

oh!!!
wo-(man-ia)

[woo-m-uh-nia] noun, abstract most of the times, raw, unadulterated, ridiculously suave

edition 8 - october'2014

EDUCATION

is

REDUNDANT general geeky
grading **THOUGHTLESS** unfair
dividing senseless **RIGID**
dumb **DISCRIMINATING**
old-school
NEGATIVE narrow
low-self-esteem
STATUS society
unchanged nerds
wealth burden **shallow**
GRADES mugging
pressure blindfolded

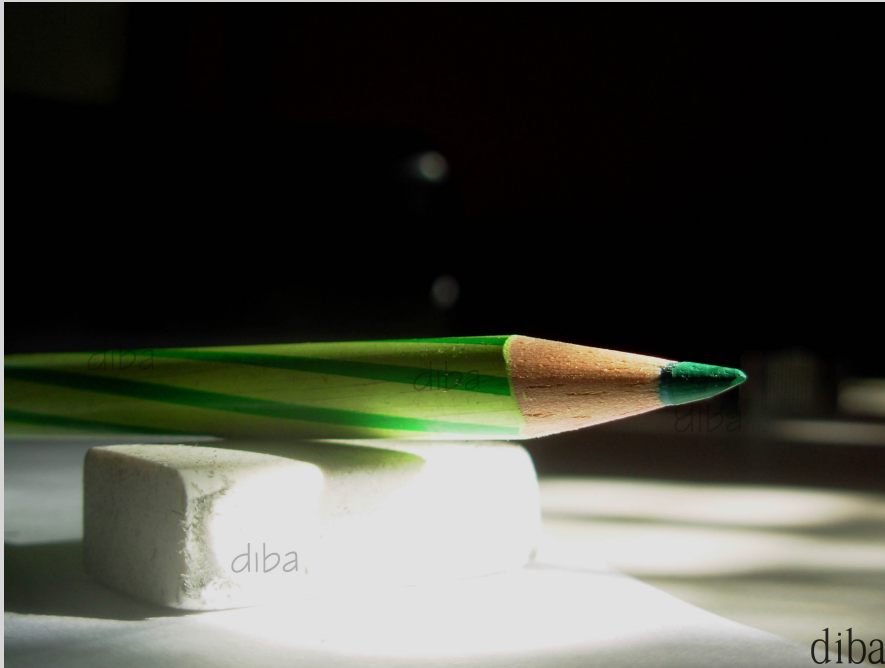
STABILITY intelligence morals
understanding **LIBERALISATION**
hope **DREAMS** achievement
sense **WISDOM** logic
SUCCESS future
safety **COMPETITION**
confidence esteem **STATUS**
society development
need wealth **JOB**
respect faith **admiration**
GRADES capability
optimism talent

WHAT, IS IT'???

Does Education bring Respect and Power?
Are exams necessary to judge the worth of a student?
Has Google crippled us? When Boon becomes bane!
What is the purpose of Education?
Facts about Education - world wide

editorial

DIBA
YAMINI



unfolding edition 8

- Does Education bring Respect and Power?
- Are exams necessary to judge the worth of a student?
- Has Google crippled us? When Boon becomes bane!
- What is the purpose of Education?
- Facts about Education - world wide
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Education! What is it all about? We fight for basic education, what is this basic? We want to get educated to earn money ultimately. We want degrees to get placements. We deem certain courses as bad because it has no future – with respect to what? Money?

Education is not only wisdom; it's not necessarily knowledge either. Then what is education? How is mere schooling different from imparting education? What does education profoundly consist of? Have we ever contemplated on pedagogy? Have we ever thought of education beyond jobs and money or beyond societal status?

My nephew, when he was 4 years old, knew how to operate Facebook, YouTube and play games on iPad. When he went to kindergarten he asked his dad why did he need a pencil to scribble on the paper when he could type everything on the iPad, or why does he need to learn to write at all? A very intelligent question by this 4 year old, made me ponder over our methods and approach to education too. Is it too redundant?

Parents want their kids to be competitive; they want them to excel, to top the class. Does this competition make them intelligent? Or wise? Or do they fall prey to this mounting pressure and enter the rat race? Do toppers have brighter future than the 5 point some-ones? I already answered that I guess!

Does Rancho strike a chord when he says 'Kamyaab nahi kaabil bano?'

Am sure, 'Kabilyat' doesn't lie in mugging notes dictated by our teachers. But then what are we all competing for? Where do we want to reach? Does education need to be goal specific? Talent specific? Choice specific? Or plain grade specific?

I have seen dropouts excel and toppers lose hope and go into depression due to lack of success. I have seen people who love what they do, being happy in lesser money and millionaires still craving for that peace of mind. I have been part of that rat race; I have excelled and made my parents proud. But what I am today?

It's not the grades I got in second standard or fifth or tenth, its knowledge of course, but it is also the things I learnt from my environs, my teachers, my friends, my foes. Yes that experience is enriching, schooling makes a lot of difference. But in what way?

Education is all about learning everything step by step in order to become whatever you've set your heart on. An old Tibetan saying states that education is nothing but wings for a little child. One may argue that education is not everything. There is much more to learn than just what they teach in school. But school education is of utmost importance than anything else. It is a basic necessity, as important as food clothing and shelter.

Let's picture this. Imagine a young scientist. He is working in the lab trying to attain feats and marvels for a certain scientific research. Does any of his wisdom or knowledge about other things really matter than his basic education and the marks he secured in those subjects? Will his dancing or music skills or language capabilities come into picture in this case? Or for that matter will any of those moral science lessons show up and help him with his scientific research? Perhaps no! All that will help him would be his know-how about the particular subject he is carrying out the research in. And if one would go back and check his academic records, the kid would have scored honors in that particular subject.

VS

Marks and grades are of utmost importance. They certify ones capability in a certain field or subject. It hence becomes easier, to master those subjects. There are many revolutionaries who still believe that the grading system needs to be changed. But isn't grading the only way to let a student know that what they are good at. For the sake of the weaker students, the bright students are devoid of a genuine recognition of their talent. For a student to know how good he or she is, marks are the only way of certifying that fact. This creates a competitive spirit in them and enables them to choose the right career path.

People also talk about honing abilities and talents being more important than minting money. But why does one undergo Education in the first place. If one had to become literate just for the sake of it, no one would. Education is definitely required to earn money. Marks get jobs. It's a very simple equation. With people digging into the traditional system of education, and trying to bring about something new to set all students at par, it seems like there would be a time when the bright students wouldn't even know what they are good at.

So, what should education really mean? What is the purpose? Why is it important? May be we will answer all these questions as we go along.

For now – Keep up with us and scroll for more split-fun!

Does Education bring Respect and Power?

Of all the people I know, who are respected, they are well-regarded for their accomplishments in life. And when I see those accomplishments, they have nothing to do with what they did in school. It has nothing to do with the marks they scored or the chapters they mugged or the degrees they hold. **The most respected people in the world are the people who are respected for the kind of individuals they turned out to be only because of their deeds and not the degrees.**

Education sure may be important, as many countries impose it as a basic necessity. It also stresses on the fact, and makes the students believe that with education they would be able to earn respect. They are also made to believe that education empowers them to do things, which are otherwise not possible. I would like to suppose that this is true. But it really isn't.

Haven't we heard of people who were college and school dropouts and have earned a lot of money, and earned immense respect by doing things unconventionally? Conforming to the societal rule of getting basic education perhaps did not excite them, and they went on to do some of the marvelous works that we see today.

What is respect and how and why people respect you? Why should people respect a class topper for mugging or understanding Archimedes principle? How can marks earn you respect, I don't understand. Are toppers better professionals? Or social workers? Yes they might be, but then the world has witnessed college dropouts excelling in various fields and ruling the world.

"I studied everything but never topped.... But today the toppers of the best universities are my employees", says Bill Gates.

What matters here is the desire to make a difference. A difference in their life and the lives of others. We hardly know people who have done great in schools. Of course many of them are placed somewhere decent. How would you relate education and respect? If respect comes from the money earned, they are amongst the richest people in the world. If respect is earned from the things they have done, they have been revolutionaries in their field. And all this without completing their formal education.

Does this make education and its system obsolete? Are there many similar students stuck within the system, constantly trying to get high marks and good jobs? Are we losing some jewels by conditioning their thoughts and limiting their capabilities to a standard level?

The only thing that is essential to achieve success, respect, glory, fame and power in this world is a desire to succeed.

If you have an idea, you should make it work – education or no education. Then the world will be at your feet!

Education is the essence of everything that one achieves in the life. With great power comes great responsibilities, says Batman. And it is very true. Knowledge is present everywhere. How one grasps it and puts it to true use differs from individual to individual. We live in an era, where we have to seek treasures, as they are not easily available. And to unleash the treasure that the mind holds, education is the key. Education enables one to think of possibilities, that otherwise seem impossible.

The people, who revel in the glory of respect and have a powerful grip over the world happenings, are the ones who are very highly educated. With exposure to various subjects, and further specializations in them, enables one to gain mastery over that subject. The student begins to own that domain. A master in a certain subject is respected all over the world. There are numerous examples of people who have dignified their purposes in life and attained highest degrees in incredible fields like astronomy, medical sciences, Nano-technology or fine arts.

One of the most loved, and respected President of India, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam was the 11th president of India after serving some of the highest positions in DRDO and ISRO. He is called the missile man of India. His magnificence remains unmatched. He has gained respect of all fellow countrymen. Everyone admires him for his knowledge and prowess– from kids to older people. His books leave indelible impressions on people. He has the power to influence the population with his talks, deeds and writing. That is the power of education.

There are many such examples all over the world –Stephen Hawkings, Randy Pausch, and many more scientists who have worked and continue to work in various fields and help in shrinking this vast universe. We know of everything that we do, only because of these far-sighted educationists and scientists who continue to simplify the complicated questions about life and universe.

Relating money to respect is perhaps a wrong notion. Those who have money are in turn supporting a lot of research projects which continue to help them maintain their status and power. An integral part of continuous research and improvement in existing technology is nothing but an upshot of education. With the increasing trends in various fields, it has become very important for one to learn the new technologies. Education is nothing but learning it all, and exploring the undiscovered areas.

Education, alone can bring power and respect.

Everything else is temporary!

VS

Are exams necessary to judge the worth of a student?

'When students cheat in exam, it's because our School System values marks more than students' value learning' said Neil deGrasse Tyson.

This is the most concise description of what really happens when there is an examination system in place. Exams are not as important as learning subjects to gain knowledge. How many students appear for the exams with utmost sincerity, without worrying about the result of this effort and test their knowledge gained over a period of time?

There would hardly be any student who would appear for an exam without the expectation of scoring, truly testing themselves in their areas of interest.

When the main motive of conducting exams is defeated, there is really no need to have them. During examinations, we see students, skipping their meals, opting to stay indoors and mugging away chapters to prepare for the next morning; they give up on their sleep and adhere to an erratic schedule.

'Study during study time, play during play time' – is a very famous Chinese saying. This is seldom practiced. For the most part of the year, the students engage in other activities, sidelining studies, and during examination they give up everything else and only prepare for tests. But is that how it is intended? If the student breaks from his regular schedule to study for his exams, then the whole purpose of education is defeated. There should be learning in stages. These stages should ensure, that no matter at what time of the month or year a student is exposed to a test, she/he should be able to face it with confidence.

Exams end up being memory tests you can't afford to fail. Exams are the most stressful part of education. This isn't reflecting a student's knowledge; it's gambling their grades on how well their memory holds up under pressure.

There is no point in having examinations. Examinations set limits; lessons are endless. If there are no examinations, the students will have a curiosity to explore and learn more, knowing that there is no syllabus limit to cover to pass in exams.

This enables them to increase their scope of exploring the subjects and makes them excel in the areas of their choice.

Exam confines the thinking abilities of a student, making them conform to only specific parts of the curriculum. This system thereby produces people who have grades, no knowledge. If we intend to produce erudite individuals, we should allow them to learn unreservedly without laying any conditions of passing in examinations or tests, whatsoever.

This approach is the only way, which will help us in unlocking the hidden potential which many students hold. The capacities of the mind are infinite.
And these young minds are the future!

Imagine running in a race with a condition that the entire lap is to make one realize the importance of leg muscles and nothing else. There would be no first position to the winner and all the runners could run just for the sake of running. What would be the motivation behind running in the race in the first place? Analogously, we can talk about education and examination too. In order to have a purpose and end result to the efforts that the students put in, there should be a test to judge the capabilities of the students. Else they would not be motivated to pursue education, if there were no exams.

Examination is not just a routine to test a child's knowledge in a particular subject. It is much more than that. Any examination lasts for say 'x' hours. Within that time, a student is expected to answer certain set of questions carrying certain weight-age. The answers to these questions are later analyzed and a student is marked as poor, average or bright.

The examination is not just a memory test. Also that. It is more than just testing the capacity of a student to reproduce the answers that he/she has learnt.

Examinations put to test more than just the memory of the student. It tests the discipline, confidence, time management and sharpness of intellect in the entire process. This is very important, because a student needs to know how their skills are faring during the growing up years. This plays a very important role in defining the further course of life.

Marks and grades are equally important. Grades are a reflection of the assessment of a student's abilities. Grades and marks give them a competitive edge and make them perform better in the class. Doing away with examinations and marks will not do any good to the young minds, because psychologically and instinctively, man yearns for competition. Survival of the fittest has been stressed up on in the evolution theory and it holds true in this case as well.

Some may say competition with other students is not healthy. It creates a very discouraging environment. Perhaps, the approach should change. **Examination is the method of analyzing one own self. It is to see how better you are than before. Pitching students against each other usually happens these days, which leads to pressure and depression. If the approach is molded so that the student seeks his own betterment through this whole process, then Examination and Grading would help them progress.**

If the competition is eliminated, the students will have no aim and no goal to accomplish. They will be withdrawn and the curiosity to learn more will be bowdlerized. This is not something we want. Do we?

VS

Has Google crippled us? When Boon becomes bane!

'With google I'm starting to burn out on knowing the answer to everything. People in the year 2020 are going to be nostalgic for the sensation of feeling clueless'

I remember discussing with a friend a few years back about the spread of internet and expanse of the virtual world. One topic led to another and we halted at a point where we couldn't recollect the names of people who came up with Google. So we decided, we would Google about the guy who invented Google. My friend insisted that we give it a little more though, rack our brains a tad more and we could be able to come up with the name. I refused to put in efforts and said, **I'd rather Google it than spend time thinking about it.**

That's when I realized, how convenience had taken over curiosity and knowledge. I was relying on a virtual tool to think for me, instead of using my brain to access a certain memory about a certain fact.

It's wasn't that Larry Page and Sergey Brin were unknown names, we knew the names, but you know, there are times, when you don't come up with exact answers and that kills you. Earlier, that curiosity would push us to go to Libraries and make us dig into pages of books for knowledge or browse through newspaper where you would keep important details highlighted. Now it's just Google. **Google is one of the biggest things this century has seen. To aid it more, Wikipedia is an online encyclopedia which has replaced the good old ways of learning.** Everything so far is commendable and appreciable. I have immense respect for people who have worked and strived to come up with such ingenious marvels.

I feel sad that indeed, computers have outdone the humans. This is the era when learning is not about gaining knowledge but it is about being 'expert in googling'. Human brain is of no use anymore. Everything is available so easily and readily that one needn't 'seek'. The inquisitiveness has paved way to artificial intelligence, and we take immense pride in it.

How has Google paralyzed all of us? Can we even give it a thought? It is really scary! No one needs to remember directions now, given the GPS works for you, thanks to Google. One small section of the population is busy in creating tools for the other huge section which is being forced to put opportuneness before struggle. Hence life has become so easy. This is what we all feared would dawn upon the humans one day!

Home works and assignments are not feared nowadays. The students have become very laid-back when it comes to submitting projects for their school work. This is how students approach their homework these days:

Google + Wikipedia ---> Copy ---> Paste ---> Change words a little ---> Print ---> HOMEWORK DONE

So what do you think? Things are deteriorating. The most powerful asset of a human mind – the thinking capability will be compromised. Everything will be mechanically available and we may even forget the art of memorizing things and reproducing them. The brain activity will be mundane.

Trust me! It's going to get scarier!

How many times do you find books or sources of knowledge that are absolutely free? Do we have that facility now? In the times when everything is available free of cost, in the virtual world, everything is just a click away! **Google gives access to a plethora of knowledge without charging anything. It works on a very basic internet plan and if you have that you have access to all that you need to know about any topic.**

Google hasn't just remained a name. A noun! It is used as a 'verb' now – an act that every human on earth must learn to do. It is as natural as breathing.

Recent research has confirmed suspicions that 24/7 access to (near) limitless information is not only bad for human discourse – it's also making us worse at remembering things, regardless of whether we try. Even if we aren't conscious of it, our brains are primed to think about the Internet when we start trying to recall the answer to a tough trivia question. Essentially, Google has become our collective mental crutch. With increasing dependency on external storage methods, **Google – as a tool has proved to be the most efficient provider of knowledge and answers. With the search optimization technique that google uses, one can easily find things relevant to what they are pursuing.**

Human brain has pushed its limits and has come up with something as astounding as Google. It is definitely easy in access and operation and one can get any information one seeks without having to browse through heavy books and minute prints in huge libraries. The technology has made everything available at a click of the mouse. Convenience is what a man always seeks. The curiosity is flamed even more when there is an abundance of knowledge available so easily.

Gone are the days, when carrying books and turning pages would give access to knowledge. It was a very time consuming activity. Many times the exact solution that we would look in the books, wouldn't be accessible or available in one go. With the increasing pace, can we really afford to spend time browsing the pages and searching for information? When we have tools like Google available, why would one look into books?

Most of the students refer to Google for completing their assignments and projects as it gives a lot of depth and possibilities of exploring more. Using various tools available on the internet to create presentations and projects have enable in innovative ways of submitting the academic assignments.

Ecologically speaking, if we resort to Google and internet for all our purposes, we would be saving millions of trees, which are cut down and made into papers for the books that we read. When everything is so easily available, why does one need to stack up books? We can store and access everything on our devices. This is the gen-nex. We are living in it now!

We cannot imagine our life without Google. It has only gotten better with such advancements in technology. We cannot afford to look back and think of using the old-school style of learning.

What if, one day google gets deleted and we couldn't google what happened to Google. This is a scary thought!

VS

What is the purpose of Education?

Indian parents are very eager to admit their child into nursery schools and pre-schools. Often parents start sending their children to school at the tender age of 2-3 years. It's after-all a competitive world, and their child should outshine others, the sooner the better.

But why do people educate their children? Why are there so many Malalas who have to fight the evils to learn in South East Asian countries? Why do terrorist groups ban education? What is this fuss all about?

What is the purpose of education? Is it earning money? Getting a decent job? Getting a good boy to marry? Getting a beautiful/smart girl as wife? Why does the world make such a big deal of this? Why are Malala Yousafzai and Kailash Satyarthi awarded with a Nobel for their struggle in the field of Education and basic rights for children? Aren't there other issues for peace and prize winning?

If the purpose of Education is knowledge, today we have Google just a click away. We have the world wide web of information, so why go to school? Why study in an organized way? If I learn, what I like from the internet, but have no SSC, HSC, Degree will I be called uneducated? Does a piece of paper matter so much?

What if Malala had internet access and she read all she wanted and got all lectures streamed on YouTube? She would have been spared the bullet and multiple surgeries, and also international recognition and multiple awards. Her situation was complex. But there are so many of us, with internet availability and the hunger to learn more and more, but the present education system wants to organize and systematically confine our brains to level up year wise.

But if Education is knowledge, it should save us from the clutches of ignorance and plight and alleviate us to wise, knowledgeable, intelligent people who can take care of themselves and fend for themselves.

Given the current scenario, it is impossible to change anything right away. Education should not mean parents registering their kids name in schools even before they turn 1. This is sheer competition and unnecessary pressure on children. The system has to change. It can change, but it will take years. We have been witnesses to it. If we want to modify anything, we can start putting in efforts now but it will only be effective five generations later. Having said that, should we sit back and do nothing?

There are some schools which engage students in various activities and ensure overall development and only start teaching them from books at the age of 7 years. This should be the approach. We do not want insensitive citizens with hundreds of certificates and high grades alone. Education should alleviate the hypocrisy and spread wisdom amongst every person. We can all start a small exercise at an individual level to make that big difference we all talk about.

Education is a process. Its purpose is growth. Growth is systematic progress – mentally, physically, and emotionally. Education and proper schooling fosters this kind of growth amongst students. The ancient schools in India were called 'Gurukuls'. These institutions aided the process of growth through education in all walks of life.

Education through schooling imbibes not only knowledge but also discipline, morals, etiquette, social bonding, team work, communication skills which cannot be provided by the modern teacher – INTERNET. Yes, technology is a friend but it can also be a foe. School is a place where you learn everything before you can boil down to one particular subject. You make friends, you fight, you play and dance, you celebrate and you compete. This overall experience cannot be matched with any internet facilities.

Education instills so much more than just the specific subjects and syllabi. Schooling is a holistic approach which aides growth and development of children. Interaction and communication is also a very essential part of this growth. 'Educate – Not only to gain knowledge, but to make wise, empathetic citizens'. We do not want high literacy rates alone. We want a better society. Students need to realize, that basic education is very important. No one is expected to become officers or bureaucrats after undergoing basic education. But each and every child should be able to decide for itself what is good and what is evil. Education is that power which will enable them to do that.

Why is Education feared so much? Because it can cripple all the fake bases that society thrives upon. And the leaders are scared of falling down on their face. The promises that the leaders give is just a hogwash. They want us to be scared. Most of the backward nations are suffering because of this. Luckily, India is a democratic nation and we have no secular threat like other Asian nations. We can demand our basic rights and learn.

While there are girls and boys bringing laurels to the nation, by doing amazingly well in science, sports, and management, there exists another stratum of children who are completely devoid of basic education. There are some who voluntarily opt out of education and learn the chores or labor work at an early age. They say they do not like studying. But Education is not a choice. Education is a necessary gear. Like we are encouraged to vote for elections, and told that it is our right, same is with Education. For survival, Education is as important as food, clothing and shelter, the latter being primary.

When we look at a broader level, we realize that the purpose of education is not just getting jobs and earning money. It is about understanding the enormity of what exists around us. Schooling and proper exposure to groups and learning encourages the students to understand this. Unless the importance of education, up to a basic level, amongst all the members of the society is not emphasized, there will still be a huge gap between us and the developed nations.

VS

OSHO Gyaan!

1. My vision of a right education is to teach people how to grow the ego and how to be able to drop it; how to become great minds and yet be ready any moment to put the mind aside. You should be able to just put your personality, your ego, your mind, on and off, because these are good things if you can use them. But you should know the mechanism, how to put them off. Right now you know only how to put them on.
2. In fact, the moment a child is perfectly conditioned by you, you are very happy; you call it "religious education." You are very happy that the child has been initiated into the religion of his parents. All that you have done is you have destroyed his capacity to know on his own. You have destroyed his authenticity. You have destroyed his very precious innocence.
3. The basic education is missing. The first thing to be taught is meditation, the art of going in, because only out of that arises a discipline.
4. A real education will not teach you to compete; it will teach you to cooperate. It will not teach you to fight and come first. It will teach you to be creative, to be loving, to be blissful, without any comparison with the other. It will not teach you that you can be happy only when you are the first. That is sheer nonsense. You can't be happy just by being first. And in trying to be first you go through such misery that you become habituated to misery by the time you become the first.
5. By the time you become the president or the prime minister of a country you have gone through such misery that now misery is your second nature. You don't know now any other way to exist; you remain miserable. Tension has become ingrained, anxiety has become your way of life. You don't know any other way; this is your very style. So even though you have become the first you remain cautious, anxious, afraid. It does not change your inner quality at all. A real education will not teach you to be the first. It will tell you to enjoy whatsoever you are doing, not for the result but for the act itself. Just like a painter or a dancer or a musician....
6. All values imposed from outside never get to your center. The only authentic values are those which come from your center and spread outwards, not vice versa. That's exactly the meaning of education: drawing the water out from the well. Education means drawing your inner being into expression in your living, your day-to-day life. Your honesty, your love, your compassion, should come from your inner being, not from teachings and scriptures, not from rabbis and bishops and shankaracharyas and Ayatollah Khomeini.
7. Society teaches you, "Become this, become that." It teaches you becoming. Its whole education system is based on the idea of becoming. And what I am telling you here is just the opposite of it. I am talking about BEING, not about becoming. Becoming is an invention of the crafty politicians and the priests — and these are the people who have poisoned the whole humanity. They go on giving you goals. If you become tired of the worldly things — money, power, prestige — they are there to tell you about paradise, God, samadhi, truth. Again the whole process starts.
8. There is nothing like education. All your education simply makes you capable of worrying about situations everywhere in the world, about everyone except you — about all the troubles that are in the world. They have always been there, they will always be there. It is not because you are here that troubles are there. You were not and they were there; you will not be soon and they will remain there. They change their colors but they remain. The very scheme of the universe is such that it seems that through trouble and misery something IS growing. It seems to be a step, it seems to be a necessary schooling, a discipline.
9. The child when he is born functions from the center; we teach him how to function from the circumference. That is our whole educational system all over the world: teaching the child how to function from the circumference. We pull him away from his center, we make him more and more accustomed to the circumference, to living on the circumference... twenty-five years of conditioning, education: good names we have given to ugly things. We call it education -- it is not education, nothing can be a greater mis-education.
10. The very word 'education' means drawing something out, to draw something out. When you draw water out of the well it is education. Just like that, when something is drawn outwards from your center it is education. But this is not what is going on in the name of education; it is forcing things upon you. It is not bringing your center to function. It is not sharpening your center; it is dulling it, making it more and more sleepy, dozy. The society succeeds the day your center goes into a coma and your circumference remains functioning. Then you are a robot, a machine, no more a man.
11. In the future, education will have that dimension. My own vision is that each student should be given an opportunity to teach too. The students who are reading and studying for their master's degree should be allowed to go to lower classes to teach; those who are working for their bachelor's degree, they should be allowed to teach the lower classes. Every student should be a teacher also, and vice versa. Every teacher once in a while should sit with the students and start learning again. Each teacher once in a while should be a student, and each student once in a while should be a teacher too. This difference between the teacher and the taught has to be dissolved; the teacher and the taught are part of one process.
12. In the coming century the whole education system is going to be totally transformed and changed because of the computer. It will be stupid to teach children history, geography -- unnecessary, there is no need. All that can be done by a computer; the child can carry the computer. And my own observation is: the less you depend on memory, the more intelligent you become. That's why it happens that in the universities you will not find very intelligent people.
13. Professors, chancellors, vice-chancellors -- I have seen many, but it is very difficult to find some intelligent person there. You can find more intelligent people in the farmers, in the gardeners, in the villagers. And the reason is clear: because they are not knowledgeable they cannot depend on the memory. They have to respond to reality, they have to respond to challenges, they have to bring their consciousness to respond -- their consciousness remains more sharp. A farmer, a villager, is far more wise than a professor in the university. The professor can depend on the memory, the farmer cannot depend on the memory.
14. Twenty-five years of education -- almost one third of your life you are being trained to be ambitious. How can you avoid politics? The only way to avoid politics is to get out of your mind; that means that unless mind is dropped totally, politics will go on clinging to you. You can even be antipolitical but then that will become politics.
15. The whole society tries in every possible way to disconnect you from your essential core, and it creates a false, plastic personality around you and it forces you to become identified with it. That's what it calls education. It is not education; it is mis-education. It is destructive, it is violent. This whole society, up to now, has been very violent with the individual. It does not believe in the individual; it is against the individual. It tries in every possible way to destroy you for its own purposes. It needs clerks, it needs stationmasters, deputy-collectors, policemen, magistrates, it needs soldiers. It does not need human beings.
16. We have failed, up to now, in creating a society which needs human beings, simple human beings. The society is interested that you should be more skillful, more productive, and less creative. It wants you to function like a machine, efficiently, but it does not want you to become awakened. It does not want Buddha and Christs -- Socrates, Pythagoras, Lao Tzu. No, these people are not needed at all by the society. If sometimes they happen, they don't happen because of the society; they happen in spite of the society.

MALALA



Malala Yousufzai is a name that will go down in history. She has made an epic attempt to survive the wrath of unruly men who thought, women taking up studies were a threat to a nation. And she has survived it with much aplomb. She had to take a shot in her skull, because she went to school despite it being banned for girls in the Swat region of Pakistan, where the local Taliban were in action.

Not only did she take up her education, but insisted on other girls getting their rights too. One gory afternoon, a Taliban aficionado asked for Malala, while she was getting into the school bus and shot three bullets at her. She underwent treatment and rehabilitation in UK and came out strong. She is one of the 100 most influential people in the world, as declared by TIME Magazine in 2013. The Taliban shamelessly reiterated their intent on killing Malala and her father. There are many more who still condemn Malala for going against religious norms.

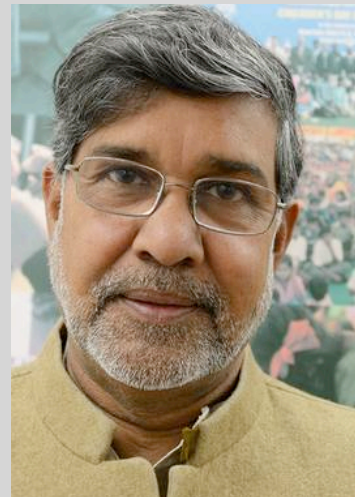
Malala is not just an example of a fighter. She has lived to prove that Education is so powerful that it can jolt the mightiest of people and parties. The biggest threat to the terrorist is not arms and ammunitions that the rival country possesses or the number of soldiers that are ready for the war, the biggest threat remains Education. The power of the common people to question what is right and what is wrong. That power which can overcome any menace, if put to defense properly. That is the influence of Education.

Perhaps, that is the reason why, most of the underdeveloped countries do not take this up as the priority. Because the rulers do not want any one going against the tenets they lay. They spoon feed the countrymen with their philosophies, and the people follow it unquestioningly, without having the understanding of what they are taking up. Their discretion and will power are paralyzed by refraining them from the basic right to gain education.

We need girls like Malala everywhere. She is an epitome of the gen next woman that will be the harbinger of a future where men and women are treated equally.

We Congratulate Malala- the girl who fought for education and survived, for Winning the Nobel Peace Prize 2014

SATYARTHI



Kailash Satyarthi, born on January 11, 1954, lives in New . He has been active in struggle against child labor since the 1990s and has freed many children from the evils of bonded labor and servitude through his organization, Bachpan Bachao Andolan.

Satyarthi has been involved with the Global March Against Child Labor and its international advocacy body, the International Center on Child Labor and Education (ICCLE) – a global coalition of NGOs, teachers and trades unionists, and also the Global Campaign for Education.

Satyarthi is also credited with establishing Goodweave as the first voluntary labeling, monitoring and certification system of rugs manufactured without the use of child-labor in South Asia. He has helped enactment and adoption of national and international legislations, treaties and conventions as well as the constitutional amendment on child labor and education.

Kailash, who was born in Vidisha in Madhya Pradesh, has a degree in electrical engineering and a post-graduate diploma in high-voltage engineering.

After teaching in an engineering college in Bhopal for a few years, Kailash became secretary general for the Bonded Labor Liberation Front.

Child Labor is one of the persistent problems in our country. Child labor comprises of 25 percent of labor force in most of the parts of South Asia. According to a research, more than 55 million are in servitude and 10 million are bonded slaves to their employers

Kailash has taken up this issue as his focus for remedy and improvement. He organizes raids to identify the places where children are working in bonded labor. He rescues them, provides rehabilitation and endows them with vocational training and work.

We congratulate Mr. Satyarthi for winning Nobel Peace Prize 2014

Facts about Education - world wide



1. As of 2012, 31 million primary-school pupils worldwide dropped out of school. An additional 32 million repeated a grade.
2. In the sub-Saharan, 11.07 million children leave school before completing their primary education. In South and West Asia, that number reaches 13.54 million.
3. While girls are less likely to begin school, boys are more likely to repeat grades or drop out altogether.
4. According to UNESCO, 61 million primary school-age children were not enrolled in school in 2010. Of these children, 47% were never expected to enter school, 26% attended school but left, and the remaining 27% are expected to attend school in the future.
5. Children living in a rural environment are twice as likely to be out of school than urban children. Additionally, children from the wealthiest 20% of the population are 4 times more likely to be in school than the poorest 20%.
6. In developing, low-income countries, every additional year of education can increase a person's future income by an average of 10%.
7. Children who are born to educated mothers are less likely to be stunted or malnourished. Each additional year of maternal education also reduces the child mortality rate by 2%.
8. Women with a primary school education are 13% more likely to know that condoms can reduce their risk of contracting HIV/AIDS. An education can help decrease the spreading of virus by promoting safer sexual practices.
9. 53% of the world's out-of-school children are girls and 2/3 of the illiterate people in the world are women.
10. Education empowers women to make healthy decisions about their lives. For example, women in Mali with a secondary level education or higher have an average of 3 children, while those with no education have an average of 7.

Data courtesy: <https://www.dosomething.org/facts/11-facts-about-education-around-world>

Remembering Jobs

MAC OS and all Apple products are synonymous to this connoisseur – Steve Jobs. He was a man with a vision and tremendous patience. Though his endeavor started almost simultaneously with progression of Windows, his patience made him come up with a system which was foolproof and entirely bug free.

Today his innovations rule the market in terms of quality and high-end design. The users worship Jobs for his impeccable machines. All the Apple products not only have a very user friendly front panel, but also have well designed, clutter-free backs. He was a keen observer and believed in high quality design and finesse.

Steve Jobs was born to lead. Even if he was no more a part of his own company, it did not affect his zeal to invent or create. He started Pixar animation studio and then went on to develop the revolutionary I-pods later followed by I-phones and I-pads after rejoining Apple as the CEO. The rest is history.

In one of the very well-known speeches by Steve Jobs at Stanford, he talks about his tryst with destiny and how his learnings helped him.

"I dropped out of Reed College after the first 6 months, but then stayed around as a drop-in for another 18 months or so before I really quit. So why did I drop out?"

It started before I was born. My biological mother was a young, unwed college graduate student, and she decided to put me up for adoption. She felt very strongly that I should be adopted by college graduates, so everything was all set for me to be adopted at birth by a lawyer and his wife. Except that when I popped out they decided at the last minute that they really wanted a girl. So my parents, who were on a waiting list, got a call in the middle of the night asking: 'We have an unexpected baby boy; do you want him?' They said: 'Of course.' My biological mother later found out that my mother had never graduated from college and that my father had never graduated from high school. She refused to sign the final adoption papers. She only relented a few months later when my parents promised that I would someday go to college.

And 17 years later I did go to college. But I naively chose a college that was almost as expensive as Stanford, and all of my working-class parents' savings were being spent on my college tuition. After six months, I couldn't see the value in it. I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life and no idea how college was going to help me figure it out. And here I was spending all of the money my parents had saved their entire life. So I decided to drop out and trust that it would all work out OK. It was pretty scary at the time, but looking back it was one of the best decisions I ever made. The minute I dropped out I could stop taking the required classes that didn't interest me, and begin dropping in on the ones that looked interesting. It wasn't all romantic. I didn't have a dorm room, so I slept on the floor in friends' rooms, I returned coke bottles for the 5¢ deposits to buy food with, and I would walk the 7 miles across

town every Sunday night to get one good meal a week at the Hare Krishna temple. I loved it. And much of what I stumbled into by following my curiosity and intuition turned out to be priceless later on.

Let me give you one example:

Reed College at that time offered perhaps the best calligraphy instruction in the country. Throughout the campus every poster, every label on every drawer, was beautifully hand calligraphed. Because I had dropped out and didn't have to take the normal classes, I decided to take a calligraphy class to learn how to do this. I learned about serif and san serif typefaces, about varying the amount of space between different letter combinations, about what makes great typography great. It was beautiful, historical, artistically subtle in a way that science can't capture, and I found it fascinating.

None of this had even a hope of any practical application in my life. But ten years later, when we were designing the first Macintosh computer, it all came back to me. And we designed it all into the Mac. It was the first computer with beautiful typography. If I had never dropped in on that single course in college, the Mac would have never had multiple typefaces or proportionally spaced fonts. And since Windows just copied the Mac, it's likely that no personal computer would have them. If I had never dropped out, I would have never dropped in on this calligraphy class, and personal computers might not have the wonderful typography that they do. Of course it was impossible to connect the dots looking forward when I was in college. But it was very, very clear looking backwards ten years later.

Again, you can't connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backwards. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future. You have to trust in something — your gut, destiny, life, karma, whatever. This approach has never let me down, and it has made all the difference in my life."

Many of us were perhaps in a similar situation once, when we wondered about what we were learning would make any sense later or not. The students, now, would also face same quandary at some point or the other in their lives. But like Jobs said, it all makes sense later.

He continues to be an inspiration to millions of youngsters who believe that innovation is a way of life. We remember Steve Jobs on his 2nd Death Anniversary, knowing that his absence is a big void, no one can fill.

There is always a budding dreamer and innovator somewhere. We have to just give air to the fire! He could be the next Steve Jobs!

Like Jobs quoted, **"Stay hungry, stay foolish!"**

Read the entire Stanford commencement Speech here : <http://news.stanford.edu/news/2005/june15/jobs-061505.html>



5 Habits to Cultivate in Your Students if they use Digital media for studying

1. With increasing dependency on the digital media and internet for learning and gaining knowledge, many of us have been irked by the influence of texting and chatting on students. The language use is deteriorating, and they are becoming less literate by ignoring proper English. It's important that the students are encouraged to follow proper grammar and spellings. This will help in retaining and improving the linguistic abilities of the students.
2. Relying on PowerPoint Presentation is not enough to gain knowledge. Nowadays the teachers and professors use the digital medium of teaching, and later share the slides with the students for reference. Unless the students dig in further and write paragraphs for deeper understanding they won't be able to understand the importance of the subject and the lessons. The creativity of the students will be addressed when they are asked to paraphrase the teachings in the form of either assignments or projects.
3. Critical thinking skills are affected when students direct the questions asked to them to Google. It is very important that Google- as a tool is used to add value to already existing knowledge and learning. If the thinking skill of the student is affected, it is time we rethink about the approach to teaching strategy.
4. While there is a lot of information present on the blogs and forums about various topics, it is very important that the original thought of the student is encouraged. It is important that they think innovatively without just following the information that is available on the internet.
5. With everything easily accessible on the internet, the students tend to follow the Ctrl+C and Ctrl+V path while learning or submitting assignments. What may just seem as a temporary solution may later come up with bigger complications with copyright issues, by the owner of the original content. Hence the students should be rightly educated about Plagiarism.

Mars Orbiter Mission

It was a proud moment of India when ISRO successfully launched the Mars Orbiter Mission. With all the leaders giving in their precious inputs about how proud they are, we have somewhere forgotten to mention the talented people who have made this mission come true. Here is the list of scientists who have worked uncompromisingly and made this mission a huge success. The fourteen scientists who have made this possible are as mentioned below:

1. **K Radhakrishnan:** He is the Chairman of ISRO and Secretary in department of space. He was responsible for leading the mission and overall activities of ISRO.
2. **M Annadurai:** He is the Program Director of Mars Orbiter Mission. He is leading many Remote Sensing and Science missions. He was responsible for budget management, direction for spacecraft configuration, schedule and resources.
3. **S Ramakrishnan:** He is the Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre and Member Launch Authorization Board. He played a key role in the development of PSLV and was responsible for development of liquid propulsion stages and their interfacing with vehicle and launch operations.
4. **SK Shivakumar:** He holds the position of the Director of ISRO Satellite Centre. He joined ISRO in 1976 and since then he has made several contributions to planning and operations of Indian satellite missions. He was the project director for India's first indigenous Deep Space Network antenna. He was responsible for developing satellite technology and implementing satellite systems for scientific, technological and application missions.
5. **P Kunhikrishnan:** The project director of PSLV program and was appointed as mission director for the ninth time. He was responsible for seeing the rocket completes its mission successfully and that the satellite is correctly injected in the designated orbit.
6. **Chandradathan:** He is the Director of Liquid Propulsion system. He joined ISRO in 1972 Initially, he worked for the SLV-3 Project during its design phase and later was involved in the development of solid propellant formulations for SLV-3 and over three decades, made rich contribution to the realization of solid motors for sounding rockets, SLV-3, ASLV and PSLV.
7. **AS Kiran Kumar:** The Director of Satellite Application Centre. He has contributed to the design and development of Electro-Optical Imaging Sensors for Airborne, LEO and GEO platform based imaging sensors starting from Bhaskara TV payload to the latest TMC adHySI payloads for Chandrayaan-1 missions. He was responsible for designing and building three of the orbiter payloads – Mars Color Camera, Methane Sensor and Thermal Infrared Imaging Spectrometer.
8. **MYS Prasad:** He is the Director of Satish Dhawan Space Centre and Chairman of the Launch Authorisation Board. He was responsible for range safety and schedules, overall in-charge at rocket port.
9. **S Arunan:** The Project Director of Mars Orbiter Mission and was responsible for leading a team to build the spacecraft. The challenge for him was to build a new communication system, making of the spacecraft which was largely autonomous to take decisions, making the orbiter engine which would restart after 300 days, designing of solar power cells and developing new navigation software.
10. **B Jayakumar:** He is the Associate Project Director of PSLV project. He is responsible for the rocket systems, testing till the final lift-off.
11. **MS Pannirselvam:** The Chief General Manager of range operation director at Sriharikota Rocket port was responsible for maintaining launch schedules without any slippages.
12. **S Arunan:** Project Director of Mars Orbiter Mission at Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
13. **V Kesava Raju:** The Mission Director of Mars Orbiter Mission
14. **ISRO scientific secretary V Koteswara Rao.**

Data Courtesy: <http://ibnlive.in.com/news/mars-orbiter-mission-the-14-isro-scientists-behind-mangalyaan/501257-3.html>

Announcement

When are not busy writing and putting together all articles, we indulge in more serious fun! Really! We are not kidding. The whole process of coming up with an edition means having coffee wherever we are and yapping philosophy over whatsapp and bbm. Finally our hearts push us to write and we end up with these editions. We are in love with whatever we do!
We would love for more people to join us and share this madness. People who are serious about work, who are extremely talented and like to work on schedules and deadlines. Those who promise things and keep it, and those who

have won awards in art and literature and most "not welcome". The fun lovers, mad hatters.. You are most free to join us, and see how crazier can people get. Oh! Womania is about living one day at a time, and then summarizing all that we have lived and learnt. It's about making our very own zone wonderful. Slowly we hope it spreads wider and wider, making this world a beautiful place to live in.

If you are interested to be a part of our team, please write to us at ohwomania@gmail.com

Come, join and help us spread the love and light!

Choli ke pichhe

Seriousness of the issue made us too philosophical, so on lighter occasions we discussed anything and everything.

When we finally mark a presence in the virtual world!

Y: D..We have our site
Y: Ohwomania.in
D: Yaye congrats
Y: Its done.. Made ready
D: Finally
D: Let's make d page grey lik r old womania theme
Y: Okie
D: N red
D: Tis feels so good ...
Ohwomania.in

When we take Aamir's comments seriously!

Y: Nashte ke waqt khane ke waqt womania ke baare me soche toh hum kaamiyab honge
Y: Aamir saying.. Else we r not kaabil to run
D: Lol
D: Filhaal i m thinkin lik dat
D: Nahate waqt khaate waqt sote waqt
Y: So Cool.. One of us should be Kaabil at a given point in time! :D

When we almost dictated the Education ministry about how things should be!

Y: So no merit.. And rankings.. Is competitive spirit important?
D: Yes i wana questn that std.... N y so many stds....
D: Y so much stress... Shouldnt each b taught acc to his capability n iq
D: Ther shud b n iq test
Y: Yes... To qualify to next level thr shud be iq level test..
D: N den psycologists shud group

Y: May be this topic wr can take in next
D: N initially teachers shud go thru psychologist training program n undrstd each child n individual needs
D: N if one student learns fast he shud b upgraded faster.... Jus lik v upgrade softwares whn needed nt afr a yr
Y: Teachers is also a very imp topic
D: Are students wit low iq bad?
No they hav various talents which shud b analyzed n den developed....

Food for Thought!

"What should be covered must be covered. Women should not trouble others by wearing jeans"

KJ Yesudas, a well-known and respected (not anymore) musician quoted the above and maintained "They [women] should not try to become like men but must behave modestly".

What is modesty?

From when did dressing etiquette started serving as the definition for modesty?

No matter how much we fight for the rights of women or dream of a future where men and women would be able to survive with equal respect and pride, some things will never change. People like Mr. Poke-a-lot do attract some stir and

condemnation for remarks like these. It was highly demeaning for him to make that statement.

What most of the girls are told in their homes behind closed doors was just spoken out loud by a celebrity. There are many girls who are still forbidden to wear jeans only because their parents think that their modesty will be in question.

How many of you, reading this, think this is a right statement? Do you think women are trying to become like men by wearing denims?

And does that make one question the modesty the women?

Do write to us and let us know what you think about this.

PS: We have read the comments and taken up a few pointers too. How much we follow and stay in our senses, is all up to the rotation and revolution of the earth! We are unapologetic, but we sincerely respect feedbacks and we couldn't have been more thankful! :)

So keep 'em coming.

Credits:

Design (cover & magazine):Diba
Content: Diba, Yamini,
Editing: Yamini
Proofreading: Yamini
Facts and Quotes: Wikipedia
Grammar Teacher:
MAC pages and MS word.

Until Next time:

Note: All the typos in the posts are intentional. If you haven't found any, Congratulations!

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We welcome contributions/comments/feedbacks from readers and writers. For more details on the coming issue, please check the "sneak peak" section or write to us at ohwomania@gmail.com.

Follow us on our new FB page : <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Oh-Womania/469025103199711>

Visit our website to keep track of our activities - <http://ohwomania.in>

More light, more power to everyone!

Help spread the love with Diba and Yamini :)