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VALUE EDUCATION FOR HUMAN EXCELLENCE

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Abstract

Education is a process of bringing about desirable changes of behavior in the individual in his knowledge, skill, attitude and values. Education is the utmost important invention of mankind. Parents should provide good quality education to their children. Parents are the immediate persons who influence the entire career of their children by providing healthy environment at home with spiritual blend. Teachers strive to shape the students for the betterment of the students and the society. Students learn vast array of behavioral patterns from their teachers. Apart from imparting education, the teacher should treat their students with affection on par with their own children, to help them to grow in to integrated personalities.

INTRODUCTION

Value Education is one of the fastest growing approaches in India. India is a land of diversity, in social, cultural, religious, racial, linguistic and geographical aspects. The main hall-mark of our nation is 'Unity' – which absorbs all the diversity. A common value system helps to create an identity that bonds people together.

Since time immemorial traditional values like spirituality, strong family ties, respect to elders, recourse to nature, artistic expression, worship even the tools of one's trade, celebrations, hospitality and peaceful co-existence are emphasized which is defined as "GLOBAL VILLAGE" today.

Values:

Values are those principles or standards which help to better the quality of life. They form the basis of character formation and personality development values like honesty, discipline, punctuality, co-operation and loyalty which are the essential qualities for the development of the individual and the society in a hormonal way. Respect for human dignity and human rights, as well as respect for the environment are core values that need for sustainable development of physical, mental and spiritual potential of the individual¹.

Concept of Education:

Education is a powerful instrument that develops the desirable values in the younger generation. Education is a process of bringing about desirable changes of behavior in the individual in his knowledge, skill, attitude and values. Education is the utmost important invention of mankind. Education of man does not begin at school, but it begins at birth. It ends not who graduates from the university, but at his death. Hence Education is a lifelong process².

Indian concept of Education:

“Education is something which makes

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men self-reliance and selfless” – Rig-Veda.

“Nothing is more purifying on earth
than knowledge” – Bhagavad-Gita.

“A mind which has devine qualities has santi.

Values correct our personality” – Bagavad Gita.

Western concept of Education:

Education means the “bringing out of the ideas of universal
validity which are latent in the mind of everyman” – Socrates.

“Education is complete living” – Herbert Spencer.

Value Education for Human Excellence:

The family system in India has a long tradition of imparting value education right from the ancient practice of “Gurukula system”. The changing pattern of family system from joint family to single family, from many children family to single child family, mobilization of families from rural to urban, fast changing role of parents where both the parents are employed, it is not easy for the parents to impart relevant morals in their child. Therefore it is necessary to include various programmers on value education in the curriculum itself³.

*Knowledge without values is not only useless
but is dangerous too for the Society.*

Due to the development of technology and changing pattern of life style, people meet so many problems in their life everyday to which they are unable to copy up. Due to unemployment, poverty, loneliness, exploitation etc., People go to the extent of antisocial activities such as murder, rape, hijack, bomb blast etc., if they are courage enough, if not they attempt suicide.

Decay in inner growth and fall in morality is evident from the growing statistics of increasing divorces, old age homes, suicides, corruption etc., The rate of juvenile delinquency is increasing everywhere. It is a definite symptom of a value crisis where today’s youth undergo in the process of his personal growth. In order to prevent this value education should be taught to the students from primary school level till the higher education⁴.

Value seeds:

Values are like seeds that sprout become saplings, grow in to trees and spread their branches all around. Building up of value system starts with the individual, moves on to the family and society.

“ Always aim at complete harmony of thought, word and deed.

Always aim at purifying your thoughts and everything will be well”

– Mahatma Gandhi.

**Value Building factors:**

Building values is an integral factor in the process of internalization of values, because one can only give what one has within. Building values is somewhat similar to building a house brick by brick. That is why value education is recognized as a fundamental need. Value based education for all members of society need to be seen as a valuable interest⁵.

The **individual** is the first building block of the values architecture, for integration to taken place. The child's need for security, dignity, identity and wellbeing has to be met. For a society to be at peace its individual members need to be protected against violence, injustice, humiliation and discrimination. The Individuals is not merely a physical entity but a holistic being. This physical, emotional, social and spiritual need has to be addressed to ensure harmonious development of all aspects of his personality.

The second factor in inculcating values is the **family** which plays a crucial role in fostering values in a child. A child growing in a conflict ridden home is unlikely to be peace oriented. Healthy relationships in a stable family create sound values. Home is the nursery for inculcating values.

The **community** to which a person belongs is the third block. The relationship between the individual and the community is intimate. It plays an important role in the identity formation of an individual, and determines the level of security the child enjoys. Values education goes a long way to minimize the insecurity of communities and to promote a sense of belonging⁶.

The **society** is the Fourth building block of values. The society is an extended family which is characterized by diversities of individuals, and the interest of families and communities. Every society also has certain shared characteristics that its members endorse, adopt and employ which influence the collective decisions taken by it. There is a reciprocal relationship between an individual and the society of which he or she is a part. Social mores, custom traditions are internalized during the process of growing up within a society. Individuals, families and communities that compromise a society have the duty to avoid pursuits, advocacies, methods and goals that undermine values⁷.

The **nation** is the paramount building block of values. A country that allows its citizen to be overtaken by hate and negativity lets its energies be wasted. Values are basic to progress and well being. Nations at peace comprise the building blocks of global values.

“ Man is a social animal ” - Aristotle

Role of parents:

Parents should provide good quality education to their children. Parents are the immediate persons who influence the entire career of their children by providing healthy environment at home with spiritual blend. Parents should treat their children as their friends. Parents should appreciate their achievements and accept their defeats. They should boost up the talents of their children and make them to shine in the same. Parents should not hesitate to correct the bad habits of their children. Parents should be good model to their children and they should teach good values to them. They should love them and listen their words, so that the children will trust their parents and feel secure.



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They should spend time with their children and should watch their activities and guide them in all their ways. They should rare their children with great care⁸.

“Parents are the first teachers to their children”

Role of Teachers:

Teachers play significant role in moulding the behavior of the students. Teachers are always passing on some values to their students through their activities. Teachers strive to shape the students for the betterment of the students and the society. Students learn vast array of behavioral patterns from their teachers.

Apart from imparting education, the teacher should treat their students with affection on part with their own children, to help them to grow in to integrated personalities. A feeling of love and being loved by others is the expectation of the human beings. Teachers should enhance the trust of motivation in doings and deeds of students in all spheres⁹.

“The destiny of the nation is being shaped in the classrooms of today”

- National policy on Education –
1964.

CONCLUSION

The purpose of education is not to acquire skill of earning more and more money and higher posts, but to cultivate in, a discipline of values for excellence and wisdom, so that one can get fitness to serve the society and the nation in a better way to promote the cause of humanity in him, in the society as well.

*“ Education without values as useful as it is,
seems rather to make man a more clever devil”*

- C.S. Lewis.

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