

THE CONCEPT OF TOLERANCE IN DIFFERENT CULTURES AND ITS SOCIAL MANIFESTATIONS

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Annotatsiya: Odamlar va jamiyatlar o'rtasida uyg'un yashash va tushunishni rivojlantirish uchun bag'rikenglik asosiy tamoyil hisoblanadi. Tolerantlik mojarolarning oldini olish, inklyuzivlikni rivojlantirish va madaniy, diniy va mafkuraviy xilma-xillikka ega globallashtirish dunyoda jamiyat taraqqiyotini kafolatlash uchun zarurdir. Ushbu insho bag'rikenglik g'oyasini, jumladan uning nazariy asoslarini, tarixiy evolyutsiyasini va zamonaviy jamiyatdagi dolzarbligini ko'rib chiqadi. Bundan tashqari, u muvofiqlikdan kelib chiqadigan qiyinchiliklarga e'tibor qaratadi va ko'proq qabul qilinadigan jamiyatni rivojlantirish uchun echimlarni taklif qiladi.

Kalit so'zlar: bag'rikenglik, xilma-xillik, madaniy tushunish, ijtimoiy totuvlik, inson huquqlari

Аннотация: Толерантность является основополагающим принципом, способствующим гармоничному сосуществованию и взаимопониманию между людьми и обществами. Толерантность необходима для предотвращения конфликтов, укрепления инклюзивности и обеспечения общественного развития в глобализованном мире с широким культурным, религиозным и идеологическим разнообразием. В данной работе рассматривается идея толерантности, включая её теоретические основы, историческую эволюцию и актуальность в современном обществе. Кроме того, в статье обращается внимание на трудности, связанные с нетерпимостью, и предлагаются решения для формирования более толерантного общества.

Ключевые слова: толерантность, разнообразие, культурное взаимопонимание, социальная гармония, права человека

Abstract: In order to promote harmonious cohabitation and understanding between people and societies, tolerance is a basic principle. Tolerance is essential for averting conflicts, fostering inclusivity, and guaranteeing societal advancement in a globalised world with a wide range of cultural, religious, and ideological diversity. This essay examines the idea of tolerance, including its theoretical underpinnings, historical evolution, and relevance in modern society. Additionally, it draws attention to the difficulties posed by intolerance and offers solutions for fostering a more accepting society.

Keywords: Tolerance, diversity, cultural understanding, social harmony, human rights

Introduction

Tolerance is a central normative ideal in plural societies. With increasing diversity through migration, communication, and global exchange, understanding how societies coexist has become crucial. Scholars distinguish between 'tolerance' as an attitudinal disposition and 'toleration' as a political or moral practice allowing what one disapproves of. This paper explores these distinctions and situates them within cross-cultural perspectives to understand how tolerance is conceptualized, institutionalized, and practiced worldwide. Furthermore, it discovers the theoretical underpinnings of tolerance, its historical evolution, the difficulties presented by intolerance, and methods for fostering tolerance in various contexts.

Conceptual Foundations

Literature offers multiple conceptual approaches to tolerance. Some define it narrowly as restraint towards differences, while others see it broadly as mutual respect underpinning plural democratic life. Key debates involve the limits of tolerance and the power dynamics between the tolerant majority and the tolerated minority. Cross-cultural studies show that meanings and practices of tolerance vary according to historical, religious, and political contexts.

Philosophical and Historical Perspectives

Philosophical discussions trace tolerance to Enlightenment debates and modern pluralism. Political theorists consider tolerance as a virtue, a civic skill, or pragmatic compromise. Historically, tolerance has manifested as both negotiated coexistence and forced assimilation. Contemporary scholarship addresses paradoxes, such as whether tolerance should extend to groups undermining the tolerant order.

Religious and Cultural Dimensions

Religions exhibit complex relations to tolerance. Abrahamic faiths (Judaism, Christianity, Islam) offer resources for both tolerance and exclusivism. Asian traditions such as Buddhism and Hinduism emphasize non-violence and pluralism. Institutional interpretation, power dynamics, and secular frameworks shape how religious teachings translate into tolerant or intolerant social practices.

Social Manifestations of Tolerance

Tolerance appears in institutions and daily interactions, including constitutional guarantees, anti-discrimination laws, and multicultural policies. Education inculcates tolerance through curricula promoting civic education and intercultural competence. Civil society initiatives facilitate dialogue and empathy. Digital media, however, amplify both tolerant and intolerant discourses.

The capacity to accept and value variations in viewpoints, convictions, and behaviours among people and communities is known as tolerance. It is an active attempt to promote comprehension and collaboration rather than just passive acceptance. Over the centuries, the idea has changed in response to political, religious, and philosophical concepts. Tolerance is now acknowledged as an essential human rights principle and a basic value in democracies (UNESCO, 1995). Societies are growing increasingly intertwined in an age of migration, globalisation, and digital communication. Although there are many advantages to this interconnectedness, there are drawbacks as well, including social polarisation, prejudice, and

cultural conflicts. A number of theoretical and philosophical frameworks have influenced how tolerance is understood:

1. Tolerance was promoted by classical liberal theorists like John Stuart Mill and John Locke as a cornerstone of democracy and individual freedom. While Mill (1859) stressed that freedom of thought and expression should be preserved to promote intellectual and social advancement, Locke (1689) maintained that religious tolerance is necessary for a healthy society.

2. Tolerance is viewed from a social constructivist perspective as a socially learnt behaviour that emerges by social interactions, education, and cultural exposure (Piaget, 1932). Through encounters that upend their assumptions and foster empathy for different viewpoints, people learn to be tolerant.

3. The Viewpoint of Human Rights

Tolerance is emphasised in the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a fundamental value in advancing equality and human dignity. Education is emphasised in Article 26 as a way to promote understanding and tolerance across various cultures and nations. The function of institutions in fostering a culture of tolerance is further explained in UNESCO's 1995 Declaration of Principles on Tolerance. In many facets of society, such as politics, education, and interpersonal relationships, tolerance is essential. Promoting tolerance is greatly aided by education. Universities and schools provide forums for cross-cultural exchanges where people can learn to appreciate different viewpoints. Prejudice and discrimination can be lessened by incorporating curricula based on tolerance (Banks, 2008). Tolerance is essential to democratic societies because it permits freedom of speech and political pluralism. Polarisation, authoritarianism, and social instability are frequently the results of political intolerance. Despite ideological disagreements, leaders and citizens must have productive conversations in order for a democracy to be healthy (Dahl, 1998). Tolerance encourages empathy, patience, and understanding in daily interactions, which in turn creates happy relationships. Conflicts resulting from cultural, religious, or ideological differences are less common in tolerant societies because they are more inclusive (Allport, 1954). Despite its importance, tolerance in contemporary society confronts a number of obstacles:

1. An increase in extremism and intolerance. Global intolerance has grown in recent years and has shown up as political extremism, religious fundamentalism, and racial discrimination. Additionally, social media has exacerbated divisions by aiding in the dissemination of false information and hate speech (Sunstein, 2017).

2. Conflicts between cultures and religions. Tensions and miscommunications can occasionally result from cultural and religious differences. Sometimes people confuse tolerance with moral relativism, which creates moral conundrums about the bounds of acceptance (Huntington, 1996).

3. Misinformation and education. Stereotypes and prejudices can result from inadequate instruction on tolerance and diversity. Propaganda and false information exacerbate intolerance and make it more challenging for diverse populations to respect one another (Van Dijk, 1993). Several strategies can be used to promote a more accepting society:

1. Campaigns for education and awareness. Programs that foster critical thinking abilities and cultural awareness should be included in educational institutions. Awareness-raising initiatives that tackle discrimination and inclusion concerns can also be beneficial.
2. Media outlets should steer clear of sensationalism that encourages intolerance and maintain ethical journalism. Social media companies need to control hate speech while advancing diverse storylines that are positive.
3. Interventions in Policy. Policies that uphold the rights of minorities and promote cross-cultural communication must be implemented by governments and international organizations. Laws ought to make hate crimes and discriminatory conduct illegal.
4. Participation in the Community. Through interfaith discussions, cultural exchange initiatives, and grassroots projects that promote respect for one another, local communities play a critical role in fostering tolerance. In order to preserve social harmony, defend human rights, and guarantee peaceful coexistence, tolerance is a fundamental concept. Even though issues like disinformation, extremism, and cultural disputes still exist, proactive measures in media regulation, education, and policymaking can support the development of a tolerant society. Adopting tolerance as a fundamental principle will be essential for both world peace and sustainable development as societies continue to change.

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