

# VEDIC EDUCATION OF INDIA AND IT'S RELEVANT WITH NEW EDUCATION POLICY 2020

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## ABSTRACT

Education is a process of human empowerment and inner enlightenment.

Education works to bring about a radical revolution in human society. This creates lasting values and culture in the society.

Mahatma Gandhi gave the definition of education and said that – “Education is the process of bringing out the best parts of a person’s body, mind and soul”.

There is an urgent need for education in today’s modern era to bring about a change in the expected behavior of human beings and to develop creativity in human beings.

Today’s children are tomorrow’s citizens. True education is necessary to build a great nation by developing them all round.

Swami Vivekananda while giving the definition of education has said that – “Education Is the Manifestation of Divine Perfection already existing in man.”

The new National Education Policy 2020 has laid more emphasis on the holistic development of the child.

The National Education Policy 2020 lays down basic principles to guide the education system and educational institutions. One of these principles emphasizes on trying to make students aware of India’s rich, diverse, ancient and modern culture and knowledge systems and traditions, and to feel a sense of pride and connection. Has been placed.

Pursuant to this provision, students of state schools should be exposed to Indian culture. Indian culture and knowledge system should be included in the school curriculum in such a way that this connection will help in the overall development of the students.

As per the new National Education Policy 2020, examination system and assessment play an important role in holistic development of a child.

In which the quality of education can be improved by active participation of children.

The new examination system aims to develop basic concepts of education, basic skills, analytical thinking in children.

Creativity is boosted by developing creative powers in the child through examination method.

Emphasis has been placed on comprehensive and comprehensive evaluation of the child by making maximum use of the child’s knowledge, skills in the examination system.

Such an examination system is very necessary for the development of value oriented education in children and for building a good citizen.

Through which children develop life skills and can use the knowledge they have acquired in practical life.

The new examination system aims to encourage the critical and cognitive thinking of the child.

According to NEP – 2020 the main objective of education is to identify and bring out the latent strengths in an individual. In ancient Vedic education, more attention was paid to the value education of the child. Similarly, in the new education policy, more emphasis has been laid on the development of life skills in the child along with the cognitive development of the child.

### **Education system in Vedic times**

Education in India, which has a rich ancient culture, is believed to have started from the Vedic period.

Vedas were the mainstay of our ancient Indian culture. Because of the importance of Vedas and Vedic literature in education at that time, it is called “Vedic education”.

In ancient India, education was an important factor for the overall development of an individual as well as for the upliftment of society.

### **Objectives of Vedic Education**

#### **[1] To develop a sense of religiosity in a person.**

\* In ancient India, religion played a major role in a person’s life. The work of imparting education was done by religious leaders. To fully develop the spirit of godliness and religiosity in order to attain moksha.

#### **[2] Full development of personality and formation of excellent character formation**

\* The aim of Vedic education was to make a person characterful. At that time character was given more importance than scholarship.

\* The aim of Vedic education was to develop the overall personality of the students. For the achievement of this objective, they were given theoretical knowledge as well as practical knowledge.

\* The main goal of Vedic education was to attain Dharma, Artha, Kama and Moksha.

\* For the development of personality, efforts are made to develop good qualities like self-confidence, self-respect, self-restraint, sense of justice, truth, non-violence, compassion among the students.

\* The new National Education Policy 2020 talks about personality development and character building of the child.

#### **[3] Attainment of Moksha**

Attainment of salvation was the ultimate goal of life in the Vedic period. The body is perishable and the soul is immortal. Special emphasis was placed on chanting, penance, and meditation to attain the elevation of this immortal soul through moksha.

Students are taught not to be distracted and to control the emotions of the mind and to restrain the emotions through which salvation can be attained.

Restraint of consciousness means not to allow such thoughts to enter the mind which would cause the mind to disappear into the world.

#### **[4] Compliance with civic and social duties**

The main aim of Vedic education is to develop a high sense of social duty in children and make them good citizens.

In the Vedic period, children were taught to lead a selfless and philanthropic life.

Treat guests with due respect. Deen includes things like helping the afflicted, respecting elders, and fulfilling one's duties.

Today's children are tomorrow's citizens even in New National Education Policy – 2020. Greater emphasis has been placed on building a good nation through building good citizens.

#### **[5] Education for self-reliance**

The main objective of Vedic education was to develop professional skills in children and make them efficient.

In order for them to earn a living easily in their practical life, the Gurus used to make them do various activities in the Gurukula in which they used to cut wood from the forest, make seats and rugs from animal skins.

In the new National Education Policy 2020, more emphasis has been placed on the objective of training children to acquire various vocational skills.

#### **[6] Preservation and propagation of culture**

In the Vedic period householders were expected to study their Vedas and pass on their knowledge to future generations.

The impartation of knowledge was considered the solemn duty of the Brahmins due to which every Brahmin studied the Vedas and every Arya studied some part of Vedic literature.

Through which national culture can be protected and propagated.

Swami Vivekananda said in the religious convention of Chicago that – “I was born in the land of India, where a person is identified not by his clothes or ornaments but by his learning and deeds.”

In the new National Education Policy 2020, emphasis has been placed on protecting, nurturing and preserving the national culture.

### **Characteristics of Vedic education**

#### **Upanayana Samskara [Janai]**

The word Upanayana is derived from the Sanskrit metal upa + nayan.

It literally means taking students to their Guru for education and initiation into celibate life.

Upanayana is an important ritual in the life of Hindus. It is through this rite that one attains duality. At the time of entering a child's Gurukula at the age of 8, this ritual is called Upanayana Sanskar.

#### **Samavartana Samskara vidhi**

Samavartana or bathing rites performed at the end of celibacy. This rite is considered to be an indication of the end of student life.

Samavartana means returning home from the Gurukula after studying the Vedas.

Samavartana Samskara is also known as “Snana Samskara” because “Bath is an important part of this Samskara.”

#### **Natural closeness**

**In Vedic education**, disciples sat at the feet of sages and acquired knowledge.

These ashrams and temples were in the presence of nature. Where the disciples used to spend the important time of their lives.

Nature is the best teacher. Group life is necessary to develop qualities like harmony, cooperation, brotherhood, fraternity, unity, leadership power in children with constant close and long-term relationship with nature.

Rabindranath Tagore's "Santiniketan" is a prime example.

### **Gurukul practice**

Gurukul system is a very important part of ancient Indian education. In which students used to get knowledge by staying away from their parents and elders.

According to Manu Smriti, after Upanayana, students should complete their education under the supervision of their Guru.

The students used to become members of the Guru's family, gaining knowledge and building their own lives. These students were called "Antevasi".

"Antevasi" means one who attains knowledge by staying with one's Guru.

### **Study period**

The duration of study in the Vedic period was generally 12 years.

Students could study only one Veda in a period of twelve years.

One had to spend 12 years in Gurukul to gain knowledge of each Veda.

A student who attains enlightenment by observing brahmacharya till the age of 12, 24, 36 and 48 was known respectively as: Snatak, Vasu, Rudra and Aditya.

The new National Education Policy 2020 also shows this pattern in colleges.

@ One Year of College – Certificate Course

@ Second Year of College – Diploma Course

@ Third Year – Degree Certificate Course

@ 4<sup>th</sup> year – Research course on any special topic..

As per new system of 5+3+3+4 instead of old 10+2 system.

First five years- 3 years of pre-primary and class 1 and class 2

Another three years – from class 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>

Third three years – from class 6 to 8

Finally a pattern of four years – Class 9 to 12 has been designed.

### **Form of education**

Vedic education was completely influenced by religion. The ideals, objectives, curriculum, education system of Vedic education and the importance of reading Vedas, Upanishads, scriptures was seen in the daily life of the student.

According to the new National Education Policy 2020, from the year 2022-23, the values contained in the Bhagavad Gita will be taught in classes 6 to 12.

### **Free and universal education**

Education was free in the Vedic period. Teaching was considered a religious duty for Brahmins, through which they could get rid of Rishi Rinma.

The main purpose of education in Vedic education was to spread knowledge, not as a means of livelihood but to develop in the perspective of life and work.

According to the new National Education Policy 2020, the broad meaning of education is to be useful to the society by improving and improving human life by developing manpower. Through which a great nation can be built.

Initiatives for holistic development of the child have been taken in the National Education Policy 2020.

In Vedic education, the teacher-disciple system of teaching was direct and personal.

There was an attitude of love, respect, and sympathy towards each other in the Guru-disciple relationship.

The relationship of both was based on their mutual duties and obligations. The relationship between the two was harmonious, mutual and familial.

Guru and disciple were bound by mutual affection, respect, trust and duty.

**“Guru Brahma Guru Vishnu, Guru Dev Maheshwara**

**Guru Shakshat Par Brahma, Tasmaishree Guruve Nam:”**

The goal of the Guru and the disciple was the preservation, enhancement, transmission of knowledge and culture, as well as life and conduct.

The Guru was responsible for the physical, emotional, mental, social, cultural, economic, moral and spiritual development of his disciples.

In the Vedic system of education, as the students were in constant contact with the Guru, the Guru was aware of the merits and limitations of each student.

The Guru would evaluate the students through oral tests by asking questions during and after the teaching and giving them the right to move on to the next class.

Lectures, competitions, literature and debates were organized from time to time. In which students were demonstrating their knowledge and competence. Thus, students were evaluated through various activities and programs.

Examination methods and assessment are necessary to enable children to develop consistently and holistically and use these skills in life to lead a good life.

### **Summary**

In Vedic education, the main goal was to develop the child to attain salvation. The main objective of education is acquisition of knowledge and its application in practical life.

In the new National Education Policy-2020, emphasis is placed on overall development and character building of the child.

**From the academic year 2022 2023, Indian culture and knowledge system will have to be included in school education, among which the values and principles contained in Srimad Bhagavad Gita will be introduced to the children in a way that makes them understand and interest them.**

**Introduction to Srimad Bhagavad Gita in class-6 to 8 will be studied in the form of story and recitation in the textbook of the subject of comprehensive education.**

In class 9 to 12, Srimad Bhagavad Gita will be introduced in the form of stories and recitations in the first language textbook.

Recitation of Srimad Bhagavad Gita will be included in the school prayer program. Children's character will be built by conducting competitions like Srimad Bhagavad Gita-based shloka gan, shloka purti, oratory, essay, drama, painting etc.

A teacher not only has to do the teaching work in the classroom, but he has to constantly evaluate the progress of the students. At the end of the teaching of each unit, the students are to be evaluated based on class-test, objective achievement and observation, observation. So that the teacher gets to know the difficulties and progress of the students.

Through continuous and comprehensive evaluation, it is possible to identify the areas in which the teacher needs retraining.

The new National Education Policy 2020 has changed the culture of assessment.

It has been talked about improving the level of education through active participation of children and evaluating it.

The new education policy lays more emphasis on changing the assessment system through various measures to improve the level of learning and development of students.

As per the new National Education Policy 2020 examination system to make regular, formative and competency based assessment.

## **Examination Methodology and Evaluation**

**1.To promote education and overall development of students.**

**2.Focusing on the activity of assessment for learning.**

**3.Testing higher order skills like analytical thinking, conceptual clarity.**

**4.To help the entire school system to continuously improve the learning – teaching process to bring quality in education.**

**As per the framework of the new National Education Policy...**

In the new examination system, more emphasis has been laid on the process of education, knowledge, overall development of the child.

The new National Education Policy 2020 emphasizes the need for students to become competent human beings through examinations to bring quality and confidence in education to the education system.

**Making board exams more flexible with assessment of essential skills.**

**Focus on core concepts of learning, higher order and foundational skills.**

**The new examination system is helpful in enabling people to choose alternative careers.**

**A new examination system is required for self-assessment and group-assessment of children.**

For example...

I am working as a teacher in KOTADAGADHI PRIMARY SCHOOL At POSHINA taluka of SABARKANTHA district Where tribal community children study.

Where children find it difficult to speak words with 'CHA' and 'CHHA'

By making the children read, write and use the words of their regional language, they tried to take them to the recognized language and got success.

In order for the children to speak in valid Gujarati language, various activities like news reading, story-reading and conversation experiments in the class, transcribing paragraphs from books, dictation were conducted in the prayer meeting.

Apart from this, I have been successful in showing children unit-wise different stories on television, writing, reading and speaking the story they have seen.

Today, all my children of class 5 can read and write words with letters 'c' and 'ch' well.

Have children read and write five words daily on the black board.

This can also be said to be a part of the examination system.

Thus, the main objective of the New Education Policy 2020 and Indian Vedic Education – the goal is to build a great nation by making the child a great citizen.

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