

MEANING AND DEFINITIONS OF EDUCATION

•The word ‘**EDUCATION**’ is derived from the Latin words—**Educare, Educere, Educo** and **Educatum** ‘Educare’ means ‘to bring up’ or to ‘nourish’, ‘Educere’ means ‘To draw out’ or to ‘manifest’ ‘Educo’ means ‘to lead out of’ ‘Educatum’ means ‘ Act of teaching or instruction’ ‘Educere’ means To draw out or to manifest.

•The term Educare or Educere mainly indicates development of the latent faculties of the child. But child does not know these possibilities. It is the educator or the teacher who can know these and take appropriate methods to develop those powers.

•In Hindi, the term “Siksha” has come from the Sanskrit word “Shash”. “Shash” means to discipline, to control, to order, to direct, to rule etc. Education in the traditional sense means controlling or disciplining the behaviour of an individual.

•In Sanskrit “Shiksha” is a particular branch of the Sutra literature, which has six branches –Shiksh, Chhanda, Byakarana, Nirukta, Jyotisha and Kalpa. The Sutra literature was designed to learn the Vedas. Siksha denotes rules of pronunciation. There is another term in Sanskrit, which throws light on the nature of education. It is “Vidya” which means knowledge. The term “Vidya” has originated from “Bid” meaning knowledge.

NARROW AND WIDER MEANING OF EDUCATION

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NARROW MEANING

- Education is a process in which and by which knowledge, character and behaviour of the young are shaped and moulded.
- The influence of the environment of the individual with a view to producing a permanent change in his habits of behavior, or thought and attitude. Education, in the narrower sense, is regarded as equivalent to instruction. It consists of the “specific influences” consciously designed in a school or in a college or in an institution to bring in the development and growth of the child.

WIDER MEANING

- ▣ Education in the wider sense is a life-long process.
- ▣ It begins with the birth of a child and ends with his death. It is a continuous process.
- ▣ An individual learns through his experiences, which are acquired throughout his life. Education is not merely collection of some information.
- ▣ It is acquisition of experiences through life in the social and natural environment.

THE INDIAN VIEWS OF EDUCATION

- ‘Education means training for the country and love for the nation’—Koutilya .
- ‘The highest education is that which makes our lives in harmony with all existence’ R. Tagore .
- Education is the manifestation of perfection already in man. Like fire in a piece of flint, knowledge exists in the mind. Suggestion is the friction; which brings it out, Swami Vivekananda.
- By education I mean an all-round drawing out of the best in child and man’s body, mind and spirit, Mahatma Gandhi.
- The highest education is that which does not merely give us information but makes our life in harmony with all existence, Rabindranath Tagore.
- Education is something, which makes a man self-reliant and self-less. Rigveda .
- Education is that whose end product is salvation,Upanishada.
- Education according to Indian tradition is not merely a means of earning a living; nor it is only a nursery of thought or a school for citizenship. It is initiation into the life of spirit and training of human souls in the pursuit of truth and the practice of virtue, Radhakrishnan.

WESTERN VIEWS

- Education develops in the body and soul of the pupil all the beauty and all the perfection he is capable of. Plato.
- Education is the creation of sound mind in a sound body. It develops man's faculty specially his mind so that he may be able to enjoy the contemplation of supreme truth, goodness and beauty. Aristotle.
- Education is the child's development from within. Rousseau.
- Education is enfoldment of what is already enfolded in the germ. It is the process through which the child makes the internal-external. Froebel.

- Education is the harmonious and progressive development of all the innate powers and faculties of man- physical, intellectual and moral. Pestalozzi.
- Education is the development of good moral character. J.F.Herbert .
- Education is not a preparation for life, rather it is the living. Education is the process of living through a continuous reconstruction of experiences. It is the development of all those capacities in the individual which will enable him to control his environment and fulfil his possibilities. John Dewey.