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Trilok Chandra Srivastava [Research-Scholar in Human-Rights & Management],

Secretary, Peoples' Welfare & Development Society [A registered NGO]

Jodhpur [Rajasthan], India, [trilokchandra@rediffmail.com]

Subject: Promoting human-rights and fundamental freedoms through a better understanding of traditional values of humankind: best practice

The concept of respecting and promoting human-rights has been a part of our ancient family and social-system. Every religion has preached the importance of love, affection, respect, mutual-cooperation, purity in our thought and action, honesty and universal brotherhood etc. All traditional values are based on respect and care of the parents, women and provide for helping hands for the poor and deprived. All traditional values highly favour the care and welfare of children.

In a nutshell, it can very well be understood that all traditional values embody the philosophy for respect of human-rights as are enshrined in UDHR and other Covenants....though there may be some variations because of changes in perceptions over the period of time. Respect for human-rights can't be ensured merely by enacting Laws. Other functionaries of the human-society have a great role to play in materializing the dream of respect for universal human-rights and their promotion through various measures.

“Family” is the root-level platform where basic human-rights can be taught to our children, the future-generationthe future torchbearer of the community and the nation. In India, still the traditional families teach their children to pay respect to their parents and other elder members of the family by touching their feet in morning. Traditionally, members of the family try to assemble and celebrate all major festivals with other family members thereby showing their sweet-feelings and respect for each other. In traditional Hindu family, every day a handful of food grain, whatsoever is to be cooked that day, is put aside to be given away to the poor thereby teaching a lesson to our children as regards care for the deprived segment of human-fraternity. Many festivals of all religions teach us to donate food and cloths to the poor. These traditional values tend to culminate the culture of respect for the humanity.

Communities and the societies can provide a broader platform for fostering the traditional-culture for respect and promote of human-rights. Apart from creating awareness as regards

human rights, they can also supplement the efforts of the Government and other statutory bodies in proper implementation of human-rights laws. Communities have enormous strength in protecting human-rights and save the people in case of violation or denial of their rights by resorting to all sort of assistance which may range from financing, spreading awareness, providing them shelter or protecting their rights through effective lobbying and advocacy. It may very well be manifested in case of any catastrophe, natural or man-made, when mobilization of effective community-support tend to create a synergy by supplementing Governmental efforts to save people from peril, hunger and thirst.

The educational-institutions can play an incomparable role in imbibing culture of respect and promote for human-rights. In Indian schools, the first session starts with assembly of students ,irrespective of caste, creed or gender, in a ground to offer prayers to the Almighty with prime object to instill in students a sense of faith in the God[it must not be construed as superstition]....the prayer also teaches them the importance of honesty ,integrity, love and brotherhood. Schools also conduct so many activities related to environment, cleanliness and social services. These activities have the effect of metamorphosing our future citizens into courageous and sensitive human-beings who would act with clear perception for the respect of human-rights and would act as deterrents against violation of human-rights.

It can be put forth that in the present era, technical or professional knowledge and education can bring about economical and technical upliftment of the people...it may certainly result in material-well-being of people but this is not the all as regards their “inclusive –welfare”.

In-fact, rights of people based on their perpetual- happiness, all round development, mutual co-operation, love and care for environment, respect & care for senior citizens, women & children and the deprived and universal brotherhood ...all can be fostered and nurtured only by systematic inclusion and teaching of our traditional values rights from the early stage of the life of our children. Traditional values of faith, co-operation, simplicity and mutual respect are very instrumental to fight against the odds in life and stand together with our fellow-beings in case of any abuse of their rights.

PROMOTE TRADITIONAL VALUES TO PROMOTE HUMAN -RIGHTS