Rethinking Peace, Conflict and Governance

Local to Global - Nonkilling and Maximising Pacifism

Love and Honour - Marriage for Peace
New Country

David D E Evans PhD (UNE) OAM
Romance Tragedy in India and Nepal

• The Local issue of Romance Tragedy in India and Nepal is contrasted here with

• The Global issue of New Country for refugees

• Asking for both, the question, ‘Where to from here?’
Romance tragedy of ‘Romeo and Juliet Style’

India and Nepal 1993-2013

1993

A local issue goes national and global.
Honour killing of eloping couples

- In 1993 the killing of eloping couples by family and villagers began to be reported in the Indian National and the Global Press.

- Reports increased in the following years and a national social response lead to criminal action being taken against perpetrators and village leaders.
Dilawar Chetsingh

Contentious Marriages, Elopeing Couples
Gender, Caste, and Patriarchy in Northern India

Prem Chowdhry
Indian Cultural Liaison

• Prem Chowdhry has given us an authentic account of the social situation in Northern India in her book, ‘Contentious Marriages and Elopig Couples’.

• Dilawar Chetsingh in Delhi collected and posted to the writer newspaper reportings from the daily papers of these incidents, similar to the one in the next slide........
Mob attacks same-gotra couple, husband killed

Times News Network

Patna: An 18-year age gap and being from the same gotra were among the reasons floating around for the barbaric attack on a newly-wed couple in broad daylight at the Keshav Rai Ghat temple here. While Shailendra Mishra, 42, resident of Maida Toli, died on the spot, his young bride, 24-year-old Pushpanjali is battling for life at PMCH hospital here.

In an ordeal that lasted for three hours, the couple were brutally clubbed with sticks and stones. None of the onlookers gathered enough guts to intervene. The couple paid this difficult price for getting married against the wishes of their parents and community.

After eloping on January 12, the two had just returned to Shailendra’s home in Maida Toli, when his brother, who was not in favour of their match, informed the girl’s father, Umesh Mishra.

Umesh, a resident of Keshav Rai Ghat lane, under Khaje Kala Police Station in Patna City came to the boy’s place along with his sons and around 30 other persons.

After an altercation, the couple was dragged to the Keshav Rai Ghat Temple where they were beaten with sticks and stones. Shailendra died on the spot, while Pushpanjali was badly injured. The girl’s father and 10 other persons have been taken into custody and a case has been registered.

The couple reportedly had a registered marriage in Hajipur before they came back to seek the blessing of their parents. “Umesh and his family were shocked that Shailendra had betrayed their trust. He was in fact looking for grooms for Pushpanjali,” said a neighbour.
Pushpanjali and Shailendra Mishra

- Pushpanjali and Shailendra Mishra eloped, married and returned home seeking family blessing.

- They were killed by family and other villagers.
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<td>37</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>(1993-2005)</td>
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National Press Reports

• First Indian National Press Reports were in 1993

• Press Reportings continued to increase - peaking in 2012
Filmmaking

Khap is a 2011 Hindi film

Reality

Gudiya and Mahesh Singh

Reality and Film Making

• Bodies of killed lovers were left on the streets by the family to show that honour had been restored.

• The film Khap based on the Manoj-Babli honour killing case of 2007 was at first forbidden to be shown in local cinemas.
June 2009.

Village Panchayat Edict - Divorce or die

Amreen and Lokesh chose suicide

*It's very sad what happened, but what can you expect? The pressure on their families was enormous. They were being disgraced and dishonoured.*


‘Family social disaster but we won’t become violent’

Village Elders and Family

• When the Village Panchayat gave their Edict - Divorce or die - Amreen and Lokesh chose suicide. The Elder, Mr Singh, ‘said It's very sad what happened, but what can you expect? The pressure on their families was enormous. They were being disgraced and dishonoured.’

• Ujalla’s parents tried for 10 years to prevent their daughter from marrying a Muslim. Ashok, Ujalla’s father said, ‘it is a Family social disaster but we won’t become violent’.
Nepal
Gospel in a nutshell

Village violence
Elopement
Banishment
Reconciliation
Full acceptance

Mamata
and
Prateek
With
Topsy
Evans
Whilst working in Nepal the writer noted three contrasting happenings indicating a ‘Gospel in a Nutshell’ social progression.

First, a reporting of village violence where the whole lower caste community was expelled from the village and their land and property confiscated because of an inter-caste marriage.

Second, a story of elopement and reconciliation after two years following the birth of a son.

Third, full acceptance evidence by an inter-caste wedding celebrated publicly and reported in The Kathmandu Post.
Figure 1.1 Methodological Framework

**METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK**

**Qualitative Research**

**Grounded Theory**

**Phenomenon:** *Romeo and Juliet* style
- Romance tragedies in India, Nepal, Pakistan
- Individual instinct, Society-driven

**Data:** Media reports, Personal communications, Legends
- Traditional, Legal, Community, Family

**Analysis – Value analysis relying on universal philosophical values:**
- Equality, universalism, pragmatism
- Individual and social justice
- In line with second stream of future research (Denzin and Lincoln, 2005)

**Codes:** Real life and legendary stories

**Concepts:** What caused the tragedies and the participants’ responses to their situations

**Categories:** The stories’ outcomes

**THEORY**
- Progression from murder to nonviolence based on the interplay of significant social and personal factors
Methodology – Qualitative Research

- The study is a Qualitative Research Project leading to the Grounded Theory of a Path of Progression from Lethal Violence, to Tolerance and Acceptance, and then to Celebration

- The following slide lists realities in the Path of Progression sequence........
Killing to Nonkilling to Celebration -- a slow generational change

• Marital taboos in every culture.
• Romance is compulsive.
• Human rights are allowed or withheld by the society or family within which a person lives.
• Nonviolence – the first acceptable end point
• Law and order imperative.
• Family estrangement - a legal option.
• Reconciliation
• Acceptance
• Welcome and celebration
Present Day Romance Tragedy
Romeo and Juliet Style

PART 1
India and Nepal

PART 2
Nonkilling Local and Global

www.ddeevans.org

David D E Evans
Publications

• Research Papers and Books giving full details are available at www.ddeevans.org
Safe house for newly marrieds
Where to from here?
Where to from here – Local Issue – Social Outcasts?

• With family likely to chase and kill these newly married lovers. The advice, ‘leave and never come back’ is relevant.

• A new life elsewhere needs to start afresh.
Local to global

Where to from here?
New Country?
Where to from here – Global Issue – Refugees?

• Community refugees

• Refugee Camps
  • Placement
  • Repatriation
  • Work Visas
  • New Country
UNHCR placement
Zimbabwe refugee camp to Australia

Burundian Civil War 1993-2005
The hoped for option for refugees is an UNHCR placement to begin a new life in a safe country.

This Burundian family has made home for their family in South Australia.
Hundreds of Burundian refugees return home from Tanzania | Tanzania News | Al Jazeera


Oct 2019  Returnees arrived on eight buses in Gisuru in eastern Burundi [Reuters]

More than 400,000 Burundians left the country following a surge of political violence in 2015 when President Pierre Nkurunziza ran for a third disputed term in office and opponents accused him of breaching the constitution.
The preferred option for many refugees is to return to their own country when it is safe to do so.
Lateral solutions to developing better global arrangements for displaced people

David Evans

David Evans OAM is a retired medical practitioner whose work in Tasmania specialised in Pathology and in Sexual Health Medicine. In retirement he has completed a PhD in Humanities with the University of New England entitled ‘Romance Tragedy in India and Nepal in the time period 1993–2013’.

My first thought regarding those needing to leave their homeland under the threat of ‘threat or be killed’ is for their family or association to get away to a safe country, who have to remain at home in imminent danger.

Refugees who escape are lucky if they find a refugee camp where their necessities are available. The flight for a family known to be now living in Australia from Burundi to Zimbabwe. Six years living in the refugee camp was described as “like living in a boarding school, yet they told me camp life was meaningful and positive.” This theme is also in a 2014 article in The New York Times entitled How to Build a Better Refugee Camp which reported that meaningful and positive life is possible within such confines.

The share of our Australian-supported refugee camps is that the needs of refugees are not being listened to and the concept of developing camps is hard to find. In tents is due to the urbanisation of the camps, where conditions cannot be first world welfare style with social support equivalent to what we have in Australia. Such conditions are also not feasible for the vast majority of global refugees. Is there a way forward with realistic possibility? Could we build a new country?

‘New Country’

My vision for refugees is to a New Country with states included and the urban lifestyle of city dwellers. Refugees do not need to be placed in camps that are hard to find. That is mainly due to the urbanisation of the camps, where conditions cannot be first world welfare style with social support equivalent to what we have in Australia. Such conditions are also not feasible for the vast majority of global refugees.

In the New Country, the ideal of a New Country with states included and the urban lifestyle of city dwellers. Refugees do not need to be placed in camps that are hard to find. That is mainly due to the urbanisation of the camps, where conditions cannot be first world welfare style with social support equivalent to what we have in Australia. Such conditions are also not feasible for the vast majority of global refugees.

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UNHCR - Option 3 – New Country 1

- The concept of New Country is of a functional country building afresh from grassroots level
New Country is imagined as a functional country with an evolving citizenship and UNHCR/UN Governance.

- Personal individual identity.
- Location. Wherever people are. Leased land.
- Survival.
- Community development
- Education and skill development.
- Internal creativity and leadership getting on with life whatever.
- Application for work visas around the world.
- Participation in international sports/cultural events using visitor visas
- Hosting cultural/arts visitors (eg. Yo Yo Ma and his Silk Road Ensemble)
- Internet availability
- Repatriate when safe
- Placement if available
UNHCR - Option 3 – New Country 2

- The next slide shows it is happening.

- Refugee Economies in Dollo Ado: Development Opportunities in a Border Region of Ethiopia

- Built on desert land.
Executive Summary  20 dot points

• The next challenge is to ensure sustainable economic opportunities for refugees and the host community by creating growth and development within the border economy...developing a formal labour market; moving from a camp to a settlement model.....represent some of the untapped opportunities.

? UNHCR Governance

? 2nd Nobel Peace Prize for UNHCR
The next slide shows ways it is happening.

Working with what is available in education
In August 2014, refugees from Afghanistan in transit in Indonesia established the Cisarua Refugee Learning Centre (CRLC) to provide education for their children. Refugee-run school in Indonesia a model for governments to emulate

March 7, 2016 12.02pm AEDT Students in a school run by refugees in Indonesia learn maths, English, art and science. Refugee-run school in Indonesia a model for governments to emulate

http://theconversation.com/refugee-run-school-in-indonesia-a-model-for-governments-to-emulate-55378
UNHCR - Option 3 – New Country 4

Work Visas from refugee camps
The little-known visa project bringing highly skilled refugees to Australia

Exporting Skilled Labour

www.aljazeera.com › plight-nepal-migrant-workers-180205084756399

Feb 5, 2018 - With Nepal’s unemployment rate at 40 percent, many young men and women say their only option is to find work abroad. ...

Employment has issued more than 3.5 million labour permits for men and women to work overseas.

20% of Nepal’s GNP is from remittances.
UPCOMING SEMINARS AND WEBINARS

New Zealand Job opportunity Seminar
Birmingham – Saturday
22nd February 2020

? Work opportunity seminars in Refugee camps

Case Study: Johnathan and Gwyneth, Family Category, British
After Johnathan and Gwyneth’s daughter Anna took a job in Wellington New Zealand, the couple were faced with the prospect of not seeing their children (or grandchildren) regularly. They began investigating also moving to New Zealand and engaged Migration Associates to assist them with obtaining residency under the Family Category - Parent Policy.
Non-Refugee work visas

• The ground roots international labour market gives opportunity for young workers to travel abroad for paid work and aiding family with remittance payments

• The New Zealand Government sends recruiting teams internationally looking for workers to come to New Zealand.

• Why not include Refugees Camps as a source for workers to travel the world on work visas and being able to send remittance money to people back in the camp?
India killing: 'My father ordered my husband's murder' - BBC ...

https://www.bbc.com › news › world-asia-india-45570981

Sep 20, 2018 - On 14 September, Pranay Perumalla was murdered in front of his wife, Amrutha, in an alleged honour killing.
The problems remain.

• Where to from here, and, what now, leads us back to the continuing saga of working for positive social change in societies where normal human rights are denied their citizens.
Hinemoa and Tutanekai

Blomfield, Charles 1848-1926
• In the study of intercultural ‘Romeos and Juliets’ one real legendary story has a happy ending. It is the story of Hinemoa and Tutaneki.

• The Chieftan father withdrew his objection to their marriage and this led to celebration and a long period of peace between the tribes.
Leading reform requires huge personal sacrifice.

www.ddeevans.org
Thank you, Romina.

This is very scholarly and so global in its approach - what a delight.

Marie
Feedback welcome

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