

Relevance of Gurukul System in Present Education System

Vivek Rai

Research Scholar, CMP Degree College

Abstract:

India is the largest education hub of all times. India's Gurukul education system has influenced not only India but also other countries. Character building, discipline, self-control etc., added with socio-political economic knowledge are the feature characteristics of Gurukul education. India used to be a destination where students used to get education, many of them were country and foreign students. The teaching according to Gurukul system could not be taught in the four walls but in the presence of nature itself. The modern education not only lies on attaining of knowledge but also to get a good job and get a mark in the society. Today, a large number of children from India go abroad for education, they feel that they cannot get good education by staying in India While India has been the biggest source of knowledge in ancient times because the education that was given in Gurukul in India was much better than today's education. Education now does not remain a knowledge but just numbers every parent will like to see the best numbers on his children and proceed with their life. It is nice that the children go ahead but there are also children who cannot get good numbers and then they proceed with suicides. It is so because of the social and parental pressure. Today's students have a lot of stress and no solution is given to remove the stress, while in ancient education meditation and yoga were also taught to calm the mind and soul. The ultimate growth of the students was the main premise of the Ancient education system. The kind of relationship that was perceived between teacher and pupils in the primeval times is not perceived now. The child in the olden days used to remain close to the teacher until he would bid farewell to the parents, and was educated. To him, his friends and parents were his teachers. During present-day education scenario, it is generally observed that the teacher-student relationship has never ventured beyond the level of formality. Nowadays we need that to fill up the gap in modern education, we must supplement them a little piece of the old system of education.

Keyword: Gurukul, Ancient Education, Modern Education Development, Meditation, Yoga, Relationship.

Introduction:

What is the aim of education and speaking about this theme people in the whole world have not one opinion as some send their children to school just because it is a kind of social habit that a child has to be in school on concrete age. Other individuals only pursue education to get employment and get money. Once a student attends a university or a school to receive education, students obediently comply with rules in this space. His teacher is the only one besides the parents who can actually shape a child. Provided that the teacher listens to his student, his growth can be possible since a great part of the time a student spends with his teacher. Such relation is sometimes observed between the teacher and the student nowadays in modern education. This is because of the flaw developed in contemporary education. Modern

education in India was introduced when British had over taken India. There was only one reason for the British rule to interfere in India's education system, they wanted Indians to learn English. It was then that the Sanskrit language played a role in the Indian, education system. Most Sanskrit schools had to shut down because of introduction of English language. Indian style of education came to an end with the schools in Sanskrit. There is never doubt that today Indians have been brought on par in English language but there is no doubt that we have to revive our language and we have to give it the same respect it used to be given in ancient times. British also left India but somewhere they left upon us the influence of their education. Though 36 years had passed by at the time of our independence and we were unable to shed off the British language we are now so much dominated by the English language that unless we are aware of it then we are not regarded as educated.

Throughout the ancient times, the education had two systems namely Vedic and Buddhist. Vedic system was spoken in Sanskrit language and Pali language was spoken in Buddhist system. When he lived with the Guru, the disciple has led a totally nomadic life of Brahmacharya and does not enjoy any kinds of pleasures. There were two techniques of instruction in the Vedic period where the first procedure was an oral tradition and the second practice was on the basis of contemplation. As stated in the theory of ancient education system, it required the training of brain and process of thinking in order to gain the knowledge and therefore, most of the education travail depended upon the students and how they are able to gain mental growth in themselves.

Gurukul System:

Gurukul education system was a home school educational system, it originated in India 5000 years ago, it was most dominant during the Vedic period, students were taught a plethora of subjects, medium of education was the Sanskrit, students got educated along with learning. Discipline was also taught. After the Upanayana Sanskar, the child's education started. Upanayana literally translates as close to Guru. The child would get education by following the teacher, until the time the education was not completed, the child would follow the teacher. One of the characteristics of Gurukul method of education was that there was blessed manner between the teacher and the scholar. The teacher did not charge any fee for teaching the student, although on completion of the student's education, he must give Guru Dakshina to his teacher, who was a teacher. Was a symbol towards respecting. The teacher had much respect that time as well as he was also honored by the kings. There were less students with the teacher at that time which gave him a chance to concentrate on students individually. The students were educated depending upon their interest i.e. the students were given opportunity to learn things that they were skilled in.

Modern education system:

We do not witness the concept of ancient education system in the current era, new education system arrived in India through lord Macaulay in 1835, The current education system is just a rat race where there is absolute lack of moral training, personal development building, moral conscience. Education has today taken a business aspect.

The reason why we must have gurukul system in India:

There is even this idea held by some people that Gurukul system might not work as it used to in ancient times. There is a lot of truth in this, systems change over time, it is possible that the ancient education system may not be appropriate in today's context. But there is no doubt that if some good things of ancient education are linked to the present education system today. Thus the same can be even enhanced. Incidentally examining the ancient education system, the educationists of today have got to the realization that, there is a lot of teaching methodologies in the old Gurukul system, which would be adopted into the present day education system.

If we have to strengthen the structure of modern basic education, then we also have to pay attention to the practical knowledge of the students. But it is very sad that today's education has become only bookish knowledge, today's students believe only in bookish knowledge and their only aim is to get a good job. On the other hand, the Gurukul education system was based on practical knowledge that affected all areas of the students' lives. Bringing the spiritual self conscious to the students is quite essential in these modern times to enable them become better human beings and no other way can this be achieved but the process of education. The rank based modern education system is generating hatred among the students and ambitious parents are further complicated the matter. If we revert to Gurukul system, it can be anchored on the values system where more focus can be given to the specialization in the kid so that he can advance more in the area of interest. Re-using the Gurukul system is not only going to result in the development of morals in the children but the unnecessary competition and tension that is cropping up among them will be eliminated. The thing which can be considered as the most negative issue in these times is that nowadays there will be no bond among the teacher and the students as there was in the ancient times thus it is required that a similar bond be made between the teacher and the students that was already established. Since when children are safe they will trust the caregiver and in the event that they trust their education they will make very successful people.

The current education system has a lot of weaknesses, some of which are passed over to British. The system of education has its faults and some of them are the British leftovers. The system is placed under a lot of pressure both internally and externally which reduces the quality of education. External social unrest and general political unrest have done this system more harm than good. The six national elites as the political executive, the law makers, business community, the organised labour movement, surplus farmers, and the bureaucrats harbor few changes regarding their personalities, role and the relationship they have with each other. Tribalism, limited loyalties, parochialism, and egos of groups such as corruption, favouritism and nepotism have become accepted forms of living within a very short period of time.

Consequently, we have unhealthy competition of power and wealth among different groups and day after day we see more communal, regional and caste conflicts. Strong lobbies want to control all of the country's limited resources. There are not many people and organisations who are at the positions of authority and who successfully manage practically all spheres of the life of their countries that are trying to rob the rights of small citizens. All these social evils are also portrayed in the education system also.

Indian students have now become crammers, imitators who are not fit to think and work on their own by using a colonised British Grammar School styled education system. They haven't

learned to take pride in their surroundings from it. In the process, they end up becoming more separated to their environment and end up becoming detached to their surroundings at the end of their schooling. The fact that they are abandoning their ancient ambitions and ideologies to be embracing western materialism is making them lose their natural character. Gandhiji was worried by the present generation's alienation from its roots and culture, and he declared, "My real education began after I had forgotten all that I had learned in school." The classical heritage and knowledge as well as traditional methods of learning are being lost by Indians due to contemporary, western-style education. Along with it, Indian beliefs, philosophies, and traditions that had instilled in Indians a spirit of tolerance and a solid belief in the tenet of "Live and Let Live" have disappeared. Indians hold that "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" - that everything in the world is one household. "Whatever remains of the old faith and the old culture" is what Rajgopalachari had said, adding that "if there is honesty in India today, any hospitality, any charity any aversion to evil, any love to be good, it is due to what remains." Indian cultures are discriminated by tolerance, truth, ahimsa, peace, and nonviolence. We want to maintain our Indian culture, then we need to ensure that we have to borrow few of the good concepts of the Gurukul education system and in the same way we need to upgrade our education level. In the world today, we have to do not only business education, but ought to educate the children in a moral nature and elevate their moral standing.

References:

1. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/356536063_Understanding_the_System_of_Education_in_the_Ancient_Period_in_India
2. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/desires-of-a-modern-indian/the-importance-of-the-gurukul-system-and-why-indian-education-needs-it/>
3. Kumar, V.S. The Education System in India. <https://www.gnu.org/education/edusystem-india.html>
4. Altekhar, A.S. 1957. Education in Ancient India, (5th edition), Varanasi:NandKishore and Bros.
5. Mukherjee, R.K. 1936. Hindu Civilization Longman, Green and Co. London.
6. Agarwal, P. 2006. Higher Education in India. Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations.
7. Swami, H. 2007. An Introduction to Hindu Culture: Ancient & Medieval.
8. <http://www.ijastems.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/4.Education-system-and-Role-of-aTeacher-proceeding-and-Contemporary.pdf>