



Music Education As An Art For Sustainable Development In India

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Abstract

The aim of the present paper is to reveal the importance of music as an indispensable aspect in education of art, with regard to every single culture which serves as indisputable support to sustainable development in India. Indian education system is one of the oldest in the world. Both secular and sacred education was handed over systematically by formalizing the system of education. We have found significant growth in the system of education in our country since ancient times. It is a veritable avenue which enables societies to transmit music and musical skills from one generation to the upcoming ones. The research is based on a comprehensive literature review on the impact of music to sustainable development. This paper contextualised that music education is imperative to Sustainable Development, to the adult. It is a vital force of self-expression, communication and empowerment economically, in growing children, involvement in music education will promote their creative ability, thereby contribute to the full development of intellectual capacities, apt emotional development that gives the right values and feelings to various events and happenings, music helps to develop skills, innate and instinctive talent in human being and recommend that the informal music teaching should be incorporated into school system so as to transmit and preserve the cultural music and that the study of music should be made compulsory at all levels of the Indian educational system.

Keywords: Sustainable Development, Music Education, Culture, Music as an art of Sustainable Development

INTRODUCTION

This famous saying reinforces the relevance of participatory approaches for teaching-learning processes. Education is not static but evolves and changes with time. It should be used as a tool that will facilitate sustainable living and also provide opportunities to think critically, innovate and provide solutions towards local challenges that have a global relevance.

Education is a valuable source of knowledge. It facilitates the quality of learning throughout our life. It is actually a complete comprehensive sustainable education system that lays the foundation for our wisdom, character and ethics. They also play an important role in our overall development and the development of our society as a whole.

Indian music industry is a powerful agent of social change. It can reach millions of people, raising awareness of social, economic and environmental challenges at the core of SDGs. Music as an art form has an important role to play in the sustainable development of India. Music is very essential for the survival of human life and human development. Mainly participative music can play an important role in enabling human survival to climate change. Renewing our bio-culture is essential for us to join together and live well. However, music has

been overlooked as a resource for effectively addressing all these social and economic issues for too long. Music has been ingrained in our existence since the earliest days of human existence. All human beings are born with an innate sensitivity to tone and rhythm. Music is still being used in a wide range of ways for self-expression, communication, empowerment, and therapy, including social, political, educational, religious, and as a release from life's daily stresses. To empower sustainability, we – researchers and others involved with practical sustainable-capabilities – need to actively build on music as an integral part of the practices from which a sustainable culture can emerge.

The world community's adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015 has set the agenda for 2030. It rests on the principles of the four Ps (Peace, Prosperity, People and Planet) and also advocates global partnerships that will facilitate transformative impacts based on economic, social, and environmental improvement for all sections of society. The coronavirus pandemic also had a massive global impact leading to institutional failures, a slowdown of economic growth and a corresponding surge in environmental and health threats.

Therefore, in order to achieve a proper sustainable development in India, there is a need to include the study of art subject especially music education as it has to do with the cultural heritage of every country. It is meant to provide a foundation for learning in all levels of our education and to develop essential competencies as a means of achieving lifelong learning. The need to address this phenomenon and its associated problems necessitated this study. It is the need of the hour to look into that how music Education can do to foster sustainability. In this paper an attempt has been made to view into the meaning of ESD, with emphasis on its perspectives and concerns in music education and also on how to transact ESD.

CONCEPT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable development is an organizing principle that aims to achieve human development goals by enabling natural systems to produce natural resources and ecosystem services important to humans. The desired result is a society where living conditions and natural resources meet human needs without compromising the integrity of the planet and the stability of the natural system. The Brundtland Report in 1987 defined sustainable development as "development that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".

The concept of sustainable development nowadays has focus on economic development, social development and environmental protection for future generations. Sustainable development was first created through the Rio Process, initiated at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (2015-2030) and explained how the goals are integral and indivisible to achieve sustainable development at the global level. The 17 goals of the UN General Assembly address global challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental pollution, peace and justice.

Sustainability is related to the normative concept of sustainability. UNESCO stated the difference between the two terms as follows: "Sustainable development is often seen as a long-term goal (ie a more sustainable world), while sustainable development refers to the many processes and paths to achieve it. The concept of sustainable development. Although some consider it paradoxical (or an oxymoron) and view development as inherently unsustainable, others are frustrated by the lack of progress so far. Part of the problem is that "development" The great challenge facing sustainable development is not just the need to educate people about it, but first define it so people understand it.

The concept of sustainable development is based on three main pillars, the goal of which is to achieve inclusive economic growth and create shared prosperity for the current generation and meet the needs of future generations. These three pillars are economic, social and environmental development and are interconnected and reflect the goals of community development and social and environmental stability. Music and education play an important role here.

MUSIC EDUCATION IN INDIA

India has given the Indian Music Education System a place of sanctity and respect. In India, music has always been an important aspect of social and religious life. Indian music comes in a variety of styles, such as classical music, folk music, film music, dance music, instrument music, etc. Its history dates back many centuries. I'll describe here the Indian music education system, from its earliest days to the present.

The history of music education in India dates back to the ancient period when all education was given in the gurukulas and Ashrams of great saints and Rishi-Munis. Gurukul was the first education system in India. It was a residential school system dating back to about 5000 BC, where shishya (student) and guru (teacher) used to reside in the guru's ashram (home) or in close proximity (Fran 2023).

Gurukul was known for its unique teaching methodology. Here, the teaching model is deliberately designed to make learning much more interesting, so that the legacy of classical music reaches the world with its values. This method and all the activities performed by the guruku made classical music attractive to the younger generations. Students receive music not only through live sessions, but also through the environment in which they live. A complete understanding of music is possible through reading, listening and visualizing to gain a broader perspective on music so that you can develop your creativity and step forward. more innovative concepts. Guru-shishya Parampara is also ancient and also known as the best system of concentrated learning. Since Vedic times, the guru imparted musical training orally. This is called guru-mukhi vidya. The best way to gain proper knowledge of any lore is to understand it through guru-mukhi. Living in a Gurukula, a student renders services to the Guru by living under strict discipline, following a moderate lifestyle and constantly practicing and learning whatever the Guru gives. It was the only way to get a musical education.

The 'Gurukul' system of education was replaced by the Modern School system brought in India in 1830 by the lord Thomas Bobington Macaulay. This system introduced classroom learning where the linked with nature as well as the close emotional bond between the teacher and the student was broken.

The main goals of Gurukul were self-control education, character development, sociability or social awareness generation, integral development of personality, purity propagation, and knowledge and culture preservation. Unfortunately, the Gurukul concept has vanished, and Lord Macauley introduced the modern educational system to India in 1835. Subject music was introduced in various institutions such as Banaras Hindu University, Mumbai University, Visva Bharati University Santiniketan, MS University Vadodara, Bhatkhande Sangeet Samsthan Lucknow, Punjabi University, Patiala etc.

In the Modern period, our society has the scattered Gurukulas, not like a big one of classical era. Perhaps, the socio-economical scarcity is the cause of that. It should be mentioned that the ancient Gurus didn't charge any fees or any extra-advantage for their teaching, but from the later period, there are the institutions which have the beneficiary target to gain more and more profit, like a business, to admit the less quality students also. Exceptions are always side by side of any system, here it is too.

Today, it is necessary to ensure that there is a friendly and mutually respectful relationship between teachers and students. Children who feel safe and trust the caregiver are most likely to imitate the caregiver. It existed in the gurukula system. Today, the same can be achieved by connecting with students through activities and workshops.

The great challenge that lies ahead with sustainable development is not only the need to educate the people, but to first define it in a way people will understand it. Either formal (classroom setting) or informal (Traditional) music gives opportunity to skills development which is very valuable to any organization that enable individual employable, contributes to economy of the society as well as self-reliance.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EDUCATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

ESD aims to develop skills that enable people to think about their actions, taking into account current and future social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts from a local and global perspective.

Education for sustainable development's biggest achievement will be making education relevant. We are living in 21st century which is equipped with many economic and environmental challenges. If we keep following the economic growth-oriented model of development, we will fail to address the upcoming challenges of resource depletion on Earth. Education for sustainability equips students with knowledge, skills and values that can meet these challenges and create leaders to promote sustainability.

Education for Sustainable Development believes in the moral of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', a Sanskrit phrase which means that the whole world is one single family. Unless we are able to integrate the feeling of oneness within students, we would fail to acquaint them with the needs of people who live in other parts of the world or belong to another generation. In this manner, Education for Sustainable development model promotes equity and respect.

The relationship between Education and Sustainable Development is not that easy to understand. It is complex in nature. Any nation's capacity to achieve Sustainable Development Goal and targets will depend on the status and level of education. It is the basic requirement which we all must comprehend. Without this, the set goals and targets would just be a dream. Any goal without a plan is just a wish and following this, we as a nation need an educational plan and strategy in action and not just in paper. Bringing education as a powerful tool, it can improve the standard of living and quality of life of citizens by generating employment opportunities for the youth, providing safety for women, protecting the environment, providing education to all age groups, reducing dropout rates, etc.

IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

'Sustainable development' was a chief attention of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Brazil in June 1992. The attainment of sustainable development globally is likely to prove as one of the utmost challenges to the world community in light of the continued population growth and rising levels of consumption per capita. As the World Commission on Environment and Development observed, efforts to attain sustainable development are being carried out amidst the additional pressure of such global difficulties as "climate change, ozone depletion, and species loss" (WCED, 1987).

Education for sustainable development (ESD) is defined as "education that enables every person to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values to shape a sustainable future. In other words, "Education for sustainable development is a process that equips students with knowledge, skills and attributes necessary to work and live in a country that ensures environmental, social and economic well-being for current and future generations" (UNESCO, 2014). The key ESD issues relate to climate change, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity, poverty reduction, and sustainable consumption. Education for SD consequently encourages competencies like critical thinking, imagining future scenarios and making decisions in a collaborative way. So, education for SD requires far-reaching changes in the way education is often practiced today. The ESD would be meaningful when it is linked with issues that the world is facing today. It must be given a global outlook. So, Education plays an important and decisive role in sustainable development.

ROLE OF MUSIC EDUCATION IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA

Musicians have a unique ability to help address some of the most pressing problems of our generation. They can activate the social imagination and bring forth new ways of feeling, understanding and comprehending an increasingly complex world. This is because music has a unique ability to communicate beyond the limits of language and express complex ideas in a way that opens the mind and heart. In other words, music is not only about life, but rather about shaping life. Music never works in isolation. As the projects in our collection demonstrate, music derives its meaning and identity from the ways in which it participates in other activities. While music will never be a magic bullet, it can be a crucial piece of the puzzle to solve the most pressing challenges of our generation and an important cultural solution that can contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The importance of skills acquisition to sustainable development is essential to the present and incoming generation. In any given country skills development is very indispensable to the manufacture of goods and services which is done by individuals or groups of individuals. To do this the individual or groups will need skills to perform competently. With skills, individual can be employable and determine their own destiny. With music education, both classical and non-classical music have varieties of skill development peculiar to their instruction. This is an imperative to the youth empowerment programme of the country, a good number of students who have completed their secondary education but failed to secure admission into institutions of higher learning are in dilemma. This is because they are not equipped with the requisite skills for self or paid employment.

The process of empowerment should begin with training, which will lead to professionalism and career sustainability for the nation at large. Certain motivational and social factors are therefore implicated in the continuation of activities that promote skill-acquisition, such as practice in Music education. Generally, skills are quite important to develop a society and Music education is one aspect of education that allows such acquisition of skill that brings about suitability.

Looking at the popular music industry in India, as in most parts of the world, it holds great economic potentials. In India, this is testified to by increasing record sales which seems to defy. India shows great potential to become a leading music market in Asia with an increase of 60.8% in streaming revenue in 2018 (IFPI 2018), ranking as the 19th largest global music market in 2016 (Music BC 2017). The Indian music industry entered into the streaming business in recent years but based on its dramatic increase in digital growth both in mobile channels and streaming, reports suggest that it will become a top 10 global market in the near future (Ibid.; IFPI 2020; Music Business Worldwide 2019; Livemint 2018).

Music education leads to sustainable development in some other following parameters:

Music, Education and social life

“Music is the social art of communication among people, a gesture of friendship, the strongest there is” – Malcolm Arnold

Art and music are basic human functions. Humanity and art cannot function without each other. We have a burning desire to create, no matter how small or large. People have always considered music important in their lives, whether it is listening, emotional response, performance or creation. It is no different from classical music or contemporary live music. Both musics are of immense value to our society; But the problem we all know in the industry is that this music is little known and therefore underappreciated. As a musician and artist, it is my responsibility to ensure that others can learn to enjoy the art that I am completely passionate about.

Due to the vastness and diversity of India, Indian music encompasses a variety of genres in various forms and formats, including classical music, folk, rock and pop. It has a history spanning several millennia and has evolved in multiple geographic locations spanning the entire continent. Music in India began as an integral part of socio-religious life.

Music has historically provided unity to Indian society and civilization, often in conflict with the discord between religions and various sects that prevail in South Asia. It has been and is still used as a vital force expressing social, political, educational, historical, and religious issues. Through music and songs, available to all, people will experience life, give particular meaning to it, and develop human and social bonding. Music is a powerful language that all cultures relate with; it is a direct and potent tool helping individuals build their communities. It brings cooperativeness and understanding among people from different cultures, different languages. All these will help to shape attitudes towards a conducive mutual respect and global sustainable development for the future of humanity.

Role of music in Personalities development and lives

This belief can be traced back to ancient times. The great Greek philosopher Plato was a strong believer in the unique role that music can play in our lives, especially at an early age. Not only did he say, "I would teach children music, physics, and philosophy, but most importantly music, for the patterns in music and all the arts are the keys to learning," but also he believed that "musical training is a more potent instrument than any other, because rhythm and harmony find their way into the inward places of the soul, on which they mightily fasten." In his book *The Republic* Plato also said, "Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything."

Presently, music is not a compulsory subject as of now but taught only in a few schools so as to develop a good cultural hobby among the young children. Yet, it is possible for the school administrations to introduce Indian classical (music and dance)/light classical music, which is fundamental for all forms of Indian music at least as an extra-curricular activity by earmarking at least two to three hours in a week. This will help children to learn basics of Indian music and grow at least as connoisseurs if not a performers: Since music and dance are performing art forms, both need audience and connoisseurs to appreciate.

Identity via music education

"Music education can be defined as the process of developing musical knowledge and skills through learning in schools, colleges and universities and informal traditional settings" (DOA, p. 84). Music education transmits music from one generation to another. Transmitting melody, rhythm, etc. is not the only knowledge, because transmitting music also means transmitting the identity, culture, language, belonging, values of this generation. Therefore, traditional music must be properly placed in the curriculum so that the child can grow up and receive an education with a rich background. Adding and emphasizing music education as a compulsory subject in the school curriculum is therefore necessary because it can create cross-cultural understanding. Music, songs and the arts in general are a powerful tool to enhance learning. Learning is hard for a child, but playing is fun: playing an instrument, matching the rhythm with body language is fun, learning new vocabulary through songs and rhymes is much better than repeating them after the teacher. "Music is an activity that creates culture and individuality, and those who witness it are key to its full functioning."

Music education and social diversity.

Music education is one of the most important tools to create a bond between children and society. Although from the beginning it faced the challenge of acceptance and rejection: in the same society, some groups allow their members to learn and interact with music, while others forbid. This conflict concerns both music education and music teachers. In fact, new challenges appear due to the closure, the continuous development of technology, the economic situation... which are related to the e-learning system of music education. "Recognizing the importance of online learning in music communities and recognizing the role of digital technology in shaping musical practices and experiences across cultural domains, the music education community is preparing for pluralism, multiculturalism, and lifelong learning" (Herbert and Hauge). This is another challenge to sustainable development and its educational equality: every child has the right to a full education. Education is not limited to mathematics or Arabic; it is a package full of physiological, psychological and emotional needs that should be stimulated through various activities: sport, music, dance, drawing, acting, etc. Therefore, music should always be included in the school curriculum.

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Sustainable Development Throw Music

Teaching young pupils about sustainable development and how to be a good active citizen, is a very important task; and with the help of music and songs they will grow up behaving properly, consciously towards sustainable development, and they will be able to prevent antisocial things. Songs have the power to influence the listeners and therefore assume social changes.

Teaching kindergarten kids to clean their hands, teeth ... through songs, encourage them to stay clean and healthy. This healthy practice can become a rule that leads to healthy growth: physically, morally, environmentally. Sustainable development requires a very remarkable effort from citizens. And for a child, sorting garbage, taking care of nature, reducing unnecessary expenses, etc. is a chore. On the other hand, with a good focused education and especially musical education, this child will sing what he has to do, participate by singing in all the adequate gestures to achieve the goals for sustainable development. This musical participation – with family, friends, and strangers – will make it possible to model the habits necessary for good sustainable development, which will subsequently become automatic behaviors.

SOCIAL HARMONY

Music education can provide students with new skills and boost their talent which increase their productivity, involves them in sustainable development activities and train them to build a good community. Music also serves as an entertainment tool, creates cordial relationship among people, and tells them about socially accepted habits and behaviors. This can explain the importance of music education and its positive influence on children to participate and be active in protecting each other, conserving identity, culture, and nature.

Music affects the psychological/emotional behavior of every person. Songs related to sustainable development must be included in the music education cursus and should be spread frequently on TV, social media ... Counting numbers, naming colors, etc. are very interested themes in education, but these days thinking about sustainable development is also primary and kids should be involved since their very young age, and consider it as a natural concern – as a habit to take care of nature, environment.

NEW EDUCATION POLICY AND ITS VISION TO MUSIC EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The National Education Policy (NEP) was launched in 2020 and became India's first education policy of the 21st century. NEP is introduced with a vision on Education for Sustainable Development and is expected to move India on the track to achieve Goal 4, Quality Education, by offering inclusive and equitable education to all. NEP has put a special consideration on the need of structuring the entire education system of the country if India wants to timely achieve the set goals and targets. NEP 2020 has put a focus on providing comprehensive and integrated environmental education including areas such as sustainable development and living, waste management, environmental protection, biodiversity, protection of environmental and biological resources, sanitation, climate change. NEP aims to provide education in a way that it shall provide and generate sustainable livelihoods and will boost the economy of the nation.

Music education in India has remained largely undiscussed. There is a lack of research and information about music taught in Indian schools. How many schools teach music in India? How many schools in India are even aware of no. 22 in education policy promoting art and music (2020). Art—in addition to strengthening cultural identity, consciousness, and building societies—is known to enhance the cognitive and creative abilities of individuals and enhance individual happiness. Individual happiness/well-being, cognitive development, and cultural identity are important reasons to provide students with all forms of Indian art at all levels of education, from pre-K to early childhood. Although as per NEP 2020, music and art have been introduced in all colleges in India.

Education for sustainable development (ESD) has been an important area of focus at national and international levels. As NEP is introduced recently and there is still a long way to for the entire and effective implementation of the policy. Till then, the nation can keep following and implementing the good practices, put efforts how the NEP and ESD components can become an inbuilt part of the curriculum methodology and how it can be reached and applied in every educational institutions of India.

CONCLUSION

Music education, no doubt, is a key to bring sustainable development and is a game changer tool. Music education can bring required changes in the attitude, behaviors and skills among the school community who can become ultimate future problem solver and decision makers. If the schools, institutions, colleges can bring in theme of sustainability as a central part of the education in a practical manner, then this would be one of the greatest contributions to ESD.

Therefore, music has important consequences on any social action. Let us benefit from this by educating children via music to the power of listening, the importance of cooperating, the need of social interacting, and the necessity of building a healthy environment. Music education teach young people to be good active citizens, concerned with the sustainable development improvement and achieving its goals. Transmitting culture, preserving identity, respecting differences can easily be learned through music education. In order to make music education accessible to all, it should be included in all formal educational system at all levels, as well as the informal one, creating training groups to pursue the musical knowledge and skills, allowing people to develop creativity and talent. Music education creates job opportunities and allows people to contribute to the economic advancement of the society. This paper fronted music education as one of the major practical course of study as a tool for sustainable development. It is a cultural development phenomenon that has to do with the values, beliefs, codes and conventions of behaviors that emerge through our relationships with others which also promote peaceful coexistence. Furthermore, the paper concludes that the process of empowerment should begin with training, which will lead to professionalism and career sustainability. The professional music industry creates specialized industries that, if properly implemented, can become an engine for the growth, development and empowerment of young people interested in the music industry.

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