

Indian Knowledge System And Education New Education Policy 2020 & Value Based Education

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Abstract – Value education involves a detailed study of various values and their impact on human life. Man is a priceless creature and it is his moral values that make him priceless. The more valuable an object is, the more important it is. And the more virtues/ values a person possesses, the more important and influential that person will be. Therefore there is positive relationship between value and importance. Both complement each other. The importance of values is acknowledged in every situation. A state of valuelessness indicates social, economic and political imbalance, while a state of value development can be understood as a sign of social, economic and political development. Every country in the world wants to educate its citizens on international goodwill. Today the spirit of universal brotherhood is being promoted and propagated and hence the world community respects human values, leading to the development of humanity. This paper presents a deep understanding of value based education which is also emphasized by NEP 2020 and Indian Knowledge system. The detailed discussion of this paper reveals that morality encompasses values related to good conduct and good will. By understanding moral values, one can apply them in their lives and become ethically correct. Therefore values play an important role in the development of an individual.

Key words : Values, humanity, holistic, conduct, desires, aesthetics, panchkosh, integral growth.

Introduction

At the beginning of the 21st century, our society is moving towards materialism. Following the example of western nations, Indian society is eroding its own values. In the process of transitioning from developing to develop, we have lost our natural values and are now striving for ostentatious heights. Therefore it is the responsibility of the society and its members to develop values to build a harmonious country.

Values are the prevailing ideals and goals of a society that its members revere and considered to be of paramount importance in social life. Specific objects, events and individual behaviors are evaluated based on these important criteria.

Thomas & Znaniecki – “Anything that is valued and has meaning for members of a social group can be considered a value”.

Reutor & Hart-“Society experiences struggle and competition for survival. As a result, a certain order and moral consciousness develop. That is the foundation of the development of values.

Pro Radhakamal Mukherjee- “The desires and goals accepted by society as values.”

Perry said that the basis for the perception of value in an object is people’s attraction and interest towards that object. In his view, wherever there is more than one individual, interaction will begin and interdependence will arise. Every person will take care of each other’s interests and thus values like interdependence, interest, protection etc. emerge.

Human society has always had a system of values, ideals and thoughts. It is a characteristics of human beings that they can set goals, objective, ideals and norms of behavior and lives its life in accordance with them. Passed down from generation to generation these ideals become traditions.

A specific organizing component of culture is the “code of conduct” which is the subject of that society’s ethics. In every society, the criteria for ethically appropriate conduct are defined and determined.

Meaning & definitions of value-

The word “value” is used in Sanskrit as “Ishta”. Ishta means that which is desired, meaning that a person strives to satisfy his/ her desires. Value is an intangible quality inherent in an object. Values are very important and individuals and societies strive to achieve them.

According to Urban-“Value is that which satisfies human desires.”

According to James Ward- “Values are things that satisfy desires.

Johnson defined values as –“Value may be defined as a standard, cultural or personal, by which things are compared in relative terms, accepted or rejected, considered desirable or undesirable, more or less useful, or more or less correct.”

According to H.M.Johnson : Sociology – “ Values may be defined as compared or standard, cultural or personal, by which things are compared and approved or disapproved relative to one another – held to be relatively desirable or un-desirable more meritorious or less correct.”

According to R. K. Mukherjee- “ Values are mechanism of men’s social orientation and guidance, they are tools of adjustment of human groups and individuals to the neutral and social world.”

Happiness is obtained from the fulfillment of desires, therefore there is a feeling of value in the feeling of happiness. Values can be called social goals, ideals etc., because through these social situations and subjects can be evaluated.

Value oriented education is philosophically an axiological question. Greek words ‘axios’ means ‘like value’ or ‘worth as much as’ . In axiology, we think that we do most of our living at the level of choosing, desiring and preferring. There is common ground shared by ethics, aesthetics as well as all other phases of our living which are concerned with the worth of things.

Different types of values-

1. Ethical- a. Immediate
b. Ultimate

Immediate moral values are likely to be determined by the ultimate and eventual good which I conceive to be the end goal towards which all my life is lived. If pleasure

is ultimate value for me in each day conduct I will chose those activities which give me pleasure.

2. Aesthetic – For example , Classical music, sunset, poetry, sculpture etc.
3. Religious- These values are easy to be understood, difficult to experience. For example- worship, affirmation, fellowship assurance and hope.
4. Social- For example
 - a. Orderliness and dependability of social structure
 - b. Democracy
 - c. United front to fight hunger, poverty, crime,disease, war etc.
 - d. World peacePolitical & economic are specific social values.
Others
5. Economic
6. Political
7. Educational
8. Utilitarian
9. Recreational
10. Health values

Panchkosh theory of values-

According to the concept of Yoga, human existence is divided into five layers called Panchkoshas. These layers are like different planes of existence existing simultaneously. The conscious, sub conscious and unconscious minds are experienced within these layers. Each layer is closely related to the other.

Kosha is a technical term in Vedanta meaning “covering” . In Vedanta,there are five types of Koshas :

Annamaya Kosha

Pranmaya kosha

Manomaya kosha

Vigyanmaya Kosha

Anandmay Kosha

1 Annaaya Kosha- The body and mind are made of food and nutrition. The entire visible world, the planets, stars and our earth are the first manifestations of the soul . This visible intimate world, including our bodies, is the body made of food, called “Annarasmaya” . Therefore the vedic sages called Brahma to food. This is the first Kosh where the soul continues to express itself. Initially only the five elements (fire, water,air, earth & space) existed. This annamaya kosha is covered by the Pranmaya kosha, Pranmaya by Manomaya, Manomaya by Vigyanmaya and vigyanmaya by Anandmaya Kosha.

2 Pranmaya Kosha- Made up of Prana (vital energy). The vibrations that emanate from our Annamaya Kosha as we breathe create a wave- like atmosphere around us. This is our pranmaya kosha . When a mentally and physically person breathes fully,Their pranmaya kosha remains in excellent condition. The constant practice of pranayama keep the pranayama kosha healthy.

3 Manomaya Kosha- Made up of mind . Information is collected based on what we see and hear, meaning when messages are transmitted to our brain through our senses. The brain releases chemicals based on our emotions, which form our thoughts. Our mind vibrates in response to our thoughts , thus forming a covering around the pranmaya kosha. This is our manomaya kosha.

4 Vigyanmay Kosha- It represents the higher mind, intuitive knowledge, discrimination and will power. It is the layer that enables us to distinguish right from wrong, and truth from illusion. It governs judgement, decision making, ego (doership) and wisdom. It lies deeper than the mental sheath. It helps individuals advance spiritually, moving awareness from outer sensations towards the innermost self.

5 Anandmay Kosha- Or bliss sheath is the innermost, subtlest layer of human existence in Vedantic Philosophy. It represents pure, unconditional joy, equanimity and the causal body that lies closest to the soul. It is the fifth of the Panch Koshas, Transcending mental and physical limitations. It is a state of total silence, perfect harmony and eternal joy independent of any external stimulus. It is often experienced in deep meditation, Samadhi or dreamless sleep when the mind is perfectly calm. It is the veil closest to the self (atman) and represents the final stage of evolution before liberation (mukti).

Value based education

Education that inculcates positive values, morals and character, making life better rather than just making a living. Value based education is a holistic pedagogical approach that integrates academic learning with the development of strong character, ethics and social responsibilities. It focuses on instilling core values- like honesty, respect and empathy to guide students; behavior, mental health and decision making for positive societal contribution.

Aims of value based education-

1 Aim of acquiring knowledge- The specific aim of education is to acquire knowledge. Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Dante and Comenius supported this objective. Socrates wrote –“ A person who possesses real knowledge cannot be other than virtuous.” When a problem arises , how do we solve it ? Answer- Through knowledge. According to Bacon- “Knowledge is power. “ Therefore the specific aim of moral education is to acquire or impart knowledge.” Therefore civilization and culture can progress only on the basis of knowledge of child’s life.

2 Character building- Many educators have stated that the purpose of value education is character building. Thinkers like M K Gandhi and Herbert Hoover have also stated that the purpose of education is character building.

3 Moral & Value education in democracy- Democracy requires people with character. Therefore the objective of value education should be character building or moral development of the individual. Character means their inner growth and unity of personality. A person with character is principled, determined, courageous and fearless, Kant says “ The character of a bad person is extremely dangerous.” Mahatma Gandhi says , “ School and colleges are character building factories.” Parents send their children to school for developing moral conduct .So that they can become a good person .” Therefore the aim of all education is character building.

Definition & meaning of value based education-

According to Planet, J, Cullen-“ Value education is the process by which people give value to others . It may be an activity that take place in any organization during which people are assisted by others, who may be older, in a position of authority or are more experienced.

Value based education is the process of imparting moral, social and ethical values to students for their students. It inculcates qualities like honesty, truthfulness, respect for elders, cooperation, tolerance, patriotism, environmental awareness .

Objectives of value based education-

The main objective is to help students become good human beings and responsible citizens.

It focuses on the overall development of personality- mental, emotional, social and spiritual.

Build self confidence and leadership quality.

Promote discipline and responsibility.

Develop social and national values.

improve the integral growth of human being.

create attitudes and improvement towards sustainable life style.

increase awareness about our national history, our cultural heritage, constitutional rights, national integration , community development and environment.

create awareness about the values , their significance and role.

know about various living and non living organism and their interaction with environment.

Components of value education-

Purpose- To nurture moral, emotional and social development alongside intellectual skills, ensuring students become responsible citizens.

Focus areas- Emphasizes character education, citizenship training and fostering an ethical vocabulary to help students navigate dilemmas.

Methodology- Involves modeling behavior by educators , creating a reflective school culture and engaging in values action projects in the community.

Key aspects of value based education under NEP 2020 include :

Value Education in NEP 2020 is integrated into the curriculum to develop holistic individuals with character, ethical reasoning and compassion. It emphasizes core values like truth (Satya), righteousness (Dharma), peace (Shanti), love (Prem) and non violence (Ahimsa) along with constitutional and Indian traditional values .

- A. **Holistic development-** The focus is on nurturing all aspects of a learner- physical, mental, emotional and spiritual-aiming for character building .
- B. **Core values & ethics-** The curriculum incorporates humanistic, ethical and constitutional values such as equality, responsibility, justice and liberty.
- C. **Indian Knowledge System IKS-** Integration of traditional Indian values like Nishkam seva (self less service), Samarasya (oneness) and respect for nature and diversity.
- D. **Pedagogical approaches-** Value education is not taught in isolation , but embedded through experiential learning, story telling, community engagement and arts-integrated education.
- E. **Citizenship & social responsibility-** Promoting a democratic way of thinking, tolerance and empathy to create responsible citizens who contribute to a sustainable and inclusive society.

The policy aims to foster a “ deep rooted pride in being Indian, not only in thoughts, but also in spirit, intellect and deeds, as well as to develop knowledge, skills, values and dispositions that support responsible commitment to human rights, sustainable development and living , and global well being.

Conclusion

Hence it can be said that values provide unity and stability to culture and as a result, continuity and unity are visible within groups. In every culture, its institutional patterns and important situations are influenced by values. Values are the real social facts that directly guide the relationships and behavior of individuals. Values and individual roles weave the web of social relationships. On the other hand social group interact with values in such a way that ideals, morality and individuals are formed in society. Thus, individual reason , consciousness and values become so intertwined that they appear as a complete unit in society. Value based education addresses the decay of values in society, prepares youth for holistic living and helps in creating a peaceful and harmonious environment. According to NEP 2020, value based education promotes constitutional values, empathy, respect for others, cleanliness, scientific temper and ethical reasoning among students. Thus value education must be integrated through curriculum content, co-curricular activities, school culture and very important the role of teachers as mentors. An ideal citizen can be created through values. The study of values is essential to understand social behavior. Acting in accordance with social rules, traditions and expectations is called social conformity. Through social sanction and punishment , individual learn to conform to social rules and expectations . Hence according to NEP 2020 to develop a holistic individual value based education must be there because values are the mirror of society , education and the human world, in which the reflection of social and cultural conditions can be clearly seen.

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