Changing Educational Culture in Indian Society

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Abstract: Educational prosperity is the identity of every country. Educational system proceeds to the way of successes, economically, politically, socially and individually. India has a great educational culture; its roots are available in ancient India. Many countries were fascinated towards the Indian educational institutes. There are many social and religious sects provided formal and informal education to people but due to discrimination on the basis of religion and caste, education did not get by the lower status community. There is inequality in the educational policies. Education is an ornament in the way of prosperity.

Key Words: Culture, Education, System

Introduction: India is the country of great culture and tradition. Culture is the most diverse branch of social community and their beliefs. On the social point of view culture consists of the values, beliefs, systems of language, communication. This is collective social integrity leads to the social life. Culture also includes the material objects that are common to that group or society. Culture is distinct from social structure and economic aspects of society, but it is connected to them—both continuously informing them and being informed by them. Man occupies the highest place in the scheme of animal existence. The goal of man’s life is not reached unless and until he has filly cultivated his mind. In short, what divides the brute from man is culture. That being so the aim of human society must be to enable every person to lead a life of culture which means the cultivation of mind as distinguished from the satisfaction of mere physical wants. A life of culture can be made possible where there is sufficient leisure for a man to devote himself to a life of culture.
The purpose of education is to moralize and socialize the people. The aim and function of university education should be to see that the teaching carried on there is suited adults; that it is scientific, detached and impartial in character; that it aims not so much at fillings the mind of the student with fact or theories as at calling forth his own individuality, and stimulating him to mental effort; that it accustoms him to the critical study of the leading authorities, with perhaps, occasional reference to first hand sources of information, and that it implants in his mind a standard of thoroughness, and gives him a sense of the difficulty as well as the value of reaching at truth.

Character is more important than education that education was a sword and being a double edged weapon was dangerous to wield. An educated man without character and humility was more dangerous than a beast. If his education was determined to the welfare of the poor, the educated man was a curse to society. Character is more important than education.

Culture is the characteristic and knowledge of particular group of people including language, religion, and social habit. Indian culture throughout the world found unique because of its diversity in social identity. India is the country of many religions its streams and caste which are representing differently in all the aspects of culture. Culture is the identity of particular group of society, its distinctness found in their social behavior and belief. India has a great Educational culture from ancient time to the modern world. Educational culture in India has proved its world famous popularity in Indian ancient history. We have great example of teacher student’s tradition. As we have known that many foreign travelers visited India. They had curiosity of Indian education places and system which was popular at that time. From the time of Rigveda onwards, Our Indian education society evolved over the period and focused on the holistic development of individual. Education system in India focused on moral, physical, spiritual and intellectual aspects of life. Indian educational system emphasized on morality, humanity, truthfulness and discipline. In ancient India, formal and informal education system existed. The ancient education of the Vedas, Bramhanas and Upanishads were the way of education. Arybhata, panani and Patanjali wrote informative and medical treatise. Education was also given in temple pathasala. Gurukul education system was well known. Formal and informal education was given in Gurukul.

In Buddhist reign many residential schools were available in Vihara. Buddhist monks and nuns were discussing on various complex concepts. Many other higher educational centers were opened around the vihara. Students of many other countries like China, Korea, Tibet attracted and admitted in these centers. Many popular world famous higher educational centers have come into existence. Some of the notable universities were Nalanda, Takshashila, Valabhi and Vikramshila. These universities promoted advanced education for the pupil. Pupil got advance educational concepts through discussion and debates from mutual oral communication to one another. Among these Takshashila was notable for Buddhist religious studies, ancient scriptures, law, military, art, medicine were taught there. Takshashila was famous for teacher expertise in their discipline. Legendary grammarian Panani was greatest in language and grammar. Panani wrote Ashtadhyayi was world famous book. Jivaka was well known physician whose contribution in aurvedda is important. Nalnada University was the center of many subjects. The
Chinese scholars I-Qink and Xuan Zank visited Nalanda in 7th century CE. They have given vivid information of Nalanda. They have noted that near about hundred discourses on various subjects happened in daily basis. Toga is the origin of the Indian region. Yogashastra was taught by Shilbhadra, the great Yoga teacher of Nalanda. Many courses offered by Nalanda University to the students. Students studied Vedas and also trained in art, medicine, maths, astronomy, and politics.

This period of educational culture has got highest range of achievement. At that time education was a sacred and no fee was accepted. Educational institute was isolated from political activities. Institute was founded by the rich merchants and society. In addition to economical support from society, land for building infrastructure was donated.

During the medieval period Maktabas and Madarssas were the part of educational system. Madarssa is an important educational system in Islamic India. Early Muslim education emphasized practical studies based on technology to irrigation systems, architecture innovation, textiles, and steel products.

Before East India Company established rule in India, There were educational culture which was rooted in upper status of society. Due to discrimination on the basis of religion, caste, and economy, education was banned. Even women of upper class not allowed to education. Many social reformers fought against the banned of woman education, there is graded caste system in Indian society. Born in one caste never come out of that till death. This is the fundamental of caste system. Man is known by his caste not by his quality was rooted in Indian society. All this kind social issues are barriers in development in education culture in India. Mhatama Jotiba Phule has started school for untouchables in Pune. He was also suffered by the discrimination on the caste although born with social status. Savitribai Phule has started girl’s school in Pune. Her devotion on education would remember forever. She has suffered by orthodoxy of society.

East India Company came to India for educational purpose and established educational system for all the citizens of country. Although India has a sacred religious educational culture, that education was not percolated into social system. The East India Company wanted some educated people served them in administration as well as know the local people. Warren Hastings established the Culcutta and Madrassa for the teaching of English law in 1781. It is also important that Company established Sanskrit college in Varanashi for Hindu philosophy and law subjects in 1791. British Company worked in educational field so that Indian reformers realized that to keep up with times, modern educational system was needed to spread rational thinking and scientific attitude. It was important to know that British Government introduced The Charter Act of 1813 was the initial step towards education being made objective. The Act sanctions 1 Lakh rupees for education purpose in India. The Act is also important that the missionaries got official permission to come in India. There was little confusion regarding implementation educational system in India. Some were fevered to traditional educational system but some were interested in providing the Western education to the Indians. There was another issue of education at the time. It was regarding
the method of teaching. Some wanted to teach in Indian languages, some were interested in English language. It was decided in 1835 that the western literature and science would be imparted to Indians in English medium.

There was well known Macaulay Minutes which had changed the entire Indian education system. In other words there was a drastic change in the teaching and learning process. It was proposed that English education should be imparted in place of traditional education. One thing was cleared by the proposal that education should reaches to the last man of country. He believed that education was in few upper and middle class students. Education for the masses was the objective of system. He wanted to make class of people colour by the Indians but thinking by the westerners. Macaulay gave importance to the English language teaching. He believed that Indian literature never compared to English literature. He has opened the educational opportunities for all the class of students. They have been provided every stream of education.

Wood’s Dispatch (1854) is also called ‘Magna Carta of English education in India. Wood’s dispatch recommended that regularize education system from primary to university level. It was also recommended that education should given in English as well as Indian local languages. It wished that education system was up in every province. It was also recommended that there should be one government school in every district. One most important thing was that it emphasized woman education in India. Woman has given equal educational opportunity through the strong recommendation. During the time universities of Madras, Calcutta and Bombay were established by 1857. The most important suggestion made by the dispatch asked the government should take the responsibilities of the people.

Indian educational culture has diverse condition. Education is the prime need of people which was banned due to the discrimination on the basis of caste and gender. Education provides opportunity of development in every aspect of life. India has a great tradition of education but it never reached to the common man. So the development of educational culture in India was percolated to the lower classes. The way to education is the window of vision and wisdom was blocked for some reasons. Many social reformers fought against the justice of oppressed people. They have established educational institutions for such lower class people. Residential schools for Adivashi’s was established in remote area. Mhatama Gandhi, Sardar Patel, Pandit Nehru Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, worked for the development in people. Karmveer Bhaurao patil of Maharashtra state have taken efforts to change the educational status in area. Many educational institutes have established for the benefit of education to every class of society.

Conclusion:  In the present condition education culture has broader the dimension of education. Students are taking education for employment or profession in foreign countries. The soul of education that is moralizing and socializing vanished from the system. Still we can see the students of economical class, taking the benefits of educational opportunity. It happens only due to the privatization in educational field. Education becomes costly and costly day by day. Indian constitution offered free education from primary to the degree level as well as promoted for higher education. Education becomes the business for the corporate sector. Foreign universities have introduced in India. Government schools are going to close without any authentic reason. Government tries to give up the responsibilities
of guardianship of citizen. The education culture of any country never splendid until it is benefited to the every citizen of the country. Educational culture in Indian region was captivated others by its curriculum and advanced knowledge in ancient in India. Greatness of educational culture based on the formulization of system. The implementation of educational system in changing scenario is not parallel to the advanced techniques.

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