

Pedagogy and Social Practice

A Lecture delivered to the XI National Work Conference, Maulana Azad Urdu University, Hyderabad, India

y

BRIJ MOHAN

November 2-3, 2023

In memoriam:

Professor S. Zafar Hasan

A mentor, friend ,and Philosopher



PEDAGOGY & SOCIAL PRACTICE

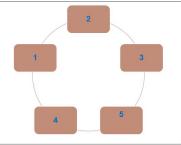
• Pedagogy is the art of imparting transformative awareness, which builds cognitive—affective values, skills, and knowledge that help achieve a civility society. Social Work's march toward an egalitarian future is confounded by barriers and challenges that call for a radical approach to rebuild faltering social institutions. Education for change is embedded in our constitutional obligations. India's pluralist culture, democratic governance, and civil obligations underscore the salience of humanities and social sciences, which promote social practice as a vehicle of national and universal transformation.

The Concept of Social Practice

- THE IDEA OF SOCIAL PRACTICE EMANATES FROM THREE PREMISES:
- 1) THE DISAAPERANCE OF "WORK" FROM A DIGITALLY DECONSTRUCTED WORLD WHICH DEVALUES HUMAN CREATIVITY AND INVENTS ROBOTIC HUBRIS;
- 2) REDEFINES THE NEXUS OF "SOCIAL" AND "POLITICAL" REALITIES, AND
- 3) REINFORCES THE POWER OF INDIVIDUAL, COMMUNITARIAN, AND INSTITUTIONAL-ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES OF EPISTEMIC, BEHAVIORAL, AND CULTURAL TRANSFORMATIONS WITHOUT CULTISH DOGMAS OF WESTERN MODALITIES OF CHANGE.
- · Cf. The Future of Social Work: Seven Pillars of Social Practice (Sage Publications, 2018)

Presuppositions: Roots of Reason

- THE ENLIGHTENMENT
 - 1. RISING FROM THE SHADOWS OF MEDIEVAL DARKNESS IN THOUGHTS AND BELIEFS
 - 2. END OF THE "FLAT-EARTHERS"
 - 3. BIRTH OF SCIENCE (AND REASON)
 - 4. DISCIPLINES AND PROFESSIONAL AWAKENING
 - 5. POST-ENLIGHTENMENT PARADOX:
 - · BLESSING OR CURSE?
 - · WHY BLAME "THE ENLIGHTENMENT"



A Golden Paradox: The Enlightenment at the Crossroads

- RATIONALISM:
 - Foundational (Aristotelian) Basis
 - The Eclipse of Darkness
 - · The Birth of Science
 - Rise of Reason and FACTS

- EGALITARIANISM:
- Anti-Foundational (Modernism)
- · Emphasis on Progress
- Pragmatic-Liberal Movement
- Judeo-Christian VALUES
- BIRTH OF DISCIPLINES & PROFESSIONS

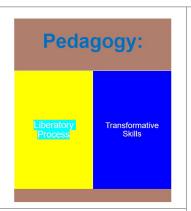
SOCIAL WORK: Emergence as a Profession

- THE WESTERN MODEL
 - The American Initiative
 - Across Europe & Asia
 - INDIA (TISS, Lucknow University, Delhi University, Kashi Vidyapith, etc.)
 - · Psycho-Social (Medical) Intervention
 - Empirical, Evidence, "Strength," "Capacity-based" Approaches
 - · CLINETIZATION!

- THE NONWESTERN PRACTICES:
- There was Social Welfare before "Social Work"
 - Indigenization
 - · "Indianization"
- UNIVERSALIZATION

NOTES FOR THE FUTURE:

- 1. "Conscientization" (Paulo Freire)
- 2. Education for PROGRESS (Peace, Prosperity, and Tolerance)
- 3. Humility against Hubris
- 4. Challenges



Pathways to "Legitimacy":

Barriers to Surmount:

- 1. Death of EMPATHY
- 2. Banality of TERROR & FEAR
- 3. Diminishing SOCIAL CONTARCT
- 4. Faltering SOCIAL CONTRACT
- 5. INNER TRAPPINGS:
 - TRIBALISM
 - SELF-DOUBT: COURAGE TO SWIM AGAINST THE STREAM
 - · LACK OF "WILL"

Challenges

- 1. RECLAIMING CIVILIYTY
- 2. "CONSCIENTIAZATION" (Paulo Freire)
- 3. NEW INEQUALITY
- . 4. SUPER-INTELLIGENCE (AI)
- 5. BECOMING EFFECTIVE, MEANIFULL, AND RELEVANT
- In sum, A passive aggressive attitude about peaceful development is both imprudent and inane. What new social development (NSD) needs is a planetar wischom—wission of a "bioglobal" universe—beyond the nibilism of modern tribalism (Mohan, 2024, forthcoming).

RESTORING INDIAN PEDAGOGY

THE TRIUNE OF FULFILLMENT



UNIFICATION OF SOCIAL WORK



A presentation in honor of Dr. & Mrs. Zafar Hasan

(Dedicated to the future of our children)

GIA my Granddaughter in California, USA



Brij Mohan & Prem with Nuzhat & Zafar Hasan in Lexington , KY

