

Chapter

6

NEED FOR ETHICAL & MORAL VALUES PROMOTION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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Abstract:

Ethical and Moral Values are pivotal in shaping one's personality. They are guiding principles in which the edifice of human character is built and are appropriately applied to every activity of his/her career. The quality of the person depends upon the character he/she bears. The character of the person depends upon the ethical and moral values he/she possesses. The quality of the Nation depends upon the quality of its citizens. To have a qualitative Nation, its citizens should be ethically and morally sound. Nowadays, everywhere erosion of moral values is rampant. Hence, the reestablishment of moral and ethical values through Higher Education is the need of the hour. In the present research paper, efforts are made to focus on the promotion of ethical and moral values in higher education.

Keywords: Ethics, Moral Values, Higher Education, Institutions, Parents and Teachers

Introduction:

Today, we see or experience not only across the country but also around the world that inhuman, illegal, and illegitimate activities are slowly but steadily becoming humane, legal, and legitimate in almost all spheres comprising social, political, economic, and educational due to devoid of ethical and moral values inclusion in Science and Technology, Commerce and Management, and other professional courses of higher education. The concept of a Value Education Course (VEC) imparts integrity character, social morals, spirituality, and many more. It develops qualities of humility, strength, and

honesty in students. Value education is the only means by which can give our youth in the right direction. It is the need of the hour to promote moral education in higher education. All the reports of commissions and committees on education like the Radha Krishna Commission; the Kothari Commission; the National Policy on Education; the Ramamurti Committee; the Central Advisory Board of Education Committee on policy; the 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 the 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 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. What is good and bad for a person?

The concept of ethics has resulted from religions, philosophies, and culture. According to Albert Schweitzer, "It is the activity of man directed to secure the inner perfection of his personality."

3. What are moral values?

These are the set of precious principles that help 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 the 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, develop, and shape individual talent and inner potential. According to Aristotle: "Education is an ornament in prosperity and a refuge in adversity."

NEED FOR VALUE EDUCATION :

Several huge and markable changes such as population explosion, rapid technological advancement, knowledge expansion, industrialization, globalization, mobilization, the influence of various cultures on our own culture, etc have taken place in our society. Now, society has become dynamic due to this modernization process that is posing multiple problems of anxiety, stress, and worries in front of human life. Core human values like honesty, sincerity, morality, humanity, and non-violence are being affected due to the evils of poverty, unsociability, caste system, gender inequality, the ill-treatment of children, women, old people, and overutilization of natural resources without proper planning. To address to these problems, one must look at ethics and moral values as an integral part of the education system as a whole. In the materialistic era of science and technology, everything except morality has reached its peak. Higher education in present era is stimulated by economic consideration without any reference to age-old human values that separate man from animals. The aim of ethical and moral values inculcation has remained most neglected one. The neglect has been abundantly visible now in the present dismal picture of society, rampant with corruption, malpractices, flouting of rules, polluted minds, restlessness, lack of peace, frustration, mental depression, violence, and crime, lack of mutual faith and trust among people by and large. Undue importance to achievement in terms of marks, remarks, awards, honors, degrees, and judgments passed for others in one cause of depleting moral values. Without value inculcation, an extracurricular activity is only viewed as an activity to win competitions. The era of globalization has taught us to become more and more selfish. Education without value is not only useless but also very harmful. The realization is particularly relevant at the present juncture of history, when social, moral, cultural, and spiritual values are disintegrating, when the horizon of knowledge has been immensely widened, and the media and the incidents of scams, and scandals threaten to disrupt value system and destabilize cultural base. The bookish knowledge is not helping the youth to achieve the goal of life. What the world badly needs today is a moral and spiritual revolution. Social interactions have reduced drastically. People have less tolerance, depressing mentalities, and a bloated ego. Materialism has put all the Indian traditions and values in the dump yard. Everyone is running for well-defined and cash-convertible goals. Nationalism, family, society, and morality no longer matter to him. The youth of today are caught in the vicious circle of crime and violence. They have lost their moral values to the new era of commercialism and modernization world. This is a great concern for India. Inculcation of ethical and moral values through personality development is the necessity of the hour to check the disintegration of social relations. Moral values are needed for development quantities such as

humility, truthfulness, honesty, courtesy, tolerance, sacrifice etc among the youth. It will help in developing positive social attitudes in a new generation which prompts them to raise their voice against social evils. Moral and Ethical values will inculcate a sense of cooperation and fellow feeling among people.

ROLE OF PARENTS :

Parents are vital in the moral development of their wards because they are the first teachers and role models. The moral education of students starts in a house with parents. Parents try to talk to their wards and tell them what is good and what is bad behavior by giving various examples. Changing socio-economic situations keep the parents busy with their progression and personal issues and they leave the whole thing to the schooling system. One of the best ways to check young minds to all kinds of low, obscene and negative thoughts and they become prey to many wrong things at an early age, is that the parents and elders should spend quality time with their children and also make them aware of the life building ideas of great personalities. No teaching can go on effectively without the support of parents. A teacher should discuss with parents the various aspects of their wards' progress and make practical suggestions that would help the students.

ROLE OF TEACHERS :

Teachers through a positive approach need to make the youth of India realize that they are the future of India. Teachers need to teach how lack of humanism and less consideration for society and colleagues due to lust for money and only enjoying the pleasure of a materialistic life would be dangerous for India's development. Teaching moral values in personality development classes can promote individual and social welfare, love, peace, goodwill and understanding. The role of the teachers in the institution of higher education in inculcating values among students becomes important, as education is a forceful tool for the civilization of social and moral values. The teachers have to reflect on the values of honesty, integrity, compassion, and justice in their behavior. The teacher should possess core values like honesty, transparency, sincerity, truthfulness, secular outlook, scientific temperament, emotional balance of commandship and compassion, and position positive thinking. A teacher should try to create awareness about the rights and responsibilities of being a good citizen. It is the teacher's personality that makes the deepest impression on a student. A teacher should never humiliate the student but encourage the young ones by making positive comments, constructive criticism, and appreciation. A teacher should learn the art of shaping students' character. He should help him to develop moral values, good habits, and thinking skills. Students interact with their teachers in institutions and understand values like friendship, brotherhood, nonviolence, peace etc. Moral education cannot be given by book only. One

needs an example to develop faith in moral principles. Teachers are the role models for the renewal and improvement of moral behavior. A teacher should appreciate the importance of understanding the factors and contexts that are influencing the behavior, choices, lifestyles, health and welfare of students and their families. A teacher should help students to acquire and practice specific skills that support positive values. He should implement appropriate evaluation strategies to monitor progress made by students toward acquiring positive values. Students often idealize their teachers watch them closely and also try to emulate their behavior. Students may view their teachers as authorities on subjects and their advice on many issues related to character and values. Teachers are responsible for teaching honesty, dedication, and right behavior.

ROLE OF INSTITUTION :

In ancient times, education was imparted in institutions such as Gurukul where education was given with much emphasis on moral education. Our present education has undoubtedly widened and several new fields of education and technology have emerged but nothing serious is being done in modern education institutions to teach morality. Therefore, in institutions, moral education should be taught as a part of their educational curriculum. The institution should promote co-curricular activities like painting, music, fine arts, elocution, recitation, etc to develop the human quality of love. The program of NCC and add-on courses on value education as integral parts of the curriculum will promote discipline leadership, self-reliance, self-control, and integrity. Social values may be inculcated through the programs of NSS and other activities related to the life and teachings of dignified personalities. Physical activities like games, sports, and yoga will provide physical fitness and, a healthy body, mind, and spirit. Participation in cultural activities will make the student aware of rich culture and heritage. All these practices are there in higher education institutes but the need is to integrate them in such a way that they are given equal importance and rating among academics and other intellectual activities. With rapid technological, economic, and cultural change, institutions will have to develop a variety of means to morally stimulate students and make them committed to moral action. The institution is responsible for maintaining a clean, beautiful, and peaceful environment on campus. Institutions must provide clean and safe drinking water and restrict social evils such as smoking, and drinking, gambling and ragging on the campus. The role of the institution is to provide an environment that supports and reinforces the adoption of positive values.

CONCLUSION :

Ethical and moral values inclusion in higher education Institutions is urgently needed to save the whole education system as well as human beings

from the clutches of corruption and malpractices. It is also needed to address more and more fundamental issues of the social and moral consequences of unregulated activities in higher education institutes. Parents, Teachers, and Institutions have a definite and inevitable role to play in providing moral education in a multicultural society. To make our country an incredible India, we ought to influence our younger generation's mindset with the best we can and make them understand the importance of moral values to build good character. If only we inculcate the moral value, which could be achieved only through education. We can glorify the youth of today as the best citizen.

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Excellence in Higher Education

Leading with Vision and Impact



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About the Book

Excellence in Higher Education: Leading with Vision and Impact

This book serves as a landmark contribution to the ongoing dialogue about advancing higher education globally. It encapsulates the insights, research, and strategies discussed during a prestigious international conference organized by the **Association of Indian College Principals, Grand Academic Portal (GAP)**, and **GLS University, Ahmedabad**, in collaboration with **Udayana University, Bali, Indonesia**.

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