



PROMOTING VALUE EDUCATION AMONG SCHOOL STUDENTS' THROUGH GEOGRAPHY

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Abstract

This paper mainly deals with how geography helps to construct the value-based knowledge among the school students. At the present time geography is one of the most important social science subject at school education system. The main aim of education is all round development which is impossible without value-based education. School is the miniature of society from where socialization starts. One of the basic factor for socialization is presence of value-based knowledge among the pupil. In this paper, the Researcher tries to show how geography takes crucial role to transmit values among the pupils in practical and theoretical ways. To maintain the nation harmony and integrity value-based curriculum is utmost necessary indeed. The Researcher also show different branches of geography reflect the different kinds of values.

Keywords: All round development, geography, knowledge transmission, school students, Value education.



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Introduction: Value based Education start its journey in India from the time of immemorial. At the ancient period of time value was the prime matter of education. Various Religious institutions took important role to spread the value based knowledge. In Brahmana system of education *Paravidya* (Brahamavidya) and *Aparavidya* (education related to daily life) were practiced. *Paravidya* mainly concern about the values. There are two ways through which values can transmitted to mass- one is through religion and second one is education. Due to the rapid rate of globalization and surge modernization the impact of religion in the society gradually diminution. At present education is main key for social as well as the holistic development .socialization of students' starting its journey from school. Students gather knowledge about various social systems through the participation in the various activities of school. At present school curriculum is well organized and books are written in constructive approach. Different kinds of values are reflected through the different chapters of geography. Now, we belong to the era of knowledge of explosion. Policy makers, curriculum framers,

administrators and teacher are aware about value-based education. They always engaged how values can transmit among the students.

The related literature review shows -**Chi-Chung Lamin** his article “Values education in secondary school geography in Guangzhou” has found that- Values education is an important area in school geography. The Chinese education authority has put strong emphasis on values teaching in school geography. The data from interviews and a questionnaire survey indicate that teachers have not taken values education very seriously. They focus on promoting patriotic attitudes and feelings. The teaching strategy adopted is content- based. Teacher culture is found to be a key factor shaping the outcome of the implementation values education in school geography.

Bruria Bar-Gal and Yoram Bar-Gal(2003) in their study- “Education for values in geography lessons” have found that- Like many other subjects studied at school, geography, too, implies imparting attitudes and values along with the acquisition of the main concepts of this subject. By its nature, geography deals with the relations between places and human society and culture, and with the relations between people in geographical space. This discipline provides a fertile ground for discussions on social, cultural, spatial and environmental values.

Objectives of the study: The main objectives of the study are-

1. To understand the meaning value education.
2. To understand how geography helps to transmit and built values among the school students.

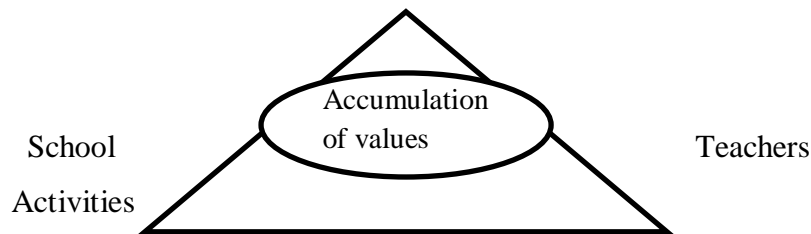
Methodology of the study: The study is entirely descriptive and conceptual in nature. The study purely relies on secondary data sources from various books, articles, journals, reports and website’s.

Meaning of Value Education: Education is a process that brings progress. It surrounds our entire life. Education is not all about studying and getting good marks. It is really a way to discover new things and increase knowledge. Modern education is neglected values which is very necessary to bring the all-round development of pupils. Value education will helps students in knowing the importance of values and reason to be inculcated. it will guide pupil in handling ups and down in ones and findings solutions of life. National Commission on Secondary Education (1952-1953) stated that –‘the supreme end of educative process should be the training of character and personality of students in such a way that they will be able to

realize their full potentialities and contribute to the wellbeing of community.’ The programme of action (POA-1992) tried to integrate the various component of value education into the curriculum at all stages of school education including secondary stage.

In ethics, value denotes the degree of importance of some things or action with the aim of determining what action are best to do or what way is best to live or to describe the significance of different actions. Value education is rooted in Indian philosophy and culture and in grained in every tradition of Indian culture. Educational institutions play a significant role in the promoting of value. Education must be able to promote values that foster peace, humaneness and tolerance in multicultural society (NCF-2005, pp-02).The school students gather value based learning from different sources-

Parents



Kothari commission (1964-1966) stated that-“as a time when the need to cultivate a sense of moral and social responsibilities in the rising generation is paramount, education does not emphasize character formation , and makes little or no effort to cultivate moral and spiritual values, particularly the interests, attitudes and values needed in a democratic and socialistic society.”

Value based education system bring a positive mental set up which is very significant for social change. Values are abstract mental concept. Basically we classify the values into three types. 1. Material values 2.Natural values. 3. Spiritual values. In this paper mainly focus on material and natural values. At the present time books are written on the basis of constructive approach up to elementary level that means students construct their own understanding. This learning approach is very helpful to assimilates values among the pupils.

Geography as Social Science: The social sciences encompass diverse concerns of society and include a wide range of content drawn from the disciplines of history, geography, political science, economics, sociology and anthropology. Social science perspectives and knowledge are indispensable to building the knowledge base for a just and peaceful society(NCF-2005, pp-50).

Now, all over the India as well as the world geography is one of the important social science subjects. At the ancient period of time geography was not a distinct discipline. At the ancient time geography was known as a '*khogol*'. Then geography deals with the various phenomenon related to the universe. At the present time geography mainly deals with the morphological (origin and evolution of landforms) and economics activities. Population, social, environmental geography also the dominant branch of geography. Different scientific methods are practiced at the time of geography teaching to transmit knowledge to the pupils. If we focus on different education commissions we see that commissions are included geography as one of the important subject of social studies. At recent time subject matter of geography not confined within the earth but geography deals with outer space and other planets of universe. So we definitely say geography is one of the important sources of value in school curriculum.

Geography and Value Education: Now-a-day's geography is the compulsory subject from class V to X. Like other school subjects geography also takes important role to transmit value based knowledge to pupils. At present school geography mainly written on the basis of constructive approach that means students construct their own understanding that means individual differences and potentiality are consider very much.

1. Value of Location: space and location occupy the major part of geography. Spatial extension is determined by the latitude (angular distance from equator) and longitude (angular distance from prime meridian) of that particular area. This topic (concept) elaborately discusses in class VI, VII, and IX. In geography determination of location is one of the major concern. From the proper understanding of the locational concept students can understand the importance of location and concern regarding the region and this feeling helps to grow regionalization. Now in India various international disputes issue is prime matter of discussion. Like the relation between India and Pakistan, India and china along the international boarder of Jammu and Kashmir, and Arunachal Pradesh. From this chapter student also aware about the enclave between India and Bangladesh .so from this chapter pupils get the basic knowledge about area and dimension of a location. With the discussion of this topic students gather the value of relation, value of interaction and the value of areal extension.

2. Value of Time: Time carries the evidences of earth history. If we focus on geographical time scale, we found various evolutionary event of the earth and also come to know changing

nature of rocks, plants and animals species .To know the earth history we classify the entire time period of the earth- Proterozoic eon and Phanerozoic eon (Paleozoic era, Mesozoic era, Cenozoic era).Time changes every moments. We can't reclaim it. so proper and meaningful use of time is very necessary. In geography there is basic rule that time change 4 minute per 1 degree longitude (angular distance from prime meridian).Different time related concepts are detailed studied in class VI (chapter entitled as- where you are), VII (chapter entitled as- determination of the position of a place on the earth surface), and class IX (chapter entitled as- determination of location of a place on earth surface). So, with the detailed discussion of these chapter students aware regarding the proper utilization of time and a concept grow about the value among them.

3. Political value: At the present syllabus of geography at school level from class V to X directly or indirectly deals with political concepts and related values. In class V (chapter entitled as India and its neighboring countries), VI (chapter- continent of Asia, continent of Africa, continent of Europe), VIII (chapter entitled as-North America, South America, Oceania),IX (chapter entitled as-West Bengal), X (chapter entitled as-India) these chapters are detailed discussed regarding various political terms and phenomenon.

To be a good and ideal citizen people should aware about some preliminary political concepts which is necessary for national integration and national development. Students get basic political knowledge from school curriculum which helps them to be politically mature. At present curriculum of geography class V to X deals with various political concepts about the country and different continents and west Bengal also which nourish their political perception. Pupils come to know about the political and natural boundary, system of administration, basis of state reorganization and dispute region of a country. From the discussion we come to know geography takes major role to transmit political perception among the students. so through the learning of geography school students gather political values which help them to bring regionalization concept.

4. Economical Value: Economy is the main driven power of a region. On the basis of the economy India belongs to developing country. In comparison to other economically developed country India's economy is very poor. Economic geography deals with the various economic activities of man. pupils come to know about various occupational types, level of development and growth rate of economy. From this part students come to know per capita income, Gross Domestic Product(GDP),Gross National Product(GNP),National Income,

India economy mainly agro based and financially unstable. Students come to know that without development of the economy it is hardly possible to develop of any country. Advance agriculture, Development in industry, proper infrastructural development and communication; spread of education is the main driving force of economic development. Economical values and financial awareness are necessary among the students. In the class IX to X elaborately discuss the various economic activities. From agricultural geography students come to know how farmers do hard work to produce crops or how a lot of money and technique is used for production. Same techniques are also used in industry to increase the production. From that students are concern about the value of labor. Students also come to know that as results of economic development rate environmental degradation also increases. So as social science subject geography also takes an important role to spread the value of economy among the pupils.

5. Environmental Value: An environment means surroundings. Our environment consists of various organic and inorganic components and interaction takes place among the various organic and inorganic components which bring homeostasis state in environment. National Policy on Education (1986) stated that -‘making children sensitive to the environment and the need for its protection is another important curricular concern. The emergence of new technological choices and living styles witnessed during the last century has led to environmental degradation and vast imbalances between the advantaged and the disadvantaged.’ At present in school social science curriculum environmental concern and values takes an important role. To continue the trend of development concern regarding the environment should give utmost importance at present at all stages (V to X) of school. Geography deals with various environmental issues (Bio-geo chemical cycle, ecosystem, hydrological cycle, bio diversity) which are very necessary to know about such important issues of environments.

The National Policy on Education (1986) emphasized the need to create awareness of environmental concerns by integrating it in the educational process at all stages of education and for all sections of society. At present time due to population explosion, globalization industrialization urbanization the balance among the various environmental components is gradually decline. Recent time environmental geography (mainly deals with the various aspect of environment) takes major area in school geography. Globalization, greenhouse effect and depletion of the ozone layers are contemporary issues of geography which also

helps to grow the concern about environmental pollution and unscientific human activity. So geography takes major role to build value regarding the various environmental phenomena. In class VI- air pollution, noise pollution, in class VII - water and soil pollution, VIII -human activities and environmental degradation, in class IX- hazards and disasters, in class X- waste management have detailed study. With the discussion of this chapter students perception regarding the environmental values nourished in the practical ways.

6. Value of conservation: conservation is the preservation or appropriate use of resources. Now-a-day the term conservation is widely used in physical as well as economic geography. Conservation extends the validity and longevity of things. There are two ways to conserve the thing-1.Through the reduction of unscientific use and 2.Through the recycling. Due to the population explosion and increasing demand rate of goods makes the term very important. In geography concept of resources is very major issues. Different kind of resources has discussed elaborately and conservation of the fund resources is utmost import think. At the present natural and economic resources both are necessary to conserve. From the in-depth study of geography students concern regarding the conservation and they aware towards various conservable goods of daily use. So a conservation centered value transmits among the students through teaching-learning geography in class room or outside of class room.

7.Value of Sustainable Development: The term sustainable development first used by Eva Balfour. *Brundtl and Commission* stated that- “Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of present without compromising the ability of future generations to meets their own needs.” So we can say sustainable development is such development which continues the trends of the development to maintain the equilibrium in various components of environments. So through the teaching learning process of the geography pupils aware about the concept of sustainability and it helps to grow the value of sustainable development which is very necessary at present time to conserve the environments as well as the society.

8.Social and cultural values: Man is a social being. Various social and cultural rituals have to follow or adapt by them. They had to follow a social system. Through the population geography, social geography, political geography students come to know regarding various socio cultural process, trends, socialization and growth rate of population. To be a good human, students have to adopt and aware towards the social issues which grow through learning of geography. so we can definitely say geography as a social science takes major role to build this concept among the pupils.

9.Values of backward community: Communal harmony is very necessary to bring all round development of society. Back community means the different tribes (Bhil, Gond, Santal, Chenchu, Toda, and Garo) live in a different interior part of country where the light of civilization does not strike yet now. They preserve or maintain a native and simple culture and life style. In class vi about the various tribal's people has been studied in detail. From this discussion students come to know how the native people preserve their one culture and they will also concern towards their culture. So, geography takes one of the major roles to transmit values among the pupils and they preserve their own culture and rituals. So through the teaching-learning of geography in class room, a vital value regarding the back communities develop among the students.

Conclusion: At present, we are in the stage of knowledge explosion and technological advancement. Without proper transmission of values among the students it is not possible to bring the all-round development of the students. From the above discussion it is clear to understand that geography takes major role to transmit the value education among the pupils. But the utmost matter is that the success of whole process is depends on the role of the teacher and teaching method and strategies. Excursion is one of the major methods which promote the value among the students in practical ways. Finally, it can tell that curriculum of geography takes major role to develop the values among the pupils.

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