



Role Of Education For Cultural Transformation

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Abstract

Swami Vivekananda has conveyed the message us that 'Be a Hero, always' I have no fear'. Tell this everybody 'have no fears' to him fear is death, fear is sin, fear is hell, fear is unrighteousness, fear is wrong life'. He was a great teacher. He defined education as 'Education is the manifestation of perfection already existing in man'. He was a practical man and he has also given very practical concept of education. 'He has said that 'we want that education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, the intellect is expanded and by which one can stand on own one feet'. It means that education plays an active role for producing good citizen. It helps the man to develop good qualities of a good citizen i e good habits, co-operative nature, Rational thinking, patriotic, tolerance, divergent views, strong character, disciplined life, a sense of right and wrong, and values, independent thinking, good language, social responsibilities. It also helps the child, to do good something. It helps in self realization, development of inner powers, contribute to human life according to the best of his capacity, develop valuable personality and spiritual individuality adjust himself gradually in various ways of his physical social and environment, control his environment and fulfill his responsibilities, develop fellow feeling love service, sense of duty and qualities of leadership. In this way education plays a vital role for cultural transformation. Language is chief vehicle of culture. Education educates to man and develops values of various types among them. It increases the knowledge changes the ideas, beliefs and attitudes of man. It changes customs and traditions. Education changes the infrastructure. it means that without education, culture cannot be developed. Education purifies and creates the new culture. It preserves and conserves, evaluates and transmits the culture. Education changes everything by process of organizing and reorganizing the experiences. It brings the change based on demand of members of society.

Introduction

Education is the process of development and growth of a man. It is a process by which an individual learns how to adopt himself to physical, social, intellectual and spiritual environment gradually and in various ways. It is a process of organizing and reorganizing experience.

It involves modification of behaviour or natural development. The modification occurs in the environment. The function of the teachers is to provide the individual with an invigorating atmosphere for gradually unfolding his innate capacities. It is the duty of a teacher to provide the child with an environment, which stimulates him to change in the most desirable.

Education is an essential human virtue without it; man is a splendid slave, reasoning savage. It is to humanize him. Man becomes \man\ through education. He is what

education makes him. Man is animal, from both his passions and his reason. Education fashions and models him for society. There are two aspects of human life. One is biological and the other is social, cultural, or spiritual. Man conceived in terms of his biological existence alone is not better than an animal. His biological existence is secured through food, shelter and reproduction. But human life can never be reduced to its biological existence. His life can only glorified through education and it is only the cultural or social aspect of human life, which signifies his supreme position, and this constitutes the noblest work of God. A human being is not, in any proper sense, a human being till he is educated, with the help of education, man, primarily an animal being, can be transformed into a human being. Without it, the individual is unqualified for group of life. Education implies



experience, insight and adjustment on the part of man, as he is stimulated towards growth and development. It is described as a process development. Man develop his intelligence and reasoning receives knowledge cultivates good habits, skills and essential human virtues. In the simple words, we can say that education enables a man to realize higher values of life, which are essential for him to become 'roof and crown of all creation'. Education is a process of modification of behaviour.

The aim of education system today to produce good able and competent citizens. The progress of the country depends upon the good citizens. If the citizens of a country are good then it will march ahead and can get name and fame. It means that development of a country depends upon the education system of that country. Simply we can say that education for citizen we mean to enable the indivisible to express his own views and independent judgment an issues relating to life Society and politics.

Culture

According to Tylor (1871) culture is *"that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, morals, law, custom, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society"*

When analysing the meaning of culture we also would like to provide the approach and definition of the *Webster's New Encyclopedic Dictionary* that states that culture is *"the characteristic features of a civilization including its beliefs, its artistic and material products, and its social institutions."* (Webster's New Encyclopedic Dictionary, p. 244)

According to Koeing- *Culture is* "The sum of total man 'efforts to adjust himself to his environment and to improve his modes of living"

According to Maclver- *culture is* "the expression of our nature in our modes of living and our thinking, intercourse in our literature in religion in recreation and enjoyment"

According to Lapiere- *culture is* "The embodiment in customs, tradition, etc of the learning of a social group over the generation"

According to Graham Wallas- *culture is* "an accumulation of thoughts, values and objects, it is the social heritage acquired by us from preceding generations through learning as distinguished from the biological heritage which is passed on to us automatically through the genes"

According to E.V. de- Roberty- *culture is* "the body of thought and knowledge, both theoretical and practical which only man can possess"

On the other hand, we also wish to explain that there is a strong and maybe everlasting debate on the definition of this very complex term. Anthropology originally stated that culture and cultures are "unique bounded entities with limits and specific characteristics. Cultures were static, in that they could be captured by anthropological analyses. Their customs, habits, mores, relationships, uniqueness's could all be detailed, and in doing so, the ways in which each culture was separate from all others could be imagined"

On the other hand recent trends of the research on culture show that culture is not a bounded, unchanging entity. Cultures are not separated from each other providing a chance to continuously interact and contact with each other. Of course this trend would also strongly determine the formation and development of cultural tourism as well.

Hofstede (1997) who states that: "Culture refers to the cumulative deposit of knowledge, experience, beliefs, values, attitudes, meanings, hierarchies, religion, notions of time, roles, spatial relations, concepts of the universe, and material objects and possessions acquired by a group of people in the course of generations through individual and group striving" (Hofstede, 1997).

We also agree with the definition of the Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute according



to which “Culture refers to the following Ways of Life, including but not limited to:

- Language: the oldest human institution and the most expression.

Sophisticated medium of

- Arts & Sciences: the most advanced and refined forms of human expression. •

Thought: the ways in which people perceive, interpret, and understand the world around them.

- Spirituality: the value system transmitted through generations for the inner well-being of human beings, expressed through language and actions.

- Social activity: the shared pursuits within a cultural community, demonstrated in a variety of festivities and life-celebrating events. Interaction: the social aspects of human contact, socialization, negotiation, protocol, institute.org/474552)

- including the give-and-take of and conventions”.

Based on the above mentioned we can state that culture is part of the lifestyle which a multitude of people are sharing. The similarities in spoken and written language, behaviour, lifestyle, customs, heritage, ideology and even technology connect the individuals to groups of people in a certain culture.

Role of education for cultural transformation

Education plays an active role to preserve and conserve, to transmit, to evaluate, to continuity, to create and purify the culture. It has and has been observed that education is playing an important role for cultural transformation in the following ways-

Education system - It has been observed that education system has changed. The history of the past reveals that in the past time, education system was, *gurukul system*. Students get education in the gurukuls. Guru teaches the lesson and students learn and note each and everything, but due to the advancement of education, of the people of the society, education system has changed. Role of a teacher and student has been changed, in the past only government, institutions were imparting the education, but in the present era, private institutions are also imparting education. Aims, methods,

curriculum, discipline of education and status of teachers and students has been transformed according the demand of the society.

Marriage system- marriage is a norm of the culture. Education has and has been played an important role in transforming the marriage system. In the past time, marriage was considered a pious function and organized in a systematic manner and this relationship was forever and bridegroom pay the best regard to her husband and family members. A girl dose not disobeys her parents. The decision of parents was considered final. Due to the expansion of education and transformation in education system girls has and has been got higher education and standing their own feet's and taking their decisions. Mostly marriages are organized according the decisions of girls not their parents

Occupational system- in the past time, mostly people were engaged in agriculture. In the present era, occupational nature has been changed. Mostly people do not like to work in fields. They want to work in the offices. Due to advancement in the field of education, students have and have been got higher and professional education. They are getting jobs in both private and government sectors in their country and other countries.

Political system- in the past time, oldest persons took all types of decisions in the villages. After passing the time, election process was started and nowadays, all types' representatives are started elected by election. In the present era, knowledge has been increased by education and people are aware to their rights and duties. Every person has right to fight the election. In this we can say that role of education for cultural transformation is major and admirable. To develop political system is the contribution of the education.

Transportation system - In the past time, people travel by feet, bullocks'. Due to the advancement in the field of education, professional education started and new means of transportation have and have been searched. In the present era, old transportation system has transformed. New inventions in the field of transportation taking places. Nowadays, on the water, air and surface transportation system has and has been changed due to role of education. New techniques has been used to develop



transport system.

Information system-Information means detail of facts about something. In the past time, messengers or pigeons were conveyed the message. But, due to advancement of education, information system developed. In the past time, there was gap between information giver and receiver, but now days gap has bridged, even in few minutes, message is given and received. A man can receive any type of information within minutes. It could be possible due to education.

Economic system-in the past time, there was no system regarding economy. Due to knowledge explosion, drastic change occurred in the field of economic sector. Now days, various private and government banks are working. World Bank is looking to economic system. The World Bank checks economic inflation and deflation. Due to education, it could be possible.

Religious system- Secularism is the slogan of India. In India, people of different religions are living together. *Hindu, Sikh, Muslim and Esai (christen) aps me hai bhai, bhai.* is the slogan of India in the form of unity and diversity. People of all religions have equal rights and duties according to Indian constitution. It could be possible due to Education. Education has widened the outlook of people of all religion.

Communication system-communication means exchange of information. Education has played an important role in making the strong communication system of the country. Various languages are taught in the institutions and students learn and use.

Standard of living- in the past time, standard of living of people was very poor. They live in villages and large joint families. Income sources were very limited. Food, clothes and shelter were very low in quality. Due to expansion of education, change occurred in the living of standard because income sources increased and family size decreased in the form of nuclear family. Quality of food, clothes and shelter increased.

Military system-Military system has and has been changed. In the past time, our soldiers were not highly qualified and strength of them also very few. Due to education expansion and knowledge, increasing well-qualified Youngman started to recruit in the military. Being educated,

they get knowledge of all military concerned weapons and functions. They are ready to face any type problems and situations. Military system could develop and become strong only through Education.

Infrastructural change- It means a stock of basic facilities and capital equipments needed for the functioning of a country or area. It includes buildings, water, electricity, fund stock, sewage system, roads, railway lines, power plants, post offices, institutions and prisons. Education has and has been brought drastic change in infrastructure. In the past time infrastructure was very poor in condition. Due to the expansion of the education, the infrastructure has and has been changed.

Agricultural system-in the past time, mostly people were engaged in agriculture. They work hard, but output was very less in comparison to their hard work. Due to education expansion, agriculture universities opened, researches conducted and various facilities provided to farmers. We can say that education has and has been played an important role to bring green revolution and set up agriculture system.

Recreational system-in the past time, there were very few means of recreation; it was limited to bhajan and kirtan. In the present era, there are so many means of recreation like TV, Radio, Tape recorder phones, LCD, DVD, Cinema and computer etc.

Administration System- It refers to the group of individuals who are in charge of creating and enforcing rules and regulations to complete the important work. In the ancient time, our administrative system was not centralized. It was only in the hands of some people. But in the present era our whole system of the administration is centralized. It could be possible due to education. Division of work system has developed.

Technological systems-are sets of interconnected components, that transform, store, transport or control material, energy and /or information for particular purpose. Input, output, transformation and control operation parameters, black box, redundancy and reliability.

Constitutional change- In the constitutional system, social justice is very important component. It means an equal status to all in the society. It ensures for every



individuals has rightful place in the society. Education has played an important role to set up the constitution and has been made various changes as per the demand of the society or country.

Value system- it means, principles of right or wrong that are accepted an individual or a social group. In the past time values were, but were not fully recognized. Values were learned, not taught. In the present era values, are taught in the different ways and methods. Value is considered a major component of a culture .Education has and has been played an important role to develop the value system. Value system is considered the backbone of a culture. Without Education, value system cannot be developed.

Conclusion

Education is considered the third eye of a man. He can find the solution of a problem with the help of education. His ideas, belief, attitude, standard of living, art, values, customs, knowledge language and law depend upon his culture. Culture is acceptance of a individual or group of individuals. It is social heritage. Language is the chief vehicle of culture. Culture is learned behavior shared by and transmitted among the members of a group. It is acquired quality. Culture includes the expectations of the group. Singing, dancing, talking and eating belong to the category of culture. It is transmitted through tradition and customs. Education is considered a agent to preserve and conserve, to transmit, to evaluate, to continue, to create and purify the culture. It is integrated system. Education is organizing and re-organizing experiences through which it transforms the culture. Experiences bring change in infrastructure. Values are considered the chief weapon to fight against the evils of the culture. By developing values among the members of the society, culture is purified and created new culture by education. Culture is transmitted to generation to generation after evaluating. To bring a major change, Government should develop values among member of society. It should introduce value education as a major subject, not optional, at all levels. Various

activities, programs and projects should make compulsory in the institutions. Preservation and conservation, purification and creation of the cultural should be the aim of the value education.

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