

Engaged Buddhism as a New Ethical Trend in the 21st Century for the Refurbishment of Universally Applicable Good Governance Imbued with Righteous Administrative System

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Introduction

The current society threatened with unrighteous governance, despotism, nepotism, avariciousness, overconsumption, immoral deportment, harmful trading and unethical occupations, poverty, unwholesome economic and educational policies, misuse of science and technology, maladministration of natural resources, etc., is propelled by unwholesome governance. Consequently, this has incurred detriments to all dimensions of life in every stratum in the 21st century, especially in restoring good governance to resolve inter social and religious conflicts and develop social harmony and religious tolerance, altruism, balanced and righteous living in the current society. Engaged Buddhism is a term which came into use in the Buddhist world in the later part of the twentieth century. It emerged as Buddhist practitioners tried to evolve a practice situated within the social and ecological realities of their times. There are precedents for a socially engaged Buddhism throughout Buddhist history. But it also marks an attempt to reframe Buddhist practice in new historical times – where social agency, social change, citizenship and historical consciousness became important characteristics of modern life. According to engaged Buddhism, a righteous society does not necessarily mean that all its members are living by the same means, striving for the same purposes and objectives and reaching the same goals. In Buddhism, a righteous society is one in which equality, democracy and human rights are respected, moral and spiritual advancement is encouraged and people endowed with moral life. It is a society which provides aids to the needy, strengthens the weak, brings harmony among the disharmonious and brings happiness to the suffering. Adoption of the which

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conducive to restore impartial, good governance as well as democracy, peace, harmony, morality, equality, altruism and harmonious living in a multi-religious, multi-ethnic and multi-cultural society both in the national and international scenario. This paper deliberates the utility of engaged Buddhism popular in the world today as one of the significant developments helping to promote new understanding of Buddhist teachings, to produce a righteous, balanced and impartial administrative system that can be applied in any pluralistic society.

Objective

The objective of this paper is to point out Buddhist dispensation as the ideal democracy, very important principles of Buddhist democracy, the democratic leader, equality of Buddhist democratic practice etc. are as new ethical trend in the 21st century for the refurbishment of universally applicable righteous administrative system.

Research Problem

In the current world, there can be seen a vast decline in the administrative system: such as government, legislature, the private sector, the corporate sector, secular and religious communities and non-government organizations. This research discusses good governance as an applicable concept to all section of the society. Therefore, engaged Buddhism is a new trend in the 21st century which can be applied in forming good governance with the purpose of creating a righteous administrative system.

Methodology

This research is conducted by means of the Buddhist Suttās and Sources, Commentaries, Sub-commentaries, annotations, other Buddhist literary sources, Buddhist Encyclopedias, Booklets, Articles, Miscellaneous Journals, Essays on Buddhist studies, Dhamma speeches delivered by eminent Buddhist monks and lay persons, selected authentic sources in the Inter-Net. Here the data analysis theory is descriptive method.

Results

This research will introduce a balanced and systematized administrative system where human beings are equally treated. This research points out the utility of important principles of Buddhist democracy, democratic leader, equality of Buddhist democratic practice, and Buddhist democracy policy etc. in creating a righteous administrative system.

Conclusion

Governance is an art which requires a progressive vision and consistent

efforts to be effective. The goal of good governance should be to cater to the needs and aspirations of the citizens. Good administrative system works towards protecting the citizens' fundamental human rights while endeavoring to build and sustain a society which is progressive- socially, economically, politically and spiritually. In this context, the engaged Buddhism can be used as principles in converting the corrupted social administrative system, which leads to weaken social institutions, into right manner.

Keywords: Engaged Buddhism, Righteousness, Administrative System, Good Governance

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