Responsible well-being towards positive peace: A perception out of first hand working experiences in Nepal

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I have raised this title ???Responsible Well-being (RWB) related to Positive Peace: A perception out of first hand working experiences in Nepal??? as my M.A.S. thesis paper. Since I worked in Nepal as a grass-roots worker, I was truly attached to the local community. In this paper, I will share the understanding of Responsible Well-being (RWB) in Nepalese rural communities. I will share my understanding of this word RWB and its contribution to Positive Peace. Most of my working time during the past years was with rural communities in Nepal. I experienced learning their culture (their local languages too), their understanding of humane and community development. I worked with a local Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) named SAHAMATI in order to directly facilitate the intervention in the field. Oxfam Hong Kong, an international NGO, supported financially in order to reduce poverty and hunger. Since the project has been running in Nepal from 2005 onwards, there are good indications for their quality of life, which are the significant result of the project. How to do the monitoring? I am going to explain this and try to get an idea of the word RWB. The RWB is very supportive of the quality of life and wellbeing on society. During the MAS study in World Peace Academy, Switzerland, I could learn the importance of positive peace with various theories on peace and conflict transformation.

By the end of this thesis work, I make a recommendation which will be helpful in the transformation process towards positive peace in a collaborative way of action by people for their sustainability. The terminology of RWB shows the actuality of the case of Nepal which will help concerned people and institutions from all over the world understand.

Positive Peace is defined as the attitudes, institutions and structures that create and sustain peaceful societies. These same factors also lead to many other positive outcomes which society feels are important. Therefore Positive Peace is described as creating the optimum environment for human potential to flourish.

Positive Peace is measured by the Positive Peace Index (PPI) which consists of eight domains, each containing three indicators, totalling 24. This provides a baseline measure of the effectiveness of a country's capabilities to build and maintain peace. It also provides a measure for policymakers, researchers and corporations to use for effective monitoring and evaluation. The distinguishing feature of IEP's work on Positive Peace is that it is empirically derived through quantitative analysis. There are few known empirical and quantitative frameworks available to analyse Positive Peace. Historically, it has largely been understood qualitatively and based on idealistic concepts of a peaceful society. Instead, IEP's Positive Peace framework is based on the quantitatively identifiable common characteristics of the world's most peaceful countries. In order to address the gap in this kind of quantitative research, IEP utilises the time series data contained in the GPI, in combination with existing peace and development literature to statistically analyse the characteristics peaceful countries have in common. An important aspect of this approach is to avoid value judgement and allow statistical analysis to explain the key drivers of peace.

The approach presented here is still in its early stages of development but aims to provide a fundamentally new framework for envisioning societies. There is a clear need to better understand how countries can make institutions more relevant to their citizens, be better able to adapt to global challenges, as well as be more certain about how to effectively increase economic wealth and human fulfillment. In an age when serious threats to humanity are posed by our interactions with the natural world through changes in the atmosphere, oceans and biodiversity, systems thinking can help us better understand our collective interdependence on these systems and the interdependence between nations. Positive Peace is the framework developed by IEP that describes the factors associated with peaceful societies. It consists of eight domains that interact in multi-faceted ways, where the importance of each domain and direction of causality will vary, depending on individual circumstances. Systems thinking provides a mechanism with which to understand how Positive Peace operates and how to better apply it in developing policy.

Inherent in our understanding of the world and the way we interact within it is the concept of causality. We take an action and expect an outcome. We are so attuned to this concept that it is built into our subconscious. We needn't think twice about each step we take when we walk down the street because of this built in understanding. In every-day life, physical actions have an effect that always results in the same outcome. The repeatability of certain scientific laws in terms of causality has enabled great strides in human progress, and is no better expressed than in the engineering marvels of today.

The most dramatic deteriorations in levels of violence typically occur in countries with very low Positive Peace scores. Countries with low levels of Positive Peace are more likely to see protest movements develop, for example, and these movements are more likely to become violent. IEP used principal components analysis (PCA) to identify the Positive

Peace characteristics that are common among different groups of countries in order to help explain these deteriorations. PCA is a multivariate statistical technique used to determine the indicators that best explain the variance of the data. It is used here to explain the variation in changes in the internal GPI based on different

Positive Peace factors. An interesting trend emerges when looking at the differences in scores in the Positive Peace factors. There are many countries which perform equally well or poorly in all Positive Peace factors. Other countries perform well on some factors but poorly on others. The main characteristic of highly peaceful and highly resilient countries is their high performance in all domains of Positive Peace, which indicates two things: Positive Peace must be strong in all domains to provide resilience and support high levels of internal peace. Countries that have particular Positive Peace strengths and weaknesses can identify key opportunities for improvement as a pathway to higher levels of both Positive Peace and Negative Peace.