

GOVERNMENT COLLEGE SILPHILI, DIST- SURAJPUR, CHHATTISGARH

PRACTICE- I

Title of the Practice

PROMOTION AND PRESERVATION OF LOCAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

Objective of the Practice –

In our country there is unity in diversity. The area in which this institution situated is very unique in terms of culture. So it is very important to preserve this cultural heritage. It keeps our integrity as a human being. The importance of intangible cultural heritage is not the cultural manifestation itself but rather the wealth of knowledge and skills that is transmitted through it from one generation to the next. Therefore it is the objective of the institution to preserve the local cultural heritage so that future generations may be benefitted by it.

Context –

In the era of globalization our young generation is in the grip of consumer culture of the West. They have no respect and faith in their own culture and values. So it is very necessary that our youth should be inspired to know the importance and utility of their indigenous culture. Ancient tribal knowledge is very useful for modern society. Folk dances are disappearing so there is a need to preserve this cultural diversity. Our institution has decided to promote these folk songs and dances in the Annual Youth Festival. Our tribal people have an important knowledge of plants for medical treatment. Therefore this knowledge must be preserved for the welfare of human being.

The Practice –

This area is a confluence of three cultures. There are three major groups of people inhabited in this area.

- Pando tribe
- Non-tribal people
- Bangla refugees of 1971

Thus cultural plurality can be observed in this area. Institution has a plan of promoting and preserving this unique cultural heritage. Pando tribe has its own culture. Their houses are unique with double entrance one for men and another for women. They have their own folk songs and dances and their way of life. Our institution is preserving the culture of the Tribe. In our college functions students are advised and guided to perform for songs and dances so that it will continue to exist in practice. Tribes have good knowledge of plants and herbs. Tribal people have some special healthy food habits which are also useful for society. At institution level we are preserving these special virtues of the Tribal people. Students who came from the tribal background are encouraged to accumulate this tribal knowledge.



Bangla refugees has brought with them their own cultural values and music. So it is important to promote and preserve Bangla Culture. In our institution large number of students of Bangla community are enrolled. Institution encourages these students to perform Bangla Art and Music in various cultural activities of the college. Bangla Dance and Bangla Songs are promoted. We have a record of these activities. Non Bangla students are advised to learn Bangla Language and Bangla Music from their Bangla fellows. Our teachers also visit Bangla homes and accumulate important knowledge of their culture and record it. Thus in the context of Indian higher education it is very important to promote and preserve the local culture and values for identity and integrity.

In preservation of tribal culture and knowledge there are some limitations on account of which we are not able to preserve as whole. Tribal people do not share their ancient knowledge. In some cases they refuse to interact. Bangla people in their own community practice Bangla language and culture but with the local community they are not willing to share their knowledge. In spite of this with the help of students of these communities the institution is trying to promote and preserve the local cultural heritage.

Evidence of Success –

We have good result of this Practice. We have records of tribal knowledge regarding medicinal plants. This is preserved by our Botany Department. Tribal Dance and Songs and Bangla Dance and Songs are performed on the stage in the different cultural programs of the college. The most important effect of this practice is seen in building of confidence among the students of tribal and rural area. Our NSS camps are organized in nearby villages. In camps our students interact with the villagers and acquire precious knowledge which will be useful for their future life. We find that people are feeling a sense of affinity and pride, when our students and faculty members ask them about their social and cultural values. Although we have not received 100 percent success towards our target but results are inspiring. In future a project on the Pando Culture will be taken up by the college.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required-

It is our practice which is adopted by our institution itself. For more results we need funds so that we can visit interior villages and call villagers for visiting our institution and share their knowledge to our students. Social media and internet is an obstacle because students are busy on social media and not interested to learn their own cultural and social values. Our college has not sufficient fund to establish a museum on the subject mentioned.



PRACTICE- II

Title of the Practice-

RESPECT FOR MANUAL LABOUR

Objective-

Present system of higher education of our country completely ignores the importance of manual labour. In this system after receiving higher education a person is completely unfit for manual labour. He thinks that it is his insult to do manual labour after having a degree of higher education. Therefore our institution has decided that students of this institution must respect manual labour. Our Principal and faculty members inspire them for doing manual works which will be very useful for them in future. In this way we are trying to establish the Gandhian principle of Education. Manual labour is essential for physical fitness and dignity of labour is also established.

Context-

The area in which this institution is situated is rural and tribal. Ninety percent of population of this area is dependent on agriculture and forest products. Our students belong to this tribal and agrarian society. In context of local society it is very essential to teach the students the significance of manual labour. Generally it is seen in our society that majority of our youths feel ashamed in doing physical labour after higher education. After completing their education they do not want to work in fields. They want only white collar jobs. In this situation they are cut off from their own roots, so our institution has decided to establish the dignity of labour. After education students must feel honored by doing manual labour in their village and fields. They will love their area and will not be cut off from their roots and people.

The Practice-

In our institution we adopted the Gurukul System in some aspects. Every class has been assigned a work for cleanliness of their own classroom and given area in the college premises. In a prescribed day in the week we have a campaign for campus cleaning. In this campaign from Principal to Peon every staff member of the college participates. All students actively participate in this campaign of campus cleaning. Every year plants sampling campaign is carried out in the college. After plantation watering and caring of the plants is done by the students to promote manual labour. In first year of UG programs we have a paper on environment in which project work is mandatory. Our faculty members select a site in the campus the land of that site is distributed among students in groups. Generally in a group there are eight students. The groups prepare the soil of that area and sow some extent plants. They take care of their plants rigorously. Thus by this practice students are engaged in some type of agricultural work and they have also learnt a technique of cultivation. In present day scenario of higher education this is very important and useful. Students are not ashamed to do manual labour. It has become a practice and they do it with cheers. Thus they feel the dignity of manual labour. By doing manual labour our students remain physically fit and socially rooted.



Evidence of Success –

Although students involved in such activities have some hesitation in the beginning. Some students are misguided by media reports. Our faculty members and honourable principal set an ideal before students by doing manual works themselves.

In our institution we are very successful in adopting this practice. Students enjoy to do work manually. They learn the importance and dignity of labour. Our girl students take active part with great enthusiasms. Few students try to avoid this practice initially but we pursue them and at last they also start to work. Sometimes student bring seeds and plants from their own home and sow/grow it in college campus.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required-

For this purpose we don't require funds. Only important point is to change the mindset of the educated class who does not like to do manual labour. Manual labour makes a man self reliant.



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