## INDIAN EDUCATION NOW AND NEXT: SWITCHING FROM TAUGHT TO THOUGHT CONCEPT

John Rages, Government College of Teacher Education, Kerala (India). E-mail: ragesjohn@gmail.com DOI: 10.32342/2074-5362-2021-2-31-6

*Key terms:* Nalanda and Taxila, paedocentric, multidisciplinary, experiential, reflective, collaborative, memorization, and Moksha.

Indian Education towards the 21st century, outlined in the National Curriculum Framework and the National Policy reflects the curriculum, matter, method, contents, and aims of ancient Indian system. Emphasis on the thoughts created by the pupils against the thoughts taught by the teachers is the hallmark of the emerging education, which, in fact, is an echo of the Gurukula system of education followed in the Vedic period of India.

The demand and the need for education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century still remain the same as it was in ancient and medieval times. The difference is that the ancient tools and instruments are replaced by the modern electronic gadgets, with the industrial sector increasing day by day. However, the human potential that drive the technology remains unchanged. As in the past, so in the modern education, the students are not just involved in coveting the ranks, but their main focus is on knowledge and enhancement of skills. Social aim of education guides the personal aim; education aims not merely to make creative human being, but to make socially useful creative individuals.

The emerging education in India is the combination of ancient wisdom and modern science and technology. The ancient system was specifically focused on the training of the mind to ensure peace and progress. The modern method of education emphasizing construction of knowledge do focus on the thought rather than the taught, towards the same aim- peace and progress.

Ultimately, the new Education policy of India offers a hope that learning becomes interesting and divergent, with the idea that learning should be child-centric, holistic, integrated, enjoyable and engaging. Schools are slowly breaking the straitjackets of arts, commerce and science streams in high school, and aiming to introduce vocational courses with internships, as it was almost two thousand years ago. Therefore, with the rise of modern education, the ancient Indian education system is on a revival to add force to mobilize the entire population to take the nation to a realm of wholistic progress.

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