

A Sociological Perspective on Poverty Eradication and Social Justice

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Abstract: *The UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has said, “Ending poverty is not a matter of charity, but a question of justice.” UNAI member institution in India serving as the UNAI SDG Hub for Goal 1 – No Poverty, through its Department of Social Work and in association with civil society partners like World Vision India, organized a national colloquium on Ending Poverty: A Pathway to Social Justice. Local authorities and more than 200 scholars as well social workers and students discussed what countries needed to do in order to meet the goals contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the design, development and further implementation of rigorous measures to combat poverty and the need to go beyond income poverty measures in the fight for economic inclusion. According to the 2019 United Nations Report on the Sustainable Development Goals, “the decline of extreme poverty continues, but the pace has slowed, and the world is not on track to achieving the target of ending poverty by 2030.” Participants discussed the role of academia in developing policies that can help re-focus efforts on and accelerate the eradication of poverty. The Eliminating poverty and advancing social justice are twog goals that go hand-in-hand and are essential for building an equitable society. A good society is a place where people’s values are respected and where they are able to live out their aspirations of happiness, development, and fulfillment while making a positive contribution to society. This paper examines how poverty is multifaceted and how it intersects with social justice. The five principles outlined in this paper envisions society in which individuals possess the necessary resources to be content and free to lead meaningful lives. It highlights the need for holistic strategies to address systemic inequities. It examines how government policies, empowerment of communities, education and economic opportunities can fight poverty and promote social justice.*

Keywords: Poverty eradication, social justice, good society, equitable society, government policies