

EDITORIAL NOTE

‘IN SEARCH FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE’– VOLUME 6, 2022

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The 2022 volume encompasses a range of social perspectives, enlightening the reader with scholarship related to conflict, social inequity, education, gender and racial diversity, justice, and fairness, amongst others. Contemporarily, the quest for justice and peace emanates in the backdrop of the wars that have engulfed humanity; from the war in Ukraine to the loss of innocent civilians in the Israel-Gaza conflict. The loss of civilian lives in these wars as well as the fleeing of innocent people from their homelands in different parts of the world are causing angst and sorrow, caused by war-related morbidity and mortality. It is well-known and documented that women and children are disproportionately impacted during and after a war. In these wars too, the largest number of casualties have been women and children; among the survivors, there will be widows and orphans, who will yet again continue to suffer even if the war is over. The quest for justice and peace remains elusive for the most vulnerable and marginalised.

During peacetime as well, young girls and women face societal and cultural discrimination in all walks of life. Gender inequity exists within the very core of organisations in all societies. Phenomena such as the Glass-ceiling, Glass-escalator, and Glass-cliff are evidence of the unfair bias towards the professional developmental trajectories of working women. These biases and stereotypes are further exacerbated by interpersonal conflicts and strains suffered by women owing to their family responsibilities and duties. Hence, the suffering of women is underpinned by a plethora of social vicissitudes perpetrated through societal norms and expectations.

The volume also brings in research papers on education. On the positive side, the gender gap in higher education in India is closing and more young girls are opting for higher studies including STEM subjects. Hence, on an optimistic note, it is expected that gender biases in the workplace will be reduced over time, and women find their rightful place in all spaces. For this, it is inevitable that a revolution in gender social norms takes place where men assume equal responsibility for care work. To that vision, this volume is dedicated.