

CHANGE AND CHANGE AGENTS

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ABSTRACT

The first part of the paper traces the evolution of approach of human society towards 'change' : how a static world view has now become nearly an obsession with 'Change'. A major reason for this is related to the very evolution of brain and consciousness human being. A brief sketch of evolutionary epistemology, findings of modern neurosciences, socio biology and the contemporary issues, are given. Linkages with arts, literature and poetry are also addressed as well as cultural diversities. Five important issues are listed. Now the bulk of the changes are in the hand of 'the change agent' who is the product of long chain of changes.

To understand the impact of the 'change agent', the issues of human population are discussed. Present and emerging dilemmas are pointed out. Then the issues of globalization and local impacts are discussed. For understanding some details of major human issues involved, India now and 2020 is discussed. A brief statement of issues of World 2020 is given.

Then the paper discusses the human induced changes. And also how to approach the issue of human induced changes, as it is a complex system. Also discussed the limits of human capability, the unknowns and uncertainties of Earth, surrounding Space etc. There is no attempt to give prescriptive solutions. One big issue that emerges is the need to 'train' the 'change agent'. Rational, analytical and logical extrapolations may not point out easy paths or even a bright picture.

Amid this, the paper attempts to arrive at a hopeful end.

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To be presented at

**World Academy of Art and Science : General Assembly 2008
17-20 October 2008, Hyderabad**