



INDIAN CULTURE AND EDUCATION IN TEACHER TRAINING: A COMPREHENSIVE MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

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Abstract

India is a country with numerous distinct cultures. Each area of India has its special way of doing things, like clothes, food, dancing, music, art, and more. This makes India a very diverse place, with loads of specific customs and traditions. When a student learns about things, it is easier for them to recognize if they see examples from their very own area. India's rich cultural heritage is like a treasure chest of local knowledge for learners. It helps them understand things better and feel connected to their roots. Many educators and official committees have emphasized the value of incorporating local knowledge into the education system. The National Education Policy of 2020 also underlined the importance of teaching students about their own culture as a means to foster their holistic development. Additionally, this policy talks about teaching students different subjects together and suggests that when we train teachers, we should also teach them about our culture and traditions. In this paper, we aim to demonstrate how teacher education programs integrate local knowledge and cultural elements, and we'll also explore the benefits that arise from this approach.

Keywords- Teacher Education Programme, Indian culture, Education.

Introduction:

Indian historical culture is a large and diversified field that spans decades. India has a diverse cultural history that has evolved over thousands of years and has been influenced by numerous civilizations and contemporary cultures. India has a variety of civilizations. Although India is a large country with an extensive history, it has a broad range of languages, rituals, faiths, and beliefs. Every Indian state and area has unique distinct cultural backgrounds, food, and customs. India has a wide range of demographic variety, which can be seen in the nation's social behaviours and practices. In India, factors other than socioeconomic status affect cultural practices and customs. Furthermore, cultural traditions and customs greatly influence people's daily lives. Cultural practices and customs might range greatly even within a specific socioeconomic group based on caste, language, religion, and geographical distinctions. and communicate with one another. One of India's greatest assets is its cultural variety, which is appreciated and treasured by people everywhere.

It is critical to promote and appreciate Indian arts and culture. So that everyone may benefit from it and learn from it. It is critical to teach pupils about other cultures and how individuals express themselves. This helps them apprehend who they are and sense that they belong. It also teaches them to appreciate and respect other people's cultures and methods of being. When students analyze their own culture's history, art, language, and traditions, it makes them sense precisely who they are. This is vital for them and our complete community. Several educationists and commissions have emphasized the importance of incorporating local knowledge into the schooling system. They recognize that training must not only focus on global knowledge but also local knowledge structures and indigenous practices.

Objectives:

- To examine the role of local knowledge and cultural elements in the education system and understand their importance in promoting a holistic learning experience.
- To analyze the National Education Policy of 2020 and its emphasis on incorporating local culture and traditions into the curriculum.
- To assess the significance of incorporating cultural aspects into the curriculum for trainee teachers.
- To examine the impact of a multidisciplinary approach to teaching on trainee teachers' understanding and skills.
- To examine the advantages of teaching multiple subjects together in teacher education, with a focus on cultural elements.

Methodology:

The researcher conducted research by reviewing multiple journals, exploring websites, and analyzing the NEP 2020 document.

Discussion:

India is a state with a rich and various way of life that has been shaped over a long time using a variety of influences. From ancient civilizations through colonialism and modernization, India's subculture has changed and developed to replicate changing instances while retaining its character. Culture means the way people live their lives. Culture is like a massive crew of things that people do and like. It includes what they eat, what they wear, what language they speak, and who they accept as true within. It's like the way they assume and act. Culture includes everything that people do together as a group. Culture is everything that humans create and passes down from one generation to the next generation. Culture has two parts: The material aspect and the non-material aspect. Material aspects (senses) change rapidly, like our dress, food, and household goods. And non-material aspect changes slowly, it refers to ideas, values, thoughts, beliefs, and customs. Indian culture's diversity is among its most striking features. India, a country of 29 states and around 1.3 billion people is home to a diverse range of cultures, dialects, customs, and faiths. Every region has its own music, visual arts, and cuisines. The nation is held together despite its diversity by a strong sense of unity. This is considered in the frequent values and beliefs that

underpin Indian culture, such as respect for elders, hospitality, and loyalty to family. In this paper, we will look at some of the most important elements of Indian culture.

CUISINE: Indian food is a popular aspect of the country's culture. Indian cuisine is a sensory experience with its special flavours and spices. Each location has its very own delicacies that reflect its history, geography, and culture, from north to south and east to west. Some of the popular dishes consist of biryani, samosas, dosas, chole bhature, and butter chicken.

RELIGION: In Indian culture, faith is very important. Hinduism is the most common religion, accompanied by Islam, Sikhism, Christianity, Buddhism, and Jainism. Each belief has its set of customs, rituals, and festivals that are celebrated with zeal throughout the country. For example, Diwali is a Hindu festival of lights, however, Eid is celebrated by Muslims. Christians in India also rejoice at Christmas and Easter.

MUSIC AND DANCE: The arts are a necessary component of Indian culture. India has a long legacy of music, dance, and theatre. The classical tune has a lengthy and illustrious record in India, including traditions such as Hindustani and Carnatic music. Classical dance genres such as Bharatanatyam, Kathak, and Odissi originated in diverse sections of the nation.

ATTIRE: People in India wear beautiful and colorful clothes that have pretty designs and are made from special materials. Women often wear dresses called sarees, salwar kameez, or lehenga cholis, while men wear shirts called kurtas, pants called dhotis, or fancy outfits called sherwanis. Different parts of India have their special styles of clothing, like the Bandhani and Patola sarees from Gujarat or the Phulkari dupattas from Punjab.

ART: Indian art has a long and vibrant history that comes back to the ancient era. Miniature painting in the nation has a lengthy history, having flourished during the Mughal and Rajput monarchs. Intricate details, brilliant colors, and subjects from mythology, folklore, and everyday life are common in these paintings. Madhubani paintings from Bihar, Warli paintings from Maharashtra, and Pattachitra paintings from Odisha are all prominent types of painting.

To summarise, Indian culture is a lively and diversified fabric that represents the rich history, customs, and traditions of the country. It is a culture defined by unity in variety, as well as a strong feeling of community and shared ideals. Indian culture continues to enchant and inspire people all around the world, from its religion and cuisine to its arts and philosophy.

NEP2020:

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 acknowledges the importance of local knowledge and its incorporation into the educational system. The policy emphasizes the need to make education more relevant to local settings, cultures, and languages, as well as encouraging awareness and respect for India's multiple knowledge systems. The policy emphasizes the need to promote and integrate local knowledge into the curriculum. This may be accomplished by including local history,

culture, and practices into the curriculum, as well as including local knowledge holders and experts as instructors and mentors.

There are various advantages of incorporating local knowledge into the school system. First, it increases the relevance and contextualization of education, making it extra meaningful and applicable to students' lives.

Second, it fosters a feeling of self-identity, pride, and understanding of local cultures and customs.

Third, it recognizes and values local communities' knowledge and experience, allowing them to take charge of their very own boom and advancement. The NEP 2020 wants people to learn different languages because it's important to know and understand different cultures. It suggests using your language to learn in school at first, but also learning other languages like English.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH: In teacher education, a multidisciplinary method accommodates data and practices from various disciplines, such as psychology, sociology, linguistics, and pedagogy, into teacher education programs. This method recognizes that instructing is a complex and multidimensional profession that necessitates a wide variety of know-how and abilities and that no one field can correctly instruct instructors for the number and changing wants of students. The multidisciplinary approach to teacher training goals to provide teachers with an entire understanding of the elements that have an impact on gaining knowledge of and teaching, and to supply them with the essential capabilities and strategies to successfully control these factors. The approach to teacher education that involves multiple disciplines highlights the significance of working together and communicating effectively between various fields. It emphasizes the value of persistent professional development and lifetime knowledge for teachers, who have to proceed to improve their abilities and understanding during their careers. The multidisciplinary method in instructor education has numerous advantages. It allows teachers to achieve a higher grasp of the more than a few factors that affect instructing and learning, equips them with a broader set of capabilities and strategies to support student development, and encourages collaboration and conversation amongst distinctive fields for more high-quality support for students. The use of a multidisciplinary approach in coaching instructors encourages cooperation, continuous learning, and the acquisition of a broader set of capabilities and techniques, resulting in increased and comprehensive assistance for students.

BENEFITS:

Incorporating local knowledge and cultural elements in trainer education programs is integral for promoting culturally responsive educating practices that can benefit both teachers and students.

- Improved student engagement: Students are more likely to be engaged in learning when their culture and perspectives are valued and incorporated into the curriculum.
- Improved student achievement: Culturally responsive teaching practices can improve student achievement, particularly for students from diverse backgrounds.

- Enhanced teacher retention: Teachers who are linked to the local neighbourhood and recognize the cultural context of their students are more likely to remain in their careers and be effective in their roles.
- More effective teaching: Culturally responsive teaching practices can improve teacher effectiveness and help teachers connect with their students on a deeper level.

Conclusion: The present paper is an attempt to find out how far local knowledge is helpful in teacher education relating it with the National Educational Policy 2020. Through research analysis and literature review, it has been found that local and cultural knowledge, both are essential in teacher education. As the NEP-2020 envisions a holistic and inclusive education system, teachers also should have holistic education in different aspects of education to meet the demands of students. Students' local and cultural knowledge is helpful for the educational system. This helps them recognize the culture and how to communicate better with the students. If teachers do not train about the knowledge and traditions of distinct cultures, college students won't understand how their education applies to the world around them.

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