



# Planning and Implementation of Peace Education and Peace Culture in Nigeria Education System for Peace Building In Nigeria

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**ABSTRACT:-** Planning and Implementation of Peace Education and Peace Culture in Nigeria Education System for Peace Building in Nigeria dealt extensively on the definitions of major variables in the topic, such as planning, implementation, peace, education, peace education, culture, peace culture and educational systems. It went further to highlight the aims of peace education, its curriculum and principles of peace education. Conclusively, some practical recommendations were made for peace building in Nigeria.

## I. INTRODUCTION

In the first instance, the key words in the topic of discussion must be explained and understood. These include, planning, peace, education, culture, peace education, peace culture and the components of educational system in Nigeria.

**PLANNING:** Planning according to Nwanna (1993) is the process of determining in advance what is to be done, including classification of goals, establishment of policies, aping out of programmes and campaigns and determining specific method of procedures and fixing day to day schedules. Agabi (1995) sees planning as a conscious deliberate, systematic and rational decision making process designed to influence future course of action in an organization or any field of human activity with the ultimate aim of making the most economical use of the limited resources.

A plan then is the end product of the planning process. It is a blue print for action towards organizational goal attainment in the most effective and efficient manner. Coombs (1972) sees educational planning as the application of rational systematic analysis to the process of educational development with the aim of making education more effective and efficient in responding to the needs and goals of its students and society.

Education plan or policy constitutes the document or blue print, that is, an outcome of the planning process, meant to direct actions in education. The National Policy on Education is a good example of education plan.

Implementation means execution or carrying out a plan or plans in order to achieve the stated goals of a programme or project. It involves provision of all the needed human and material resources.

**PEACE:** Peace according to Hornby (1995) is freedom from war or violence, peace means a state of freedom from war, violence, quarrel, fight, threat, fear and intimidation. Negative peace means the absence of direct violence while positive peace means the absence of direct violence.

**EDUCATION:** Education according to Ocho (2005) is a process through which human beings become morally good members of their society. It is a process for the transmission, preservation and improvement of the culture of a people. It is a process through which man realize his potentialities and use them for service to himself and his society. The central purpose of education is to make man a moral agent, to train his character in a way that he can be properly adopted to his society. Summarily, the major purpose of education is character formation.

**PEACE EDUCATION:** Peace education is the process of acquiring the values, the knowledge and developing the attitudes, skills and behaviours to live in harmony with oneself, with others in the society and even with the natural environment that is other creatures of God. Harris and John (2002) describe peace education as a series of teaching encounters draw from peoples their desires for peace, nonviolent alternatives for managing conflict and skills for critical analysis of structural arrangements that produce and legitimize injustice and inequality.

**CULTURE:** Culture is simply the way of life of a people, a village, a community, a society or an organization. Culture is a powerful constitution and vehicle at the core of possible transformations given that it mediates and transfers ideas, values and intellectual refinement between generations and between civilizations. Culture is both a preserving and a reproductive force, by transmitting the cultural patterns of the past and the present, to the future and an important innovative influence, by its power to inculcate new attitudes, thoughts, values and norms. Thus, culture is a key factor in promoting genuine peace.

**PEACE CULTURE:** Peace culture is a culture that is tooted in peaceful coexistence between one another rand among others (neighbours). It connects love for another, respect for one another, care for one another, forgiveness for one another selfless service for one another tolerating one another, living for one another, etc. it is nominated in the Holy Bible in Matthew 4:9 that the peace makers shall be called children of God. This calls for global peace culture as this will bring us closer to God Almighty.

The Nigeria Educational Systems is made up of

1. Primary Education,
2. Secondary Education and
3. Tertiary

**EDUCATION:** Primary School Education according to federal republic of Nigeria (FRN) (2013) is the education given to children aged 6-12 years. The major aim, of primary education is to inculcate permanent literacy in the recipients, and its duration is six years.

**SECONDARY EDUCATION SYSTEM:** Secondary education in Nigeria is divided into two parts – (1) Junior and (2) Senior Secondary Schools. Both levels last for three years. The junior secondary prepares students for senior secondary school and rotational education. The senior secondary school prepares its recipients for tertiary education and work.

The tertiary Education in Nigeria is made up of the university, collage of Education and polytechnic education the major aim of the tertiary education is to produce professionals in the filed or labour market.

Peace Education at this formative level of education is very important so that they will grow with it and live with it and in it. This will eventually bring about societal peace and happiness. Peace education is the process of acquiring the values, the knowledge and developing the attitudes, skills and behaviours to live in harmony with oneself, with others in the society and even with the natural environment. Planning and implementation of peace education in Nigeria is the work of the curriculum planners, developers and implementers at the Federal Ministry of Education. They have to enshrine Peace Education in the primary secondary and the tertiary curricular and push them to the school administrators for implementation, using the classroom teachers, especially those granded Christian Religious Studies, moral instructions and peace and conflict resolutions.

**AIMS OF PEACE EDUCATION:** The arms of peace education shall be:

1. To inculcate in children the spirit of peaceful coexistence in the society.
2. To inculcate the spirit of loving one another as on loves himself.
3. To inculcate the spirit of forgiving one another.
4. To inculcate the spirit of cooperation
5. To inculcate the spirit of self control and self discipline
6. To inculcate the spirit of obedience
7. To inculcate the spirit of oneness.
8. To inculcate the spirit of tolerance.

## **II. PEACE EDUCATION CURRICULUM**

The curriculum of peace education shall include;

1. **CONFLICT RESOLUTION:** students should be taught various techniques that could be employed to resolve inter-personal dispute to manage anger, to improve communication etc. teachers should teach students how to alter belief, attitudes and behaviours etc from negative to positive attitudes towards conflict as basis for preventing violence (Van, Stem and Elbedour, 1999).

2. **DEMOCRACY:** Students should be taught that political processes are associated with conflict and that an increase in democratic participation, the likelihood of societies resolving conflict through violence and war decreases. Students should be trained in the skills of critical thinking, debate, freedom of speech, individuality, Tolerance of diversity, compromise and conscientious objection. The aim is to produce citizens who will hold their governments accountable to the standards of peace, primarily through adversarial process
3. **HUMAN RIGHT:** pupils and students should be taught about their various rights and freedoms in the society, and how they are legally protected from violence oppression and indignity. The students should be exposed to international covenants and declarations of the United Nations System. Teach students to recognize vocations of the universal declaration of Human Rights and promote tolerance, Solidarity, autonomy and self affirmation at the individual and collective levels (Brabeck, 2001).
4. **LOVE:** Our Lord and Master, Jesus the Christ gave us only one law in the place of the Ten Commandments given to us by God Almighty through Prophet Moses, and that one law is to love others as you love yourself. Truthfully, there will be no atom or iota of peace anywhere in the world if love for one another is not practiced. Love is the only magic that brings about peace right from family unit to international unit. If we abide by this singular command practically, there will be peace in every sector of our economy and this will bring about progress. Thus, will bring various levels of education should be taught how to love one another and also the implications of not loving one another.
5. **FORGIVENESS:** The problem of man is not far from our inability to forgive one another. Matthew 6:12 in the Holy Bible says “God forgive us our debts (sins) as we forgive our debtors” (those who sin against us). The implication is that if we fail to forgive those who offend us, God will also fail to forgive us our sins. So, it is imperative that Children at schools be taught how to forgive those who offend them. If we love and forgive one another, peace will be found in every home, village, community, state, nation and every organization. Thus, educational economic and political growth and development will be assured.
6. **TOLERANCE:** Tolerance means accepting every one despite one’s inadequacies in life and personal differences. Tolerance brings about peace, love happiness and progress. So, children should be taught how to tolerate everybody without discrimination.
7. **FEAR OF GOD:** fear of God is the beginning of wisdom. One who fears God hardly does evil because he knows that God will definitely punish him. Thus, children of various levels of education should be taught about the Almighty God. They should be taught that God should be feared because He is the only one who can only bless and punish.
8. **OBEDIENCE:** Children at schools should be taught to obey their God; parents; Teacher; elders; rules and regulations of the school and society and commandments of God as disobedience brings about punishment.
9. **CARE:** Students should be taught how to care for one another, how to extend helping hand to one who needs their help. This should be done to whomever is concerned without discrimination.
10. **PATRIOTISM:** Children/ student should be taught how to love their society or country, how to be hard working, how to respect any constituted authority, and how to be good citizens.

The knowledge, understanding and implementation of the above curriculum in Nigerian schools will actually bring about fulfilled peace education, peaceful and progressive Nigerian society.

### **III. PRINCIPLES OF PEACE EDUCATION**

1. There should be a learning environment where both teachers and students teach and learn from each others through dialogue
2. There should be a combination of academic study with practical application, which is theory and practice.
3. Stories should be used to illustrate lessons in many cases for better understanding.
4. There should be promotion or acknowledgement of virtues, values such as love, tolerance, equity, diversity, interdependence, compassion, truthfulness, honesty, kindness, mercifulness, forgiveness etc.

### **IV. PEACE CULTURE AT OUR EDUCATIONAL LEVELS:**

Culture is a habitual way of life of a people or a society. Culture is a behavioural pattern of a people or a society. Culture is a behavioural pattern of a people or a society. Culture is formed, nurtured and sustained, and can be modified with time. Culture is learned, taught and imitated by people. It is possible that one can learn good or bad culture.

School being one of the agents of socialization can make or unmake the entire society through the knowledge it imparts on its recipients. At formative age, whatever the children are taught always remains permanent in their brains and are put into practice. This is supported by the scripture when God Almighty says teach the children the way of God, when they grow, they will not depart from it. Thus, if you teach the children

good virtues at the primary schools, they will definitely grow with such virtues and vice versa. A society that wants to have peace and enjoy peace should as a matter of importance adopt peace culture starting at the primary school level through peace education. It is the peace education that will lead to peace culture, and both will lead to peaceful society

The introduction of peace education and peace culture at various levels of education in Nigeria with adequate provision of the needed resources will go a long way in building of peaceful Nigerian security.

#### **V. RATIONALE FOR PEACE EDUCATION AND PEACE CULTURE IN NIGERIA:**

Below are some of the reasons why we need peace education and peace culture.

1. **THE HOME:** Observations have revealed the existence of broken home or marriages, child, labour, maltreatment of wives by husbands among others due to lack of peace in the family.
2. **THE COMMUNITY:** It has been observed that a lot of communal crisis is being recorded yearly in Nigeria because of no peace among communities in Nigeria.
3. **THE SCHOOL:** At the school level, here exists a lot of crisis among students, among students and teachers, among teachers, among teachers and the school managers, among the government and labour, among schools and community e.t.c
4. **GOVERNMENT VERSUS THE PEOPLE:** The government and the subjects are always in crisis for one thing or the other. At every quarter everybody is complaining against the leadership, pages of news papers are filled with crisis and counter crisis in all part of the country.

Then at this juncture, what is the problem of Nigeria? The problem of Nigeria is lacking peace, and it is a global issue.

#### **VI. CONCLUSION**

The importance of peace education and peace culture in building a peaceful Nigerian society cannot be over emphasized. If peace education is introduced and religiously implemented in our educational systems, it will go a very long way to solve majority of our political economic, social and religious problems. So it is a welcome innovation in our education industry.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Peace is the highest spiritual development of man. Many people and society lack peace, though materially very rich. Peace comes from the Holy Spirit and cannot be brought, thus we need god's support to have peace at personal or collective level.

The introduction of Christian Religious Studies, Islamic Religious Studies and Moral Instruction at our primary school level has not achieved their aims simple because they lacked support from parents, teachers and governments. Currently, there is no more Moral Instruction as a subject in our schools, why? If peace education and peace culture will survive, the following recommendations should be adopted;

1. Adequate number of teachers to teach it should be provided even on contract basis mostly priests of God.
2. The subject should be taught daily
3. Moral instruction should be brought back in out primary schools.
4. Teachers welfare must be taken seriously if we want success in our primary schools.
5. There should be frequent organizations of workshops, seminars and conference for teachers to update their knowledge on this subject.
6. There should be continuity of this programme up to tertiary education level.
7. Right now, nothing is practically happening in our public primary schools because of gross poor funding of schools. Government should then see that public primary schools in Nigeria are adequately funded in terms of adequate provision of both human and – material resources since there is no way you can only singled out peace education and peace culture and fund.
8. Words must be matched with actions. Thus, laws must be implemented.

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