

# **Globalisation: A study in International Peace-Keeping** **by the dint of the Youth**

Ms. Swati SinghParmar<sup>1</sup>

## **Abstract**

Globalisation has brought surreal revision to the international socio-politics in last few decades. Effects of globalisation are patchy and mixed. On the brighter side, globalisation has pioneered economic interdependence amongst states, furthered financial and information flows, increased interconnectedness of societies (both economically and culturally), and strengthened States' interdependence. These remain as relatively superficial accounts of globalisation. What lies beneath the surface is criminal globalisation. And this is marked by marginalisation, money laundering, bio-chemical wars, terrorism, illegal arms' trade, human trafficking, drug trade, smuggling of goods, cybercrimes, etc. Often, the involvement of youth (who are vulnerable given their mouldable transitional age) in such activities exacerbate the problems associated with the negatives of globalisation.

The young minds, as compared to the people of other age groups, are much more receptive to the social transformations and new ideology emerges. In this backdrop, it becomes crucial to realise that tremendous possibilities with today's youth can be tapped to the cause of promoting international peace. There remain huge possibilities to employ the youth energy in establishing peace internationally. Promoting international peace, which is one of the purposes of the United Nations, as mentioned in its preamble, can be more efficiently achieved by the mobilised and motivated youth. Sincere efforts in this direction may prove to be a sound peace model for achieving international peace by utilising the youth energy combined with the forces and agencies of globalisation.

First section of the paper shall try to delineate the framework of issues involving globalisation, youth and international peace. The theoretical base for international peace and issues relating to involvement of youth in resolving the Israel-Palestine conflict will be dealt in the second section. Second section will also try to critically examine the on-the-ground implementation of tapping the youth energy for the cause of achieving international peace. Last section will attempt to suggest and

---

<sup>1</sup>Assistant Professor, Amity Law School, Amity University, Lucknow Campus.

recommend some plausible solutions based on the coordination of the UN agencies and the international civil society to mobilise the youth for the cause of promoting international peace.

**Keywords:** Globalisation, terrorism, youth, politico-religious ideology, International peace, UN Charter.

## **Introduction**

Globalisation has manifested itself not only in economic liberalisation and global interconnectedness but also in cultural curiosity, openness, innovation and experimentation. It is a multifaceted phenomenon which is still in its continuation. The platform set in motion due to the advent of globalisation has seen cultural and social linkages amongst various societies. Apart from the other economic and political interconnectedness that globalisation has brought along, it has also motivated societies to interact at a global level. This has in turn resulted in flow of ideas, ideologies, thought processes and philosophies from one culture to other. We have seen the proliferation for radical thoughts that have taken the ugly faces of terrorism, illicit drugging and bio-chemical wars. Often the hatreds of the young people from the zones of conflict and tensions take the forms of violence and terror. To outweigh this and to realise the goodness of the platform provided by globalisation, the immense potential of the globalisation of ideologies and thoughts can be put to channelize and motivate today's youth for the cause of promoting international peace.

Youth is full of energy, new thoughts, innovations and experimentation. Also, youth is the one more vulnerable to the effects of social transformations, ideologies and politico-legal changes across the globe. Ideals of peace can be cultivated in new generations especially of societies hit by conflicts. If peaceful missions and on-the-ground peace programmes and the ideals of peace are made to be internalised by the youth in one State (especially, the one which is conflict regions), it may possibly have a domino effect on the youth of the other States' as well, and this, fact, may well bring peace to the much disturbed state of societies today. In order to expect a positive action, we must have a positive mission and one such mission was developed initially by the United Nations. The United Nations, in its Charter, has promotion of international peace as one of its main purposes. The United Nations has recently, in one of its peace programmes, aimed at bringing the youth of Israel and Palestine to resolve the major issues between the two States, which otherwise might not have been possibly solved by the formal modes of dispute settlement. The United Nations has also in its 'Declaration on the Promotion Among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and

Understanding Between Peoples' furthered that the Governments, non-governmental organisations and the youth movements shall observe that the youth are brought up in the spirit of peace, justice, freedom and mutual respect. Education, information and guidance can infuse the ideals of peace in the youth which can be facilitate by travel, tourism, foreign language learning, student-exchange programs, etc. Also, this and many other such peace-building programs and leadership initiatives can help bringing reality to the philosophical sketch of Kantian Peace model- The Perpetual Peace model- that proposes a formula for bringing peace perpetually in the world community<sup>2</sup>.

The impact of globalisation on developed countries has been much researched upon. Its impact on 'less developing countries' has also been started to be debated upon in last few years, but the field of the impact of globalisation on the youth is still largely untouched. An attempt shall be made in this paper to research the issues relating to the globalisations' impact on youth and as to how youth can be motivated, by the use of agencies of globalisation, to the cause of international peace-keeping.

## **Globalisation, Youth and International Peace: Delineating the Framework**

### **Understanding 'Globalisation'**

Globalisation is a complex process that is marked by interplay for various forces. Probably, that is why it has been so far a much misunderstood concept. Many thinkers have tried to define it and there are only some definitions which do justice to its meaning. Commenting on the complexity of globalisation, John Tomlinson, author of author of Cultural Imperialism (1991) and Globalization and Culture (1999), remarks:

“Globalisation is a complex process because it involves rapid social change that is occurring simultaneously across a number of dimensions – in the world economy, in politics, in communications, in the physical environment and in culture – and each of these transformations interacts with the others.”<sup>3</sup>

Due to this complexity, any empirical study on finding the relationship between globalisation and youth has been rendered difficult. And that is why major areas of disputes in this regard remain unresolved.

---

<sup>2</sup> Kant, Immanuel, Ted Humphrey, and Immanuel Kant, *Perpetual Peace, and Other Essays on Politics, History, and Morals*, Indianapolis: Hackett Pub. Co, (1983).

<sup>3</sup> Tomlinson, John, *Resituating culture*, in *Global culture, DE territorialisation and the cosmopolitanism of youth culture*, Directorate of Youth and Sport Council of Europe Publishing, at 21, (2004).

Globalisation is marked by increased connectivity and fading international boundaries. It fosters unrestrained flow of goods, services, capital, information, opportunities, ideas, beliefs and thoughts. Globalisation has touched every aspect of our lives. For good or bad, the world is more connected now- economically, politically, socially and culturally. The world has been shrunk by the agencies of globalisation. Globalisation has created as much opportunities as threats. Thinkers have concluded that primarily, globalisation is an economic phenomenon, but it has acute social implications as well. Apart from its positive results mainly in terms of economic opportunities and benefits, that the thinkers around the world have been appreciative of, it has marked the deepening of poverty issues, economic divide, unemployment crisis and social exclusion. Globalisation has brought people together but at the same time, widened the gap between them.

The paradox of young people who are both globally connected and tribally prejudiced – two sides of the same coin - can be seen in the example of where great global unity as displayed within the recent World Cup, is compared to the ethnic rivalries that also took place during this competition.<sup>4</sup>

### **Who is a Youth?**

The consequences of globalisation affect the youth, given their definitive age, more than it does to any other age group. Youth has been defined by various nations differently. The United Nations has given a universal definition of ‘youth’ for statistical consistency across nations. It defines ‘youth’ as any person who is between the ages of 15 to 24 years, without prejudice to the definition of other member states of the United Nations<sup>5</sup>. The General Assembly Resolution A/RES/56/117 in 2001, the Commission for Social Development Resolution E/2007/26 & E/CN.5/2007/8 in 2007 and the General Assembly Resolution A/RES/62/126 in 2008 also reinforce the same definition of the youth. Although, different UN agencies, instruments and regional agencies use different age groups to be called ‘youth’ than what the UN Secretariat recognises. For instance, the African Youth Charter considers persons between 15-35 years of age as youth. The UN Habitat (Youth Fund) uses the 15-32 age group definition of youth<sup>6</sup>. Since there are many such variances in the definition of youth and since the UN Secretariat’s definition of youth fairly serves its statistical purposes, in the present study the author will go by the same definition.

### **How youth is affected the most by Globalisation?**

---

<sup>4</sup> Barker, Dave, *Globalisation and the Youth Culture - to engage them or not?*, 5 July 2002, [http://www.globalconnections.org.uk/sites/newgc.localhost/files/papers/owyouthcultbarker\\_0.pdf](http://www.globalconnections.org.uk/sites/newgc.localhost/files/papers/owyouthcultbarker_0.pdf).

<sup>5</sup> Secretary-General’s Report to the General Assembly, A/36/215, 1981.

<sup>6</sup> UN-Habitat, available at <http://www.unhabitat.org/pmss/listItemDetails.aspx?publicationID=3393>.

The youth with its positivism and exuberance is considered to be capable enough of bringing about changes in the existing social order. With the socio-cultural exchanges, flow of information and ideas, availability of resources, that globalisation has catalysed, the youth has become yet more vulnerable as well as receptive. They are the ones who we see in protests, campaigns and strikes. In the independence fights and revolts of nations, maximum participants are youth. They are treasure of creativity and innovation and hence are instrumental in bringing about social as well as political changes.

At the same time, we have enough proof of the youth indulging in substance abuse, illicit drugging, and other deviant behaviour as their age provides ample possibilities of them being delusional. It is their age that makes them storehouse of possibilities and it their age itself that has risks associated with. Extremism and radicalisation of youth becomes easier in an age of free information flow that gives an unchecked platform for propagating violent extremist and twisted ideologies. Extremist groups find it easier to diffuse extremist ideologies into their naive minds and also to put them under training. For instance, most of the terrorists caught in India, Britain, U.S. or Australia were young. Not only this, but is also reported that many young professionals like engineers are joining violent groups and aiding them in building their stories of horror. The True believer postulate by Eric Hoffer in 1951 in his famous book 'The true believer' has given ample facets instrumental to the understanding of relationship between globalisation and youth. In this book, he has classified hatred, coercion, leadership, etc. as unifying agents for any kind of mass movement. He has also claimed that rise of fascism, Nazism and communism are basically reactions to the Great Depression of 1930s<sup>7</sup>. In fact, the youth that are indulging in terrorist or other deviant activities across the globe today have unemployment, poverty or politico-religious hatred as the common reason for their actions.

This distinctive religious as well as ethnic identity of various cultures has been the root cause of the major conflicts in the post-cold-war era. The famous American political scientist and an academician, Samuel P. Huntington, in his book, 'Clash of civilizations?' claims that the forces of globalisations that has furthered the interaction among cultures of various societies will eventually lead to decline of nation state and conflict between civilizations. Its hypothesis says that people's religious and cultural identities will be the cause of clash of civilizations<sup>8</sup>.

---

<sup>7</sup> Hoffer, Eric, *The True Believer: Thoughts On the Nature of Mass Movements*, 1st ed., New York: Harper and Row, (1951).

<sup>8</sup> Huntington, Samuel P., *The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order*, New York: Simon & Schuster, (1996).

“It is my hypothesis that the fundamental source of conflict in this new world will not be primarily ideological or primarily economic. The great divisions among humankind and the dominating source of conflict will be cultural.”<sup>9</sup>In his work, while explaining his claims he cites various examples like those of territorial claims from Bosnia to Mindanao.

As people define their identity in ethnic and religious terms, they are likely to see an “us” versus “them” relation existing between themselves and people of different ethnicity or religion. The end of ideologically defined states in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union permits traditional ethnic identities and animosities to come to the fore. Differences in culture and religion create differences over policy issues, ranging from human rights to immigration to trade and commerce to the environment.<sup>10</sup>

Many thinkers view the recent terrorist activities around the world as striking illustrations of Huntington’s paradigm. While discussing about the nature of future conflicts, he says:

“...conflicts between groups in different civilizations will be more frequent, more sustained and more violent than conflicts between groups in the same civilization.”<sup>11</sup>

To this discussion, he elaborates on not only how clashes between civilizations are the greatest threat to world peace but also how an international order based on civilizations is the best safeguard against war. A sustained international peace and order can be effectively achieved when the youth of various civilizations are involved in the peace-building and peace-keeping. Coalitions on the basis of peace-building ideologies among youth can serve as an immensely proactive and creative measure in this regard.

### **Youth in peaceful settlement of the Question of Palestine**

“Women and Youth Have Much to Contribute to Secure a Lasting Israeli-Palestinian Peace”-Ban Ki-Moon<sup>12</sup>

### **Involvement of Youth in Armed Conflict**

---

<sup>9</sup>*Ibid* at 22.

<sup>10</sup>*Ibid* at 29.

<sup>11</sup>*Ibid* at 48.

<sup>12</sup>*Role of Women, Youth in Peaceful Settlement of Question of Palestine at Heart of United Nations Meeting in Paris*, UN,<https://www.un.org/press/en/2012/gapal1232.doc.htm>.

When one tries to understand the Israel-Palestine conflict, the array of politico-religious issues involved along with the geo-politics makes one thing clear- any immediate solution to the problem seems to be unrealistic.

The conflict is geopolitically complex so much so that despite efforts being made in the history, a viable solution to the conflict seems to be farther away than before. It involves critical issues of religious ideologies, socio-politics and geographical strategic locations.

The radicalisation and recruitment of the youth by terrorist groups with the growing exploitation of technology has worsened the situation. The large number of young persons are seen as an opportunity or an investment by the extremist groups. The young teenagers who are well trained and well equipped have proved to be a security dilemma to the coalition forces. Thomas K. Samuel, who has been working on the issues relating to the radicalisation of youth, while explaining that why young people are targeted as promising players by the terrorist groups, says:

Youths with no prior police records (or ‘clean skins’ as the Real IRA called them) allow the terrorist group more operational freedom as the involvement of youths would reduce the likelihood of arrest of the more senior terrorist leaders. Such youths also have the added advantage of allaying suspicion on the part of the security and enforcement authorities.<sup>13</sup>

On the question of why youth is easily attracted to such involvement in armed conflict, he remarks:

“In turbulent times, these groups attract youths by exploiting their vulnerabilities and providing them with a sense of identity, belonging and cohesiveness. Over a period of time, in a troubled environment, these youth begins to define their identity with that of the group and its struggle.”<sup>14</sup>

The conflict epitomises the cultural and religious fundamentalism. It has displayed disrespect of moral values and ideals, culture and ethnicity. Neither have the human rights been left unabridged. The human cost of traumatised refugees, dying civilians and horror-struck children in Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been incalculable.

## **Efforts to restore peace**

---

<sup>13</sup>Samuel, Thomas K., *The lure of Youth into terrorism*, Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-terrorism, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia.

<sup>14</sup>*Ibid.*

Various approaches based on a pragmatic assessment of prospects for conflict resolution have been developed but no progress has been achieved so far, rather, the Israel-Palestine conflict has been steadily deteriorating. Till now, formal modes of dispute resolution in international law have, for one or the other reason, not been able to solve the Palestine issue. And also the cross section of players and issues that are involved in the conflict will not allow it to be settled by any formal mode of dispute settlement. The Israel- Palestine conflict has been on UN's agenda long before in 1947, just two years after the establishment of the UN.

### **Maintenance of peace: As an Ideal of the United Nations**

The purposes and principles of the UN Charter aim at maintaining international peace and security. The UN Charter should not be understood merely as mechanical application of dispute resolution modes or mere absence of war. As interpreted by Bruno Simma, a combined reading of preamble and purposes of the Charter reflects that UN strives to create a world order that signifies more than an absence of war<sup>15</sup>. The international relations are to be moulded in a way so as to minimise friction. This can be compared to the preventive stage of a conflict where international co-operation is based on the altruistic notions reflected in the Charter of the UN.

The scheme of Bruno Simma closely resembles the notions of negative peace and positive peace as two essential steps in the domain of maintenance of peace given by Robert Kolb. According to him, the notion of negative peace as provided under the UN Charter tends to give the UN, as an organisation, the role of a fire fighter<sup>16</sup>. UN, through its Security Council, assumes such a role in situations of urgency, for instance, an outbreak of violence. The idea is that inter-state conflicts which have already been erupted must be stopped immediately. It also denotes major disturbances that are on the verge of breaching the international peace. This notion of negative peace demands the use of tools as provided under the chapter VII of the Charter. On the other hand, for addressing deep issues of conflict, UN assumes the role of a 'gardener'<sup>17</sup>. Kolb's domain of positive peace entails this 'gardener' role. One such role has been manifested itself in the form of the UN Peace Program 'Seeds for peace' so as to ensure everlasting peace. This, in essence, is a testimony of the fact that UN Charter bestows upon the organisation not only the modes of immediate dispute resolution but also for future conflicts and everlasting peace.

---

<sup>15</sup> Bruno Simma et al., *The Charter of the United Nations: A Commentary*, 1<sup>st</sup>Ed. (1995)

<sup>16</sup> Kolb, Robert, *An Introduction to the Law of the United Nations*, Oxford, Hart Publishing, (2010) at 30.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*

In regard to restore peace in the Israel-Palestine conflict, Mr. Melamed, who is also the author of “Inside the Middle East: Making Sense of the Most Dangerous and Complicated Region on Earth”, says: “Hopelessness and endless conflict can be replaced by a peaceful future, but only if we act differently.”<sup>18</sup>

New approaches to restore peace in the area have to be devised considering the geopolitics involved in the conflict and immense array of possibilities lying with the youth of both the regions. On the question of why should we involve youth in the process of democracy and peace- building, UN Policy Guide mentions:

Enabling young people to engage with democracy, development and peace building:

- Enables the exercise of citizenship: making claims and holding governments and donor agencies to account (Paris principle: “mutual accountability.”) Exercise of citizenship rights and duties in youth are durable and often determine political participation later in adulthood. Participation promotes learning, empowerment and greater control over lives, which enables a wide range of voices to be heard.
- Makes policies and services appropriate for youth: building young people’s commitment to the solutions (Paris principle: “ownership”).
- Makes the MDGs a reality: the World Bank, UNFPA and the Commonwealth Secretariat have identified youth as critical to reaching the MDGs (Paris principle: “managing for results”).<sup>19</sup>

### **Seeds for peace: A Peace Program by United Nations**

A constructive and creative step has been initiated by the United Nations through its program named ‘Seeds for Peace’ that aims at involving the youth of Israel and Palestine for achieving peace. It is a constructive breakthrough with fostering stability in the conflict-affected region as its objective. Its main aim, as per its official website, is to inspire and cultivate new generations of global leaders in communities divided by conflict<sup>20</sup>. The program equips exceptional youth and educators with the skills and relationships they need to accelerate social, economic, and political changes essential for

---

<sup>18</sup>Melamed, Avi, *A realistic solution to the Israeli- Palestinian Conflict*, FORBES (5 April 2016), <https://www.forbes.com/sites/realspin/2016/04/05/a-realistic-solution-to-the-israeli-palestinian-conflict/#1f0eecf47631>.

<sup>19</sup>United Nations Division on Social Policy and Development Youth, Policy Guide, *Youth Participation in Development*, SOCIAL(30 September 2010), at 7, <https://social.un.org/youthyear/docs/policy%20guide.pdf>.

<sup>20</sup><http://www.seedsofpeace.org/about/>.

peace. The approach adopted by the program in this regard is to focus on personal transformation and then wider societal change. For this, it organises various camp sessions to shift attitudes and perceptions thereby building mutual respect and empathy. The program begins with this camp and eventually year-round local programs focused on capacities leaders need the most to be effective change makers. The skills of the youth of Palestine are leveraged in a way so as to shift the landscape of conflict and restore peace.

“Seeds of Peace gave me hope that one day we’ll be able to live in peace—a just peace based on the elements of respect, dignity, and basic human rights and values for every Israeli and Palestinian.” - Adham (Palestinian Seed)<sup>21</sup>

Each summer, Israeli and Palestinian adolescents come to Otisfield, Maine to attend ‘Seeds for Peace’ camp. Here professional mediators and counsellors teach these adolescents how to resolve tensions between each other caused by their country’s religious rifts. The Seeds for Peace Program recently held a four-day mediation and negotiation seminar at Harvard Law School faculty for Israeli, Palestinian young people along with many others from January 12- 15. This seminar imparted extensive educational skills among youth to handle difficult situations. “The seminar taught me that each person has their own emotional footprint and I should not expect the same emotional reaction that I would expect out of myself,”<sup>22</sup> said one Palestinian Seed who attended this seminar.

‘Seeds of Peace’ has received the Oklahoma City National Memorial Reflections of Hope Award for demonstrating “that hope can survive and blossom amidst the tragedy and chaos of political violence and that, even in environments marred by such violence, peaceful, nonviolent approaches provide the best answers to human problems.”<sup>23</sup>

In a speech in UN General Assembly meeting, Palestinian President, Mahmoud Abbas, gave his vision for peace and replied to the sceptics to ‘Seeds for Peace’ by remarking:

To those who say peace between Israelis and Palestinians is impossible, I say, let them visit America. I say, let them visit Maine. In Maine every summer, young Palestinians, Israelis,

---

<sup>21</sup>*Seeds of Peace began by bringing together 46 Palestinians, Israelis, and Egyptians in 1993*, SEEDSOFPEACE, <http://www.seedsofpeace.org/programs/developing-leaders/middle-east/>.

<sup>22</sup>36 Seeds attend mediation and negotiation seminar led, SEEDSOFPEACE, faculty <http://www.seedsofpeace.org/seeds-attend-6th-annual-mediation-negotiation-seminar/>.

Americans, Arabs, and others meet in a camp called Seeds of Peace, founded in 1993. They build the very world I am calling for in Palestine. It works. It is real. It is the future.<sup>24</sup>

Many resolutions of the General Assembly also aim at inculcating the values of peace and mutual respect among youth for maintaining international peace and order. The General Assembly's Resolution 'Assistance to former Trust Territories and other newly independent states' emphasised on the need for upbringing of young people in a spirit of peace, mutual respect and understanding among peoples<sup>25</sup>. Further, in its yet another resolution, 'Declaration on the Promotion Among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding Between Peoples' provides under its principle I that:

Young people shall be brought up in the spirit of peace, justice, freedom, mutual respect and understanding in order to promote equal rights for all human beings and all nations, economic and social progress, disarmament and the maintenance of international peace and security.<sup>26</sup>

Further, Principle VI of the same resolution mentions that:

A major aim in educating the young shall be to develop all their faculties and to train them to acquire higher moral qualities, to be deeply attached to noble ideals of peace, liberty, the dignity and equality of all men, and imbued with respect and love for humanity and its creative achievements....<sup>27</sup>

Educating youth about the ideals of peace and justice not only liberalises oneself but it has a pacifying effect too. Educating one young person, with leadership skills, can eventually have a domino effect by influencing many others. It will be effective to harness the energy and resourcefulness of the educated youth to achieve a durable peace in the Israel-Palestine conflict.

“As the world changes with unprecedented speed, young people are proving to be invaluable partners who can advance meaningful solutions.”-UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on International Youth Day, 2015.<sup>28</sup>

---

<sup>24</sup>Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas: Seeds of Peace, SEEDSOFPEACE,

<http://www.seedsofpeace.org/palestinian-president-mahmoud-abbas-seeds-of-peace-is-the-future/>.

<sup>25</sup> UN General Assembly, *United Nations General Assembly Resolution on Assistance To Former Trust Territories And Other Newly Independent States*, 15 December 1960, available at <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/RESOLUTION/GEN/NR0/153/01/IMG/NR015301.pdf?OpenElement>, retrieved on 03/03/2017.

<sup>26</sup> UN General Assembly, *United Nations General Assembly Resolution Declaration on the Promotion Among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding Between Peoples*, A/RES/ 20/2037, 7 December 1965.

<sup>27</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>28</sup><http://www.unworldyouthreport.org/>.

## **Recommendations and Conclusion**

### **Recommendations**

Considering the various aspects discussed in the above article, the author wishes to make following recommendations:

- Conflicts encompassing varied problem-areas and their interplay, that ordinarily are not capable of being solved through the formal modes of dispute resolution, shall tried to be dealt with new and innovative approaches;
- The immense possibilities lying with youth can be intelligently tapped for establishing and maintaining peace and order, especially in case of Israel-Palestine Conflict;
- On-the-ground programs, camps, student-exchange programs organised and managed by the UN agencies, civil societies, social scientists, counsellors and professional mediators canuproot extremismamongst youth.
- Education can prove to be a game changer in this regard: it is potent enough to transform political and religious fundamentalism into liberalism.

### **Conclusion**

The youth is a crucial juncture when ideologies are formulated, socio-political affinities are changed and other inclinations and social sensitivity is developed. Given the secretive and complex nature of information technology offered by globalisation, young people are easily dragged in the armed conflicts. This involvement of youth has an amplifying effect on the situation. And the world has witnessed this in case of Israel-Palestine conflict where the ‘youth bulge’ is deviated towards the forces of extremism.

United Nations entities and the international civil society can coordinate to mobilise and channelize the youth to bring peace to the world community. Trained professional facilitators, social counsellors and clinical social activists can play a critical role in cultural exchange, leadership training and confidence-building measures amongst the youth. Youth and the entities of the UN together can initiate a global conversation to achieve a lasting international peace.

Commitment and compassion towards idealism and optimism of young people from a region may influence many others from the rest of the world community. When the youth from Palestine interacts with ease with that of Israel and when mutual respect is built between the youth of both the nations, not only does the relations among these two regions improves but it also is exemplary to the

youth of the rest of the world. The United Nations Peace Program ‘Seeds for Peace’ has set forth many such examples. Agencies of globalisation and youth can be used as ‘means’ to achieve the ‘end’ of international peace and order. The future of restoration of peace in Israel and Palestine remain in the hands of the youth of both the regions- either young people may fall prey to the extremist goals or they join hands to build a peaceful future. After all, the young generation shapes the future of a nation.