

# United Nations and World Peace

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Struggle for power has been the key-note of Western politics. Its natural off-shoots were colonialism, imperialism, racial arrogance, Class Discrimination and Economic Exploitation. Such an international order is governed by a peace based upon arms. And armed Peace is always an uneasy peace.

Two World Wars within three decades thoroughly exposed the bankruptcy of such an order. Tortured humanity hungered for peace in true sense of the term. Result was the birth of the United Nations Organisation in 1945. The Organisation was set up "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war". It was frankly admitted that war brings nothing but sorrows and miseries to mankind. The ideals of the United Nations Organisation are:- The basic human rights; dignity and worth of human person; equal rights for man and woman and for the nations large and small; and better standards of life in larger freedom to all people of the world.

## Safer world

How could the United Nations guarantee them? Safer and better world depends upon the ability of the United Nations in preserving peace in an atomic age. The United Nations should be able to control the holders of nuclear weapons. On that ability hangs the very fate of humankind. To realize the ideals of the United Nations, the world needs an altogether different international order from the one that prevails at present. New International Order should be based upon Co-existence and co-operation among the nations of the world regardless of their forms of Government. The United Nations should, therefore, discard the discredited international order based upon struggle for power where might is right; where strong subjugate the weak; where the rich exploit the poor and where all are condemned to live under the umbrella of terror.

Presently, the United Nations pursues its goals through five organs. They are:- The General Assembly; The Security Council; The Economic and Social Council; The Trusteeship Council; and the International Court of Justice. Originally, each organ was assigned specific and definite functions. The

Charter of the United Nations conceived the General Assembly as the parliament of the world. All Nation -States, which are the members of the United Nations, are the members of the General Assembly. The General Assembly was to formulate concrete plans for the achievement of the goals of the United Nations. The Security Council was made the real decision-making body of the United Nations. As the name tells, its first and foremost duty was to protect, preserve and promote security of the world and thus brighten the prospects of peace. Five states - The United States of America, The Soviet Union, China, Britain, and France - were made the permanent members of the Security Council with the Right of Veto. Consequently, the Security Council cannot act if any one of five permanent members opposed any measure approved by all other members. The Economic and Social Council was entrusted the work of the improvement of economic and social life of the nations. The Trusteeship Council was asked to guide the pace of liquidation of Colonialism within time-bound targets. The International Court of Justice was to be a forum of settlement of disputes between the nation - states.

It was mankind's misfortune that as a protector of peace, The United Nations had a very poor start. No sooner was it born, the Organisation became a cockpit of cold war. The two superpowers - The United States of America and the Soviet Union - began to use it for partisan purposes. Their pride and prejudices, their rivalries and their National Interests vitiated the working of the United Nations. Ever since its birth, The United Nations have lived from crisis to crisis. Its history is notable for sharp fluctuations in the fortunes of peace.

## Organs

The performance of the organs of the United Nations is disappointing. They are not working as the supporters of the United Nations Organisation expect them to work. Instead of becoming a mirror of the dreams of the world, the General Assembly has degenerated into a debating society where hypocrisy reigns supreme. The States which inhumanly bomb hospitals and

schools and kill helpless sick and innocent children deliver eloquent sermons on Human Rights. It may seem strange but it is true that every decision of the Security Council makes the world more and more insecure. The Veto-power has made the Security Council a plaything in the hands of those enjoying it. International Court of Justice pathetically indicates that for the Nations, justice is still a cry in the wilderness. No wonder, today, The Unity of the united Nations is seen only in its name. On the questions of war and peace, The United Nations are divided.

To enjoy peace, mankind must create a climate of peace. It should remove the root causes of war. Colonialism; Imperialism; Racial Discrimination; Economic Exploitation; and Income Disparities between nation and nation and between person and person within every nation invariably breed war. Hence, elimination of war depends upon the preservation of political and economic independence of the nation-states and equal powers and equal rights to all members of the United Nations in all its organs.

Empirical evidence indicates that Veto-power enjoyed exclusively by only five States is the greatest defect of the structural organisation of the United Nation. In 1945, the Veto-power was defended and justified as an acknowledgement of the Great Power Theory of International Politics. World was made to believe that Peace would be a reality only when there is unanimity amongst the great powers on the remedies to cure the diseases plaguing the world. Events proved that this remedy itself was worse than all the diseases. It was stressed that the great-power unanimity would discourage and deter the would-be-aggressors. It was not realized that the great powers themselves could become the aggressors and could disturb world peace.

The Great Power Theory has completely lost its rationale and validity after the Second World War. Like an Omnipotent and Omniscient man, an Omnipotent and Omniscient State is a sheer delusion. In our times even the greatest power can neither bend nor break even the smallest states as

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could be seen from America's utter humiliation by Viet Nam and the snubbing of the Soviet Union by tiny states of Eastern Europe. To treat Britain and France as the "Great Powers" is to live in the world of Rip Van Winkle. In the post - 1945 world, Britain and France are neither "great" or "powers".

## Ballet

Impotency of United Nations Organisation became clearly visible during the Gulf War of 1990. From beginning to end it was an American ballet with Western satellites of the United States playing insignificant roles. Till recently, the United States of America and Soviet Union were self-proclaimed guardians of the world. With the nervous breakdown of the Russians, the world has fallen in the lap of Americans. Americans profess to make the world safe for democracy when democracy, true sense of the term, exists nowhere in the world, not even the United States of America.

It goes without saying that the Security Council cannot make the world secure for peace without amending the Charter of the United Nations. Five countries should be immediately stripped off their Veto-power. No country should be made a permanent member of the Security Council. All members of the Security Council should be elected for the same term and enjoy the

same powers. The decisions of the Security Council should be by majority vote of the members present and voting.

The United Nations will achieve their goals only when the Organisation does not act as a mouth-piece and rubber - stamp of one or two members. The United Nations will succeed only when all its members unite against and act decisively against every disturber of world peace, no matter whether that disturber is a great power or a small state.

## Spurt in NRI deposits in Kerala

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, October 25: (PTI): The inflow of NRI deposits into commercial banks in Kerala has been registering an increase since April this year apparently due to the construction boom in the Gulf during the post-war period, devaluation of the rupee and the liberal schemes announced by the Centre to tap NRI resources, according to banking circles here.

Another factor which might have contributed to the increase would be the tendency among non-resident Keralites to divert their savings from foreign banks to Indian banks following the crash of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) they added.