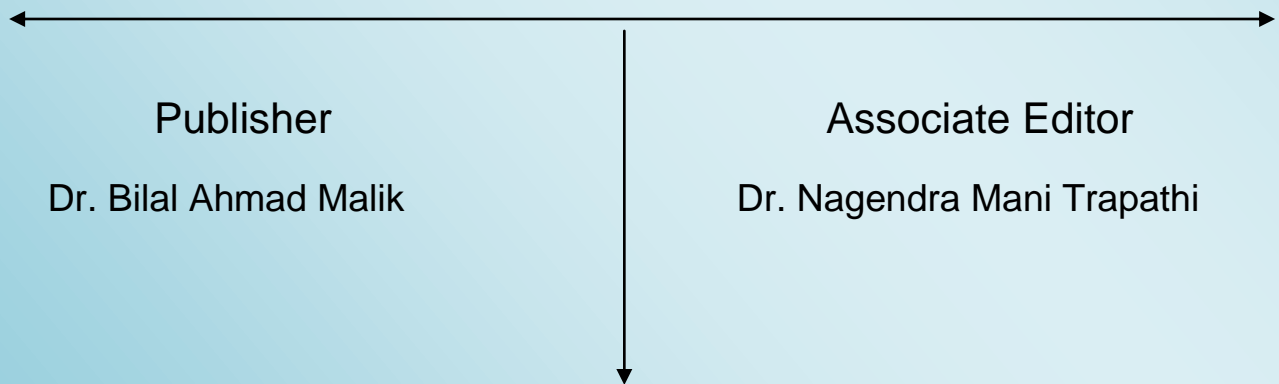


# North Asian International Research Journal Consortium

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# GANDHI'S IDEAL SOCIETY BASED ON SARVODAYA

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## INTRODUCTION:

Gandhi's concept of *Sarvodaya* is based on love, truth, non-violence, sacrifice, forgiving and service to others. The real meaning of *Sarvodaya* is the welfare of all mankind. Gandhi's great vows are love for others, sacrifice and service to human being. In ancient India there were lots of discriminations between one to another. Social reformers were trying to remove social injustice and discrimination from the society. And they wanted to establish new social order which is best for the society. They make a good society and the ideal society which is excellent for all. There is no injustice, inequality and discrimination. All are getting their human rights; nobody can be untouchable or neglected. Many Indian philosophers were struggling for human rights, equality and justice such as Gandhi, Ambedkar, Tagor, Vidyasagar, Swami Vivekananda, Aurobinda and Raja Ram Mahan Ray etc. But Gandhi on the one hand was freedom fighter and on the other hand he was a social reformer. Gandhi's concept of *Sarvodaya* is relevance in even the modern society. *Sarvodaya* society is ideal society which is called Ramrajya, where every man is equal in the field of social, political and economic.

Gandhi's concepts of ideal society is stateless, everyone even the king of the state is like a common man. Gandhi's believed in non-violence is the path of liberation for every human being. The path of violence is evil or social barrier of the society. Violence can destroy any state, nation and world. So, we can say non-violence and truth is the weapon of life. Love and self-sacrifice are the features of human being. If human beings are literate and conscious of education, food, clothing, land and health they can bring in the world peace, equality and justice. For this reason we have to teach about human rights to the untouchable, Harijan and poor people for the development of their status in the society. The activities that were assigned to the untouchables were not befitting of the civil society. Those activities were neglected by the higher caste people. Their works were not befitting such as cleaning dirt, cleaning cloths, scavenger and burning the dead of all castes. Gandhi said, "They suffered a lot because their jobs were "not fit" for members of higher castes to perform."<sup>1</sup>

Gandhi loved the untouchables and he said if he were to take birth again then he should be born in an untouchable class. This is the precise reason why he wanted to feel their life style and share their painful life. There was suffering, pain and insecurity throughout the life of an untouchable class which has influenced Gandhi's philosophy. Gandhi has founded Harijan Sevak Sangh for the social, political and economic rights of the poor people, untouchable and Harijan. Through this Gandhi wanted to provide solution for social, political and economic problems. He wanted to give equal rights for every human being. According to Gandhi, "My creed is service of God and therefore of humanity."<sup>2</sup> "Perfect self-control depends upon God. Absolute self-surrender to God is necessary for complete self-control including sex-restraint."(cp. Gita)<sup>3</sup>

Liberation depends on self-resistance, self-control, self-sustainable, self-sacrifice, forgiving and service to others. "All Hindu systems believed that when man attain salvation, he becomes divested of all world consciousness, or of all consciousness of himself and his interests, and was thus reduce to his own original purity untouched by all sensations, perceptions, feeling and willing, but there the idea was this that when man had no bonds of karma and no desire and attachment with the world and had known the nature of his self as absolutely free and unattached to the world and his psychosis, he emancipates from the world and all his connection with the world ceased, though the world continued as ever the same with others."<sup>4</sup> Gandhi's concept of liberation has some differences with that of Vedanta concepts. Gandhi agrees with the Vedanta philosophy and gives something different concepts. His idea of salvation of human life is sacrifice, service and love of others. So, he proposed an ideal society which is classless and stateless. This ideal society, Gandhi called it as *Sarvodaya* society.

### **SARVODAYA SOCIETY:**

*Sarvodaya* means just society where every man attains equality and justice. "Sarvodaya is called as welfare of all and rising of all. Sarvoday is Sanskrit in origin which comprised 'Sarva' meaning all and 'Udaya' meaning rising. The etymological meaning of Sarvodaya is the rising of all. This all includes all living beings. In other words, Sarvodaya as the word means welfare of all."<sup>5</sup> So, *Sarvodaya* is the word which means welfare of all mankind. Gandhi wants to establish free society where all men attain equal opportunity. There is no exploitation, discrimination, oppression, inequality, injustice and violence. The ideal society is social, political and economical justice for all men.

*Sarvodaya* also aims at the complete good for others and base on truth and non-violence. The worship of non-violence is small, but strongest vows. Non-violence is the law of life including individuals, society and nations.

Human life must follow sacrifice, giving and not taking. *Sarvodaya* society is a good society which established freedom, equality, justice and fraternity for all human beings. It is a new social order based on equality and justice.

### **EQUALITY AND JUSTICE:**

Human activities have an immense impact on society. Their duties ought to be welfare of society and good to all. Solomon says further, “the rich and the poor are equal. God is their maker. God gives them knowledge.”<sup>6</sup> All man is equal respect as a human being. The poor people like as harijan, untouchable, land labour, slave and sweeper all of the brotherhood and relative of us. The perfection of life is truth action and fruitless action. But in the modern society so many people forget their activities. They are going to the path of wrong action and said money is everything, no humanity, sacrifice and social service. They are engaged with narrowness action. They are doing anti-social, anti-political and anti-economic activities. So the society doesn't go to proper place if people don't change themselves. Gandhi understood violence must be destroyed from the society. There can be established equality and justice.

The creator of the world is God and gives to humanity with the co-operation proper good for every human being. *Sarvodaya* being as self-government where there is a value of freedom, equality, justice and fraternity. Every people have consciously taken to their rights and opportunity. Leo Tolstoy pleaded with Gandhi's Swarajya- “the inner rule of man over himself. He wanted that swarajya should be based on the moral sovereignty of the people. *Sarvodaya* aims to replace the politics of power by the politics of co-operation.”<sup>7</sup> Gandhi's *sarvodaya* is the movement against violence, discrimination, inequality and injustice. It is self-rule and the rule for the poor, villagers and under-privilege people.

The primary aims of the *Sarvodaya* are giving to human rights and opportunity for all people. The justice for all people is the way of democratic system. In the democratic system people are conscious about their rights and duty. There are two sides of the coin that is right and duty. One hand people are getting opportunity with human rights, other hand he must do his duty for the nation.

### **IDEAL SOCIETY-**

Gandhi philosophy is basically called as idealism. He wants to established ideal society. His main weapon and technique was non-violence, truth, love, forgiving, satyagaha and sacrifice. The entire life of Gandhi's struggle

was for rights and justice for untouchable, poor, Harijan, women, slave and land labour. He tried to establish social equality, political and economic justice for all. In the ideal society tried to give everyone is equal, poor and rich there is no difference. It gives us peace, equality and justice. "My idea of society is that while we are born equal, meaning that we have a right to equal opportunities, all have not the same capacity."<sup>8</sup> We can say different community and caste exist in the society and their activities are different but unity is the virtue of the human being. It is the virtue of the ideal society.

Gandhi equally respects social, political and economic exploited, oppression and suppression upon the women. Women are the constructive former of the society. The connotation of the honour of the women and co-operative activities is necessary in the society. If the society will be smooth run then there must be necessitated co-relative activity of man and women. This is the cause of the first essential attainment of the people are education, health, food, shelter and land. We can understand first duty is uplift of the family, then the village and lastly the development of the nation. So education and consciousness of the people are good of the society. Actually we can remove from the society discrimination, inequality and injustice. If everyone mutually works for the society then creates a good society. That is burden to one man which work is simple and easy to ten men. Actually only some people work for society so that is the problem of the society. Gandhi is the instance of the all people who work for the society which is welfare of all.

## CONCLUSION-

In the conclusion we can say that Gandhi's aim was completely free society where there is full freedom, equality, justice and fraternity. His entire life he struggled for harijan, untouchable and poor gives for their rights, freedom and socio-economic justice. The goal of the human life is love, peace and sacrifice. It is common good for the general people. It is universal and absolutely good for the society which gives peace to everyone. Social violence, evil, anger and crime will be removed from the society, it will be done mutually. The service of the people is liberation of the human being is better than spiritual liberation. It is reality that god is the creator of all but he is not the creator of poor, untouchable, harijan, slave and land labour. We can realize that poor and lower caste people have equal status in the society. The moral duty of everyone is protection of this people and the society.

Gandhi's ideal society based on sarvodaya i.e welfare of humankind. He wanted to establish democratic society where there is everyman judge equally and their right to speech, work and fight against evil. Everyman is tried equally in the good society. Today, it is the challenge for the modern people to remove discrimination,

oppression, injustice, inequality, violence and crime from the society. Gandhi's *Sarvodaya* is the similarly Ramrajya. All human being are tried equally social, political and economic. The *sarvodaya* society is social justice for all human being.

#### NOTES AND REFERENCE-

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