

A Review of Holistic School Education: Perspectives from India and Abroad

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Abstract:

Education is crucial for the economic growth and sustainable development of nations based on the principles of equity and social justice. Education is the process of human learning through which knowledge is conveyed, faculties are cultivated, and diverse skills are nurtured. Education has moved beyond the confines of mere transmission and acquiring of knowledge of different subjects in the curriculum. Holistic education seeks to cultivate the minds of learners and inculcate desirable humanistic values in them. Holistic education addresses the physical, intellectual, emotional, creative, social and spiritual aspects of personality to help in the complete development of learners. Holistic education aims at equipping learners with the knowledge and life skills needed to face the challenges and obstacles encountered in the turbulent contemporary world we inhabit.

Out of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the United Nations for peace, prosperity and welfare of all the people of the world, the fourth SDG is 'Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all'. The National Education Policy, 2020 visualises Indian education being harmonised with the goals of modern education, including those in SDG 4. Many schools in India and abroad understand the need for holistic education that engages children constructively and educates them holistically. These schools are making conscious efforts to impart holistic education. In this paper, the researchers review holistic education imparted in different schools in India and abroad to understand the status of holistic education in the current times.

Keywords:

Holistic education, lifelong learning, holistic development.