

Role of a Teacher in imparting Value-Education

Ms. Yogini S Barahate

(Humanities Department, B.V.M, Civil Lines, India)

ABSTRACT: *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: *Character –Building, Ethics, Gurukul system, Torch-Bearers, virtues and Vices*

I. INTRODUCTION

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. Herein lays the importance of Value education by incorporating the subject in school curriculum. 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.

II. GURUKUL SYSTEM

The traditional Gurukul system of imparting education transformed the personality of the pupils. Spiritual wisdom was imparted to them through spiritual gurus. Thus a strong foundation of ethical values was laid down. Guru's prepared students to become responsible citizens and contribute in social welfare. They could channelize their energy for the betterment of the society. Positive vibes coming from the inner spirit infused in them high regard for spiritual aspects. Gurus imparted knowledge of past, present and future. They were known as Trikalajananis. Education stood for emancipation, ennoblement and evolution of human beings. Lord Krishna also studied in the Gurukul system. Sandipani Rishi imparted knowledge to him and other students. We have examples of Buttoo, Arjun, who studied in Gurukul system.

III. PRESENT EDUCATION SYSTEM: DEARTH OF VALUE EDUCATION

Present education system deals with imparting knowledge of “Apara Vidya” i.e. study of Physics, Chemistry, history, biology etc; as well knowledge of scriptures and Vedas. The knowledge which we possess through the present education system is Apara Vidya which means that although we have knowledge of the world we do not have knowledge of our own self, of the supreme reality which is beyond time and space. We get knowledge of the external world.

Today’s education system is designed in such a way that a human being will achieve materialistic success and superficial achievements but he will lack virtues like kindness, honesty, compassion, righteousness, peace, love, non-violence etc.

Human beings have become individualistic and self-centered. This infuses in them jealousy, Hatred and rivalry. Stability of society is threatened by the breakdown of ethics. The basic aim of education should be to produce men of knowledge and culture. Values such as Patriotism, anti-untouchability, dignity of individuals, endurance, social service, justice, national integration find no place in today’s world of corruption, violence, intolerance and money-making.

IV. VALUE EDUCATION: NEED OF THE HOUR

Values are standards or principles considered important in life. They come from within and also by practicing. They are the foundation of human existence. Without the knowledge of values society cannot sustain. Values tell a man to differentiate between good and bad, what one should do and what one should abstain from. 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.

Dr. Gururaj Karajagi, Academic Director of Jain International Residential School, Bangalore states the dichotomy staring at us in life. He says 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 best educated and trained but their intellectual dishonesty is horrifying.

V. 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.
- Teachers should also tell the students to maintain a **spiritual diary** in which they will surrender themselves to God and take an oath to follow the path shown by him.
- 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 spent 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.

VI. CONCLUSION

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 is achieved”.

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