



7th International Seminar  
on

# Youth & Nation Building

2nd-3rd February, 2013,  
Hyderabad (India)

Organised by:

**World Organisation of Student & Youth**



॥ वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम् ॥  
WORLD IS A FAMILY

## **Seminar: 7<sup>th</sup> International Seminar on “Youth & Nation Building”**

### **Chief Guests and Eminent Speakers:**

- Prof. Raman Rao, Registrar, JNTU, Hyderabad
- Shri Krishna Rao Appa, Vice President, Mauritius Maratha Mandal
- Prof. Murli Manohar Putti, National President ABVP
- Shri Sunil Ambekar, National Organising Secretary ABVP & advisory Member to WOSY
- Shri R. Dileep Reddy, MD, Sakshi Television
- Dr. Prasanna Patil, Dr. Hedgevar Hospital, Aurangabad
- Dr. Rashmi Singh, Chairperson of WOSY
- Shri Nagaraj Reddy, International Advisor, WOSY
- Mr. Ritesh Mehta, Youth Leader Facebook India
- Dr. Madhulika Bajpai, Professor, Delhi University
- Bhavdeep Kang, Former Political Editor, India Today & Outlook
- Mr. Aniket Kale, General Secretary, WOSY

### **Venue:**

- Osmania University, Hyderabad, India
- 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2013

### **Brief Description:**

The two day 7th International Seminar on “Youth and Nation Building” organized by World Organisation of Students and youth (WOSY) was held at Osmania University, Hyderabad, India on 2nd-3rd February, 2013. Organizing Seminars and Conferences on issues related to Youth and Student community is an annual affair of WOSY.

In the 7th International Seminar, with the theme of “Youth and Nation Building”, more than 180 international delegates from 29 countries across the world participated. In the 2 day seminar, the youth delegates participated in Group Discussions, Paper Presentations on topics of Capacity Building & Leadership Skills on Community Development and Defining Role

Models respectively. Cultural Programs, Dance and performances by various groups and individuals from different nations were delightful as well as enlightening.

The Seminar imparted an opportunity for the delegates to discuss in detail as to how the youth of different nations can play their vital role in building of peace & harmony, promoting tolerance and mutual co-existence.

Seminars on issues like Global Terrorism, Globalization and its impact on Education, Celebrating Diversity, Role of Youth in Social Transformation and conferences on 'Global Future - Asian Vision' and Conflict Resolution and Peace had been organized successfully in the past by WOSY.

World organization of Students and Youth (WOSY) is an International body which has been working since 1985, for bringing together the students and youth of different nationalities together, to promote universal principles of brotherhood and justice. Going by the motto, *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* (World is a Family) it promotes peaceful co-existence of different cultures. WOSY has become a second home for foreign students pursuing education in India.

We strive to bring all the international students under the umbrella of WOSY for their global learning and development with the objectives:

- To provide an opportunity for Students and Youth from all the world nations to connect with one another.
- To demonstrate how each WOSY member can contribute to the growth and development of leaders in the Association and the larger world.
- To provide regular communication and establish a lifelong learning and continuing education experience in India.
- WOSY members and Alumni, occupy respected position in government and the private sector in their countries. We impart a global vision so that the youth can contribute purposefully to the communities to which they belong and forward the agenda of 'Peace & Harmony' in international Youth comity. To train students for academic excellence and to think and articulate confidently, we hold several interactions
  - Share stories and Exchange memories of their experiences.

## Inaugural Session

Our respected Chairperson of WOSY Dr. Rashmi Singh warmly welcomed the Hon'ble Chief Guests Prof. Raman Rao, Registrar, JNTU, Hyderabad and Shri Krishna Rao Appa, Vice President, Mauritius Maratha Mandal and Our Hon'ble Guest of Honour Shri Sunil Ambekar, National Organising Secretary ABVP & advisory Member to WOSY; to inaugurate the 7th International Seminar on "Youth & Nation Building" by lightening the lamp.

Dr. Rashmi ji graciously welcomed and addressed the youth delegates giving a brief introduction on the theme of the seminar, "Youth & Nation Building". While describing WOSY's concept, 'vasudaiva kutumbakam' which means 'world is a family', Dr. Rashmi extended her warm welcome to all the family members. She also talked about WOSY's history, achievement of its members and its alumni. "I urge you all to participate actively, express your views, enrich us and enrich yourselves and benefit your countries and work for justice and peace in the world". With this key note, she underlined the sentiments and thought process, which helped in shaping this seminar and its various sessions.

Hon'ble Chief Guest Prof. Raman Rao, Registrar, JNTU, Hyderabad, while addressing the youth delegates pointed out that 50-60% of world population is youth. Prof. Rao, remembering Swami Vivekananda, a great son of India and the youth icon, on his 150th Birth Anniversary, expressed that the youth possess great potential, but the only thing required is showing them the right direction. He said. "Governments are formed and de-formed by the power of youth".

Prof. Rao also noted the example of RSS (Rashtriya Swayam Sewak) in India while enlightening the delegates on the concept of "Community Development and Nation building". Talking about Women Empowerment, he expressed his proud feelings for more women than men are working in his own university.

Hon'ble Chief Guest Shri Krishna Rao Appa, Vice President, Mauritius Maratha Mandal urged the youth from different nationalities, with distinct culture, language and religion to become ambassadors of their own country and make their country, their people and entire humanity proud by setting examples of global civilisational harmony.

Shri Krishna Rao Appa ji, welcomed and thanked all the youth delegates from different nations. He quoted Mahatma Gandhi, “We must be the change, which we want to see in the world”. He also mentioned that Women Empowerment is a sign of a developed country.

Mr. Aniket Kale, Secretary General of WOSY, welcomed all the dignitaries and the international delegates by giving a brief introduction about the Seminar. He also thanked the Convener and Co-convener, Mr. Mohammad and Mr. Ammar for putting their efforts all day and night in the preparation and organisation of the seminar.

### **Session I: Concept of Nation**

Shri Sunil Ambekar, National Organising Secretary ABVP and Advisory Council member of WOSY, welcomed and addressed the youth delegates; “Certainly we have our own Nationalities, and love our respective country and countrymen. But still we gathered together here not only to think about the country and our role in Nation Building, simultaneously to work towards the concept of Vasudaiva Kutumbakam (world is a family)”, he said.

### **Address by Shri Sunil Ambekar, National Organising Secretary ABVP and Advisory Council member of WOSY**

Shri Sunil Ambekar ji gave a profound speech and enlightened the international delegates with his ideas on the topic of “Concept of Nation”. In his words “A Nation is not just a piece of land with boundaries but a sense of belonging and sharing for the common culture, common history, common ideas about life, pride for ancestors, common ideas related to future, happy and unhappy experiences of past life and common feeling of friendship and hostility.”

Certainly a contiguous piece of land is required for a nation to live, grow and prosper. Over the time people living over this land develop the love for motherland, they feel themselves as children of that soil.

Nation is a cultural concept and a biological and organic in nature. A political state can be overthrown, but no force can destroy a nation.

He also expostulated that different nationalities can co-exist peacefully and coined it to be the ‘win-win situation’ for the global nations. Nation is a

cultural concept, so uniformity may not be required. A nation like India is the best example of unity in diversity. When we limit culture with language, dressing, religion, food habits, facial looks etc. or with political entity then it become a conflicting idea. For any nation clarity on its culture is a necessity.

Many renowned thinkers have defined the concept of Nation in different dimensions and perspectives according to their experiences & ideas. He enlisted some of them which are congruous with the Indian thought of Vasudaiva Kutumbakam:

1. Respect the diversity of all forms
2. Realise the true culture of inner mind & strive for growth of civilization.
3. Respect other religious practices and their faiths as old Sanskrit saying 'Ekam Sat Vipra Bahudha Vadanti' (Truth is one, sages call it variously) i.e. believe to others as so many paths to reach the same truth.
4. Fare business with other countries
5. Not to capture or dominate other countries and population either through politics or armies. Neither use money power to exploit others.
6. Commit to develop personal character of purity, honesty in young people of every country through education and social practices.
7. Create International Forums to promote universal brotherhood.
8. Develop the character in our youth to love nature, understand the unifying thread of Nature and also commit to protect nature even if by compromising over luxuries.
9. Not to allow disrespect for women anywhere in the world.
10. To render researches and findings open for whole human kind. We have to go beyond patents in cases of human welfare.
11. Not to allow any discrimination to poor or backward communities in our countries and push for social equality.

Shri Ambekar ji reminded the clarion call given by Swami Vivekananda at the speech of World Parliament of Religions 1893, at Chicago (USA) "I

fervently hope the bell that tolled this morning in honour of this convention may be death knell of all fanaticism and all persecution with the sword or with the pen.”

He appealed to the youth delegates to pray for the prosperity and development of all nations and join hands in creating a harmonious world founded on the unity in diversity.

### **Cultural Program**

The youth delegates performed Cultural Dances, Music, Songs and other Art performances like Live Painting of WOSY logo were played. Delegates from countries; Armenia, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Nepal, Bhutan, Mauritius, Mongolia, Tanzania, Fiji and India participated in the cultural program.

### **Session II: Community Development**

Community Development is a scientific term which implies people working together in communities to increase their wellbeing, and to make their lives healthier, safer, more skilled and more sustainable. The communities we belong to can help us to be more effective citizens. They play an important part in our personal well-being. They are the source of many creative ideas and solutions, especially to the problems that arise due to unequal sharing of power and wealth.

Shri Aniket Kale, Secretary General, WOSY and Shri Sanjeev Ningombam, International Convener, WOSY welcomed Dr. Prasanna Patil from Dr. Hedgewar Hospital on to the dias to present and share his knowledge and experience with the delegates and other dignitaries on the topic of “Community Development”.

Dr. Prasanna Patil, Director- Projects at Dr. Hedgewar Hospital has for almost 20 years served the people and the community. Dr. Hedgewar Hospital in Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India, is well known for carrying community development programmes especially in the rural sector. The hospital was founded by young doctors inspired by the ideology of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh(RSS). The hospital runs several social upliftment programs like AIDS awareness, upliftment of women, kindergarten schools, self-employment, etc., in backward areas of Aurangabad.

Dr. Prassana Patil shared his experience, of working with Dr. Hedgewar Hospital for the development of the community especially in the rural segment.

Community development is a process conducted by community members where local people can not only create more jobs; income and infrastructure, but also help their community become empowered to manage challenges.

Day 2: 3rd Feb, 2013

### **Session III: Technology & Social Media as a force in nation Building**

With the advent of 21st century, Information Technology have minimized the information gap that was there due to geographical distances. Youth and Communities are turning to social media. The last decade has been an epoch making decade for social networking. Now accessing and sharing information is just a click away. There are at present over two hundred social media sites. In addition, these social media networks have become wonderful vehicles to connect with and follow leaders from all walks of life.

The social networking phenomenon has unleashed such a massive transformation in global connectivity bringing nations and communities closer than ever. With No doubt such people-savvy social network sites such as Facebook, Orkut, Twitter and Google+ has a powerful impact on the society, especially the youth. The power of these new social networking platforms is enormous.

Mr. Ritesh Mehta, Youth Leader Facebook India, the speaker of the session describes Social media as a powerful phenomenon in the 21st century that can transform communities and lead it for nation building. He extended his remarks over Facebook, describing it as a viable tool working on the fundamental principle of “Sharing”, and “Freedom of Speech”.

The social media offers the freedom from unilateral communication, which was the nature of regular media. It has given voice to masses and ideologies which were not heard.

He but also cautioned the youth to use the social media as a tool for information gathering and not to make it and the varied ideas disseminated through them as part of their identity. The social media should be selectively used for personality development, nation building etc. and not for promoting social hatred and ideas of division.

Shri Nagaraj Reddy, the International advisor of WOSY, appreciated the views and the new way of thinking presented by Mr. Ritesh on social media tools. Shri Nagaraj ji added to the topic of “Technology & Social Media as a force in Nation Building”. Supporting the ideas of the earlier speaker, he said that we should not fall victim of technology. He also warned that credibility of social media is still at stake. It can’t sustain issues of social interests for long. But still we have an opportunity. With WOSY, we will assure that a platform where technology and social initiatives will go hand in hand with the objective of nation and community development.

See the Face, Share the Past, Explore the Uncertain, Bridge the Distance and Form the Community. This phenomenon helped through social media platform has led to the people discover more meaning in their lives. As some of the recent social campaigns have proved, the young and the intelligent have a huge stake in how societies, economies and nations would shape up.

Enhancing online education, including support systems for parents and educational institutions, especially at primary and secondary levels could be one important aspect of our national mission towards literacy.

The educated and employed population characterizes the core of the social networking movement. So this, however, requires a paradigm shift in the approach to, and use of, social networking. The vision of India racing to be the third largest global economic power is tempered by the multitudes of social and economic constraints that India has to grapple with.

While these opportunities and challenges would continue to drive the social networking phenomenon, expansion of the network to create even greater levels of social energy and focused channeling of the social energy to national missions is the need of the hour.

Mr. Ritesh Mehta, Youth leader Facebook India, urged the participants to: “Absorb the Mission, Share the Passion, Innovate the Future, Bridge the

Divide and Institutionalize the Change”.

The young delegates participated in the group discussion and presented papers on the topic of ‘Community Development’, ‘Capacity Building & Leadership Skills’ and ‘Defining Role Model’.

Delegates from Japan, Nepal, Bhutan, Afghanistan, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Ethiopia and Rwanda participated.

#### **Session IV: Gender Issues**

Crime against women, including female foeticide, sexual harassment, gender opportunity gaps, are still prevalent in our society and has reached an alarming stage.

Smt. Bhavdeev Kang, Former Political Editor, India Today & Outlook gave a bold speech on the gender Issues. She gave a relative picture of Mass Media and Gender Violence. Fashion Photography, Gender Sensitive Games, Brand Advertising, Music Videos, Movies play a vital role in shaping the thought patterns of the society. Today the youth and the society has become Entertainment Victims.

Smt. Bhavdeep stated that today’s media is provocative. It sells ideas of dominance of men over women. She asserted that shutting our eyes to ugly truth doesn’t get them away. She requested the delegates to confront it. Media and fashion campaigns project women as an object of consumption and create the wrong notion that men demand this. These ads depicting market based ideas of ‘come and get me’ are provocative. This encourages men to behave like predators and tends to commit sexual violence.

The way some of the advertisements are conceived displaying nudity of young girls, it is sometimes confusing whether the women are endorsing the products or she herself is for ‘sale’. Stereotype women have a powerful impact on us. And that’s where the trouble begins. To make the media more

gender sensitive, females should rise to top positions in media. She also, asked the female delegates to aspire for the top jobs in Media, Politics etc. and stand equally respectable like men.

Dr. Madhulika Bajpai, Professor, Delhi University, was invited to share her views over the topic of "Gender Issues". She defined the concept of the Gender as "the economic, social, political, and cultural attributes and opportunities associated with being male or female."

She talked about the killing of unborn girls, an alarming and frightening reality. It involves the collusion of families, doctors and a social structure that encourages the desire for a boy child - at any cost. The result has been the death of over 3 crore unborn girls since independence in India and a generation of unequal gender ratio.

Dr Bajpai referred that "The state or condition that affords women and men equal enjoyment of human rights, socially valued goods, opportunities, and resources" is called gender equality and a society should always strive to achieve this.

She mentioned and quoted certain facts which describe the alarming state of gender inequality.

- In India, CSR is 927:1000. In several states and its sub regions statistics have gone down to as low as 733:1000.
- In 2008, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon reported that one in every three women is likely "to be beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused in her lifetime".
- According to UNICEF, more than one-third of women aged 20 to 24 were married before they turned 18, which is considered the minimum legal age of marriage in most countries.
- According to the World Health Organization, one woman dies in childbirth every minute of every day.
- The United Nations often cites the statistic that women do two-thirds of the world's work, receive 10 percent of the world's income and own 1 percent of the means of production.

Even in developed countries, women are often blamed and questioned about actions if they become the victims of rape or physical abuse, this does not apply to their attackers though.

Despite making up half the global population, women hold approximately only 15.6 percent of elected parliamentary seats in the world. They're missing from all levels of government -- local, regional and national.

Women want justice but they also want the right to live as they deem fit without being sanctioned at every step in the name of social mores. Mindset of the people needs to be changed and women should be empowered. Women must step out and speak out loud and stop considering them as just objects. They should take higher position in leadership role like in Media, Politics and Business, and do not limit themselves to so called 'Pinked Collar Jobs'.

*“If Development is not Engendered, it is then, Endangered...”*

**Address by Dr. Rashmi Singh, Chairperson WOSY**

Dr. Rashmi Singh opened her address by referring to the aptness and timing of the seminar when we are witnessing 'massively disturbing developments in society.' Violence and crimes against women is at an all time high. We live in an extremely aware and a technologically empowered society but an increasingly brutal one.

By quoting the example of the shootout in an Elementary School in the US last year when a 20 year old man killed his mother and unleashed a bloodbath killing 27 people, 20 of them children under the age of six, she said that such unfortunate incidents emerge in our societies as a result of both deficient laws and diminishing values in national culture.

Dr. Rashmi urged the audience to think about the reasons which brings out the bestiality in our societies profound values of righteous conduct are pushed to margins and individuals propelled to vices.

Over the recent heinous act, the Delhi gang rape of a 23-year-old student,

which shook the whole nation, Dr. Rashmi spoke out strongly and condemned it. We have seen for over a month now a spontaneous mobilization and outpouring of anger particularly among the women and youth in India, across cities, big and small, on streets and campuses. She said that this is the manifestation of emerging voice of women not only for justice and better legal protection but also for the right to live as they deem fit without being sanctioned at every step in the name of social mores.

She exhorted that women's rights are a hallmark of evolution, the mark of a developed country and a just world order. Dr. Rashmi by pointing out the examples of Malala, the Pak young girl who earned the wrath of radical fundamentalists for demanding equal rights of education and of Savita who died in Ireland after being denied right to abort, said that we are far from achieving the benchmarks. Discrimination against women is our combined shame, a major unfinished agenda of nation building all over the world.

By referring to examples of Amul started by collective efforts of millions of farmers which helped them to graduate to better lives from poverty and Gramin bank conceived by Mr. Mohammed Yunus in Bangladesh to avail small credits for self employed and thereby empowering a large section of deprived society, Dr. Rashmi noted that if such inspirational efforts of community leadership and ideas of a few noble spirited individuals can bring about big changes, we should imagine what a dedicated political leadership and a committed government can do.

She expressed her views over the challenges faced by economic reforms, which is another major task to nation building, including culture of financial scandals and crony capitalism, corruption in public institutions, conflicts arising with local populations related to land acquisition for industrial use, deployment of resources and rich minerals for the benefit of the multitude and not to be pocketed by the nexus of corrupt politicians-bureaucrats and unscrupulous businessmen etc.

Dwelling with the solutions for nation building Dr. Rashmi said that scientific progress, technological developments and innovations becomes the core. Technology is a huge development opportunity for those at the bottom of the pyramid. She said that the developments in ICT in India have not only helped in empowering our society, but also in imparting the knowledge for the

benefits of our African brothers. This should be the paradigm that we should develop for a better world and this sentiment helped shaping this seminar.

### **Valedictory Session & Conclusion**

India is celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, a great son of India and our youth icon. His words for the 'Vibrant Youth' are, "Be vigilant and diligent with your actions, sincere in your efforts and regular in your spiritual practices". Swami Vivekananda has lived his life to uplift the mankind; he wanted us to shine and prosper. The idea behind the celebration is to fulfill his dream!

Hon'ble Prof. Murali Manohar Putti, National President ABVP, and Shri R. Dileep Reddy, MD, Sakshi Television praised WOSY and its members from across the world for their continuous effort of resolving conflict and maintain harmony and peaceful co-existence between different nations. Nothing is more vibrant than "the power of youth". If the youth of different nations can come closer and work together 'hand in hand' for the betterment of the human being, society and their family making this world a better place to live.

Dr. Rashmi Singh (Chairperson, WOSY) and Shri Aniket Kale (Secretary General, WOSY) gave a 'Word of Thanks' to the Convener, the Co-convener, the Reception Committee Office Bearers, well wishers and all the WOSY delegates and members from all corners of the world without whom, the 7th International Seminar of WOSY would not have been such a grand success.

Concluding the Seminar, Shri Aniket Kale thanked all the family members of WOSY; Dignitaries, Eminent Speakers from all parts of society and especially the International Youth Delegates, the integral part of the WOSY family. He along with Dr. Rashmi Ji, further declared the New Central Executive Committee (CEC) members for the upcoming 8<sup>th</sup> International Seminar.

