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## The importance of value education in the present education system

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### Abstract

In 21<sup>st</sup> century in the context of achieve goals of education, value education ha became issue of permanent importance. The crisis of value is pervasive resulting on adverse development in all walks of life. Value crisis is not only a problem at the national level but it is also felt globally. Values are closely related with aims of education. Values are part and parcel of the philosophy. Hence aims of education naturally concerned with values. In the other word, value-oriented education is very essential to live in the responsive society. A value crisis in a society implies an erosion of the traditional values of a society or a dilemma situation where there is little balance between traditional values and modern values. Material values prevail over ethical, moral, social and spiritual values. At present, India is passing through a period of value crisis in several areas of national life. It is generally said that individual life as well as our social life is plagued by the evil values of corruption, cynicism, discord, disruption, hypocrisy and violence. Most of the youth have no respect for elders and women, lying has become their habit, and everywhere there is crime and jealousy that drains the much-desired moral values. The overall development of an individual is incomplete if moral values are neglected. With a well-designed curriculum system, it is possible to make education an effective tool for cultivating desirable ethical, moral, spiritual and social values. Value education should help eliminate obscurantism, religion, fanaticism, violence, superstition and fatalism. Education that inculcates universal and eternal values like compassion, courage, honesty, tolerance and truthfulness etc. will help in developing balanced individuals and creating a humane society. It is everyone's responsibility as parents, teachers, great personalities and education to develop the required human values in the young generation. Education without values is like a crime. Therefore, value-based education is a necessity and an indispensable facility. In addition to education, schools should engage in activities that create a sense of brotherhood and love. Schools must participate in social causes through students. Students must be taught the importance of honesty, hard work, respect for others, cooperation and forgiveness. Parents must remember that children look up to their parents and see them as their role models. They should show and set an example of a disciplined life. Experts believe that lack of moral value is the main cause of India's unrest and deteriorating conditions. Restlessness among the youth is a major cause of crime. Openness, easy access to unwanted elements and lack of self-control are becoming a bad part of our society. The youth must be guided and shown the right path. Education must focus on the all-round development of the child, because moral values help to make complete human beings not just individuals. It prepares them for their future role. We need to check this immediately, because if moral values continue to deteriorate, it can lead to the total collapse of society.

**Keywords:** Value education, modern values, education, ethical, moral, spiritual

### Introduction

Since, teacher is the most vital and appropriate person in the entire formal educational setting for inculcating values in young learners and so, from this point of view, it is extremely necessary to ensure that he plays his role as a model of character and good behaviour and as an epitome of those values which the society wishes to inculcate in learners. It needs to be kept in mind that a teacher occupies a position of authority in the eyes of his students and they always tend to follow him. The teacher earns this position not only through his ability to satisfy his students learning

needs but also on account of his other personal attributes. Although for a teacher to be effective in his teaching behaviour is considered relevant, yet for acting as a role model and source of inspiration for his students to make them good human beings and men of character, his behaviour as a teacher is all too important. We know that a teacher's entire behaviour, inside as well as outside the classroom and even outside the school, remains constantly under watch and close scrutiny not only by his students but also by their parents and they all have a very high expectation of his moral behaviour in formal as well as

informal settings. Dalai Lama explains that “when educating the minds of our youth, we must not forget to educate their hearts.” The present paper is an attempt to state the role of teachers in 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.

At present, India is passing through a period of value crisis in several fields of national life. Today’s youth and students are confused a lot. The student today is concerned with material gains, position and power, and does not care for good qualities at all. They don’t have patriotic feelings. They are not interested to serve the motherland. They have craze to go abroad for jobs. Many youths take to crime, just for trivial and small reasons. Headlines of Newspapers are generally as one student kills his teacher. Another student kills his classmate for ransom etc. The problems of drug abuse, crime and mental stress are the other fast spreading phenomena. These are serious problems and call for urgent attention. Therefore, it is very essential that education should develop such values in the students that they become an asset and guide them to become individuals of sterling character who place service of society above service of the self. Holistic development of an individual is incomplete if values are neglected.

### **Concept of value-based education**

Value based education or value oriented education is that planned education which aimed to keep value in education system or curriculum for the betterment of society. In this organized education the effort is made to incorporate value in education system or curriculum for development of emotions, values, skills and proper attitudes of the students for their holistic development. The value based education accelerates to move towards certain profession even through it we can meet our real purposes of life. It is a teaching learning method that enables one individual to develop positive human values for the holistic life. If we could incorporate in our school curricula, then it could bring radical changes in attitude, behaviour of people positively. The importance of value based education was felt by several educationists and social reformers such as, Dr. Radhakrishnan, Dr. Kothari, Mahatma Gandhi, and Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam and so on.

**Importance of value education:** In the context of social changes education is not only to impart information and to teach skills to the students but also to inculcate the values of humanism, democracy, socialism, secularism and national integration. This is necessary for the realization of our national objectives of building a democratic and just social order based on equality, social justice, fraternity and freedom. We know that India was a very rich country in cultural heritage and spiritual aspects. But now it has become a nation of violence, terrorism, extremism, corruption etc. To remove all these from our society value oriented education is highly needed.

In the current times, Teachers concentrate on imparting technical education to their students so that the increasing needs of the information technology (IT) industry are met with the students. Success is perceived in terms of equipping students with scientific and technical knowledge

rather than in developing human beings who possess a sound understanding of good human values. Education is not just about learning skills (how to) but also about the ability to decide on what (what to do?) and why (why to do?). It should lead to the development of critical ability in students towards distinguishing between essence and form, or between what is of value and what is superficial in life. It should develop their understanding which is a pre-requisite for a movement from a rule based society to a relationship based society. Developing the right understanding about oneself and the rest of reality through self-exploration and realization of the inherent co- existence, harmony and self-regulation at various levels of existence is seen to be the real basis of imbibing universal human values and ethical human conduct. This is what will affect transformation towards a holistic worldview (human consciousness) which happens to be the prime purpose of value education.

Values are a set of desirable behaviour which is good for the individual and also the society. Values are not taught, lectured about or professed, they are only demonstrated. The parents and teachers make maximum impact on the personality of an individual in the formative years of life which remains all through the life. In order to train students on importance of good human values, educational institutions such as school, colleges and universities need good teachers and mentors who can serve as role models. Training of teachers is an extremely important pre-requisite for implementation of any value education program in any institution. Just as for a course on engineering design, it is important that the teacher himself should be a good designer, it is even more important that a teacher involved in value education is himself a value driven person. Teachers of value education have necessarily to be role models for their students.

### **Need for Value Education**

The National Policy on education (1986) highlights the urgent need for value education in view of the growing erosion of essential values and increasing cynicism in society. With a well-designed system of curriculum, it is possible to make education a forceful tool for the cultivation of desirable ethical, moral, spiritual and social values. Education should foster universal and eternal values. Value Education should help to eliminate obscurantism, religious, fanaticism, violence, superstition and fatalism. Education which inculcates universal and eternal values like compassion, courage, honesty, tolerance and truthfulness etc. will help in developing balanced individuals and in creating a humane society. Value education in schools is needed for the development of balanced personalities, these are: Appreciative of good in others, Creative, Emotionally stable, Fair, Fearless, Happy and cheerful, Loyal (steadfast), Patriotic, Productive, Self confident, Self controlled (disciplined), Self reliant, Silent (whenever needed), Socially adjusted, Socially responsible. Therefore, we need Education for Values: Concern about degeneration of Values, Impact of change on children and youth, Dys-functional families, increased crime and violence, effect of media and information overload, The competitive mindset among students, parents, teachers. Education without values is like a crime. Therefore, value based education is need of the hour and as an indispensable device.

### Aims of Value Education

As Value education refers to a wide gamut of learning and activities ranging from training in physical health, mental hygiene, etiquette and manners, appropriate social behavior, civic rights and duties to aesthetic and even religious training. Therefore, it is simply a matter of developing appropriate behavior and habits involving inculcation of certain virtues and habits. Ability to make moral judgment based on sound reasoning is a very important aim of value education and has to be deliberately cultivated. Value Education is essentially a matter of educating the feelings and emotions. It is the '*training of the heart*' and consists in developing the right feelings and emotions. Values are common to all fields of human activity, but education is looked upon as the most effective instrument for inculcating values. Values shape one's behavior.

### Causes of Value deterioration

Some of the important causes of Value deterioration are as follows:

- Experts do believe that lack of moral value is the major cause of unrest and deteriorating condition of India.
- Restlessness among pupils is the major cause of crime.
- Openness, easy access to unwanted elements and lack of self control are becoming bad components of our society.
- This happening is due to financial, personal, family, social, cultural and educational as well as superstition factors.
- In present time, due to increasing competition, the survival has become difficult especially in the metros cities. This is causing increasing financial pressures and youth are forced to keep away the values in order to survive or grow in their profession.
- When youth settle at a new place, the value systems they have learned earlier, clashes with value system of new surroundings. Then the confusion about deciding what is right and what is not causes deterioration of values.
- There are families where the values are so forcibly inculcated that as soon as the force is over due to the loss of the value forcing youth who have been following these values out of force just drop them like a hot cake.
- Sometimes, values are changing due to the reducing distance between cultures within the country as well as between cross-country cultures.
- With increasing Education, awareness in people is increasing. They are not taking values by their face value. In this process many values are discarded as blind faith or superstition.
- In fact, superstition is one of the factors that make youth give up values. As the education level in people is increasing the level of trusting anything because elders say so is decreasing. Now even a three year old child wants to know why he has to do certain thing. But the way in which most of us have been given the values does not have any explanations to many logical questions. The actual reasons behind those actions may be logical but we are not aware of it, as we call them as superstitions and drop those values.

### Suggestions for Inculcation Values

Some of the important ways of inculcating value education are:

- Examples should be taken from day-to- day life situations.
- Extracts from sayings of great men should be explained.
- Incidents and problems which develop value judgment should be taken up.
- Inspirational dialogues, dramas, poems and material from religious scriptures could form the major part of the content of value education.
- Biographies of great personalities should form an important source of value education.
- Personal, neighbourly and community values should be taught in the classroom and thoroughly discussed with the students.
- Yoga and other activities that develop self-discipline among students should be included in the curriculum.
- Group activities like cleaning the school camps, visiting slums, service campus, visits to hospitals, visits to places of worship of different faiths should form part of content in value education.
- Discourses on the lives of national and spiritual leaders can bring out values like self-sacrifice, collective happiness, love for truth and ultimate values of life for which the great leaders lived.
- As society around us is dishonest to a great extent so expecting too much just from institutions won't solve the problem. Students must be taught the importance of honesty, hard work, respect for others, co-operation, and forgiveness.
- Parents must keep this in mind that children look upon their parents and consider them as their role model. They should display and set an example of a disciplined life.
- Pupil must be directed and shown a right path. To be a moral person every belief and thought should be strong and determined. Teachers must have the courage to do right and fight for the right.
- One must be trained in the same from the beginning of life. Therefore moral values must be taught and should be an indispensable part of our education system.
- Teachers should train every pupil for his or her future responsibilities.
- Apart from education, schools should indulge in activities to generate the feeling of brotherhood and love. Schools must participate in social causes through schools kids.
- Students must be taught the importance of honesty, hard work, respect for others, co-operation, and forgiveness. Parents must keep this in mind that children look upon their parents and consider them as their role model. They should display and set an example of a disciplined life.

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