Need of Value Education - Today is the Hour

Dr. S. Santhi

Assistant Professor in History, Sri Sarada College of Education, Salem, Tamil Nadu, India

Abstract

Values are determinants of human behavior. They play a vital role in the lives of every individual. They endure and facilitate standards that guide the conduct of human beings. It is the challenging one in the 21st century. Values are not inborn in nature. No one is born with a set of values relating to events, situations, practices, individuals or institutions. These are shaped, natured and developed at home and educational institutions. "Education without values is of no use" Today, our education is only for the heads and hands and not the hearts.- Lack of Value Education has been an important factor in the global scenario of growing violence and terrorism, pollution and ecological imbalances. School has to play a major role to inculcate the values. A teacher who lives by values exercises a profound influence on students. It can be implemented through curricular as well as co-curricular activities. Our educational system should therefore aim not merely at information based knowledge, but on the inculcation of values that guides the students, in the desirable use of the acquired knowledge and skills, thus molding them into ideal / positive human beings and useful members of the society. The teachers only can do the positive changes in the society. The present article is an attempt to insist the importance of value education for the future generation and save our nation.

Keywords

Value Education, Role of Teacher, Present Education System

Introduction

Values are not inborn in nature. No one is born with a set of values relating to events, situations, practices, individuals or institutions. These are shaped, natured and developed at home and educational institutions. Education is a personality building process. It has always been linked with society. It has both a personal and social dimension and like the two sides of the same coin. Mahatma Gandhi considers values are an inseparable component in the full flowering and development of personality. For him every value component is a typical way of life that distinguishes one human being from another. Thus the personality of a person that characterizes his individuality finds an appropriate avenue of self-development.

We are living in a world of Paradox. On the one hand science and technology are advancing very fast, While on the other hand most society are facing problems of alcohol drug abuse, mental illness, stress crime etc. Therefore value education should be introduced at early stage and mould them. Our Constitution of India which embodies the ideals, hopes, values and aspirations of the people of India states. WE THE PEOPLE OF INDIA have solemnly resolved to constitute India into a SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC and secure to all its citizens – Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity.

Values are determinants of human behavior. They play a vital role in the lives of every individual. They are enduring and facilitate standards that guide that conduct of human beings. Education for values should conform to the truth. All values are dominated by the individual first and then by the society. Vallabhai Patel, the great architect of modern India, once observed "Education without values is of no use". Nowadays we have seen that the transformation of Education from 'Gurukul' education to cyber space education. Today the situation is – corruption, nepotism, favoritisms, terrorism and deceptive are the dominating features of our national life. A child gets his/her first lesson in corruptions when he/she finds his/her parents going to different quarters for getting recommendation for his/her jobs or admission to good schools and colleges. They find parents paying donation for that purpose. The level of a corruption gets magnified as the college students learn from experience that jobs are not available on merit, but on the basis of high recommendations from politicians and

even on the basis of money.

A student from his school carrier to higher education finds corruption, artificiality and dishonesty play very vital roles in this modern society and that he/she does not understand why it is so. According to Gandhiji, real education did not consist in packing the brain with information, facts and figures or in passing examinations by reading the prescribed number of books, but by developing the right character. At present, our education system is largely involved in preparing the younger generation for developing their cognitive domain. It is mainly based on the preponderance of public examination and excessive competitive spirit at the cost of developing the more important effective domain.

ISSN: 2394-2975 (Online)

ISSN: 2394-6814 (Print)

Today, what is being done, is to educate the heads and hands and not the hearts.- Lack of Values. Education has been an important factor in the global scenario of growing violence and terrorism, pollution and ecological imbalances. The Rammurthy committee Report (1990) recommended that the imparting of value education should he an integral part of the entire educational process. The same Kothari commission (1966) also mentioned to implement the importance of moral education in all schools. Real Education should enable one to utilize the knowledge, It has acquired to meet the challenges of life and to make all human beings happy as far as possible. In order to achieve this, Value education should begin at the grass root level such as Pre-Primary, Primary stage and continue throughout school, college and university education. The time and duration of such instruction should vary depending upon the school factors.

Who will give the value orientation? It is not the responsibility of any single teacher. In fact every teacher should be a teacher of values. It should not be the sole responsibility of teachers only. In an informal way, parents can transmit values to their children. Community members also have a crucial role to play in this regard. School has to play a major role. The following personal can render useful service to humanity by helping children and youth.

- Experienced teachers
- Spiritual leaders
- Retired Head Masters
- Social Reformers

What values are to be inculcated nowadays among the children and youth? The various Commissions suggested the following ISSN: 2394-2975 (Online) ISSN: 2394-6814 (Print)

values are social, moral, spiritual, national and humanity. Unity and integration of our people, World citizenship, small family norm, Equality of gender, Caring for welfare of the society and the nation. How we can implement the values, Values can be implemented through curricular as well as co-curricular activities in the schools.

Co-Curricular Activities

Every subject can be means of building good character and values can be integrated into every lesson. In mathematics, instead of directly giving the addition, subtraction, multiplication or division, the same can be given with the help of statement which contain values. We can add the positive values and subtract the negative values in our life. Everything in nature has lesson to teach. For example, we can say while blowing up a balloon if a person blows too much air into it, it will burst. Similarly if we are too greedy and acquire more and more material wealth, sonner or later, we will have some problems.

Various countries produce different types of agricultural products which are exchanged through export and import. So in this world we are inter-dependent. We should develop a sense of gratitude towards others who work to provide food. More historical personality's life influence the younger generation. For example the great leader like Abdul Kalam, mother Theresa, Swami Vivekananda etc. The teachers motivated the students to read their life history. Through Language and history we can teach the above mentioned topics. Some of the co-curricular activities into which values can be easily integrated are sports and games, drama, debate, poetry, field trips, art, craft, music etc. We can use some techniques to introduce values. Morning Prayer, thought for the day and inspiration speech are inducing the students to think positively in the whole day. Interpersonal skill can practice the students in friendly way.

Silent Sitting

Children can be encouraged to sit silently for a few minutes every day. With constant practice this will lead to peace, improved memory, concentration and self-control. Every day prayers and a few resolutions can be said during the assembly in order to help the children think positively. Music and group singing can enhance whatever value is being taught as well as instill feelings of peace, love and joy.

Story-Telling

Stories with good morals can be thought in the class by the teacher as well as by children. Pictures and puppets can be used to inculcate all human values among the small children. Group activities like role play, motivation games, quiz game; drama and creative work promote human values. Education should become an instrument of social, economic and political changes and thereby directed towards the realization of the national development. Therefore, the universities should develop nationalistic feeling among the students. There is a need for strong patriotism and a spirit of commitment. Universities and the academics have the special responsibility tore kindle the dying patriotism and national integration. Our teaching can be made more meaningful by imbibing the importance of the noble values of life such as concentration, chastity, truthfulness, tapas, wisdom and love.

Create awareness about the problems of future, especially those related to food, water, energy, environment, pollution, health and population.

- Give equal importance to all students irrespective of caste, creed, sex and money.
- Ensure social equality and justice.
- > Develop the qualities of character and strong leadership.
- Organize field activities among the poor, oppressed and suppressed sections of society, with the students.

Teaching Values

Swami Vivekananda said, "Man is a combination of animosity, humanity and divinity". To awaken the human and divine qualities, man needs education of values particularly positive values. A teacher with a positive attitude has all the potential for any type of teacher development. A teacher who lives by values exercises a profound influence on students. Prof. Kireet Joshi emphasizes, "The secret of teaching values is to inspire and kindle the quest among students by means of one's own examples and mastery of knowledge. It is by embodying values within ourselves that we can radiate serious values to our students. Positive values are better transmitted than taught. Grurudev Tagore said, "A Teacher can never truly teach unless he / she is still learning himself / herself. It is rightly said that A lamp can never light another lamp unless it continues to bear its own flame".

Conclusion

Our educational system should therefore aim not merely at information based knowledge, but on the inculcation of values that guides the students, in the desirable use of the acquired knowledge and skills, thus moulding them into ideal / positive human beings and useful members of the society. On that day Swami Vivekananda said "Give me 100 youths so that I will make a strong India" But today here students ask, we have more than 1000s youths, Where is Vivekananda? They are searching the good leaders in the society. The value Education makes inspired thoughts of good leaders and save our nation from corruption.

References

- [1] Chidbhavananda, Swami (2000)-Indian national Education Sri Ramakrishna Mutt, Chennai.
- [2] Murthy S. K (1985) Teacher and education in Indian society. Prakash bros publication Ludhiana
- [3] Neerja Dhankar Dr. (2010) Value education in school A.P. H Publishing Corporation New Delhi
- [4] Venkataiah N.(Ed) (2010) Value Education Ashish publication House New Delhi
- [5] Yoginder Verma Dr. (2007) Education in Human values for human excellence Kanishka publication New Delhi

Author's Profile

