

A Neuro Scientific Perspective on Universal Harmony

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Introduction

The issues of social communal harmony and integration are often concerned with problems related to social-religious-economic exclusion as these aspects are primary in society. Increasing complexities in society due to issues like, racism, language, nationality, religion, economic status etc have posed the human society with threats of disintegration. To trace the cause of this serious concern it would be apt to see development of some complexities retrospectively. Human society has evolved overtime from stone age to post industrial age and has been a witness to many developments, be it material or cultural. As the complexities of society increased, human beings evolved philosophically and, with their developed thinking they tried seeking answers to some eternal and existential questions regarding universe and self. The knowledge of personal mortality, fear of nature, transient nature of life, mysterious source of existence led to many exploring questions where human beings tried establishing relationship amongst all these and sought answers through some collective beliefs. These beliefs took form of a particular system of faith with development of emotions and language. This system involved some ritual observance and contained the moral code for the sect that agreed to follow it. This seems to be the point when religion came in existence in its formal shape. The word comes from the latin word “religare” that means “to bind together”.

Society kept evolving continuously moving through transitional phases of succession and this resulted in emergence of new religions or sub-sects under the same religion because of losing the purpose and clarity in belief system being pursued. Society began facing threats of disintegration resulting from the mutual intolerance of these groups in the society. Gradually the gravity of the problem has increased so much that now the world is striving for social communal integration and harmony with acceptance for diversity of religions as its one of the primary concerns. Religion, assumed to be the expression of spiritual thinking in few and source of same in others and therefore it was often thought that the religious values have something to do with making a person tolerant, accepting, compassionate, and thus help in creating social harmony. But the century is being experienced.