World peace through ancient Indian wisdom

Prof. C. Upender Rao
School of Sanskrit and Indic Studies,
Jawaharlal Nehru University,
New Delhi 110067

The world is heavily marching ahead in 21st Century but the peace of the world is still standing at a cross road. Conflicts between nations are growing. Humanity has been living under the shadow of a nuclear holocaust. Today's science and scientists have failed to bring peace in the world. But our ancient Indian wisdom has showed mankind the way to new world peace and world prosperity. From the dawn of human civilization, India has projected the lofty ideals of cosmic and Universal peace. Vedas advised us to be peaceful in daily life. They have elaborated the benefits of Universal brotherhood.

Bhagavad-Gita clearly says- "how can there be happiness to one who is not peaceful within himself? Ancient Indian Literature always maintained that human happiness doesn't depend upon the satisfaction of only physical appetites and physical passions or through the acquisition of material wealth. Worldly pleasures cannot give peace to the mankind. In fact ancient sages have realised that peace is an important necessity for all human beings. They realized that peace is the ultimate objective of all existence in the world. Peace is the necessary and essential requirement for any society for a sustainable growth and development. Man may achieve physical and material development through many other means but he can get true inner happiness through the peaceful mind. Individual peace heads to the world peace gradually and steadily.

In ancient Indian scriptures Gods are described to be the embodiments of peace where there is peace there live Gods. Lord Vishnu had been described as an Embodiment of peace. When Vedic seers sang such peace manta, Buddhists and Jains and other ancient Indian teachers too often stress on the importance of peace. Buddha's five precepts are worth quoting in this context. Thus Indian wisdom always stresses on wholesome peace. They advocated the inner peace which brings external peace gradually. If every individual becomes peaceful then eventually the whole world will become peaceful.