



Promoting the dignity of human person

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Job creation for youth, right to their dignity

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I pledge to promote the dignity of unemployed

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When weighing topics, I reflected much on my passion. Although freedom, equality, culture, tolerance and solidarity were core values, empowering youth and marginalized figure on my bottom-line. Dalai Lama in his writing about our global family has highly inspired me and could then understand how important it is, if we each make effort to take our responsibility for each other and for the natural environment we live in. As we depend to each other, we can never ignore what is happening in our community. The youth unemployment crisis has had a profound effect on young people and the societies in which they live. This is a global issue that threatens to undermine the very fabric of our society. As a result of growing youth unemployment, young people are experiencing increased levels of poverty and social exclusion, and there is a widening economic gap between older and younger generations. For this reason, I feel obliged to pledge for the dignity of unemployed youth.

So many conferences have been pointing on the dangerous argument that limiting population growth is a prerequisite for sustainable development. Though young people have been treated as new burden to the development, policy makers ignore an important thing: The creativity of humans is the earth's greatest resource with which we can make the world a better place even in the face of a growing population. A youthful population is an opportunity to any society.

Sadly, the world is actually sitting on a wealth of human potential that is going to waste. This loss is associated with a high social cost of unemployment and its threats negatively affect the stability of our society and the sustainability of our economy. Apart from other good reasons, it is important, for the society, to give attention to youth unemployment as it is critical for social and economic stability. Since everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, job creation should never be considered as a favour or action of charity to young people. It is just the right to their dignity and a concern for everybody.

The important point is: "There is no more other way around to serve people unless economy". Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the

basic rights of workers must be respected, the right to productive works, to decent and fair wages, to the organization and joining of unions, to private property, and to economic initiative. Job creation is a respect for human being, the environment and the second chance God grants to every human. That is because, work brings dignity.

The job's goodness is not measured by salary, benefits, and 'intellectual' but by how well it preserves the dignity of workers and contributes to their fulfillment. We have also to understand that employment and income generation are fundamental elements of the post-conflict solution. For communities and individuals, job creation and regular income can provide the means for survival and recovery. They are also keys to reaching out to young people and reintegrating ex-combatants and returnees and hence, generating employment is crucial to building peace.

If we all understand and believe in the dignity of human person, then the creation of opportunities is a responsibility to every one of us. Let's consider the Pope's statement: "We cannot resign ourselves to losing a whole generation of young people who don't have the strong dignity of work," (Pope Francis II). "A generation without work is a future defeat for the country and for humanity", he added. Of course, not having a work does not mean not having one's needs to live but the inability to bring bread to the table which takes away one's dignity. The right to work is essential for realizing other human rights and constitutes an inseparable and inherent core of human dignity. Work usually provides livelihood, and insofar as work is freely chosen or accepted, it contributes to self-development and recognition within the community (UN Human rights). But what is happening to our youth?

Current evidence from around the world indicates that young people are facing particular problems and challenges in gaining access to the labor market and finding secure employment. They do face unprecedented levels of challenge around the world in accessing the careers they want to pursue. Their families are often actively involved in helping them find work but however, it keeps being a challenge.

Consequently, as we all owe the dignity to human person, creating human opportunities must be our prior concern. Nations, humanitarian organizations, business leaders and workers should focus on the same topic. Job creation should never be considered as a favour or action of charity to unemployed population, but the right to their dignity. It is usually necessary to put the dignity of the human person at the center of every plan and every action and, in this regard, we should strive for a world that is just, equitable and inclusive, and commit to work together to promote sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection and thereby to benefit all.

Human capital is a vital area in which employers, educators, and young people need to focus in order to ensure that the skill set of job seekers are related to the world of work. Moreover, it is important that governments, education institutions, companies, and other organizations design and implement interventions that facilitate resources for the youngsters to effectively cope with unemployment experiences and profit from them to grow and flourish in the broader context of their career development.

In all, everyone wants to live a dignified life with the opportunities of health and happiness. Though people cannot live equal life at all, there is a base standard that everyone gets to be at irrespective of race, tribe, country, ability or disability. A base line of affordable and quality healthcare, clean water, safe and nutritious food, good education built upon mutual respect and knowledge. In respecting to the objective values of our fellows, everyone is also called to be part of a solution that recognizes the dignity in all people, especially youth. These last are the future for any economy and will keep being the torch bearers of the next sustainable development, not only as consumers and clients but also as workers. Once we lose this potential, it becomes our first defeat for our society.