

# THE URGENT NEED OF FOSTERING HUMAN VALUES IN STUDENTS: AN ALARMING SITUATION

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## Abstract

Education is important in any country since it promotes the knowledge, skills, habits, and values. But now a day's education lost its true meaning due to present technological and competitive environment all over the world. Yet it is rightly said that any nation and society totally depend on the young generation for their growth and development. Present society scenario and our educational system just presenting only the materialistic aspect on rapid growth of the students not on human ground. Various evils seen in our society like greed, exploitation, jealousy, bank robbery, theft, corruption, rape and increasing use of drugs or drug addiction are just showing the alarming situation and a matter of great concern. This paper presents the ever-recurring message on human values which is the need of hour and concerned with delicate and sensitive issue. Whether we realize it or not, every teacher is just not a transmitter of knowledge but also an inculcator of values. Value education adds quality and strength in one's life and ensures all round development. There is a great need to providing value education in schools by the teachers and the teachers should be proficient with the well planned, imaginative pre-service and in-service training programmes in order to cater the great need of inculcating human values in young generation of the society and country.

**Key words:** Human Values, Need of fostering human values in students and Role of teacher in inculcating human values in students.

## 1. Introduction

Values are regarded enviable, imperative and are apprehended with high esteem by a particular society & nation in which a person lives. Values give meaning and strength to an individual's character by occupying a central place in his/her life. Values reflect one's personal attitude and judgments, decisions and choices, behaviour and relationships, dreams and vision. These values influence our thoughts, feelings & actions and guide us to do the right things. Values are the guiding principles of life that contribute to the all round development of an individual. They give a direction to life and thus bring joy, satisfaction and peace.

Values add quality to life and flourish it with peace and harmony. Education prepares for life not only for living. It ensures all round development of human being. Education can organize unorganized energies of youth through dissemination of knowledge, including the knowledge of values. Education itself however needs to be organized to comprehend and explain those values. In the business world, the value of values is appreciated. It produces results, and profits. Now it needs to come to education, where the scope is greater. Educators can learn from the experience of businesses, and teach the benefits of values, look around, and see the benefits when applied to the wider life and its various disciplines. The New Education Policy rightly observed that the education should be 'value oriented' to make it meaningful.

## 2. Human Values

A value is a belief, a mission, or a philosophy that is meaningful. Whether we are consciously aware of them or not, every individual has a core set of personal values. Values can range from the commonplace, such as the belief in hard work and punctuality, to the more psychological, such as self-reliance, concern for others, and harmony of purpose.

Values can be defined as broad preference concerning appropriate courses of action or outcomes. As such, values reflect a person's sense of right and wrong or what "ought" to be. "Equal rights for all", "Excellence deserves admiration", and "People should be treated with respect and dignity" are representative of values. Values tend to influence attitudes and behavior. Human values include ethical/moral values,

doctrinal/ideological (religious, political) values, social values, aesthetic values, universal values such as non-violence, pleasure, fertility and democracy.

Human values transform a person into human in real terms. The power of human values summarized in the following -

- Values energize anything
- Add meaning to life.
- Ennobles our existence.
- Vastly raise the result of work.
- Release tremendous potential for success, accomplishment & happiness.
- It is the first line to becoming human in modern age.

### 3. The need of fostering human values in today's world

Before independence we very often faced famines due to low productivity, agricultural and economical conditions prevailing at that time but we have strong characters and pride in our values. After independence, we have made rapid progress in almost every sector of life but we lost our pride or values. We made tremendous growth for materialistic ground but not on the humanistic ground. It is rightly said 'if wealth is lost, nothing is lost; if health is lost, something is lost; but, if character is lost, everything is lost.' This holds true not only for individuals, but also for the nation.

Lacking of ethical and moral values witnessed in the Indian society. Present society scenario and our educational system just presenting only the materialistic aspect on rapid growth of the students not on human ground. Various evils seen in our society like greed, exploitation, jealousy, bank robbery, theft, corruption, rape and increasing use of drugs or drug addiction are just showing the alarming situation and a matter of great concern.

Dr. Pathiana, Anita (2011) summarized the need of values as below:

- ❖ To guide the human beings in the right path, to inculcate the concept of 'universal brotherhood' and to achieve the absolute values of Truth, Goodness and Beauty;
- ❖ To give direction and firmness to life and bring joy, satisfaction and peace, of life, to preserve our culture and heritage and to develop morality and character; and for bring positivism in behavior;
- ❖ For the promotion of harmony and peace in individual's life as well as in society.
- ❖ For bringing better quality of life.
- ❖ For the preservation of cultural heritage.

Our first priority is to help our students to become fully *human* with minds that can think clearly and critically, with hearts that can love and care deeply, and with wills that can decide to act freely and responsibly. This means, we have to enable our students how to value, to choose among alternatives, and to translate knowledge and skills into practice. This is what is referred to when we speak of value education, neglected component in today's education. Indeed, value education which is the heart of all education should be an integral part of a holistic education that develops all the human faculties of intellect, emotions and will: That it is not simple matter to introduce it in the school curriculum is no reason why we should not try.

### 4. The role of teacher in fostering human values in students

- *The American Commission on Teacher Education* rightly observes, "The quality of a nation depends upon the quality of its citizens. The quality of its citizens depends not exclusively,

*but in critical measure upon the quality of their education, the quality of their education depends more than upon any single factor, upon the quality of their teacher.”*

- In his **Call for Action for American Education in the 21st Century** in 1996, Clinton indicated that: —*Every community should have a talented and dedicated teacher in every classroom. We have enormous opportunity for ensuring teacher quality well into the 21st century if we recruit promising people into teaching and give them the highest quality preparation and training”.*
- *Talesara, Hemlata (2004)*, advocated that the role of the teacher is progressively being broadened from that of the expert who imparts knowledge to one that includes a mentor or guide, one who extends students’ deep understandings & facilitates the acquisition of higher order thinking skills & creative problem solving skills – skills that are critical for the development of an innovative culture for tomorrow.
- *Willy, John and sons Inc (1965)*, stated that the teachers relate to administrators, parents, community members, to teachers, other staff and students. In relationship with students, teachers are clearly super ordinate. The recognition of the power of the teacher is the predominant feature of the relationship between the teacher and the student. The teacher plays the roles of diagnostician of student behavior, planner, initiator & supervisor of classroom learning activities, evaluator, model, counselor & guide, disciplinarian, machine operator and clerk.
- *Maheshwari, A.N. (chairperson, NCTE)*, stated in her resource paper, that after independence education system in the country has expanded very rapidly. In spite of the recommendation of the several commissions on education that education in human values should be made an integral part of the curriculum, it is hardly visible in the State's schools, perhaps, because of lurking suspicion that value education might be used for religious education. As a result of quick economic growth, influence of western culture, over mechanization, urbanization and craving for materialistic life there has been a loss of values and of the value system at the individual level and in the country as a whole. Materialistic needs and never ending lust to earn more and more by putting in less and less effort, therefore, have to be balanced by a value-based life and by inculcation of an attitude that earning money is for leading a respectable life and for helping others who are disadvantaged. Where and when this value orientation should take place in the life of any person? It should begin from home, be buttressed by the community and be entrenched positively by one's school. The kingpin in the schooling process is the teacher. If the teacher is personally committed to the values and practices them in his/her own life, it is a foregone conclusion his/her students will imbibe the values for which teacher stands. It is for this reason only those teachers who leave deep impact on their students are remembered and also revered. Therefore, if values have to be nurtured in children it would be crucial that their teachers function as role models. For helping teachers in internalizing values that should be developed in children through the schooling process, making education in human values an integral part of the curriculum of teacher education will be necessary.

## 5. Conclusion

For the purpose of bring best quality in life and to promote peace, harmony in life, values inculcation is must. This heavy duty or responsibility on fostering human values in students is on the shoulders of our teachers. In present time there is great and urgent need for promoting human values in young generation to explore or furnish the peaceful life. Inculcating human values in the students is heavily depends on the teacher and in order to cater this basic need it is necessary to providing value orientation to teacher education. The teachers should be proficient with well planned, imaginative pre-service and in-service training programmes. Teacher plays vital and crucial role in human values development in any society and nation which leads towards a more productive, constructive as well as healthy & peaceful life.

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