

## Reflection on Educational Scenario in Perspective of Human Being's Dignity

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### Abstract

Human dignity and moral values are key aspects of every society. These attributes play an important role in development of the society and the nation. An individual possessing these attributes is a boon to the society and nation. It leads the society to a better future. But recent developments taking place around us shows a significant decline in the concept of human dignity and moral values. Rapid advancement of science and technology and increasing materialistic attitude have influenced the core of the heart of the society. Education is not fulfilling its noble objectives and is not being able to stop the society going astray from its basic purpose and as a result society is losing dignity and values. People search for peace in materialistic things and fail to find real peace. Many malpractices are being exercised in the pursuit of materialistic pleasures. People quarrel and do not hesitate even kill their near and dear ones for materialistic things. Hearts are being broken and relationships are being shattered for the sake of materialistic gain. Corruption prevails everywhere, unfortunately, even in the education system. Education is meant to lead the mankind as a leading star in upholding human dignity and moral values. But it is not so. The education system is not delivering its desired results to the society. Education stakeholders have failed to set up an educational scenario to resolve all these issues. As a result, human dignity is declining rapidly. Through this article, the author tries to highlight the causes and suggestions to resolve such problems.

**Keywords-** Human Dignity, Education, Materialism, Moral Values etc.

### Introduction

Human being is the best creation of God among all other creations such as fauna and flora. It is only human being who has been endowed with gift of gab, power of laughter, expressing and managing their various emotions to their dear ones like love, affection, fear, joy, happiness etc. on various occasion as **Philip James Bailey** also quoted "**Let each man think himself an act of God. His mind a thought, his life a breath of God**" which also means the same as mentioned above. God has bestowed human being some specific attributes which make difference between human being and other creatures in the world. Human being, in general, also a saying, lives for others while animals live for themselves which makes the difference between the both. But, now-a-days, in this era of science and technology, this saying is going to be eliminated and human being is losing its dignity. Human being as bestowed with attribute of compassion, love, affection etc. by the supreme power are losing these attributes and behaving as animals do for the sake of their interest. Education plays an important role in cultivating the human beings' fundamental instincts in to desired form which makes the difference to other creatures. It is the aim of education to make the society and nation better and to establish a peaceful environment in the society and the nation. It is, in general, said that child is a blank slate and anything can be drawn on it whether it good or evil. Even a psychologist **J.B. Watson** has also said "**Give me a dozen healthy infants, well-formed, and my own specified world to bring them up in and I'll guarantee to take any one at random and train him to become any type of specialist I might select—doctor, lawyer, artist, merchant-chief and, yes, even beggar-man and thief, regardless of his talents, penchants, tendencies, abilities, vocations, and race of his ancestors. (1930)**". But, advanced researches in psychology has proved that child is not a blank slate and born with some specific attributes which can be modified in desired form with the help of education which can help to makes the society and nation better. But, unfortunately, now-a-days, education is not able to fulfill its

aim because of growing materialism and decline of human values which reduces human dignity. Let's discuss the causes and possible solutions (in view of author) to resolve these problems.

### Causes of Declining Human Dignity-

- **Increasing Population** – In the view of the author, increasing population is the main root of all evils whether it is declining of human dignity or falling of moral values among human beings. According to report projected by the **Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2022), United Nations, India will overtake China as world's most populous country.** Data based on **Worldometer elaboration of the latest United Nations data**, India's population is **1,429,556,022** as of **Thursday, July 27, 2023.** This increasing population creates various problems like unemployment, deforestation to fulfil residential needs of the people, unavailability of medical facility, corruption, robbery, theft, murder etc. For example, today, whenever any job notification is advertised, there are limited seats for particular post and applicants are more in number against the same post and in such a condition, some incompetent applicants may resort to various malpractices to secure the post and competent applicants remain deprived of an opportunity for a fair selection. This can be seen in almost every recruitment, especially in interview process, which makes bona-fide candidates frustrated, which in some cases leads to depression and even suicide. The incompetent applicants thus selected, tend to follow the philosophy of corruption and this chain is going on which creates more corruption in society and pollutes the moral of society and society begins to go forward to materialistic way and education system fails to control these things.
- **Moral and Human Values** – The thing which is falling rapidly is human and moral values in the present era. Values are relative terms which can differ from community to community, society to society and nation to nation. According to **Jack R. "Values are standards of conduct, beauty, merit, or worth that people uphold, live by, and uphold".** Similarly, **John, J. Kane defines," values are ideals, beliefs or standards held by a society or the majority of its members".** There was a time when people used to sacrifice everything to fulfil their values, statements (Vachan) but now this phenomenon has been changed. Today, people are killing one another without caring their human values and beliefs and education system is not able to control this situation. Today, most of the people may be degree holders but they cannot be said to be educated in the true sense of education. Their target is amassing wealth even at the cost of mental peace and human values. This can be seen everywhere whether it is in education system, political system, recruitment system or any other system. Today, the agencies of values i.e., temples, mosques, community or other religious institutions are not free from corrupt practices. Reports of many self-styled godmen abusing the modesty of their devotees and involving in rape, murder and extortion are shocking. These acts also make stigma on other saints or agents of religious institutions or other innocent people. We hardly get to see a newspaper in which cases of rapes, murders or cases of mob violence are not reported. It is all due to declining human values which is influencing human dignity and education institutions and education stakeholders are not being able to control this situation. Politics and society are also responsible for the same. Decline of moral and human values can be seen everywhere in society. For example, we saw through media channels that **two women were being paraded naked on a road by a group of men in Manipur** which is very inhuman and unacceptable in a civilized society. Similarly, brutal murder of girls **Shradha, Sakshi and many others** are kind of inhuman acts which shattered human dignity and moral values. Although there are many educational and non-educational agencies like Human Right Commission, Constitution, Educational Institutions, National Commission for Women etc. but are failing to maintain human dignity. Recently, a **scheduled caste person was urinated**

by **Savarna Caste person** in the state of Madhya Pradesh which embarrassed the whole humanity. These incidents are some examples while in reality there will much more such incidents which may not be in notice of us.

- **Cinematic World** – Cinema is other factor in decline of moral and human values. Many film producers produce such movies which have bold and vulgar scenes. Sometimes, they depict a religious story in so filmy way by changing costumes, physical appearances etc. which are not matched with original ones. This, sometimes, criticized by movie reviewers and spectators and has to face opposition of the people. **P.K, OMG, The Kerala Story, Adipurush etc.** are some movies which were opposed by people because they are not suitable as per standards and norms of the society. Further, many other films/web series which shows vulgar, crime and bold scenes, etc. which affect the attitude of the youth. They begin to imagine the same thing in their real life and sometimes, not be able to make difference between reel life and real life. As a result, we see some dangerous consequences. Some months earlier, **a bank robbery was done after watching a web-series, probably name of the web series of Money Heist.** But question arises why such web series and movies should be provided certificate from Central Board of Film Certification. Even people blame producers and actors but not the board. All these things are responsible for decline of moral value and human dignity.
- **Materialistic Outlook** – Materialistic outlook is other important aspect of falling human dignity. In the present era, most of the people seek pleasure in sensuous objects. They want to have more and more worldly objects and for the same, they, sometimes, use the wrong ways to fulfil their materialistic desires. Materialism is going on increasing day by day which can be reflected in theft, murdering people, malpractices to fulfil their wishes etc. In view of news data projected by **National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB)** published in the newspaper that around **13.13 lakh girls and women are missing during years 2019-2021. Madhya Pradesh is first** in this matter while **West Bengal stood second.** Similarly, **child trafficking is also going on in which Uttar Pradesh is at top** while **Bihar and Andhra Pradesh stood 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively in this matter.** (The Amar Ujala dated 31/07/2023 on page no. 11). These references are just examples.
- **Failing of Educational Institutions to fulfil its purpose** – An educationist and philosopher **Jonh Dewy** said “**School is a miniature society**”. It reflects a little society by itself or it is the part of larger society. Educational institutions like school, colleges etc. are set up to create good and competent citizens and to fulfil the standard and norms of the particular society or nation but today educational institutions are failing to do the same. These are not able to fulfil the objectives for which these were established. It is often seen that many malpractices were exercised in educational institution related to selection procedure of recruitment for faculty, evaluation system etc. in these institutions. Most of the education stakeholders are theoretically talk about moral and human dignity but practically they fail to do the same. For example, evaluation is crucial aspect of education but practically evaluation in academics is exercised as a formality. Marks are provided on the basis of pages not the quality of contents in most of the cases. In opinion of the author, it is malpractice of evaluation which corrupted the entire education systems. And if the education system is corrupted, how can one imagine moral values and human dignity. Relationship of teacher-pupil is also impacted badly. Now a days, beating students badly or flirting girl students by teachers vice-versa has become a normal phenomenon in educational institutions which is affecting human dignity and moral values.
- **Political Influence** –Politics has affected the human dignity and moral values so much as other factors are proved to be dwarf in front this. Today, the concept of politics has been changed. Literally, leader means to lead and show right path to people and the country but now leaders are not servant of country but try to be master of the country. During Election

time, leaders use various tricks and malpractices like giving alcohol, money, clothes etc. to lure the voters in their favor and often makes false promises to people for getting their votes. Although, Election commission of India is making its best to control all these things and experiments various practices time to time for healthy elections yet it often fails due to ill tricks of the leaders. Giving their vote in lieu of a bottle of alcohol or some money etc. is to crush the soul of the right of vote. If one goes through the newspapers and other reports, one may easily find that maximum number of leaders has charged with various criminal cases whether these leaders from Government of India or Government of different states. It is very ridiculous that accused or criminal leaders may make nomination for election and may become ministers but an ordinary person who is charged with simple case cannot be eligible for the government job and sometimes, if anyone is trapped in such cases, his/her whole career is finished for government job which makes him/her very miserable and sometimes, he/she commits suicide. These all such thing affects the human dignity and moral values.

- **Judiciary System** – Although Judiciary system is trying its best to maintain human dignity yet it is not able to do the same. India is a democratic country and there are various rules and regulations, laws, constitutional provisions etc. which judiciary system has to follow during making judgements against accused. Sometimes, it appears that one law is contrast to other one. For example, fundamental right of equality is just opposite to reservation. There are many more such laws and rules. Further, as it is already told the over population is root of all evils, it can also be seen here. There are many crime cases are pending for many years because of increasing crime rate and complexity of laws which accused takes benefit and many times they escape from punishment. We often read in newspapers that after 35 years accused was punished and many more. For example, in Nirbhaya rape case, where everything was clear still judgement was given after 7 years because of various rule and laws which accused wanted to take benefit. Our judiciary system is full of with such cases. Delay in justice is not justice. Delay in justice leads the accused to commit more crimes which is often seen in the society. Accused know how can they easily escape after committing crime by producing false evidence and judiciary system seems helpless while it knows everything about the reality of the case but feels helpless because judiciary system gives its judgment on the basis of evidence. It can be best seen in a movie named ‘**Andha Kanoon**’ where actor did not murder the villain still, he was prisoned because of false evidences and when actor murders the same villain in court in front of the Judge, judge is helpless and not able to give punishment to the actor because of rules and laws as actor was already punished for the same murder. There are many more such cases which are responsible falling the human dignity and moral values.

### **Some Suggestions Which May Save Human Dignity-**

- **Control Over Population** – As India’s population is increasing rapidly and reached more than 142 crores till date, it is very necessary to control over population. Although, Government has enforced various rules and regulation like Nasbandi etc. to control the population yet lots of left to be done for the same. Government should make the rule regarding birth of maximum two living children, one male and one female for each married couple for people of all communities. If any married couple does not wish or wish for only one child, provisions should be made regarding the same. People should come forward willingly to control this serious problem. Sex education should be provided from 6<sup>th</sup> onwards and grass root level. Awareness programs for over population should be conducted for all the communities. *If any poster or pamphlet or advertisement is prepared for awareness program, pictures of the people of all the communities should be printed on poster or pamphlet or people from all communities should be in advertisement because when Nasbandi program was started, picture of Hindu married couple was printed on poster or pamphlet which much influenced Hindu community people in comparison of other community.* When people from all the community will follow

methods to control population, there will be harmony in society which will help to maintain human dignity.

- **Inculcating Human and Moral Values** – People should inculcate human and moral values in the children by their behaviour since childhood. The children should be encouraged to take part in religious and moral activities. Children should be taught about the relevance of any particular festival being celebrated. Inculcate the habit of sharing the things and also teach them about Good Touch and Bad Touch since their childhood. Movies based on human and moral values like *Swadesh*, *Taare Zameen Par*, *Kya Yahi Pyaar Hai* etc. should be shown to children. Wards should be pampered with moral and human touch etc.
- **Reel Life vs. Real Life** – Parents should make difference between reel life and real life to their wards since their childhood. Reel life i.e., story of Cinematic world is totally different from the real life. Generally, teenagers and youths begin to live in the dream of reel life and wants to live or behave according to reel life in their real life and when they fail to do the same, they begin to use many malpractices to manage themselves. Love affairs for sexual desires, theft, robbery, murder style, feeling loneliness etc. are some drawbacks of reel life. Parents should purify the emotions of their wards and pass some time with wards and try to understand the feelings of their wards. They should try to make a strong emotional bond between wards and them. Ideal and good movies should be shown to the children. A daily routine of the ward including time for praying to God should be made. All these activities will help to maintain human dignity and moral values.
- **Modification in Attitude** – Elders, parents and teachers should try to modify the attitude of the youths. Youth should be convinced that life is not limited to worldly pleasure. Strayed youth should be kept in good environment and they should be got realized that moral values and human dignity are the only things which can provide peace to human beings. They should be provided such materials to modify their attitude so that they may understand the importance of human dignity and moral values and may develop the positive attitude to live life.
- **Realizing the Sense of Rights and Duties** – People from grass root level should be made aware about the rights and duties through awareness programs, social media platform etc. so that people understand the value of their democratic rights and use their votes diligently. Before giving their votes, they should think critically whether leader's agenda is beneficial for society or not. People should demand to Election Commission that commission should give the complete detail of the candidate including wealth, background etc. and Election Commission should also present all these things to the people so that people may aware about that candidate. Along with rights, people should also remember their duties which are mentioned in constitution. A chart or poster of rights and duties should be pasted as such place in house so that people may see this daily which will inculcate the sense of duties and right and will lead to human dignity.
- **Educational Institutions** - After family, educational institutions are the medium to inculcate moral and human values among children but unfortunately these institutions are failing to do so at present. An undesirable change can be seen in the relationship of pupil and teacher. Many ill manners are prevailed in education scenario. Therefore, these all should be improved. Teachers should present their personality in an ideal form. They should teach moral values not by theory but by practical way or by good behaviour as most of the students consider teachers as their role model and try to follow the same as teachers do. Teachers should pay attention to their dress. Strict action should be taken for teachers who flirt with the students and use ill practices in their teaching. 1-10 students should be adopted by a teacher to inculcate moral and human values separately. Co-curricular activities based on human and moral values should be made time to time. Government should take strict action against the teachers and managements

who exercise the ill practices and close such institutions. All these things will assist in maintain moral values and human dignity.

- **Reforms in Judiciary System** – Criminal trials should be completed in speed and the guilty should be punished at the earliest. In cases of murder and rape, the guilty should be hanged to death. Rules and regulation and laws should be re studied and make some more hard laws for rape, murder, treason, forced conversion of religion etc. More courts should be established and number of judges should be increased in existing courts to resolve the cases soon. Collegium method should be finished in selection process of judges in Supreme Court and recruitment process should be made for the same. Judges should be provided some specific powers in making judgement for the cases such as murder, rape, treason, etc. These reforms may lead to develop moral values and human dignity in the society.

**Conclusion** - Moral values and human dignity is important aspect for survival of the society. No society can survive peacefully without maintaining human dignity and society without moral values and human dignity is not a society but a hell. For all round development of country and society and makes them much better, it is crucial to maintain moral values and human dignity. Life without values and dignity cannot be imagined and it is necessary for the existence of human being. Therefore, agencies and stakeholders of the society and nation should reflect this serious issue and try their best to maintain human dignity for bright future of the children and existence of human being.

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