

# Necessity of Ethics and Globalization

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**Abstract**—*Man developed the society for his betterment. Society and culture are the two sides of same coin. Culture is directly assimilated in the society and plays multiple roles especially to maintain and control the society. Human values, ethics, norms and integrity are very much essential to maintain the society in uniformity manner. Therefore ethics are required everywhere in all sphere of life. In the age of globalization ethics only can bind the humanity as per the expectation. Inculcation of ethical behavior helps to human development with the elimination of current problems. It is a duty of every citizen of country to ensure the ethical behavior and promote for societal development from the all strata.*

*Ethics , professional ethics, morals, empathy, character, wish of well being, co-operation and spirituality are some of the closed component of ethics in the age of globalization in current scenario.*

*In this article the focus will be given on particular duties of every individual. The Directive Principle of State policy and fundamental duties incorporated in the every field of life. Some guidelines will be suggested through this article for improvement the society. Situational ethics will be implementing in every field for particular acknowledgement and implementation. Families, social cognizance and awareness will be tried to insert the human minds.*

*Various parameter as per the requirement in the age of globalization in current scenario also will be discussed with specific clarification.*

**Keywords:** *Values, integrity, problems, globalization, duties etc*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The 19<sup>th</sup> century ushered in changes of great magnitude through the phenomenon of globalization. It has reached its zenith in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

We are moving towards a 'One World.' Globalisation, with its various dimensions, defines our life. The world has become more prosperous, freer, and healthier. Yet, on the other hand, the human race faces problems like world poverty, environmental catastrophes, rising conflicts and terrorism, economic upheavals.

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All these issues, have led to discussions regarding ethics and values with a global outreach. These globally accepted ethics would be the foundation of frameworks for treaties, agreements and policies.

This paper discusses the challenges posed by globalisation and tries to identify the ethical norms and values that can lay the groundwork for a more equal and freer world.

## **2. GLOBALIZATION : PERSPECTIVES**

Globalization is the process of international integration arising from the interchange of world views, products, ideas, and other aspects of culture [1]. The phenomenal growth in transportation and communication infrastructure, leading to immense growth in trade and commerce gave birth to this phenomenon. It is generally perceived to be an overwhelmingly economic phenomenon that has transformed other dimensions of life.

There are two major perspectives about globalization. The first one provides a simplistic view economic cause and effect relationship. It states that globalization is an economic process that involves increase in international investment and trade in production of goods and services. Since it spurs economic growth, it is thus, engine of development. Development is the foremost agenda of all countries, rich and poor, globalization must be promoted [2].

The second perspective also encompasses the challenges and issues associated with globalization. It states that even if globalization stimulates economic growth, its fruits are not equally distributed. It favors the rich countries, more than the poor countries. Even amongst the poor countries, it favors the well off, than the not so well off. Also, economic and industrial growth is achieved at the cost of degradation of environment. Thus, globalization increases inequality and causes damage to environment. This perspective is the central argument of anti-globalization rallies.

## **3. GLOBALIZATION : DIMENSIONS**

Economic dimension, is one of the facets of globalization. It has major political and cultural dimensions. An interplay of these dictates the international relations and agendas. It is important to understand them.

### **3.1 Economic Dimension**

This involves free movement of resources, goods and services and labor in the international market. It also means open economies, free of substantial global intervention, universal agreements on tariff rates, international financial

organizations that regulate the norms and supervise the dealings. It also includes geo-political groups of nation-states, formed for mutual commercial benefits. Another aspect is emergence of non-state stake holders, who also determine policies of international trade relations.

The world saw a new trend of global institutions after the end of the Second World War. Bretton woods, a sleepy New England Town was the birth place of global economic organizations that play a pivotal role in international economic relations.. It was there the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and GATT were created. GATT stands for General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. In 1995 this became the World Trade Organization (WTO).By 2002 it accounted for 97% of world trade [3].

The world has seen greater prosperity, increase in standard of life and life span, rise in literacy levels like never before. However, another aspect is the rising inequality.The gap between rich and poor in the world is still very large. The bottom 2.5 billion ,40% of the world's population live on less than \$2 a day and receive only 5% of the world's income.The prevalence of pathetic living conditions, poverty, illiteracy, disease and instability along with environmental degradation, are major areas of concern.

It is well known, that the global economics is dictated by the developed world. The trend is set by global corporations who define their needs for sources of cheap raw material, labor and a market for theirs goods and services. The treaties and agreements favor economic giants, currently leading to lack of consensus on world economic forums regarding subsidies in agriculture or trade barriers. The lack of consensus on environmental accords like the Paris treaty, and the difficulties in effective implementation of the Kyoto Protocol, the Montreal Protocol etc. underline the 'higher than thou' attitude of the developed world and their priority to protection of self-interest.

### **3.2 Political Dimension**

Apart from trade and commerce, different aspects of globalization also include free movement of cultural and political differences. Although on one hand, this interchange has led to exchange of cultural and political ideas and ideologies, emergence of free thought and demand for democracy, it has also led to rise in conflicts. It would be naïve to disregard the global nature and nexus terrorism has acquired, or the spread of political unrest catalyzed by use social media. There has been cultural exchange, but cultural association and understanding has not been a priority. The world at large, does not have the capacity to understand and respect cultural and political differences.

On the lines similar to the international financial organizations, the United Nations is an umbrella organization that deals with major political concerns of peace and war, refugees, human rights, international disputes, socio-cultural development of all, poverty alleviation. However, a practical analysis of about six decades of work shows that, the agendas have been formulated and implemented as per the wish of the developed nations. Also, multilateral groups like the North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO], the Organization for Economic Development and Co-operation [OECD], Group of 20 [G20], Association of South East Asian Nations [ASEAN], Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa [BRICS] are engaged in the game of geo-political prominence wherein preservation of self-interest is the first rule.

#### **4. NEED FOR ETHICS**

Under such circumstances, even with the force of globalization, creation of a harmonious ‘one world’ order seems an uphill task. Well known bioethicist Peter Singer states in his seminal work on globalization, states that it is of pre-eminence that the privileged and developed countries re-think their policies and take up responsibility. Neglecting or disregarding the inequalities generated by globalization would be a grave mistake of great magnitude. It is time to think about the principles of global fairness and ethics. It is also pivotal to ensure that everyone considers the system to be legitimate and just [4].

Simply defined, ethics is a system of moral principles. It defines how people make decisions and choices in their life. They cover four basic areas

- How to live a good life
- Our rights and responsibilities
- The language of right and wrong
- Moral decisions – what is good and bad [5]

#### **5. PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES GUIDING GLOBAL ETHICS: INDIAN PERSPECTIVE**

Ethics can be effective only when they are practically applicable in enhancing the betterment of all. This is the crux of establishing an ethical international order such that the negotiations are guided by principles of justice and equality, mutual respect and benefit for all [6].

Such principles have always formed a part of Indian value system. We believe in ‘*vasudhaivakutumbaka*’ [The world is a family] and ‘*sarvebhavantusukhinah*’

[May all be happy]. These are not mere principals. Indian philosophy offers practical system for implementation of these principles.

### **5.1 The Idea of Yagna**

Yagna is an important ritual in Indian Culture. It offers great ethical and practical wisdom. Over the time, the philosophy behind yagna was lost, and the ritual remained. It is important to understand the philosophy.

The ritual of yagna stands for mutual exchange, which is the foundation of civilization. In yagna, the yajaman [one who conducts yagna] offers or gives to the devata [the party he wishes to acquire a favor from] in order to get. The devata, in turn gives back to the yajmana, leading to a satisfactory exchange.

The philosophy of yagna offers an important principal, that international dealings should be based on exchange for mutual benefit, in which both the parties are equal beneficiaries [7].

## **6. CONCLUSION**

Ethics are essential to build an international system that is just and equal. The world is on a precipice of conflict. Understanding between nations and emergence of universal ethical norms and their acceptance in principal and practice can create a more peaceful and prosperous world order. The United Nations has presented a road map through Millennium Development Goals and Agenda 2030. These programmes, when successfully implemented will lead to creation of a beautiful life for billions who are denied this basic right. Thus, ethical world is prerequisite for a prosperous, peaceful world.

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