

**THE QUEEN'S
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Education – for a better tomorrow

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Nelson Mandela has truly said: *“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”*

Today, one of the most important things is education. It is the key to success, lets us live a happy life, helps us to do what we love to do, which could possibly lead us in doing something extraordinary.

One of the most important benefits of education is that it helps to meet the objectives of life. For instance, some people want to become rich whilst others aspire to become popular. Strategic education with dedication can help to accomplish the task. Getting a professional degree is not the only way to excel in different business domains such as engineering, medicine or accounting but true knowledge and skills are the one that actually matter. By enrolling in the course of our choice, it is not only possible to enhance the skill level but also the professional expertise.

Education is the root of our society, where everything starts and where we all become who we are. We all, of course, want to improve the world we live in and create a more democratic and fair society for all.

The educated can access lots of opportunities in their lives. They can achieve materialistic objectives. Handsome pay-checks guarantee luxury living and go a long way in providing happiness. In addition, they can live a stable and a secured life. People with higher intellectual wealth also enjoy respectable social status in the society.

The professionally qualified can get good jobs in various sectors of the economy while an uneducated is given only menial jobs. It is important to acquire education as well as expertise in a certain stream as it is bound to provide a fillip to the career and tremendous growth in the package. It is true that money is not everything in life but it can definitely buy comfort for the individuals and the family.

Education doesn't discriminate between the rich and the poor neither exploits the ethnic and the caste fault lines. It can be imparted to all irrespective of the gender and provides equal opportunities to the people to rise in life. Western civilization experienced a renaissance or rebirth due to the light of knowledge. Universities and schools have become the hubs of modern education. In developed and developing countries, they have helped in the liberation of women which has contributed towards the development of society.

When one embarks on the quest of knowledge through education, one develops scientific and logical reasoning as part of the thought process. Instead of listening to others, the individual can use his or her brain to take independent decision. Education is a tool that assists in the development of critical thinking and helps in enhancing one's outlook towards life. Moreover, when one is employed as a professional, one can become financially and emotionally independent.

Medieval Period saw major conflicts due to lack of education among masses. Modern people are educated and know the difference between what is right and what is wrong. They can understand the issue and find ways to resolve them which might not be possible for an uneducated. We can see lots of conflicts in the developing world as the literacy level is low among the general population. In addition, lack of education denies job opportunities to people and they resort to theft as well as a robbery in desperation. On the contrary the educated are aware of their rights and duties towards the country and are less likely to indulge in unlawful activities.

Light of knowledge automatically boosts the self-confidence of the person. A learned person is not only respected in the society but he or she is often consulted for pieces of advice by others. An uneducated man might have lots of experience but may not be taken seriously when suggestions are being sought.

An educated person is not socially static but mobile. He or she is more socially interactive in a group. When provided with formal education, it is easier to express the views without any problem. A learned person is more likely to contribute towards the development of society.

Countries around the world have relied on scientific education to ensure the development of their economy. Citizens of western countries are rich and prosperous as they work in various business fields of the industry. It has only been achieved with a continuous focus on developing highly skilled professionals.

With all the benefits being accrued, education is the best way to move forward not only for an individual but also for a country. It is the only instrument that can help to remove millions of people from the jaws of poverty. If people are empowered with knowledge, they cannot be exploited by others. Modern ideas of liberation and freedom have emanated from education. Reformists around the world have honed their skills in the top universities and played an important role in removing the evil customs from society. Children attending schools are taught under the supervision of capable teachers. They understand the essence of life and gain invaluable knowledge about their surroundings. Fostering basic principles of humanity and reasoning, the modern education is an eye opener for every person on earth. In short, a balanced life and reputed standing in society is only possible with the shining light of knowledge.

Dr.APJ Abdul Kalam had said, *Creativity is the key to success in the future, and primary education is where teachers can bring creativity in children at that level.*

Education plays an important role in the evolution of human life. Television became the household commodity in the 20th century while internet took over in the 21st. Advancement in technology is only possible through education. Ignorant people are unable to understand the logic behind the natural phenomenon and are unable to develop a vision for the future.

Through education, we come to know about the different cultures and traditions in the world. It helps people to become more tolerant of each other. Wide exposure enhances the knowledge base of the individuals and prepares them to face the challenges of life in a better manner. In olden times, due to sheer ignorance, foreign travel was considered an unholy activity and people had to undergo a purification process but now every other person is travelling around the world.

Education is essential to incorporate new techniques to improve the productivity of the employees. For instance, if the workers are unskilled, they cannot use the machines and boost the production. In other words, one has to be knowledgeable and skilled in a particular stream to perform various tasks in today's modern world. Farmers are updating their knowledge about the new methods of irrigation to increase the productivity.

As people become more knowledgeable, they know the difference between what is right and what is wrong. Hence, the society in all likelihood would not resort to wars. Medieval as well as the First and Second World Wars were the result of such orthodox biased thinking. While ignorance breeds prejudices and hatred, education opens a new window letting the rays of sunlight brighten the entire world.

An illiterate may not be able to migrate to an alien land and adjust with the natives. However, the educated would take it up as a challenge and do everything to achieve success. It is a wonderful attitude that develops due to the dissemination of knowledge, perfectly capable of removing the darkness of ignorance.

Developing nations around the world have achieved 100% literacy. The educated society develops quickly because they are not bound by the narrow realms of caste, creed, and religion. Instead, it focuses on the problems that hamper daily living. The government elected by the educated citizens service the nation rather than ruling it. A corruption free society is only possible when people are blessed with the true knowledge of life.

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam said, *My message, especially to the young people is to have courage to think differently, courage to invent, to travel the unexplored path, courage to discover the impossible and to conquer the problems and succeed. These are great qualities that they must work towards through the tool of education. This is my message to the young people.*

The link between education and communication is unequivocal. In fact, the need to educate others is responsible for the development of languages. Without languages, education could never have been achieved. Thus began the human journey towards developing communication, tools and written languages which helped in bridging the differences to open a globalised world.

Education also helps in alleviating poverty, busting myths and superstitions, improving foreign relationships, scientific research, financial transaction, safety and security, prevention of wars and terrorism, space exploration, commerce and trade, law and order, e-governance, upliftment of economically weaker population, art and craft, technology etc. In short, improving every sector of life.

It is well said that education is a passport to the future for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.