

# VALUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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Knowledge is light, the guide in learning the way that leads life from falsity to truth, from ignorance to wisdom, from mortality to immortality and for that reason it is value. Since the dawn of culture and civilization in India, education, whether it is primary or higher, has always been a source of gradually cultivating wisdom by acquiring which a human being gets fitness for facing with the challenges of different stages of life and for dedicating to the welfare of humanity. *Lokasangrah* and *Lokahita* are essential characteristics of a wise-man.

Higher education in India has never been a synonym of information and techniques acquired from books. There is a radical difference between education with and it without values of Higher Education. A terrorist's may also be an educated person. He learns how to make atom bombs, rockets, computers and other techniques and their management but before learning the negative and positive values of his achievements he is driven away by some terrorist ideology. He uses his education emotively for destruction of the followers of other ideologies which he considers dangerous against his faith and then he is called a terrorist. But if he learns positives and negative values of his study, he may well understand the value of life and then he may disassociate himself from terrorist's activities which are not the part of his way of life.

Had knowledge not been value all scriptures, great books of religion, science, technology and tradition of education systems might have not been meaningfully significant for promoting the cause of life. A man is judged by the actions he performs to himself and to his fellow beings. If he performs his services only for his own self that is a disguise. These disguised values may help him in getting some temporary benefit in the society and in the state but overall he loses the meaning of his own life that makes him feel isolated and disappointed. Values in higher education make one's own life and the life of his fellow beings lively and meaningful. Is there any meaning of being educated if the educated man is still away from getting a way of life and redeeming from the disastrous and life-killing ideologies. The purpose of education is self-affirmation and not self-negation. It is the process of removing the self-negating ideologies in order of self-affirmation.

Education is an obligation which the student knows only when he acts on for

Higher education. He is indebted to all from whom he learns to live the life of a wise. His life could be human only if he realizes the occasions to payoff the debts he owes from the society. He is required to payoff the debts to seers, sages, parents and teachers and by doing welfare to those who are deprived and to his fellows for promoting the cause of the mother earth.

In the process of our gradual journey from primary to higher education two sorts of major changes, relative to our attitude towards values, occur in our life. They are external or bodily and internal or self affirming. External changes in the sense that the students bag degrees by fair or foul means and on that basis get higher job positions. During the job, they collect more and more money, Cars, Bungalows and manage academic awards and all that by having which they may exploit themselves and the society with the disguised repute but they fears to face the deep hollowness of their disguised selves. They ruin self to the extent of dissatisfied and meaningless life. In brief, the more they adopt the disguise premises of life, which are ultra virus in higher education, the more their leadership in system is fixed but in the same proportion they find deconstruction of self-affirming values.

Understanding the changes of values in highly educated societies on the basis of metaphor of lion and wolf, I can say that the lion by training and qualities is fit to face the challenges of leadership in higher education, but lacks the qualities of cheating and snatching out the possibilities of others for which wolves are naturally fit. The wolves dwelling always around the lion learn the qualities of the lions and having additional qualities of cheating and snatching, they establish their supremacy in a system. As the values of wolves are not naturally assigned to lions, they take time 15 to 20 or more years to learn them and to regain the leadership. Thus changes in higher education are subject to the prominence and preference of the lions and wolves values respectively but the purpose of higher education must be to impart the lion's values and to cultivate them in such a way that they can face the challenges of the wolves.

Education must not be a system in which a lion is compelled to behave like a wolf and the latter like a fox. It is a system of learning and acquiring merits, a system where the merit is cultivated and respected. The leadership in higher education system must be decided by merit and not by political hobnobbing or disguise means. However, in either case the leadership conveys message as to what sort of values it wants to

pursue and promote in higher education system.

Administrators and teachers all over the world are debating on the issue of reservations of teaching post for the members of deprived section of society. The policy of reservations of teaching post in higher education is against its spirit of imparting excellence to the members of deprived classes and takes away from selecting meritorious on the posts of excellence. Similar is the opinion on the time bound promotions to all teachers on the basis of disguised merit and documents.

Posting and promotion to higher positions must be the rewards and it should look to the fellows as reward or return of values. The purpose of higher education is not to acquire skill of earning more and more money and higher posts in the system but to cultivate in a discipline of values for excellence and wisdom so that one can get fitness to serve the society and the nation in a better way to promote the cause of humanity in him and in the society as well. Now, the time is mature enough to good bye the corporate ideology for which any means that enhance capital is good. Money is value only when it is earned through honest and proper labour and distributed in proportion. One can realize money as value only through higher education. It earned by wrong means is thievery, the way of a rogue. Without realizing the values of and in higher education one can not lead a meaningfully satisfied educated life.

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