



**Bharat Vikash Award**

**THE MAGNIFICENCE OF HUMBLER**

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# Educational Dimensions for Value Based Future

By

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## Abstract

Education plays a vital role in transforming human lives, undoubtedly educating the human beings since centuries has brought total transformation and made the world a better place to live as compared to our ancestors. On one side, we have better means of transportation and communication, improved medical, educational facilities at our door step. Technological developments are making life easier than before in one sense. In general all of us have improved lifestyle in every respect. But, on the other side, no one can deny that there are life threatening challenges too. Human race today is facing never before problems. These problems are adding worries to our lives and taking away values such as happiness, love, peace, knowledge and ultimately draining out our energy. We are finding difficult to cope with stress levels, impetuosity and putting all in a miserable situation. Ego problem, lack of self respect, lack of respect for women, domestic issues, religious and civil wars, suicidal tendencies, environmental pollution, over extraction of natural resources etc. are some of major issues which need to be directed by education. Solutions to some of these issues are attempted in the paper.

Keywords: Education, transformation, knowledge, time, values, faith.

## Introduction:

Education means progress, growth, equity, development of individual and of course of the society, transformation for better, solutions to various difficulties and problems and promotion of moral, ethical and social values leading to a value based societies, nations and ultimately world. The best educational systems prepare people to be successful, productive, and engaged members of society. These systems provide appropriate knowledge, skills, and experiences, enabling students to obtain jobs that promote social equity, security and economic growth. The educational programs should nurture religious pluralism and the spirituality in the society.

Since, century's human beings are acquiring knowledge through observations, experiments, exchange programs etc. and getting educated but something is missing. Human beings as whole are still far away from tasting and enjoying the fruits of

education in real sense. One finds more unhappiness, distress, intolerance, ego problems, non-cooperation, sleeplessness, falsity, disloyalty and stress etc. in highly educated people compared to other.

Life without values education is like a ship without rudder. Values work as guidance system and help us reach our destination. Mere teaching, learning, improving knowledge and skills without building character and mind may not contribute to the holistic development of children, which is a must for the world to become a better place.

In spite of the increasing literacy rate and more people receiving education, the crime rate is refusing to come down! The rise in crimes, violence and other destructive activities in the society can be ascribed to poor inculcation of values. It has been seen in the recent terrorist attacks in various parts of the world, that those who carried out the attacks were educated men and women. What they lacked was edification. Had they been thoroughly taught the values of human character, it is possible they would have shuddered to think of killing so many innocent people.

Education policy makers need to lay more emphasis on education with much stress on imparting human values and edification. This will have better results than mere education. The need of the hour is to impart value based education. The stress should be on the values such as patience, honesty, tolerance, sympathy, and love for fellow brethren and sisters. The students must be indoctrinated to keep values as top priority. The youngsters need not only to be taught how to develop their skills, talents, and abilities, they must also be taught how to use these skills, talents and abilities for the welfare and betterment of all. Once values become everyone's priority in life, all the negative aspects of life will automatically dwindle. The world direly needs people with high values to make it a better place to live in.

#### **Increasing threats and challenges:**

Global Risks Report 2017, published by the World Economic Forum highlights the interconnections among various global trends such as rising urbanization, changing climate, degrading environment, rising geographic mobility, rising chronic diseases, growing middle class in emerging economics, aging population, rising income and wealth disparity, shifting power, increasing polarization of societies, increasing national sentiments, rising cyber dependency, changing landscape of international governance and resulting economic, societal, geopolitical, environmental, technological risks.

According to a number of scientists, we have already effected environmental changes that could cause our extinction. There are many historic examples of similar collective human dead - end actions operating on smaller scales. The tribes of Easter Island competed with each other so fiercely that they used up all the available resources on the island, and their civilization collapsed. According to evolutionary biologist Jared Diamond, the parallels between the downfall of civilization on Easter Island

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**"THE MAGNIFICENCE OF HUMBLER"**

and today's world are "chillingly obvious." In his book, *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*, he follows the arcs of several civilizations that have vanished, and shows the similarities between them and our global civilization today. Diamond writes: "Because we are rapidly advancing along this non-sustainable course, the world's environmental problems will get resolved, in one way or another, within the lifetimes of the children and young adults alive today. The only question is whether they will become resolved in pleasant ways of our own choice, or in unpleasant ways not of our choice, such as warfare, genocide, starvation, disease epidemics, and collapses of societies.

Education can be a powerful tool for survival, but the competencies to meet these challenges and minimise the risks are currently not being taught consistently and effectively.

#### **Technology's Impact on Society**

Internet is the first truly global, interactive, social, communication medium that is accessible to a significant number of the world's population. Apart from its numerous advantages, ideas, images, and sounds zip around the world at the speed of light, disrupting industries and cultures along the way. Jonathan Sacks says, "Technology gives us power, but it does not, and cannot, tell us how to use that power". Every breakthrough has this potential for both positive and negative effects—progress is truly a double-edged sword, and technology is an amoral amplifier. For instance, the commercialization and commoditization of knowledge on the Internet can lead to much wider access to knowledge, instant distribution, and sharing of ideas. But it can also lead to the spread of more dangerous knowledge such as 3D-printed weapons, home-grown biological warfare agents, and so on. Scientific discoveries are subject to the same duality—nuclear energy can be used as a positive, abundant energy source, or it can be used to make powerfully negative, destructive weapons. Though one cannot stop the technological progress, we can carefully manage to use technology in our lives by enhancing its positivity and curbing the negative effects.

Our education systems need to focus effectively on the universally positive goals of building personal competencies, expertise, and wisdom for all learners. It should promote the use of technology for well being of entire human community. As technology progresses, the education necessary to utilize it effectively also grows, and education must adapt to keep up. In this way, technology and education are in a race.

#### **Education for Values:**

Mahatma Gandhi once said, "By education I mean drawing out the best in child and man, body, mind and spirit. Literacy is not the end of education or even the beginning." As such education stands as a means and instrument of inculcating in man the best of

human culture coupled with spiritual values and virtues. It shows humanity the right path by teaching the lofty ideals cherished by a culture over centuries of collective and civilized living. It has rightly been said 'Learning is a means to liberate.' True education liberates one from superstitions and other blind practices which have pushed the mankind into the dark alleys of communal hatred, violence and mutual distrust. Today, the prime responsibility of education should be to develop human values as affection, love, peace, purity, truth, non-violence and compassion.

1. Search for an Ideal system: Our great leaders, educationists and great thinkers have always felt the urgent need for reinvigorating our education system, so as to make it compatible with the aspirations of the people in the post-independence era. In spite of various practices, attempts the significance of spirituality as an antidote to rank materialism and utter disregard of human values has not been fully appreciated, leading to deterioration in the quality of life.

2. Clean the Mind and Green the Earth: To create awareness amongst the masses, youth and Institutions about the adverse impact of waste and negative thinking on the environment, plants and animals and the natural forces, a novel idea of 'Clean the Mind and Green the Earth' should be promoted among masses. The natural elements, which govern timely rain, appropriate climatic conditions and well being of human life, are being ruthlessly neglected by the modern so called progress. Importance of tree plantation and growing it, creating an eco friendly, environment friendly, socio-friendly life system through spiritual life style has become the need of the hour.

Mental pollution means contamination of mind by various forms affective visual stimuli mostly with sexual, violent, and scary content ranging from short internet clips to popular commercial advertisements widely prevalent in the digital and virtual world. Mental pollution is at the root of all types of other pollutions.

We should now focus on awakening the spiritual component of human consciousness to create harmony in the human mind to integrate it with the natural forces of the five elements.

#### **Exploring Spiritual Dimensions of Education:**

Spirituality is an aspect of human life that is distinct from religion. Consequently, many are searching for meaning within and without religious traditions today and seeking answers to ethical and moral questions that have been generated by the knowledge and technological explosion. As a result spiritual and moral dimension of education is gaining importance. Spiritual dimension in education is an exciting and challenging way forward for educators at all levels in society. As well, it offers a vision for the emergence of a peaceful and just world. Spiritual dimension of education equip each one to engage positively with the world in all aspects of his/her life as each of them experiences it. Each one will learn to see every other child as a vital element of the whole community.

**"THE MAGNIFICENCE OF HUMBLER"**

each with an important part to play so that respect for and valuing of other becomes a natural expression of all children. Spirituality makes us to recognize the impact that one's conscious and non-conscious learning may have on their attitudes and behaviour. Identification of the SELF, the cyclic DRAMA, Karma philosophy - spiritual law of action and reaction and Meditation - an attempt to establish a mental link with the Supreme Source of spiritual energy, (The Supreme Soul) are the proper and powerful spiritual means to restore the personal empowerment, moral and ethical reasoning abilities. Such spiritual practice empowers human beings - the souls to create positive, pure and elevated thoughts, which not only frees us from sorrow, misery, pain, depression, fear, anxiety, illness, insecurity and phobias but also consequently makes a very pleasant and positive impact on the social and natural environment. This realization, which is indispensable in the fast changing times of material growth, must guide the human endeavour.

Generally, Knowledge, Skill development and Character building are considered as the dimensions of education. Following lines attempts to describe spiritual aspects of these dimensions.

**1 The Knowledge:** Broadly speaking there are two areas - Mind and Matter. Mind the consciousness is a memory where all experiences, emotions, desires, etc. are stored. Mind is subtle unlike the physical body. When interpreted in the terminology of modern physics, the implication is that at least part of what we call mind is made of tachyonic matter. Since ancient times human beings are exploring the elemental area - The Matter. All educational, technological and research activities goes around the only one area - The matter. Present education system is at peak and is capable of imparting the knowledge of almost everything in every respect about matter and its interactions.

Being inevitable part of the material world and continuous scientific material explorations since centuries by human being mislead himself to wrong identification about self as mortal body and not as immortal point source of energy - soul. Due to this single primary mistake almost whole human population has reached its highest peak of materialistic nature. And everyone has become excessively concerned with physical comforts or acquisition of wealth and material possessions, rather than with spiritual, intellectual or cultural values. World today has become a battle field. Original characteristics of human being such as love, happiness, peace, knowledge, purity and power are now transformed to five vices such as lust, anger, greed, attachment and ego. These five vices are at the root cause of sorrow in this world. On this backgrounds education in the following areas of knowledge will play key role in edification of human beings in general.

**1.1 Self realization:** My body is mortal but I am immortal. I am love full and peace full. Happiness is my original nature. And as I am as all others! Instead of looking outward for peace, love and happiness, I should look inward. It is rightly said that Introverted being is always happy

**1.2 God realization:** God is our spiritual father and in that sense we hold brotherhood among ourselves. God is ONE but known with different names and forms as per own experiences and beliefs. But major religions conclude at, God as subtle, point source of infinite energy. God is ocean of all values which we need to practice in life. Factually, these values come in dormant form with us as our birthright. Practicing these values in daily life with firm faith brings expected transformations creating value based futures.

**1.3 Philosophy of Karma:** Every action has certain cause behind it. Reaction to every action is inevitable. What we are today is due to our past (even in past births) actions and obviously, what we shall be tomorrow solely be determined by our present actions. Philosophy of Karma is very complex and obviously difficult to understand if one assumes the single life span and self as material bodies. On spiritual background the law of action and reaction holds equally for human beings as well. Keeping in mind that no one has power to change the past, just belief in Karma philosophy, motivates us to follow righteous path. Righteous actions - the actions performed in soul consciousness and in accordance with spiritual laws led down by almighty GOD leads to righteous fruits of happiness.

**1.4 Mind - Matter Interactions:** Interactions between/among mind and matter and the results there of are governed by mainly two laws, - Law attraction and law of gravitation. Human nature and all phenomena in the physical world are affected, shaped by mind - matter interactions. Human being are dominant among all creatures, its actions affects the entire universe collectively and effectively. It is said that wars are born in minds first. Mental (psychological action) action leads to physical action. Before every action there is always a thought about it in our mind. So, ultimately it is our thought process that plays a vital role in shaping our future. One always has a thought before he performs physically.

On this background it can be said that, every action, an individual perform in this materialistic world mainly leaves behind two types of traces, one at mental or subtle level (immortal, imperishable, eternal level) and other at physical level (mortal, perishable level). On mortal level, we have physical transformations, gains-losses, assets etc. for us and for societies we live in. All these are visible and probable by physical means and but perishable.

On other side, thought is one kind of energy and obviously, every individual thought that one creates in his/her mind, before the physical action, communicates with nature and obviously, nature records its results under separate head in subtle form in its own

way. So, all of us are having our own individual records under separate head/icon in nature. It is worth to note that yields of good record will obviously be good.

When an action is completed on physical level it contribute subtly to what one called as sanskaras - the driving force for further thoughts and actions. Our present actions are creating imperishable record for us and that will work for us in future. Owing to law of attraction one gets attracted towards his/her record available with nature. Alternatively, the present is due to our past actions and present will decide our future.

**1.5 Cyclic nature of eternal world drama:** Most of the natural phenomena are cyclic in nature. We all experience the cycle of day and night, we have cycle of seasons, nitrogen cycle, water cycle, carbon cycle, oxygen cycle and cycle of birth - death - rebirth. The time keeps on flowing continuously not in linear manner but in cyclic manner. It is wisely said that history repeats itself. Keeping in mind the law of action and reaction, it would be more correct to say along with history the geography of world also repeats cyclically. Further, the period of repetition is not indefinite but is fixed. It is quite larger in comparison of worldly life span of human bodies but not that of the eternal energy sources- the souls. It would be interesting to know that during the cyclic repetition of world history and world geography, how the eternal soul keeps on changing the bodies? How it goes through cycle of birth-death-rebirth? How the qualities, virtues and of course sanskar of us - the souls gets transformed owing to the law of karma? And how, further, these sanskars becomes the driving force of our actions?

Someone may feel that if everything is recorded and just being repeated then, why one should attempt for better and value base acts. The answer to the question comes from complete world history of mind (one aspect of soul), matter and eternal drama. It says that, goodness, peace, love, happiness and moral and social values is our original nature. And because of which one always seek these qualities and values in his/her own life. One feels comfortable with original qualities. For example, anger is not our original quality and that why one cannot remain always angry. After some time even the angriest person will also come back to peace. So, one should develop habit of positive thinking, positive attitude patiently keeping faith in originality.

**1.6 Meditation:** Meditation is the art of realizing self as the eternal point energy source - the soul totally different from body made up of five elements. Meditation is the art of realizing GOD - the supreme soul as again point source but ocean in virtues. Meditation is the art of establishing link between self and the supreme. Such link allows flow of virtues to us from the ocean of virtues. It helps us in nurturing our original qualities of peace, love, energy, happiness and wisdom.

**Skill development:**

Apart from academic, scientific, technological, professional and social skills etc., the life skills such as Skill of Happy Living, Skill of Peaceful Living, Skill Stress Free Living, Skill of Love full Living, Skill of Tolerance, Skill of adjustments (moulding nature), Skill of Endurance, etc. are in high demands now a days. Human beings without such skills are causing sufferings to self as well as to others, adding domestic, social issues. Lack of universal brotherhood creating problems at all levels.

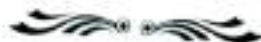
Deeper understanding of knowledge dimension of the education discussed above gives faith and power to develop these skills in practical life. Practicing the skills in day today life purposefully will help in creating skill full individuals and societies in turn.

**Character Building:**

The whole journey of us - the souls goes from Virtuous to Virtue less, righteous to unrighteous, character standard to character less, valuable to valueless and again in reverse order of Virtue less to Virtuous, Unrighteous to Righteous, Character less to Character Standard, Valueless to Valuable, owing to the cyclic repetition of history and geography with GOD's intervention at proper time of present confluence age.

The knowledge dimension of education discussed above is impartial, irrespective of religion, caste, cult, age, nationality, sex etc. Impartial thinking of the spiritual knowledge on mass level will not only motivate individual but also give hope and power in building his/her character and creating value based societies, nations and in turn the whole world.

**Conclusion:** The solutions to all world problems such as war among the nations, religious wars, civil wars, domestic violence, violence against women, violence against self, all types of inequalities, and what not lies in missing dimensions of knowledge in today's education. The ray of hope lies in exploring it. Realization of the above mentioned knowledge dimension of education, practicing it with complete faith and firmness in day today life necessarily shall develop the skills and will benefit every individual. Meditating for few minutes daily helps us nurturing our original values of peace, love, happiness, knowledge, power and purity in us. Thus along with formal education we should be educated with its spiritual aspects. And this kind of education should go irrespective of any bars of age, religion, sex etc. It is the education for all.



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