Research Paper **Education**

Social Cohesion: Need of The Hour

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ABSTRACT

In India people of different classes and castes live with their different culture and language. For the progress and welfare of individual as well as society it is essential that People live in harmony and peace with each other. This all depends on Social Cohesion of Society. It can be said that Social Cohesion implies good relationship of human beings with one another. It is the bond that hold a Society together such as common values, beliefs and behavior. But on the other hand it is disheartening that people quarrel with each other on small issues forgetting the progress of Society, thus disturbing the Social order in the Society.

In the present paper the author has tried to highlight the meaning and importance of Social Cohesion. What are the reasons which hinders the progress of mankind? What are the Challenges and Obstacles in the Unity and betterment of people? Author has tried to suggest what can be the role of teacher, parents and individuals himself/ herself to establish Social Cohesion in the society.

The growth, Development, progress, prosperity and integration of the Society is essential. This all depends on cohesion of the Society. In India people of different classes, castes, religions, culture and languages live. Social Cohesion refers to the bonds that brings society together. Structure of Indian Society is quite complex as it offers 'Unity in Diversity" and "Diversity in Unity"

Let us understand what do we actually mean by Cohesion of Society. Social Cohesion is defined as the willingness of members of Society to co-operate with each other in order to survive and prosper.

Social Cohesion is a process of building shared values and communities of interpretation reducing disparities in wealth and income and generally enabling people to have a sense that they are engaged in a common enterprise ,facing shared challenges, and that they are members of the same community.

It is the bonds that hold a society together, such as common values, beliefs and behavior. When people follow the same rules, they co-operate each other. When people co-operate each other, it is in the benefit of individual and society as well.

Social Cohesion comprises of three aspects:
• Shared activities
• Shared Purposes
• Shared Values

In other words, it can be said that Social Cohesion implies good relationship of human beings with one another. It can be said that high level of Social Cohesion helps to achieve Economic growth, Good Governance, health and social security. In the present scenario we talk about Globalization. We teach our students the concept of 'Vasudhaiv Kutumb" but we in our Nation quarrel with each other on small issues like language, caste, religion and so on. People develop issues and conflict associated with ethnic diversity, civil unrest and political violence. For our individual benefits we do not hesitate to harm others. We do not have a respect and love for National property .Why? Where lies the causes? What are the solutions? Efforts are needed to establish peace and good relations among people. It is important for all stake holders to follow the lesson of tolerance. India's vast geographical area, huge ethnic and cultural diversity and immense Economic and

social inequality make her people less social Cohesive.We as teachers and parents must teach our children how to develop Social Cohesion. This is social cohesion which help in creating social order in society, which in turn is essential for National Strength and International Understanding. Some other terms like coping well, Fabric of society, Ties that bind, Glue that binds us together or society we want, can be used for Social cohesion Education must not merely inculcate secularism, realism and liberty in the Educand, but must also provide him/her the ability to distinguish between right and wrong. The young people are subject to multiplicity of influence emanating from various sources and for this reason it is essential that there should be some unity in Diversity. The absence of such unity will have disastrous consequences in the form of Personality and social and disorganization. Education can thus fulfill the needs of the Society only if it adopts a comprehensive and dynamic curriculum, a dynamic methodology of teaching and a dynamic philosophy of Education

Following are the aspects of Social Cohesion:
• Qualities of tolerance and co-operation
• Faith in Democracy and Humanism
• Accomodativeness and unselfishness
• Passion for social, Economic and moral justice
• Education for removing casteism and religious fanaticism
• Co-existence and co-operation for common goals and benefits
• Reduction of Economic disparities and class distinctions
• General improvement in the standard of living of people
• Sense of oneness brotherhood among people

NEED OF SOCIAL COHESION
Physical Development of any individual is possible through Social Cohesion. All cognitive abilities like positive thinking, reasoning , imagination and creativity are related to Social Cohesion. Proper Emotional Development also depends on Social Cohesion. Social qualities like tolerance, group loyalties, co-operation, belongingness and brotherhood are very important which are developed by Social Cohesion. Democratic Values , National Integration and Educational Development are also influenced by it. In order to maintain National Integration Social Cohesion is must. Moreover Educational Development is also closely related to Social Cohesion.

Proper Social interaction and relationship between people is influenced by Social Order. Arrangement of Society is Social

Order. So it is very much clear that Social Cohesion is influenced by Social Order. Further this Social Order is governed by various elements like Human Emotions, Belief and Knowledge, Needs and aims , status of the member in the Society, Power of the Head in the family and State, special privileges of the individual and the Society. Rules and Regulations discharged by the individual in the favour of Society as well as individual.

Some factors which are responsible for bringing Social Cohesion :
EMOTIONS:
Emotions of an individual or group regulates one's behavior. Emotions, traditions and norms inspire human beings to look after the interest of others which further add to the stability of Social order. This also instill the feelings of co-operation among the members of the society.

BELIEFS AND KNOWLEDGE:
Beliefs and knowledge prevalent in the society also bring uniformity in human behavior. This is the belief and knowledge of an individual which develops one's faith in customs and traditions in the society. Thus the interaction between people becomes better.

NEEDS, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:
Needs aims and objectives play significant role in organizing a group.

STATUS:
Status of an individual in family and society influence his/her behavior with others.

POWER:
Some kind of power is essential to maintain the discipline and good relationship with each other. It may be home, community, or wherever. One has to take lead. one has to pass the orders, if not anarchy will be created.

RULES AND REGULATION:
Rules and Regulations are essential for the maintenance of good relationship among individuals when everybody follows the same rules, it binds the group in co-operative living. Thus the people learn to be tolerant.

Ways and Means for developing Cohesion:

REDEFINING THE AIMS OF EDUCATION
Since Education can play a pivot role in bringing Social Cohesion. The aims of Education should be seen in a new perspective.

EDUCATION FOR ALL
As per our constitution, no one can be deprived of Education. For the Economic, social and Political development of country everyone has to contribute. Co-operation of all is needed for the welfare of the society.

VOCATIONAL EFFICIENCY
We have to make our people economically sound to bring social Cohesion. People can become self sufficient when there is more emphasis on the practical aspects of the subjects rather than theoretical. Education should aim at vocational efficiency.

DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRATIC VALUES
Respect of individuality and co-operative living, honesty and scientific attitude are democratic values which should be inculcated in the individuals .These values symbolize social cohesion Education should focus on social, Economic , religious and political equality. Citizens should respect social justice and social order. All these attributes lead to social cohesion.

SOCIAL , MORAL AND CULTURAL ADVANCEMENT
When Education inculcate the social, moral and cultural values among its citizens, only then we can expect social cohesion to take place. Media can be helpful in this area.

DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONALITY
Education should aim at holistic development of the child viz. physical, economical, social, religious, and aesthetical. Such opportunities should be given to all, where personality can blossom.

WELFARE OF SOCIETY
Education should enable the individual to think about welfare and betterment of the society. It facilitates in establishing social order. This way social cohesion will be established.

RESTRUCTURING THE CURRICULUM
This has become imperative that curriculum should   be re-structured and redesigned keeping in view the needs of the present time.

VARIETY AND FLEXIBILITY
Rigid curriculum is never accepted. It should be flexible and varied Students of high caliber and average, all should be taken care of.

BROAD –BASED CURRICULUM
A child receives so many experiences. These consist of co-curricular activities. Social Cohesion can be established through Broad Based Curriculum.

VOCATIONAL BASES
Students should be given vocational Guidance, this will make them socially efficient and vocationally competent.

METHODS OF TEACHING
Such methods of teaching should be adopted where individual differences as well as needs of the society are well taken care of.

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