

The Importance of Value Education in the Present Education System & Role of Teacher

Dr. Neena Aneja

Principal, A.S.College of Education, Khanna, (Punjab), INDIA

Abstract: 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 and pelf. 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. 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.

Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, our honorable president in his book "India2020: 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. Gautama Buddha has rightly preached "Desire is the root cause of Evil". Students are told not to fulfill their desires by improper ways, by adhering to immoral activities. The present paper is an attempt to state the importance of 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.

Keywords: Value Education, Role of Teacher, Present Education System.

I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Value Education: Need of the Hour

Mankind is passing through a crisis. The tremendous emphasis on the scientific and mechanical ways of life is fast reducing man to the status of a machine. Moral and religious values are being undermined. The fundamental principles of civilization are being ignored. Conflicts of ideas, manners and habits are pervading the atmosphere. Disregard for everything old is the fashion of the day. At this situation, the solutions of all these social and global evils is through value education. Emphasis should be laid on such education through which moral values can be developed among the students so that they can conduct their life morally. They can decide what is right or wrong; what is good or evil; what is justice or injustice. If we can make a student as a good human being, the development of moral values within him is the prior task of education. They are the foundation of human existence. They make our life meaningful. Due to dearth of values in the present generation the curriculum must give prominence to value education. Value education has never been out of style. It is very relevant in almost all the fields concerning human activity. We have outstanding doctors who are in to organ robbery, brilliant engineers whose bridges collapses soon after their bills are passed, accountants who rob government

treasury by manipulation, civil servants who rule as emperors, politicians with fake promises. All of them are the best educated and trained but their intellectual dishonesty is horrifying. Hence, the need of development of moral values is very significant. Some important needs have been mentioned below:

1. Preparing Our Children for Future Roles in Society:

Knowledge gained in school is only one goal of education. The primary goals of education should be enabling students to gain knowledge and moral values. Our kids will need both in preparing themselves to be good parents and citizens in society.

2. Many Parents Aren't Teaching Moral Values:

If all parents were teaching their children moral values in the home, it would not be necessary for the schools to do this work. The sad fact is that a lot of kids are not learning from their parents the difference between right and wrong. This is because most mothers and fathers in their busy work days spend only a few hours with their children. In many families there is only one parent and no other role models for kids to follow:

3. There is Too Much Violence and Dishonesty in Society:

Every day students are exposed to violence, dishonesty, and other social problems in the media and the real world. How many times have we heard about school shootings? What about other times when students are caught cheating on exams? Then, too, we read about bullying in school and fights between gangs. If moral values were taught in schools, we would have fewer of these problems.

4. To Counter Bad Influences in Society: Unfortunately, many of the role models of young people are setting bad examples. These bad examples range from sexual promiscuity, degrading of women, advocacy of violence, and the condoning of dishonesty in order to succeed.

5. Moral Values Will Stick with You for Life:

The significant of moral values in our life is very important. Moral values teach us what is right or wrong. Thus, we can conduct our life in a right direction. We can understand what is good or evil. This type of learning helps us to conduct our life morally in this world.

1.2 Some Important Moral Values and School Curriculum

According to Swami Vivekananda, if we want to make our students as a moral human being, school curriculum is one of the best ways to serve this purpose. Because he think that moral values can be inculcated among our students through a value based school curriculum. Therefore, Vivekananda suggested some important moral values which should be included in our school curriculum.

1. Unconditional Love and Kindness: In most cases, if you love someone, he or she will love you back in return. This, however, is not the real meaning of love. Love should be unconditional. With more love in the world, kindness will follow and replace cruelty.

2. Honesty: Students must be taught that dishonesty and cheating is wrong, and will get you nowhere in the future. As a student, one is only hurting himself or herself by cheating, because this action will eventually catch up to you in the end with bad consequences.

3. Hard Work: Nowadays, so many students want to cheat and cut corners in their studies, because they are lazy and don't place any value on hard word. This thinking must change.

4. Respect for Others: Unfortunately, in our highly competitive dog eat dog society; many people will tread on others to get ahead in life. Respect for others should include respecting different religions, races, sexes, ideas, and life styles.

5. Co-operation: To achieve a common goal, it is necessary for all people to work together. If this is not done, a few people may profit, but the end result for everyone will be a failure. I still believe in the motto, "united we stand and divided we fall."

6. Compassion: Compassion is defined as being sensitive to the needs of people. If there were more compassion in the world, there would be less homeless, hunger, wars, and unhappiness.

7. Forgiveness: Anger in most cases is caused by unwillingness to forgive. There would be less violence and fighting in school if students could learn this moral virtue.

1.3 Role of Teachers in Imparting Value Education

Ordinary Teachers can bring about extraordinary transformation in the society. A teacher should practice what he preaches. 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 behavior 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. For this 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. Classics available in the library are morally rich and inspiring.
- ✦ Teacher must explain the students the importance of meditation & yoga practices for realization or the attainment of oneness with God.
- ✦ Every day a Teacher must spend at least 5 minutes on moral lecturing.
- ✦ 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 curbed. They must be prepared by the teacher to face the challenges of life fearlessly and with courage.

The most important agent for building the character of the student is a teacher. Swami Vivekananda says that “character is nothing but a bundle of habits formed through repeated acts. It comes through “Samskaras” or past impressions. Character building can change the nation. As strong foundation is required for a strong building, strong character is required for nation-building.

II. CONCLUSION

When a problem arises, it needs to be recognized, addressed and resolved. Instead of blaming people or institutions for the results of a lack of morality in schools, we should focus our efforts on finding ways of successfully implementing character education into schools. Changes have to occur in parents, legislators, communities, and the media and educational system so that children are taught how to behave. Actualizing character education programs into schools is necessary in order to overcome this nation's crisis of character. 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 are achieved".

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