

Foreword to the Indian Edition

To stand up and challenge any established belief or order requires extra-ordinary courage and conviction. The price paid by those who mustered strength to do so or swim against the current has been enormous. 'Visionaries', 'dreamers' or 'revolutionaries' as they are described endearingly or sarcastically have never been deterred in their 'seditious' activities. Ironically, notwithstanding threat of death, persecutions, imprisonment, crucifixion or torture, their tribes have only been steadily increasing.

Ancient India did preserve for posterity the details of the extra-ordinary transformation of Emperor Ashoka who after leading one of the bloodiest battles in history became a dove of peace and championed ahimsa by making it a state policy, perhaps first time in history. The Korean battle fields in the fifties witnessed a more or less similar transformation when a young anti-aircraft communications officer, Glenn D. Paige realized the need for alternative strategies to resolve conflicts. His awakening to nonviolence led him to examine seriously the life, and experiments of Gandhi. The decades that followed also witnessed Professor Paige developing a spiritual bond with India that left tremendous impact both on him as well as the Gandhian Movement in India, particularly, the *Shanti Sena*. The Global nonviolent awakening following the Gandhian era received tremendous support with Glenn taking a central role. His commitment to nonviolence became total and the numerous visits he made to several countries of the world, contacts he established with peace activists and the fresh insights with which nonviolent potentials were encouraged to be examined brought in a formidable group of young researchers, activists, academicians and thinkers in different parts of the world. His efforts acquired the nature of a crusade for nonviolence on a global scale and his commitment became inspiring and matchless. His pleas for a nonkilling society, though at the initial stages received only scorn and helped raise eye brows, are not totally lost on the present socio-political milieu. There are several people who understand and appreciate the heroic efforts of Professor Paige, but not the established political scientists.

Johan Galtung while reviewing Glenn Paige's book, *To Nonviolent Political Science: From Season's of Violence* made a very interesting observation. Prof. Galtung felt that Glenn, "brings to mind the state of social philosophy when slavery was deemed 'normal' and part of human

nature." I can hear the Glenn Paiges of that time harassing their audience with 'do you think a non-slavery society is possible?' And I can hear the answer, very similar to what Glenn finds when the key-word is 'nonkilling'. There were probably even those who developed doctrines about 'just slavery'.

Nonkilling Global Political Science, the results of three decades' research, meditation, interaction, intensive dialogues with some of the best brains of the world, is a land mark publication by Prof. Glenn D. Paige. As the writer rightly believes this may be the first book in English language to contain the word, 'nonkilling' in its title. In a socio-political-economic and religious mileu which not only justifies killing but takes legitimate pride in it, what will be the fate of some one like Glenn D. Paige who challenges with conviction and courage the prevailing assumption that killing is an inescapable part of the human condition? Will his passionate plea be lost in the wilderness of the present-day hypocrisy and intolerance to change and reason or will it resonate and generate healthy discussions and change of attitude?

Professor Paige argues passionately and with conviction that a nonkilling global society is possible and that changes in the academic discipline of Political Science and its social role can help to bring it about. The assumption that killing is an inevitable attribute of human nature and social life is convincingly challenged by the author in this book.

The *Gandhi Media Centre* is proud of being permitted by the distinguished author Prof. Glenn D. Paige this Indian edition. We are grateful to Prof. Paige for the kind permission he has graciously offered us and we on our side do believe that this seminal book is a forerunner and will lead humanity to a new phase of thinking and consequent change in its attitude. I do believe that a nonkilling society is possible. If each of us believes so, that will be ample compensation to the pains the author has undertaken in his task.

The *Gandhi Media Centre* also plans to make available this book in the major languages of India such as Hindi, Tamil and Malayalam.

We are also grateful to *Poornodaya Book Trust*, particularly its Secretary Sri. Parameswara Sharma for helping us in the printing of this edition as well as in the distribution.

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