

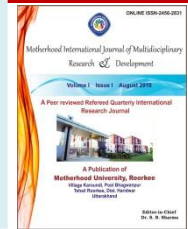


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Role of Ethics, moral and cultural values in Higher Education

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ABSTRACT

Child is like a rough diamond and needs filling and polishing before all his/her faculties can function and fullest development. Education enables one to lead a better physical, mental intellectual and spiritual life. Ethics deals with the morality and morality refers to personal or cultural value code of conduct or social values. Higher education makes the quality of leadership in students. The Ethics and moral values adept in universities heavily affect the future leaders. It is important to state that the moral value of ethics in life explores what is our origin as human beings. Ethics education is the prospect for a new value alignment. Such education guarantees the training of both the teacher and the student, develops new technologies and conclusively allows a new vision, a new policy, a new market new resources and a new system.

Keywords: higher education, leadership, ethics, moral values, cultural values.

Introduction:

Education is a sole quality of mankind. It is a very important for the development of the students and an important tool for accelerating the well-being and prosperity. It is a process which continues lifelong from womb to tomb. Education is a tool for total development of a child, if any one aspect of human personality is neglected, it results will be adverse. Without including ethics and moral values in higher education, human development will be incomplete. Concept of Value Based Education (VBE) imparts integrity character, social, moral, spirituality and many more. It develops the quality of humility, strength and honesty in students. Value based

education is the only means which can give to our youth into the right direction. It is the urgent needs for value based education system in India.

All the reports of commissions and committees on education like the Radha Krishna Commission; the Kothari Commission; National policy on education; Ramamurti Committee; Central Advisory Board of Education Committee on policy; Planning Commission core group on value orientation of education, suggest that education plays vital role in designing and developing the national characters.

The values instructed among young generation would remain with them permanently. According to Swami Vivekananda “if education is identical with information, libraries are the greatest sages of the world. and encyclopedias are “RISHIS”.

Concept of Ethics, Moral values and Education

1. What is ethics?

It is the branch of Philosophy that deals with the morality. The word ethics has been derived from the Greek word ‘ethos’ which means character. Ethics covers the following dilemmas:

- a. How to live a good life?
- b. What are our rights and responsibilities.
- c. The language of right and wrong etc.

2. Moral decisions – 1. What is good and bad to a person?

The concept of ethics have been resulting from religions, philosophies and culture. According to Albert Schweitzer, “it is the activity of man directed to secure the inner perfection of his own personality.”

3. What are moral values?

These are the set of some precious principles which helps a person in becoming a good human being these values involve a lot of factors like morality, respecting others, helping others, loving others etc. According to Jerry Springer: “we are all born as empty vessels which can be shaped by moral values.”

4. What is Education?

The root of word Education is derived from Latin words, ‘Educare’, ‘Educere’ and ‘Educatum’. The Word ‘Educare’ means to bring up and to nourish. The word ‘Educere’ means to lead out. The word ‘Educatum’ means to train. So we can say that education is

to bring up, to developing and shaping up the individual talent and his inner potentialities.

According to Aristotle: "Education is an ornament in prosperity and a refuge in adversity

Quality of higher education in India

Higher education is a leadership education. Indian higher education system is the third largest system in the world, next to the China and United States. In India The higher education system has grown in a extraordinary way, particularly after independence period, to become one of the largest system of its kind in the world. However, the system has many issues of concern at present, like financing and management including access, equity and relevance, re-orientation of programmes by laying emphasis on health consciousness, values and ethics and quality of higher education together with the assessment of institutions and their accreditation. These issues are important for the country, as it is now engaged in the use of higher education as a powerful tool to build a knowledge based information society of the 21st century.

Causes of ethical fading in Indian higher education system

- 1. Privatization of educational Institutes:** Privatization of educational institutes is another major cause for the declining ethical values in education system. The private institutes are unable to produce a complete 'human capital' with ethical standards.
- 2. Corruption:** The major cause of ethical fading in education system is rapidly spreading corruption. Corruption in education can include bribes and illegal fees for admission and examination; academic fraud, with holding teacher salaries, preferential promotion and placement, teacher absenteeism and illegal practices in the textbook procurement, meal provision and infrastructure.
- 3. Teacher's absenteeism:** Teachers are the role models of students and in most rural communities, they are the most educated and respected personality. Teacher absenteeism is one of the most serious.
- 4. Educator's pedagogy does not engage properly teaching methodologies:** Evaluation stresses on routine remembrance. Curriculum design is done by the university and little collection of topics and subjects out of the syllabus. The accumulation or presentation of data is not enough to decide the criteria for quality education.
- 5. Lack of value education in Curriculum:** Value education is included in the primary education curriculum but at adult stage, which are the most sensitive stages to build the character of the youth, the curriculum finds no space to value education.

6. Guru and Shishya Bounding going away: There are many more things to discuss, student should learn to respect Guru (teacher), A Guru should selflessly teach his shishya (student), these days the bounding between Guru-Shishya is going away, and there is no respect of Guru.

Strengthening the Ethical culture of Higher education

1. Inter-institutional Level: Include ethics in higher education in the accreditations and monitoring policies and training programmes of accreditation institutions and council such the international council for open and distance education.

2. Individual and Interpersonal Level – Promote character education (for student and teachers) as a task of individual and interpersonal. Self-responsibility in order to become or remain globally responsible leaders.

3. Communication Level: Strengthen the communication strategy of the institutions for higher education so that integrity, credibility, responsibility and honesty are included.

4. Intra-Institutional Level: The following dimensions are part of it – 1. Develop and integrate special ethics curricula in all faculties and reflect on aspects of values in all courses.

2. Balance technological innovation with social and organisational innovation.

3. Integrate in staff recruitment values driven behaviour in addition to professional knowledge.

4. Develop a policy on research ethics with a research ethics committee.

5. Spiritual Level: Enable spiritual praxis of different faith communities on the campus of institution of higher education as a foundation for ethical integrity.

6. Action Level: Strengthen values driven behaviour not only by words, but also through individual level and collaborative action such as community service. Conclusion Nelson Mandela said “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

The declining of ethical values in higher education system will give rise to unskilled professional and undisciplined students. This trend needs to be addressed if India has to survive as a nation and acquire its due place in the world. The only way to arrest this deterioration is to provide value orientation in Indian educational system. In India, it is necessary to increase International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research and Development 152 philosophical thinking, to equip the student with ethical values, study, research and moral development.

Conclusion

Education enables one to lead a better physical, mental intellectual and spiritual life. Ethics deals with the morality and morality refers to personal or cultural value code of conduct or social

values. Higher education makes the quality of leadership in students. The Ethics and moral values adept in universities heavily affect the future leaders. It is important to state that the moral value of ethics in life explores what is our origin as human beings. Ethics education is the prospect for a new value alignment. Such education guarantees the training of both the teacher and the student, develops new technologies and conclusively allows a new vision, a new policy, a new market new resources and a new system.

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