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YOUTH OF THE COUNTRY NEEDS EDUCATION BY WHICH STRENGTH OF MIND IS INCREASED AND THE INTELLECT IS EXPANDED

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ABSTRACT

The future of any nation rests on the shoulders of youths of today as they will eventually become the leaders of tomorrow. Therefore, anything targeted at this group of persons must be worthwhile and directed at helping them fulfill their purpose as would-be leaders. India is blessed in having great amount of youth percentage in the population. Leadership is an art as well as an activity through which the affairs of men in the society are directed in line with the attainment of goals. As youths get prepared for leadership roles; it is pertinent to acquire moral standards and values that will mould them into personalities ready to lead for the progress of the society. This paper will highlight the issues pertaining to youth and will also suggest some ways how education can change the fortune of the youth.

Keywords: Youth, moral value, Morality, Societal change, Value system, Education

INTRODUCTION

Human resource is the biggest resource any country would like to have and if majority among them belongs to younger generation, then it would be an icing on the cake. As per the world population survey, whole world inhabits 7 billion people, where 43% of the people are below 25 years of age. The more encouraging fact is, India alone has more than 200 million young people. This is largest number of young people ever going to transit into adulthood.

CHALLENGES BEFORE SOCIETY AND IMPACT ON YOUTH

There are some phrases like “angry young man” , “unrest among youth” , “youth in turmoil” , “youth in revolt” are often seen in media is only and only because of prevailing uncertainty and ambiguity. These phrases are the voice of protest of vast segments of population that have seen and suffered the all round erosion of values and



wreckage of their dreams. Our society is facing immense crises and going through a predicament phase due to increasing corruption, rapidly growing unemployment and huge rising essential commodity prices.

Red tapism and favouritism too forcing them towards alienation and majority feels their future as obscure. So, due to all these very issues, which are responsible for insecure feelings among youth dragged them towards drug addiction, and then it further leads to degradation of virtues like morality, humanity and respect. It's very alarming that more than 80% of the heroin addicts in India are in the age group of 12-25 years.

Dr Sanjeev Tripathi, a prominent psychologist says, "we all forget things from time to time but the loss of memory among the youth is persistent not occasional". The mind of the youth is not relaxed. It needs attention, care and peace. Lack of these results in depression, anxiety and insomnia which in turn results in the loss of memory.

Dr Abhay Jain, a psychiatrist says that, "being economically strong is what every youngster wants today and when he fails in his attempts of carrying his livelihood accordingly, he/she gets affected by stress and then stress further results in the loss of memory".

ROLE OF MORAL EDUCATION

Education is sure to generate morality, humanity and humility; it helps in acquiring those virtues that will help them individually live good lives and at the same time become productive, responsible and contributory members of their respective communities.

Moral education will contribute not only to the youth as individuals but also to the social sllengcohesion of a community. Issues of morality touch an individual's most fundamental beliefs.

ROLE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Every religion preaches humanity which in turn preaches values, character, equality, humility, respect and patience. Once these values will be adopted, peace of mind will be obtained and stress will be relieved. And above all, religion is the manifestation of the divinity already existing in a human being in one or other form.

Youth not merely indulging them in drug abuse, crime, violence, sexuality but also facing some newer kind of challenges like, identity crises, hopelessness, and uncertainty about their future. Due to all these factors, they usually lacks in education and it simply reflects as 31% of the young women and 14% of the young men are illiterate.

Education develops the intellect and intellect distinguishes humans from the other creations of the world. The education which ignores man's intrinsic nature and neglect his intellect and reasoning cannot be considered as true education.

PROBLEMS IN PRESENT EDUCATION SYSTEM

Although, free education between the age group of 6 to 14 is fundamental right but still majority of the population is practically deprived from this, and where this right is exercised, there is serious concern of quality of education. Unfortunately there are corporate schools for well off people where quality of the education is provided but they are so expensive as a common man can't afford and even can't think of enrolling their wards in those schools. On the other hand, the government school are not producing encouraging results and as far as the budget spent by the government is concern is exclusively high. A proper mechanism needs to be laid down so that quality product can be produced. Moreover, our system is still following the traditional approach and the old conventional methodologies.

- *BOOK WORM STUDY (ROT LEARNING)*: It's a kind of reproducing system, students usually bank on cramming without paying much attention towards conceptual clarity.
- *NO CREATIVITY*: No new ideas to be floated, least stress been given to brainstorming. No innovative approach and no curiosity to develop or generate new information.
- *THEORITICAL APPROACH*: Focus of the students these days are only on passing classes without giving much value to understanding. Least focus is given to practicals and experimental study.

Unfortunately, a pious and noble profession and field like education is also commercialized and now it's showing its all impacts as its rapidly generating the problems of unemployment. Degrees are there but skills and efficiency nowhere. Our system is too having huge gap and disparity between ideals and approach. We always compromise on our interests and its making the system more and more handicapped one. Parents and teachers meet is still a newer kind of concept for us. Our system is such where majority of the parents don't visit schools to know about the progress of their children.

Another major issue is that, we have confined our learning system around the classroom only, hardly any effort been made in this regard, very rare concept of educational tours are there and even we also laid down very limited attention towards co-curricular activities.

- **QUANTITY FOCUSED INSTEAD OF QUALITY:** Our schools focused more and more on securing admissions besides increasing their enrolments but if half the focus and attention they started giving towards quality promotion, the scenario would have been different. For them marks, grades always matter but what about the conceptual clarity, hardly matters for them.
- **DIMISHING VALUES AND VIRTUES:** Values and virtues like Cooperation, collaboration, patience, self confidence and rational thinking are diminishing slowly and slowly. These values can only be generated and propagated from a true education system and as our education system is not generating these values.
- **NO CONCERN WITH THE COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT OF A STUDENT:** No special attention or provision is there for the cognitive development of a student. Not much concern shown towards enrichment of the cognitive resources of the child such as questioning, observation and expression.

SOLUTIONS

1. **EDUCATION FOR FORSIGHT AND PROPER GUIDANCE:** Education should aim at the overall development of the personality rather than merely class pass-out approach. A proper counselling should also be part of the curriculum, so that a focus can be laid down on the future right from the beginning.
2. **RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENT:** Students should be involved in practical work; they can be given research based home assignments. They must be aware of all the concerned new inventions and discoveries along with updated knowledge too. Even experiments should be conducted in the classrooms; it will help them in retaining that knowledge for longer duration.
3. **FIELD STUDY APPROACH AND INDUSTRIAL EXPOSURE:** Students belongs to the arts stream should be taken for educational tours and those having sciences or engineering as their background should be taken for industrial exposure. They can be brought direct to the working industrial areas, so that they can have a firsthand experience.
4. **APPLICATION BASED STUDY:** Whatever be learnt in the classroom should somewhere be applied so that these learning process can be made not just exam oriented but more and more for acquiring knowledge. Activities need to be conducted, whenever and wherever required.

5. **CASE STUDY APPROACH:** This methodology should be part of the curriculum of every school, so that during examinations and evaluation, they made to think on their own and given their own judgements. This will increase their thinking capacity and will also develop them cognitively.

Technical courses with humanities courses will also be a good choice and collaboration with international universities like *NATIONAL KNOWLEDGE NETWORK*. By this network we can provide the opportunities to the students to have exposure.

CONCLUSION

Youths are major determinants of the level of development in any society. Without youths, there can be no sustenance of society as no society can be self-sustaining without its human components of which the major workforce is the youths. Realizing this, young people ought to know their importance and worth in society. Youths must be committed to imbibing moral values and upholding them through life as these values will shape the ways they think, speak and even act. Moral standards can rise in contemporary societies if the zeal of youths brings about the restoration of moral values. To uphold moral values, youths must be disciplined and resist immoral behaviour that will eventually culminate in loss of moral compass. Youths can be the agents of change in their societies by accepting to live by moral codes and become “lights in perceived darkness” to show the way forward for nations to become truly prosperous, developed and functional. Lastly, authorities should also provide best of the opportunities to the youth so that, they can exhibit their talent.

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