

## INFLUENCE OF CULTURE ON EDUCATION

### CULTURE:

In anthropological literature the term culture is used in many senses, but in general writings it is used to indicate social charm and intellectual superiority. Even some sociologists believe cultured individuals to be the leaders of society. According to Sorokin and MacIver, culture implies man's moral, spiritual and intellectual achievements. In the words of Bogardus, culture is composed of integrated customs, traditions and current patterns of human group. Culture is the stock in trade of group. It is an antecedent complex of value into which every individual is born. It is a medium within which individuals develop and mature.

In Indian Society the individual is prepared for performing various in society at a very early age by a series of impressions deliberately made upon his mind. For example, the ceremony of marriage places upon the individual's shoulders the responsibility of procreating and thus ensuring the continuity of the race. Culture includes all those elements for which ceremonies and their consequent impressions are required. It is the process of purification. In ancient India Sanskrit was believed to be the language of the educated people, and this too is intimately concerned with culture, because the Hindi synonym is 'Sanskriti'.

Just as culture influences education, much in the same way education also exerts a powerful influence upon the culture of a country. Following are the various ways by which education influences the culture of a country.

- 1. Preservation of culture:** Each country believes and flaunts the superiority of its own culture over the rest. Hence it tries to preserve its culture in its original form. Education is the only means to complete this task. Thus, education preserves the culture of society.
- 2. Transmission of Culture:** The process of preservation includes the process of transmission as well. Transmission of culture from one generation to another is the best guarantee of its preservation. The function of education is to transmit the social values and ideas to the young and capable members of society.
- 3. Development of culture:** The process of education is to bring about the needed desirable changes in the cultural ideals and values for the progress and continued development of society, without which social progress will stratify and come to naught. Education culturists



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individuals, modifies cultural processes by research and deeper investigations into all areas of human requirements.

**4. Continuity of culture:** Culture is the lifeblood of a society is bound to decay and die sooner or later. Education upholds the continuity of culture through its diverse activities and programmes. A society establishes schools to preserve and transmit its culture from generation to generation. But some schools try to develop undesirable cultural chauvinism and superiority complexes among its children. Children should be motivated to learn more and more from cultural interaction among various cultures. They should develop the qualities of tolerance and adjustment together with mutual give and take so that they are able to benefit themselves from the contribution of all cultures. This cultural integration and cultural synthesis is the dire need of the world society in modern times.

**5. Development of personality:** Education aims at developing the personality of the child. It employs diverse cultural patterns of thinking, behaviour and items of cultural values so that children are physically, mentally, socially and emotionally developed to the maximum extent.

**6. Removing cultural lag:** While material culture develops at a fast pace due to scientific researchers and inventions, non-material culture consisting of ideals, values and norms lags behind creating a gulf between the two. Education is the only means to bridge this cultural lag by its activities and programmes of development.