

“NEED OF VALUE EDUCATION IN MODERN ERA”

Dr. Jyoti Taneja

Assistant Professor, Department of English

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Govt. Arts and Commerce College, Indore

ABSTRACT

We believe that the chaos and conflicts in the modern world is due to the deficient methods of education which seem to not fulfill the needs of the learners in this global expansion. The current era is full of controversies, all the current problems are reasoning from incorrectly interpreting the needs of century. Whenever the minds of young brains are not lit effectively, opinions, beliefs, and ideas have met with endless dispute that followed hatred among generations and nations. Such malicious circles have reasoned from unawareness and not been educated well. The main source of solution for the future of globe lies in education which is devoted to universal values and respectful to all humankind and opinions. The most important task is not to give education to children, but also to be able to apply the knowledge we get into life. Education is also important to end up with confrontations in cultures, ideals and principles of various social groups, so that there is progress of the society at large. This present paper is an attempt to explore the importance of human values in the global society.

Key Words: Education, Universal Values, Ideals, Social group

INTRODUCTION

We believe that the chaos and conflicts in the modern world is due to the deficient methods of education which seem to not fulfill the needs of the learners in this global expansion. The present time is full of disagreements, disputes and differences. Although Education is an instrument as well as a catalyst of social transformation and expected to bring about qualitative change in man's perception, attitudes, habits, priority and goals, the real sense of values in recent days somewhere missing. Moreover, the present system of education is consumerist in nature and makes one selfish, self-centered, irreverent and cynical. Such malicious circles have reasoned from ignorance and not been educated well. The main source of solution for the future of globe lies in opening schools and colleges in every corner of the world which are devoted to universal values and respectful to all humankind and opinions. The essential aim of education is to educate, train, undertake research and provide service to the community, so as to keep pace with the fast changing global scenario, yet at the same time have integrated men and women who are free of fear, for only then can peace triumph.

When we talk of quality, we mean to say the ability of a product to deliver its best. But, J. Krishnamurti says, “Present-day education is a complete failure because it has overemphasized technique. In overemphasizing technique we destroy man. To cultivate capacity and efficiency without understanding life, without having a comprehensive perception of the ways of thought and desire, will only make us increasingly ruthless, which is to engender wars and jeopardize our physical security.” This present paper is an attempt to explore the importance of human values in the global society. Human society may not

significantly sustain without human values. We need to understand the purpose of education should be a right combination of science to empower people with sanctity to help human beings, to operate at their fullest potential, to equip them with the tools and the sense of opportunity to use their wits, skills, and passions to the fullest. If education provides the means for strengthening and enabling our native mental powers, it should also give reasons with faith, knowledge with insight. The most important task is not to give education to children, but also to be able to apply the knowledge we get into life. Education is also important to end up with confrontations in cultures, ideals and principles of various social groups, so that there is progress of the society at large.

Need of Value Education in Modern Era perhaps was the need felt by the syllabus designers in Madhya Pradesh and a compulsory paper of Moral Values was introduced for the Under Graduate students recently. These days in continuous changing conditions, values are left far behind and there is gross erosion of values of individual to keep pace with the society in order to fulfill one's desire to be at the top. The erosion of human values of truth, co-operation, nonviolence, peace, love, and respect for parents, elders, authority and hard work is leading to the decay of moral and social fabric of society at a speed never witnessed in the history of civilization. Our stress is too much on materialistic standards of living and not on standards of life. We have made progress in knowledge but still we are not above the levels of our past generations in moral and honorable life. In some, we have declined from their standards. Today we have been successful in making professionals but not human beings. Thus, the need of inculcation of human values is to be stressed upon in our system of modern education to prevent and combat world terrorism, tension, diversities, self-centered vision and violence.

Whether it is education or politics, or any other system nothing changes overnight, everything needs to be transformed. It is necessary to know how to read and write and to learn medicine, engineering or some other profession, the question is- will just the system give us the capacity to understand life? Life is pain, joy, beauty, ugliness, love, and when we understand it as a whole, at every level, that understanding creates its own technique. But the contrary is not true; technique can never bring about creative understanding which is of utmost importance. Many global and national problems can be solved through the practical application of human values in every society. In order to fulfill this, they need to be inculcated in every stage of education. Humanity is to be considered as the highest value in the global human society for the preservation of historical, national and cultural differences as well as the distinctiveness of nation states and communities. Such human unity can be brought in only by recognizing human values such as truth, kindness, benevolence, peace, love, dignity, respect, forgiveness, etc. Hence, the most important task for students is to develop foundations and principles of a global human society and to formulate a global consciousness and a humanistic worldview that adequately reflects the realities of our epoch. Our actions therefore, must be based on universally accepted values. Because, it is the human values which are to be treated as the keys to solving the global problems.

Technology, business expansion, progress, development in the right sense would be to bring about changes at these levels yet at the same time not making humans mechanical entities or automatic machines with no love, sympathy, kindness etc. Values are the moral standards of human behaviors in the society. The word 'value' is derived from the Latin word 'valeo' which originally meant strength and then by natural change, it came to mean 'being effective' and 'adequate'. In French the term 'valeur' means 'excellence'. Values can be defined as the principles that guide people's lives, and have varying

significance. Values are the essence of our personality, and affect us to make decisions, trust people, and arrange our time and energy in our social life. And so, they may be treated as keys to solving many world problems. Since value is the worth of something, it is the importance or usefulness of something, and it is considered to be important or beneficial in human life.

Life cannot be made to follow a system, it cannot be outlined. Knowledge based on facts is incapable of meeting life with its variety, its delicacy, its depth and great heights. When we train our children according to a fixed system of thought, belief, or a particular discipline, we actually teach them divisions, we prevent them from growing, and make them incapable of thinking intelligently, which is to meet life as a whole, as Krishnamurti says in Education & the Significance of Life. Because information about the values of life is a continuous process it must begin in the early periods and not end just in the period to adolescence but also continue, thereafter. Changing child's wrong behavior is more difficult than trying to develop a new behavior, which makes it imperative to develop a child's personality in a planned and systematic process in order to prevent the wrong development of values.

Teachers should know how to be the right kind of educator, and help students to learn to see the inward nature of freedom, help them to observe and understand his own self-projected values and impositions, he should help him to become aware of the conditioning influences his own desires, both of which limit his mind and breed fear; he helps him, as he grows to manhood, to observe and understand himself in relation to all things, for it is the craving for self-fulfillment that brings endless conflict and sorrow. Value education starts from families and it continues at schools with the help of teachers. And so, families, teachers and educational programs are crucial to values education. Since families are the first source of information so they should be careful about their behaviors and attitudes as children see them as a model. Cooperation within families and what and how the teachers behave in the classroom is very important for they affect the children most. Education programs must be organized, educational activities like seminars, conferences can bring the families, teachers and students at one place. So that, there can be an effective harmony among families, teachers and such programs. It may be mentioned that value is a theory about “what things in the world are good, desirable, and important.”

Thus, human values possess a significant position in the society. Values describe the ideals of life of individuals, their preferences, priorities, principles and behavior. Values are the effective cultural elements which shape the elements around the point of view of individuals, members of a community that holds together. The protection or disregarding of these values by individuals in a society, will lead to loss in time or they will be continued many years by transferring. If there are the values that show differences in cultures, there are also values which are universal and ethical those are accepted in all cultures. Truth, respect, kindness, benevolence, patience, tolerance, peace, democracy, etc. as stated above are expected to be universal human values throughout the world. It is a universally accepted view that without these human values human society will not sustain for a long time.

We receive information through our five senses, and it is the human values that help us to discriminate from right and wrong, good and bad. We have access to information and knowledge voluntarily still, transformation is slow without practice of human values, and this is where the importance of human values plays a significant role in bringing solutions to not only domestic problems, societal problems, national problems but even global problems such as ecological problems, moral problems, global

warming, etc. Modern society has been experiencing major crunches for last few years. Indeed, human values are now withering very fast for which we humans are most responsible. The age-old simplicity and close ties between family and fraternity co-operation are being crushed. Today, people think that their traditional socio-moral values are being threatened by the process of modernity. Therefore, to preserve themstriking a balance between traditional, social and moral standards and the modern values is desirable. Value based education should be stressed right from school to university level of education. With the modern day changes, technological advancement, communication has tremendously improved, therefore anything that we say, do or even think will have a direct bearing upon a larger group of people. Newspapers inform us of crimes, robbery, murder, injustice, and political and economic corruption. These do create some sort of influence upon the young minds. Films and audio-visuals have been the greatest influence on the younger generation.

Since, the purpose of education is to cultivate right relationship with everything and everybody around us and not just between individuals, but also between the individual and society, as Krishnamurti says, so, it is essential to understand what education can do to us and what education should be. The right kind of education will encourage thoughtfulness and consideration for others without temptations or threats of any kind. Thus, right moral behavior of an individual will affect the society at large. Therefore, human values play a dynamic role both for the integrity and longevity of any human society. It can thus be proven that education without vision is waste, education without value is crime, and education without mission is life burden.

REFERENCES

1. Sinha, S.C., Anmols Dictionary of Philosophy. New Delhi:Anmols Publications, 1990.
2. Krisnamurti, Jiddu., Education and the Significance of Life. New York: Harper Collins Publishers.
3. Google Books Search.Web.2 Dec.2015.