

# Education and Teacher - A Solution for National Integration and Peace

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India has been seen as a unique example of unity in Diversity. From the Immemorial, it has been seen that different races found battles against each other on Indian soil and got themselves firmly entrenched, but India has assimilated them all into her blood. The conflicting cultures were at last modelled by this country to her own genesis and pattern. India has witnessed a great diversity of faith and religion from the earliest times, but this has not interfered with the peaceful pursuit of the ways of life of different sections. Christians and Jews who came to India in the first century of the Christian era found hospitable reception here. After several centuries, the Parsis and Muslims received equal reception. Even since then India has been marked by the prosperity of communities belonging to different religions. The people of India value the importance of National Integration. The motto of catholicity of India culture, 'live and let live' have been forged through ages, different religions races and cultures of the vast country into a united concept of oneness that is India. It was this inherent unity and communal harmony which enabled India to fight against the British might as one man for freedom. India is a prominent global voice that has made a significant progress on human development over the past 60 years. But the benefits of a growing economy are not shared equality: the country is still home to one-third of the world's poor. India is the world's largest democracy and nearly 1.3 billion citizens. The economy is among the top 10 percentile is fastest growing and over the past 60 years, life expectancy nearly doubled and adult literacy more than quadrupled. In spite of regional, linguistic, religious and ethnic differences dividing India into apparently irreconcilable social groups. India have found one and united.

## **Problems in India**

It has been long 60 years of struggle to achieve so many new parameters of excellence in different areas. But there are so many social issues which have to be solved urgently to make the social life peacefully. Overpopulation, Poverty, Sanitation, Corruption, illiteracy, Violence, Communalism, Lack of National Integration, Terrorism, Naxalite Maoist insurgency, Caste related violence. Other varied forms of social problems such as Casteism, Untouchability, Bonded Labour, Gender Inequality, Dowry, and Domestic Violence against Women, Sexual Violence against Women, Child Sexual Abuse, Communalism, Religious Violence, and Issues related to SC/ STs, Marital Rape, Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace etc. All these hurdles are parameters to an end to the development of our country. All these concerns have to be solved by selecting one by one and examining for its roots. Let me select: National Integration.

## **What is National Integration?**

It refers to the perception of single national identity among people of a country belonging to various races, castes and religion. Communal Harmony is also related to National Integration since it refers to the harmony, acceptance and love among the people of various communities belonging to different castes, race and religion. When a person is asked about his caste or region, he/she should be able to say: I AM AN INDIA... than telling a Hindu/ Muslim/ Christian/ Sikh. The expectations of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Ambedkar were to make India under one pillar. But it has become into reality. The preamble to the constitution described India as a Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic and secures to all citizens liberty of thought, expression belief faith and worship. Articles 25 to 30, in particular, guarantee to everyone the right of freedom of religion freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practice and propagate religion.

## **Communalism and National Integration**

Communalism endangers National Integration. National integration is thus an established fact. Why are we then worried? The cause of an anxiety is the separatist tendency which tends to endanger the age-old communal harmony and unity of the country. The fissiparous tendency which trends to endanger the age-old communal harmony and unity of the country. The fissiparous tendencies like aggressive communalism, regionalism, linguism, religious bigotry and casteism are threatening the natural integration. The foremost danger to National Integration is rapid

Communalism. Communalism's ugliest manifest is communal riots which occur in this country with a disconcerting frequency. Admittedly, there is no doubt that the communal questions was nurtured and grew to menacing proportions with the politically motivated encouragement given by British rulers to certain communities. The spurt of communal riots in the post independence years is as a reminder of the harsh reality and proved that communalism has now deeper roots than before. Casteism constitutes yet another potential threat to the Communal Harmony and National Integration in India from the time immemorial this system has been grown up. Now it is one of the great problems of our society. Casteism might have done well but at the moment it endangers our national unity. The danger of communalism can be averted if the self-defeating and suicidal slogans like 'my state', 'my language', 'my caste' and after all 'my religion' are supreme, give way to the noble sentiment of India first and last and always. It will integrate our emotions and aspirations and ensure Communal Harmony and National integration of the Country. Now steps should therefore, be taken to strengthen the feeling of National Integration, Unity and Communal Harmony.

### **Education and Society**

The question that needs to be asked is what is education? Education is the process to educate a person. The word educate comes from the Latin root- 'Educere', which means 'to bring out or lead forth'. Swami Vivekananda once Said. "Education is the manifestation of Perfection already in man". This recognizes that every person has something 'good' within, although some may have it in greater measure than others. This implies that education should bring out what is best in each person. Perfection is generally considered a divine attribute. As every person are unique, the lesson hit a ready target- a lock and key mechanism to bring out his/her uniqueness. Education is the key that opens the door to the riches within man. Education then would bring out the 'God' in man and not the 'Devil'. An ill educated man is a menace to society. An ill- educated leader is a calamity. An ill- educated teacher is an outright criminal. An ill- educated preacher a curse. An ill- educated society of peoples is a tragedy. We have all experienced the consequences of the words and deeds of ill-educated persons in various walks of life. So only education

### **Education = Knowledge + Culture + Wisdom**

Knowledge is at the basic level what we learn to achieve literacy and life skills. This should in turn create a thirst for more, deeper and wider knowledge. Culture involves learning of the profound and distinguishing it from the profane. Culture should be imbibed from ones surroundings and sought beyond it through books and travel. Culture involves the sense and dictates the way of life. Wisdom is the ability to think and act utilizing knowledge, experience, understanding, common sense and insight. The knowledge component includes what one learns in his/her own life time and of the accumulated wisdom of past generations. Discriminative/ Selective learning, which is erudition, is a vital aspect of wisdom. A wise person has to be also a cultured person and educated person. People often think that those who hold higher degrees are more educated than those who have only qualified at the lower levels. The former, may have accumulated more knowledge, but may lack culture and wisdom. The latter, may have less knowledge, but more culture and wisdom. Modern education tends to produce masses with various levels of knowledge and skills but very few with also culture and wisdom. When Culture, Knowledge and wisdom combine that a harmonious relationship emerges in a society with multifarious faiths, languages. A person can be considered as educated and refined when he is able to tolerate differences and has the ability to distinguish between fact and fiction.

### **How does education help in promoting National Integration?**

As above discussed education plays vital role in the man's behaviour. Education gives idea to live and how to communicate each other. It does not change the ideology that could make with once own view point. If education change once ideology then every educated people does not involve in any illegal sources. Today education gives not only language knowledge, but how to live in the society. Education implants values in people's life. People will learn to respect each other and may not hurt the sentiments of others even if don't like it. It enlightens with the fact that every religion says the GOD is great and non of the belief and its scriptures state to hurt anyone.

Education highlights the real problem to learners. It gives a clear cut to about what is right and what is wrong. It is believed that teachers are "Visible God" through whom students can understand the reality.

Basic learning from an educational institution can be read and write well in once own mother tongue. It makes the people aware about the day to day activity in the society through different sources mainly like News Papers.

Education always cultivates good social relationship from the childhood itself. Students belonging to different religion caste and creed study together and a brotherhood love is developed.

Education gives a holistic development to the learners. Education not only restricted in textbook learning but also sports, arts and culture. These aspects help to develop sports man sprit, respect other people's culture etc.

Education installs ethical values and makes the learners understand that most aspirations are common in mankind. It installs an awareness and appreciation of not only an individual's cultural heritage but also an awareness and appreciation of the cultural heritage of the others. Education gives the learners knowledge of as individuals and by extension of those around them. Education produces 'thinking' persons and who can understand their limitations and can learn from those who transcend these limitations. It teaches persons with respect for others. Education produces persons who seek to learn the Wisdom distilled from previous generations and from those of learning and wisdom in their society and the world- at- large. Education understands the distinction between rhetoric and truth/ facts. It helps us to reconcile the duality we see in everything around us and appreciate the whole- the concept of reconciling the opposites. Education is the key in achieving harmony in any society. Education transforms into an 'Ethical nation' from one that is built on expediency.

### **Role of a teacher in promoting National Integration**

Now the question arises about narrow thinking of the educated people. Here comes the need of quality education in our country. Government has taken so many new steps to provide quality education in different institutions. But these steps are not getting taken because there is no visible crisis pushing the people to act. Here comes the vital role of a teacher. He /she has be very careful in imparting his/her knowledge especially regarding the matter of religion, caste , creed as well as regarding the political issues. Most of the students try to follow the teacher's viewpoints as it is very easy to transform the children. Teachers should be role model for the children even in their personal life. They should not be partial towards their own religion, caste and creed. Real aim of education can be fulfilled by teachers only. So it is the duty of every teacher to pass on proper education to coming generation. So that coming generation will be grown up with good values which will help for the National Integration and Peace in our country. Further, the menace of private tuition in school subjects should be eradicated to provide the child the time to learn other things of value of life.

### **Need for Peace and Harmony in India**

If there is peace and harmony in India, only then, India as nations can go forward the law and order situation in the country is not very happy. There has been communal trouble which time is the result of deliberate effort to create trouble. Many parties and organization spread casteism, communalism or other kinds of poison which pollute our society. Similarly if militancy has come to an end in some of the states yet it is still very powerful in some other states. Consequently innocent lives are lost. Properties destroyed an ill-will prevails. This type of situations within the country cannot allow political stability and economic betterment. If there is an atmosphere of suspicious distrust of fear and aggressiveness, it is not possible to think of constructive progress. Only one section of the people should be encouraged. Till everyone gets a fair deal people cannot be prosperous and powerful. By fair deal we mean that weaker and the backward should get special help and others should be able to lead a very stable life.

Peace and harmony demands that we should meet the challenges. There is need of unity and of commitment not to a party, not to a particular person but to the nation as a whole. At this time, it is necessary that we should cultivate national attitude towards India as a united country. India is suffering from the problem of poverty and unemployment which at some or the other stage may threaten even our democracy. Unless there is peace and harmony in the country, it is possible to make India politically strong, economically better off and socially united. There should be peace within the country as well outside the country. So if we want peace and harmony in the country, we will have to see that there is peace and harmony in the world also.

### **Conclusion:**

The education system in this country should be overhauled at all levels to incorporate components of our heritage and culture in greater measure. The education system should embrace the dedicated institutions, the home and society. The best from the west should be incorporated, but not permitted to diminish or blow away what is ours and makes us what we are. The story, poem , song , arts , aphorisms, morals , proverbs, values and meaning that have come down to us from generations past, should remain essential parts of who are and should be cherished.

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