

ROLE OF TEACHERS IN IMPARTING VALUE EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

Dr.A.P.J.Abdul Kalam in his book "India 2020: A Vision of the New Millennium" has rightly remarked that "If you are a teacher in whatever capacity, you have a very special role to play because more than anybody else it is you who are shaping the future generation. A teacher has a higher responsibility as compared to other professionals as students look upon the teacher as an embodiment of perfection. Education has become a business today. This has changed the outlook of the students as well as the parents and it has further resulted in deterioration of respect for teachers and all those who are a part and parcel of education system.

Dalai Lama explains that "when educating the minds of our youth, we must not forget to educate their hearts." The present paper is an attempt to state the role of teachers in value education in the present education system so that the future generations will nourish high ideals and values to contribute in the development of the society and the role of a teacher in imparting values.

Key words: Value education, Gurukula system, Curriculum.

INTRODUCTION

In today's era of competition and survival we observe laxity in moral values. Industrialization has led to the emergence of high life style and raised the standard of living of people. It has made man rich in materialistic sense but deteriorated the ethical fiber in the society. People crave for money, power. They are ready to jeopardize the interest of other people in pursuit of their selfish gains. Corruption in religious, economic, social, educational field is rampant. We come across many social evils in the society. Children due to their exposure to mass-media are turning juvenile delinquents. Due to lack of values they adhere to whatever is shown in the TV and on net ruining their life. Family disorganization has made them astray. Parents are busy pursuing their careers and children are taken care by day care centers. Due to this value education is not imparted to these children. They become drug addicts, consume alcohol, gamble and enter into anti-social Activities.

This is the present scenario which needs to undergo change in order to have a peaceful society and realise the importance of Value education by incorporating the subject in school curriculum. Teachers play an important role in infusing the knowledge of "Para Vidya" to make students aware of knowledge of our self; the knowledge of the supreme reality to keep oneself away from vices.

GURUKULA SYSTEM

- The traditional Gurukula system of imparting education transformed the personality of the pupils. Spiritual wisdom was imparted to them through spiritual gurus.
- Thus a strong foundation of ethical values was laid down. Guru's prepared students to become responsible citizens and contribute in social welfare. They could channelize their energy for the betterment of the society.
- Imparted knowledge of past, present and future. They were known as Trikalajananis.

- Education stood for emancipation, ennoblement and evolution of human beings.

PRESENT EDUCATION SYSTEM: DEARTH OF VALUE EDUCATION

Present education system deals with imparting knowledge of "Apara Vidya" i.e. study of Physics, Chemistry, History, Biology etc. The knowledge which we possess through the present education system is Apara Vidya which means that although we have knowledge of the world we do not have knowledge of our own self, of the supreme reality which is beyond time and space. We get knowledge of the external world. Today's education system is designed in such a way that a human being will achieve materialistic Success and superficial achievements but he will lack virtues like kindness, honesty, compassion, righteousness, peace, love, non-violence etc. Human beings have become individualistic and self-centered. This infuses in them jealousy, hatred and rivalry. Stability of society is threatened by the breakdown of ethics. The basic aim of education should be to produce men of knowledge and culture. Values such as Patriotism, anti-untouchability, dignity of individuals, endurance, social service, justice, national integration find no place in today's world of corruption, violence, intolerance and money-making.

VALUE EDUCATION: NEED

Values are standards or principles considered important in life. They come from within (Love, Kindness, Compassion, Mercy, Sympathy, Empathy, etc.) and also by Practicing (Punctuality, Discipline, Obedience, Behaviour, Conduct, Character.). They are the foundation of human existence. Without the knowledge of values society cannot sustain. Values tell a man to differentiate between good and bad, what one should do and what one should abstain from. They bring quality and meaning to our life. Value gives a person his identity and character. Value act as guidelines - they tell him what he should and should not do.

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The "**Learned teachers**" are like **sign posts in the road**, to tell you where the road leads to.

- The Teacher should help the students achieve their full potential and bring out the best in them.
- Be able to lead them towards a better tomorrow.
- Most important of all must be loving and sincere!

Isn't imparting values the responsibility of parents? Yes, it is. But teachers and schools play a big role too.

- 1) Students spend more time in campus.
- 2) Campus forms the Bridge between Home and the Society.
- 3) It is in Schools and later in the Colleges that students learn how to behave in the society.
- 4) It is in schools and colleges that a good value system can be nurtured.

"A teacher's purpose is not to create students in his own image, but to develop students who can create their own image"

Teachers are a role-model for the students. Their actions convey more than their words. Students learn values from what the teachers are rather than from what they say. Teacher makes a maximum impact on the personality of a student in the formative years. Students imbibe virtues and vices knowingly and unknowingly from these role models. Teachers demonstrate the appropriate behaviour of their students by their actions.

Teachers must have healthy attitude and should possess rich values. Teaching is all about attitude positive / negative towards their job of imparting quality education. Teacher should act as a friend, philosopher and guide. A teacher is not only a source of information but is also a mentor and guardian. Forth is teacher must respect the teaching profession, love her subjects and students, Students will seek inspiration from teachers who have high self-esteem.

A decade back or so the role of a teacher was limited to being a source of information. But today this place is shared by books, coaching classes, multimedia technology etc. So the role of a teacher is marginalized. Role of a teacher has increased manifold. In modern times we are experiencing transition. A teacher can maintain values and nurture them. A teacher has an immense potential of bringing about a sea change in the society by demonstrating essential values of head and heart. Teacher can impart values in students by giving them instructions through discussion, experimentation and lectures and by the following mentioned ways:

- Teachers can maintain a **case-study register** to closely observe the students and note down the positive and negative traits of their personality.
- By organizing **cultural and sports events** values like team spirit, sharing, spirit of cooperation, patience, courtesy etc can be imparted.
- National and religious festivals must be celebrated to foster a feeling of homogeneity.

- “Thought for the Day” should be employed in assemblies. Moral thoughts trigger in them moral thinking.
- Teachers should give importance to cooperative learning.
- Skits, role plays propagating moral values can be performed by students under the guidance of teacher.
- Teacher must tell the students to go to the libraries- the treasure house of knowledge.
- Teacher must explain the students the importance of meditation & yoga practices.
- Impart knowledge of foreign languages to make them know different cultures.
- Organize games, excursions, visits to places of historical importance. Club activities like nature club, literary club, wildlife prevention club, social service camps, blood donation etc.
- Suicidal tendencies in students should be cured. They must be prepared by the teacher to face the challenges of life fearlessly and with courage.

CONCLUSION

Thus Teachers play an important role in the nation building by character building of the students. The best and the greatest profession in the world is that of a teacher, because the future of a nation depends upon the type of teachers who shape the future generations. Every teacher plays the most important role in shaping the students as enlightened citizen. Swami Vivekananda’s words should not be forgotten by the teachers- “Arise, Awake and Stop not till the goal is achieved”.

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