

# **Transformations In Indian Education System**

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## **Abstract**

India has a glorified past. It consist many social institution from its earlier times. Such as family or marriage institution. The purpose of these social institutions was to keep attach every individual with it an individual is the basic unit of family and a structure of many families together makes a society. The concept of interdependence was also important in ancient times. In modern times everyone wants a life where no strings are attached to anybody. The education has very important role to make a human civilized. People are not considered civilized until and unless they know how to read and write. In the Stone Age when the people do not know about any scripts they used signs and symbols to express themselves. In ancient India the purpose of education was to provide a root to every individual. So the life of an individual is divided into ashram which helps to lead a human happy life. These ashrams are as follows brahmcharya, grihastha, vanaprastha, sannyasa. The objective of this division is complete development of an individual. In Brahmacharya till the age of 25 every individual completes his/her education. For education an individual move to gurukul and mostly these gurukuls are far from city life and situated in aranayak. During that time no matter how rich or poor you are all children take their classes on the same place with equal resources and opportunity. But as the time passes on changes occurred in society as well as in education system also. Now days each and every child is not getting the same level of education and opportunity for his multidimensional development. Today our education system is suffering from many political and social evils. We are growing everyday in the field of science and technology but morally every day we are slowly poisoned by the evils like corruption.

***Keywords: Gurukul -a place far from home where education is given to an individual, Aranayak- forest, Acharya- teacher, Vihar and maths- monasteries, Ashram system- it is a system in which a human life is divided 4 phases, Shruti- it is a tradition in which knowledge pass on by speaking and hearing.***

## **Introduction**

“Change is the law of nature” as the time passes on changes occur in every institution of society so as in education system also as we promoted urbanization, the concept of gurukul came to an end as the origin of big cities got developed no place remain for aranyak. The first urban culture of the Bronze Age found in Harappa in Pakistan, Punjab was the path breaking discovery.<sup>1</sup> In 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C. cities like Magadha and patliputra developed and the process of urbanization boost up. The traces of education can be seen in India from the early ancient period but it changes gradually with the time and many evil concepts become part of it.

## **Methodology**

Primary and secondary both the sources are used other than this survey method and cyber sources are also used for this paper.

## **Objective Of The Study**

To trace the development of Indian education system and the long journey of transformation it had seen till today. From the centuries and its effect on India’s development.

## **Historical Review Of Indian Education**

Historians divided Indian history into three parts Ancient, Medieval and Modern Indian history. Firstly we will see that what the pattern of education followed in ancient India was. Ancient Indian civilization is one of the most interesting and important civilization of the world if we want to understand its property we must understand its system of education which preserved, propagated and modified it during the course of more than 4000 years.<sup>2</sup> As I mentioned above that during ancient period education was given to individual to a place named gurukul this place used to be far from home.

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<sup>1</sup> India’s ancient past-R.S. SHARMA-P.no.74

<sup>2</sup> .Education in ancient India- A.S.ALTEKAR, P.no. 1,2



One of the examples of gurukul can be seen in Ujjain “the sandipani ashram” it has been said that lord shri Krishna came here with his brother balram to complete his education from maharishi sandipani.

In ancient period education has its objective an individual is treated as very special person and people in their surrounding give them confidence that his/her existence is important for the family and society. The suicide cases in ancient period must be less comparatively to modern times. During ancient period education was free of cost for all no matter how rich or poor you are. No exam were conducted the acharya used to give some lessons to student when student learn it completely, the acharya used to give him new chapters to learn<sup>3</sup>. At that time the shruti tradition was followed. No paper works were done student used to learn only by hearing. At that time there were two type of student live in gurukul one who remain with his guru and the other who move to grihasth ashram.

This system helps Individual to build a strong character so that he can become a responsible citizen and help society to grow. Multidimensional development of individual is very important task, student always gets right to choose which help him to be the best in whatever field he wants to develop himself. Other than religious, social and moral values the individual were trained under different skills like business, art and sculpture etc. they also motivate to promote the goodness of Indian culture and civilization.

The curriculum during ancient period was instrumental and vocal music, painting, math, literature, medicine etc. but with the change of time Varna system become rigid part of the society and education also get limited to upper class (Brahman and kshtriya) women education was seen very rare in later Vedic period and the lower class (vaishya and shudra) were getting

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<sup>3</sup> Prachin bharat ka itihav avam sanskriti-K.C.Srivastav, p.no. 768,769

limited or no education. After Vedic period the prominent place for education were viharas, maths universities like nalanda, vikramshila, takshashila and uddandapur. Kashmir also become prominent place of learning. In 1192, after the battle of tarain there was change in political power and situation of the country Muslim rule established in India with this consolidation of power changes occur into education and literature also. Now literature used to be written in Urdu, Farsi language. Now the people start learning those things which they felt was needed for their livelihood. Reading and writing was confined to small section<sup>4</sup>.the growth of science in the country slowed down. During medieval period surgery declined because the dissection of dead bodies regarded as fit only for people of low castes. Astronomy was pushed back by astrologers. During medieval period methodology of Indian education was discarded degraded but literature of other languages developed a lot. In early medieval period “lilawati” of Bhaskar II was written. Well in medieval period Sanskrit continued to be a vehicle for higher thought and a medium for literature there was a network of specialized school and academics in different parts of the country including areas under Muslim domination. After the arrival of foreigners Indian came in the contact of paper thus some of the oldest text like Ramayana or Mahabharata written on paper belong to the period between the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> century. Other than Sanskrit, Arabic and Persian literature was flourished in India. Largest amount of literature and scientific work was produced by Muslims in Arabic. Arabic used as language of literature and science from Spain to Baghdad, it also become the literary and administrative language of central Asia from the tenth century onwards.<sup>5</sup> The concept of **madarsa** education was also come in India during medieval period and education was limited to high class only and the condition of women’s was deplorable. From sixteenth century many European nations came to India for trade and they brought their own culture and language and mode of education. In 1764 after the battle of Buxar the Bruisers take the command of Bengal at that time that didn’t shown their interest in Indian education system but the first governor general warren Hastings promoted Indian education and establish a Madrsa at Calcutta in 1781.

In his time period William Jones establish Asiatic society in Bengal. The concept of **missionary school** was given by Europeans to Indians. Charles grant gave the concept of making a network of school to teach English to Indians. Charles grant is also known as father of modern Indian

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<sup>4</sup> History of medieval India- satish Chandra, p.no. 51

<sup>5</sup> History of medieval India- satish Chandra, p.no 197

education. David heir formulated a new system of education in which at the place of Arabic and Bengali language Bengali and English was taught the contribution of David in modern Indian education was **the theory of secularism**. Among all the policies and committees the important one was orientalist and Anglicist controversy. The important character among them was Macaulay he wants to create class who remain Indian by blood and color but by thought, interest and mindset they become British. Macaulay said that “a piece of almira of European library is more valuable than Indian Arabic literature.”

### **Education After Independence**

After independence RadhaKrishnan committee was setup for evaluation of Indian education system in 1948, formulation of university grant commission in 1953, and national education policy was formulated in 1968. All these policies give stability to Indian education system. But its implementation was not done properly. Governments formulated many policies but are they successful? “Mil bachein” program of Madhya Pradesh government was one of the small steps to promote education among poor people. in the last year of my graduation I become part of it and took classes in neighboring state government school and I realize that the “growth of capitalism is a challenge for any developing country” especially for India where right to vote is used on the basis of religion and caste system. Capitalism gave birth to class system. In India the difference can be seen between students of private school and state government school. For the parents who have high income are capable of paying the fees for their child but the student of state government schools whose parents are either a labor or daily wage worker and can't pay their fees for such students the opportunity for their growth and development reduced. Our government make formulated many policies for them but it didn't reach to them its execution are done properly.



In present time we are grabbed in many political and social evil issues which affected the Indian education system badly. Daily in newspaper or magazines we can read news of corruption cases few of them were vaypm, ssc and mid day meal corruption cases they are enough to analyze the real condition of Indian education system. Corruption becomes a disease for every institution and day by day the definition of corruption getting bigger. Other than financial corruption, the educational degrees are also gain by dishonesty. This problem is not only in India but many countries of the world are suffering from it. Corruption in education is a serious blight that undermines the quality and availability of school and university around the world<sup>6</sup> due to lack of opportunity and illegal practices in the field of education topics like brain drain and migration become national issue.

In the same country there are many people who are running some institution to promote real talent. The SECMOL (the student's educational and cultural movement of ladakh) it was founded in 1988 by the group of Ladakkhi College students. they felt that the education system needs great change. Here student, teachers and faculty member live together<sup>7</sup>. This school has unique concept to promote education on the basis of practical and theory. It is also known as school for failures. Here failure mean for those students who have high caliber to absorb practical knowledge and to give something unique to the world. Here a student can easily

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<sup>6</sup> [www.bbc.com](http://www.bbc.com)- corruption and bribery in classroom- by Sean coughlan -09 October 2013

<sup>7</sup> [www.secmol.org](http://www.secmol.org) – 5 October 2018

develop his/her practical, analytical and observation skills. They help to equip young Ladakhis and others growing young students in Ladakh especially from rural or disadvantaged backgrounds with knowledge, skills, perspective and confidence to choose and build a sustainable future.

### **Sonam Wangchuk**



Sonam Wangchuk is a Ladakhi engineer, innovator and education reformist. He is the founding director of SECMOL. He is also known for designing the SECMOL campus that runs on solar energy and used no fossil fuels for cooking, lighting and heating. He followed his own concept for sustainable development. In today's world when we have already destroyed so much of fossils, his study and work is important for every person who can feel the need of sustainable development. His other innovations are Ice Stupa, Ladags Melong, Operation New Hope.<sup>8</sup> In 2018 he was awarded the Raman Magsaysay Award. His contribution to the development of Indian education will be memorable for the future as well as the present generation also. Every year during the board results, we can read and watch the news of suicide of students due to their failure or fear of failure in exams. They didn't realize about their real talent and scope for it. The concept of Sonam Wangchuk SECMOL is an inspiration for those students to discover and explore themselves. His concept not only promotes education but life also.

Other than Sonam Wangchuk, there are many people in the world who are doing their job without any expectation. Some of the examples are - Mr. Anand Kumar of Super 20, Mr. Kailash Satyarthi who is working on the development of poor children, and Malala Yousafzai, the girl who got shot for her wish to get education.

### **Conclusion**

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<sup>8</sup> [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sonam\\_Wangchuk\\_\(engineer\)](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sonam_Wangchuk_(engineer)) – 4 October 2018 - 03:02 P.M.

Ultimately the government should evaluate their policies honestly for the better future of our country. Government should work on all the evil practices in education. Because it is not necessary that we will always get people like sonam wangchuk every time. We should stay focused for the development of education because India has the maximum population of youth who are the real capital of India. By promoting and providing them proper education only then we can make our country one of the developed nation.

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