

Role of Rational Education Practice in Higher Education System, In Promotion of Logical and Critical Thinking Among Students.

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Abstract

Education's purpose of promoting rationality is legitimate because it may be accomplished without indoctrination, is a means to noble ends, and is an important end in and of itself. Rationalism holds that sound knowledge is founded on reason alone, independent of the senses, and that reason is both the source and the standard by which sound knowledge is measured. The premise of it is that reality has a logical structure. Little brains are encouraged to notice, reflect, and question wisely by rational thought. This method aids young learners in developing a more comprehensive understanding of circumstances and issues. They can remain ready for both the greatest and worst events by broadening the possible possibilities. The most important aspect of learning is critical thinking since it helps students reflect on and comprehend their own points of view. This ability aids a pupil in understanding the world through their own observations and insights. The goal of critical thinking is to get the best results possible in any circumstance. This must be accomplished by compiling and analysing data from as many diverse sources as is practical.

Key words: *Rational Education, logical thinking, Critical thinking, Sound knowledge.*

Introduction

The goal of a rational education system is to make children become secular, tolerant, and peaceful adults. A system of rational education fosters a scientific mindset, high standards of education, and the development of skilled people resources. The use of "pragmatic, deductive, logical, and intellectual reasoning are some of the methods used in the process of teaching and learning" is referred to as rationalism in educational philosophy. A vision of rationality as a goal of education is put forth that embraces the qualities that the developmental and thinking skills approaches have in common while avoiding their drawbacks. Rene Descartes, who adopted Plato's ideas and argued in favor of a rationalist epistemology in his books *Meditations on First Philosophy*, is regarded as the founder of modern rationalism. It is suggested that education should have reason as a goal that combines the supplementary strengths and avoids the limitations of the developmental and thinking skills approaches. Rationality is defined as the self-reflective, intentional, and appropriate coordination and use of genuine reasons in generating and justifying belief (Moshman, 1990)s and behavior.

Rationalism positions reason as both the source and the measure of sound knowledge – that is, Rationalism is the belief that valid knowledge is based in reason without the aid of the senses. It begins with the assumption that reality has a logical structure.

Rational knowledge is human reasoning and requires verification. The ability of man to reason while giving logical step by step demonstration and arguments is referred to as human knowledge and it has a rational source.

Critical thinking is at the forefront of learning, as it aids a student reflect and understand their points of views. This skill helps a student figure out how to make sense of the world, based on personal observation and understanding. (Singh, 2021)

When students analyze, evaluate, interpret, or synthesize data and use original thought to develop an argument, address a challenge, or conclude, they are engaging in critical thinking. The goal of critical thinking is to

advance autonomous thought, individuality, and logical judgement in decision-making and behavior. The capacity for sound reasoning and the disposition to do so are two linked variables involved.

Higher education in India

Higher education is a valuable cultural and scientific resource that fosters individual growth and advances economic, technological, and social transformation. It encourages information sharing, research, and innovation while giving students the tools they need to adapt to the constantly shifting nature of the job market. Higher education promotes not only academic knowledge but also character development, social responsibility, and personal growth. Career Advancement: A higher education gives people the knowledge and credentials they need to pursue leadership positions and higher-level positions in their fields.

Importance of rational education in higher education

1. A rationality as an educational objective is offered that integrates the complementary strengths while avoiding the constraints of the developmental and thinking skills methods. Rational learning involves a pattern in which an early openness to available experience is followed by longer periods of resistance to change.
2. The dynamics of rational learning make it particularly well suited to describing global rather than regional patterns of policy spread.
3. A rational education system aids in the development of scientific temper and quality education, as well as the development of skilled people resources.
4. It is critical to be able to think rationally and objectively in order to make informed judgements and establish beliefs that are supported by evidence and reason. It entails questioning everything, examining many points of view, and using facts to back your opinions and judgements.
5. It improves analytical ability This discipline is extremely important in enhancing children's vision. It increases their ability to grasp and assimilate information more quickly. This, in turn, boosts their brainpower and helps them grow into more logical and sensible individuals.
6. It aids in the formation of individual opinions. The ability to consider, obtain, organise, and analyse relevant information and then reach a systematic conclusion is referred to as rational thinking. Children may sort out different ideas, choose the things they like best, and speak their thoughts more confidently through this process.
7. This in turn helps them gain respect and attention from society, perform well academically and also align themselves to the demands of rapidly changing times.
8. It widens insight and intellect Rational thinking encourages little minds to observe, think and question intelligently. This technique helps children to comprehend situations and problems more holistically. Widening the outcomes, they can consider, also enables them to stay prepared for both the best as well as the worst. This is an important trait that makes them fit to survive the outside world.

Quality Concerns in Higher Education

Since there are some factors influencing quality in higher education, such as politicisation, poor intake quality, inadequate student service, insufficient material resources, non-accountability of institutions, overcrowding in classrooms, influencing teaching, examination reform, teaching methods, and so on. The calibre of faculty, curriculum standards, technical infrastructure available, research atmosphere, accreditation regime, and administrative policies and procedures adopted in institutions of higher learning are the primary variables impacting the quality of higher education. The United Nations has listed quality education as a primary priority in its Sustainable Development Goals to ensure the 'transformation of the world' by 2030. The United Nations defines excellent education as fair and standard education for everyone that promotes lifelong learning and the desire to learn. Enhancing critical thinking in students

Measures to be incorporated:

- Critical thinking is introduced as a separate subject or course in our tertiary institutions.
- Developing Critical Thinking Skills
- Teachers should be encouraged to operate more in classroom, at higher level of cognition than the lower level.
- Teachers should adopt suitable methods of teaching such as Socratic method, Inquiry method, problem-solving method etc. that are consistent with the development of critical thinking skill in students.
- Both teachers and students should imbibe the attitude of intellectual empathy and intellectual

- humility, culminating in broad-mindedness needed for the development of the skill.
- It is not just enough to acquire the knowledge and the skills involved in critical thinking,
- learners should be encouraged to apply such skills in their daily lives. (Adeyemi, 2012)

Focus of Academic Rationalist Learning

1. the truth for its own sake not for preparation for vocational skills.
2. Learning valued ideas of important people accumulated at different periods of human evolution.
3. Stressing on common needs because they are not different from person to person.
4. Knowledge is unified and unchanging

Developing critical thinking skills as a student

1. Ask questions. It is often seen that students hesitate to ask questions in the classroom
2. Participate in discussions: Students who participate in class have studied the material well enough to introduce new concepts to their peers. This level of thinking goes beyond simple comprehension of text, and can also improve memory. Participation can also help students learn from each other, increasing comprehension through cooperation.
3. Practice active learning: Active learning is an approach to instruction that involves actively engaging students with the course material through discussions, problem solving, case studies, role plays and other methods.
4. Study with the help of examples
5. Go beyond academic learning: Success in education today builds not just cognitive but character fortitude. It is about curiosity – opening minds; it is about compassion – opening hearts; and it is about courage – mobilising our cognitive, social and emotional resources to act. These qualities, or social and emotional skills as our report calls them, are also weapons against the greatest threats of our time: ignorance – the closed mind; hate – the closed heart; and fear – the enemy of agency

Conclusion:

The incorporating rational education in Higher Education will lead to the Sustainability Initiative to get institutions of higher education to commit to teach sustainable development concepts, encourage research on sustainable development issues, green their campuses, and support sustainability efforts in their communities. Also strengthen the pillars of sustainability through the rational education in higher education through promoting the critical thinking in the student community by improving the Human sustainability. Human sustainability aims to maintain and improve the human capital in society, Social sustainability. Economic sustainability. Environmental sustainability.

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