

Value Oriented Education: Call of the ICT Era

Fathima Beevi M I,

*Assistant Librarian, University of Calicut
Corresponding Author: Fathima Beevi M I*

ABSTRACT- Education is the backbone of human development. Comprehensive development of individuals and there by social development is the basic aim of education. Modern era is the age of complexities. Educational degrees and qualifications are abundant but human values are diminishing day by day. Peace and harmony is missing, criminals and law breakers are interrupting the law and order. Introduction and implimentation of a value based education is the only solution.

INDEX TERMS – Modern educational system, crisis of the present society, Concept of education- value oriented education.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Education is the token of human development and culture. Comprehensive development of individuals and there by social development is the basic aim of education. Inborn nature of man is innocent and it is the education and prevailing cicumstances which make him humane or inhumane. So any education system which nurture humaneness is the true education. True education liberate man from covetousness and make him beneficial to mankind. It is a continuous process from birth to death.

The word education refers to growth, development, culture, behavior modification, acquiring knowledge ...etc. Education is enlightenment which leads from darkness to light, from ignorance to literacy. Teacher, student and curricula are the three units of education where teacher is the centre as far as students are concerned and so teacher should be a role model. Curricula should aim in achieving the goal of education. Nourishing physical, intellectual, mental, emotional, and spiritual aspects of the students in an efficient and effective manner so as to use their potential in a powerful way for themselves, for the society and for the nation as a whole is the fundamental aim of education.

Without values the above mentioned aim is a delusion. Ours is an age of educational innovations. Schools, colleges, universities, deemed universities and virtual classrooms are flourishing spontaneously. Different degrees and courses are emerging to study to meet the newest employment opportunities, but humanity is injured evrywhere. Education should cater values along with degrees. Valueless education only create Robots who have no human touches of tolerance, patience, considerations, equality...etc.

Modern era is the age of complexities where information explosion, scientific, technological and cyber revolution are taking place on one side and human values are deteriorating in another side. Life in peace and harmony has become dreams of past. Brutalities, corruption, terrorism, unequalities, intolerance ...etc. are reigning everywhere in the society. Human values are vanishing from the society from day to day. Even social justice is at risk. In this critical juncture , it is high time to rethink and review our educational system to formulate new plans for a value based education system.

II. CONEPT OF VALUE EDUCATION

The term education is originated from the Latin word 'educate' which means to "bring up". It is the process of imparting knowledge along with developing habits and attitudes to be successful in life. Conventionally education is a form of learning in which information, expertise, customs ...etc. are transferred from one generation to the next generation through teaching, research or training. It is a process of attaining knowledge systematically during childhood to adolescence. The main function of education is to qualify the learners with necessary techniques, information, ideas and attitudes to empower themselves to cope with the situation.

The word value is originated from the Latin word "valere" which means 'to be strong and vigorous'. According to Cuber values are the ideas and beliefs which people cherish. It is virtuous or professional codes of behavior and includes all moral, political, philosophical ideologies that help in nourishing the society and culture. Any human activity, thought or plan that encourage self or social development in all aspects could be said to comprise a value. It is the building blocks of human personality. It is evident from our ancestors that

values give vigor and meaning, influences ideas, actions, feelings ...etc and can change even the human civilization.

Value education is not a modern concept, it is there from the ancient time onwards. In the course of time when man ran behind the modern innovations to accumulate more and more facilities values were set aside. Value education is an action of purification by which human values are established in human minds. The word education itself comprises value education. According to Rabindra Nath Tagore “ the highest education is that which does not merely give us information but make our life in harmony with all existences ”. Great leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Dr.Mudolia Azad, Dr. D S Kothari had recommended for a value based education. Jawaharlal Nehru said “Let us persue our path to industrial progress with all our strength and vigor and at the same time remember that material riches without tolerance, compassion and wisdom may turn in to dust and ashes.”

The tremendous changes caused by the Industrial revolution paved the way for a lot of social changes Mechanised industrialisation changed the social life. The job division caused by this compelled training and practice. Due to the economic growth emerged from this, even common man began to educate their children and social education was flourished. Any cultural evolution related to success or any predetermined changes are through education. Cultural transmission, scientific and technical achievements all are through education. It is not just a training or direction but it is an act of cultivating intellectual and mental abilities to use the treasures of knowledge in betterways and to face the life situations. Ancestors progressed slowly in education and hence their cultural evolution was gradual.

III. GOAL OF EDUCATION

Overall development of individuals for the attainment of social and national prosperity is the ultimate goal of education. According to Plato it is the process of cherishing a sound mind and body. Transmission of culture and civilization is facilitated by education. It is a process which promotes the socialization. Education helps to acquire knowledge, create employment and guide to live peacefully. To John Dewey education is not preparation for life, education is life itself. Promotion of social and national integration should be accomplished through education.

The aim of education can be summarised as transmission of cultural heritage to the next generation, promotion of healthy social formation, improvement of social control and social development. The tremendous changes good or bad, the treasures of past culture and civilizations have to be introduced through education, enabling the present generation to enlighten life according to the changes that is beneficial to the society as a whole. Leadership training, cooperative training also constitute to the objectives of education. Ultimately these objectives contribute for the welfare of the society. Mental growth and behaviors imparted through education could help to self control and social control and hence a well prepared education system can cultivate good citizens who are valuable to the national prosperity.

IV. NEED OF VALUE EDUCATION

For the accomplishment of socialism, secularism, national integration, democracy, social peace and harmony educational system and curricula must be organized so as to promote values of equality, social justice, tolerance, considerations, unity in diversity and so on. Education should enable one to analyse the social system and to introduce changes , if necessary , for the benefit of man and nature. Only values can help and foster a benevolent mind which can think and work for the beneficence of society and nature. As well as the society now the nature is also in threat. Natural resources are exploiting without any restrictions and the balance of nature is diminishing dangerously. Contagious and distructive diseases are emenating day to day. Unconstrained exploitations of the nature for narrow-minded greediness may be the causes of natural calamities such as flood, typhoons and landslides...etc. All is because of the selfishness where there is no considerations for others. Conservation of natural resources for the coming generations is a great human value. Modern humanists and wellwishers of society and nature are mourning about the degradation of the society and pollution of nature.

Information and technological revolution has caused many changes in the modern society. Educational institutions and degrees are emerging day by day to compete with the employment needs of the age. It is clear that education is the forerunner of a society in its development. True education is not for creating only technocrats but along with technological and scientific advancement it should foster the human values in the minds. Technological and scientific advancement create only robots who do any work assigned to them but without any considerations.

C S Lewin is of the opinion that “ education without values, as useful as it is, seems rather to make man a more clever devil. Nelson Mandela is of the view that “education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”.

Contemporary age is an age of turbulence. Knowledge explosion, scientific and technical inventions, cyber revolutions are the hallmarks of the present society. To survive this dilemma new courses are emerging in educational fields and new job opportunities are creating to face the situations. But quality of education is decreasing. It is due to the absence of values our old age homes are filling, family relations are diminishing from the society, and fake promises are offering by rulers and politicians to accomplish their goals.

Along with the economic development caused by the modern advancements lifestyles has changed a lot. Now corruption, brutalities, intolerance, egoism, bribery, sexual harrasment even towards infants, immoralities, selfishness, violence, inequality, murder, racial and ethnic inequalities selfishness are rampant in the society. Though globalization is on way, nations are competing in making nuclear weapons and missiles and warning other nations of using their deadly weapons to cherish their interests. Scholars, educationalists, scientists and engineers are emerging everywhere but human values are vanishing from the society. Due to these peaceful life has become impossible. In a way modern society is retreating towards the old pagan culture where might was right. Today political power and wealth decides the laws of the society where even social justice is at risk.

Life styles are developed than ever before but peace and harmony is missing every where not because of lack of innovations but due to the lack of values in our education. Now degrees are awarded largely but we forgot the values to be inculcated through education in pursuit of development. Even criminals are escaping and crime has become a part of our society. These all points to the need of a value education. For the development of culture and civilizations, for the smooth functioning of nature we need a society where equality, justice, truth, tolerance, peace and nonviolence should be the emblem of the educational institutions. A value based educational revolution can only change the present chaotic situation.

It is very frustratng that youngsters are more indulged in crimes and cruelties. If this is continued future generation and the society will perish and peace and harmony will disappear from the society. New cases of corruption, atrocities...etc. are revealing daily through newspapers and medias.

The report of the Parliament standing Committee (January 1999) has pointed to the devastation of values in our society and the National Curriculum for School Education 2000(NCERT 2000) also denoted about the deterioration of values and stressed the need to impart it in children.

In short along with scientific and technical innovations we have to take steps to uphold human values. Terrorism, selfishness, cruelties can be prevented only through great values of truth, nonviolence, equality and democracy. Values are needed for the moral and healthy development of children. Positve attitude, preservation and promotion of culture, sense of oneness can be created only through values.

V. WAYS TO ACHIEVE VALUE EDUCATION

NCTE paper on teacher education curriculum : a framework (1978) gives comprehensive guidance for vlue orientation. It recommends that a teacher education center should try to produce teachers who follow Gandhian values .Introduce and implement a value based code of conduct for teachers and politicians. Formulate laws and impliment punishment for any one who commit crimes irrespective of power and position. Teachers, parents and leaders should become the role models of values. Impliment equal justice for everyone. Incorporate historical lessons of tolerance and respect in the syllabi. Assign different activities to students so as to cater mercy, truth, compassion, justice...etc. Games and movies spreading the emotions of selfishness, cruelties, corruption, bribery, sexual harrasment...etc should be censored on the psychological point that they will cultivate a sense easiness towards these activities in the minds of people who accustomed to it. So Censoring of movies and games may be a great step in fostering values.

VI. CONCLUSION

Education is the wealth of a person. It is the tranfser of knowledge from one generation to the next generation. Exploring past achievements and inventions present society can create new knowledge. Cornerstone of the development of any society is its education system. The radical changes in the modern civilization has achieved through this transformation.

Education is the process of transmitting, achieving knowledge and developing the powers of reasoning and judgement. It controls, give strength and adorns the citizens. Education is the part and parcel of the development of a society and values constitutes and decides the existence of a society in peace and harmony. So education should uphold and cherish values.

According to Mahathma Gandhi education is the character building and preparing the child to face the life situations. Development of a society is on the basis its values . A turbulent society cannot proceed further as peace and harmony is the backbone of development. Development of Scientific and technological skills only does not elevate a society, but integration of good values in education is also needed for the upliftment of the society. Lack of values will result in using the scientific and technological advancements against the mankind.

Ours is an age chaos. Racial and ethnical problems, egos, terrorism, facism, depression all are making the world turbulent. Educational institutions are flourishing daily. Distance learnig, virtual learning are there for educating the people, but we lack peace and safety. In this critical condition we should give ear to those forerunners who always called for a value based education.

A good educational system should be able, to develop positive attitude, to resolve conflicts and to create peace in the society. The guiding principles of socialism, democracy, social integration should be imparted to the students in the course of education.

Generally, it is the time to stop job oriented education and to start a new educational system which promote and facilitate value added education. Education is for creating intelligent people capable of dealing real life situations. People who follow values can influence and can change the society. Value education give birth to citizens with strength and power, helps to build a peaceful society. With this type of human resources world can progress a lot. For sustaining human culture and civilization in a well developed manner a value based education is the need of the age.

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