IGNITING CHANGE FOR CHILDREN IN THE WORLD

BY REAVEEN D’SOUZA
Managing Editor

Kailash Satyarthi · Nobel Peace Laureate

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Mr. Satyarthi was in Kuwait to speak before a distinguished gathering at the Jabir Al Ahmed Cultural Centre (JACC), in an event organised by Takleen, a new platform launched by Arif Yousef. The platform highlights how changemakers and emerging talents are addressing current societal challenges.

As the chief guest-speaker, Kailash Satyarthi spoke eloquently about how children’s issues are impacting the global peace process, as well as the need to act fast and comprehensively.

Before starting his movement Bachpan Bachao Andolan (Save Childhood Movement) in 1981, Mr. Satyarthi has helped rescue 60,000 children from child labor, trafficking and slavery. It is in recognition of these efforts that he was awarded, along with young Pakistani activist Malala Yousafzai, the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize in 2014, “for their struggle against the suppression of children and young people and for the right of all children to education.”

In addition to child labor and slavery, Mr. Satyarthi is an active campaigner for children’s rights on several fronts, including all forms of violence against children, such as sexual abuse, rape, health, malnutrition and others.

The Kailash Satyarthi Children’s Foundation (KSCF) was established on January 12, 1981, in Bhandara, India, to provide education and support to children in need. The foundation currently operates in 15 countries, with a presence in 150 cities, and has helped educate millions of children.

Mr. Satyarthi has been awarded numerous honorary degrees and titles, including the Honorary Doctorate of Law by the University of Sussex, UK, and the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters by the University of Massachusetts, USA.

A tireless campaigner for child rights, Mr. Satyarthi shared his plans to launch his largest, most ambitious campaign yet, for which he hoped to recruit 100 million young people across the world, who would unite to rescue 100 million less fortunate children.

“As the most vulnerable of all classes of people, children exploitation has been a centuries old issue and needed to be addressed,” he said, while pointing out that a new legislation covering comprehensive children’s rights have now been set in motion and is slowly taking centre stage on global platforms.

“Since children have no voting rights, political interest in child issues are minimal,” he noted, adding that a new legislation would make it mandatory for governments to protect and care for children, something which was long required in the world.

Indian Nobel Peace Laureate Kailash Satyarthi is an inspiration to billions of Indians and people worldwide for his ground-breaking work in protecting children’s rights all over the world.

During the last 37 years, the electrical engineer turned child rights activist has been instrumental in highlighting violations; taking place against children, the most vulnerable elements in society, and in helping rescue and rehabilitate them from all forms of exploitation.

Speaking to The Times Kuwait in an exclusive interview, Mr. Satyarthi said that it took 35 years for him to make the world recognise children’s exploitation, but within 35 minutes of him winning the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014, the rights of children became a global issue.

“For the first time in more than 100 years it was recognised that there cannot be peace in the world without caring for our children, and the Nobel Prize set the ball rolling making it a global issue,” said the activist.

Interview

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The documentary ‘Price of Freedom’ is the culmination of three years of work by the producers who have tracked the Nobel Peace Laureate in his daily schedules. The film is being dubbed in six languages and will be the first major movie launch on YouTube.

The ‘Price of Freedom’ film is a powerful and emotional documentary that follows Kailash Satyarthi, the Indian activist, as he fights for the rights of children around the world. The film explores his work in India, where he has been working for over 30 years, and his efforts to end child labor and educate children in need.

Satyarthi’s work is not just about the immediate rights of children, but about the long-term impact of education and the need for a global community that stands together to protect children.

The film is a powerful reminder of the importance of education and the need for global cooperation to address the issues facing children today. It is a call to action for all of us to work towards creating a world where every child can live in safety, freedom, and dignity.