

A Comparative Analysis Between Western And Eastern Education

Education is a process of learning by which we acquire knowledge. It appraises, qualifies and creates a positive development. An individual knowledge and skills to work with virtue is obtained by it. It aids not only intellectual growth but also mental and physical development individually. The Western education system is student-oriented, developing such qualities as critical thinking, problem solving skills and generating new ideas. Whereas the key focus in the Eastern education system is the teacher. Students are only required to memorize the lessons according to the activities which are planned by teachers. Education system in the East and West is difference due to their different culture and indirectly shows the strength and weaknesses of both cultures

Western education philosophy emphasizes on active learning that involves student's active participation in class and group discussions. Such education builds up their confidence to speak in front of the class, which results in creating outspoken and confident individuals who do not fear to voice their thoughts. Besides, it also train students to tolerate and accept others opinions as well as developing their interpersonal skills as they exchange ideas with each other. In this way, students listen to others ideas. At the same time learn from their peers. However, active learning is a time-consuming process and may cause inability to complete teaching the syllabus but it can be

encouraged by giving different kinds of exercise to the children. Conversely, at Eastern education the teachers are fully responsible in performing the effective lessons, and this makes this philosophy implements passive learning in the class. The teachers do not encourage the students to voice out in giving their opinion while the teaching and learning process happen. Thus, students become demotivated and lose interest to the lesson. Since students have limited opportunity to voice their thoughts, it is no wonder that self-conscious and fear often get in their way when they speak in public. Some even prefer to keep their silence and refuse to speak. Thus, a good education philosophy should be an active process, but always accompanied with a good time management.

People in the West believe that the best education is mean to form the society to become a cultural nation in regard of their education and education aim, where the children will be open minded and tend to give ideas. They will critically evaluate rather than just memorizing. Thus, in the Western education philosophy, students learn by understanding. Nevertheless, in Eastern education the students practice the concept of memorizing, as this philosophy focuses mainly on book learning and memorization within the teaching and learning process. The system of education is exam oriented, and teachers have to rush through the textbooks to prepare students to sit for the tests. As a result, students tend to memorize the facts in the textbooks rather than understanding it due to time constraint.

Western education philosophy believes that providing compliments to students is important in encouraging them to excel in education. For instance, compliments are especially given when students score well in their examinations. However, even when the students did not do so well in their studies, compliments will also be given to them as an encouragement for them to work even harder in future. The Western education believes that by providing such encouragement to the students, they will not give up easily and will continue to put extra effort in their education. On the other hand, the Eastern education philosophy is stricter, as students will be criticized whenever they fail to achieve the expected results in their examination. Criticizing is given to the students because the Eastern education believes that criticizing serves as a motivator to the students to work hard and avoid students from being arrogant and lazy. According to research, criticizing can lower down student's motivation, unless they turn the criticism into the information for self improvement, and also becoming more vital and brave to face even to various types of negative admonitions.

In conclusion, the best education should be the education that utilizes both Eastern and Western education philosophies. The Eastern education philosophy stresses a meaningful life in producing an ideal life of individual and focuses on values that affect the lifestyles, while western education philosophy looks on the learning process at 14 educational institution in producing a knowledgeable and competence students. This is

due to the capability of the students to apply and practice what they had learned in class with their daily life. The combination of both disciplines in teaching and learning process should be in moderation and limitation, based on the students and also the suitability of a class.

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