

“Value Based Education: Sources, Inculcation and development of values in Children”

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Abstract:

The present article focuses the sources of values in the different religious scriptures of India. Our country is rich in culture, traditions, customs and values as the sources of religion. Present education system and NCF 2005 focuses the value based education at school level. Values that may be included in the general definition of human values are love, brotherhood, respect for others — including plants and animals — honesty, sincerity, truthfulness, non-violence, gratitude, tolerance, a sense of responsibility, cooperation, self-reliance, secularism and internationalism. Values play a major role in the preservation and transmission of culture through education. Value based education plays a big role in shaping individuals' behavior so that they can display good morals, interact with others well and act spiritual in all aspects of life. Human beings display a natural need for interaction with other people hence it is difficult for a person to avoid being social with other people. The article made an attempt to explore the values in our religious scriptures and the ways to inculcate the values among the children and explained the ways to develop the values through these religious scriptures.

Introduction:

“Your beliefs become your thoughts, your thoughts become your words, your words become your actions, your actions become your habits, your habits become your values, your values become your destiny.”

- M. K. Gandhi

The things which are worthy are called valuable, therefore it has value. According to John Dewey ‘Value is nothing but worth and respecting’. If one wants to know the origin of the term ‘VALUE’, it may be stated very firmly that the term ‘VALUE’ comes from the Latin word ‘VALERE’ which means ‘to be of worth’. Whereas, the concise Oxford Dictionary defines the term ‘VALUE’ as the ‘worth, desirability or utility of a thing’. So, values decide the behavior of the person. A kind of moral attitude of a person in the society also decides the values of a person. India is rich in Culture and shining throughout the world this is because the values which we have in our nation. As of now the main aim of education is not only providing better education, but also should provide value based education to the present generation children. It is said that education has the responsibility to preserve, transform the culture and values to the coming generation. Values are defined as something which are desirable and worthy of esteem for their own sake. Human values are defined as those values which help man to live in harmony with the world.

Nature of Values:

Values are changing from person to person and are preaching's of philosophy. Values develop good social skills and moral standards, so it is said that ‘values must be caught not taught’. But still efforts are made to inculcate the values among young generation through value based education. Values are part and parcel of philosophy. Hence, aims of education are naturally concerned with values. All education is, in fact, very naturally value-oriented. Each educational goal, whether originating in a person, a family, a community, a school or an educational system, is believed to be good. ‘Good’ is intended to mean here ‘avoidance of bad’.

From the definitions of ‘VALUE’, certain most important things regarding values are noted. These are:

Values are not feelings, but they are concepts. Values are express feelings but they are more than feelings. Values exist in the mind, and, are independent of Public affirmation. Values are absolute but they are dimensional. That is, values are criteria for judging the degree of goodness of badness, Tightness or wrongness. Values are concepts heavily weighted with emotions and influence the child's selection from variable modes, means and ends of action. Values are primarily, ethical, social and subjective. Therefore, they are strong dispositions of human behavior than concepts with less heavy emotional weightage. Values are based on

respect for human dignity. They assume that personal integrity is the nucleus around which ethical community and global stewardship resolve. Values are the very essence of human life. Values are essential for a fair and equitable community which reflects our respect as well as responsibility for the global environment. Values are cross-cultural and are essential for the development of community and global citizenship. Values are that in which people are interested. Values are the things of worship. Value is the product of feeling, set and action. Values are the product of human spirit and not of intellect. Values never change. It is only the perceptions of these that undergo changes as a result of ever-evolving human consciousness. Values act as forceful tools for the cultivation of social good. Values are caught through literature. Value is a motivating force behind the individual's thought, emotion and action. Values are integrated into personality and many times they act as barriers to the acceptance of new change or innovations. Every value is reflected in a person's reactions. Values influence every aspect of educational process. Once again there is a temptation to quote Kothari Commission and Sri Prakasha Commission on Religions and Moral Instruction, which is stated as - **“Every effort must be made therefore to teach students true moral values from the earliest stage of their educational life”.**

— Sri Prakasha Committee on Religious and Moral Instruction

Kothari Commission (1964-66) reads as follows:“A serious defect in the school system is the absence of provision for education in social, moral and spiritual values”.

Importance and Need of Value Education:

Our values are important because they help us to grow and develop. They help us to create the future we want to experience. To make valuable life style, to develop self-respect, to understand social and moral values, to develop human values like cleanliness, truth, love, patience, non-violence, equality etc. in children, to develop self-discipline, to develop social unity, mental satisfaction and to develop self-confidence, social service and to lead peaceful life values are very important. Values help us in valuable DECISION MAKING. Every individual and every organization is involved in making hundreds of decisions every day. The decisions we make are a reflection of our values and beliefs, and they are always directed towards a specific purpose. That purpose is the satisfaction of our individual or collective needs. Values-based decision-making is necessary for **individuation and self-actualization**. Values allow us to transcend the belief structures of our parental and cultural conditioning, so we can become more fully who we are, and live a more authentic life. Individual values like enthusiasm, creativity, humility and personal fulfillment, reflect how you show up in our life and our specific needs-the principles we live by and what we consider important for our self-interest. Relationship values like openness, trust, generosity and caring, reflect how we relate to other people in our life, be they friends, family or colleagues in our organization. Organizational values like financial growth, teamwork, productivity and strategic agreements, reflect how our organization shows up and operates in the world. Societal values like future generations, environmental awareness, ecology and sustainability, reflect how we or our organization relates to society.

Different Types of Values

The universal values as well as the values in the education scenario, because ever since human beings have lived in community, they have had to establish principles to guide their behavior towards others. In this sense, honesty, responsibility, truth, solidarity, cooperation, tolerance, respect and peace, among others, are considered universal values.

Physical Values: As a “sound Mind in a Sound Body”, it is very much necessary one must inculcate the physical values like good healthy practices include exercises, health tips, cleanliness etc.

Personal Values: These are considered essential principles on which we build our life and guide us to relate with other people. They are usually a blend of family values and social-cultural values, together with our own individual ones, according to our experiences.

Emotional Values: The values related to persons emotions, which play a major role in the person's social efficiency. Such values are love, affection, mercy, courtesy, friendship, cooperation etc.

Family Values: These are valued in a family and are considered either good or bad. These derive from the fundamental beliefs of the parents, who use them to educate their children. They are the basic principles and guidelines of our initial behavior in

society, and are conveyed through our behaviors in the family, from the simplest to the most complex.

Aesthetic values: The value of a person, one has to appreciate the beauty, because every truth is beautiful. so truth is referred as God. Therefore it is said that, Sathyam Shivam Sundaram” – which means where there is truth there is a God, where there is a God, there is a beauty. So aesthetic values makes the person beautiful from the inner self. Aesthetic values include, appreciating the beauty of nature, music, dance, drawing etc.

Social-cultural Values: These are the prevailing values of our society, which change with time, and either coincide or not with our family or personal values. They constitute a complex mix of different values, and at times they contradict one another, or pose a dilemma. The socio-cultural values include – love, affection, mercy, adjustment, hard work, discipline, donating attitude etc.

Intellectual Values: A person comes across many emotions in the life. Intellectual values plays a major role in the control of emotions, also develops the creativity of the person. Intellectual Values include – research attitude, scientific analysis, logical thinking, valuable decision making, overcoming the blind beliefs etc.

Material Values: These values allow us to survive, and are related to our basic needs as human beings, such as food and clothing and protection from the environment. They are fundamental needs, part of the complex web that is created between personal, family and social-cultural values. If exaggerated, material values can be in contradiction with spiritual values.

Spiritual Values: They refer to the importance we give to non-material aspects in our lives. They are part of our human needs and allow us to feel fulfilled. They add meaning and foundation to our life, as do religious beliefs. Spiritual values takes us to the level self-actualization or to attain “Moksha”. The Holy Books like – Vedas, Upanishads, Bhagawadgeeta, Quran, Bibal, Tripitakas, Agama Siddhanta, are the sources of spiritual values.

Moral Values: The attitudes and behaviors that a society considers essential for coexistence, order, and general well-being such values are termed as moral values. they include – patience, truth, honesty, sincerity, help, positive thoughts, positive attitude etc.

Religions as the Sources of Values

India is rich in culture, traditions, practices customs etc. we can see the sources values found in all the religions in our country. we discus the a few points about each religion and the sources of values.

Hinduism: The word ‘Hinduism’ used from 1830 onwards, Persians called ‘Sindhu’ river as ‘Hindu’, then after that place was called Hindustan than named as “Hinduism”. Veda, Upanishads and Bhagawadgeeta are the major source of values of Hinduism. The source come under these holy books include cultural, social, religious values, give the message of universal brotherhood, motivates disciplined way of life, and motivates to learn moral and spiritual values. One should destroy egoism “I”, unity in diversity, one should have the knowledge about spiritual (Brahma) and materialistic world, Upanishads helps An individual to know good and bad, true and false, guides to lead bright life, opportunity to achieve ‘Moksha’. Bhagawadgeeta give message that – the work must be done with sincere and honest. One must undergo ‘Karma’ without expecting any result. One should accept both happiness and sorrow equally is called ‘Stitaprajnat’. Human beings must give up bad practices and one should accept good practices, given importance to duties, discipline, individual development and social empowerment.

Buddhism: In the 6th century, the “Light of Asia”, the founder of Buddhism was “Goutham Buddha”. The preaching’s of Buddha are written in the ‘Pali’ language. Buddha has given **Four Noble Truths** – Life is full of suffering, Desire is cause of suffering, End of suffering, one must fallow 8 fold path to reduce desire, **Eight Fold Path**–Right thought, Right understanding, Right speech, Right Conduct, Right effort, Right way of living, Right concentration, Right Mindfulness, **Five Moral Rules** – Non-violence, No cheating, Speak truth, Never use Intoxicate things like tobacco, alcohol etc., Purity. Buddha’s preaching’s were very rich in values. The source of educational values in the Buddhism are - gave importance for materialistic and vocational education, education of common people, women’s education. Simple living and broad thinking, strong determination before doing any work, importance for sense organ training and motivate the self-experience in the children. To gain knowledge purity in the mind, determined will and healthy body are necessary. One should follow scientific way and no discrimination in caste, creed, colour, etc. One should give up greediness, use of toxic things, bad thoughts etc. to lead successful life.

Jainism: The word 'Jain' is derived from Sanskrit language 'Ji' which means "to win". Vrushabha Deva was the founder of Jainism. Vrushabha Deva was also called as 'Adinath' or 'Aditirthankara'. Out of 24 Tirthankaras Vrushabha Deva was the first Tirthankara. Last and 24th Tirthankara was 'Mahaveera'. Mahaveera born in the 539 in Vaishali in Bihar. Followed the path Non-violence, fought against castism. The holy book of Jainism is "AgamSiddantha". The sources of values under Jainism include – Non-violence, one should not hurt any animal in this world, one should realize the human birth, which the path to attain 'Moksha', Self-discipline, better personality are the values. 'Live happily and let others also live happily' was the great value of Jainism. Courtesy, mercy, love, affection, equality and moral values are taught through Jainism. Human values, moral values, spiritual values, character building etc. are given more importance in Jainism. One should give up egoism, must develop sacrifice, non-violence, patriotism, brotherhood etc. to attain 'Moksha'.

Islam: Islam is the one of the largest religion in the world. One fifth of the world population is belongs to Islam. It is said that, ISLAM stands for 5 Namaz of Islam Religion, i.e. – I stands for Isha, S stands for Subhah, L stands for Lohar, A stands for Assar and M stands for Magarib, literally Islam means surrender or submit to the divine Allah. The holy book of Islam is 'Quran', Prophet Mohammad was the messenger of Allah. Prophet Mohammad started to give the message to the people, followers used to call him as 'Pygambar'. The 5 pillars of Islam are Kaleema, Namaz, Roza, Zakath, and Haj. The sources of values in the Islam are as follows, do good things, pray for all, don't get jealousy on others, develop brotherhood, lead moral life, trust, in Quran, do Haj, give Zakath etc. are great values in Islam. The Educational value under the Islam are Sincerity, spiritual aspects to achieve purity, face the challenges of life to find solution, Quran gives importance for all round development of the child. Also it develops social care, patriotism, helping to the poor people, unity, patience, truth, honesty, purity etc. are the source of values in Islam.

Christianity: This religion is opened for everyone, Jesus Christ was the founder of this religion. The holy book of it is 'Bible', many missionary of charity in Christian are there throughout the world. Christianity also a world's largest religion with over 2.4 billion Christians. Courtesy, purity in living, forgiveness, mercy, love are the preaching's of Jesus. Patience, unity, service, charity, belief in God etc. are the principle values of Christianity. The educational Values under the Christianity are stated as follows – Truth itself God, Truth itself life, we can win the life by truth and love of God. Justice, morality, loving the neighbor, charity to the human kind, help the children to grow as a pure thought and pure heart children. Forgiving the people who did sin, and helping them to come towards the spiritual world. Preparing the children to do human charity, social service and making valuable society.

Approaches to Value Based Education

Now a days education system is strongly turning towards value based education, aim of education is not only reading, writing, getting good marks or getting good job, it also include inculcation of values in children, self discipline and to become a good social human being. NPE 1986 (National policy of Education) recommendations also reflect more on value based education. we can discuss a few methods to inculcate the value education. **Direct Method:** Allotting a few periods in a week in the school time table to teach values through stories, real life situation of great people, a few moral lessons etc. **Incidental Method:** There must be many opportunities to the children to undergo situations where they can realize the values, the activities like group discussions, social service etc. help the child to realize values. **Planned Activity Method:** Teachers can prepare certain activities where children can learn or show the values. Activities like cleaning programme, planting trees, excursions, trips, etc. in such situation teacher must observe the child carefully and if necessary teacher must guide the child who is in the need of guidance. **Integrated Method:** It is a method where values are taught along the curricular subjects – All subjects show a kind of values like scientific research, scientific thinking in Science, accuracy in Mathematics, time consciousness, love, affection, patience, morality in language subjects, leadership qualities in History subject, Democratic values in Civics, etc. must be highlighted by curriculum makers in the curriculum and teachers must highlight in the classroom while teaching particular subjects.

Development of values in children: Through stories, dramas, songs, acting, life histories, prayers we can develop the values in children. School curricular, co-curricular activities, national festivals, personality of teachers, social events are also help to develop values in children. Children are given opportunities to participate actively in NCC, NSS, Scouts and Guides, and other

service oriented activities to develop patriotic and social values. Science exhibitions, science clubs, science quiz are helpful in developing scientific attitude in children so that children fight against blind belief and superstitious beliefs.

Conclusion:

Value based education plays an important role in strengthening the spiritual behavior of an individual's. Given a value based education system, then it is important to incorporate religious studies in order to guide students towards the importance of being spiritual because it plays a substantial role in shaping the moral behavior of individuals as well as the manner in which they relate with other people in the society. A spiritual person is normally associated with good qualities in life such as honesty, humbleness and humility among others. Hence value based education is very important in any given system education because the benefits not only affect an individual but is rather felt by the whole society. Value based education plays a big role in shaping individuals behavior so that they can display good morals, interact with others well and act spiritual in all aspects of life. Human beings display a natural need for interaction with other people hence it is difficult for a person to avoid being social with other people. As a result, this calls for the need of value based education so that individuals can learn how to be intelligent when dealing with other people. Among the intelligence strategies learnt is the best way to show a desirable behavior when it comes to one's morals and their spiritual nature. Therefore, such morals and spiritual nature obtained from a value based education system aids individuals in their social life because they are able to interact with one another well ranging from the work place to their families, schools and in society

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