

**Value Education: It's Important in Present Society: An Analytical Study****Abdul Gofur,**

Associate Professor cum HOD, Department of Education,  
Bhawanipur Anchalik College, Bhawanipur  
Email: abdulgofur888@gmail.com

**Abstract:**

Value education has gained significant attention in educational discussions across all levels of society. The world is grappling with a crisis of values, leading to unsatisfactory situations. In the current era of education, there is a strong emphasis on knowledge acquisition and exam performance rather than the application of learning in everyday life. This neglect of moral education has raised concerns about the cultivation of social and moral values. The National Educational Policy (NPE) in 1986 recognized the erosion of essential values and emphasized the need for adjustments in the curriculum to make education a powerful tool for nurturing these values. However, the responsibility of imparting moral and social values should begin at home during early childhood. As children grow, they are influenced by their families, peers, and various educational institutions. Education, as a transformative process, enables individuals to develop physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially, fostering responsible citizens of strong moral character. The crisis of values necessitates explicit and deliberate efforts towards value development, as highlighted by the National Curriculum and the recommendations for value education in teacher training programs. Without values, education merely enhances one's intellect without addressing their moral disposition, as aptly stated by C.S. Lewis.

**Keywords:** Value Education, Grappling, Unsatisfactory, Moral, Deliberate, Efforts, Intellectual

**Introduction:**

The subject value education has come to acquire increasing prominence in educational discussion at all levels today. The human society is facing tremendous value crisis and so many unsatisfactory situations have arisen due to crisis of values. Present era of education assisted by ultramodern technology, we are inclined more towards knowledge and ranks in the examination than application of learning in our day-to-day life. Theodore Roosevelt warns, "To educate a man in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society". It is a lamentable fact that in the prevalent scenario of education, the most of the teacher and taught have turned in to refinement of ethics, purification of soul and enlightenment of human intellect. The same issue has been projected in the national priority in the National Educational Policy (NPE), 1986 which declares, "The growing concern over the erosion of essential values and an increasing cynicism in society has brought to focus the need for readjustments in the curriculum in order make education a forceful tool for the cultivation of social and moral values". (But only curriculum is not responsible for the cultivation of social and moral values. Moral and social values should provide to the children by their home right from the very beginning of their early childhood stage, because the new-born infant is a helpless human being. He has neither any friend nor an enemy, not aware of the social customs and traditions. Not only this, he is not even keen to achieve any ideal or value. But as he grows older, he is influenced by their home, parents, family members, peer-group, surrounding environment as well as formal, informal and non-formal agencies of education. In this way gradually, also develop in him physical, mental, and emotional self and social feelings. Making friendship, speaking more frankly, education bestows upon the child immense benefits. In this sense, education is that conducive process which drags a person

from darkness, foolishness, poverty and misery by developing his individuality in all its aspects-physical, mental, emotional and social. With this type of all-round development, he becomes a responsible, dynamic, resourceful and enterprising citizen of strong good moral character who uses all his capacities to develop his own self, his society and his nation as a whole. According to National Curriculum for primary and secondary education (1985), the crisis of values our society is passing through “demands more explicit and deliberate educational efforts towards value development”. The first term of reference for the National Commission on Teacher (1983) was “to lay down clear objectives for the teaching profession with reference to the search for excellence, breadth of vision and cultivation of values”. The working Group to review teacher training program me in the light of the need for value orientation setup by the Government of India in 1983 recommended for the inclusion of a value education component in the teacher education program me.

**Discussion:****1. Concept of Value:**

The concept of value is very difficult to define. But at the same time, Values are described as the socially defined desires and goals that are internalized through the process of learning, conditioning and socialization. Values are goals set for achievement and they motivate, all our activities-cognitive, affective and co native. Values are concerned with the issues of morality, fairness and natural justice. Values may be considered as a system of personality traits which are in harmony with the inner nature of an individual and which are in accordance with the values approved by the society. When education builds up true values in the life of our students, it has equipped the ship of students with radars with compass to sail clear in the stormy sea of life. The concept of value is so deeply embedded in human actions and thoughts that one should make an effort at least to understand its meaning and ramification.

Value can be defined as ‘‘Conception, explicit or implicit, distinctive of an individual of characteristic of group of those desirable traits, which influence the selection from available modes and end of action. Values are the criteria for determining levels of goodness, worth or beauty.

**2. Concept of Value Education:**

Value education, as it is generally referring to a plan of educational action aimed are the development of proposer attitudes, physical health, mental hygiene, etiquette and manners, appropriate social behavior, civic rights and duties to aesthetic, religious and emotional patterns of the learners. Value education is simply a matter of developing appropriate behavior and habits involving inculcation of certain virtues and habits. In opposition to such a conception, it is pointed out that value education has an essentially cognitive component in it and that should not be ignored. Actually, the ability to make moral judgment based on sound reasoning is a very important aim of value education and has to be deliberately cultivated.

**Description of the Topic:**

The purpose of education is not only to impart knowledge and skills, but it is to help us to live for others and with others. Among his several discourses on value of education, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan observed, “If we concentrate only on giving education and neglect the development of the mind and the spirit, we shall have enormous power without any overriding ethical purpose”. How true it is in the present-day context. Swami Vivekananda has put it more succinctly when he said that “the end and aim of all education, all training should be to make good human beings”

Value education is concerned with the development of the total personality of the individual-intellectual, social, emotional, aesthetic, moral and spiritual. It involves developing sensitivity to the good, the right and the beautiful, ability to choose the right values in accordance with the highest ideals of life, internalizing and realizing them in thought and action. Only a value-based education can strengthen the mind and intellect, form the character, expand the true knowledge-of self-understanding and self-control and also involves harmonious development of body, mind and spirit.

Value based education is a set of techniques deals with a balanced growth of individual by insisting on both knowledge and wisdom. The aim of value-based education is not to provide degree and diploma, but to provide a real power, a power of discriminating good and evil, right and wrong in true sense.

Values like, peace, purity, nonviolence, love, justice, sympathy, brotherhood, honesty, patient, sense of control etc. are not the physical entities rather it is a matter of feeling and realization.

### **1. Importance of Value Education in Present Society:**

It is well known that Indian culture is based on the values like, kind-heartedness, self-control, universal brotherhood, honesty, faith and respect to others. But at the same time in the present day all has gone due to the influence of western culture and tremendous impact of modern science and technology. Revolutionary changes are noticeable in every branch of human thought and action-as Wealth worshipped as God, pride has become a creed, selfishness is entrenched in the intellect, ego is flaunted and desires become an adornment, rightness has become merely a figurehead in the world, compassion has dried up, gratitude has waned, Hypocrisy has become hall mark of life, love and affection has become lustful affliction. Distortion of values is partially due to imbalance between ancient values and explosion of knowledge in war field technology, atomic weapons, bio-weapon, explosive, missiles etc., are threatening the whole mankind. It is blessing as well as a curse of science and technology.

There is restlessness in human life all over the globe, Communication, castism, corruption, loss of faith, disrespect for women and elder ones, prostitution, illegal marriages, broken home structure, divorce, lack of mutual concern between parents at home, disaffection and lack of securities in families, confusion in every walk of life, rapidly eroding in human life which will badly affect social equilibrium and the cohesive values of human life. Again, Individual adjustment depends on the values of the individual, which are determined by personal experience, knowledge and culture. Narrow thinking sure to have its evil effects on the existing pattern of values that prevails in the society. Simultaneously, it has its ill effects on the social pattern and the cultural standard of the people. Cultural lag leads to crisis of life as well as values. There is constant conflict between the actual life and the existing values. Social norm, rules and regulations become meaningless to the individual. At the present juncture, religious institutions are also gradually fails to provide adequate standard of life and losing hold on human life and values. We are all living under a horror of war and threat to life in every moment and facing a severe 'value crisis' and so many unsatisfactory situations in this time in the society.

There is great degeneration with respect to values of people in general. There is also devaluation of values in various aspects of life, relating to political, social, economic, philosophical, commercial, educational, and cultural and so many other fields. Truthfulness,

honesty and integrity, tolerance, co-operation, mutual love and affection etc. are general values which are necessary for the smooth running of a society and unfortunately these values have almost vanished from the society today.

Everybody appreciate that life is cherished-that life is exceptional. We all preserve our life because we care for it more than anything else. If life is so precious, the values of life are even more precious. Values are guiding principles and code of conduct which we use to guide our interactions with others, with our colleague and ancestors, in our business and professional behavior. Our values and morals are a reflection of our spirituality; our character, our children and the children around us, because children do watch us as they develop their own sense of right and wrong. Value education means inculcating in the children sense of humanism, a deep concern for the wellbeing of the others and the nation. This can be accomplished only when we instill in the children a deep feeling of commitment to values that would build this country and bring back to the people pride in work that brings order, security and assured progress. People having values will not be afraid to face any problems rather ready to expect and accept them as part of their life and they have excessive faith in God. Such a person will be an example to the rest. Last but not least we must love our own values in life, to build strong character which will help us to lead our life in proper and positive direction to achieve most fascinating goals.

In today's scenario our values have been affected by many reasons and there is a hue and cry in every corner of the society regarding the value crisis. That means at present one of the major crises is the crisis of proper value crisis. Education is the best means to survive the society from these unusual distortions and disruptions of values and education should take the responsibility to develop proper values among the youths during childhood and youth. Therefore, value-based education is utmost importance to foster desirable values among the youths.

Value oriented education is a methodical effort toward learning basic facts about humanity. And the key point behind value education is to cultivate essential values in the students which begin at home and it is continued in schools. Value education is always essential to shape one's life and to give him an opportunity of performing himself on the global stage.

The family system in India has a long tradition of imparting value education and therefore many institutes today conduct various value based educational program me concentrate on the value development of the children focusing on honesty, truthfulness, happiness, love, sympathy, cooperation, kindness, simplicity, honesty, peace etc.

Value based education are related to the very future of mankind. All religious and major thinkers of the universe have stressed the need for value-based education for the proper upliftment of value-based society. In this regard, it is vitally necessary for the educational instituted to determine over all aims of education for the proper inculcation of human values in line with specific ideologies which are-1) form the students consistent with his ultimate goal 2) contribute to his intellectual, moral and physical development 3) instill in him a sense of responsibility towards his family, his society and for the nation 4) prepared him for acceptance of leadership quality 5) trained him to distinguish between right and wrong 6) enable him to recognize his relationship to God and 7) instill in him the courage and the readiness to bear a model to others.

Man, values, education form a sacred triangle, where education is a vital medium to imbibe, foster and perpetuate values in man. Education is capable of developing strong and abiding values. Only a value-based education can strengthen the mind and intellect, form the character, and expand the true knowledge of self-understanding and self-control. It also involves harmonious development of body, mind and spirit. On value education Swami Vivekananda stated that- “We must have life building, man- making, character building, education” It is an urgent need of the time to inculcate values in the present system of education to develop the body, mind and soul of an individual, so that he can realize the beauty and perfection which are already in them.

Some advocate the view that values have to be promoted through curriculum. In some schools, colleges and universities for some years, syllabus was prepared for the teaching of values and according to that, moral instruction classes were conducted. Promotion of the study of humanities and social science like literature, history and culture and making all students study some prominent pieces of the humanities and social sciences, it is argued, will provide liberal education at the higher level resulting in the dissemination of noble values. But in this computer age, students are not evincing any interest in humanities, in value-based education and social sciences. Making the study compulsory related to value education, may not have any desired effect. Some time ago Indian heritage and culture was made compulsory to all degree students, but neither is it teaching by the teachers nor its study by the students. Consequently, that experiment was discontinued. (Subramanian 2001)

It is well known that knowledge is power. Keeping this in mind the duties of a responsible School, College and university must promote and strive to create an innovative environment and efficient organization, which together furnish to the discovery and transfer of new knowledge ensuring economic, social, environmental and ethical dimensions of sustainable development, cooperating with the wider community, raising awareness about the pollution free environment, social cohesion and human values.

In the present education system, there is no any effective provision to inculcate ‘value’ to students with a view to give ‘value education’ to a practical shape. It only put more emphasis on securing good marks, well salaried jobs to lead more comfortable lives in comparison to others. Of course, it does imply that all these are value less activity. But such materialistic value cannot make a man valuable, cannot provide them mental peace like a bed, but not sleep, money can buy amusement, but not happiness, a clock but not more time, companions, but not friend, finery, but not beauty, food, but not appetite, a house, but not home, medicine, but not health as well as cannot establish socially acceptable good work and commitment.

On the basis of above study, it is appeared that very recent scenario of crisis of moral and social values leads to educationalists as well as social scientist to impart value based education through formal and non-formal education with a view to save the human race of this globe. There is most urgent need to inculcate the value in the minds of the present generation in order to build a stable and morally good society for future generation. In this context importance of value-based education become more relevant to our present education system and it is high time to review the education imparted to our school and college in such a manner that education become instrumental in creating awareness among the students about their physical, mental, emotional and social wellbeing.

**2. Some suggestions to impart value-based education:**

- Family is the cornerstone of society. Human society cannot function without it. It is a universal social institution, a real and right place to bring up children with sufficient moral background. The guardianship of parents within a family directly influences the future career of children. So, the guardians must play a positive role to bring up children with moral teaching. The ultimate good or bad of a child depends largely on the role played by the family.
- Educational institutions at various levels can play a convincing role to impart moral values of our young generation because the human being is in its infancy; adolescence period is covered by these institutions. By teaching morals as well as values education can be made compulsory.
- Religious institutions can play a more fruitful role to make our younger generation morally sound in respect of their course of life by teaching the basic doctrine of religion.
- All the parents as well as teacher should try to develop the minds of the little children with the concept of “work is worship and”, “man service is service to God” for moral development from a very early stage.
- The Central and State government should adopt fruitful measures to introduce moral and spiritual education from the elementary to the higher stage.
- All subjects in the school curriculum should be used for the inculcation of the right values along with community prayer and community service programmed should be organized in the school.
- Senior citizens, NGO’s and Voluntary organizations along with people of all castes, communities and religions can promote National unity and integrity, non-violence, secularism, democracy, equality before laws, socialism, self-respect, the dignity of labour and develop a sense of commitment to fighting against injustice, inequality and cruelty.

**Conclusion:**

When social, moral, cultural and spiritual values are disintegrating, when religion is losing its hold, when power and knowledge are being misused for vested interests, when nation do not trust one another, when black marketing, corruption, barbarism. Indiscipline, violence is fast spreading, In this connection there is the strong need of change the mentality of each individual and for which a collective and coordinated holistic effort of all conscious individuals, social worker, govt. machinery, NGO & VOS’ all the teachers, senior citizens, parents, management and students community is the fundamentals requirement where in place of present degraded scenario there will flourish moral values and it is the urgent need of the hour of our present society for better safe and secured future life of next generation on humanitarian consideration and it is undoubtedly correct to say that in order to mitigate the moral degradation in the present society the utmost important is that the ‘Education’ should be value- based. Only value-based education can promote individual and social welfare, love, peace, goodwill, mutual understanding and international brotherhood.

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