

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
GANDHI, DISARMAMENT & DEVELOPMENT HELD AT INDORE (INDIA)  
ON 4-6, OCTOBER 2013.  
INDORE DECLARATION ADOPTED ON 6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013 AT THE VALEDICTORY SESSION.**

**PREAMBLE**

The world of today stands on the threshold of a defining moment in history. The new Millennium has opened with the increasing aggressiveness of imperialist forces against peoples and nations and with unnerving specter of unbridled violence at local, national, regional and global levels threatening to throw asunder cumulative gains of far-reaching spiritual, cultural and material progress.

WHEREAS human ingenuity, intellect and creativity has in the past millennium built up cultures and civilizations that enlightened human minds and hearts. AT THE SAME TIME the World has been plagued by imperialist wars and destruction which have caused misery and inter-state rivalries full of hatred, intolerance, discrimination and exploitation, and raged by on going local, regional and global conflicts and Catastrophic Wars along with interfaith and ethnic conflicts which are spreading violently.

WHEREAS AT THE SAME TIME advances in technology have been misused to feed the profits of the military industrial complex and to fuel a constantly escalating and unrestrained arms-race which has reached astronomical proportions of nearly 1.6 trillions(1600 Billion) US \$, half of it spent just by the USA.

WHEREAS 66 years ago the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan took heavy toll of human lives and wiped out entire cities, AT THE SAME TIME powerful nations instead of learning a lesson from it have, on the contrary increased their nuclear bomb stockpile to 20,000. Efforts including treaties made so far towards disarmament and control over nuclear proliferation have proved inadequate and still-born. The conference highlights the action plan of Rajiv Gandhi of 1988 at the UN General Assembly for the abolition of nuclear weapons as an unfulfilled demand of the peoples of the world. The ensuing NPT Review Conference in 2015 should take this desire into consideration.

WHEREAS IN THE 20<sup>TH</sup> Century Mahatma Gandhi effectively used the non-violent technique of non-cooperation and Satyagraha (beginning with independence of India from British Rule) became a source of inspiration for other nations in the framework of their just and multifaceted struggles against oppression and occupation.

WHEREAS the United Nations Organization(UNO) and its principles of the founding Charter being violated day by day by imperialists, abusing the UNO for their goals.

WHEREAS Mahatma Gandhi while launching the non-violent freedom struggle also simultaneously undertook initiatives towards bringing rural transformation sans exploitation, promoting inclusive and sustainable development, and encouraging far-reaching social reforms through the innovative Bhudan Programme.

AT THE SAME TIME the challenges of social transformation still remain so that the people will become the real masters of their fortunes and wealth.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

**In consonance with the dozens of key note speakers and panelists from all spheres of social and political life of India along with international guest from 4 continents, the International Conference on Gandhi: Disarmament and development, after fruitful discussion reaches to the following conclusions.**

### **PROMOTION OF INDIAN LEGACY FOR PEACE.**

**TO REENERGISE ourselves with courage and resolve to forge vibrant and meaningful inter-faith partnership and programs aimed at promoting the universal values of humanity along with the fight against all types of exploitation, discrimination by cast, religion, gender or class.**

**TO PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION to the young generation all over the world in order to inculcate in them awareness about their larger role in building a peaceful world with ethical values,**

### **DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT-FOR A WORLD OF PEACE AND JUSTICE.**

**TO OPPOSE the ongoing plans of USA to shift 60% of its military forces to the Asia & the Pacific region ("Pivot to Asia) as an escalation of its aggressive plans in the region.**

**TO OPPOSE the ongoing plans of USA and its allies in NATO, the EU and the Gulf monarchies to attack Syria under false pretexts like we have seen in earlier case of aggressions. While we welcome the compromise reached at the UN on the alleged use of Chemical Weapons and their eliminations we call upon the peoples to stay vigilant.**

**The conference also expressed its support for an independent state of Palestine in the borders of 1967. It also expressed its solidarity with the peoples of Vietnam who are still suffering from the long-term consequences of foreign aggression.**

**TO URGE both the USA and Russia, along with other Nuclear states to initiate simultaneous pace setting progress by offering to put their own stockpile of all such weapons of mass destruction and similar international supervision and phase destruction of their existing stockpile. This would give the so far stalled disarmament process a new start.**

**TO CALL UPON the United Nations Organization (UNO) to convene a special session on disarmament in order to resume actions on disarmament.**

**WE DEMAND the dismantlement of all foreign military bases, which are instruments of foreign interference and threat, use for military operations against sovereign countries.**

**TO URGE IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) in Vienna to start preparing the ground for the negotiation of the NPT (Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty) in 2015 without any discrimination and which would lead to the universal binding on all nations.**

**TO APPEAL to Governments of both developed and developing countries to enhance their budgets for satisfying the needs and rights of the peoples and for their sustainable development. The emphasis**

should be on promoting people oriented development so as to take care of all the downtrodden section of society.

**TO LAUNCH NEW development initiative to prevent Global Warming immediately by switching over from fossil fuels to other energy forms.**

**PEOPLE'S SAARC.**

The conference stresses the need for expanding and enriching multifaceted cooperation among countries in Asia in order to enhance Asia's effective role in world affairs. As a first step, it was agreed to work out the modalities of setting up a peoples level SAARC to bring more effectiveness to the functioning of SAARC with increased peoples' level contacts and exchanges.

**THE SUM-TOTAL CONCLUSION** of extensive deliberations at the people's level International Conference was that in the present environment of ever growing aggressiveness of imperialism and escalating violence and terrorism call upon all peoples to join their voices and hands to save humanity from imperialist wars, aggressions and exploitation.

**Mahatma Gandhi continues to inspire resistance to unjust authority and exploitation in nonviolent forms.**

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