Deterioration of Human Values

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ABSTRACT

Deterioration of human values has become a phenomenon in many nations, including India. This trend of decline in human values does not only pose serious threat to the future course of development of the country but even for its survival, respect and authority itself. Though, change in social/human values in younger generation is inevitable with time but the decline in Indian younger generation is at an alarming rate as compared to any other country all over the world. It devolves on the parents, teachers and society to imbibe the desired human values in the younger generation.

Keywords: Values, responsibility, value education, Human values

1. INTRODUCTION

The erosion of human values in our society today has become a phenomenon. There is a maddening pursuit to accumulate wealth, power and status to the total exclusion of humanness in us. In the real life situations we are swayed by narrow parochial considerations and there the situation is marked by violence, greed, thefts, drug addiction and terrorism etc. Our institutions of learning are preparing efficient individuals, but not good citizens or humans. Thus it has been commonly believed that there has been a rapid erosion of ethical and moral values in Indian society.

The present educational system with all its complexities and intricacies has proved to be deficient in so far as it neglects or does not give the deserving importance to values in human life. Thus human sufferings and sorrows are forever on the increase in spite of the phenomenal explosion of knowledge values have become the neglected lot in the current educational system and consequently the maxim “education change the man” has almost lost its “values”

Education without values is crime; education without mission is life burden. Education in our life enables us to become comfortable and to look after our family well out so far as the social progress is concerned, value based education is need of the hour for this purpose value based education is an indispensable device.

Definition of Value: The values are truth (Satya) Right Action (Dharma) Peace (Shanti) Love (Prema) and Non Violence (Ahimsa) the five human values should be deemed as the fivefold breaths or panchpranas [Pranas, Apana, Udhana, Samana, Vyanna-the incoming, outgoing, upward flow, even and circulating breaths]. Since the values constitute the life breaths one who does not radiate the values in his actions is deemed to be lifeless.

This concept indicates that life is like a flowing river in which water of Artha and Karma is continuously flowing with constant changes but it must remain protected and controlled by its banks, dharma and moksha. Wealth and enjoyment must not break the banks by their flooded state. If it is done the whole life will be scattered. Today we all are facing a very curial life with all the tensions and worries as we all are running after money.

2. THE PRESENT SITUATION OF INDIA :

In India on one hand, corruption is rampant. Communalism, separatism, isolation, untouchability, bigotry and exploitation of man by man have become the order of the day. We notice that violence, selfishness, black-marketing and beastly tendencies have increased tremendously. India was looted by the foreign rulers during the pre-independence period whereas in the post-independence period we have been looted by our own people. Nobody seems to care for his own country against his own selfish interests. Nobody seems to be concerned about the present state of India in which dirty and nauseating politics has resulted in the near doom of the country. On the other hand, the country is facing crucial problems like growing population, natural calamities, pollution of all sorts and environmental imbalance. We are being stunned by more and more difficult problems almost every day. The youth in India have been in a mood of frustration and confusion and they do not know whom to follow as their ideals. The country does not provide them with a programme which would give youth the opportunities-to-show their strength ability. Due to the lack of constructive programmes, the youth in India are quite prone to march on the way to destructiveness. India is no more a land of action, no more a land of sacrifice, it has turned into a land of the people inclined to attain their personal gains, and personal enjoyment. It is our duty to make her as before - a land of sacrifice for the worship of humanity.

Further, the most serious problem facing the country is the problem unchecked population growth that is eating into the little progress that we have made since Independence. Eighteen million people are being added to the Indian population every year, placing an intolerable burden on resources and the environment. This population explosion has to a large extent degraded the quality of human life in India. Human life, here is full of stress and tensions there has been a growing
fear in our mind that we are going away from India's cultural treasure. As we are being carried away by technological progress. The amazing development achieved by science has enabled man to step into the space, but this has made him a stranger to his next-door neighbor. Does it mean that we have reached a stage when it has become necessary for man to teach him humanity?

3. Fixing the Responsibility.
Life has become so busy now that man has 'no time to wait and see'. He cannot even enjoy a leisurely breath. As a result, joint family system has deteriorated; people seem to have adopted false and wrong notions regarding social prestige; the young are compelled to face breath-taking competitions; more and more people have fallen victim to bad habits such as drinking liquor, drug-addiction, etc. Students’ further experience a lack of right leadership and accurate guidance - all these have resulted into a big collapse of children's mental and moral basis. Children, nowadays, are deprived of the affection and compassion of their grand-parents. The stringent economic conditions have, forced both the parents to go out for the job and they are required to remain out of doors throughout the day. In big cities, they leave their homes early in the morning when their wards are in bed and return home late at night when their wards are in deep sleep. It is no more a 'home, sweet home' for the children. The parents themselves feel extremely tired and are not in a position to look after their own children in their formative years. In these circumstances, what sort of values do we expect to cultivate among students in their formative years? And who is prepared to come forward to shoulder this responsibility?

To make the matters worse, the idiot box (the so-called color TV) has become a matter of prestige in every home and undoubtedly it has adversely affected the younger generation. The problem has become more complex and difficult by the addition of the cable T.V. There are about a hundred channels that continuously go on presenting programmes which do not hit the mark of good taste. On a holiday, it has become-a usual sight in every house today when we see the parent’s along with their children keep on sitting before the idiot-box for hours together witnessing vulgar and obscene programmes presented in the name of pure entertainment. People are made to witness scenes of violence, sex rape arson and looting which actually amount to an outrage on culture. It is therefore, that the T.V., radio, film experts, the advertising gangs are described as the haters of the arts and also the slow murderers of eager, hopeful-living. "Now-a-days we often hear the word 'media-revolution' and no one could question the great potentiality of the media to influence and impress the public. We need not deny that some of the programmes, are really good, but unfortunately they have proved to be exceptions. People are generally prone to shut off their T.V. sets when a few really good programmes are on. They do not bother to see and hear the news on TV. They are merely inclined to read only sensational news-reports from the newspapers and then the papers find their way to the wastepaper basket. If a student attends his classes regularly without fail, he becomes a matter of ridicule and laughter. Students bunk off the school and college periods and the word 'common bunk’ has become a routine with them especially in Professional institutions. They take undue interest in witnessing T.V. Serials full of violence, rape, sex, looting, arson and murder. This has ultimately led to deterioration of social and moral values and the young lead a sort of life that has no definite direction. And it is exactly here that we feel the urgent need of value education. There was a time when the need of value education was fulfilled at east to some extent by the joint family system itself, but now that the system has been totally eclipsed, the schools and colleges are required to play an important and significant role in the matter of value education. There is no other alternative than the school. It is the historical need of the hour that education itself has to bear the cross for the well-being of mankind. ‘Education must come forward as the savior of mankind.’

References
[3] New Delhi

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