

## Editorial

There is no difficulty to accept the claim that our civil society has entered a period in human evolution which is considered by the increase in the rate of velocity of our history associated with uncertainty in its route. The present situation has the opportunity to expand further as well as it is creating a deeper crisis and contradictions along with severe uncertainties and risks for the human being. It is very much true that globalization has eliminated several physical and psychological barriers among people and countries by transferring power which has contributed the empowerment of civil society and decentralization of power. All these have created better economic environment but at the same time it has also created estrangement and absorption of capital in the hands of a limited individuals. The imbalances in distribution of wealth is now a real threat to the civil society against the foundation of better environment and improvement in the standard of living of the common people which is tantamount for sustainable economic development. Spectacular improvement has taken place in various fields of human welfare in the last half-century and remarkable progress has been done in the area of life expectancy, reduction in infant mortality, improvement in literacy and altogether has created a sharp decline in the incidence of poverty in various countries. At the same time it is fact that the high economic growth rates that initiated these favourable trends have in parallel led the globe to accumulate against binding environmental constraints and often resulted in social alienation and widening inequality. The current trajectory cannot continue without a collapse in one form or another and the past is not a good guide to the future. The present period seems to be increasingly pigeonholed by fear of the future with growing diffidence, social disintegration and polarization, and a lack of hope, even among the young who often face a more uncertain future than that of their parents. The economic system favours profits for the rich over employment for the masses, with many in the middle seeing decades without enhancement, if not falling backward, and a majority of the world population still confrontational to meet basic needs. Poverty, exclusion and neglect present fundamental social challenges, with no easy solutions in sight. The world economy is running on increasing debt, threatening a return to the financial chaos of a decade earlier, but with governments' room for manoeuvre significantly reduced. The forces of disintegration are reflected in growing evidence of the failing institutions of governance, with often discredited leadership, widespread corruption, loss of public buoyancy, and the recent rise of populist, reactionary and autocratic movements rejecting multilateralism and diversity. Contributing to all this is a generalized loss of moral responsibility, higher ethics or values, even spirituality, able to fill the vacuum of any higher human purpose in a grasping society.

Editor-in-Chief



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