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School and classroom plays accelerating roles in social system: An overview

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Abstract

There are many reasons to believe that increased educational opportunities and outcomes will lead to social progress. This article examines how education can promote social progress. This question is not easy to answer. Education has multiple purposes, and the ways in which it is delivered (educational governance, institutions, educators, curriculum, and pedagogy) are all important. This article explores each topics, looking at trends around the world and trying to find out what scientists know about better and worse forms of education.

Keywords: School, classroom plays accelerating roles, social system

Introduction

'School is a society in miniature' says Joh Dewey. School is a reflection of Society. It is an epitome of society; a mirror on which social norms, conditions, traditions, social regulations, standard, values, ethos, nature etc are reflected. School and classroom are now considered to be the training ground of children in various social activities. For this C.S. Brembak said that the human interaction within the school may be inferred as a social system school has been serving the purpose of society through the ages starting from down of human civilization till today. Through the different periods school programmes and activities are determined and carried out within a view to fulfilling needs and demands of society.

Certainly, the main purpose of the school and classroom is to prepare future citizens for the country by imparting them certain knowledge and skills to become dutiful, responsible and respectable members of society. Students sitting today in the classroom will be citizens after some years. In order to perform civic functions in future students are provided knowledge, experience and training in the classroom and school (mini society). Degree of success of the students as a citizen in society depends greatly on the extent and quality of education and experience that he receives in the school and in the classroom where he reads. Realizing the importance of school and classroom the Education commission (1964-66) aptly remarks, "The destiny of India is being shaped in her classroom". The rationale is that classroom is a centre where the future citizens of the country are educated, trained, motivated, activated and guided to face the contingencies and new challenges that may come in future when they are left in the society. Some in future when they are left in the society. Sometimes, educational system is criticized because the products of the school (Students) in their future life are unable to act according to the norms of the society or behave in socially desirable manner. Such types of criticism are labelled in the present day society.

The society has now become complex, complicated and problematic. Change at the high speed has become common phenomenon in social system. Sophisticated technological inventions in communication system have brought different countries very near and close. There is unprecedented acceleration of intercultural, international and interpersonal influences. Closed social system of past has now become open one. Wave of freedom, democracy, liberalism etc. have reached almost all corners of the world. Feeling of oneness of humanity (Basudeiva Kutumbakam) is gradually culminating. in the minds of people. All these have brought innumerable changes in social scenario. In consonance with changing phenomenon of world a lot of changes have been evinced in our social structure. It is very true that social system has been changing with the march of time since time immemorial But India remained under the control of allies for many years.

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After independence considering the basic realities of the nation, the framing father of Indian constitution committed to set up a democratic, secular socialistic society. But the target of such a social system can never be materialized by making mere commitments. For the realisation maintenance and continuance of constitutionally committed society, role of education is of paramount importance. Maintenance of such social system and success can be possible only if the training ground of be-citizens in classrooms and school is prepared, activated, channelized and guided systematically. Sociological theories try to explain the nature of society as a system or its parts or sub-systems. The theories conceptualize the structures implied to perform the vital roles and the nature of the inter relationships of the structures. In general, education as a system is meant for survival of the society. But the nature of participation of children from different categories with different social backgrounds, may differ or the different categories of population may undergo different kinds of socialization with a view to preserve the ultra-societal configuration without any detrimental effect to the society as whole. An American educational sociologist, parsons Talcott wrote in his book "School class as social system" that, "Education with two important functions socialization and allocation of human resources. School is the bridge for the younger generation to cross from family to wider society.

The family socializes to its younger members according to their ascribed roles and attendant statutes like male, female, son, daughter, first born, last born as member of elite family, as member of race, caste and religion etc. while this socialisation is required for the primary school groups like family and community, the society at large requires socialization of young person's to take up the civic roles. However, in modern societies organised on the basis of democratic ideology and industrial economy, the adult roles and statutes are based on achievements. School (education) acts as secondary socialization agent, provides universalistic values and select individuals for taking up different adult roles based on achievement on certain common criteria.

Classrooms and schools have been mirroring the contemporary social ethos. The term school is originated from the Greek word 'Skhole' means leisure. Therefore in ancient days the Greek and other Europeans considered school the place of spending leisure hours at their disposal for self-development. Life in ancient days was simple and easy. There was no need of any formal institutions. Ordinarily father or any family member provide education and training to sons and daughters. Even children learnt something from different social organisations and gathering. In India, in the earliest hood other children used to learn trick of the trade from their parents. Later on, with the increasing demand for performing rituals and rising complexities of Vedic texts, a necessity was felt for separate school. In the school priest had started teaching not only to their own children but also to others. This resulted in the origination of first formal system of education in India. Since social system demanded priest to perform various pooja, bomah, Yajna sacrifice and so on. There necessitated a group of people to perform such activities. Acquisition of knowledge was highly appreciated. The earlier schools were mostly single teacher schools with limited students. There was no separate classroom in the school. Even school and classroom was functioning in the residence of the teacher (Acharya). Gurukul Ashrams were the centre of learning

which were set up in forests away from madding crowd and busy life. As social system was simple, knowledge was praised. Morality and good life were appreciated in the society; the ashram schools in the sylvan surrounding used to provide education to make the learners fit for leading a good social life. Schools provided religious and professional education to learners to fit themselves to their religion and earn their livelihood as proficient citizens.

During those periods, schools were held in temples, mosques, madras as etc. Even in western countries during medieval periods schools were housed in churches. During the British period in India, after wood's Despatched, exclusively for the purpose of providing education, schools were commissioned to fulfill the needs of society. Primary and lower secondary schools were set up separately. Now each school has many classes with sections and many classrooms. For each classroom there is a teacher to teach the students. Even different teachers come to teach the students of a class in different periods. Students also usually go to the different rooms like science laboratory in particular period, classrooms are also equipped with maps, charts, teaching materials, reference books etc.

According to John Dewey, "What nutrition and reproduction are to Physiological life, education is to social life". Schools and classrooms as agents of education in social systems foster various skills and competence in students through the classroom and school environment learners not only develops individual personality but also adjust to the social system. The social behaviours as such depends on the quality of educational institutions and the role expectations and interaction transacted in the classroom and school. The school and classroom are to be equipped adequately with human resources like dedicated personal (teachers and administrators) and Physical facilities like conducive school environment with the availability of all educational and recreational aids such as T.V., Radio, games and sports materials, etc. To fit them in the society school and classroom act as potential agents to provide learners certain information, efficiency and behaviour pattern. A well-equipped and properly maintained school and classroom can help to develop in children standard behaviour pattern in consonance with social system.

School and classroom for development of social system

- a) As advocated by the great educationist that "Make a school- a home and a home make it a school". & 'Parent a teacher and a teacher - a parent'. This cordial value is present in school as preparatory ground of learners. In classroom, the teacher not only provides student learning experiences but also acts as friend, philosopher and guide to learners. Students desire to get parental love, care, affection and sympathy of the teachers. Similarly, students pay due reverence to teachers in the classroom and school as they usually pay to elders at home and in society.
- b) This is an age of democracy. Equality to all is duly emphasized. Present society gives weight to equality in respect of caste, creed, colour, sex. Like this social system in school and classroom all are given opportunity for taking admission and continuing their studies school activity and classroom works are to be transacted in such a manner as to evoke a feeling among the pupils that they are equals and are treated as equals despite their social, economic, cultural and

educational disparities. This sort of facilities generate a feeling in students quite appropriate to the social system in our country. Moreover, the students are provided freedom of work and expression in a democratic society.

- c) A child comes from society, lives in society and works in society. This feeling gives an student, a member of the society taking active part in the developmental work and welfare activities of the society with acquainted the other members and customs of the society. Cooperation fellow feeling, mutual help, team work, punctuality, are evoked in the school and classroom activities
- d) In school and classroom the sense of unity and oneness are culminated despite the dissimilarities in the society. Students coming from sections of society interacts with each other in scholastic and non scholastic activities which gives furtherance a cordial relation to all.
- e) Leaders and followers are seen in social system as all activities of the school and classrooms are being carried out with mutual understanding. This is the predatory ground for the development. Today's children will become tomorrow citizen school and classroom is the training ground for a good leadership who may lead the society in true direction in the future.
- f) Rights implies duties, both go hand in hand success of democratic social system largely depends on the extent of knowledge and training that the students receive in school and classroom with the teaching learning processes in school and classroom by the teacher, culminates in students the idea of citizenship.
- g) Various social programmes are organised in the schools on different occasions with active participation of the students giving enthusiasm for the adoption of social qualities.

Conclusion

In the history of human civilization with the origin of school system, school and classroom have been serving the needs and aspirations of community. As is the society so the school. Social system is reflected in the school as well as in the classroom activities. School and social system are complementary and supplementary.

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