

Imparting Education: Ancient Times and Now

Dr. Rajshree Roselean Kapoor

Assistant Professor, Department of English
Government Science College, (Model & Auto) Jabalpur M.P.

Miss Shivani Bhagat

Research Scholar, Department of Linguistics
Dr. C.V.Raman University, Kargi Road Kota Dist., Bilaspur (C.G)

ABSTRACT

Blessed with intellect human beings struggled for enlightenment. Since the struggle for survival the accumulated knowledge acquired by skill, informal education and gradually excelling to formal knowledge which is termed as 'Education'. The preliterate masses who dwelled in community shared information about the basics of living like food, shelter, weapons, and passing values pertaining to culture and tradition. With language they started communicating with skills of reading and writing. Aristotle has well penned his thought on education

“Education is the process of training man to fulfill his aim by exercising all the faculties to the fullest extent as a member of society”.

Keywords :- Education, Learning, Ancient, Modern.

Introduction

Education is the process of receiving or giving systematic instruction especially at a School or University, the sharing of information like **knowledge, values, skills, critical thinking, problem solving and creating**. The acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, morals, beliefs, habits and personal development are done through education. Educational methods include **teaching, training, story telling, discussion and direct research**.

History carries evidences of how ancient indigenous communities in India followed both formal and informal methods of imparting education to the common people. Selected places like **Temples, Pathshalas, Tols, Chatuspadis and Gurukuls** were centers of imparting education to the masses. The wise and knowledgeable men carried this task in homes, villages and temples who were

guides to master the young masses to inculcate pious ways to lead their lives.

The Varna Vyavastha though benefited only the selected community to enrich and enhance through education who were considered as learned section of society and the unprivileged community were deprived to do so.

The traditional education included religious training that was passed in oral and verbal methods through Chanting of Shlokas, Mantras and Hymns by hermits and Sages. Ethics like humility, truthfulness, discipline, self-reliance and respecting all creation were taught to the students were focused on.

With the advent of the Medieval Period the four educational system or movements emerged namely **Monasticism, Scholasticism, Chivalry** and the **Guild** system of education.

The invasion of the Mughal Rulers in India expanded the varied aspects of education in all

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the fields of knowledge like **Theology, Religion, Philosophy, Fine Arts, Painting, Architecture, Mathematics, Medicine** etc. There was initiation of modern and innovative methods and strategies in the teaching and learning process and was within the reach of everyone. There was a sense of awareness among the individuals in terms to significance of education to be more methodical and systematic with new policies and strategies but still the medieval period had a lacuna of imparting education since it was an open access only for individuals belonging to wealthy families and did not fulfill the gender barriers.

The present time is a significant leap forward by Encouraging the common individual to be a part of engaging one self in the process of a learning. Apart from prominent academic disciplines of Commerce, Science and Arts, it aims to foster **Critical Thinking, Life Skills, Value Education, Analytical Skills and Decision Making Skills**. The latest technology such as Mobile Applications, Audio and Video platforms (Youtube, Podcasts, E-Books, Movies) etc. Teachers are now 'Facilitators'. From ChalkBoards to WhiteBoards and now SmartBoards have replaced the Teacher centric classrooms. The 21st century has empowered the learners with the strong tool of 'Technology'. Modern education has inculcated a sense of responsibility and fostered a sense of enquiry

apart from the passive traditional approach. The new concept of online teaching and learning has opened vast opportunities with an easy access to reach every corner of the world.

The modern education has a new approach to learning from:

Online education

Skill Development Courses

Grading System

Use Of Technology

Newly Introduced New Education Policy

Modern education is a welcome change to realize the need of the students rather than assuming that all are of the same level ICT enabled teaching has changed the entire scenario of the education system and is focused to create **Global Citizens rather than Indigenous citizens**. It is a positive approach to create more Social and Interactive individuals.

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