In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful

Fundamental Changes in Education and Our Active Response to Them in the Era of Information and Communications

Fundamental Changes in the Future Process of Education could include:

1 - Giving importance to interactive teaching and learning instead of one-sided teaching and learning.

2 - Expansion of personal choices and freedom in life activities instead of being limited to a predetermined system.

3 - Gradual transfer of the educational environment from school and class to cyberspace, home, diverse teachers in the cyberspace, reference groups.

4 - A shift from gathering information to processing it.

5 - A shift in the teachers' role from the one who teaches to one who facilitates learning.

6 - A shift from mere education to education and skill.

7 - A shift in the students' role from that of a passive learner to a self-reliant learner.

8 - Fundamental change in nature of future jobs in terms of mere specialization to the ability to resolve issues.

9 - A change in the requirements of human society from physical needs to informational needs.

10 - A shift in economic values; physical issues being replaced by information processing.

11 - A fundamental shift in educational activities in which the student plays the pivotal role rather than the teacher.

12 - The name "student" being changed to "Ability seeker".

13 - A shift from the educational system from being genius-oriented to a system that would provide effective education to all levels of talents by keeping in view their personal differences.

14 - A Shift from an imposing and justice-avoiding educational system to a system in which justice prevails and everyone has equal access to their education requirements.

14 - A shift from marks-oriented evaluation to ability-oriented evaluation.

15 - External encouragements and retributions being replaced by such values as internal inspiration and the joy of resolving problems.

16 - Diversification of educational sources from mere textbooks to other sources especially by accessing cyberspace.

Some Solutions by Keeping in Mind the Effective Role of Cyberspace

1 - Diversification of educational sources from textbooks to a variety of books as well as the sources available in cyberspace.

2 - Making students active in a safe and healthy cyberspace environment.

3 - A shift in the educational system which allows the student to get training rather than being trained.

4 - Creating situations in which the student is transformed into an active and effective player.

5 - Creating physical and virtual conditions for providing the students with the opportunity to have an active role in acquiring knowledge and skill.

6 - Replacing the methodology of increasing knowledge with that of acquisition of skill.

7 - Creating an educational system - with an initial core and headquarters - through varied methods suitable to differences in individuals, thus not limiting education to the same sort of textbooks.

8 - Diversification of educational sources by keeping in view the intellectual abilities of all the students and not merely the elite ones.

9 - A change in the system of evaluation by evaluating the level of the ability of the students rather than the level of their information.

10 - Urgent action on the part of those involved in exercising the required changes by relying on dynamic plans rather than the stagnant ones, which have so far been a habit in our educational system.

11 - The increased role of parents in the process of education in the form of the triangle of teacher - student - and parents; keeping in view the change in the role of the teacher.

Recommendations

1 - Effective planning - in the form of a process in the educational system - for the expansion of new training programs in such areas as: media, finance, law, politics, management and planning, and ethics.

2 - Planning for escalating the students' scientific intellectualism rather than focusing on the university entrance examination.

3 - Providing schools with easy access to cyberspace in the absence of which other factors would rapidly replace it.

4 - Making investments in research programs and elevating the level of the process of education for being practiced by schools.

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