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## CHANGING PERSPECTIVES OF EDUCATION

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CONTENTS

Sr No	Paper Title	Page No.
1	The Challenges of Online Teaching and Learning While Pandemic In Present Era Dr. Mohammed Ajaz Sheikh	1-3
2	Role of Moral Education in Education System Dr. Abhay Balbhim Shinde	4-5
3	Education for Entrepreneurship Development Dr. Anita Madhusudan Shelke	6-8
4	A New Dimension of Education- Online Education, Advantages and Challenges for Teachers and Students Prof. M. D. Wanjare, Prof. P. S. Giri	9-11
5	Role of Moral Education in Children: A Survey Mrs. Boriwale M. P.	12-13
6	Educational Problems among Students and Role of Teacher and Counselor Dr. Sunita Watore, Savita S. Manohar	14-16
7	Environment degradation during Festivals, due to Lack of Environment Education Pratibha Agharde	17-18
8	Potential of Research in Higher Education Kirti R Desai, Sunita S Bhosle, Smita G Basole, Pradnya R Mahismalkar	19-21
9	Importance and Challenges of Environmental Education in India Dr. Shama B. Lomate	22-24
10	Effect of Corona Period on Health Maya Sanjay Khandat	25-27
11	Gender Equity in Education Dr. Ayodhya Pawal	28-30
12	Gender Equality through Education Dr. Varsha Kulkarni	31-33
13	Status of Adivasi People in Higher Education Dr. Madhav Hari Gavit	34-37
14	Innovative Teaching for Effective Curriculum Delivery: A Case Study Dr. Kamlakar Gavane, Dr. Sheetal Gunjate	38-42
15	Role of Moral Education in Education Process Dr. Rancee Jagannathrao Jadhav	43-44
16	Challenges and Opportunities of Online Education in Rural Areas Dr. S. K. More	45-47
17	GLOBALIZATION AND EDUCATION Dr. Ragini Rajendra Padhye	48-50
18	The Need of Education System - Online or Offline: A survey Pankaj Ghodke, Narsing Gawali, Anil B. Bagul, Dr.S.S.Hussaini	51-59
19	Milk Production in Satara District: A Geographical Analysis Dr.Gaikwad D. S.	60-64
20	Mobile Information Literacy for Users Dr. Sunil Ashurba Mutkule	65-69
21	Life Skills Education... Corona and Education Mrs. Neelam Ajit Saswade	70-71
22	Role of Value education in Higher education- a case study of Smt Maniben M P Shah Women's College of Arts & Commerce Dr Hina Shah, Mrs Archana Patki	72-74
23	A Study Of Qualitative And Quantative Analysis Of Zooplankton Diversity Of Mula Reservoir, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra. Dr. Aher Y. D.	75-78
24	Role of Agro-Tourism in Socio Economic Development of the South Konkan Dr. Sudhir A. Yevle	79-81
25	Need of Environment Education In Current Scenario Dr. Jyoti J. Kshirsagar	82-85
26	Online Classes - Requisite In School Education Smita Basole, Sunita Bhosle and Kirti Desai	86-88
27	Empowering Adolescents through Life Skill Education Dr. Chetana Vishwanathrao Donglikar	89-91
28	The Role of Language in Education Dr. Rajabbau Chhaganrao Korde	92-97
29	शालेय शिक्षणावर ई लर्निंग चा परिणाम डॉ. इरलापन्ते पल्लवी भागवतराव	98-99
30	ऑनलाईन शिक्षण - आजच्या काळाची गरज	100-101



## **Gender Equity in Education**

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### **Introduction:**

The term equity refers to fairness & justice & is distinguished from equality. Whereas equality means providing the same to all equity means recognizing that we do not all start from the same place & must acknowledge & make adjustments to imbalances. Gender equity is the process of being fair to women & men. To ensure fairness, strategies & measures must often be available to compensate for women's historical & social disadvantages that prevent women & men from otherwise operating on a legal playing field. Equity leads to equality. Gender equality is when people of all genders have equal rights, responsibilities & opportunities. Everyone is affected by gender inequality. Women, men, trans & gender diverse people, children & families.

### **Objectives:**

1. To study the importance of gender equity in education
2. To study the role of education in gender equity
3. To study the gender equity in education

**Methodology:** Secondary data is used for collection of data

### **Result & Discussion:**

Gender equality is the thing of the past as both men & Women are creating history in all segments together. Illiterate parents are not aware of gender equality to provide in the learning process many opportunities to female sexes nor men obeying traditional rules tightly consciously put women in "Ivory Tower" & are unwilling about having equal rights & Similar qualifications in economic, social, cultural, educational & political activities.

Therefore uneducated families & their children should be taken a closer look by local management and a policy of education based on gender equity to raise the awareness of society from seven to seventy seven is one of the most important needs of the age.

### **Importance of Gender Equity:**

Gender equality is a human right. Gender equality prevents violence against women & girls. It is essential for economic prosperity. Societies that value women & men as equal are safer & healthier. Gender equality is vital in any society or the world at large. When there's inequality, it would be difficult for a nation to progress. Equality breeds confidence, productivity & makes people more sociable.

### **Role of Education in Gender Equality:**

Gender equitable education systems can contribute to reductions in school related gender based violence & harmful practices, including child marriage & female genital mutilation. Gender equitable education systems help keep both girls & boys in school building prosperity for entire countries. Achieving gender equality will not happen overnight. All of us have a role to play in promoting gender equality. To promote gender equality in different areas like leadership, empowerment & cultural change, safety & freedom from gender based violence, work & economic security, health & wellbeing. Everyone is affected by gender inequality. It is vital to give women equal rights, land & property, sexual & reproductive health & to technology & the internet. Today there are more women in public office than ever before but encouraging more women leaders will help achieve greater gender equality. The higher rate of improvement in the mean years of schooling for girls, the gender gap measured as the simple difference between male & female attainment has actually increased with time from 2 to 5 years. India's divergence from global trends most countries across the world have actually recorded equal improvements for both genders.

Dakar Framework for Action for providing quality education for all by 2015 besides primary education focus on literacy goals, gender equality & quality concerns. The Dakar Framework of Action listed most important goals to be achieved by all countries that is

1. Ensuring that the learning needs of all young people & adults are met through equitable access to appropriate learning & life skills programmes



2. Ensuring that by 2015 all children, particularly girls, children in difficult circumstances who belong to ethnic minorities have access to & complete free & compulsory primary education of good quality.
3. Eliminating gender disparities in primary & Secondary education 2005 & achieving gender equality in education by 2015 with a focus on ensuring girls full & equal access to & achievement in basic education of good quality

On elementary & secondary educational levels the female pupils & students have better academic performance than the male & this tendency also continues at the higher educational levels. The pattern of the educational system of the above mentioned type serves as a base for the further gender distribution of labour. In 2011, the disparity in access to education between genders was most visible in India's childhood literacy rates 82% of boys were literate while only 65% of girls could read & write statistics show that around 10% more girls were enrolled in secondary school in India by 2019 when compared to 2011. Once girls are able to get enrolled in school, they are rather more likely than boys to continue their education with more success ( UNESCO, 2004).

First a comparison focused exclusively on learning outcomes reveals gender equity. Data from one largest competency based sample surveys in school education. The National Achievement survey (2017), covering over 22 lakh students, shows parity in learning levels between boys & girls in elementary & secondary classes across the country. An equitable education system helps all students develop the knowledge & skills they need to be engaged & become productive members of society.

India accounts for 30% of the world's total illiterate population & around 70% of these illiterates are women. As per 2001 census data, women constitute 48% of the total population in India but around 46% of women are still found to be illiterate. Problems of gender disparity & discrimination begin with access to schooling. The Gender parity Index at the primary levels was 0.9 & 0.8 in 2003 respectively.

As Mehrotra (2006) notes low levels of education significantly affect the health & nutritional status of women. For instance, in the case of India, he notes that chances of suffering from the diseases caused by malnutrition decrease steadily with increased levels of education. Height & Body mass Index vary with level of education & illiterate women are reportedly at more risk of having lower height & BMI leading to higher deficiency of iron & other nutrients. Similarly he noted that while 56% of illiterate women suffer from anaemia, the percentage declines to 40% in the case of the women who have completed at least high school.

Female education has long been acknowledged to have strong correlations with other dimensions of human & social development. SHEF has implemented its gender education program in 1000 schools across Uttar Pradesh & Rajasthan with impressive Results.

Incorporate gender education Compulsory in pre & in Service teacher trainings & teacher education programs. Teachers are potentially powerful agents of social change provided they can perceive themselves as such. Training in effective communication of gender related issues with the community should also be included in pre service training. All of the above implies intensive in service training of teachers & educators along with the development of teacher training materials & curriculum. Which should be created by the state education department in collaboration with NGOs.

The Bloomberg Gender Equality Index (GEI) tracks the performance of public companies committed to disclosing their efforts to support gender equality through policy development representation & transparency. The international community has recognized the equal right to quality education of everyone & committed to achieving gender equality in all fields including education through their acceptance of international human rights law. This means that states have legal obligations to remove all discriminatory barriers, whether they exist in law or in everyday life to undertake positive measures to bring about equality including in access of, within & through education.

#### **Conclusion:**

Gender equity in education is most essential for the overall development of the country. The Government of India has recognized gender equality & social policy agenda All educational facilities should be equally related to gender in education.

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