

## VALUE ORIENTED EDUCATION: NEED OF THE HOUR

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### ABSTRACT

*Education is important in any country since it promotes the knowledge, skills, habits and values. Today's education serves very limited purpose for the students. The only aim is to get good marks in examination and use their marks sheet for getting good jobs. Children are becoming more bookish with no morality. Student, the future saviours of our society are getting increasingly inclined towards violence, social evils and lack of respect towards world around them. Even their behaviour towards the elders is discourteous. The attitude of today's young generation made us think twice that the implementation of value and moral education is a must for the youth. From the childhood onwards parents & teachers should give proper guidance. Recent crisis in 'values' in our youth has revived concern for value education in India. The paper highlights the need and importance of values in education.*

**Keywords:** *value crisis, value education.*

### I. INTRODUCTION

Our social and political life is witnessing the trend of value erosion. Pursuit of material wealth and selfish ends at any cost has become ultimate aim of life. Student, the future saviours of our society are getting increasingly inclined towards violence, social evils and lack of respect towards world around them. Today education has a very limited purpose for the students. There only aim to get good marks in examination and use their marks sheet for greeting good jobs. They get more bookish knowledge required for passing the examination with no morality.

Seeing the acts of violence committed by young people all around us, we wonder if the parents and teachers have forgotten their duties towards present youth. Crime, violence, cruelty, greed apathy to human suffering have spread to all aspect of our life – political, economic and social values are those characteristics in human beings that provide them motivation and guidance throughout their lives.

The question why our youth decline values today? The answer is simple our present education system, our family system and our society, and their misguided priorities. We have failed somewhere in providing right type of education to our younger generation. It is essential that education should be value oriented. Value education and Value-oriented projects can promote individual and social welfare, love, peace, good will and understanding. Value-oriented education is the only key importance for the betterment of humanity.

### II. VALUE CRISIS IN INDIA

The deepening value crisis in the contemporary Indian society is casting its evil shadow in all walks of our life. Today, newspapers, magazines and other news media are flooded with reports of crime, murder, agitation, violence immorality, rape, corruption, bribery, self-centred egoism, youth unrest, eve-teasing, communal

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violence, cyber-crime, etc. The erosion of values has led to the spread of selfishness, unlimited greed, corruption, violence, and destruction, abuse of human rights, frustration and crisis of character.

Moral and ethics have become epics in India. With the westernization, the present generation is flown like a dry leaf in the direction of wind. We can hardly find people who value our customs and traditions which are the basis of India. We are slowly forgetting the human values and humanity has lost its voice in front of the monetary gains. The law and order situation in the country today is a great evidence for the shameful acts. The prestige of women and their dignity used to be the pride of India, is lost and India is emerging as the least safe place on earth for women. The scandals and the corruption index in the country indicate the fall of our moral. The crisis has taken up such a magnitude that if serious efforts are not made to check it, then the whole system is likely to collapse.

### III. NEED FOR VALUE EDUCATION

In present scenario where we live, the society values material gains and profits above all. It is not an exaggeration if to say that in this materialistic era of science and technology, everything except morality has reached to its echelon. The ultimate good of human society is the good of all. Value education is rooted in Indian philosophy and culture. The Vedas and Upanishads which are the source of inspiration are full of value education. Value education is important at every point of life. Vedas say: "Speak truth; fulfil your duties, never lax in self- study". The central task of value based education is to develop men of goodwill who do not cheat, or steal, or kill; universal individuals who value as one both self and mankind.

Values are defined in literature differently from eternal ideas to behavioural procedures. Value means primarily to prize, to esteem, to appraise, to estimate, it means the act of cherishing something, holding it dear and also the act of passing judgment upon the nature and amounts of values as compared with something else.

Value Education refers to planned educational actions aimed at the development of proper attitudes, values, emotions and behaviour patterns of the learners. Value Education is the education that is concerned with the transformation of an individual's personality. Value education is that form of education that stresses the acquisition of living values by learners. It inculcates universal and ethical values such as compassion, courage, honesty, tolerance and truthfulness. Value regulates and guide human behaviour in our day to day life. Most often values refer to standards for determining levels of goodness or desirability. Values are generally loaded with affective thoughts about ideas, objects, behaviours etc. Value education is ingrained in every tradition of Indian culture. Yet it is a matter of great regret that gradually we are losing our values with the result that we tend to become corrupt and hypocrite. This trend must be checked urgently. Perhaps a major responsibility for the corrective action lies on our teachers, education policies and syllabus. Educational institutions can also play a significant role in promotion of values.

Recent crisis in values that our country has been currently facing has revived the concern for value education. According to National Curriculum for Primary and Secondary Education (1985), the crisis of values our society is passing through "demands more explicit and deliberate educational efforts towards value development". Government has projected this issue to be one of the priorities in the national education. Inculcation of values among students can play a very important role by shielding from negative Influences. Over the past two decades, colleges and institutions have devoted energy and resources to a wide range of educational programmes and initiatives designed to promote character and values and behaviour in their students. The national curriculum framework for school education 2000 has also given due stress for value education in schools. It has stressed that the school curriculum must contain components that may embed essential values in the fresh and pure minds of school children. Value education forms a part of the curriculum in different educational setting across the globe. Our country is facing tremendous values crisis today and so many

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unsatisfactory occurrences have arisen due to crisis of value and character. Now the question arises: what is the remedy of all these ills? There is a great need to equip the present education, being imparted to children, with values of life in order to make them good human beings.

Values bring quality and meaning to life and give a person his identity and character. The most valuable human possessions are health, harmony, happiness, wisdom and above all character reflecting ethical and human values. When these values are manifested in one's thoughts, speech and actions, he could be called an enlightened person. As we think sincerely and consciously we become more value conscious. Our actions and behaviour reflect our ideas and feelings. It is to be injected into the minds of the students through the education system that "we do not work for name, fame, money, power and status, but for greater growth for cultivating values, for building up strong character and for wisdom so that our intrinsic value enhances". The main function of education is to development of an all-round and well balanced personality of students. The prominent Indian educational thinker Swami Vivekananda observed, "Education is not the amount of information that is put in your brain and run riot there, we want that education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, the intellect is expanded by which one can stand on one's own feet".

#### IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. School should impart life skills, social skills, moral values and most important a proper scientific approach on character building.
2. Parent-student-teacher relationship should be continuous and not restricted to mere Parents meeting followed by Counselling and briefing session.
3. Schools should stress upon some personality development and value education classes so that the students learn high values from life.
4. Stress should be laid on developing good reading habits in children not on mere cramming.
5. Students must be engaged in such activities that develop in them values like cooperation, tolerance, dedication and diligence.
6. Other than academic sessions, schools should hire good teachers who are capable of providing knowledge on personality development. This will help the students to learn something valuable other than studies. These classes should also be more discussion oriented so that the students do not lose interest on the subject.

#### V. CONCLUSION

In the end it must be admitted that this crisis of values can only be overcome by combined efforts of all. It cannot be developed through teaching only. Everyone has to commit himself towards a minimum ethical standard in his life. One's actions must reflect the values that one intends to inculcate in children. Problems cannot be overcome by pointing fingers at others. It is the collective responsibility of parents, teachers, students, social workers and government planners for promoting values in children. It is not sufficient to introduce value education as subject. We must also create a true value based environment in schools, colleges and the society. Our co-ordinated efforts can only give rise to value based India.

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