

SOCIAL ASPECTS OF COVID-19

Mintu Mondal

Assistant Professor, Political Science, Panchthupi Haripada
Gouribala College, University of Kalyani, West Bengal, India

ISSN 2277-7733

Volume 10 Issue 3,

December 2021

Abstract

We have been confined in the situations of the pandemic, Covid-19, and have taken some safety efforts to cope with the turmoil situation. These are lockdown, social, physical distancing, unlock periods, and new normal conditions, etc. Meanwhile, there are two different images of the lockdown period that have been appeared before us. On the one hand, the hand to mouth people, others are falling in the economically disastrous, and the student progression is almost stopping, on the other, the world is falling into the material devastating, no developmental continuance is prevailing, and the supply lines are almost falling apart for gathering. Under these circumstances, social aspects of Covid-19 have been unfolded through the conversations between the Explorer and the Speaker. The conversation is not going through the mere juggling of questions and answers. But it has discussed the different issues of civility and examines a lot as to how it is working, which results are producing, how the different issues are confronting each other, and how to cope with the various problems, so on. The article has been gone through qualitative and quantitative research methods.

Keywords: Covid-19, Pandemic, People's Charter, Self-confidence, Social Capital, Students' Progression.

Covid-19, which means Corona Virus Disease, found in 2019, is one of the greatest threats to mankind. Because, after the Second World War, the history of human civilization does not face this kind of pandemic situation. It was the month of December'19, the pestilence virus attacked the residents of the Wuhan area of China, and seemed to be a little bio-anxiety of the inhabitants and administration in that place. There are some reasons behind this behaviour of the peoples and administration which are leading to the negligent way: a) they saw some epidemic diseases in recent past, but it did not create a panic situation; b) the virulence of the host did not shape as murrain situation, they seem that "we see somewhere the attacks are taking a threat to the people then our medical science cope with the situation and handling easily". But the thinking of mankind cannot make the same ambiance as creates by others resulting in Covid-19 had shaped as the pandemic fence in which, however, the whole humanity has confined and trying to protect yourself. The objective of the article is to be depicted the social aspects of Covid-19 through the conversations between the Explorer and the Speaker.

Social Aspects

"Ratrienedaotumidiboserchokhe

Abaarjagate take notunaaloke" (Geetanjali, Poem-25)

Tenor- Do not sleep but woke and fresh.

Explorer: We are engaged in conversation from the perspective of Covid-19, the pandemic through which the entire human civilization has been facing an

utterly harried situation. Wailing is everywhere. Under these circumstances, my first question as to what is the significance of this conversation, when many hands to mouth subjects and others have in a doomed situation.

Speaker: I do not judge as to whether the merit of the question is just or not. But to me, the term “Subject” as a people (read as subservient) is not suitable for revealing the issue because we do not believe in subjugation, subordination. A self-confident man/woman does not wait for external help to do work for the betterment of mankind, because one who leads courageously by self-confidence and a fearless person can do anything.

Let us see, as for what is the significance of this conversation: to me, it has two significances: a) the first sign is to explore and examine some aspects of the pandemic; b) and the second, in a bigger periphery we have to see the future of our blue planet and think how to restore the peace and security? For these very causes, the conversation between the Explorer and the Speaker has been arranged, through which it will reveal the same.

Explorer: Endurance Mr. Speaker, endurance, because without fortitude, our conversation will not materialize. It does not fulfil the purposes rather falls into the bewildering condition. To me, many a great number of hands to mouth subjects or people are in great pain, the workers are walking mile after mile because there are no communications, and the students are frustrated because their future seems insecure. Under these circumstances, where is social capital?

Speaker: I don't have a lack of endurance, but at the same time, when one who raises defame comments on the common man as subjects, then my words will revolt. Now, let see the issue of social capital and as regards where it is in the turmoil situation. The question is short, but the answer will not be a little one. Let perceives, what is social capital? The term social capital will have to calculate as social trust. Social trust can observe when all segments of the particular society do help each other. It seems that social capital has lost its basic characters, consequently the social lacuna widens. When the social lacuna widens then the fight against the pandemic anticipates weak.

Explorer: Why are you observing that social capital has lost basic characters, where the material continuances and scientific innovations are paved to great achievements?

Speaker: Thanks a lot for reminding me, about the scientific innovations that are accomplishing us and gathering is rising for the material needs. But I am feeling a little surprised to know that you have little worry about the lack of social capital.

Explorer: Because we assume the material amenities fill all the social lacuna. Physical comforts compensate for all the sorrow. And scientific innovations dispose of all the inconveniences. Though, we have eager to hear why social capital has lost her characters?

Speaker: I have mentioned above that social capital broadly considers as social trust. It has many a facet. We observe the trust between the people in society

falls in a very deplorable condition. One who does not trust others, a nation does not believe another, everywhere, social trust is lacking. Despite all these things, the lack of social trust is not a contemporary matter. It has a very long history. We will have to trace back to the hunting and gathering period. Once upon a time, when the civility was raising, when the gathering was starting instead of hunting when the material continuance was paving to greatest victory to the modern civilization, then the lack of social trust was ascending. And, consequently, when social trust lack, then social capital deficits. These are the primary causes of lacking social capital.

Explorer: You have little appreciation for the material continuance and gatherings. Conjointly, it makes material capital, material capital gives pleasure to mankind. Without material capital, a human being loses self-confidence, and human civilization loses its pace of developmental activities. As for how can you think so?

Speaker: Wait, wait for my fellow. You have the great magnitude to the material continuance and physical developments. Very good. But have you ever thought that as for which cost, we are paying for these happenings, where social trust is lacking, poverty is adverting, and nature is destructing? A pestilence disease is threatening us, a pandemic is confining a certain periphery, and the entire civilization is facing the extinct position. We do not know who will live and who will die. Despite all these things, after a while, no doubt, we will victory over the pandemic, but when the natural disasters will occur, then which developmental activities and happenings will save us? As regards when natural disasters will occur, it is not our primary concern. But lack of social trust is a concerning issue. Because it is one of the instruments through which social capital will strengthen, a strong social capital easily copes with any other damnation and leads to prosperity with sustainability.

Explorer: Your words are very inspiring and your utterances are very well. But we are arguing through conversation the material continuance, physical happenings, and social trust have confronted each other. So, despite this fact, what is your suggestion to cope with these confronting events?

Speaker: It is assuming that the material continuance, physical happenings, and social trust are confronting each other in many a time but practically, there is no room for confronting each other. When social trust will reach the apex point of social bonding, then the material continuance and physical happenings will fully evolve. Consequently, social trust is the instrument that makes the social good, mankind liberates, and people enjoy civility.

But I do not consider the gatherings under the personal capacity is a good thing because it lacks social trust. The gathering is the result of the exploitation of the hard-working classes by the proprietors. It creates physical leisure, physical leisure makes physical pleasure, physical pleasure wants to do bad things like exploitation, and exploitation destroys humanity. So, gatherings under personal custody are the bane to civility. The gatherings make a man/woman jealous,

envious, brutal, and hateful. These qualities of an individual will destroy all the good things and maintains the highest degree of solitary.

Explorer: Well said Mr. Speaker. Religiously, it is the commending statement that social trust is an instrument through which we can meet and dispose of all the obstacles from our society. But in the general sense, I consider that at the lockdown period, social distancing is one of the primary means to resist the infectious disease, Covid-19. So, under the circumstances how are you observing the social distancing when you are favouring social coherence?

Speaker: You have grasped my points, thanks. Now, let us come to your explorations. I am not a doctor or medical expert. The medical experts have suggested Covid-19 is a virus laden infectious disease, and social distancing is one of the means to cope with the pandemic. So, social distancing is inevitable, and in that matter, I support the suggestion of the medical experts and administrative activities.

The lockdown and social distancing bear a different meaning to me. It has allowed talking yourself, when one who talking yourself then many cogitations occur, thinking and cognition leads an individual to pursue an alternative to life, and an alternative tends to make the solution of a problem. As regards when an individual thinks many an alternative, then self-confidence emerges with the new exertion.

Explorer: Covid-19, historically, has brought an opportunity to think about the communicable diseases as to how to cope with the difficult situation as attacks by the pandemic. It has two connotations: a) Covid-19, the infectious disease that attacks the blue planet resulting from the entire humanity confines in a fenceless and helpless condition; b) History tends to repeat itself. Therefore, to avoid the pandemic in the future, we should draw a plan chalked out to compete against a hard time. What do you recommend?

Speaker: Your explorations are excellent, my friend. No doubt, communicable disease destitution us, but I do not think that we have been confined in a helpless situation. An infectious disease is spreading rapidly, as the form of a pandemic, so we have to do anything to resist attacks. For doing this job, we, the people of the nation, think positively, be confident, and follow the instructions taken by experts, and administration.

One great thinker stated that history repeats itself. To me, the statement considers the event of mankind to repeat and it allows making up the roughness of the human errors. It is as long as valuable until we do not take initiative for the betterment of humanity. Do we follow the lesson of history? We firmly know that it is not. How far the lesson of history helps us? If all of you want to get lessons from history, it gives. So, do not follow the deceptive means, but fight firmly with great efforts. Despite this fact, we should compose a **People's Charter** for a better future for humanity.

Explorer: We should compose a People's Charter for our better future. It is considered a great suggestion Mr. Speaker. Well said. A century years ago Plague

the epidemic attacked the south Asian countries and many a generation was destroyed. Sister Nivedita, the great disciple of Swamiji and her fellows had taken a great initiative in fighting against the epidemic. On that occasion, Swamiji wrote a Plague Manifesto for the betterment of humanity.

Speaker: Swamiji was one of the greatest thinkers and activists ever produced by human civilization. He and his fellowmen had a direct experience to fight against the epidemic. He firmly knows that as regards how to overcome the crisis. Consequently, the importance of the Epidemic Manifesto is invaluable, and we should take a lesson from the Manifesto so that we draw a plan to chalk out for our defence.

Explorer: Think in yourself, and talk to the soul is the right way through which one can develop our thinking power at the pandemic. And, a positive thought leads to life prosper. Side by side, we think as to which should be our primary objectives to lead our life in a positive direction. In that matter, you have prescribed the **People's Charter**. We assume it is an instrument by which we can dispose of difficulties from our society and set ways to live well. I agree with you, so, what will be the design of it?

Speaker: You got my point. Religiously, it is one of the lifetime opportunities to think in yourself, talk to yourself, and engage in dialogue with the soul. The thinking process will tend to lead to certain introspection and opens the window of cognition. For example, it indicates what would be our goal to achieve, where we want to go, whether we want life or death, etc. Under the circumstances, we will have to frame a **People's Charter** to cope with the perilous situation for humanity and the better future of the blue planet. We, the residents of the blue planet, do ruins nature day in and day out in the name of gathering, which is the primary enemy of social trust. When the lack of social trust occurs, then social capital will reduce. And reducing social capital will spoil all endeavours because social capital is the instrument by which civilization has developed.

So, we the people of the blue planet will be framed a **People's Charter**, which would be composed by, a) we the people would use the natural resources as long as it fulfils our primary needs; b) the social capital would be our primary source to evolvement; c) we would challenge to the mechanism of material gatherings; d) we would maintain a balance between instinct and deterrence to lead our lives; e) we would follow the confidence-building measures for livelihood; f) we would live in the present time and work hard religiously because the future is the result of the present; g) be honest, be positive, and be joyful. To me, we should follow the **People's Charter** for the public good. Because when the public welfare will able to keep the pace of affluence, then humanity will prosper.

Aspects of Peace and Security

"This life is short, the vanities of the world are transient, but they alone live who live for others, the rest are more dead than alive."

(Swami Vivekananda)

Tenor: Motion is life, rest is death, and goodwill is the key to Peace.

Explorer: We should morally and ethically strong for securing peace and prosperity. We invoke the words of *Mabatma Bhisbma*, who taught *Yudhisbhirra* at *Shanti Parva* in the *Mahabharata*, “Nobody is nobody's friend, nobody is nobody's well-wisher, and persons become friends or enemies only from motives of interest.”⁴ The statement reveals that we are the slave of self-interest not else, rather goodwill should our motto. Without the moral base, one who does not achieve goodwill because morality teaches us if we lead our life for fulfilling self-interest then it will pandemonium. What do you say, Mr. Speaker?

Speaker: Thanks to Covid-19 for self-realization and beyond. It is no doubt the present civilization has a little moral basis for livelihood. Why are we saying all these things? Because, when the great numbers of the world population sleep without food, live without education, dies without treatment then, it will not difficult to assume that we little believe in morality. So, we will get goodwill without the moral support of livelihood. No, it is not possible. After a while, when the pandemic will motionless, then we should think about the alternative on the same. To me, morality makes our behaviour strong, strong behaviour brands a good personality, a good personality composed of dedication, induction, and installation, displays establishment, and establishment leads to goodwill. Goodwill makes mankind, grace, and compassion. Goodwill makes the condition for peace and security.

Explorer: It is important that the discussion of the material properties and gatherings establishing peace and security. Because it is the result of human endeavors for which many a war had faced by the human civilization.

The material properties and gatherings have different connotations. Many a commentator thinks that the only solution to restoring peace and security is physical properties and material gatherings. On the contrary, many thinkers observe that the material properties and physical gatherings are nothing but those things are responsible for unsecured society and tottering peace. Please put your point of view about these matters, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: You have observed two types of arguments at that point: one argument is related to those who think that physical properties and material gatherings are inevitable for establishing peace and security. Other views reveal the opposite. Here, we do not play as an arbiter that as for which point of view is admissible or which argument is untenable. Because, to me, the words have a different meaning as regards which has gone far beyond the arguments.

No doubt, we should discuss the material assets and gatherings for establishing peace and security. But I have different arguments to these very terms. It is the “approach” to introduce the physical properties and material gatherings in the world. I will put an example here, the scientific innovations use for mankind for prosperity, or it uses for destruction. The two types of use of scientific innovations are prevailing. Here, the term 'approach' is a very important word by which we will introduce to the scientific innovations for or against mankind.

So, we have to think that it would like to take the form either of boon or bane. Many a great teacher taught us, we have four primary goals to be achieved, which are Virtue, Success, Pleasure, and Liberation. The said goal would be achieved when we will change our approach to the introduction of the physical properties and gathering for mankind. If the result reveals the opposite, then the entire human civilization will spoil, and no scientific continuance will save us.

Explorer: It is important to restore peace and security for a business. Because the business makes material continuance, material continuance gives prosperity, prosperity brings peace and security by which a society leads to goodwill. The worldwide business ceased to exist in the pandemic, maximum material continuance is stopped, no prosperity is happening. Resulting in the way of peace and security are deemed to be endangered. It is a massive attack on the future of civility. We do not know as to what will be the answer to the next generation in terms of lacking business, indifferent prosperity, and uncertain peace and security. What do you think about these matters?

Speaker: Mr. Explorer pay thanks to Covid-19 for thinking of some aspects of our present condition. The pandemic ceased to exist everything resulting in our life is in a home arrest but our thinking is not confined by any boundary. Your observation is of the present situation fabulous from which you concern that as to what will be the proper answer to the next generation in terms of lacking business, and else.

To me, the future is the result of the present activities. So that the answer to the questions of the future lies in the present endeavors. The immediate outcome of the pandemic is the lacking business and beyond. But how do you forget the exploitation of the weaker sections by the masters? Thanks again to Covid-19, because the pandemic has tended to think ourselves to the impact of pandemonium on the material world. Covid-19 stops business and it is obvious that where business stop everything stops when everything stops then how to restore peace and security? We would like to pursue an alternative way of continuing business. We should review our behavioural patterns of livelihood at a time of Covid-19.

Explorer: We assume perhaps, the student progressions are ceased to exist at the pandemic. The physical and mental progression of the students both equally stops in a hard time. The mental progression is very important to the pupils because strong mental health disposes of all the evil power and easily copes with a hard situation. When the mental ability lacks, then it spoils everything. Physical endeavors depend on mental ability. So that the mental ability and self-confidence are most significant to the students' involvement. There are online educational initiatives that have been yielded the least positive results. Under these circumstances how the students will overcome a hard time, Mr. Speaker?

Speaker: Well said, Mr. Explorer. Covid-19 students' progression is spoiling a lot. The mental ability of the students depends on self-confidence. When self-confidence lack, then frustration occurs. It is disappointing to a nation when her

pupils are frustrating. Now we have to think that as regards how the students get back the self-confidence and, in this case, I have an argument.

Under these circumstances, we would like to see how they get back self-beliefs by which the pupil can lead to the progression. At home arrest, they should try to creative works and go through the innovations. Besides teaching and learning, they should try to teach each other through a cluster of student groups. The teachers should inspire them to make the lesson with their intellectual capacity. Making very good project work could be another example of innovative activities of the students by which they can feel mental pleasure and get back self-confidence. A great number of students are beyond online facilities, but they can go through the above said innovative activities. After a while, when the pandemic is over, then the students should go to the countryside, and apply, those innovative activities they have done at a hard time. A nation's prosperity depends upon the pupil's progression; restoring peace and security possible when students' will self-confident.

Concluding Words

We have tried to explore the manifold issues about the social matters during Covid-19, the pandemic, the destructive attacker. The pandemic confines us in a bigger periphery, a hard time exploits us, and no one can ignore the situation. We are observing how a pandemic is spoiling human civilization.

Many a group in our society has fallen in frustration. Many a nation blames each other on various issues at the pandemic. When our very duty to fight against the pandemic, then our motive of the fighting against the perilous condition has been changed the direction. We should have to fight against the pandemic conjointly instead of blame each other. It is observing that many a group is losing goodwill. At the same time, we are watching positive activities during a really hard time. The medical experts, medical staff, police, and others, who have tried to compete with the perilous condition. The deep impact of the pandemic is tending to think of different issues. It has made a manifold lesson to human civilization. We should have to learn from the destructive attacks and their lessons. So that if we do not follow the good practice for the public good, then we will pay for greater than the present.

The primary objective of the conversation between the Explorer and the Speaker was to express some important spectacle of the pandemic Covid-19. But it was not confined only to the primary objective but trying to discuss the means of exertion through which our blue planet will have to good for all beings.

There are many a thing that has been revealed, and many an issue has been raised during the conversation. These are: as to how the people cope with the pandemic, how social capital is lacking, why men/women are falling into the realm of frustration and dissatisfaction, why social trust is lacking and illusory, why an individual follows the negative art of living, how the gathering and material continuance harm the nature, so on.

Out of these facts, two important issues have to be paid greater importance for the public good. These are a) to believe in social trust and, b) keep sustain of nature, because the first one is most significant for public well and others are involving in future good. Here, however, a People's Charter has been framed for addressing these issues, and it has expressed a little bit of exertion of our intellectual capacity. If the entire efforts have fruitful for the good of entire humanity, then it will succeed.

References

- Swami Vivekananda on “the Plague Manifesto” in Vivekananda. Swami. (2006). *Complete-Works, Volume-9, Writings: Prose and Poems. Prabudha Bharata Vol 111. Kolkata*
- <https://www.dictionary.com/e/epidemic-vs-pandemic> accessed at 11:56 on 14.04.2020.
- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pandemic> accessed at accessed 10:56 on 15.04.2020.
- Dutta. Manmatha Nath. (Translated in 1903). Shanti Parva Archived in The Mahabharata, Chapter 138, page 202. Way back Machine.