**Role of Education in Transmitting Culture in Society**

**1 \*Soumya Mary Mathews,** Research Scholar, Department Of Education, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.E-mail: - soumyamarymathew@gmail.com

**2 \*\*Dr.S.Arulsamy,** Associate Professor, Department Of Education, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. E-mail:-arulsamy@buc.edu.in

**Abstract**

*Education plays a major role in transmission of culture; this is achieved when preservation is done form one generation to another. Cultures can potentially have a great impact on education as well as social change. Culture is the social change of any character in society. The main function of the educational system is to transmit the cultural heritage to the new generations. But in a changing society, these keep on changing from generation to generation and the educational system in such a society must not only transmit the cultural heritage, but also aid in preparing the young for adjustment to any changes in them that may have occurred or are likely to occur in future. The culture can be developed through education. That is bringing the desirable change in both the cultural and values for the progress and development of the society.* ***The influential facts of education on culture are: preservation of culture, transmission of culture, promotion of culture, equips man to adapt to changing cultural patterns, moulding the personality, restoring unity of mankind through diffusion of culture and removing cultural lag.*** *Culture paves the way for education while education is responsible for flavouring the cultural values in life. Therefore, both have to be interwoven in various ways.*

**Keywords:**  *Quality Education, Social Change, Transmission of Culture, Social Values, and* ***Cultural Lag.***

**Introduction**

Culture and education are inseparable and yet complementary with multiple points of interaction. Culture paves the way for education while education is responsible for flavouring the cultural values in life. Therefore, both have to be interwoven in various ways. A sense of pride in our culture has to manifest itself through all the stages of an individual’s growth. Primary education is where it all starts and the child begins to respect the importance of a value based life as he and he sees things and events happening, and the behaviour of others, around.

When a child born in society he/she becomes the part of the society. Culture is the main aspect of any society that teaches him to live with a mutual corporation with each other. Culture is the social behaviour of any society which has its own trends and values. Every society has its own way of living life and lifestyle. Culture focus on the knowledge of ethics, norms, traditions etc. The success of any culture is based on modern inventions of the society. Culture is the social change of any character in the society. It plays a very important role in the development of the culture; both inter connected with each other. Education teaches about the social and cultural values. Education prepares the students for deals with cultural ethics and norms. Various elements of culture help the individual in adopting natural and social environment in a positive way. Each person of the society has his or her own behaviour attitude qualities and mentality to perceive the world around. Education changes the perspective of the individual toward different modes of community.

Social change always takes place when humans need change in society. Social change comes into action when existing social setup fails to understand and meet the needs of humans. Culture is the social change of any character in society. When the child is born in any society after his birth, he learns the teachings of his parents and adopts it with the passage of time. Culture is transmitted from one generation to another generation because a child always learns the behaviour of their elders. Education always initiates to bring permanent changes in personality of human being as well as social change.

**Culture and Education:**

An education system is the reproductive organ of every culture. Education includes both formal schooling and informal transmission of knowledge, skills, and attitudes. Individual members of a society grow old and die, while new members are born and grow to maturity. Yet a society's culture is a living entity which transcends all the society's individual members. A culture changes over time, but has a recognizable continuity of basic values and behavioural patterns that distinguishes it from other cultures. That continuity is provided by the educational system.

If an educational system is altered, its transmission of culture will be distorted. The deliberate alteration of an educational system can be a very effective way to change a culture. Education is conceived as a systematic effort to maintain a culture. In technical sense education is the process by which society through school, colleges, universities and other institutions deliberately transmit its culture heritage, accumulated knowledge, values, and skills from one generation to another. Education is act an instrument of cultural change as well social change. Curriculum writers and school administrators can have conferences, publish papers, and make decisions to change the curriculum, the teaching methods, or the administrative structures in order to guide the acquisition of student knowledge, skills, and attitudes regarding culture, values into social change.

All these collectively form the personality that develops in the process. Therefore, it is necessary to inculcate the importance of education and value-based living for a truly sustainable development of the rural sector. The maxims of Gandhiji, Tagore, Vinoba Bhave and many other social activists, bordering one equitable living, rural empowerment, voluntary rural reconstruction and transformation, and sustained rural development, have to be made as the central themes of the education system. Education founded on strong cultural values will help students understand and acknowledge the significance of culture and social change in the development context.

Culture also includes art music, customs, values, and the old tradition of our elders. And because of this advancement and invention, culture is changing and adopting new ideas to survive in the society. Culture also increases the economy and growth of the country. When the phrase education rooted in culture, what it means that education has to serve as an engine for development, social change, especially in the rural areas.

**Influences of Education on Culture**

**1. Preservation of Culture:** Culture is the blood vein of a society, which needs to be conserved. It is an important function of education to help in the preservation of culture or social heritage. Education, through its specialized agencies, tries to inculcate the traditions, customs, values, arts, morals etc. into the tender minds of pupils.

#### ****2.**** Transmission of Culture: In addition to preservation of culture, it is a task of education to maintain the continuity of culture by handing down the existing cultural experiences, values, traditions, customs etc. from one generation to another through its various programmes and practices. Without this transmission, the nation’s survival may be the toughest task and the progress of mankind can be stifled. Society reels in utter chaos and confusion. The famous sociologist, Ottaway writes, **“The function of education is to transmit the social values and ideals to the young and capable members of society”.**

#### ****3.**** Promotion of Culture:   Besides preservation and transmission, another vital function of education is to modify the existing cultural patterns in the light of changes visible in the needs and demands of the society. These changes are heightened owing to cross-cultural variables. Thus, new cultural patterns are formed by replacing and reorienting the old outmoded cultural forms to suit the changing needs of time and man. Therefore, society makes ostensible progress. This part of education is called progressive function of education. As such, education performs by constantly reorganizing and reconstructing human experiences for the promotion and enrichment of culture.

#### ****4.**** Equips Man to Adapt to Changing Cultural Patterns: It is an admitted fact that every generation after generation modifies the old and archaic cultural forms and adds new ones to the best advantage of theirs. This is possible through educational means and method. Moreover, education equips the individual to adjust him or herself to the changing cultural forms and patterns for better and successful living.

#### ****5.**** Moulding the Personality: It is a universal element of culture that personality is shaped and moulded by education. An individual’s personality goes on developing when he or she continues to forge a web of relationship with other members of society. This form of interaction is made possible by education according to the behavioural patterns or culture of the existing society. In simple words, culture is an informal agency of social control which helps in moulding and shaping the behaviour of the individuals in a desirable way.

#### ****6.**** Restoring Unity of Mankind through Diffusion of Culture: It is a dire necessity of the civilization that unity of mankind is to be restored. It is to be made possible through education which assists in diffusion of culture in an effective manner. Education should treat human culture as a whole like a full-blossom flower whose different petals represent different groups.

Education, further, helps in disseminating the modern cultural values like co-operation, unity, mutual understanding, brotherhood of men, love and appreciation for others etc. to the mankind for its enduring survival.

#### ****7.**** Removing Cultural Lag: The concept of cultural lag is attributed to the famous sociologist Ogburn. When there exists a difference between material culture and non-material culture, there emerges this lag concept. As it is seen, material culture is advanced due to the rapid strides in science and technology and people adopt the modern life styles ignoring non-material part of culture. Therefore, non-material culture lags behind the former. This situation is cultural lag which needs to be eliminated by education through its various programmes and myriad activities. Cultural is antithesis to social change and progress of the civilization.

**Conclusion**

Culture and education are inseparable and yet complementary with multiple points of interaction. Culture paves the way for education while education is responsible for flavouring the cultural values in life. A sense of pride in our culture has to manifest itself through all the stages of an individual’s growth. Primary education is where it all starts and the child begins to respect the importance of a value based life as he and he sees things and events happening, and the behaviour of others, around. All these collectively form the personality that develops in the process. Therefore, it is necessary to inculcate the importance of education and value-based living for a truly sustainable development of the rural sector. Education founded on strong culture and values will help students understand and acknowledge the significance of culture in the development and in social change context.

From the foregoing discussion, it is crystal clear that there exists a close relation between education and culture. Education socializes an individual in one hand and it preserves, transmits and promotes the culture of a society on the other. In brief, education and culture are mutually interwoven, complementary and supplementary in all their aspects. It is education which reifies the culture.

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