



INTERNATIONAL LAW
JOURNAL

**WHITE BLACK
LEGAL LAW
JOURNAL
ISSN: 2581-
8503**

Peer - Reviewed & Refereed Journal

The Law Journal strives to provide a platform for discussion of International as well as National Developments in the Field of Law.

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BBA. LL.B. (Hons.) (Amity University, Rajasthan); LL. M. (UPES, Dehradun) (Nottingham Trent University, UK); PH.D. Candidate (G.D. Goenka University)

Subhrajit did his LL.M. in Sports Law, from Nottingham Trent University of United Kingdoms, with international scholarship provided by university; he has also completed another LL.M. in Energy Law from University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, India. He did his B.B.A.LL.B. (Hons.) focussing on International Trade Law.

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WHITE BLACK LEGAL is an open access, peer-reviewed and refereed journal provide dedicated to express views on topical legal issues, thereby generating a cross current of ideas on emerging matters. This platform shall also ignite the initiative and desire of young law students to contribute in the field of law. The erudite response of legal luminaries shall be solicited to enable readers to explore challenges that lie before law makers, lawyers and the society at large, in the event of the ever changing social, economic and technological scenario.

With this thought, we hereby present to you

VALUE-BASED EDUCATION: CHALLENGES, MODELS, AND CRITICAL REFLECTIONS

AUTHORED BY - DR. NITYA NAND PANDEY¹ & MR. ASHOK BAHETI²

Abstract:

This article delves into the intricate relationship between global peace and justice, and the constitutional values enshrined in the Indian Constitution, with a particular emphasis on the transformative role of education. By examining the Indian Constitution's framework, which is rooted in the principles of equality, justice, and fraternity, this article explores how these values can be leveraged to promote global peace and justice. The Indian Constitution's provisions, such as the Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy, provide a robust foundation for fostering a culture of peace, justice, and human dignity.

Through a critical analysis of India's educational initiatives and policies, this article argues that education can play a pivotal role in promoting constitutional values and empowering individuals to become agents of positive change. By infusing education with constitutional values, individuals can develop a deeper understanding of the importance of tolerance, understanding, and respect for human rights, which are essential for promoting global peace and justice.

The article highlights the potential for education to cultivate a culture of peace, justice, and human dignity, contributing to a more harmonious and equitable global society. By drawing on the Indian experience, this article provides valuable insights into how constitutional values can be promoted through education, and how this can contribute to global peace and justice. The article concludes by emphasizing the importance of education in promoting constitutional values and fostering a more peaceful and just world.

Overall, this article provides a nuanced exploration of the relationship between global peace and justice, and Indian constitutional values, highlighting the critical role of education in promoting these ideals. By examining the Indian experience, this article offers valuable insights

¹ Professor & Dean, School of Law, Singhania University, Pachheri Bari Jhunjhunu Rajasthan

² Research Scholar, Singhania University, Pachheri Bari Jhunjhunu Rajasthan

into how education can be leveraged to promote global peace and justice, and how constitutional values can be used to foster a more harmonious and equitable global society.

KEY WORDS:

Global Peace, Justice, Constitutional Values, Education, Value-Based Education.

Introduction

Global peace and justice concepts have become central to international relations, governance, and social harmony discourse in an increasingly interconnected world. The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 16, emphasise promoting peaceful and inclusive societies, ensuring access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels. These global ideals, however, must be examined through the lens of regional and national values, especially those enshrined in the Constitution of India. India's Constitution, crafted with foresight and rooted in the philosophy of justice, equality, and fraternity, offers an essential framework for integrating peace and justice into national educational systems. The Indian Constitution guarantees fundamental rights and freedoms and emphasises the importance of education in fostering justice, equality, and national unity. Articles 14, 15, and 21A of the Constitution and the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) lay the groundwork for ensuring inclusive, equitable, and quality education for all. These provisions are aligned with the broader global principles of peace and justice by advocating for non-discriminatory education, the right to education for children, and the protection of minority interests.

Furthermore, the Indian educational philosophy, rooted in the traditions of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (the world is one family), reinforces the notion of global peace by encouraging a worldview that transcends national boundaries and emphasises collective well-being. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 also reflects this vision by promoting a holistic and inclusive educational framework that aligns with global and national values of justice and peace. In this context, this study explores the relationship between global peace and justice and the constitutional values embedded in India's education system. By examining the constitutional mandates and the role of education in promoting these values, we can better understand how India's legal and educational frameworks contribute to global peace and justice.

The concept of global peace and justice in the context of education underscores the transformative role of education in shaping societies that value harmony, equity, and sustainable development. Education is a powerful tool to foster mutual respect, reduce conflict, and bridge societal divides. Globally, promoting peace and justice through education is central to several international declarations, such as the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These frameworks highlight the importance of access to quality education that nurtures a sense of global citizenship, where individuals are equipped to address global challenges such as inequality, poverty, and violence. In this sense, education becomes a national priority and a universal responsibility that must be geared toward creating just and peaceful societies.

India's constitutional values offer a robust foundation for aligning national educational practices with the global goals of peace and justice. The Indian Constitution envisions an inclusive society where all citizens, regardless of their background, enjoy equal opportunities for personal growth and social contribution. The fundamental right to education, guaranteed under Article 21A, is a critical tool for ensuring that children, particularly those from marginalised communities, are not excluded from the benefits of education. This right is integral to the constitutional mandate of social justice, which strives to eliminate discrimination based on caste, religion, gender, or socio-economic status. Similarly, the DPSPs, such as Article 45, advocate for free and compulsory education, ensuring that all citizens, particularly children, are empowered with the knowledge and skills needed for personal development and social cohesion.

Moreover, the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 further strengthens the vision of education as a vehicle for fostering peace and justice. The NEP emphasises the importance of value-based education that nurtures critical thinking, ethical reasoning, and respect for diversity. It calls for a curriculum integrating global competencies deeply rooted in Indian traditions and values, such as Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam. The NEP seeks to prepare students to actively engage in global peacebuilding efforts and contribute to creating a just world by promoting universal values of humanity, empathy, and cooperation. Through a multidisciplinary approach that blends academic excellence with character development, the NEP aims to produce citizens who are not only academically proficient but also socially responsible and committed to justice and equality on both national and global scales.

The Government of India has undertaken several initiatives to integrate constitutional values into education, promoting global peace, justice, and value-based learning. The **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** emphasises building character and instilling constitutional principles like equality, liberty, and justice through education. Programs such as **Universal Human Values (UHV)** by AICTE and courses on Indian knowledge systems reflect this focus. The **Happiness Curriculum**, launched by the Delhi Government, fosters emotional well-being and values like empathy and compassion. Similarly, the **National Service Scheme (NSS)** promotes social justice through community service, aligning education with societal responsibilities.

Initiatives like **Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB)** enhance cultural understanding, fostering unity and respect for diversity. The **Right to Education (RTE) Act 2009** ensures inclusivity and equal educational opportunities, reinforcing social justice. Campaigns like **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)** address gender disparities and empower girls through education, while the **Padhna Likhna Abhiyan** targets literacy among disadvantaged communities. Environmental education programs like the **National Green Corps (NGC)** instil ecological responsibility in students, promoting justice for future generations. The **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav** initiative celebrates constitutional values through educational activities on freedom, equality, and sustainable development. Collaborative efforts with **UNESCO MGIEP** focus on peace education, global citizenship, and sustainability. Programs like the Fit India Movement and Vidya Pravesh also integrate value-based learning with physical and emotional well-being, ensuring holistic development. These initiatives aim to create an education system that nurtures ethical, inclusive, and globally conscious citizens, aligning with India's constitutional ethos.

Global Peace and Justice

Global peace and justice are foundational principles for a harmonious and equitable world. Global peace is the absence of violence, conflict, and instability within and between nations. It fosters mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation across diverse cultures, societies, and political systems. In an era of globalisation, where countries are increasingly interdependent, global peace has taken on new dimensions, including preventing conflict, addressing social injustices, and promoting sustainable development. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16, which aims to promote peace, justice, and strong institutions, underscores the significance of fostering peaceful societies as a prerequisite for achieving other

development goals, including poverty eradication and gender equality. Global justice, on the other hand, emphasises the fair distribution of resources, protection of human rights, and equality before the law for all individuals, regardless of their background or nationality. Justice entails addressing inequalities, ensuring access to legal frameworks protecting the marginalised, and holding those perpetuating injustice accountable. The idea of global justice has gained traction in response to the rising inequality and human rights violations around the world, as evidenced by the advocacy for mechanisms such as international criminal law and transnational human rights organisations. Justice is about punishing wrongdoers, creating conditions for equitable opportunities and fair economic systems, and eliminating structural inequalities. Global justice has become critical in addressing climate change, refugee crises, and global health disparities.

Various international frameworks and initiatives show the interconnection between global peace and justice. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and various international treaties set global standards for promoting peace and justice. However, the complexity of global interrelations—spanning cultural, political, and economic divides—poses challenges in implementing these ideals. In this context, education plays a pivotal role in shaping the values that underpin peace and justice. By promoting tolerance, ethical reasoning, and global citizenship, educational systems can create individuals committed to fostering a peaceful and just world. This is particularly relevant in India, where the Constitution enshrines justice, equality, and fraternity values, providing a unique platform for addressing global concerns through national educational practices.

Global peace and justice are critical pillars of the contemporary international order, especially in the context of rising geopolitical tensions, environmental challenges, and pervasive inequality across nations. The concept of global peace extends beyond the mere cessation of war to include the promotion of social, political, and economic stability in all regions. It involves fostering diplomacy, cooperation, and conflict resolution mechanisms to prevent disputes from escalating into violence. The importance of peace is reflected in various global institutions, such as the United Nations, which has dedicated efforts to conflict mediation, peacekeeping, and humanitarian assistance to build sustainable peace. These initiatives are pivotal in addressing contemporary challenges like terrorism, ethnic conflicts, and state sovereignty disputes, which threaten the fabric of the global order.

On the other hand, global justice encompasses a more comprehensive vision, including legal frameworks and moral considerations about fairness and equality. The modern discourse on global justice is increasingly concerned with addressing systemic inequalities—whether economic, social, or cultural—that perpetuate injustice and prevent sustainable peace. Issues such as global wealth disparity, gender inequality, and racial discrimination are often cited as fundamental challenges to achieving justice on a worldwide scale. The idea of "global justice" advocates for the redistribution of resources, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of nationality or background, are entitled to a fair chance at well-being and security. It also includes a commitment to addressing historical injustices through reparative actions and ensuring that global governance structures do not perpetuate inequity.

As global interconnectivity increases, the need to link peace and justice becomes even more urgent. The concept of "positive peace," which incorporates social justice as a key component, provides a framework where peace is not merely the absence of violence but the presence of justice and equity in all facets of society. A world that values peace without justice risks perpetuating existing imbalances, leading to cycles of conflict and injustice. Furthermore, the rise of global institutions such as the International Criminal Court (ICC) and international human rights conventions underscores the growing recognition that peace and justice must be pursued through international legal and moral frameworks. In this context, education is crucial as it provides the foundation for individuals to understand and promote peace and justice, especially in multicultural and diverse societies.

The interrelationship between global peace and justice is underscored by the growing recognition that peace cannot be achieved without addressing the root causes of injustice. In a globalised world, climate change, mass migration, economic inequality, and human rights violations have transcended national borders, creating a need for cooperative solutions that integrate peace and justice. One critical aspect of achieving global peace and justice is recognising that peace must be inclusive and sustainable, addressing political conflicts and economic and social inequities. A world in which some populations experience systemic poverty, lack of education, or denial of fundamental rights will continue to face instability and unrest, threatening the collective peace of the global community. Thus, global peace and justice are intimately connected, as addressing injustice often leads to restoring peace, while true peace can only be sustained when justice prevails.

The role of institutions in promoting global peace and justice is paramount. Establishing international institutions like the International Criminal Court (ICC), the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), and various peacekeeping missions demonstrates the international community's commitment to maintaining peace and ensuring justice. These bodies provide mechanisms for accountability and offer platforms for dialogue and conflict resolution. For instance, the ICC prosecutes individuals for crimes such as genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity, underscoring the importance of global justice in maintaining international peace. However, challenges such as political influence, limited jurisdiction, and varying interpretations of justice often hinder their effectiveness. Despite these obstacles, these institutions remain key to achieving peace and justice, representing an important part of the global governance framework.

Furthermore, civil society organisations and grassroots movements are critical in advocating global peace and justice. Local and international movements have been instrumental in addressing human rights violations, promoting gender equality, and advocating for environmental sustainability. The global movements for climate justice, racial equality, and migrant rights illustrate civil society's decisive role in holding governments and multinational organisations accountable for their actions. Formal and informal education have also emerged as significant tools in shaping individuals who are aware of their rights and equipped to advocate for justice in their communities. Global peace and justice, therefore, are not only the domain of states and international organisations but are also deeply embedded in the actions of individuals and communities committed to creating a fair and peaceful world for all.

Indian Constitutional Values and Education: An Analysis of Relevant Provisions

India's Constitution envisions an inclusive, just, and equitable society, and its values are deeply embedded in the education system's framework. The Constitution provides for the right to education, promotes social justice, and seeks to nurture citizens who embody the principles of equality, fraternity, and national integration. These values not only form the foundation of the national educational framework but also guide its evolution to meet the demands of a changing world.

Right to Education:

The Indian Constitution guarantees education as a fundamental right under Article 21A. This

article mandates free and compulsory education for children between the ages of 6 and 14, making education accessible to all and ensuring that no child is deprived of it due to social, economic, or regional barriers. The introduction of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 further strengthens this provision, aiming to universalise education and address disparities in access and quality. By enshrining education as a fundamental right, the Indian Constitution ensures that the pursuit of knowledge and personal growth is available to every citizen, irrespective of their background (Saxena, 2003).

Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs):

Though non-justiciable, the Directive Principles of State Policy play an essential role in shaping educational policies in India. Article 45 directs the state to provide free and compulsory education for all children up to the age of 14 years. Similarly, Article 46 emphasises promoting the education and economic interests of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and other weaker sections, ensuring an inclusive approach to education. These provisions underline the state's responsibility to create an equitable educational system that caters to all sections of society, particularly the marginalised.³

Equality and Social Justice:

The principle of equality, enshrined in Article 14 of the Constitution, permeates the education system, ensuring that every individual has an equal opportunity to access education. Article 15 prohibits discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth, further promoting an education system that is inclusive and non-discriminatory. This emphasis on equality and social justice ensures that education in India is not only about academic growth but also about social empowerment and creating a level playing field for all citizens.⁴

Internationalism in the Indian Constitution:

The Indian Constitution also reflects a commitment to internationalism, particularly in fostering global cooperation, peace, and development. Article 51 of the Constitution, under the Directive Principles of State Policy, states: "The State shall endeavour to... foster respect for international law and treaty obligations in the dealings of organised peoples with one another." This provision emphasises India's commitment to internationalism and the peaceful coexistence of nations, reinforcing the idea that education should promote global citizenship and awareness. In education, this aligns with nurturing individuals aware of their national

identity and understanding and respecting global norms and international cooperation. Through this, the education system aims to prepare students capable of contributing to global peace, justice, and sustainable development.

Promoting Fraternity and National Integration:

The Constitution also underscores the need for national integration and fraternity through Article 51A, which outlines the Fundamental Duties of citizens. These duties include promoting a spirit of common brotherhood and respecting the dignity of all individuals, which are central to India's educational ethos. The vision of education as a tool for national integration is reflected in policies that encourage learning about India's diverse cultural, social, and historical heritage while fostering a sense of unity.

The Indian Constitution provides a strong foundation for an educational system that upholds values of equality, justice, social inclusion, and internationalism. These values shape the educational framework and ensure that India's education system is aligned with global norms while deeply rooted in its democratic and pluralistic traditions.

Indian Constitutional Values and Education in India

The Indian Constitution enshrines fundamental values that provide the bedrock for the nation's educational philosophy. Its Preamble and various articles reflect core principles such as justice, equality, liberty, fraternity, secularism, and human dignity, underscoring education as a tool for nurturing responsible and value-oriented citizens. The Directive Principles of State Policy emphasise free and compulsory education, equitable access, and opportunities for all, aiming to reduce disparities and foster social justice. Education in India is thus not merely about acquiring knowledge but also about imbibing the ideals that sustain a democratic, inclusive, and harmonious society.

Value-Based Education Initiatives in India

The emphasis on value-based education in India is reflected through various programs and initiatives that align with the constitutional vision of fostering a just, equitable, and harmonious society. In addition to the Happiness Curriculum in Delhi and Universal Human Values (UHV) by AICTE, several other initiatives serve as practical embodiments of this principle:

Muni Model of Education: This model, inspired by Jain traditions, emphasises holistic

development through values like non-violence (Ahimsa), truthfulness (Satya), and self-discipline. The focus is on cultivating ethical decision-making, inner peace, and environmental stewardship, aligning with constitutional principles of justice and sustainable development.

Jeevan Vidya Program: Jeevan Vidya, based on the philosophy of Madhyastha Darshan, is a framework designed to instil values of coexistence and mutual respect. This program, implemented in several states, encourages students to adopt harmonious relationships with themselves, others, and nature, promoting societal harmony and global peace.

Awareness Programs for Fundamental Duties: Schools across India have introduced activities and campaigns to educate students about their Fundamental Duties under Article 51A of the Indian Constitution. These include respect for national symbols, environmental conservation, and fostering a spirit of inquiry, integral to shaping responsible citizens.

Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS): Established for tribal students, these schools emphasise values of inclusivity, equality, and respect for cultural diversity. They aim to bridge educational gaps for marginalised communities while promoting constitutional ideals of justice and equality.

Mahatma Gandhi National Values Education Project: This initiative integrates Gandhian principles of nonviolence, simplicity, and community service into school curricula. The program seeks to develop socially conscious and empathetic individuals by fostering these values.

Azim Premji Foundation's Educational Initiatives: The foundation's programs in rural and underserved areas promote equity and inclusivity through value-based education. Their efforts to enhance teacher training and curriculum development focus on nurturing empathy, fairness, and a sense of justice among students.

Art of Living's Value-Based Programs: The Art of Living Foundation has collaborated with schools to implement programs that teach mindfulness, stress management, and compassion. These align with the constitutional vision of individual well-being and societal harmony.

Environmental Education and Sustainability Programs: Initiatives like the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) 's Green Schools Program (GSP) emphasise environmental

stewardship, which resonates with the constitutional duty of protecting and improving the environment under Article 51A(g).

These examples highlight the concerted efforts of government bodies, private institutions, and non-governmental organisations in embedding constitutional values into education. These initiatives build a stronger, more inclusive society by fostering ethical and socially responsible citizens.

Value-based education, rooted in constitutional ideals, is essential for nurturing global citizens who can address contemporary challenges with integrity and social responsibility. It empowers students to appreciate cultural diversity, promote communal harmony, and act as stewards of peace and sustainability. By aligning educational practices with constitutional mandates, India lays a robust foundation for a just and equitable society while contributing to the global vision of peace, justice, and sustainable development. This alignment underscores the transformative role of education in realising the constitutional promise of a better future for all.

The Indian Constitution enshrines fundamental values that provide the bedrock for the nation's educational philosophy. Its Preamble and various articles reflect core principles such as justice, equality, liberty, fraternity, secularism, and human dignity, underscoring education as a tool for nurturing responsible and value-oriented citizens. The Directive Principles of State Policy (Articles 39, 41, 45, and 46) emphasise free and compulsory education, equitable access, and opportunities for all, aiming to reduce disparities and foster social justice. Education in India is thus not merely about acquiring knowledge but also about imbibing the ideals that sustain a democratic, inclusive, and harmonious society.

Value-based education, rooted in constitutional ideals, is essential for nurturing global citizens who can address contemporary challenges with integrity and social responsibility. It empowers students to appreciate cultural diversity, promote communal harmony, and act as stewards of peace and sustainability. By aligning educational practices with constitutional mandates, India lays a robust foundation for a just and equitable society while contributing to the global vision of peace, justice, and sustainable development. This alignment underscores the transformative role of education in realising the constitutional promise of a better future for all.

Constitutional Values and Education in India

The Indian Constitution is a robust framework that not only outlines the fundamental rights of its citizens but also directs the development of an inclusive and progressive educational system. The relationship between constitutional values and education is crucial for fostering a just, egalitarian, and globally aware society. Let us examine in further detail how specific constitutional provisions shape the educational landscape in India, ensuring that education is aligned with the values of justice, equality, and internationalism.

The Right to Education and Equality

As mentioned earlier, the Constitution enshrines education as a fundamental right under *Article 21A*, ensuring that every child between the ages of 6 and 14 has access to free and compulsory education. This provision emphasises the state's duty to remove educational disparities and ensure that no child is excluded from the formal education system due to factors such as caste, class, gender, or economic status. The universalisation of education through the *Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009* (RTE Act) is an extension of this fundamental right, ensuring that education is a tool for social mobility and empowerment.

Article 15 of the Constitution also plays a critical role in promoting **equality** in education by prohibiting discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth. In a diverse country like India, where historical inequalities persist, this constitutional value ensures that educational institutions are spaces where children from various socio-economic backgrounds can interact, learn, and grow together. That fosters a sense of community, breaking down barriers of discrimination and promoting a culture of inclusivity and respect for diversity.

Conclusion

The chapter "Global Peace and Justice vis-à-vis Indian Constitutional Values Related to Education" explores the symbiotic relationship between global ideals of peace and justice and the foundational values enshrined in the Indian Constitution. As a transformative force, education is pivotal in bridging these ideals, fostering a society rooted in equity, empathy, and universal harmony. In an increasingly interconnected world, the principles of global peace—non-violence, tolerance, and coexistence—intersect with justice, emphasising fairness, equality, and the protection of rights. The Indian Constitution's commitment to justice, liberty,

equality, and fraternity provides a robust framework for integrating these principles into the education system.

Education serves as a medium to inculcate these values and as a platform for global citizenship, preparing students to address challenges such as conflict, discrimination, and environmental degradation. Provisions like Article 51(c), which encourages respect for international law and treaties, and Article 51A(f), promoting a spirit of humanism, align Indian education with global aspirations for peace and justice. This chapter examines these intersections and emphasises the need for educational reforms that balance constitutional mandates with global perspectives, creating a society that upholds human dignity and sustainable development.

Exploring global peace and justice in the context of Indian constitutional values and education underscores education's vital role in shaping a harmonious society. The Indian Constitution's commitment to justice, equality, and fraternity resonates deeply with the universal aspirations of peace and justice. Through its guiding principles, such as secularism, non-violence, and human dignity, India's education system has the potential to contribute significantly to building global citizenship, fostering understanding, and addressing pressing global challenges like inequality, conflict, and environmental degradation.

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