



Conflict: A hindrance to progress

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Abstract

Conflict is a very common phenomenon in our day-to-day life. It is sprawling around our activities. There are various kinds of conflict, like personal, social, national, international, religious, and even political. Though it is inevitable, it can be addressed and minimized with a justified approach. Due to our negligence and carelessness, it can be disastrous like fire. The history of human civilization depicts this fact. The two great wars, the Gulf War, the Syrian War, the Korean War, and hundreds of wars are clear examples of the consequence of the conflict. The best thing is to be aware of the cause and effect of the conflict and minimize it. This research is the right step to school the people and make them aware that conflict should not hinder our peace and progress. To make peace and progress attainable and sustainable, we, human beings, are responsible. Through this effort, the people will get some tools to exercise patience and tolerance to uplift humanity and discard cruelty.

Keywords: conflict, hindrance, various issues, problems, Bangladesh

Introduction

Conflict is synonymous with chaos, confusion, or clash. It prevails in all stages of our life. It may range from personal, social, and national to the international arena. The present world is facing various types of conflicts and experiencing the ultimate result, which is gloomy. Still, we are fostering, hatching, and expediting conflict knowingly and unknowingly ^[1]. Since it is a very urgent issue. I want to discuss it for my readers, and as a result, people may address it positively to bring about progress in our personal, social, national, and international life. The age of this earth is far beyond our calculation. We, therefore, know very little about the consequences of conflict. Still, whatever we know from history is enough for schooling ourselves. However, it seems like, who cares? We are creating conflicts necessarily or unnecessarily. There are some cases where conflict can be avoided easily by simply saying sorry, but we do not want to go down by saying so ^[2]. We think we will go down if we say sorry to anybody. Another way to avoid conflict is to accept others' success in a positive manner. There are several causes of conflict: misunderstanding, ego-centric issues, religious issues, personal gain or loss, political interest, business, and commerce issues, gaining superiority, etc. Let us discuss these issues in detail.

Statement of the problem

We have been finding conflict everywhere, and it is causing hindrance to our developing activities at all levels of our life. We face problems in achieving our objectives and fail to make our achieved objectives sustainable and durable due to conflict. We need to know the reason for conflict, the type of conflict, and how it spreads. As a result, it is essential to identify the sources of the dispute and find a way to bring the situation to a stop so that we can go ahead.

To serve that purpose, we need to read the literature, observe the events, question the people, and discuss with the co-workers as we all want to make our life peaceful and meaningful. Therefore, this topic is very relevant to ascertain our desired development. All types of conflict need to be addressed in time.

Objective of the research

This research will:

1. Give ideas about the conflict, its different dimension and its nature;
2. The short- and long-term consequences of unresolved conflict;
3. The causes of the impediment to our peace and development, as well as how to overcome them.

Scope of the research

This research result can be utilized in our personal, social, political, religious, and global aspects, and it can be a good guideline for the heads of family, business, or any other organization. The statesman can use it to avoid conflict for the smooth progress of the state. Educational institutions can save their valuable efforts for progress. In order to establish peace, conflict studies should be used as an essential tool.

Methodology of this research

The questionnaire method was used to find the fact from the actors; Data collection was done to justify the fact behind the conflict, and some knowledge was gathered through the study of history and literature. Personal experience was used in verifying the fact behind the conflict. FGD and Personal Specialist Interviews have been held.

Review and General Discussion on Conflict Misunderstanding

When some ideas or beliefs are interpreted for any reason, misunderstanding may occur. It may be for a minor issue or a big one. When the people do not want to justify the validity of the matter or do not want to take it positively, then misunderstanding occurs. It can cause mistrust and culminate in crises ^[3]. It may, however, be avoided or be taken easily to avoid a further clash. If you have a problem understanding others, take time to rethink and take the correct course of action. It is better to put you in the opponent's position and think the matter in his way; then, the problem will be solved substantially. If we do not do so, our ongoing progress in business or other activities will undoubtedly suffer from loss or hindrance ^[4].

Ego centric issue

The ego or whim of a person may be the cause of conflict. If a person or a group does something good or unusual and is focused on praise or discussion, it may surpass others' ability or capacity ^[5]. If it is so, the people on the other side may feel that their matter should be more critical and it should be focused more importantly. In this case, conflict is born, and once it has taken place, its tendency is to be multiplied unless it is harnessed.

Religious issue

Religious belief or issue may cause conflict in our society or country and causes hindrance in our academic social or economic progress. There is intra- religious conflict also. It causes because of differences in thoughts, beliefs, and mode of life leading. For example, Muslims eat beef but not pork ^[6]. If a Muslim is offered pork, he will be angry, and if it is in a more significant spectrum, it may cause a large-scale conflict. So is the case with Hindus who do not eat beef but a male goat. If a Hindu is offered beef, he will feel insulted, or it may cause fury for hurting the religious sentiment. In India, it was seen in the past that a Muslim is killed because of slaughtering cow. Other instances like a massive casualty occurred due to setting a temple and demolishing a mosque. This type of conflict brings about a deadlock for development and hindrance to progress.

Personal gain or loss

We, human beings, are selfish by nature. When the government takes up any development work, some people may create obstacles because it is not causing their gain but national gain. We hear about bureaucratic complexity; it is nothing but the mechanism of the bureaucrats ^[7]. When the man in authority feels that s/he is not gaining something personally, he or she will cause an obstacle to continue the development activity. This is how our advancements are thwarted.

Political Interest

Politicians are also divided in their opinions. One party opposes the other in all activities in some way or other. If a party in power takes any program at hand, the opposition party will oppose it. The opposition party will always be busy finding out the fault of the ruling party. The history testifies the fact that many conflicts have so far occurred due to political interest and loss ^[8]. It is seen that political

rivalry kills the people to establish superiority. This type of conflict is so harmful to our society that no one can live in peace, and progress gets thwarted.

Business and Commerce

There is an attending of continual conflict in respect of business and commerce. In the present time, it is visible in the global picture. The US-China trade war, the business deficit between the two countries is always in discussion. Rather than finding a positive way to grow mutually, countries often engage in conflict and sustain a loss ^[9]. We do not think positively, and hence we indulge in conflict. The people or groups in conflict face inevitable hindrances in progress. When the US imposed sanctions or put a ban on the trade of China or imposed an extra tariff on Chinese goods, China put counter tariff and ban; as a result, the consumers of both the countries suffered, and the countries' progress is hindered. So is the case with China and India. When India put a ban on Chinese goods and services, China also took similar steps to counterbalance. As a result, both the countries faced hindrances in progress.

Superiority complex

People want to show superiority over others. Therefore, when they find someone who is potentially superior, they become his enemy. The contrary matter happens to him, and it causes conflict. Both the parties try their best to oppose other's superiority and lose some valuable time and effort for the progress and get hindered on their way. It may happen in the office, in the group, at the party, or in the country. International complexity of such kind is also available. The conflict on South China Sea between China and neighboring nations, Sewage Canal issue between Arab and Israel, Kashmir Conflict between India and Pakistan, the border Conflict between China and India, the conflict between England and Argentina over annexation of an island. All are examples of superiority complex and its impact. Conflict in Educational Institution ^[10].

Inferiority complex

Inferiority complex is a psychological condition that pushes back a person from ongoing activity. They do not do work but criticize other's work. They do not connect with the seniors or their leaders but feel that they are not appropriately honored.

This complex can contribute a lot to create conflict in our personal and social life. The person who is lacking behind in some way s/he creates some problems that lead to conflict and hinder progress. This type of people will try to make people insecure, seek validation from others, try to talk about their achievement, complain repeatedly, become sensitive to criticism, swing their moods often, try to withdraw from positive activities, and blame others.

As educational institutions are a part of our society, there are conflicts over there. There are conflicts between students, teachers, and teachers-students from personal to group levels for many reasons.

Student-student conflict

This conflict takes place over some issues and results in fighting and disruption of academic activities. Every year we see in the news about such conflict and its impact. Male students are sometimes involved in a love affair with female

students who might have relations with other boys. The two boys have an argument over the issue and get involved in a conflict. Sometimes some boys are found doing eve-teasing to some girl. It is a kind of conflict, and this issue may be intervened by other boys and causes conflict. By doing such a thing, students miss out on their classes, valuable time for study or may become mentally preoccupied with non-academic issues for which their academic progress is hampered. More dangerous conflict occurs when students get involved in political conflict and get support from the party members or the seniors. The young students get encouragement to draw them in fighting to show muscle power. They do not have enough experience or idea about the consequence of the fight and suffer ultimately ^[11]. Many student's politics rolled on the caused bloody battle and caused death for the students in the past—especially in the undeveloped or under developed countries. The progress and development are, therefore, hampered in these areas. Students' academic activities get suspended. The students very often call for strikes and do demonstrations, vandalism, arson, and go without studies for a long time. Their academic progress also gets hampered. The country as a whole suffers due to such activities.

Teacher-teacher conflict

Sometimes teachers get involved in conflict due to their argument on any issue of extra financial interest. Some teachers have a tendency to get the benefit for him or her, which is known as selfishness. This causes conflict in teachers. Again the teachers are found interested in the group making and getting involved in a conflict ^[12]. Some groups of teachers may be liked by the principal or headmaster more for their integrity or intimacy with the principal due to their hard work, sincerity, or any other reason which may not be liked by the other group and get involved in the conflict. Many valuable time and efforts are lost in doing so as a result of academic progress, and another parameter of progress is hindered.

Teacher-student conflict

This type of conflict is the worst of all in educational institutions that cause the greatest hindrance in academic progress. Some teachers have a particular affiliation with politics. They try to introduce their political agenda to the students, which the other teachers may not like with oppositional stands. So conflict occurred. With the support of some teachers with the same political belief, the students disobey the teacher in opposition, which is very harmful to the students' academic progress. There are many examples of students insulting or harassing the teachers. In recent times, we have seen a university VC insulted in such a way that pushed him into the pond. So is the range of moral degradation and result of the conflict in the educational institution ^[13]. The students cannot do so if some teachers do not support them directly or indirectly. This situation is created due to internal conflict between the students and teachers. Students' conflicts with the teachers in the past and present have a negative result. All-out effort should be taken to minimize it; otherwise, academic progress will be shattered. Educational institutions in developing countries are more prone to such conflict and suffer from enormous academic and social disturbance. To overcome such conflict, the related personnel need to come forward to have

a halt.

Causes of conflict between teacher and student

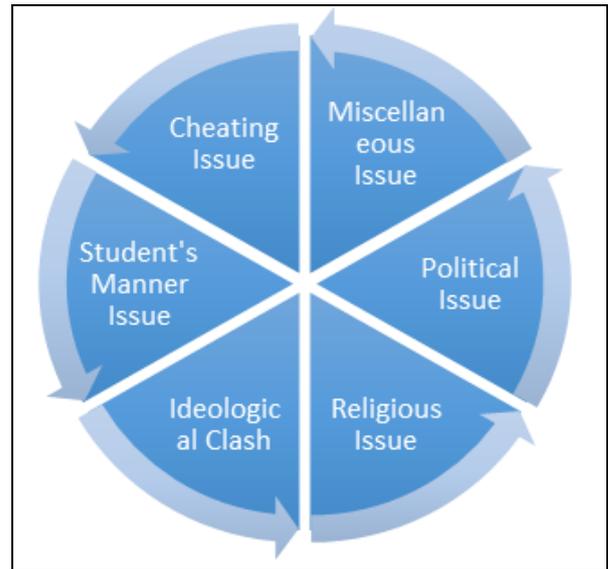


Fig 1

Cheating issue

This type of conflict occurs when the teacher checks a student for cheating. It may firstly cause for the student's humiliation in public, or the student may be out of the examination due to malpractice in the examination hall that may lead to expulsion from the academic program, and as a result, there is a chance of being drop-out from the academic program ^[14]. In this case, the student may become hopeless and misbehave with the teacher and creates conflict.

Student's manner issue

Now a day the students are found manner less due to the degradation of value and culture. They do not show respect to the teacher. On the other hand, the teacher expects good manners or desired attitude from the students. Conflict occurs when there is an absence or gap between the teacher's expectation and the student's projection. Both sides lock in conflict, and academic activities become distracted. When a teacher tries to rectify this type of manner, conflict occurs ^[15]. There are many examples of teachers being beaten by students. In some cases, students have a bad record of stabbing the teacher and succumb to death.

Ideological class

Sometimes teacher's ideology about life may not match with the students'. It causes misunderstanding between or among the students and teacher. If the students' ideology does not match the teacher's ideology, the teacher becomes annoyed and tries to rectify it. On the way to rectification, there may be conflict because the students might not accept it. As a result, conflict occurs ^[16].

Religious issue

The teachers are supposed to respect other's religions. However, if s/he does not do so and dishonors other's religion, conflict occurs. This is a compassionate issue because the students have different backgrounds and ethnic identity. Every student, to some extent, comes with their

own religious belief, and they hold it very firmly. If any teacher fails to read it, s/he brings disaster for self and the community. In Bangladesh or neighboring India, there are many occurrences of teachers getting humiliated due to religious misconception and misinterpretation ^[17].

Political issue

When teacher and student have different political affiliations, and one wants to impose his or her political belief on others, then conflict occurs. It may lead to chaos and a stalemate in academic progress. Many teachers have so far been humiliated due to political differences. Many students have also been terminated due to differences in political views. The students many a time demonstrate against the headmaster or principal. The students from opposition political beliefs are inspired to write graffiti against the institutional head, and the languages of it do not fit the norms of the teacher-student relationship ^[18].

Miscellaneous issues

The conflict between teachers and students is there from the past, and it is inevitable in our life, but it should be minimized in the interest of smooth academic progress. The concerned person should give the awareness campaign, discussion, debate, and advice to avert it. In a family, husband and wife are found locked in conflict. If the conflict is more pronounced in a family, it cannot grow nicely; children cannot make good progress. Therefore it poses a hindrance to progress ^[19].

Conclusions

Conflict is an inevitable part of the life of a living being, but it should be known and addressed in time to enhance our progress. We should have explicit knowledge of the conflict, and as we know that progress is more important than conflict, it should be minimized and controlled before it causes severe damage. My object to writing this article is to keep the people aware of the conflict and ensure their desired peace and progress. Patience, respect for other's interests, and the ability to judge the impact of conflict can help control it and save the people from its negative effect. The world is now equipped with dangerous weapons of destruction. Nuclear arsenal, biological and chemical weapons are present at the hand of people who can destroy our existence. So this is the right time to bring the issue to the discussion table. Conflict brings wrath and anger in humans so that humans may forget the humanity to deal with it. Patience, tolerance, and mutual respect can replace the evil monster of conflict. If we can successfully address it and minimize its proliferation, we can live a life of peace and progress. If we analyze the current events of the world, we can find the real winner. The conflict is the winner, and humanity is the loser. Let a few examples be considered. The Syrian conflict has given Syria a country of poverty, devoid of education, millions of deaths, fatal injuries, and amputated limbs; many girls are violated and live the life of uncertainty and orphan. Today, Syria might be one of the world's industrialized nations, and life could be safer and bearable if there were no war or if the conflict could be managed by dialogue and patience. So is the case with Yemen, where the children are malnourished, mothers cry for help to medicate their babies, houses are on fire, no hospital support, no school for the children, no market for

shopping, no development work, no certainty of life. All are under the debris of conflict.

However, the world has experienced the disastrous effect of conflict in the two great wars apart from several other wars. We should learn to address the conflict for our peaceful living and optimum progress in our life from all these. We should not let our hard work be spoilt, and progress is hindered by conflict.

Recommendations

To make sustainable progress, we need to find the reason for conflict. We also need to understand the consequence of conflict. We must control the elements of conflicts and know how the conflict is intertwining our life and causing the deceleration of our progress and development. We should keep the literature on conflict for our future guidelines.

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