

Transforming Education to Build Humans: Re-Developing Values for the Upliftment of Society

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Abstract—Education in today's world has merely become a source of getting secured future by means of collecting certain degrees and certificates. This ultimately lead to new participations and competitions in future career and so on but on other hand India is still making efforts to at least primarily educate the majority of our population to make them literate which has also fruited results positively in recent years. Moral science, life science, environmental science, humanities, yoga etc. and other curriculums have been made mandatory in formal education sector as well as numerous organizations are working hard informally to holistically educate and build capacities of our rural mass. The only thing lacking is the development of moral values and ethics from heart for society. There's a lot of teaching, studying even picturizations for others to see but all that work hardly stands for a change (for majority of cases). We can see examples of fake concerns in many sectors for the disastrous issue of very recent Kerala Floods. Corruption, unemployment, shortcuts, mere fulfillment of higher orders and public showoffs are the reasons these human values and principles are not actually taking place in our society. The need of the hour is not simply establishing the universities or training centers and simply providing the students with syllabus and fellowships or funds to rural masses but actually involving them to make a change. This can be done with an actual team of change makers who can actually involve our students and our rural people and adults to work for a greater cause. The change they bring should be for the development of the nation and our biodiversity which shall be necessarily supported by the government without any corruption in-between. Therefore, there is an urgent need to bring up the change with several effective techniques which may stop the insensitivity towards the environment and should inculcate ethics and moral values in children from a very small age by making them face existing practical problems of society and making our rural community work not just for wages but for the sustainable development of our nation and this will be the real capacity building of our human resource.

Keywords: Education, Human values, Inculcating ethics, Change techniques, Community development.

1. INTRODUCTION

India is a nation where values, modesty and respect towards others has existed in a very pious and worthwhile manner since time immemorial. The ancient “gurukuls” of India are known to provide not only knowledge and physical information to the students but most importantly to make them humans filled with sensitivity, value goals and a positive perspective towards life and to satisfy the souls. The students in return gave all their respect and used to put them selflessly under the service of the authority to give away all the immaturity and to learn profound kindness and gratitude. But simply talking of India again today, the so called “education system” is described the commercial buildings and centers, money requirement and money making, books and curriculum, examination syllabus, internet assignments, promotion and career competitions and parents expectations. no doubt there are immense efforts and struggles going on to make our education full of values and moral principles like morning prayers, motivational lectures sometimes, moral science books, human development and yoga, etc. Also other non government organizations are working hard to make education for children and elders fruitful and value full to others. But we never check how many students really inculcate those moral stories in their real lives, how many follow those good habits to help others? Even after studying so much we are continuing disrespecting our parents and elders more and more by each passing decade. We all heard the story of Mahatma Buddha that how he used to spread all his belongings to needy people or sacrifices made by Swami Vivekananda or our Freedom martyrs but do we ever prefer to do that? Majority of us don't bother, most of us ignore, many of us just give it a thought and cry over for a tiny duration, some of us give it a try and only few or least of us actually prefer to act and most of them again act just to make it public show. Are we human enough to serve dying humanity?

According to M. Haralambos, “a value is belief that something is good and worthwhile. It defines what is worth having and worth striving for”. A family is the prime agency for development of value but efforts need to be done at school and higher levels to make Indian values and our social responsibilities actually live within each individual practically not only for a mere degree completion, promotion or rapport building. Hence efforts are needed to re develop the education system in practical field to construct the Indian characters on a new helpful and modesty basis.

2. PROBLEMS FACED BY HUMANITY

There are numerous problems that our country is facing today and the effects are deep, heritage destroying and future spoiling. These problems must be dealt finely to create practical and permanent solutions as these are not merely physiological problems which can be retained through governmental orders like mandatory yoga or GST implementation but are emotional problems that carry the potential to destroy our whole value structures and people will keep getting problems without any help from nation siblings and need hearts to get resolved. These problems are emerging in day to day life nowadays and are future disasters if no corrective measures are taken from the very beginning at right time.

- a) Corruption
- b) Directionless youth
- c) No respect towards parents, teachers and elders
- d) Full dress is so unclassy!
- e) Brain drain
- f) Increasing old age homes
- g) Increasing divorces and family issues
- h) Drug, smoking and alcohol addiction
- i) Increasing criminal tendencies
- j) Shortcuts in education
- k) Internet addiction
- l) Abusing is cool!
- m) Pornography
- n) Following high class and discouraging lower economic class
- o) Political turbulences

3. LACKS IN OUR SYSTEM

Since childhood we have been hearing this sentence continuously, “Study well, or else in the future you will not get a good job or admission in a good college.” All these years are only worth for that one moment, getting job, unless we are planning to start our own business. But does all those years of studying worth it? Not unless we are able to apply those things in real world situations. So how does our education system make sure that we will definitely apply our bookish (textbooks) knowledge into a real world situation? It’s not

their headache, it’s ours. That’s why a recent report says that more than half of the graduates in India are unemployable i.e. they are not fit for the very job they were studying for. Either we are not fit for it or something is wrong in our education system? Everyone in this world has got some or the other talent, it’s a matter of identifying or not identifying. But identifying our talent and working hard is not enough; we should also get the right environment to grow our talent. These values and helping nature is in our blood, loving our nature is in our blood because we are from the nation where nature is considered as the goddess. These things really need to change:

- a) Rote memorization, leads to behaviour which encourages cramming and forgetting rather than lifelong learning.
- b) Reservation system based on caste and not on economic or need basis which automatically cause competitions among the pupil.
- c) Government control of education/ Government Monopoly in education.
- d) Extreme pressure from parents / society to use education for financial security, societal pressure to get into the "right schools", not only for the education aspect but to ensure good job/ marriage prospects, in general success in life. Little incentive to take risks and follow own interests or encourage creativity. Generally conformist culture, which makes educational achievement the only thing that matters to social standing.
- e) Only bookish moral values are taught and students are required to learn the questions and answers. They are sometimes not even provided with the meaning of the chapter. Teacher’s lack of interest in student’s life make it just read and get finished as a matter of fact. Least practical knowledge by making them help others is given.
- f) In informal sectors also only skills are provided to lure village people or women to get a profit, though that’s necessary for their involvement but other ways of social helping can be formed not involving politics.
- g) Only limited Non Governmental Organizations are working for real upliftment others are for their own profits and for mere other benefits. Certificates demand is here too members so that it can be added to their pile-ups and to add a star to their reputation.
- h) The moral and cultural values today have been restricted up to the dressing sense and external appearance but the real values like honesty, kindness, humility, generosity, transparency, truth, patience, satisfaction, self-esteem that we are supposed to follow are diminishing majorly.
- i) Greeting methods to elders are degrading so are our etiquettes.
- j) Government mandating like yoga and other curriculums are done to just make a picture and to partially fulfill the

orders. At many places it's not even followed or not in a proper way and with no personal interest developing among pupil, but there's no authority to check it. Even if we authorize someone there's no guarantee he/she is not corrupted.

4. EDUCATION SYSTEM IN JAPAN

There are a lot of things that are to be learned from Japan education system. Comparing with the leading ones makes us realize where do we stand and why are we lacking. Japanese people are known for their intelligence, strong health, politeness, and wellness which they are successfully inheriting to their future generations too.

a) Manners before knowledge

In Japanese schools, the students don't take any exams until they reach grade four (the age of 10). They just take small tests. It is believed that the goal for the first 3 years of school is not to judge the child's knowledge or learning, but to establish good manners and to develop their character. **Children are taught to respect other people and to be gentle to animals and nature. They also learn how to be generous, compassionate, and empathetic. Besides this, the kids are taught qualities like grit, self-control, and justice.**

b) Most Japanese schools do not employ janitors or custodians. The students clean their school themselves.

In Japanese schools, students have to clean the classrooms, cafeterias, and even toilets all by themselves. The Japanese education system believes that requiring students to clean up after themselves teaches them to work in a team and help each other.

c) After-school workshops are very popular in Japan.

The classes in these schools are held in the evenings. Seeing groups of small kids returning from their extracurricular courses late in the evening is common in Japan. Japanese students have an 8-hour school day, but apart from that they study even during the holidays and on weekends.

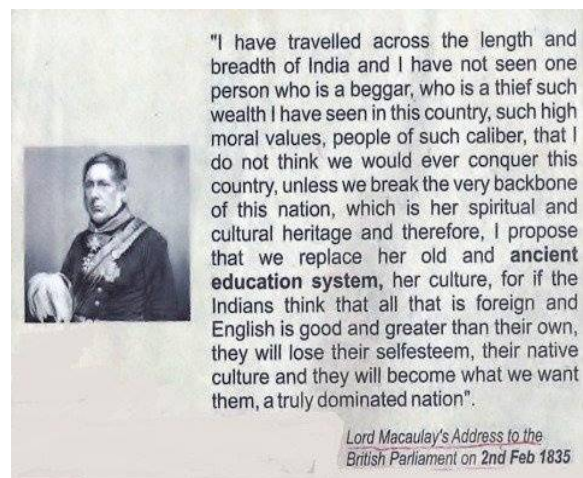
d) Apart from traditional subjects, Japanese students also learn Japanese calligraphy and poetry.

Japanese calligraphy, Shodo, involves dipping a bamboo brush in ink and using it to write hieroglyphs on rice paper. For Haiku, on the other hand, is a form of poetry that uses simple expressions to convey deep emotions to readers. **Both classes teach children to respect their own culture and centuries-old traditions.**

5. REVIEWING INDIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM

a) Once upon a time, there were temples everywhere in India. Every city, every town, every village had a temple. Temples were more than places of worship. They were centres of education.

- b) Every village temple provided basic education to children. Larger temples provided higher education. Subjects taught ranged from Mathematics to Astronomy to Medicine. These temple schools were run very efficiently.
- c) The Islamic invasions destroyed the temple educational system in North India, and to some extent in the South too. Temples were destroyed by the thousands. Millions of Indians were murdered, millions more enslaved.
- d) They destroyed India's great Universities such as Nalanda, Vikramashila and more.
- e) With much of our temples & universities destroyed and millions of sacred texts burned, India started losing much of its ancient knowledge and wisdom.
- f) Fast forward to the British occupation of India. At the beginning, our literacy rate was about 50%. The British systematically began undermining age old institutions like Temples & Gurukulas.
- g) The British abolished indigenous Indian industries like the textile industry & forced hundreds of millions into destitution & starvation
- h) The British institutionalized the "Zamindari" system on the basis of "caste" & made it hereditary. They have the post of Zamindar to upper caste and used them to extort money from the now poor Indians. The British then blamed India's poverty & misery - which THEY created - on the caste system.
- i) In a few short decades, the British destroyed India's economy and rendered the country illiterate.
- j) Thomas Babington Macaulay was appointed to the so-called "Supreme Council of India" in 1834. Macaulay 'reformed' education in India. He introduced English-language based education in India.



- k) Macaulay created a class of Anglicized Indians who served the British in ruling India. The Macaulayan education system was designed to create "clerks & peons". There is no emphasis on actual learning.

- l) Macaulayan education emphasizes rote “memorization” and absolute obedience. It stifles Imagination, creativity and intellectual development. It creates robots & slaves.
- m) After independence in 1947, the Congress party allowed the similar model of Education to flourish. Today every school, college & university in India follows the same system.
- n) Students are expected to memorize and not to understand what they actually study. Rote-learning is over glorified. Students pass exam by simply memorizing. Exam questions are repeated every year.
- o) Indians are taught false and distorted ‘Marxist’ version of history. Students are made to believe Indian history only consists of caste system & Mughal rule and are ignorant about our rich ancient culture & our glorious achievements during the Vedic period.
- p) India's education system is now rotten to the core. It's high time the present system should be completely revamped so that our future generations will not be affected by this absolute blunder of an educational system.
- q) To bring India on path of restoring values with preferable development there is an urgent need to re-structure the system with honesty and efforts towards our future generations.

6. SUGGESTIONS FOR RE- MODELING

The degrading values and vanishing sensitivity except on the grounds of publicity needs to be managed by the time we are still not out of control. Respect for elders, love for nature and other humans and animals, respect for our culture and traditions, give direction to our lives, connecting each individual's mind and soul through flourishing yoga and meditation in true sense and combating the bad habits in routine life specially of our young generation need to be tackled. Some of the suggestions given to tackle all these problems in a significant and practical manner are:

a) Moral Value Team-ups

Our country right now really needs several trained teams which can work up to re-establish our love and respect towards our surroundings in various ways. These teams can only be formed through government officials but in a very non corrupted way which is really difficult in today's situations.

We need people who may work selflessly without any interest in their own favor but towards the restoration of our values and who may work to bring love in the society.

b) Follow Student's Interests

Again not too many restrictions should be imposed on anyone in the name of customs, religion or any other tradition or it will cause their monopoly over students. Our work should be to make our youth self sufficient to think what is and what is not right for themselves and for others. Every person or student should know what is their interest and in which field

they can excel not only for their career but for the development of their nation.

c) Teacher Trainings

We already give a lot of time to train our teachers but a few more positive steps are needed to take to make teachers keen to take interest in students' moral development along with their academic development.

d) Nursery Teachers' Importance

In developed countries, the role of a nursery teacher is highly important and the teacher is highly trained. But here we think a nursery teacher can be anyone with least set of qualifications. Why don't we understand that the role of nursery teacher is like the parents who provide basic knowledge about life and fill us with the immunity to struggle and cope in near future. Our teachers impact more than our parents, as parents learning are what we inherit but we try to imitate our teachers to be like them. What teachers present them that become the students! Teachers really need to work hard to build lifelong value system within the children which they can follow their life.

e) Self Working

Like in Japan we can also start cleaning, mopping, sweeping and cooking by students themselves in small groups this will be an important step to change the behavior among our future generations. They'll learn to clean for others as well as it will decrease some dirt from the unclean India.

f) Traditional and Moral Value Dramas

This will help children to understand our culture better and also imitate our role models in positive terms.

g) Practical Applications

The moral values should not be limited to lecture books and home assignments but should be practically implemented by students. They should go out in groups and help the needy people in whatever way possible. We can take the recent incidence of Kerala Floods where our students could be sent to rescue the needy people by schools.

h) Non-Corrupted Society

The youth should know what corruption forms are going on they should be allowed to judge them openly. This will create hatred towards corruption of any form in their minds from the very beginning.

i) Anti – Alcoholism

Smoking, drugs, alcohol and other narcotic materials have been made the symbol of high class status among our youth by our dear Movie Stars, which is so wrong. Yoga was our origin of knowledge and health since 1000s of years which is now followed by every country but not our Youth who prefer gym exercises but not Yoga. Why don't we go for promotion of Yoga, better doings, helping nature and other values and standards by the media stars which can alter their minds in a positive way than in a negative manner like these bad habits

and abuses. Our teachers also play role to give right direction to our youth.

Hence according to the need of today's youth these educational reforms are very much required and should be followed if we want the glory and respect of our nation back not only in the eyes of foreigners but in our own eyes.

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