

INTRODUCTION TO VALUE EDUCATION.

Value Education and need of value education:-

Character Oriented education that enables us to understand 'what is valuable' for human happiness is called value education. Value education is important to help everyone in improving the value system that he/she holds and puts it to use. Once, one has understood his/her values in life he/she can examine and control the various choices he/she makes in his/her life.

Value education enables us to understand our needs and visualize our goals correctly and also helps to remove our confusions and contradictions and bring harmony at all levels. It also helps remove our confusions and contradictions and enables us to rightly utilize the technological innovations.

Values form the basis for all our thoughts, behaviors and actions. Once we know what is valuable to us, these values becomes the basis, the anchor for our actions. We also need to understand the universality of various human values. Then only we can have a definite and common program for value education.

can be assured of a happy and harmonious human society.

Guidelines for value education:-

This will enable to understand 'what is valuable' for human happiness is called value education. In order to qualify for any course on value education, the following guidelines for the content of the course are important:

Universal:- It needs to be applicable to all the human beings irrespective of cast, creed, nationalities, religion, etc., for all times and regions (places)

Rational:- It has to appeal to human reasoning. It has to be amenable to reasoning and not based on dogmas or blind beliefs.

Natural and verifiable:- It has to be 'naturally acceptable' to the human being who goes through the course and when we live on the basis of such values it leads to our happiness. It needs to be experientially verifiable, and not based on dogmas, beliefs or assumptions.

All encompassing:- Value education is aimed at transforming our consciousness and living. Hence, it needs to cover all the dimensions (thought, behaviour, work and realization) and levels (individual, family, society nature and existence) of human life and profession.

Leading to harmony:- The value education ultimately is aimed at promoting harmony within the individual, among human beings and with nature.

② Right Understanding, Relationship and Physical Facility (Holistic Development and the Role of Education):-

Human being wants to live with continuous happiness and prosperity and this is possible by ensuring right understanding, fulfillment in relationship and physical facility in the correct priority. This is living with "human consciousness".

On the other hand, if one is living for physical facility alone, and not ensuring right understanding and right feeling in relationship, s/he feels unhappy and makes others unhappy too. This is one outcome.

The other outcome is that if the right understanding is missing, one is not able to identify the need for physical facility. Now, if we are not able to identify our need for physical facility then regardless of how much physical facility we accumulate, we never feel that we have enough. We keep wanting more. This feeling of not having enough is the feeling of deprivation. As a result, one is deprived, exploiting and depriving others.

While physical facility alone may ^{Sufficient} suffice for animals, it is not adequate for human being to be fulfilled. Under this condition, one is living with "animal consciousness".

There are generally two kinds of people today:

1. Those lacking physical facility, unhappy and deprived
2. Those having physical facility, and yet unhappy and deprived

Try to find out where you are - at 1 or at 2?

Whereas we really want to be ~~is~~ in the following state, i.e.

3. Having physical facility, happy and prosperous.

It is easy to see that we naturally want to be in the state 3, of having more than required physical facility, happy and prosperous. However, today we seem to be at 1 or 2 and our effort is generally for 2. You can see that what is called development today largely takes us from "1" ~~to~~ to "2".

Now, if we are able to ensure all three, i.e., right understanding, relationship and physical facility, in that order of priority, let us see the outcome.

* Through right feeling in relationship, based on right understanding, we can ensure mutual happiness - happiness for ourselves as well as happiness for others.

* With right understanding, we can identify the need for physical facility. We can also learn how to produce using a mutually enriching production process. Once we are able to ensure the availability of more than required physical facility, we have a feeling of prosperity; is it?

Priority: Right Understanding, Relationship & Physical facility.

① Right Understanding
in the self

② Relation Ship
with human being

MUTUAL HAPPINESS

③ Physical facility
with rest of nature

MUTUAL PROSPERITY

for animals:
necessary & largely
adequate.

for human beings:
necessary but not
adequate.

Holistic development (Development of human consciousness): - ③

We can clearly envisage holistic development as the transformation of consciousness to human consciousness. Of course, it will necessitate working on all three - right understanding, fulfilment in relationship as well as physical facility; and in that order of priority.

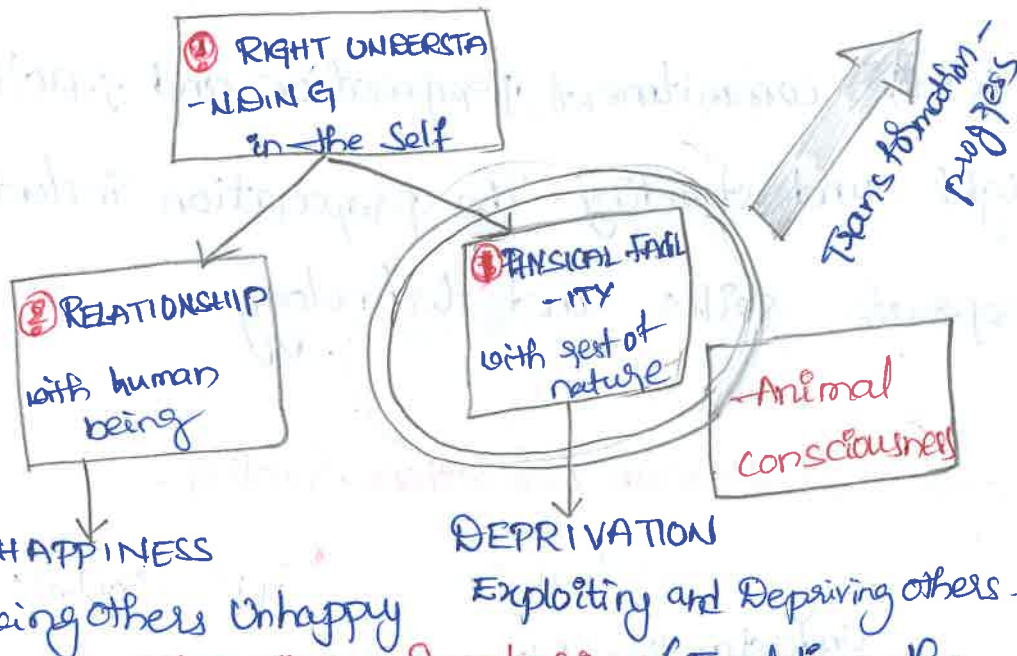
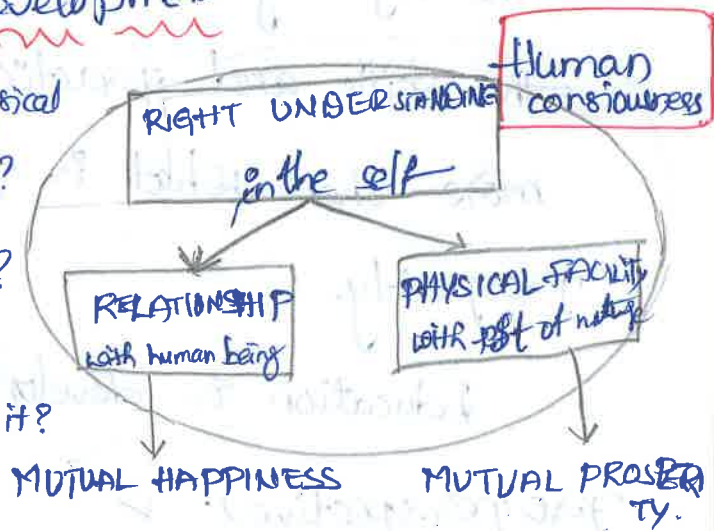
Transformation = holistic Development

Is development just in increasing physical facility of development is enough all 3?

Is this transformation desirable?

Are we making efforts for it?

Do we need to make effort for it?



Role of Education - Sanskar: (Enabling the transformation to human consciousness).

The role of education is essentially to facilitate holistic development, i.e. the individual transformation to human consciousness as well as the societal transformation to human society.

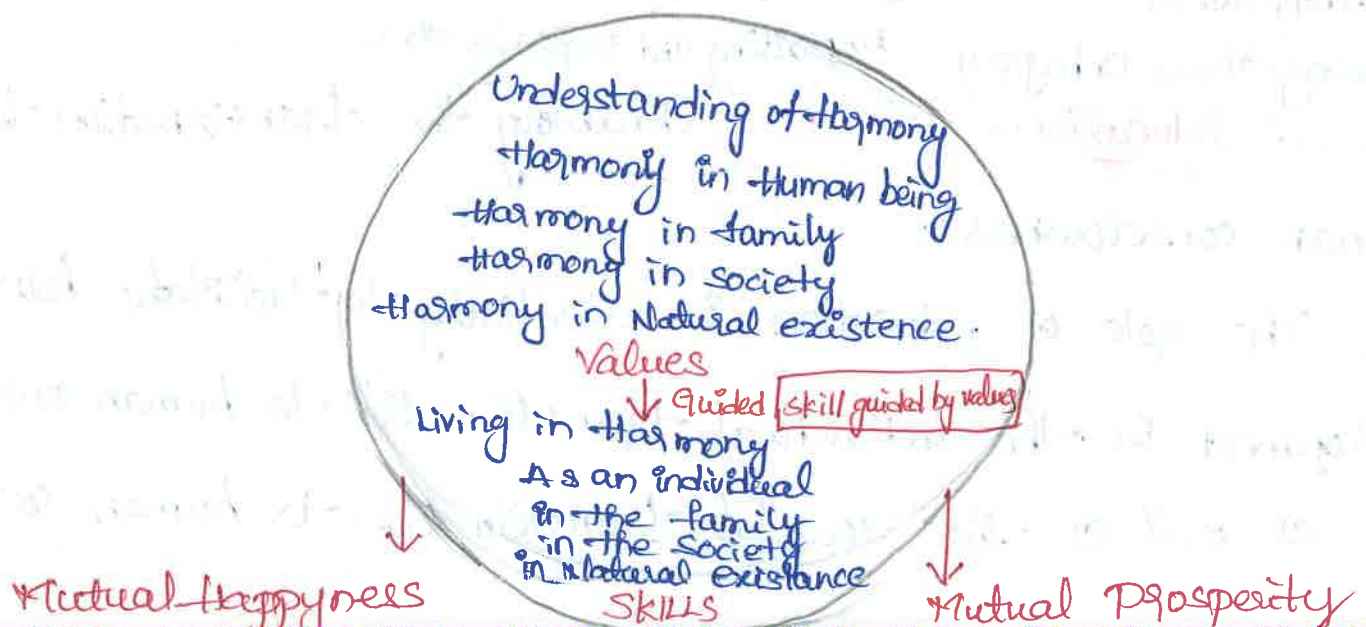
For this the education sanskar has to ensure:

1. Right understanding in every child,
2. The capacity to live in relationship with other human beings, and
3. The capacity to identify the need for physical facility, the skills and practice for sustainable production of more than what is required, leading to the feeling of Prosperity.

Education is developing the right understanding (holistic perspective):

Sanskar is the commitment, preparation and practice of living with right understanding. The preparation includes learning appropriate skills and technology.

Outcomes of Human Education - Sanskar.



Understanding the Value Education:-

Understanding the value of Education encompasses recognizing its significance beyond acquiring knowledge and skills. It involves several key aspects.

Personal Development:- Education nurtures personal growth by expanding knowledge, critical thinking abilities, and problem-solving skills. It encourages individuals to explore diverse perspectives and develop a broader understanding of the world.

Social Responsibility:- Education instills values such as Empathy, respect and Ethical behaviour. It promotes civic engagement and encourages individuals to contribute positively to their communities and society at large. Individuals & collective action can help to identify & address issues of public concern.

Career Advancement:- Education provides the foundation for professional success by equipping individuals with relevant skills and qualifications. It enhances job prospects and empowers individuals to pursue meaningful careers.

Life long learning:- Education fosters a mindset of continuous learning and adaptability. It prepares individuals to navigate changes in technology, society, and the economy throughout their lives.

Promotion of equality:- Education serves as a tool for promoting social justice and equality. It provides

opportunities for individuals from diverse backgrounds to access knowledge and resources, these by reducing disparities.

Cultural preservation:- Education helps preserve cultural heritage and promotes cultural understanding and tolerance. It encourages appreciation for diversity and fosters a sense of global citizenship.

Understanding the value of education involves recognizing its transformative power in shaping individuals and societies. It emphasizes the importance of investing in education as a means to foster personal development, social progress and a sustainable future for all.

Self-exploration:-

It is a process of seeing the reality on our own right, by our own investigation, observation and analysis. Through this process, we are trying to understand the reality that exists and our participation with it; this participation is what we are calling values.

The first step is to verify the given proposal on your own right, by referring it to your "natural acceptance". If the proposal is naturally acceptable to you, it is right for you. If it is not naturally acceptable to you, it is not right for you.

Further, self exploration is a process of dialogue.

to evolve their values over time based on new experiences and insights, fostering a deeper sense of self-awareness.

6. Behavioral Alignment :- Value education aims to align individuals' behaviors with their espoused values. Self-exploration helps bridge the gap between intention and action by promoting self-accountability and authenticity.

In essence, self-exploration serves as a foundational process in value education by enabling individuals to identify, critically examine, and live according to their core values, thereby contributing to their personal development and ethical conduct in society.

Continuous Happiness and Prosperity - The Basic Human Aspirations

Continuous happiness and prosperity are indeed fundamental aspirations for many individuals across cultures and societies.

Continuous Happiness :- Happiness is often described as a state of well-being characterized by positive emotions, satisfaction, and contentment with one's life circumstances.

Factors influencing Happiness :-

* Internal factors :- Personal attitudes, resilience, gratitude, and self-acceptance.

* External factors :- Healthy relationships, fulfilling work, financial stability, and a sense of purpose.

Self-exploration as the Process for Value Education:-

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Self-exploration is a fundamental aspect of value education because it allows individuals to deeply understand their beliefs, principles, and ethical frameworks. Here's how self-exploration contributes to value education.

1. Understanding Values: Through self-exploration, individuals can identify their core values such as honesty, compassion, integrity, etc. This process involves reflecting on personal experiences, upbringing, and influences that shape these values.
2. Critical Thinking: Self-exploration encourages critical thinking about one's values. It prompts individuals to question why certain values are important to them and how they align with broader societal or ethical principles.
3. Decision Making: By exploring themselves, individuals can better navigate moral dilemmas and make decisions aligned with their values. This process enhances ethical reasoning and fosters responsible decision-making.
4. Empathy and Respect: Self-exploration often leads to greater empathy and respect for others' values and perspectives. It helps individuals appreciate diversity and understand the importance of tolerance and inclusivity.
5. Personal Growth: Continuous self-exploration contributes to personal growth and development. It allows individuals

Achieving Continuous Happiness:—

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- * Mindfulness and Self-awareness:— Understanding one's own emotions and thought patterns.
- * Positive Psychology:— Practices like gratitude, kindness, and resilience-building exercises.
- * Meaningful Relationship:— Cultivating supportive connections with others.
- * Balance:— Striking a balance between work, leisure, and personal growth.
- * Contributing to others:— Engaging in acts of kindness & service to others.

Continuous Prosperity:— Prosperity typically refers to the state of thriving, flourishing and achieving economic well-being.

Components of Prosperity:—

- * Economic Security:— Having stable income, savings and access to resources.
- * Opportunities for Growth:— Access to education, employment and career advancement.
- * Health and Well-being:— Physical health, mental well-being and access to health care.
- * Quality of Life:— Factors such as safety, infrastructure and environmental sustainability.

Achieving Continuous prosperity:—

- * Education and skills development:— Investing in knowledge and acquiring skills relevant to changing economic landscape.

* Innovation and Entrepreneurship: - Creating opportunities for economic growth and job creation.

* Social Safety Nets: - Policies that promote equality of opportunity and reduce economic disparities.

* Environmental Sustainability: - Ensuring long-term prosperity by preserving natural resources and minimizing environmental degradation.

* Global Cooperation: - Addressing challenges such as poverty, inequality and climate change through international collaboration.

Integration of Happiness and Prosperity: -

^{understanding}
* Interdependence: While happiness and prosperity are distinct concepts, they are often interconnected. Economic stability can contribute to happiness by providing security and opportunities for personal fulfillment. Conversely, positive emotions and well-being can enhance productivity and creativity, contributing to economic prosperity.

* Challenge: - Achieving continuous happiness and prosperity faces challenges such as inequality, environmental degradation, and mental health issues. Addressing these challenges requires holistic approaches that prioritize both individual well-being and sustainable development.

* Personal and collective Responsibility: - Individuals, communities, governments and international organizations all play roles

in fostering conditions that support continuous happiness and prosperity. This includes promoting policies that ensure equitable access to education, healthcare, economic opportunities and environmental stewardship.

Continuous happiness and prosperity are essential human aspirations that encompasses well-being, fulfillment, economic stability and sustainable development. Achieving these aspirations requires a balanced approach that addresses individual needs, societal challenges, and global responsibilities.

Happiness and Prosperity - Current Scenario:-

Economic Land Scape:-

Globalization and Trade → Economic interdependence among nations affects job stability, income levels, and market fluctuations, influencing individual prosperity.

Income Inequality:- Disparities in wealth distribution impact access to resources and opportunities, affecting happiness levels within societies.

Entrepreneurship:- Innovation and entrepreneurship thrive in dynamic economies, offering ^{venues} avenues for personal growth and economic prosperity.

Health and Well-being:-

Pandemic Impact:- The (COVID-19) COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of healthcare systems, access to medical resources, and mental health support in maintaining happiness and prosperity.

Wellness Trends:- Increasing focus on holistic health practices, such as mindfulness, nutrition and fitness, enhances overall well-being and quality of life.

Healthcare Accessibility:- Disparities in healthcare access and affordability affect individual happiness and societal prosperity, necessitating policies to address these issues.

Work Dynamics:-

Remote work:- This shift towards remote work offers flexibility but also challenges such as isolation and blurred work-life boundaries, impacting happiness and productivity.

Skills Development:- Life long learning and upskilling are essential for adapting to technological advancements and market demands, ensuring career growth and financial stability.

Job Satisfaction:- Factors like job security, meaningful work, and supportive work environments significantly contribute to job satisfaction and overall happiness.

Social and community factors:-

Social connectedness:- Maintaining meaningful relationships and

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Social connections, both online and offline, is vital for mental well-being and happiness.

Community Engagement: - Active participation in community initiatives, volunteer work, and civic engagement fosters a sense of purpose and social cohesion, contributing to personal and collective prosperity.

Social Justice: - Addressing systematic inequalities and promoting inclusivity and diversity in communities enhances social harmony and individual happiness.

Environmental sustainability

Climate change: - Environmental awareness and sustainable practice contribute to a healthier planet and long-term prosperity for future generations.

Green Initiatives: - Adopting eco-friendly lifestyles and supporting green technologies promote environmental stewardship and enhance quality of life.

Psychological Resilience

Adversity and coping strategies: - Building resilience through mindfulness, emotional intelligence, and adaptive coping mechanisms strengthens mental health and well-being during challenging times.

Positive Psychology: - Emphasizing strengths, gratitude and optimism cultivates a positive mindset, fostering resilience and happiness in individuals and communities.

Methods to fulfill the Basic Human Aspirations:-

Fulfilling basic human aspirations involves addressing fundamental needs and desires across various domains. Here are several methods:

1. Basic Needs Fulfillment:- Ensure access to food, clean water, shelter, and healthcare through social programs, community initiatives, and government policies.
2. Education and skills development:- Promote quality education and vocational training to empower individuals with knowledge and skills necessary for personal and professional growth.
3. Economic Opportunities:- Create job opportunities and support entrepreneurship to enable financial independence and stability.
4. Mental and Emotional Well-Being:- Provide mental health resources, support systems, and community engagement to foster emotional resilience and social connections.
5. Social Equity and Justice:- Advocate for policies that promote equality, diversity, and inclusion, ensuring all individuals have the opportunity to pursue their aspirations.
6. Environmental Sustainability:- Protect the environment to ensure a healthy planet for future generations, addressing concerns such as climate change and pollution.
7. Civic Engagement:- Encourage participation in civic life through voting, community service, and activism.

allowing individuals to influence the decision-making processes that affect their lives.

8. Cultural and Spiritual Fulfillment: - Support access to cultural and spiritual resources, ^{growth of development} fostering a sense of belonging and identity through acts, traditions, and community gatherings.

9. Life Long Learning: - Encourage a culture of continuous education and personal development to adapt to changing circumstances and fulfill personal goals.

10. Support Network: - Foster community support systems, such as mentorship programs and peer support groups, to help individuals navigate challenges and achieve their aspirations.

By implementing these methods, individuals and societies can work towards fulfilling the fundamental aspirations of human life.

allowing individuals to influence the decision-making process
that would have been

involvement and financial contribution. Support was also to ensure
and effective work was done and a good working relationship
developed between the two community groups.

1. The top management encourage a culture of continuous learning
and personal development to support the changing circumstances
and build personal goals.

2. The top management encourage the community to get involved in
the development process and give support to the community
groups to help them to achieve their goals.

3. Encouraging the community to participate in the development
process and to take ownership of the development process.
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