

Teaching

A Profile

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"Teaching is the most difficult of all arts and profound of all sciences, and is the oldest of any professions."

— Mann: 1953

Definitions

Teaching is a system of actions which induce learning through interpersonal relationship. "Teaching is an art, science and a skill involves a unique professional, social and rational human activity."

— Pillai: 1985

or

Further, teaching can be defined as the instruction of an intellect within the laws of Nature.

Who is a Teacher: Teacher is a person who has completed a professional curriculum in a teachers educational institution and whose training has been officially recognised by the award of an appropriate teaching certificate.

or

"Teacher is a person employed in an official capacity for the purpose of guiding and directing learning experiences of pupils or students in an educational institution, whether public or private."

— Good: 1953

Mr. Vijayan V, at the time of writing this article, was Nsg Tutor, School of Nursing, Krishna Hospital, Karad.

The Goals

As per Rabindranath Tagore teacher is a student up-to-date in his knowledge:

"The main objective of teaching is not to explain the meaning but to knock at the door of minds."

It should be a bipolar process of modifying not only the behaviour of children but the teacher also.

It should be for moulding the habits, targets and characteristics of pupils and helping them to express, utilise and develop their capacities to the maximum extent.

Teaching should be aimed at modifying the total personality of an individual in an acceptable and constructive manner.

Stages or Phases

Curriculum Planning: This can be subdivided into subsidiary phases: Formulation of objective; Selection of learning experience; Organisation of learning experience, Evaluation.

Instructing stage/Implementation.

Evaluating phase.

Factors influencing the qualitative teaching can be enumerated as:

Skillful and efficient teachers: Teacher's performance and attitude to teach. Teacher's inservice education. Pupils' learning inter-

est and attitude. Pupils' established goal. Teacher-Student relationship. Last but not least, physical facilities and infrastructure.

Qualities

Have the capacity to teach, using different methods of teaching, employing a wide variety of A-V Aids and applying non-conventional techniques.

Should have moral prestige and dignity.

Should possess intellectual depth.

Should have a sense of humour.

Should adopt measures to elevate the standard and dignity of teaching and other teachers.

Should be impartial in decision-making, especially related to students.

Should be an all-round personality.

Should be confident and at ease while teaching.

Should have positive and constructive relationship with students.

Should possess the capacity to manage the class well.

Should plan the lesson well.

Should have the capacity to explain the points clearly at the students' level.

Should develop genuine interest in any subject.

Should provide keen interest in revision and examination techniques.

Should stimulate and motivate

students to think independently.

Should be creative, constructive, innovative and helpful in the criticism of students.

Should be alert, flexible, democratic in nature.

Should be resourceful in providing allied experience to students.

Should develop the habits of reading necessary and unnecessary things.

Should be a 'student' to grab knowledge and information from any sources.

So the word TEACHER can be expanded in the following way:

- T — Thoughtfulness (Trustworthy)
- E — Excellence
- A — Accountability
- C — Confidence
- H — Humour (Honesty)
- E — Exactitude
- R — Resourcefulness

An effective teacher never stops experimenting to discover and re-discover what best suits his own particular needs and those of his students. The effective teacher can apply teaching methods that are easier, quicker, better, safer, more rewarding, less labour sensitive and more suitable.

An effective teacher may be understood as one who helps in the development of basic skills, understanding, proper work habits, desirable attitudes, value judgment and adequate personal adjustment with students.

To conclude, the quality and usefulness of students depend upon quality of teaching and his or her teaching. The reputation of an educational institution de-

pends upon the quality of its teaching faculty. So also if the destiny of the nation is being shaped in the class-room then we can proudly say that, the master, the captain, the minister, and the destiny of the nation is in the hands of nobody else other than the teachers.

The great Indian Nobel Laureate, Rabindranath Tagore, was the best teacher in modern India who dedicated his life for inoculating the reality of peaceful feeling in the minds of growing mass within the laws of nature, through his well known institution, Shantinikethan.

Dr. S. Radhakrishnan was a globally recognised teacher and to commemorate him, the birthday of this great teacher is celebrated as Teachers' Day (September 5).

We used to designate Hippocrates as the father of

Medicine and similarly, Sushruta as the father of Surgery. So, if the word 'father' can be used to designate one who was profoundly expert in a particular field or profession, we can strongly say that Dr. S. Radhakrishnan was the father of teaching.

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