



INTERFACE

September 2023

A Presentation By Department of English

In our society whereas in other professions, a particular job has to be performed at a time; in the field of education, the teacher has to play various roles simultaneously like Goddess Durga. As teachers are regarded as the backbone of our society, therefore a huge responsibility lies on their shoulder. With the changing demand of the society, with the changing nature of our educational system, various roles have been emerged with the role of teacher. When we are talking about teacher, the role of a mentor, a resource person, a guide, a psychologist, a counselor, a motivator and so many roles are concurrently coming into our mind. That is why the teacher is compared with VIBGYOR. The teacher not only gives knowledge to the students, but also inculcates the sense of nationalism, civic sense, spirit of freedom and moreover the true essence of humanism. A teacher invests his all savings on his students to make them an asset of future society. Like a lighting candle, teacher always enlightens the way of golden future.

With the continuing development of the pedagogical approaches in teaching, the roles of teachers have always been subject to be defined in new ways. Teachers nowadays are bewildered with so many duties and responsibilities that they often get confused in demarcating the areas of their roles. Many teachers do not see the paradigm shift in the era of modern education. They do not change their basic teaching techniques over the years except to include or exclude a few steps or materials in their teaching-learning activities. A good number of teachers also believe that the essential tool of teaching is having a profound erudition in the subject matter they teach. In other words, they undermine the involvement of different new approaches that have emerged in teaching over time and thus fail to embrace the paradigm shift in teachers' roles. Nowadays, teachers have much broader responsibilities of developing learning materials and exercises, designing learning environments and activities, facilitating critical and

creative thinking, and there is increasing pressure on them to play active roles in meeting the learning goals. The teaching profession, by its nature, sets an ethical standard to the teachers not confining themselves only in the topics of syllabuses that we expect them to cover within a stipulated time frame. It means teachers will have to do some other jobs for ensuring all-round development of learners. Many teachers are good at covering syllabuses, giving examinations, and publishing results, but they are not willing to go beyond their in-built narrow boundaries to perform other responsibilities. That is, indeed, a kind of a cutthroat commercial attitude that persuades them to adhere to the old tradition of presenting lessons with introductions, a list of dos and don'ts, required textbooks, and expectations. Quality teaching requires some additional services that are voluntarily supplemented by teachers to the teaching-learning activities.

Acharya Chanakya was a philosopher, who had compiled almost every aspect policy that had been written in India up to that time regarding property, economics, or material success. Chanakya, also identified as Kauṭilya or Vishnu Gupta, was a powerful political leader. Born into a Brahmin family in 350 BC, Chanakya was educated at Takshashila, an ancient center of learning located in north-western ancient India. He was a highly learned person with in-depth knowledge in different subjects like economics, politics, war strategies, medicine, and astrology. (Chanakya Biography, n.d.) Beginning his career as a teacher (acharya) of political science and economics at Takshashila, he acted as the emperor's counselor and adviser of Emperor Chandragupta and also served as the adviser to Chandragupta's son Bindusara. Chanakya Niti is a collection of proverbs composed by Chanakya. It is a set of ideas and statements which give valuable tips on how to lead a

good and productive life even in this day. Chanakya put forward many ideas on political science, ethics, economy, state affairs, spying, military strategies, etc. His philosophy finds resonance in today's world also especially in the field of politics, management, and even in personal life. Chanakya compares knowledge to a cow and says that just as a mother protects her child in the same way knowledge saves a person in difficult situations. Even in the most dreadful times a knowledgeable person through his wisdom can handle all and way out for himself.

Savitribai Phule was the first Indian woman to become a teacher. She also spearheaded the feminist movement and women's education in the country. She is hailed as an important contributor to social reform and took the lead in the awareness of various causes such as child marriage, women's education and caste discriminations. Her efforts created a revolution against the bigoted patriarchy that was so prevalent all across the country. Married to Jyotirao Phule at a very early age, Savitribai was introduced to education only after her marriage. Together, the couple founded various schools, institutions and trusts that aided women's education and empowerment. Savitribai's education started after she married Jyotirao Phule. He started educating her along with his cousin Sagunabai Shirsagar at their home. So, Savitribai's primary education was taken care of by her husband. She was then educated by two of Jyotirao's friends Sakharam Yeshwant Paranjpe and Keshav Shivram Bhavalkar. She went on to pursue her teacher training at an American missionary school in Ahmednagar. She also pursued a course at Pune's Normal School. Being

from such a backward class gave her the experience and sensibility of the oppressed in a biased society. This was crucial to the formulation of her ideas about social reform and the upliftment of women. After completing her teaching training, Savitribai Phule, along with Jyotirao's cousin Sagunabai, began to teach girl students in Pune. At a time when educating girls was unthinkable, Savitribai initiated a movement that enabled women to stand out in society as equals. Between 1848 and 1851, Jyotirao, Sagunabai and Savitribai opened three schools for girls. Together, the three schools had a hundred and fifty students. It was the first time in the history of the country that education of women was taken up as a cause.

When they started teaching girls, Jyotirao's father, whose home they were living in, asked them to leave because their work was not understood or appreciated by his family. In fact, what they were doing was considered sinful by the community. They began living in the home of Usman Sheikh, a friend of Jyotirao's. Here they met Fatima Begum Sheikh, who was the first Muslim woman teacher in India. In 1849, Savitribai and Fatima Sheikh started a school in the Sheikh's residence. Savitribai initiated the notion of women's education in India. She has been popularly called the 'Crusader of Gender Justice.' Along with her husband Jyotirao, Savitribai established two educational trusts. One was called the Native Female School of Pune, and the other was The Society for Promoting the Education of Mahars, Mangs and Etceteras.

She and husband Jyotirao taught at a total of 18 schools. That was the spread of her impact. In an era when there were no female teachers and no girl students, Savitribai revolutionised the system of education and paved the way for women's education. Any information on Savitribai Phule will lead to details of her work in these sectors.

Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan had an array of positions of power, from philosopher to president of India, but his contributions as a teacher are what most people vividly recall him for. For devoting his life to raising educational standards and advancing education, Radhakrishnan has won praise.

"Instead of celebrating my birthday, it would be my privilege if September 5 is observed as Teachers' Day,"

Swami Vivekananda said, "Education is the manifestation of perfection already in men. He was the man behind 'Ramakrishna Mission', in which monks and lay people would jointly undertake propagation of Practical Vedanta, and various forms of social service. His teachings and philosophy applied this reinterpretation to various aspects of education, faith, character building as well as social issues pertaining to India. He propagated the Gurukula system, where the educational institutions and the home are blended together and where the teachers and pupil live together and work in close and harmonious relationship. He empowered students to handle different life situations and become good citizens. He believed that every individual had infinite potential which can be manifested as excellence in every walk of life.

Dr APJ Abdul Kalam was the scientist and India's 11th President. He was a huge advocate of education as the primary driving

force of personal growth. He believed that apart from holding a mere academic degree, a student should also enhance his personal skills and calibre which are utilised more in shaping an individual's career and life. He was a guest lecturer at IIM Shillong, Ahmedabad, and Indore and an honorary fellow of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. He taught IT at the IIIT, Hyderabad and technology at Banaras Hindu University and Anna University.

Quotable Quotes on Education :

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." —

Nelson Mandela

"A child without education is like a bird without wings." —

Tibetan Proverb

"The content of a book holds the power of education and it is with this power that we can shape our future and change lives." —

Malala Yousafzai

"Education is not just about getting grades; it is about acquiring knowledge and developing a comprehensive understanding of the world."---

Swami Vivekananda

Sources:

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| <i>Date</i> | <i>Important Days in September</i> |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>1 sept-7th Sept</i> | <i>National Nutrition Week</i> |
| <i>2nd September</i> | <i>World Coconut Day</i> |
| <i>5th September</i> | <i>International Day of Charity</i> |
| <i>5th September</i> | <i>Teacher's Day (India)</i> |
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