PREFACE

"There is no way to Peace, Peace is the way."

Mahatma Gandhi

Since time immemorial, mankind has been searching for an ideal society where man can lead a happier, worthier and more rewarding life. Literatures from the East and West has been testimony to it. Manu, Kautilya, Plato, Aristotle, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Hegal, Karl Marx and Gandhi considered the social and cultural presupposition of the ideal political order.

Major religions of the world such as Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Suffism and Buddhism all advocated ideal existence of man. Ideal society should be built by mankind, a society that is spiritually beautiful, materially affluent and humanly rewarding. It can only be possible if we devote our time and efforts to the peace and security of the world. The importance of Peace for any society is obvious. Without peace no nation and no individual can move forward. In a peaceful atmosphere mankind can secure greater heights. A society without peace is like life in the state of nature—brutish, barbaric, short, dull and nasty as Hobbes pointed out in his political theory on the origin of the state. Everyone professes a desire for peace as an ultimate goal. This prompt everyone to find out, what are the conditions necessary to insure a stable peace. Their remains a
fundamental challenge to the modern world: can the conflicts between man and his social groups be resolved in some other fashion other than war?

Today’s world is filled with war, terrorism turmoil and confusion, while men have created many technological inventions they can not be able to ‘create’ peace. Scientists have unleashed the power of atom but are powerless to unleash peace upon earth. The biggest danger in front of us today is that violence and science both joined hands together not only to destroy the peace of universe but also to threaten the very existence of humanity. Due to this we have lost our security and peace. Technology brings diverse people closer together in a global community it becomes increasingly important that we find ways to live together with peace in a secure world.

The search for peace and security in a world marked by extreme economic, social and cultural heterogeneity, bedeviled by self-aggrandizing states which go to war against each other states, occasionally plunging the world into senseless destruction has inspired many proposals for creating one ‘True world’ where every individual is at peace, hence feel secure.

Disarmaments and arms control can’t be pursued for their own sake, but their objectives must be peace. Security will be natural consequence of peace but the reverse is not necessarily true. The official position of every government worldwide is that military might is totally necessary because it is the only mean by which to feel secure in
a dangerous world. The truth is that the safest city in the world is one where you can walk down the street and need no police officer to protect. But on the contrary to this viewpoint, the issue of militarism has grown as a world view and the current threats to every nation can never be ended by the use of massive might. Nuclear weapons provide more insecurity to the nation than the security. Regional tensions grow up with the weapons and mad race to have more and more weapons than the opponent has started to end nowhere. Military war can never have any winner. One may win the war or one may lose it, but all the human beings end up to be looser in the last. Looser of the peace and security of its people, of the nation and ultimately of the world.

At the height of cold war U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. realized that building up missile force was futile. Once they armed themselves with enough atom bombs to kill the world population ten times over, the surrealism of their military posturing became obvious. That is why state centric paradigm has been replaced with human centric paradigm in the post cold war era.

For many centuries, mankind was wrongly led to believe that a major war is required to end all the wars for all the times to come. The history has shown that this belief itself has been the cause of many conflicts. Wars can't bring peace. Retaliation only cause counter — retaliation. Peace can be brought by non violent means only as expressed by Mahatma Gandhi. Arms race once begins can not be stopped rather it gains its own momentum. Peace can't be achieved unless use of
violence eschewed in settling human conflicts and is replaced with non-violence. The term Non-violence should be understood not just simply as absence of physical injury but as an active force of love towards all creatures including humans, animals and plants. Man can not live by destructions though there may be repulsion enough in nature, yet one lives by attraction and love which is the basis of society where life can be more secure and peaceful. In the violent environment human beings can't have secure and peaceful conditions of life.

Can there be a world without violence? Is there a way out? The practical way to live peacefully in a secure environment must be found. Even after end of cold war arms race has not stopped, we are still relying upon nuclear weapons to provide security but security for whom? Security against what? We need a security that does not place human future in jeopardy. The confusion and errors of the past demanded an urgent and serious attempt to develop workable principles for humanitarian interventions both at national and international levels. Since new insecurities have been generated by globalization a concerted efforts is needed to security conception beyond military and international relations, towards a more comprehensive and proactive framework, which includes the root cause of conflicts. The people of the world should have spiritually beautiful, materially affluent and humanly rewarding society.

In the post cold war era, there are number of threats to the peace and security of the world. Such as terrorism,
poverty, migrants population ecological imbalance, drugs, human trafficking and more disparity between rich and poor.

Most of powerful weapons can not provide security to most powerful nation of the world. Then what to do to bring peace and security in the world? We must chart a new way to peace. Peace is more then just absence of war. Peace is highest expression of human value because it alone can made possible to attain other values.

But we need today is to replace the old paradigm founded on entrenched ideological position with new one that should be open to reappraisal social, political, cultural and ecological balance of values. With this perspective in mind the present work has been aimed.

Ranjan Bala