

# Adivasi Sahitya Academy

Regd. A/260/Narmada ( India)

At: Mohpada, Ta. Sagbara, Dist. Narmda (Gujarat- INDIA)

Date:- / /2019

To,

**The UN High Commissioner of Human Rights** Office of  
the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights  
(OHCHR) Palais Wilson 52 rue des Pâquis CH-1201  
Geneva, Switzerland.

**Honorable Chairman Madam, My indigenous brothers and sisters who have joined in the mission to save the mother earth & indigenous people .**

In 1992 Earth Summit was held at Rio-de-Janeiro in Brazil where in political, religious and social leaders and experts from different schools and nations had participated in this thought process to save mother earth. During this Summit around 400 Indigenous representatives from 68 countries had thoroughly discussed for 3 days and expressed their feelings & views regarding...

## **1. Uniqueness of indigenous culture**

- (a) To respect all human being and nature with equality and creation of nature.
- (b) Sustainable community based economy model, sustainable development with inclusive positive and constructive approach, community based mechanism, traditional appropriate technology.
- (c) Role of respecting biodiversity and human values.
- (d) Indigenous knowledge (Technical, Agricultural, Medical plants, art, handicrafts and historic experiences).
- (e) Indigenous lifestyle & values like: simplicity, openness, love, tolerance, non-violence, cooperation, freedom, equality & harmony.

## **2. Current Status of Indigenous Communities:**

- (a) Violation of provisions of fifth and sixth schedule areas in constitution of India.
- (b) Risk of losing cultural identity. Lack of integrating indigenous cultural values in current

development/education model which vanishing creativities and talents.

- (d) Dispossession and displacement of indigenous communities from their land, forest and territories.
- (e) Disruption of their socio-political-economical institutions.

### **3. Future Challenges for Indigenous community:**

- (a) Cultural Identity
- (b) Modern economic dependency, class & community based discriminations, structural violence.
- (c) Violation of human rights.
- (d) Corporate and State repression.
- (e) Health and mal nutrition.

### **4. Road Map of Preserving Plants/Nature/Animal/Human/planet:**

- (a) Strengthening educational system.
- (b) Respecting cultural identity and indigenous empowerment.
- (c) Respecting Nature.
- (d) Accepting sustainable development models with respecting biodiversity and human values.
- (e) Strengthening coordination between different indigenous movements, institutions and communities and evolving common agenda and roof.

Indigenous perspective and relationship with the environment, the roots of our perspective are lies in the symbiotic relationship to the earth, based upon a delicate balance between its living parts. We are only care takers of our mother earth. And therefore, that each generation is responsible to ensure the survival for the seventh generation. This basic law was the driving force behind the development of our culture and values which reflects in our socio- political and economic institutions. In our clan system decision making process is based on consensus and division of labor based upon needs, ability to contribute and share the social cohesion as well as respect for life. Respect for people and for the earth is linked together in order for people to survive and care for future generation. We have also stated the contrast between indigenous perspective and dominant perspective that is sacred Vs secular relationship to the earth, collective interest and responsibility Vs individual interest and responsibility and way we consider the life of the planet as a gift of creator or resources to be used, the reason of our existence as it relates to sustainability. Utilizing the organic matter of the earth viewed as a sacred circle of the life for a linier growth for human satisfaction. Our traditional economies have been disrupted constantly by development schemes and introduction of cash crops production for exchange. This has led to dispossess and marginalized us from our land base and created dependency.

## Conclusions:

To protect and conserve the natural resources and indigenous interests we feel that...

- • Indigenous leaders, activists concerned intellectuals and citizen's groups must get together to present alternative development model which would placed indigenous world view comprising of the celebration of life and nature, collectivity and cooperation in the center. The collective effort is needed to question the **public interest** which is the motive force behind all industrialization and infrastructure development projects under the banner of liberalization and globalization.
- • In terms of economic strategy should be based upon the principle of convergence of local resources to meet the local need rather than for outside regional, national or global markets.
- • Several charters, conventions and declarations by United Nations bodies can be used to generate awareness about the conditions and rights of indigenous communities.

In this convention we would like to share the experiences and ground realities in different parts of the country. During five days discussions, we hope that consensus will emerge for.

- 1) Common minimum program for protecting & regenerating natural resources.
- 2) Protection of Indigenous culture & heritage
- 3) reduce the miseries and repression of common man including Indigenous s.
- 4) And programs for sustainable development and joint actions.
- 5) SDG of UN 2030 has to be achieve, indigenous people should not be marginalized in this development process.

We would like to thank again the expert mechanism on human right of indigenous people .

Thank you,

### Submitted by:

**Amarsinh Z. Chaudhari**  
**Dr. Suresh B. Chaudhari**  
**Dr. Shantikar B. Vasava**  
**Lalsing C. Gamit**  
**Kalpesh I. Dhodiya**  
**Viral S. Konkani**  
**Inesh S. Vasava**