

## **The Role of Teachers in Higher Education for sustainable and Qualitative Enhancement of the Society: A Social Perspective**

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### **Abstract**

The research paper aims in exploring the qualities and the role of teachers in developing sustainable qualitative enhancement of the society. It is a fact that a teacher's motivation for the qualitative upliftments in the pluralistic society has a tremendous and long lasting impact on the society of any nation. The teachers are the reservoirs from which through the process of qualitative education, students draw the water of life. The various roles of teachers in bringing effective and sustainable changes in establishing a qualitatively stable society can be classified as under:

1. Teachers' role in the current qualitative changes for mobility.
2. Teachers' role in framing new curriculum and content for quality in society.
3. The role of teachers in inculcating eminence and excellence among the rising generations.
4. Teachers' role in implanting new values of perfection.
5. Teachers' role in evolving qualitative social amelioration.
6. Teachers' contribution in elevating an esteemed nation.

The active involvement and participation of a teacher in the upliftment of a society, can build a new nation based on the values of quality.

**KEYWORDS:** Role of Teachers, Higher Education, Sustainable, Qualitative enhancement, Society, & amelioration.

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We are all aware of the fact that the role of teachers and their eminent leadership in our developing country especially in molding the society is very crucial and significant. We know that education is a powerhouse and a teacher acts as a means in providing a proper out-let of that power, to shape the young generation which ultimately constructs an ideal society and a nation as a whole. Today we live in the knowledge based society and education is a very essential need for modern Indian society. Our social structure has evolved a great change today due to the vital advancements in various branches of knowledge like science, technology, communication, computer and so on and so forth. It is only a teacher who can provide an eminent and constructive leadership in the qualitative social changes, political awareness, industrial growth and economic development of a nation. In today's multifaceted and multi – dimensional society, I think a teacher can play a prominent and an effective role in promoting acquisition of new knowledge, trends, thoughts, values and culture. Teacher through his knowledge and

conduct can lay a pervasive and influential impact on the development of physical and human resources of transferring traditional values and attitudes to build a new society of good standard, developing a climate for creative thinking and growth for new and ideal society and of developing a climate for creative thinking and growth for individuality. In a pluralistic country like India, a teacher plays a vital tool for intellectual, cultural and aesthetic development and means for achieving wider social aspirations. He has to play the role of catalytic agent for moving the country along the development continuum. The responsibility of education in general and teacher in particular on the changing scenario of the world over in social and cultural environment has obviated the need for changes and improvement. In education, the education programme and process should be related to the need of contemporary man looking towards a fast changing future. New education system can be the most precious asset of the individual and the society. It is also an unescaped fact that the nature and responsibility of a teacher is conditioned by the nature of organization and of society.

A teacher's motivation for the qualitative upliftments in the pluralistic society has a significant impact on the society of any nation.

It is an evident fact that a teacher can play an influential role in the pluralistic society as they are reservoirs from which, through the process of qualitative education, students draw the water of life. The most initiative, emphatic and effective impersonation as a teacher in higher education, which in the various spheres of the society, can precisely be traced below.

- (1) Teacher's role in the current qualitative changes for social mobility.
- (2) Teachers' contribution in framing new curriculum and content for quality innovation in society.
- (3) Teacher's task in inculcating and developing total eminence and excellence among the rising generation.
- (4) The teacher's role in implanting new values of excellence.
- (5) Teacher's input in evolving qualitative social amelioration.
- (6) Teachers function in elevating an esteemed nation.

#### **Teachers' role in the current qualitative changes for social mobility.**

Education is an effective media of social changes and mobility. However, a teacher by imparting qualitative education occupies a nodal position in the effort at social changes, nation building and international understanding. We know that our society is still orthodox, traditional, stagnant and conservative, to large extent. A teacher is needed to play a vital role in producing social changes and social mobility. He should provide aspiration for the creation of modern society in every endeavour of life. A teacher should provide expertise for the solution of planetary challenges as population growth, peace, environment, social harmony, justice, human rights, mutual respect, equality and self esteem. They (teachers) are the means of socialization and better adjustment. They can change and transform stagnant traditional values and attitude. Teacher has to pay special attention towards the strengthening of the weaker section and the deprived, in particular. Their intellectual, academic, social, cultural and eco-political transformation, assimilate

benefits from education which consequently produces social mobility to a considerable extent ...

### **Teachers' contribution in framing new curriculum and content for quality innovation in society.**

Today's educational programmes and process must be related to the need of contemporary man looking towards a fast changing future. The new advancing systems, programmes and contents of education should have the integral ability and wholeness of a man as its central aim. Teachers in Higher education must be conscious in providing a high quality education, appropriate to the demand of the society. The teachers should also play a vital role in order to provide diversified syllabus to meet the need of professions, productivity and services in society. The massive quantum of educated unemployment in various branches of education shows that there is an imbalance between the demand and supply. Mostly our syllabuses are found unrelated with providing employment in the society. Hence, such syllabus and content should be eradicated by the proper implementation of the new curriculum. Teachers in board of studies of their respective subjects should take this fact into consideration and frame the syllabus in accordance to the need and practical utility of the subject in the market and the society.

### **Teachers' task in inculcating the developing total eminence and excellence among the rising generation**

Ours is an age of globalization. Now a days, education has been accompanied by competition emphasizing excellence. Today, we can see commodification and commercialization of education in every field. In such a social requirement of the time, our education level must be undoubtedly qualitative and sound. The rate of education has gone high but unfortunately the quality and standards are alarmingly going down. In such a situation it is the great responsibility of the teachers to impart our duties keeping the mind the high standards and values. One should try to bring utmost excellence in all the spheres of education. Our education system, infrastructure and co-curricular activities must be in accordance to the high quality of education.

### **The teachers' role in implanting new values of excellence**

We know that India is a fast developing country. By assimilating the benefits of development from new strides in science, technology, information, computer, our society is in the process of modernization. In accordance with modernity, new values should be adopted. Today, we witness that modern society has shifted largely from co-operation to competition, naturalism to existentialism and fabrication to fragmentation. Global society has fallen prey to various forces resulting into social crisis. Teacher related to higher education ought to provide aspiration for new social values like scientific spirit and adventure, in questioning the old age, outworn custom, co-operation, sacrifice, patriotism, nationalism, better civic attitude, equal distribution of income, eradication of poverty, superstitions and social disharmony.

### **Teachers' input in evolving qualitative social amelioration**

Teacher by imparting qualitative education can certainly play a striking role in social reform. It is the teacher who should take an initiative in providing motivation for modernization. We are aware of the fact that India is a country consisting of stratification.

Still we find many wrong customs, traditions, and unethical orthodoxy. Teacher by imparting qualitative and positive education can be a role model for social reform and can stimulate for modernity. It is through the teacher that new innovations in the social structure can be made possible. Teachers related to higher education are the real torch bearers of social reform. It is through them that we can awake the cultural identity of our nation. Hence, teachers' role and ceaseless efforts can make direct and important contribution in this direction.

### **Teachers' function in elevating an esteemed nation**

Education is essential for any country to achieve sustainable and global development. Education plays an important role in economic and cultural development through its various functions in the field of science, technology and humanities. It is the most precious asset of the individual and the society. Highly intellectual, talented, committed, oriented and motivated teachers are needed for the future task of building an ideal nation. A nation's future lies in the hands of creative thinking and growth of an individual whereas the overall development of an individual lies in the hands of a teacher. The higher level of education of work force, the higher is the overall productivity of capital because the more educated are more likely to innovate and thus affect everyone's productivity. Hence, an ideal teacher by providing qualitative education can offer a positive feedback for building a nation with high standards an excellence. The teachers by cultivating creativeness and curiosity among the students as well as leading them to various innovative researches in different faculties can provide vital base for building a scientific nation. The responsibility of the teachers in the context of the changing scenario the world over, has necessitated the need for the qualitative enhancement of the society.

### **Teachers' role in promoting a culture of peace**

'Since the war begins in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men, that the defense of peace must be constructed' (UNESCO Charier)

A culture of peace will be achieved when the citizens of the world understand global problems, have the skill to resolve conflicts and struggle for justice, non – violence, and live by international standards of human right and quality. The UNESCO project on 'Teacher Education for Peace' is based on the assumption that effective teaching for peace and international understanding must target teachers, as teachers are the real torch bearers of building peaceful culture in schools and particularly in colleges and universities. A teacher can promote the values of peace by strengthening the cultural identity of students, trainees, enhancing the cross-cultural understanding and tolerance among them. The consciousness of these new dimensions in life is of recent origin, but their growing importance is felt every where. Hence, a teacher has to consciously workout in this direction too.

If the teacher be corrupt, then the world is corrupt. This is aptly true in Marcus 'I Cicero's words too:

"What nobler employment, or more valuable to the state, than that of the man who instructs the rising generation."

Of course, a teacher who is supreme spirit, who is eternal and benign, who is beyond sound, line and art plays a very great role in the advancements of a nation, a society and an individual too.

Now a days' our social structure has been changing because of the developments in science, technology, communication etc. In short, today, each and every individual is a part of the knowledge based society. In this context, education is becoming a very essential component. Also the mode of education should be related to the changing infrastructure of the society. High intellectual, talented, commented, oriented and motivated teachers are needed for this future task of excellence in quality.

First of all, a teacher should be an outstanding personality who manifests ability, creativeness and inventiveness etc in his students by which the students in turn can develop confidence, co-operation and willingness to the services of his society. As the effort of social changes, nation building and international understanding lies in the hands of education, a teacher can bring out a change in social mobility too. In the new curriculum and content, too, the teacher should find place to involve advanced systems, programmes, technologies etc to meet the need of the profession, productivity and services in the society. Moreover, developing new social values like scientific spirit, sacrifice, patriotism, nationalism, eradication of poverty etc lies better in the hands of a committed teacher.

Thus, in a pluralistic society like India, with the active participation of a teacher in the upliftment of a society, a new nation based on modernity and technology can be welcomed in the coming years.

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