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**Peace: In Our Time.**

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**Akash Sadanand Naik Salgaonkar.**

PhD Research Scholar

School of Sanskrit, Philosophy, and Indic Studies, Goa University.

SSPIS, Faculty Block - B, Social Sciences Block, Behind Goa University Library, Goa University, Taligao Plateau, University Road, Taligao, Goa, 403206.

**Corresponding Author- Akash Sadanand Naik Salgaonkar.**

ईमेल – [akash6459@gmail.com](mailto:akash6459@gmail.com)

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**Abstract:**

Peace is a fundamental human need, and its significance in our time cannot be overstated. Conflicts and violence are rampant today, and the need for Peace is more crucial than ever. Peace is crucial for the progress and development of societies, and it is essential for the well-being of individuals. Classical Indian philosophy offers a wealth of knowledge and wisdom on achieving Peace. The concept of Ahimsa, or non-violence, which is central to the philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi, is one such example. Ahimsa is a way of life that involves abstaining from causing harm to any living being and believing that all living beings are connected. By practising Ahimsa, individuals can cultivate empathy and compassion, essential for achieving Peace. Contemporary Indian philosophy also offers valuable insights into achieving Peace. One such example is the concept of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, which means "the world is one family":

अयं निजः परो वेति गणना लघुचेतसाम्।

उदारचरितानां तु वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्॥ (Upanishad, 2021)

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**Key Words:**

Peace - freedom from disturbance; tranquillity, a state or period in which there is no war, or a war has ended; time of no conflict. Harmony - progressions of having a pleasing effect, living together peacefully rather than fighting or arguing. Essential - necessary; extremely important. Coexistence is the state or fact of living or existing at the same time or place, a social existence of two communities, sects, religions, states, nations or entities.

This is mine; that is his, says the narrow-minded. The wise, open-minded or broad-minded believe that the entire world is a family. This philosophy emphasises the universal brotherhood of Humanity and the need to create a world where all individuals can coexist peacefully. It encourages individuals to break down barriers and work towards creating a world where diversity is celebrated, and conflicts are resolved peacefully. This paper focuses on the significance of Peace in our time and how it can be achieved through classical and contemporary Indian philosophy. The principle of Ahimsa offers valuable insights into achieving Peace by cultivating empathy and compassion and promoting universal brotherhood. By incorporating these philosophies into our daily lives, we can

create a world where Peace and harmony prevail.

ॐ ध्यौः शान्तिः अन्तरिक्ष शान्तिः आपः शान्तिः

औषधयः शान्तिः वनस्पतयः शान्तिः ।

विश्वेदेवाः शान्तिः ब्रह्म शान्तिरेव शान्तिः सा मा शान्तिरेधि ॥

ॐ शान्तिः शान्तिः शान्तिः

|| (Shloka/Stanzas: Peace Invocation Mantra-S, n.d.)

May there be Peace in heaven, may there be Peace in the sky; may there be Peace on the earth, may there be Peace in waters; may there be Peace in medicinal herbs and all vegetation. Let Peace among all the Gods; may there be Peace in the entire world; may there be Peace everywhere; may there be Peace and only Peace; may that Peace embrace me. OM. Peace, Peace, Peace.

Peace is a concept that is essential for the well-being of all Humanity. "It is an old dream of peace lovers, an unarmed, non-violent army to keep the peace. The dream is still alive, perhaps now more than ever" (Weber, 1996, ix). The significance of Peace is known throughout the centuries in the east and the west. Peace has been one of the most important goals of Humanity. Peace in our time! That has been and is the aim of all of our leaders. Peace is not just the absence of conflict but also harmony and understanding. The world is striving for Peace, working to become a better place. When the world can live in Peace with one another, it will genuinely become heaven on earth. "The moral and religious discourses across countries, cultures, castes and races aspire and strive for peace" (Vohra, 2020, p. 240).

Peace should be pursued in all aspects of life, from the global stage to the most intimate of relationships. It is the foundation of a healthy and prosperous society, which one should strive for in all interactions. "The question then is whether mankind, divided as it has been into many and sovereign states, can solve the problem of peace so as to be assured of its peaceful existence" (Banerjee, 1988, p. 131). When one can live in Peace, one can focus on what is truly important: the betterment of oneself and those around. It is clear that Peace is an integral part of life, and it is something that should be sought after and celebrated. One should strive to create a world where Peace is the norm and conflict is the exception. Ensuring Peace is maintained and not taken for granted is essential, along with working together to create a world free of conflict and full of understanding and harmony. Peace is a state of internal and external harmony and a necessary component of a healthy and thriving society. The importance of Peace is that it creates a more just and equitable world where everyone can live in harmony and with respect for one another.

Peace can be defined in many ways, but at its core, it is a blissful state of mutual understanding and respect between individuals and groups. It is an understanding that everyone has the right to pursue their goals and dreams without fear of violence or oppression while being treated with dignity, honour and respect, regardless of race, religion, gender, or any other factor. Peace is a necessary component of a healthy and thriving society. It is a want to create a

world where everyone can live in harmony and with respect for one another that can make us work for Peace. Peace is beautiful and possible, and it is something that we can strive for in our own time.

Peace is an essential component of a healthy society. It is a state of harmony and balance, both internally and externally, that allows for the development a healthy and prosperous society. From a moral perspective, Peace is a fundamental right that should be respected and protected. From a social perspective, Peace is necessary to develop solid relationships and a sense of community. From an economic perspective, Peace is essential for economic growth and stability. Without Peace, these goals cannot be achieved. Peace also provides security and safety, allowing people to live without fear of violence or harm. It is also essential for social and economic development, allowing for the growth of businesses, the creation of jobs, and the development of infrastructure. Peace is an essential component of any society. It is a fundamental right that should be respected and protected.

The concept of Peace has been an integral part of classical Indian philosophy for centuries. Peace is a state of harmony and balance in which individuals, communities, and nations coexist harmoniously and prosperously. In Indian philosophy, Peace is seen as a result of the practice of dharma, or the moral and ethical principles that guide human behaviour. Dharma believes all individuals are interconnected and can exist in harmony with all beings if the code of Ethics is followed. Peace is linked to the notion of Ahimsa, or non-violence. Ahimsa is a cornerstone of Indian philosophy. Ahimsa stands on the principle of respect for all life, and it encourages us to avoid causing harm to others, both physically and mentally. This principle is linked to Satya - truthfulness, which encourages us to be honest and truthful in our dealings with others. In Indian philosophy, Peace is a state of harmony and balance achieved through dharma, Ahimsa, and Satya. These principles are essential for achieving a peaceful and harmonious society. By practising these principles, we can create a society where individuals, communities, and nations can live in harmony and prosperity. The concept of Peace in classical Indian philosophy can result in a more peaceful and harmonious world.

The ancient Indian philosophies of Vedanta and Yoga have long been heralded as powerful tools for achieving Peace and harmony. For centuries, these philosophies have been used to help individuals find inner Peace and balance in their lives. Recently, the concepts of Vedanta and Yoga have become even more relevant, as they provide a much-needed source of solace and tranquillity in our increasingly chaotic and stressful world. "Vedanta is a system of spiritual philosophy based on the teachings of the Vedas, the oldest scriptures of the Indian Culture" (Home, n.d.). Attaining moksha, liberation, or enlightenment is the highest goal. It emphasises the importance of understanding the true nature of reality and how one can attain inner Peace and harmony. Through yoga, individuals can learn to control their body and sense organs first and then thoughts, emotions, and mind, allowing them to achieve more excellent inner balance and Peace.

"Yoga is an ancient system of physical and mental exercises designed to help individuals achieve a greater well-being" (Sharma & Palermo, n.d.). Through yoga, individuals can learn to focus their minds and bodies, allowing them to find a sense of balance and Peace. By combining the principles of Vedanta and Yoga, individuals can find a path to inner Peace and harmony, as they are powerful tools. Vedanta teaches us the sense of oneness, being one with the universe, and being one with each other, which results in Peace of mind, destroying all evil thoughts and habits. Through the practice of these ancient philosophies, individuals can find a path to inner balance and Peace. Learning more about these philosophies and incorporating them into our daily lives is necessary to find Peace and harmony. Only through living philosophy bringing Peace in our time and life is possible. The ancient Indian scriptures and texts have emphasised the importance of Peace in pursuing a meaningful life. The Vedas, Upanishads, and other ancient Indian texts have discussed Peace in great detail. The concept has been further elaborated in the teachings of the great Indian sages and philosophers.

According to Indian philosophy, Peace is the foundation of a meaningful life and the source of lasting joy and happiness. Peace is a prerequisite for realising one's true potential, attaining spiritual enlightenment, and attaining knowledge for spiritual

progress. Peace is a way of life, and its practice is essential for attaining enlightenment. Peace is a fundamental concept in classical Indian philosophy. It is a way to realise one's true potential and attain enlightenment. The concept of Peace is deeply embedded in Indian culture and is a way of life. Thus, Peace is of great importance in classical Indian philosophy. The concept of Peace has been an integral part of Indian philosophy for centuries. In contemporary India, Peace is still essential to society's well-being. The Indian philosophical tradition has always been rooted in the idea of Peace. The Vedas see Peace as a state of harmony with the universe, the Upanishads, as a state of inner tranquillity with divine oneness, and Buddhism, as the goal to be attained through spiritual practice.

In the contemporary world, Peace has become even more critical. In the wake of increasing violence and conflict worldwide, many Indian thinkers have emphasised the need for Peace. They have argued that Peace is not just a desirable state of being but necessary for preserving human dignity and advancing human civilisation. The importance of Peace in contemporary Indian philosophy is undeniable. By promoting Peace, thinkers are helping to create a more harmonious and prosperous world. Peace is essential not only for the physical and mental well-being of individuals but also for the development of a nation. A peaceful society is prosperous, where citizens can pursue their dreams and aspirations without fear of violence or conflict. Peace also creates an environment where people can express their opinions without fearing retribution or persecution. Peace allows for the free exchange of ideas and the development of innovative solutions to society's problems. A country must advance and achieve its goals by promoting Peace to ensure a worthy future. Only through Peace can a country become more prosperous and progressive and ensure its citizens can live in Peace, love and harmony.

Peace is an essential element of a healthy society, and contemporary Indian philosophy offers a unique and powerful approach to achieving it. Drawing on the ancient wisdom of Vedic and Upanishadic thought, this approach emphasises the importance of inner Peace and understanding to create a harmonious outer environment. Individuals can work together to create a more peaceful world by cultivating an inner sense of Peace

and balance. At the core of contemporary Indian philosophy is the concept of Ahimsa or non-violence. The principle fundamentally believes everything is interconnected and interdependent, and violence against one will ultimately result in violence against all. Ahimsa encourages individuals to practice non-violence in all aspects of life, including thoughts, words, and actions. By embracing Ahimsa, individuals can create a more peaceful environment within themselves and their relationships. The practice of Ahimsa is a powerful tool for achieving Peace, and it can be incorporated easily into our daily lives to cultivate a sense of inner Peace and understanding. One can create a more peaceful world for future generations. Contemporary Indian philosophy offers a unique and valuable approach to achieving Peace, which we should all strive to incorporate into our lives.

"Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, popularly known as Mahatma Gandhi or lovingly known as Bapu" (*Led India to Freedom From British Rule, Is Busy Writing on March 22, 1947 - Photogallery*, 2018), was a prominent figure in India's struggle for independence and a tireless advocate for Peace and Ahimsa. He devoted his life to pursuing non-violent solutions to conflict and championed the cause of Peace and justice for all. Gandhi firmly believed Peace was the only way to achieve true freedom and justice, and he encouraged others to follow suit. Gandhi's philosophy of Peace stands on his belief that all human beings are equal and deserving of respect. He argued that we must treat each other with compassion and understanding to achieve true Peace. He firmly stated that violence only begets more violence and that the only way to achieve lasting Peace is through non-violent means. Gandhi believed Peace could be gained through dialogue and mutual understanding rather than force and coercion. The importance of Peace, according to Gandhi, cannot be overstated. He said, "Salvation of Gita is perfect peace" (Gandhi, 2017). He argued that Peace was essential for the realisation of human rights and the protection of civil liberties. He also believed Peace was essential for developing a just and equitable society. "Gandhi also valued democracy as a peaceful mode of living together" (Jahanbegloo, 2020). Gandhi's legacy of Peace and justice continues to inspire people worldwide. All around the world strive to follow his example and work

towards achieving a peaceful and just society; Gandhi himself was an example for us all. Swami Vivekananda was another spiritual leader and reformer who believed that Peace was essential to the progress of Humanity. He strongly advocated Peace and believed it was the only way to achieve happiness and prosperity. He believed Peace was not just the absence of war but a state of harmony and understanding between all people. In his famous speech at the World Parliament of Religions in 1893, Swami Vivekananda said, "Peace is the most important thing in the world. It is the only way to progress and develop. It is the only way to ensure the welfare of Humanity." He firmly believed in the power of Peace to bring about social and economic progress. He argued that Peace could create a world where everyone could live in harmony and understanding. Swami Vivekananda was passionate about Peace and believed it was the only way to create a better world. He argued that Peace was essential to the progress and development of Humanity. He believed that Peace was the only way to ensure the welfare of all people and to bring about a world of harmony and understanding. His words and teachings inspire people to work for Peace and harmony today.

Daya Krishna is a philosopher promoting Peace and harmony among all living beings. This concept has been embraced by many cultures worldwide and has been a source of inspiration for generations. The philosophy of Daya Krishna encourages us to live in harmony with nature and to respect each other's beliefs, cultures, and lifestyles. Daya Krishna teaches us to be mindful of our actions and to strive for Peace in our lives. It encourages us to be tolerant of the beliefs and customs of others and to be open to learning from them. He also encourages us to learn from nature and the world. It also encourages us to be compassionate and understand those different from us. Daya Krishna emphasises the importance of understanding and respecting the diversity of cultures and beliefs and living in harmony with nature. He says, "We are confronted with the feeling of bliss, peace and tranquillity in this intimate contact with God or the divine, which we are acutely aware of in our most spiritual moments" (Pradhan, 2021, p. 71). The philosophy of Daya Krishna is a powerful reminder of the importance of Peace and harmony in our world. "All people

can live in Peace and harmony with each other and nature only through tolerance and understanding of the beliefs and customs of others and being open to learning from them" (*Curriculum Intent, Implementation and Impact 2022-2023 - Subject: Philosophy and Ethics Year Group*, n.d.). Maharshi Aurobindo, an Indian freedom fighter, philosopher, yogi and nationalist, believed that Peace was essential for the progress of Humanity. He argued that Peace was the only way to bring about lasting and meaningful change. He said Peace was the absence of war and the presence of love, harmony and brotherhood between individuals, nations and communities. Aurobindo argued that Peace is a state of mind and can be achieved through inner transformation and spiritual growth. A peaceful approach to conflict resolution can urge people to strive for Peace in their daily lives. He believed Peace was the only way to bring about a better future for Humanity. He argued that Peace was essential for developing superhumans and supersociety. He argued that evolution was still in progress and that human beings if they achieved peaceful enlightenment early, could lead to the creation of superminds and then superhumans. His message is one of hope and optimism, and his words have inspired generations to strive for Peace. His teachings remind us of the importance of Peace in our lives and the necessity of Peace.

Jiddu Krishnamurti is one of the most influential spiritual leaders of the 20th century. "Krishnamurti teaches that the war and destruction human beings wreak on each other and the environment are caused by our misplaced attachment to a sense of self and individuality that leads to aggression, competition, greed, and conflict" (Krishnamurti, 2011). His teachings on Peace have been a source of inspiration for millions of people around the world. Krishnamurti believed that Peace could be achieved through an inner transformation; no one from outside can grant Peace, no guru, god, organisation, sect, religion, ritual, tradition and certainly not a Jagatguru. He taught us that developing is the key to achieving external Peace, which could only be achieved through recognising our interconnectedness with all life and all beings. Krishnamurti taught that in order for there to be Peace in the world, we must each first make Peace with ourselves. He said that no spiritual

path, leader, or personal or political philosophy would guide us in this endeavour; this transformation of the human psyche is a truth that we must discover within. According to him, Peace was not just a state of mind, as believed by all prior to him, but also a way of living. He encouraged all to accept this way of life, with all living things, to be mindful of our actions and to practice non-violence. Krishnamurti's teachings on Peace are timeless and relevant today, especially in this ever-evolving modern world. His words of wisdom are a powerful reminder of the importance of Peace in our lives. Krishnamurti also focuses on the importance of education for the birth of eternal Peace. "The purpose of education is not to produce mere scholars, technicians and job hunters, but integrated men and women who are free of fear; for only between such human beings can there be enduring Peace" (Krishnamurti, 2010, p. 15).

K C Bhattacharya is an Indian philosopher and spiritual leader renowned for his teachings on Peace. Bhattacharya believes that Peace is a universal goal that can be achieved through understanding and respect for one another. He encourages people to practice mindfulness, meditation, and other spiritual practices to foster inner Peace and harmony. Bhattacharya also emphasises the importance of education in achieving Peace. He believes education is the key to understanding different cultures, religions, and beliefs. He encourages people to learn about different cultures and to be open to different perspectives. By doing so, Bhattacharya believes we can create a world of understanding and compassion. K C Bhattacharya is a strong advocate for Peace and understanding. He believes Peace is achievable through education, mindfulness, and respect for one another. His teachings inspire us all, and we should follow his example to create a more peaceful world.

Vinoba Bhave is renowned for his passionate advocacy of Peace. He was an Indian spiritual leader and social reformer who was an ardent believer in the power of non-violence to bring about social change. His teachings and philosophy have been a beacon of hope and inspiration for generations worldwide. Vinoba Bhave believed Peace was the key to a just and harmonious society. He fought peacefully not only against the killing of humans but also against the killing of cows. He argued that Peace was the absence

of war and the presence of justice, compassion, and understanding. He encouraged people to be mindful of their actions and to strive for a peaceful resolution to conflicts. He also advocated for the practice of non-violence and the promotion of tolerance and understanding among different cultures and religions. Vinoba Bhave was a strong advocate for Peace, and his teachings and philosophy continue to inspire people across the globe. He gave his life for the protection of cows. Vinoba went on a hunger strike, a protest to stop killing cows by starving himself to death. Many have embraced his message of Peace and non-violence, and his work has been instrumental in creating a more peaceful and just world.

Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore was a renowned Indian poet, philosopher, and Nobel Laureate who was a significant proponent of Peace and harmony. He believed Peace was the only way to bring about actual progress. Tagore believed that Peace was necessary for the development of a society and that it was the only way to bring about actual progress. Tagore believed Peace was possible through understanding, mutual respect, and cooperation. He stated, "Peace is not a negative concept; it is a positive force that can be created through understanding, mutual respect, and cooperation". He advocated for peaceful coexistence and believed Peace was the only way to progress. The philosophical significance of Peace is an idea that has been discussed and explored by many thinkers throughout history. It is an idea that many cultures and religions have embraced, and it is an idea that has been essential to the development of our modern world. Peace is a concept that is often associated with the idea of harmony and balance, and it is essential for the continued success and growth of society. Peace is often associated with justice and fairness, which is necessary to preserve human rights and freedoms. It is a concept that is essential for the development of a just and equitable society, and it is essential for maintaining a healthy and prosperous environment. Peace is essential for the preservation of human dignity, and it is essential for the promotion of a culture of respect and understanding. Therefore there is a need for peace education. "The focus of peace education should always be on making all people, from every walk of life and profession, working together

harmoniously" (Semashko and 75 Gha Co-Authors from 2, 2013, 88).

The significance of Peace in our time cannot be overstated, and therefore finally, we only end with a goal intended to be achieved by all through continued, conscious efforts:

ॐ सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः सर्वे सन्तु निरामयाः ।

सर्वे भद्राणि पश्यन्तु मा कश्चित् दुःखभाक् भवेत् ॥

ॐ शान्तिः शान्तिः शान्तिः !!

(*Shloka/Stanzas: Peace Invocation Mantra-S*, n.d.)

May all attain peace, may all be healthy - may all enjoy good fortune, may none suffer misery and sorrow. OM. Peace, Peace., Peace.

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