



THE CONSTRUCTIVE AND VITAL ROLE OF TEACHERS AND YOUTH IN NATION BUILDING

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Article DOI: <https://doi.org/10.36713/epra19587>

DOI No: 10.36713/epra19587

ABSTRACT

The term nation building or national development is usually used to refer to a constructive process of engaging all citizens in building social cohesion, economic prosperity and political stability in a nation in an inclusive and democratic way. Going by the definition, it is seen that all citizens are to be involved in building or developing a nation. Thus, the involvement of youth in national development is a must. In fact, youths play one of the most important roles in nation building. Youth are not only the leaders of tomorrow, but also the partners of today. Young people are social actors of change and progress. They are a crucial segment of a nation's development. Young people in any country represent the future of that country. They have a vital role to play in the development of the country a duty they must perform. There are many ways that youth can contribute to national development. They can do so by working hard in any field they are involved in, be it the teaching, mechanic, or farming field. Education is the key for the success of an individual or development of a nation. Every child is entitled to an education in India, but unfortunately, not every child is getting a good and quality education. Teachers need to be seen as creators of knowledge and thinking professionals. A teacher needs to be an information provider, role model, facilitator, assessor, planner, resource and developer. Educated teachers, with wide knowledge, command the respect of fellow teachers and the people in their communities. The nation building task will be performed under the leadership of a brilliant set of teacher educators and master educators who will prepare the teachers and who in turn will develop the creative abilities of the teeming millions of the country. The paper discusses the role of youth and teachers in building the nation and promotion of skill development for the progress of the country.

KEY WORDS: Quality Education, Nation Building, Teachers, Youth, Skill Development.

INTRODUCTION

The youth is the future of the nation. Invest in them and you invest in the future.

Jawaharlal Nehru

Today the world is interconnected and interdependent. We are facing the challenges such as climate change, health epidemics, global poverty, global economic recessions and trade imbalances, assaults on human rights, terrorism, political instability, and international conflicts. It is important to recognize the crucial role of education in contributing to building a culture of peace and condemning instances in which education is undermined in order to attack democracy and tolerance. Educating young people to become global citizens will allow them to learn about the interdependence of the world's systems, believe that solutions to global challenges are attainable, and feel morally compelled to confront global injustices and take responsible action to promote a just, peaceful and sustainable world.

As a result of quick economic growth, influence of western culture, over mechanization, urbanization and craving for materialistic life there has been a loss of values and of the value system at the individual level and in the society as a whole. History speaks and universally accepted, the teachers are unchallenged custodian of the society and embodiment of evolutions and revolutions of the world. The kingpin in the schooling process is the teacher. If the teacher is personally committed to the values and practices them in his/her own life, the students will imbibe the values for which teacher stands. It is for this reason only those teachers who leave deep impact on their students are remembered and also revered. Therefore, if values have to be nurtured in children it would be crucial that their teachers function as role models.

The participation of teachers in the formulation and implementation of educational plans can yield rich dividends, especially in institutional planning and programmes of qualitative improvement. Several of the community improvement programmes and school programmes such as improvement of text books, adoption of better methods of teaching and evaluation, intensive utilization of available facilities, maintaining contact with community, individual guidance to students, inculcation of social and moral values etc do not need much investment in physical or monetary terms. But their success depends essentially upon the competence of the teachers, their sense of dedication and their identification with the interests of the students committed to their



care. But unless they make every effort to cultivate these skills and values they shall not be able to participate effectively in educational programmes and to discharge their responsibility to students and the society.

Enhance Participation of Youth

India needs more qualified engineers, plumbers, tailors, economists and journalists, etc to lead us to our developmental aspirations. However, to help our youth get to where they want and enable them become effective contributors to nation-building all hands must be on deck in achieving this objective, as the youth need support and motivation. Also to enhance the participation of youth in national development, they must be given the opportunity to effectively participate in decision-making processes, especially on issues affecting their lives.

Vision Ahead

India can become a developed nation only if everyone contributes to the best of his or her capacity and ability. Youth is wholly experimental and with the full utilization of the talents of the Youth, India will become a complete Nation. Let us hope for the same. The vision of our country lies in the hands of our youths. They are filled with tremendous and towering ambitions. It will be a great wastage of human resources if these youths are not given an opportunity to exercise their talent. This beautiful land needs these youths in order for our soil to become a brighter one. The primary role of young people is to get a good education in order to become better citizens of tomorrow. They need to learn skills to do the job that their country's economy needs. They also need to know how to read, write, think, understand, analyse, and discuss the issues their country faces. The entire success of the nation depends on the youths. However, in order for continuous success to take place; it is the Government's responsibility to provide the youth with proper facilities for, getting equipped with the knowledge of the modern era.

Role of Youth

The role of the youth is the most important in today's time. They have underplayed themselves in the field of the politics. Youth are strong forces in social movements. Youths are problem solvers. Our nations need them to resolve most of our problems. The nation is facing a lot of problems, and I believe that the youths are capable of solving them. They just need to be given a chance to prove themselves. Young participation is important because youth are the country's power. Youth recognize problems and can solve them. Youth are strong forces in social movements. They educate children about their rights. They help other young people attain a higher level of Intellectual ability and to become qualified adults.

Challenges ahead for Youth

- 1) The youth can play a vital role in the implementation of elimination of terrorism. If the energy, intelligence and resources of youth are fully and properly utilized the country will prosper.
- 2) The youth will have to compete with sporting spirit. Just look at the spirit of Internationalism that today prevails in the cricketing world. With the start of any cricket tournament, no matters which team wins, Cricket wins, Youthfulness will win. The spirit of oneness will win.
- 3) The youth would need to aspire for entrepreneurship rather than conventional employment.
- 4) The hopes of young people can be fulfilled only in conditions of peace, only in a civilized and cooperative world order.
- 5) Young people are full of vibrant ideas. When properly motivated and sufficiently guided they want in their life.
- 6) Young people have energy to try out things and the patience to learn from mistakes. Giving them opportunities to plan, to decide and to work prepares them to face harsher realities in life.
- 7) Young participation is important because youth are the country's power. Youth recognize problems and can solve them. Youth are strong forces in social movements. They educate children about their rights. They help other young people attain a higher level of Intellectual ability and to become qualified adults.

Teachers as Nation Builders

Teachers exhibit leadership in multiple, sometimes overlapping, ways. Some leadership roles are formal with designated responsibilities. Other more informal roles emerge as teachers interact with their peers. The variety of roles ensures that teachers can find ways to lead that fit their talents and interests. Regardless of the roles they assume, teacher leaders shape the culture of their schools, improve student learning, and influence practice among their peers. The changes that took place in schools have changed the roles of teachers, too. In the past teachers used to be the major source of knowledge, the leader and educator of their students' school life. Teachers would organize after-school activities. They used to be the authority in the class and often took over the role of parents. Nowadays, teachers provide information and show their students how to tackle them. Although they are still considered to be a kind of leader in the class, they can be thought of as facilitators in the learning process. They are supporters rather than educators and also advisors towards parents. This is high time when Teacher Education programmes should combine knowledge, experiences and dreams pertaining to the building of peace and harmony on one hand, and joint effort of other people and agencies of education on the other to create knowledge and thinking professionals. The teacher can be rightly called a nation builder. Teachers through their perseverance love and sacrifices have shown us the right path in which great men have built our



nation. It is our dear teachers who mould our character, our personality and show us the right direction which leads us to our final destination.

Role of Teachers

The key role of teacher is as facilitator and supportive to learning. Teacher is the one who facilitates learners to realize their potentials, articulate their personal and context specific experiences in ways that are acceptable in the wider context of our nation. Teacher needs to recognize him or herself as a 'professional' endowed with the necessary knowledge, attitude, competence, commitment, enthusiasm, spirit of seeking new ways and means, capable of reflection, sensitive and perceptive to not only the learners and the institution but also the emergent concerns in the larger social perspective within which one functions. Teacher has to recognise that learners in schools no more need teacher as a source of knowledge. The media explosion challenges their minds with the immense learning choices and possibilities. Teacher must develop an understanding of the nature and dynamics of 'action' comprising education. Such an understanding would not be a cognitive acceptance of things that occur but will prompt attempt to 'do' things, contemplate on 'what works and does not work', and critically analyse the pros and cons of the action, reflection and internalisation. The nation building task will be performed under the leadership of a brilliant set of teacher educators and master educators who will prepare the teachers and who in turn will develop the creative abilities of the teeming millions of the country.

CONCLUSION

Today it is important to recognize the crucial role of education in nation building and for contributing to build a culture of peace and condemning instances in which education is undermined in order to attack democracy and tolerance. Educating young people to become global citizens will allow them to learn about the interdependence of the world's systems, believe that solutions to global challenges are attainable, and feel morally compelled to confront global injustices and take responsible action to promote a just, peaceful, sustainable and developed society. Teaching should be practical, flexible and child-centered, there is a hope that the next generation of learners will get the support and skills they need in life during their schooling years from their own teachers. Teachers must provide students with motivation and interest for life-long learning and urge them to become, is essential in the education of the future. Teachers need to be seen as creators of knowledge and thinking professionals. A teacher needs to be an information provider, role model, facilitator, assessor, planner, resource and developer. Educated teachers, with wide knowledge, command the respect of fellow teachers and the people in their communities. The nation building task will be performed under the leadership of a brilliant set of teacher educators and master educators who will prepare the teachers and who in turn will develop the creative abilities of the teeming millions of the country.

The youths are our life and nation. They will make our country proud. The country will be recognized. The youths just need the support from their fellow citizens and they will perform their duties. Youth should stand against all the wrong doings in the country. Instead of blaming the system, young India should come together and with their toil should mould our nation for a better tomorrow. The youth should use their brains, strength, creativity and imagination to serve our nation and turn it into a developed one.

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