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# Early Childhood Education, National Education Policy: Socio- Economic Aspect

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## ABSTRACT

*Values are the base of every society. Every childhood goes through value education, these children are more inclined towards decision making, leadership skills, concentration, self motivation and following their roots. According to sociologist human development is majorly based on their childhood. The crucial years of progress are early five years and the language, behavior, observation are the part of their core memory which latter becomes their habit. Let's understand this subject with the merits and demerits of habits learned in early childhood education. The base of education should not be on pressurizing them to learn and understand one particular language for example English but according to ancient history home learning included basic shlokas and phatshalas taught vedas which started with rudra. All these aspect developed human beings and implemented value based knowledge. But in today's era will it be equally helpful as compared to vedic history. Should there be any aspect of protecting such skillful learning? Though it is a major part of Hinduism but we need to understand the differences that before it is been recognized as a religion it is a way of life that is shaping individuals to think in a right manner to grow ones self, ability to focus and a habit to cultivate righteous behavior. This article is based on Analytical Research Methods and it totally based on the learning of research scholars regarding and analysis the need to change the educational system.*

**Keywords:** *Vedas, Childhood, Behavior, Development.*

## I. INTRODUCTION

There are numerous definitions of education, we cannot rely on any one but we need to understand that every definition has it's own dimension towards education. The very first thing which comes in our mind when we say education is children. A child not only by age but every person who learns, tries to acquire knowledge, inculcated and implements in their day to day life is a child. Because seeking education requires a thought process of a child who is curious. Thus simply defining education is the outcome of a civilized society and a civilized society is one where a community is educated. According to article 39, 41, 45, 46 of directive principles confirms certain obligations on State for the welfare of children also it the fundamental right

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and fundamental duty to protect education rights of children. Accordingly there are different measures taken place by Ministry of Women and Child development, different policies of State. These aspects also take care of health and proper development of children. The gap between the current state of learning outcomes and what is required must be bridged through undertaking major reforms that bring the highest quality, equity, and integrity into the system, from early childhood care and education through higher education.<sup>2</sup>

### **(A) Research Gap-**

The need to provide certain infrastructure and expertise in training the child during his crucial years of learning which is from 1 to 8 years. Training program must be towards developing skills, decision making ability, ethical behavior, adaptability and a precise method which ought to be part of ancient education system of learning.

### **(B) Literature Review-**

Let's understand the process of learning with a comparative phenomena of all three period, ancient, medieval and modern.

## **II. ANCIENT METHOD OF LEARNING**

It was more focused on human behavior, thought process, values, morals and protection of dharma by regulating good karma through Vedas, Upanishads. There were pathshala, gurukuls, ashram, which included residential learning. There was not only mental or skilled development but also physical development. Guru Shishya relation were strong through which loyalty was inculcated in children. It was one of the pious activities where knowledge donation was considered as most prior one. Guru daxshina was all about leading life of all the teaching and ethical, value based. Thus it was not a money based education system but it was more about individual's creative curious precise upbringing, which had a far reaching impact on many generations. Takshashila, Nalanda are some of the examples. There were great writers who studied society in India which traces marking of Indian Jurisprudence as one of the ancient. Jurisprudence has its roots in Indian Culture. Kautilya, Aryabhata, Patanjali, Manu were renowned guru of India. Whose theories are challenge to new development. Pre childhood learning was all about developing keen interest towards these learning process by society, parents and community at large. It was not only recognized as Hinduism but it was a Way of Life<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> NEP 2020

<sup>3</sup> Ancient Education System of India, <https://ncert.nic.in/textbook/pdf/heih111.pdf>

**(A) Medieval Method of Learning –**

Middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century during this period State had no control over the education system. It was more inclined toward religious teachings and there were system of punishment which was also introduced for those who failed in abiding by the rules and regulations of learning. One of the interesting aspect that medieval period was more focused on rational sciences (medicine, mathematics, logic, astronomy) rather than traditional sciences ( law, literature, history). In Medieval learning there was methodical learning and more of strategy based.

**(B) Modern Method of Learning-**

In the Modern Era an adaption of different culture towards schooling are seen. It is more inclined towards the modern system. Investing few hours some are residential schools. In modern system the education system has become a competitive platform. Health competition is a root of development but if the competition keeps on continuing and becomes a habit of appreciating only the winners than soon we seen the number of children facing depression being increased largely. Thus Modern Methods require a drastic change and the baby steps towards the change stats with the State. Government takes the responsibility to protect fundamental rights of every children and abides it as it is also part of fundamental duties There are number of methods through which States are bound to implement productive policies for equal and total participation of children.

**(C) Outcome of Comparing-**

In India we have the oldest system of implementing education but much of our generations were unable to continue such a great heritage. The education and learning through books and classroom was very limited and so for our satisfaction we consider that what we did not learn in schools and college does not exist. We call it myth. Rather we don't accept that much of our written forms of materials are burned down, destroyed and declared as non existing. So how will these generation of Indian be able to believe about the cultural heritage towards the development of human? While considering all three it is observed that Legal studies too are more dependent on foreign theories of

Jurisprudence just because those were found in the written form. But we forget to find our India Jurisprudence which deals with Achar, Vichar, Vyavhar, Kala, Krida which exactly seen in the jurisprudence. Thus it is not only a need of an hour but a recognition as to where we belonged to long year ago. This will be a just and fair policy toward the overall development of children.

### III. IMPACT OF EARLY EDUCATION SYSTEM

(ECCE) Early Childhood Care And Education hereby focuses on training Skilled helpers for the overall care of children so that there should not be more cases of backing out, drop outside, losing interest in education due to poor system. Promoting sustainable development. UNESCO<sup>4</sup> says that learning begins at birth. Developing communication skills, learning different languages, adaptability towards surrounding. These are necessary aspects as the children now a days are equipped with gadget, lack of other children and facing challenges in coping up with basic social interactions. Socio – economic factors says that participation of children is must as they are the future of every society. This is possible only if the government schemes are implemented well. The responsibility is of society and parents in registering and encouraging children to enjoy their childhood. Government plays a vital role in making a successful national through their citizens. When government fails a whole generation fails to get uplifted.

#### (A) **Why follow the Ancient Theories of Education?**

Physical Mental, Social and emotional development of children should be the outcome of any policy. According to Ancient philosophies these overall development can be accomplished by the Ancient formula of learning where in the nature with the practical experiences will inculcate a power of knowledge, we will be blessed with good decision maker and we can develop a society of excellence without comparative or competitive learning process. Leadership qualities can be imparted in every child during their peak years of childhood. Let's understand this with an example of government which is ready to provide free of cost basic need and also will fulfil the demand monetary benefits without any work done. This will create a whole generation to become inactive soon. Same is with our education system, they just ask for money and in return provide with lavish elite facilities which is not possible for all and also not good for society because even the prince learned in ashramshalas to give back to the society and follow the path of Dharma.

### IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF ANCIENT EDUCATION SYSTEM

Pre Childhood Education Policy must consider the training of experts who can precisely guide parents and society. Another question is where can this take place.

1. **Infrastructure**- There should be proper infrastructure in every village, district and cities which can permanently appoint experienced, well qualified person who will step wise guide the parents and community to bring about the awareness regarding the

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<sup>4</sup> UNESCO, Early Childhood Care and Education, <https://www.unesco.org/en/early-childhood-education>

change in learning process. Children must wilfully participate in such learning process.

2. Permanent Member- Permanent person who will keep proper record of all the children appointed by the ECCE. The aim is to learn and let learn our Ancient Education Methods.
3. Books and Grantha - Vedas, Upanishads, authentic scripts, shruti, smritis shloka and many more should be available in number of languages which must be provided to all the members free of cost.
4. Gram panchayats – They must work in letting people understand the purpose behind Ancient learning.

## **V. NEW EDUCATION POLICY AND ANCIENT EDUCATION SYSTEM**

It is very important to mark the similarity between new education policy and ancient education policy they both are focused on ethical, value based and skills development among the children. Education must be formal and informal and both the forms of learning should be protected well. The National Education Policy envisions an education system rooted in Indian ethos that contributes directly to transforming India, that is Bharat, sustainably into an equitable and vibrant knowledge society, by providing high-quality education to all, and thereby making India a global knowledge superpower.<sup>5</sup>

NEP 2020 motive in implementation of Early Childhood Care and Education-

- a. Brain development, overall flourishing and 85% of child's cumulative development occurs during previous 6 years.
- b. A new initiative toward play full, flexible and multi tasking learning process. Various developments of children including Socio- emotional.
- c. Well equipped, well trained anganwadi worker with upgraded infrastructure.
- d. Preparatory Class, Balavatika with qualified teachers and facilities of mid day meals.
- e. Ashramshalas in tribal areas. All over proper management and proper implementation.

### **(A) Issues faced in implementation –**

We need to understand the need of training the trainer that means that we will lack in number

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<sup>5</sup> National Education policy 2020

of experts in the Anganwadi, that could be solved by providing certificate courses so that it can provide with number of job opportunities for young individuals and which can curtail the number of unemployed. It is important to handle these young ones with proper love and care thus implementing camera for keeping proper record and to regulate behaviour of those who are appointed to look after children. Health should not be compromised and this over burdened or lack of appointments will not fulfilled the requirements of policy. Bharat is our aim and so it is necessary to go back to our heritage of knowledge by teaching the helpers of Anganwadi basic of Ancient School only than it can be taught to the children well. If the permanent members are not appointed there should be contractual appointments on that particular post.

### **(B) Future of NEP 2020-**

This is one of the drastic change which will be observed in the history of the Indian Education System and the future is bright because it is all about the actions which will be focused on basic issues which arises due to poor education system. NEP 2020 is more about Bharat that is our internal power to be powerful in the world instead of adopting for other countries.

## **VI. CONCLUSION**

Our Bharat is a mixture of authentic Art, Knowledge, Philosophy, Culture and is a land of learners. We are tied with our roots and we now want to preserve and understand our roots. NEP 2020 focuses on “Vasudheva Kutumbakam “ we are one, we are all together and the world is one family so it is the duty and responsibility of everyone around to upbringing ourselves and help each one or us like we are all a big family. It is necessary to mark the progressive steps taken by NEP for the upliftment of our education system. Last but not the least, The teacher must be at the center of the fundamental reforms in the education system. The new education policy must help re-establish teachers, at all levels, as the most respected and essential members of our society, because they truly shape our next generation of citizens.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> NEP 2020