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ON EDUCATION

We teach our young boys and girls that honesty is the best policy. But at home and in offices we prove to be dishonest. We teach our young boys and girls to be obedient to parents. But to our own parents we are disobedient and leave them helpless. We also teach our young boys and girls to respect our elders and specially our teachers. But in recent times we have ourselves started to accuse and abuse the teachers and disrespect our elders. What can we hope to expect from our younger generation after all these?

It is a fact that most teachers have taken up private coaching as a means to earn an extra amount of money. So it is also true that our teachers are very poorly paid. At the same time there are not enough schools for the increasing number of children who deserve to be in an educational institutions for which many coaching centres have been formed by persons involved in their teaching profession. Does this do more harm than good for the children of our country?

For quite some time parents and guardians have been demanding that students who fail in one or two subjects should be allowed to go into the next higher class on the plea that those subjects are not important! This demand is most unfounded because when any student fails to pass it proved that he or she has neglected to perform the required duty. The duty of a student is to prepare lessons well and with dedication and pass in all the

concerned subjects. Failure means defeat. And the Boards do justice by not allowing students who fail in anyone of the subjects passage to the next higher class. But with demands as mentioned above, are we not encouraging our younger generation to be undutiful, dishonest, insincere?

However, the most important fact is, while we teach our children that they should always speak the truth, we ourselves do not do so in the presence of the children without both think what effect that have on their minds.

It is true we do not have enough schools or colleges. It is also true we do not have enough teachers. But the fact is we do not have persons having proper knowledge can perform the duties of teaching profession. The rules and laws that have been made to allow a person to take up a teaching profession are such that often the wrong persons are being appointed at different educational institutions. Sometimes it is even found that a person who has applied for a job as a teacher is found to be Over Qualified!! What a novel situation and what a way to find oneself to be unfit for this job!!

If talent and true knowledge are not being considered because of certain rules leaving no 'exceptions' then I am afraid we will never have the gift of achieving our goal—to educate the masses and build a nation of strong-minded people.

MUJIBUL HAQUE
Sobhanbag, Dhaka.

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