



The Suzanne Mubarak  
Women's International Peace Movement



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**Human Rights and Responsibilities**

The Meaning for a Global and Humane Society:  
Universal Right to Education; Freedom of Expression,  
Sharing Benefits of Scientific Advances, and Cultural  
Rights

**July 16 2008**

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Peace is one of the most precious nations of humanity, but for a longtime it has been regarded a something that is won by war, or an altruistic, unattainable ideal.

In fact peace is attainable, peace is possible but It needs serious and continuous efforts, peace needs everyday efforts, it is a continuous battle against violence, intolerance, greedy ambitious, poverty and against the abuses of human rights and dignity.



Peace also needs to be studied in an academic and scientific way... experts have been studying war since the 18<sup>th</sup> century but it is much more important to devote energy, time and resources to peace studies, In that context peace education and freedom of expression are closely related.

We need to adopt a more scientific approach to peace. Humanity faces global challenges and we need global cooperation to confront these challenges. One major challenge is the promotion of peace built on a worldwide culture of peace... Education, freedom of expression like peace are the undisputed rights of every person.

But as much as it is a legitimate right for every human being on earth, living in peace is also a responsibility. Because we demand our right for a peaceful life, we should also be able to provide,



maintain and promote the same for others. This can only be done through education, through cultural interaction and dialogue; through sharing knowledge and learning to accept one another's culture and traditions. In that context Wikipedia is instrumental in helping to spread knowledge, access to information and open the door to dialogue.

One major challenge we face today is the promotion of peace built on a worldwide culture of peace that is based on education and the recognition of every individual's right to retain his/her own culture while respecting the culture and freedom of others.

In today's world of rapid technological advance, everyone should have the opportunity to learn and be part of the global system of



knowledge. It is therefore necessary for all, especially young people to use all possible means to educate themselves about their rights but also to learn more about their responsibilities towards others and Wikipedia constitutes an extraordinary opportunity for those who want to learn. Only then can we foster a culture of peace that will enhance our efforts towards attaining sustainable development and harmony in the world.



It is also the responsibility of the technologically advanced nations to help the less fortunate population of the world to partake of the knowledge they produce, and also accept their contributions to global knowledge. Indeed, if we were to advocate the rights of education, freedom of expression and knowledge sharing, we ought to start viewing this as a collective endeavor in which members of the human community should shoulder the responsibility of making our world a better place to live in.

Only then will we be able to achieve the kind of peaceful world we aspire to; a world based on understanding that peace is not only a philosophical concept or an ideal but a way of life, a behavioral code agreed upon and practiced by human beings and nations alike.



Peace should not be viewed as an elitist or a group attitude, but rather as a social practice that characterizes the whole society; a human right that should be asserted and implemented. That is why peace education is essential and should be at the core of the educational system in all schools and universities, thus ensuring the creation of peace loving citizens and future leaders who are well equipped to foster peace and ensure its sustainability.

This is the way to build a global and more humane society that rejects violence, works for justice, prevents disputes from developing into armed confrontations, and promotes sustainable economic and social development.



Thus it is obvious that this aim of a harmonious global society is closely linked to the universal right to education. The right to learn, understand and be able to form one's own opinion based on information is a prerequisite for any responsible citizen who can assume his/her duty as a member of the global human family. Education must be a dynamic force related to the behavior of people, it must help them become more tolerant, more merciful, and more loving towards others, and also more attached to universal values...

Almost two years ago, the Institute for Peace Studies was founded in Alexandria as a non-governmental organization dedicated to promoting the culture of peace. IPS is chaired by none other than the first lady of Egypt Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak who has exerted enormous efforts to establish an



independent academic entity to promote peace, justice and human rights. At IPS we endeavor to promote peace as a way of life and a civilized behavior for all nations and all men and women. We exert our efforts to educate and train core groups within the community to become principle actors in promoting a culture of peace on the local and regional levels.... To achieve this, IPS teaches the essence of a culture of peace, human rights, conflict resolution, and negotiation and mediation.

In that context we have established a good working cooperation with a number of international institutions, universities and institutes, involved with peace studies all over the world. We have cooperated with the UN mandated University for Peace in Costa Rica, several research groups and think tanks, Egyptian and European universities as





well as the International Peace Bureau who has granted us membership in this prestigious Nobel peace prize winning institution. We are also looking forward to cooperating with Wikipedia foundation since its mission is to spread knowledge and information which is indeed a human right and responsibility, not only as a means for education, but also as a means to bring people together and to promote dialogue coexistence and mutual understanding.