

PROFESSIONALIZING THE TEACHER AND TEACHER EDUCATION FOR GLOBAL WORLD

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ABSTRACT

Globalization is the comprehensive term for the emergence of a global society in which economic, political, environmental, and cultural events in one part of the world quickly come to have significance for people in other parts of the world. Globalization tells us about the growing economic, political, technological, and cultural connections that connect individuals, communities, businesses, and governments around the world. There are many challenges before the teaching profession. Firstly, teachers need to radically adapt to the new skills, techniques, methods and demands and secondly a change in the mind set to take up new responsibilities. It is only then that the teacher can be professionalized. In order to prepare the new age teachers, the system of teacher education has to adapt new challenges faced by the system. Systemic changes have to be made to prepare the global teacher.

The globalization concept, if taken into account, would require that teachers and teaching should be recognized like all other professions and should require stringent training and acquisition of knowledge and skills and professional registration under a global council of unified teacher registration body to allow for easy mobility of teachers across national boundaries. The present paper emphasizes on the meaning of globalization, features of globalization, global education, professionalizing the teacher and higher education for global world.

Keywords: Globalization, Features of globalization, Global education, Professionalizing the teacher and teacher education for global world.

INTRODUCTION:

Indian Education Commission's Report (1964) mentions that education is a powerful instrument of social, economic and political changes and therefore is to be related to the long term national aspirations and the short-term national problems it is called upon to face. Through education, the potentials of everyone are to be developed instilling the feeling of one's social obligations. From the very beginning of human race, 'teaching' and 'learning' continue to be practiced in all societies in some way or other. Initially the family served as the agency of education. Thus was born the formal agency of education called 'school' and people trained in the teaching-learning process were appointed as teachers. The first revolution in the history of education occurred when the task of educating the young was shifted, from parents to teachers and from home to school. In this system of formal education too, changes took place with the passage of time in aims, structure and activities; changes continue to take place even today.

GLOBALIZATION:

Globalization is a much talked about term today and has become a phenomena, which is greatly affecting the society in general and different nations in particular. Globalization is the integration of economic, political and cultural systems and trends across the world for economic growth, prosperity and democratic freedom. It pursues liberal or free market policies in world economy for economic liberalization. It aims at realizing one single unified world community where no social conflicts exist calling for social and cultural integration.

Globalization is the comprehensive term for the emergence of a global society in which economic, political, environmental, and cultural events in one part of the world quickly come to have significance for people in other parts of the world. Globalization tells us about the growing economic, political, technological, and cultural connections that connect individuals, communities, businesses, and governments around the world. Globalization also involves the growth of multinational corporations (businesses that have operations or investments in many countries) and transnational corporations (businesses that see themselves functioning in a global marketplace). The

international institutions that oversee world trade and finance play an increasingly important role in this era of globalization.

Globalization entails privatization and marketization of economic and political structures in which ability of the state to control all the activities within its borders is becoming limited. Simply put, globalization in fact is a combination of free exchange of goods services and capital. Globalization is the tendency of any entity, activity, and technology to acquire a dimension that grows beyond any "frontier" that would be imposed by such criteria as geography, religion, gender, age and the like. Anything or anybody can have a worldwide impact. Globalization seeks to deal with relations that go beyond the confines of the nation state or country boundaries. Historically globalization dates back to the international trade in the middle ages. During the second half of the 19th century it was highlighted by the Industrial Revolution as result of colonial exploitation. The continuous modernization of the international exchange process during the 20th century and its ramifications during the international agreements, for example The General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) have maintained and given pace to increasing globalization of the society. However, in the past few years there has been acceleration in this trend. This acceleration can be characterized by three essential factors:

1. Extent of economic trend which is spreading world wide
2. Increase in technological innovations especially in the areas of communication and transportation and
3. Interdependence between people and nations.

Contemporary social theorists and analysts David Harvey (1989, 1999), Giddens (1990), Held, McGraw, Goldblatt and Perraton (1999) also associate globalization with three aspects.

Detritization which has increased possibilities for action between and among people where geographical space is immaterial to social and economic activity. E-commerce and television allow people situated anywhere to do business and see the impact of war, famine, floods, fire and accidents.

Interconnectedness can be seen as distant events, forces and decisions impacting local and regional endeavors through exchange of ideas in cyber space through the internet. Interconnectedness also creates feelings for humanity.

Speed and Velocity of social and economic activity has been largely due to proliferation of high speed transportation, communication and information technologies which have blurred all boundaries, geographical and territorial as well as social and economic. Movement of people, information, capital and goods is at amazing speed.

There are two contradictory emerged as a result of globalization, standardization and diversification.

Standardization of eating habits, clothing, lifestyles, communication and language tend to produce similarities in living conditions of societies. On the other hand **diversification** strives to preserve the multi facets of the society by promoting access to diverse features of the world heritage. There is a great desire in people to preserve, defend and protect their cultural identities and thereby promoting a resistance to uniformity.

Defining Globalization we can say that, "At the most organic and fundamental level, it is about the monumental structural changes occurring in the processes of production and distribution in the global economy". Hence it is the situation where the countries of the world come together at a common place (market) and exchange the goods and services to benefit all. This has become possible due to the liberal policies of the countries and the advanced technologies of the 21st century.

Globalization can also be defined as the intensification of worldwide social relations which link distant localities in such a way that local happenings are shaped by events occurring at any distant place and vice versa. Hence globalization gives rise to the terms like "One World" and "Global Village" and lays emphasis on decreasing the importance of national borders and increased flow of people, ideas, knowledge, capital, technologies, etc throughout the world.

FEATURES OF GLOBALIZATION:

- Growth of transnational corporations and multinational corporations/organizations.
- International division of labor.
- Encouragement of markets rather than government central planning.
- Growth of offshore finance and telecommunication that can link banks, stock markets, companies and organizations together in a global network.
- Increasing migration of peoples within and across national boundaries in search of work.
- The growth of media by satellite that ensures programs to be beamed across the globe regardless of national boundaries.
- Growth of national and international Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

GLOBAL EDUCATION:

The purpose of globalization and global education is to develop a 'global perspective' and sensitize the youth for understanding the multicultural world and maintaining peace and harmony in the world. People in general and the youth in particular has to be aware of the global happenings and issues and the interdependence of people.

Global perspective means *sharing and cooperation* with others allowing them to use whatever resources are available to attain individual as well as common goals. Further, *empathy* towards others, i.e. understanding and sharing feelings, *communication ability* in order to express and exchange thoughts, feelings and information and *resolving conflicts* by finding satisfactory ways of dealing with disagreement or argument between people, groups, societies or nations.

PROFESSIONALIZING THE TEACHER AND TEACHER EDUCATION FOR GLOBAL WORLD:

There are many challenges before the teaching profession. Firstly, teachers need to radically adapt to the new skills, techniques, methods and demands and secondly a change in the mind set to take up new responsibilities. It is only then that the teacher can be professionalized.

Teaching is a profession with competing demands. In spite of a high demand for teachers the profession has not attracted the best with adequate qualifications, training and desire the world over. As such, the following steps will help in professionalize the profession and the teacher.

- No devaluing of teacher functions
- Good salaries
- Good working conditions
- Flexible hours
- Individualized training to meet the needs of heterogeneous group of teachers catering to heterogeneous students.
- Constant training in use of new methods of teaching, counseling, meeting curricular demands, computers, finding and interpreting information
- Autonomy to teachers in classroom management, teaching strategies, arrangement of furniture and work spaces,
- Standardize the skills and their certification, to be acquired by a teacher enabling it to be used world over.

In order to prepare the new age teachers, the system of teacher education has to adapt new challenges faced by the system. Systemic changes have to be made to prepare the global teacher. These could be in the form of infrastructure, facilities, selection, recruitment and retention of competent human resources, adopting and training in new technologies, and upgrading the curriculum.

CONCLUSION:

Globalization is the integration of economic, political and cultural systems and trends across the world for economic growth, prosperity and democratic freedom. It pursues liberal or free market policies in world economy for economic liberalization. Acceleration in this trend can be characterized by three essential factors, economic activity spreading worldwide, increase in technological innovations especially in the areas of communication and transportation and interdependence between people and nations. Globalization can be associated with three aspects, deterritorialization, interconnectedness and speed and velocity. Globalization has also resulted in the emergence of two contradictory phenomena, standardization and diversification.

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