Holistic Approach of Value Based Education: Issues, Directions, Opportunities and Challenges

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Abstract: Life is so precious. Our values and morals are a reflection of our spirituality and our character. Every Country develops its own system of education to express and promote its unique Socio-Cultural identity and also to meet the challenges of the times. Although the country has made rapid progress in various areas like scientific technology, economic infrastructure etc. but its value system has been declined. Parents, teachers and society at large scale to concern about values and value based education of children. Value based education is important at every point of life. In the Vedic period when a Shishya completed his education in Ashram at the feet of his Guru, he was exhorted by his Guru to follow certain values throughout his life, like “Speak truth; fulfill your duties, never lax in self-study”. The main causes of value degeneration are: Lack of respect for authority seen through the brazen breaking of the law and total disregard for rules and regulations. Moral behavior is determined by five factors: Socialization, Moral judgment, Moral feelings, Empathy, Confidence and knowledge. By educating citizen through direct contact by setting up local offices across the religion. Values however are our inborn divine virtues such as love, peace, happiness, mercy and compassion as well as the positive moral qualities such as respect, humility, tolerance, responsibility, cooperation, honesty and simplicity.

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1. Introduction

Everyone knows that life is precious. We all protect our life because we care for it more than anything else. If the life is important, the values of life are even more important. Values are firmly ingrained in the Indian Philosophy and culture. The Vedas and Upanishads speak widely on values. Value Based Education (VBE) imparts social, moral, integrity, character, spirituality and many more. It builds the qualities of humility, strength and honesty in a person. These gems make better citizens of a country. Our values and morals are a reflection of our spirituality, and our character. People with high ethical values will never cheat others. Value education means inculcating value in the children sense of humanism, a deep concern for the well being of others and the nation. This can be accomplished only when we install the children, a deep feeling of commitments to values that would build this country and bring back to the people pride in work that brings order, security and assured progress. These gems make their life happier and they work hard to make others happy too.

1.1 Importance of Value based Education in Modern Society

The Importance of Values and Morals are the code we live by in a civil and just society. They are what we use to guide our interactions with others, with our friends and family, in our businesses and professional behavior. Our values and morals are a reflection of our spirituality; our character. They are what we hope to model for our children and the children around us, because children do watch us as they develop their own sense of right and wrong.

The values based education can take place at home, as well as in schools, colleges, universities, offender institutions and voluntary youth organizations. There are two main approaches to values based education. Some of them see it as inculcating or transmitting a set of values which often come from societal or religious rules or cultural ethics. Others see it as a type of Socratic dialogue where people are gradually brought to their own realization of what is good behaviour for themselves and their community. Value education also leads to success.

1.2 Role of value based education in contemporary society:

Every Country develops its own system of education to express and promote its unique Socio-Cultural identity and also to meet the challenges of the times. Although the country has made rapid progress in various areas like scientific technology, economic infrastructure etc. but its value system has been declined. Therefore, Education in general and value education in particular occupies a prestigious place in modern context of contemporary society. The problem of value education of the young has assumed increasing prominence in educational discussion during recent times.

Parents, teachers and society at large scale to concern about values and value based education of children. The present education needs moral, spiritual and aesthetic values also to be included in it. The culture and traditions can be preserved and transferred to the next generation by the help of value based education only. Value based education is much concerned with striving for personal wholeness as well as generating a responsible attitude towards others and an understanding of wrong and right behavior. The most constructive factor in value based education is its purpose which encourages the child to explore the powers while offering living guidance and setting appropriate limits to behavior. Value education helps in building and strengthening of positive sentiments for people and ideals. It should prepare individuals for active participation in social life and acceptance of social rules. Value based education has to be included in various aspects of education. Attention needs to be paid by higher
authorities to spread the importance of value education in society.

1.3 Value Based Education leads to social goodness

The ideals contained in the constitution are: socialist, secular, democratic, justice, liberty, equality, fraternity, dignity of the individual and integrity of the nation. Naturally, therefore, our values in life must be drawn from these ideals and religious adherences we prefer. The ultimate good of human society is the good of all. This idea has been beautifully expressed in one of our ancient prayers “Let all be happy, free from diseases, let men see well of one-another, let there be no sorrow or unhappiness in this world”. Value education is important at every point of life. In the Vedic period when a Shishya completed his education in Ashram at the feet of his Guru, he was exhorted by his Guru to follow certain values throughout his life, like “Speak truth; fulfill your duties, never lax in self-study”. The central task of value based education is to develop men of goodwill who do not cheat, or steal, or kill; universal individuals who value as one both self and mankind.

1.4 Importance of value based education in schools:

The importance of value education in schools is highlighted by many a principal. Why is value education important in schools? Often the teacher explains the meaning of value education to children. Value education begins at home and is developed in schools. Stories with quotes on value education are important to help children understand the topics of value education. Many value education videos are also available for value education for kids, students and for children for all ages. At time value education is offered in schools. Moreover value education and character building go hand in hand just the same as national integration does.

1.5 Role of Teachers on VBE in schools

The role of schools and teachers are very important. When the child enters the school at the age of four or five, the schools and the teachers there have to give him/her lessons in universal brotherhood, respect for all religions, and feeling of honor for our great men, a sense of pride in our national flag. We need to do some pro-active work to bring about value education. In a vast nation like India, with so many sections in the society, so many sectors, so many religions, and so many languages the child has to be taught the lesson in ‘unity in diversity’ for the sake of peace and co-existence. Proper training of teachers should be arranged, so that teachers acknowledged their responsibilities.

1.6 Importance of value based education for children

While value based education is important for children in schools, the curriculum includes various forms of value based education by means of stories, power point programs, activities etc. Books, videos and source material on various topics of value based education are provided to children. Several schools promote value based education projects, and exposure trips. Schools run by the Montford Brothers like St. Columbus, and MSFS schools in India train children to be responsible and contributing citizens of the nation for a better world.

1.7 Value Degeneration:

In the present time moral degeneration are occurred. The main causes of value degeneration are:

- Lack of respect for the sanctity of human life
- Breakdown of parental control of children in families
- Crime and corruption
- Abuse of alcohol and drugs
- Abuse of women and children and other vulnerable members of society
- Lack of respect for other people and property.

To solve all these type problems it is necessary to know the main causes of the above problems. We know today children are tomorrow’s citizens. If we give good education to the present day children, the future of the next generations will be well. In My opinion education is the solution for all types of the problems. Now we are living in the modern century. The main object of the study is to inculcate moral and value based education in schools and colleges and to know the attitude of intermediate students towards moral values (Naraginty, Reddy).

1.8 Hogan (1973) believes that moral behavior is determined by five factors:

- Socialization: becoming aware as a child of society's and parents' rules of conduct for being goo
- Moral judgment: learning to think reasonably about our own ethics and deliberately deciding on our own moral standards.
- Moral feelings: the internalization of our moral beliefs to the degree that we feel shame and guilt when we fail to do what we "should."
- Empathy: the awareness of other people's situation, feelings, and needs so that one is compelled to help those in need.
- Confidence and knowledge: knowing the steps involved in helping others and believing that one is responsible for and capable of helping.

Today we facing so many problems like terrorism, poverty and population problem. It is necessary to inculcate moral values in curriculum. Education is a weapon, whose effect depends on who holds it are his handstands at whom it is aimed. (Joseph Stalin)

1.9 Curricular Activities

Due to liberalization, industrialization and globalization rapid changes are occurring in almost all social sciences. The value possessed and their attitudes according to the changes should be known up to date vast changes are occurring in the education. So called philosophical foundations of India are declining day to day with the country in a state of social turbulence, the goals and
functions of formal education need to be reassessed and updated. Through education we can change the world.

- By giving a place for moral values in the curriculum.
- Moral values can be explained through stories and illustrations.
- Through poetry, novel and stories we can inculcate moral values in the students.
- Role plays of a good story in the lesson.
- By introducing a course on moral values as a part of its Master Degree in Developmental Administration.
- Giving course training to students to develop moral values in the society.
- First of all educate women in the society. Mother is the first teacher. Motivate every woman to know about moral values through special course like” Gandhian Studies”.

According to Father of Indian Nation, M.K.Gandhi:

“If wealth is lost nothing is lost, If health is lost something is lost
If character is lost everything is lost”
Best of all things is character.

At present scenario our values have been discarded by the new generation in the upcoming of the new fashion. In such a situation it is very important for someone to lay down basic principles for us so that we may lead a brightened life, no matter the stepping stones of success hit us hard we on the basis of these principles can guide our life. Thus value education completes this need very easily with an impact on the young minds making the world a better place to live in.

2. Conclusion

The values or moral values present a true perspective of the development of any society or nation. They tell us to what extent a society or nation has developed itself. Values are virtues, ideals and qualities on which actions and beliefs are based. Values are guiding principles that shape our world outlook, attitudes and conduct. Values however are our inborn divine virtues such as love, peace, happiness, mercy and compassion as well as the positive moral qualities such as respect, humility, tolerance, responsibility, cooperation, honesty and simplicity.

References


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