



Integrating and developing soft skills through our ancient method of teaching- A study

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Abstract

Indian educational system has long and rich history. We had unique system of learning where students go to Gurukul and learn various "Vidya" by practical training from "Rushimuni" who are very brilliant and intelligent in various skills and subjects. In gurukul students learnt almost all the subjects required to run a family and state. In gurukul all subject like food making, music, art and craft, language, public speaking, rajya niti, dharm darshan, karmkand, yuddh niti, shastra and shastra, nature conservation, etc. After completing his education when this students came to their home and society these student enlighten the society with their skills. This research paper is humble effort to analyze some soft skills to be integrate in today's modern education system.

Keywords: Gurukul, Rushimuni, Vidya, Rajya Niti, Karm Kand

Introduction

Ancient Hindu education system was very inclusive and covers almost all aspects of life. It was developed in such a way that it keeps and foster students inner ability to develop and keep away them from materialistic world, in Gurukul students learn all the subject of life in a natural surroundings, but as time elapses new modern system emerges and in todays world it is almost impossible to imbibe that ancient gurukul educational system, but we can impart our students through incorporating following subjects into their normal syllabus so that they will become better person in life-

1. Communication skill
2. Leadership quality
3. Teamwork
4. Thinking skills and Problem solving skill
5. Self care

Object and methodology

Object of this research paper is to analyze the soft skill providing technique in our ancient educational system and how we can incorporate this into our modern educational system. For this some examples are taken from our ancient system for easy understanding.

Soft skill: Ancient Law

a. Communication skill

In ancient education students are learnt various subjects and Guru encourage students to prepare and arrange debate competition between them, it is called "shastrarth" where student have to listen opponent's view on particular topic and also counter reply that issue, through this students learn how to communicate on such topic to others. India had very unique method of finding superiority in the subject called "shastarth" in which tow knowledgeable person sit and debate on some subject and trying to prove his argument by giving meaning of "Shasht" which can not be denied, one of such famous shastrath between Adi Shankaracharya and Mandan Mishra was very famous in middle age.

Indian had witnessed many famous shastrarth like Adi Shankaracharya and Mandan Mishra in mediaeval period

b. Leadership quality & teamwork

Gurukul education system provide opportunity to every student to become leader in different field of life, for example a student who is good in food making vidya then that student is leader in all the food making activities the other student have to follow his instructions, another student who is better in Gurukul cleaning activity then the other students follow his instruction and clean the Gurukul, this will give opportunity to all students to become leader and also respecting the leader by other students moreover respecting that every activity or say work is has same importance in life no work is small. By doing these activities all students do that work as a team and obeying instructions given by leader, thus teamwork was developed between them.

When Pandavas completed their studies they ask Guru Drona for Guru Daxina, then Guru Drona gave them to bring King Drupad to him, and Pandava Under the leadership of yudhisthira and collectively as a team work Pandava defeated big army of Drupad and bring him to Guru Drona.

c. Thinking skills and problem solving skill

Thinking skill and problem solving skill is important in gurukul education system, remember when Mahabharat Guru Drona took all Kaurava and Pandava into forest for hunting when Guru Drona create a situation where a crocodile catch Drona and Arjun take immediate step to save Guru's life by taking spontaneous step, this skill also develop a behaviour in student how to react in adverse situation.

d. Self-care

The ancient Indian educational system was a holistic in nature it also gave importance to physical health, mental health and for that Yoga and aayurved was taught as main subnet subject to students. This system stables a students life in any adverse circumstances and also taught them to survive in any conditions without any outside help. The self-care system of learning gives inner strength to the student so as to survive.

Incorporating soft skill in our modern education system

As time elapses and new subject and technological advancement emerges we as a society also need to learn that, it not right to say that they are bad for our students, but to educate them in a better way we need to incorporate our values of ancient education soft skill with new modern education system. Today our students must have to understand that new system meant for us, we are not meant for them, so that we will not become slaves of system. Our students inner qualities to survive in any system as a human genesis must be alive in any circumstance and this could be hundred percent possible with incorporation of ancient soft skill into modern education system. Following are some ways to incorporate the ancient soft skills into modern education system-

a. Communication skill

Today we as a human tried to talk and communicate with animal but we forget to communicate with humans inter se, we must educate our student how to communicate our viewpoint to another and how to understand their viewpoint. For that in every subject teacher should gave some topics to discuss between students and encourage them to particate into and create healthy discussion, while creating healthy discussion between students teachers role is to take participate as a participant and try to appreciate the opponent, so that they do no envy each other.

b. Leadership quality & teamwork

Teamwork plays crucial role in todays competitive world, and a leader who is visionary need a good team to create history. Sometimes a student having less percentage in study having good leadership quality can make a good successful story with the health of good teamwork. But this could be done through our education system by giving our student to work not as a nuclear person but work as a team and give every student to become a team leader in some filed work so that they can feel the work culture of teamwork.

c. Thinking skills and problem solving skill

Practical problems are always best way to teach students a particular topic, and the best way to make them learn them is finding solution of such problem should come from the students. So in every subjects teachers should frame some practical problems relevant to the syllabus and give amongst the students to give practical solution, and also such problem solving questions to be incorporate into our examination pattern.

d. Self-Care

We live in a 21st century where speed become important factor in every aspect of life and time become every precious factor to in every filed. Today a human is engage in day to day life in such a way that he forget to spend time with self. Thus our body mind and soul also do not support us when we needed it more. Our ancient education system "Yoga" and "Aayurved" who gave us life lesson how to live must be incorporate in our modern education system so that our student will learn them and practice them in day to day life to spend time with self.

Conclusion

Ancient Education system of India is heritage and enrich system of India. We must preserve that by incorporating it into our modern education system. Our younger generation

must learn how such soft skill will help in our day to life, preaching of subject will not always be helpful to students, but motivating them and make them self-reliant will always be a good option to create better and knowledgeable human being, and as society we need such human being who can create good impact in society to grow.

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