating a sense of resentment.”

On equal rights to everyone, he said, “I think if every citizen is given equal rights, the migrant becomes equal to a person who was already a part of my society. Economically, the only advantage of hiring a migrant, who is low skilled, is the lower labour cost compared to someone already part of the society. But if the migrant becomes equal to other citizens, then I have no advantage of hiring a migrant. So there would be a feeling of prejudice and the economy is driven in this mental process. Most economies look at migrants as not actually adding to the economy but draining it by reducing the share of welfare to the existing citizens. So they look at migrants differently and therefore, human rights get reduced.”
Ahmedabad, Jul 26 (PTI) The Bharat Soka Gakkai (BSG), the Indian affiliate of Soka Gakkai International (SGI), a global organisation promoting peace, today held a symposium here.


Bharat Soka Gakkai chairperson Vishesh Gupta said that this was the 36th peace proposal submitted to the UN by Ikeda.

Ikeda, in the peace proposal, has urged the UN to focus on key issues such as climate change, rights of refugees and their children, women's equality as well as the rights of the elderly, Gupta told reporters ahead of the symposium.

"This is a proposal made for the entire world, keeping global issues in mind. We are giving a direction based on which a road map can be developed by each country depending on their situation" said Gupta.

Prominent speakers who shared their views with the audience during the event included Indian Institute of Management-Ahmedabad Director, Professor Errol D'Souza and Kartikeya Sarabhai, founder-director of the Centre for Environment Education.

The BSG's website claims that it is an organisation engaged in peace, culture and education activities based on the humanistic philosophy of Buddhism.

The website adds that the BSG is part of the larger Soka Gakkai International (SGI) network, a global organisation that seeks to promote the values of peace and respect for all people and comprises more than 12 million people in 192 countries.
Education has key role in maintaining peace

Gujarat Global News Network, Ahmedabad

Role of education in promoting and maintaining peace is very crucial and the future generation has to be taught non violence. This was the essence echoed by speakers at a peace proposal symposium based on Soka Gakkai International President Daisaku Ikeda’s 2018 peace proposal titled ‘Toward an Era of Human Rights: Building a People’s Movement’. The symposium was held here today which was attended by a large gathering.

Director of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, professor Errol D’Souza said that Gujarat which was leading in trade in the world should also lead in peace. He said that the state’s number one agenda should be peace. He stressed the importance of a shared people’s movement which enriches everyone’s life by spreading joy and well being.

Dr. Bhushan Punani, executive secretary of Blind People’s Association said that a holistic view of peace should be taken. “Peace cannot be selective. What peace is for mentally retarded. They don’t know peace; it has no existence for them’. And there lies the real challenge. Such persons need to be empowered and even if one person is not at peace, peace has no meaning, he added.

Global peace starts with self, feels Kartikeya Sarabhai, founder and director of centre of environment education. Every individual should feel peace and anger is the root cause of various problems. ‘we have to teach our children non-violence so that they become less violent when they grow up”. “We do not have answer to violence. Buddhist thinking says that each person has goodness and badness in them. Peace and violence are in the same person. If you look at Gujarat, it is a very peaceful state from outside but at the same time violence is happening in this city,” he added.

Violence has many forms but a single voice for peace is stronger than a thousand voices creating conflict, Dr. Preeti Shroff, Dean MICA school of ideas said. Today we are struggling for peace and here role of education is critical. Gandhiji inspired us to lead. We should be influencing the world for peace building but we all are struggling. Violence has become so prevalent or gets triggered so easily and digital communication has contributed to it. We do need to intervene and I believe role of education is extremely critical. We all are thinking how can we bring learning about non-violence as a way of life”, Preeti said.

According to Vishesh Gupta, chairman of Bharat Soka Gakkai peace can only come when one brings other people out of their sufferings and encourage them to become happy. Every individual is a power and can create peace.

This year peace proposal includes issues of hate speech, refugee rights, rights of elderly, discrimination against women, right to live, climate change etc,” Gupta said.
Ahmedabad, Jul 26 The Bharat Soka Gakkai (BSG), the Indian affiliate of Soka Gakkai International (SGI), a global organisation promoting peace, today held a symposium here. Dignitaries, during the symposium, shared their views on this year's peace proposal, titled "Era of Human Rights: Building a People's Movement", submitted by SGI president Daisaku Ikeda to the United Nations on January 26. Bharat Soka Gakkai chairperson Vishesh Gupta said that this was the 36th peace proposal submitted to the UN by Ikeda.

Ikeda, in the peace proposal, has urged the UN to focus on key issues such as climate change, rights of refugees and their children, women's equality as well as the rights of the elderly, Gupta told reporters ahead of the symposium. "This is a proposal made for the entire world, keeping global issues in mind. We are giving a direction based on which a road map can be developed by each country depending on their situation" said Gupta.

Prominent speakers who shared their views with the audience during the event included Indian Institute of Management-Ahmedabad Director, Professor Errol D'Souza and Kartikeya Sarabhai, founder-director of the Centre for Environment Education.

The BSG's website claims that it is an organisation engaged in peace, culture and education activities based on the humanistic philosophy of Buddhism. The website adds that the BSG is part of the larger Soka Gakkai International (SGI) network, a global organisation that seeks to promote the values of peace and respect for all people and comprises more than 12 million people in 192 countries.
The Bharat Soka Gakkai (BSG), the Indian affiliate of Soka Gakkai International (SGI), a global organisation promoting peace, today held a symposium here.


Bharat Soka Gakkai chairperson Vishesh Gupta said that this was the 36th peace proposal submitted to the UN by Ikeda. Ikeda, in the peace proposal, has urged the UN to focus on key issues such as climate change, rights of refugees and their children, women's equality as well as the rights of the elderly, Gupta told reporters ahead of the symposium.

"This is a proposal made for the entire world, keeping global issues in mind. We are giving a direction based on which a road map can be developed by each country depending on their situation" said Gupta.

Prominent speakers who shared their views with the audience during the event included Indian Institute of Management-Ahmedabad Director, Professor Errol D'Souza and Kartikeya Sarabhai, founder-director of the Centre for Environment Education.

The BSG's website claims that it is an organisation engaged in peace, culture and education activities based on the humanistic philosophy of Buddhism.

The website adds that the BSG is part of the larger Soka Gakkai International (SGI) network, a global organisation that seeks to promote the values of peace and respect for all people and comprises more than 12 million people in 192 countries.
‘Gujarat’s no. 1 agenda should be peace’

DNA Correspondent

correspondent@dnaindia.net

If Gujarat is a state that considers itself as a trading state which is globally integrated with the rest of the world, then, of course, Gujarat’s number 1 agenda should be peace, said director of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, professor Errol D’Souza. D’Souza was speaking at the peace proposal symposium based on Soka Gakkai International President Daisaku Ikeda’s 2018 peace proposal titled Toward an Era of Human Rights: Building a People’s Movement. Each year since 1983, President Ikeda has been writing peace proposals that diagnose the core issues of the day and suggests concrete solutions.

The symposium held at Ahmedabad Management Association had Bharat Soka Gakkai chairperson Vishesh Gupta, Dr Bhushan Punami, Executive Secretary, Blind People’s Association, Preeti Shroff, Dean, MICA and Kartikeye Sarabhai, Founder and Director, Centre for Environment Education apart from D’Souza as speakers. “Peace is a global phenomenon and one of the important things is to talk about it at the global level. Peace can only happen with interaction and dialogue,” Errol said.

“The peace proposal this year includes issues of hate speech, refugee rights, xenophobia, discrimination, right to live, etc,” Gupta chairperson said. Addressing the audience, Errol said, “The proposal talks about how migrants are denied basic human rights. States want migrants who are talented which would lead up to welfare gains and fill up tax revenue. A typical state would like migrant who provides taxes and takes little social welfare. So many states had a very clear policy about migrants. Low skilled migrants are not welcomed in most countries.

He added, “If they give equal rights to migrants as equal as a citizen, there will be no advantage of hiring a migrant and it will build prejudices. The economy divides mental thought. Hence, there is a huge debate between access and human rights and it is not an easy debate.” Kartikeye Sarabhai said, “We are working on a pedagogy to imbibe non-violence in our children through schools so that a child when becomes an adult is less likely to be violent. We do not have an answer to violence.”
SGI's Bharat Soka Gakkai holds symposium on human rights

The Bharat Soka Gakkai (BSG), the Indian affiliate of Soka Gakkai International (SGI), a global organization promoting peace, today held a symposium here.
Bharat Soka Gakkai chairperson Vishesh Gupta said that this was the 36th peace proposal submitted to the UN by Ikeda. Ikeda, in the peace proposal, has urged the UN to focus on key issues such as climate change, rights of refugees and their children, women's equality as well as the rights of the elderly, Gupta told reporters ahead of the symposium.
"This is a proposal made for the entire world, keeping global issues in mind. We are giving a direction based on which a road map can be developed by each country depending on their situation" said Gupta.
Prominent speakers who shared their views with the audience during the event included Indian Institute of Management-Ahmedabad Director, Professor Errol D'Souza and Kartikeya Sarabhai, founder-director of the Centre for Environment Education.
The BSG's website claims that it is an organization engaged in peace, culture and education activities based on the humanistic philosophy of Buddhism.
The website adds that the BSG is part of the larger Soka Gakkai International (SGI) network, a global organization that seeks to promote the values of peace and respect for all people and comprises more than 12 million people in 192 countries.
Gujarat's number 1 agenda should be peace: IIMA director Errol D'Souza

If Gujarat is a state that considers itself as a trading state which is globally integrated with the rest of the world, then of course Gujarat's number 1 agenda should be peace, said director of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, professor Errol D'Souza. D'Souza was speaking at the peace proposal symposium based on Soka Gakkai International President Daisaku Ikeda's 2018 peace proposal titled "Toward an Era of Human Rights: Building a People's Movement." Each year since 1983, President Ikeda has been writing peace proposals that diagnoses the core issues of the day and suggests concrete solutions.

The symposium held at Ahmedabad Management Association had Bharat Soka Gakkai chairperson Vishesh Gupta, Dr Bhushan Punani, Executive Secretary, Blind People's Association, Preeti Shroff, Dean, MICA and Kartikeye Sarabhai, Founder and Director, Centre for Environment Education apart from D'Souza as speakers.

"Peace is a global phenomenon and one of the important things is to talk about it at the global level. Peace can only happen with interaction and dialogue."

"The peace proposal this year includes issues of hate speech, refugee rights, xenophobia, discrimination, right to live, etc," Gupta chairperson said. Addressing the audience, Errol said, "The proposal talks about how migrants are denied basic human rights. States want migrants who are talented which would lead up to welfare gains and fill up tax revenue. A typical state would like migrant who provides taxes and takes little social welfare. So many states had a very clear policy about migrants. Low skilled migrants are not welcomed in most countries."

He added, "If they give equal rights to migrants as equal as a citizen, there will be no advantage of hiring a migrant and it will build prejudices. The economy divides mental thought. Hence, there is a huge debate between access and human rights and it is not an easy debate. Only foresight, hard resources and dialogue will help us."

Kartikeye Sarabhai said, "We are working on a pedagogy to imbibe non-violence in our children through schools so that a child when becomes an adult is less likely to be violent. We do not have answer to violence. Buddhist thinking says that each person has goodness and badness in them. Peace and violence are in the same person. If you look at Gujarat, it is a very peaceful state from outside but at the same time violence is happening in this city."

"Talking about Gujarat, message of non-violence began from here and Gandhiji inspired us to lead. We should be influencing the world for peace building but we all are struggling. Violence has become so prevalent or gets triggered so easily and digital communication has contributed to it. We do need to intervene and I believe role of education is extremely critical. We all are thinking how can we bring learning about non-violence as a way of life", Preeti Shroff, Dean, MICA said., speaking about role of education in peace.
People led movements will foster peace in the future, believe educators

Renowned educators debated and brainstormed on the subject of world peace in a symposium organized by the Bharat Soka Gakkai (BSG) in Ahmedabad recently. BSG, the Indian affiliate of the Soka Gakkai International (SGI), a UN recognized NGO, has over 2 million members who work in the field of education and humanitarian work based on Buddhist philosophy. The peace symposium was held to discuss the 36th peace proposal written and submitted to the UN by SGI’s president Dr Daisaku Ikeda.

Covering issues like nuclear disarmament, education for migrants, women empowerment, the peace proposal was lauded by the speakers for the evening Dr Bhushan Punani, executive secretary, Blind People’s Association, Prof Errol D’Souza, director, Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, Dr Preeti Shroff, dean, MICA and Kartikeya Sarabhai, founder and director, Centre for Environment Education.

Prof D’Souza said, “No nation, no institution can take away one’s right to be human. Dr Ikeda in his proposal discusses how when one nation wants to develop nuclear arms, so does the other in a bid to be protected and that begins an arms race. In the end, many lives are lost. By having such foresight, Dr Ikeda makes it clear that to be human, we should know the consequences of our actions.”

Touching upon the issue of migrants, Prof D’Souza wondered if there were any straight answers. “All states want migrants that will fill their coffers, they want to spend little, extract maximum talent. In most states, low-skilled worker migrants are not welcome. But in an exemplary country like Sweden where everybody is welcome, the figures say that 60% low skilled migrants arrived in just the last 10 years. So it is not impossible to work out a system that gives dignity and rights to every human,” he said.

Dr Bhushan Punani, who has decades of illustrious work in the field of improving the lives of physically impaired people, said peace cannot be discussed unless we speak of the 25 million who have a disability of some kind in the world. His suggestions were simple and effective. “We need education, medical care and compassion for the disabled instead of attaching stigma to them,” he said. He went on to cite an incident where a fire at a mental asylum in Erwady had claimed 25 lives because these were patients chained to their beds. “Several petitions later, an Act has been introduced that has made chaining of mentally ill patients illegal. Another landmark judgment by Justice Mohit Shah has allowed a blind girl named Palak Jain to study and become the first visually impaired physiotherapist in the world. It is efforts like these that will bring about peace for all, marginalized minorities included,” Dr Punani said.

Speaking of how women are natural leaders, Dr Preeti Shroff urged everyone to not stereotype the girl child or burden her with redundant social norms. “Women make creative societies, not cut-throat ones. Let the girls grow up and become leaders instead of being stressed about gender roles,” she said.

The keynote speaker, Padma Shri Kartikeya Sarabhai spoke of how the Earth Charter, an organization he has been a part of, has twin ideals to the SGI. “The movement for peace cannot come externally. This kind of a debate that Dr Ikeda’s peace proposal has begun, is the cornerstone of thinking up solutions. Dialogue is the best way ahead,” he said.

Vishesh Gupta, head, BSG, summarized the peace proposal’s human rights-focused approach to resolving global issues with a belief, that, such an approach, rooted in concern for the life and dignity of each individual, ‘can bring about the fusion of ethics and policy that is required for an effective response.’
मानव अधिकारों के युग तर्कः लोक आंदोलनन हरिधारक

जेस्लायक प्रगति दासकांक के उद्देश्य आदर्श दर्शा (पीस प्रोजेक्ट) द्वारा प्रेरित आदर्श दासकांक प्रसिद्धियों
First time for peace resolution seminar to be held in Ahmedabad

(GNS) Ahmedabad, 25th The first time the SOKA GAKKAI International Institute, known worldwide, is going to be held at the Peace Symposium in Ahmedabad. on July 26. At the AMA’s J. B. auditorium at 6.30 pm, eminent persons such as Kartikeya Sarabhai, Dr. Bhushan Punani, Pro. Errol Dsouza, Dr. Preeti Shroff, Vishesh Gupta, Rashi Ahuja will present their ideas and tell about human rights, child development.
Nav Gujarat Samay

Divya Bhaskar