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The methods of non-violent: protest and persuasion

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ABSTRACT

"The aftermath of violence is tragic bitterness while the aftermath of nonviolence is the beloved community" Great Martin Luther King Jr. Extreme protests has been the mainstay of activists around the world for long years but protest in India which popularized and perfected the non-violent protest and quietly powerful hunger strike. There have been many rushes to embrace an increasingly unusual form of agitations.

Keywords: Nonviolence is a Way of Life for Courageous People, Defeats Injustice, Not People, It Chooses Love Instead of Hate

1. INTRODUCTION

"The aftermath of violence is tragic bitterness while the aftermath of nonviolence is the beloved community"

Great Martin Luther King Jr.

The conflicts in the society are as old as the society itself. In any society or nation state the resolutions of conflict, and restoration of normalcy is a cyclic process, which can be controlled by inculcating the values of coexistence and syncretism among the citizens. Where society is rooted in principles of nonviolence resolving conflict at its incipient stage and controlling it in its escalated state becomes easier.

No conflicts can be everlasting absolutely an avoidable or a total waste. In the dynamic society we live in today, conflict can prove fruitful by bringing about a positive social change. However, the psychological and social turmoil that it induces can instigate a person or society into restoring to violence defeating thereby any kind of purpose that conflict may serve. We have seen the cases of protest at India Gate in favour of demand for change in law to give death penalty in case of many types of gang rape victim.

It is in this context that principles of nonviolence gain significance even in recent times of so called modern society of ours. Today we are experiencing a volatile situation throughout the world. It is History which tells us to learn or better forget it. It is evident not from one case study but many that nonviolence is the only method which is sustainable .Now when it is clear let's find out different methods of nonviolence. We will look into two of them out of many available. It is "protest and persuasion "we will deliberate upon.

2. NON-VIOLENCE DEFINITION

UNESCO Has defined nonviolence as a holistic theory and practice that rejects aggression and violence in order to achieve goals or resolve conflicts in a constructive way has defined nonviolence as a holistic theory and practice that rejects aggression and violence in order to achieve goals or resolve conflicts in a constructive way "a situation in which someone avoids fighting or using physical force, especially when trying to make political change"

Six principles of nonviolence:

The six principles of nonviolence by Dr. Martin Luther King can be listed out as

- Nonviolence is a way of life for courageous people.
- Nonviolence seeks to win friendship and understanding.
- Nonviolence to defeat injustice not people.
- Nonviolence holds that suffering can educate and transform.
- Nonviolence choose love instead of hate.
- Nonviolence believes that universe is on the side of Justice

3. MAHATMA GANDHI'S NONVIOLENCE IN TODAY'S CONTEXT

The greatest example of how powerful the principles of nonviolence is the way India got its independence because of a great man of vision and courage. Mahatma Gandhi the father of our nation was one of the greatest proponents of nonviolence; he applied this system with success in South Africa and was convinced of its power .Gandhi introduced his nonviolence modes with great success in the non-cooperation movement. His satyagraha was faith based not on arm and antagonism, but and on extreme moral courage that drew its strength from innate truth and honesty. His principles were upheld and propagated widely for effective resolution of conflicts. It is the best method which can be used in conflict resolution whatever be the nature and place of conflict it has been proved by great punched personalities of word like Nelson Mandela, Aung San Suu, Kyi, and mother Teresa.

4. METHODS OF NONVIOLENCE PROTEST AND PERSUASION

As stated by Gena Sharp in his famous 198 methods of nonviolent protest and persuasion some of them are through

- Public a speeches
- Letters of opposition or support slogan caricatures and symbols
- Banner posters and displayed communications
- Leaflets pamphlets and books
- Newspapers and journals
- Records radio and television
- Group lobbying
- Display of flags and symbolic colors
- wearing of symbols
- Paint as protest
- Vigils
- Performance as plays like Nukkad Natak
- Marches
- · Assemblies of protest or support
- Protest meeting
- Walk- out
- Silence
- · Social boycott
- Boycott of social affairs
- · Students strike
- Social disobedience
- Total personal non-cooperation
- Collective disappearance or mass leave
- Consumer boycotts
- Non -consumption of boycotted goods
- Workers Boycott
- Traders boycott
- lockout
- Refusal .to let or sale property
- Refusal to pay fees dues or interests
- Blacklisting of traders
- International trade embargo
- Quickie walkout
- Professional strike
- Establishment strike
- Industry strike
- Slow down strike
- Reporting sick
- Strike by resignation
- Economic shutdown
- Refusal of public support
- Boycott of legislative bodies
- Boycott of elections
- Boycott of government employment
- Boycott of government departments agencies and other bodies
- Refusal of assistance to enforcement agents
- Refusal to accept appointed officials
- Reluctant and slow compliance
- Popular non obedience
- Sit down
- Civil disobedience

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- Blocking of lines of command and information
- General administrative non-cooperation
- Judicial non-cooperation
- Delay and cancellation of diplomatic events
- With holding of diplomatic recognition
- Withdrawal from international organisations
- The fast (fast of moral pressure hunger strike satyagraha etc.)
- Set in
- Stand-in
- Reverse strike
- Non-violent land Seizure
- Defiance off blockades
- Selective patronage
- Seeking imprisonment
- Civil obedience of neutral laws
- dual sovereignty and parallel government

Extreme protests have been the mainstay of activists around the world for long years but protest in India which popularised and perfected the non-violent protest and quietly powerful hunger strike. There has been a rush to embrace increasingly unusual forms of agitations...some important events ...

- 1. 1500 villagers including several children in the southern state of Tamil Nadu buried themselves in the sand to their waists for six hours on September 26, 2012. Demonstration against the building of the Kudankulam nuclear plant. The protesters who are from fishing families from the surrounding districts are worried that once the plant is active it will contaminate the fish ruining their livelihood.
- 2. In Ghogalgaon village in the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh 51 villagers stood neck deep in water for 17 days demanding that the government lower the water level in the nearby Omkareshwar Dam on the Narmada River. The Jal Satyagraha or peaceful water protest began on August 25, 2012. when the water level in the dam was raised by 2 m(6.5 feet) the villagers say that raising the level of the dam will further submerge their lands on September 10 the chief minister of the state Shivraj Singh Chauhan give in to their demands and agreed to lower the water level and compensate the farmers for their land.
- 3. The 2012 Delhi gang rape incident saw one of the angriest reactions from people who were very clear on expressing that they have had enough. After the incident, thousands came out on streets to protest in several parts of the country The gang rape in a moving bus has provoked national outrage and widespread wide-spread protest not only in Delhi but in other parts of the country also the protest are mostly young student and woman held march which was peaceful in the beginning but soon protest turned violent due to political interference protesters call upon fellow agitators not to resort to violence .student elders appealed for calm as protest turned violent. The movement also created a stir in social media in the time New Year celebration was missing after the city witnessed the gruesome gang rape of a 23 year old girl who died two days ago, with lesser turnouts in hotspots like India Gate in Connaught Place several clubs including the press club of India and Delhi gymkhana and five-star hotels cancelled their New York New Year Revelries following the death of the girl. Taking the movement into consideration, the government at the centre and various states announced several steps to ensure the safety of women.
- **4. Hathras Gang-Rape Protests:** The rape of a 19-year old Dalit girl by four upper-caste men sparked outrage on the streets of India. Followed by brutal rape, the dead body of the girl was cremated in the absence of her family members, adding to the insensitivity amongst police and masses. The protest sparked resistance against caste and gender-based violence and abysmal handling of such cases by the police force in India. The protest just added another one to the series of protests against rapes in India, without any stringent action from the concerned officials.
- 5. Anti-CAA/NRC Protests: After the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) was enacted by the Government of India, people took to the streets to express their dissent against the same. The Citizenship Amendment Act sparked widespread protests not only in India but also overseas. Reportedly, the protests began in Assam and spread to other parts of the country. Shaheen Bagh in Delhi was a major spot for protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act and the National Register of Citizens (NRC). Anti-CAA protests made headlines in international media with 82-years-old Bilkis Bano (Daadi) recognised as one of the most influential people by Time magazine. The protest, after continuing with high intensity for months, broke-off amidst COVID-19.

5. CONCLUSION

Whatever the issue and scale of the conflict, nonviolent action is a technique by which people who reject passivity and submission and Russian struggle as essential can where is their conflict without violence it is one reason to the problem of how to wield power effectively.

Non-violent action does not always take longer to produce victory then violent struggle would as evident in above mentioned cases. Non-violent struggle has one objective in a very short time in as little as a few days. The time taken to achieve victory depends on diverse factors primarily on the strength of the non-violent activists.

If your popular movement for Democratic change is to be successful, it must have the means to communicate its messages to its target audiences.

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"All men dream but not equally those who dream by night in the dusty recesses of their minds wake in the day to find it was vanity, but the dreamers of the day or dangerous man, for They may act on their dream with open eyes to make it possible".

T E Lawrence (Seven pillars of wisdom)

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BIOGRAPHY



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