

Attitude, Education And Curriculum

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EDUCATION is necessary to systematise the knowledge acquired or to be acquired for the greater interest of the individual, community, and the nation and in a greater perspective, the world population. We must know how best education can help us in developing our nation.

The former traditional educationist used to look upon education as merely a vehicle of learning for the purpose of acquiring knowledge. But the concept of modern education is different and they think of its utility rather than mere acquisition of knowledge. This idea of education as a practical training has been accepted all over the world, and Bangladesh is no exception to it.

To impragnate this idea in the minds of the people the first and foremost requirement is to bring a change in the attitude. If the attitude is not changed there cannot be any change in the philosophy of education, not to speak of any development in the education sector. That is why, attitude towards education and its change and development is the main factor we have to discuss broadly.

In raising the question of attitudes and outlook we are touching upon a vital psychological problem. Perhaps it would be of some interest in the present context of our social life to inquire what is exactly an attitude; how an attitude is formed, oriented, changed or influenced and in turn how it influences the world of things and persons.

Colloquial language uses the word 'attitude, like several other key words in education in a loose sense, that fails to convey any definite conception of what an attitude is. It is common place to hear well-meaning people proclaiming amidst applause that "education must impart moral and spiritual attitude to life." It is appropriate to think no progress in any aspect of social life is possible without first having a suitable orientation in the general attitude of society or of individuals. The social progress may be defined psychologically to consist in a continuous satisfaction of the demands of environmental conditions. This can be achieved only by means of a well directed and well-defined attitude to life and the world at large. What then is to be understood by an attitude? In psychological terms we may define attitude as a "psychological concept that designates a special grouping or ordering of the psychic contents". This grouping is oriented either by a conscious goal or by a ruling and dominating principle of life. The attitude thus founded has a definite guiding idea.

By the transformation of attitude a new potential psychic energy, a new manifestation of life, comes into being. Attitude is the readiness of the psychic to act or react in a certain direction. It is the whole psychic trend or the distinctive way one views the world. To have an attitude means to be ready for some definite action, in the light of one's view point, even

though the goal may remain unconscious. From the disposition, environmental influence, social milieu, education experience or faith and conviction of constillation of psychic contents may habitually be present continually moulding a certain attitude even to the minute details of life.

Changing the attitude is a difficult job which cannot be done all of a sudden. It requires tact and intelligence. If one has to change the attitude, one is required to be equipped with positive traits commensurate with the requirement. Our forefathers who were engaged in teaching used to believe that imparting lessons was the sole business of education and they were responsible for it. They did not care about the utility of all that they used to teach. But in the present century educational philosophers have not only given importance to imparting lessons but also to considering utility as a part of their responsibility, that is why in most of the countries education has a practical bias rather than theoretical philosophizing.

Persons involved are the teachers-students, educationists, Governmental authority and the nation as a whole. Now the big question is; how to change the attitude of these agencies:

a) Teachers are the forerunners of education. They must be imbued with the idea of a changed and developed educational system and get indoctrination in the philosophy of life the authority wants to impart

in the minds of the students. To this end there should be regular training and refresher courses conducted by competent authority to bring home to the teachers the ideology designed to be imparted.

b) Student:—Equally with the teachers the students should also get indoctrination in the philosophy. The class lectures no more can satisfy a student who wants to know its application in the field. That is why cocurricular activities are required for our students who can use their merit in the field and get encouragement on a satisfactory result of his learning. They may be taken out on short trip to places of interest including historical, geographical scientific industrial undertaking to see and observe the use of their learning. If a student gets a degree which hardly helps him in practical field he gets frustrated and the nation loses the merit of the incumbent; all taken together makes a big loss for the nation.

c) Educationists: Educationists of our country should play a vital role in the formation of attitude in the society, they can highlight the use of modern educational philosophy through their writings and publications. Educationists can also arrange seminars, lectures, drama, cinema, radio TV talks to popularise the modern concept of education.

d) People in general may go through the worldwide changes in the education sector and the Government can help in the matter.

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ter by planned programmes in urban and rural areas. Participation of the mass in these programmes should be encouraged by the authority on whom the majority of our population depend directly or indirectly.

e) Government: Government can provide all facilities necessary to materialise the change in the attitude of our teachers, students people and the nation at large.

In conclusion I would like to say in brief that the aim of education is not knowledge but action. And action can be possible only when we succeed in creating a healthy and positive attitude towards life and if we want to mould education according to the modern concept of education we have to change our attitude towards the new curriculum.