

Need of Professional Attitude of Teachers Towards Teaching Profession

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Abstract

Nowadays, the professional growth and development is increased day by day. However, there are also so many questions that either the person is intentionally joined or select his or her profession or not. Some of the candidates who are really love the profession but due to some lack of socio and psychological factors, the candidates himself or herself are not able to continue the job. Therefore, it is compulsorily needed to have a positive attitude towards his teaching profession. Only when there is positive attitude among the teachers, there will be professional growth as well as the profession can be turn in the positive direction. Hence, it can be concluded that it is very important to study related with the need of professional attitude of teachers towards teaching profession for becoming a successful profession.

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Introduction

“Education is the most important intervention of mankind. It is more important than man’s invention of tools, machines, space, crafts, weapons and even of language because language too was the product of his education”(Das p.1⁶). It is no doubt that education plays a very significant role in facilitating learning and the acquisition of knowledge, skill, values, beliefs, habits etc. and also moulding and shaping the behavior of individuals with a view to producing well balanced personalities, who are physically strong, mentally alert, emotionally stable, socially sufficient, morally upright, spiritually enlightened, culturally refined, vocationally, self-sufficient and internationally liberal. So education plays an important role in developing and shaping the individuals and to equip members of the society. It is well said, the quality of a nation depends upon the qualities of its citizens, the quality of its citizens depends on the quality of education and the quality of their education depends upon the quality of their teachers. No system of education is better unless there is no effective, efficient, sincere, honest, and dedicated on the part of teachers, because the quality of an educational system depends upon the teachers. The teacher occupies a pivotal position in the system of education. The teachers are the back-bone of the educational system, maker of mankind, architect or shaper or builders of the nation. They play a very important role in the social reconstruction and in the transmission of wisdom, knowledge and experience from one generation to another. They are leading catalyst and ideal role model of the society. The National Policy on Education 1986 rightly said that, “*The status of the teachers reflect the socio-economic ethos of a society, it is said that no people can rise above the level of its teachers*”(Bhatnagar, Mullick and Shulla³), and The Secondary Education Commission 1952-53 rightly point out that “ *The most important factors in the responsible for the educational reconstruction is the teacher, his qualities, his educational qualification, his professional training and the place that he occupies in the school as well as in the community*”(Ali and Akanda p.33¹). Therefore it is well known that teacher has the crucial role in the development of a country, on him rest the failure or the success of education system and there is need and requirement of a efficient, effective sincere and dedicated teachers. A good and ideal teacher should have a well balanced personality as well as certain characteristics regarding the profession of teaching. The professional success of every teacher depends mainly on his up-to-date professional knowledge fullest devotion and favourable attitude towards the profession. So, there is need of providing necessary professional knowledge, develop skills and attitudes of the profession to our prospective as well as in-service teachers. Attitude also plays an important role in the professional growth of the teachers and improvement

of their professional education. Without proper physical, socio-cultural and professional attitude of the teachers, the profession of teaching will be down falling. For bringing well and proper professional growth or development of the teachers, it is necessary to study or understand the importance of attitude of towards the profession of teaching and it is better to understand about the terms and ideas of the attitude and teaching profession.

Meaning of Attitude

“Attitude is a dispositional readiness to respond to certain situations, persons or objects in a consistent manner which has been learned and become one’s typical mode of response,” (Freeman p. 596⁷). It is the mental feeling of a person towards an objects, person, activity or thought which are developed by his own experiences regarding that objects, persons, activities or thoughts and which direct him to react to these accordingly. In the words of Travers, “*An attitude is a readiness to respond in such a way that behavior is given a certain direction,*” (Mangal p. 283⁹). According to Thurstone, “*An attitude is the degree of positive or negative effect associated with some psychological objects,*” (Bhatnagar p. 222²).

Characteristics of Attitude

The characteristics of attitude are highlighted as below:

- (i) Attitude is mental feeling and ideas of a person towards an object, person, activity or thought.
- (ii) Attitude can be either positive or negative.
- (iii) Attitude is related to one’s own experience.
- (iv) Development of attitude occurs due to social relation.
- (v) Attitude influence the personality of a person.
- (vi) Emotions prove helpful in the development of attitude. (Lal and Joshi, p.190⁸)

In other words the characteristic of attitude may be described as follows.

- (i) There are individual differences in attitude.
- (ii) Attitude may be overt and covert and it is unlimited in nature.
- (iii) Attitudes are flexible in nature. They are not permanent.
- (iv) It is integrated into an organized system and can’t be changed easily.
- (v) It is a bi-polar trait as it is a position towards an object either for or against.
- (vi) It varies culture to culture and society to society.
- (vii) It implies a subject-object relationship. (Bhatnagar p. 222⁴)

Types of Attitude

Attitudes are generally classified into the following types:

- (i) **Positive Attitude:** When a person likes and accepts and objects, person, activity or thought and is attracted towards it and tries to adjust himself according to that object, person, activity or thought. It is called positive attitude towards such objects, persons, activities, or thoughts.
- (ii) **Negative Attitude:** When a person dislikes and rejects an object, activity or thought and tries to make distance from that object, person, activity or thought, it is called negative attitude towards such objects, persons, activities, or thoughts.
- (iii) **General Attitude:** The attitude which is expressed in general or collective term towards an object, person, activity or thought is called general attitude e.g. motherly affection towards women.
- (iv) **Specific Attitude:** The attitude which is specifically express towards and objects, person, activity or thought, it is called specific attitude e.g. special love and devotion to owns mother child or wife etc. (Lal and Joshi p.190⁸)

Meaning of Profession

A profession may be defined as a vocation or an occupation which required specialized knowledge; highly skillful and advanced training and education and also follow formal systematic rules and regulations. It is a vocation which required a continuous, extensive and long period of academic and professional education and training based on sound body of knowledge and certain specialized skills. It is the occupation which performs some social services to provide public good and also maintained some code of professional ethics. based on theoretical knowledge, proper The International Dictionary of education (1979) defines the term profession as “*a prestigious occupation may be termed as profession of, it carries out an essential social service, if founded on systematic knowledge, requires lengthy academic and practical training, provide high autonomy, based on code of ethics, generate in service growth*” (Ali p. 167¹). According to C.V. Good, Dictionary of Education (1973) defines, “*A profession can be termed as an occupation if, it requires a relative long and specialized preparation and as governed by its own code of ethics.*” (Ali p. 167¹)

Thus a profession may be defined as an occupation which requires the acquisition of a fund of knowledge, skills, and their application in the service of humanity. It requires long extensive period of specialized education and training to become the professional expertise and the purpose of which is generally to provide skill service and guidance in lieu of a definite fee or remuneration. It is a prestigious occupation, which “*carries out an essential social service, is founded on systematic knowledge, provides high autonomy and is based on a sound code of professional ethics*” (Ali p. 168¹).

Teaching as a Profession

“Teaching profession is relatively late arrival among the galaxy of modern profession. Some scholars considered teaching as one of the noblest of all professions” (Ali p. 168¹). The root of all profession is started from teaching profession. In other words teaching profession is indeed a noble one, conceptually and ideally. It is different from other professions because of its multitude of dimensions. The following are the some important criteria for considering teaching as a profession.

- (i) Teaching requires a systematic body of specialized knowledge, competency extended and practical training and education.
- (ii) Teaching requires a sound academic and professional education for a long period to become expertise.
- (iii) Teaching essentially involves an intellectual operation. It requires high intellectual activities not blind mechanical
- (iv) Teaching has high degree of autonomy to its all professionals
- (v) Teaching has its own professional organization or association.
- (vi) Teaching has its own code of professional ethics and formal code of conduct
- (vii) Teaching demands continuous in-service professional education to their professionals, which is possible only by organizing various professional courses such as Seminar, workshops, orientation and refresher courses, orientation and other research activities.
- (viii) Teaching is the profession for performing or rendering social services. The development and the shaping of a society or a nation is depends on through teaching and teaching make the every members and the individuals of the society to the desirable shape and definite shape.
- (ix) Teaching profession is always developed on the basis of the development and requirement of the community.
- (x) Teaching profession provide to its professionals a high status, prestige, economic standing and remuneration.

- (xi) Teaching profession seeks to establish a register or membership so that only those individuals so licensed are recognized as bonafide.
- (xii) Teaching profession offer its members a life career and permanent membership.

From the above criteria, it is known that the like other professions, teaching also has various criteria to be considered as a profession but the success of teaching profession is intimately related with the positive or favourable attitude of its professionals towards the profession. So, attitude plays an important role in the professional development of the teachers.

The main aim of education is to modify the behavior of the individual according to the needs and expectancy of the society. Behaviour is composed of so many attributes. Attitude is one of the important attribute of the behavior. One's behavior to a great extent depends upon one's attitude towards the things – ideas, persons, and objects in his environment. The entire personality and development of an individual is influenced by the nature of his attitude," (Mangal p. 283⁹). Therefore, it is well said that the success of any professionals is depend on their attitude towards the profession.

Attitude offer a great possibility for successful achievement as well as failure in life. They are important motivator of behavior and affect all human values. In developing one's career in life towards profession or vocation or occupation, the development of positive attitude is so essential. If individual has negative attitude towards his profession, he will not be able to lead his life successful. Attitude plays a significant part in life. It directs one's behavior in many circumstances. Attitude plays an important role in the professional growth of the teachers and improvement of their professional education and training. The teachers' efficiency and effectiveness of the teachers are based on his attitude towards the profession. Thus attitude towards the profession is a significant predictor of teaching efficiency. "A healthy and favourable attitude of teachers towards their profession is a pre-requisite for healthy school system and overall development of the students," (Nutan Sharma Indian journal of Applied Research Vol. 6 Issue 2 p. 345¹⁴). "A positive attitude towards teaching profession can bring the desire quality in the education sector by developing sense of duty, professional competence and by giving them an insight of the students' needs and problems," (Bhargava and Pathy TOJDE Vol. 15 No. 3 Article. 3M P.27²). The development of positive attitude towards the teaching profession helps in developing creative ideas and it also helps in motivating the students and making classroom teaching-learning process effectively. "The effective and productive learning on the part of students can be achieved only by teachers with desirable attitude towards the

profession,” (TriptaTrivedi *EJAIAER*, Vol. 23, No. 1&2¹⁶). It is reasonable to say that the desirable and favourable attitude of the teachers towards the profession helps to develop a conducive and learners friendly environment in the classroom and it is also rightly remarked that the continuous in-service professional growth of the teacher is depend on the their attitude towards the profession to a great extent and the development of personality of the teachers are influenced by their attitude towards the profession to a some extent.

Conclusion

From the above discussion it is concluded that the success of the teacher in his profession is dependent to a great extent on his attitude values and beliefs. “A teacher with positive attitude towards teaching is considered better and become popular among the students for his better teaching. The teacher is thinking, feeling and actions are guided by his attitude towards the profession. A good teacher with favourable and positive attitude, behavior and personality traits can motivate, inspire and make the student a lot in his teaching,” (Anita Rani GIRT P. 101¹²). In other words, teachers with favourable attitude can successfully developed effective teaching-learning process among the children. A positive and favourable attitude makes the teaching not only easier but also more satisfying and professionally rewarding and a negative unfavourable attitude makes the teaching harder, tedious and unpleasant. So, it is very important to study the related with the attitude of teaching profession.

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