GANDHI ON ALTERNATIVE DISPUTES RESOLUTION

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Foreword

The study of conflict, conflict resolution and alternative dispute resolution is an important area of study for social scientist. It gives me an immense pleasure to write foreword to Shri Ramakanta Satapathy's book "Gandhi on Alternative Disputes Resolution". We have a rich heritage of methods of conflict resolution delivery system and of justice in ancient India. Ancient justice systems need to be seen in context of time and space. At every level we had Dharma a strict code of conduct. King Ashoka, Harshavardhan and Akbar were known for their justice.

The present work concentrates on the nature, genesis and typology of alternative disputes resolution from Gandhian perspectives. All methods of alternative dispute resolution in Gandhian perspective can be subsumed under the broad method of satyagraha which remains an overriding technique in the perspective of conflict resolution. It transcends the boundary of physical force and violence and adopts a completely novel method of persuasion through moral force and inner strength of human being.

From Gandhian perspective, the best way to find a

solution to conflicts is to be attempted through sacrifice and cooperation. Gandhi rightly said that "three-fourth of the miseries and misunderstanding in the world will disappear, if we step into the shoes of our adversaries and understand their standpoint. We will then agree with our adversaries quickly or think of them charitably."

Shri Ramakanta Satapathy deserves commendation for presenting this book Gandhi on Alternative Disputes Resolution, which spells out a blue print for rulers and the governed, in order to achieve the justice on time.

I hope that this work will be of great help in understanding our own indigenous system of disputes resolution and placing in correct perspective their relevance in contemporary context.

New Delhi 15th November, 2016

Anil Dutta Mishra

PREFACE

"My experience has shown me that we win justice quickly by rendering justice to the other party." These very words of Mahatma Gandhi gives a foundation to a different system of justice. "Morality" is the basic human value on which existence and progress of individuals and society rests. Ethics and honesty is no longer pivotal in public life. Everybody in the society is passing through crises being a prey of the system, poverty and corruption. Liberalisation, privatization and globalization have brought a fundamental change in every sphere of life and people are searching for alternatives. The system of justice is also overburden. Gandhi thought of a society where poorest and weakest man can control his own life and destiny along with future of the nation.

In this book an attempt has been made to describe the alternatives dispute resolution system to the justice delivery system propounded by Gandhi, which is the need of the society for a healthy socio-economic-political order.

Z Ramakanta Satapathy

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 \mathbb{Z} Ramakanta Satapathy

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