



## TEACHER'S DEVELOPMENT IN THE LIGHT OF EDUCATIONAL CHANGE IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY: A REVIEW OF LITERATURE

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### Abstract

The new technology age has brought a lot changes into human lives including education that consists of the half of human lives. It is imperative on teachers to take a change with the communication revolution as the most important change agent in educational realm. This paper reviews the literature related to teacher's development in the light of educational change and gives recommendation to the way the changes will fit the teachers in the present and future time.

**Key Words:** Teacher, Education, Development.

### INTRODUCTION

The world today has witnessed rapid development in all walks of life. This development is crystal clear with the coming of technology which has reduced the distances in geographical barriers and borders and people now interact with the events in any part of the world easily. The speed at which the development continues has entered into all aspects of life and compelled everyone to keep pace with it.

The changes that occur in the world today have not only affected human beings but also posed a great challenge to education. The education with its objectives and roles were not as before. In reality, education also has to keep pace with the technological development and advancements. Educational change has prompted the educational institutions in various countries of the world to radically change the educational systems to meet up with these challenges.

The reality on ground has been discussed in many educational conferences and seminars held to develop educational institution to make teacher and learner acclimatize to the requirement of this era. The change is also a prerequisite for the curriculum designers and school management to ensure that the ultimate goal for education is to develop holistic student's personality and withstand technology development that has dominated the world so as to achieve the educational goal.

On one hand, the curriculum must integrate the theory and practice, interlink learners with the society, develop their problem solving skills, critical thinking skills, and creative thinking skills. In the light of educational change, the teacher's qualities should include openness to new knowledge, acceptance of students' views, understanding, classroom management, use of diverse methods and techniques to motivate students to learn by creating situations, and mastery of subject commissioned to be taught to the students.

The change is not limited to the curriculum and teacher only, it is a comprehensive change that makes education able to play its role and achieve its goals to ensure that every educational stakeholder plays his role to the fullest capability to build a staunch entity for the society.

### Educational Change

In the present time, the mission of education is not limited to the transfer of culture from one generation to another according to the society and its traditions. However, the tremendous advancement in knowledge and



technology that marked the present age makes the education as a profession takes another turn to keep pace with the changes that dominated human society in general.

Education as seen by the International Commission on Education for the Twenty first century under the UNESCO is an ongoing process to enrich the knowledge and skills, it is also perhaps in the first place, a distinctive process for the development of the individual and building of relations between individuals, groups and, nations (p. 12).

According to Ibn Hanbur (2002) education has changed into new dimensions represented in the globalization that bring an innovation to modern education (p.11). Change that happens in the world of education has a link with globalization. As-Shammam (2009, p. 12) as cited in At-Tiwal (2003, p. 6) determined the challenges facing educational change in the era of globalization as

- 1.Challenges of openness and institutionalization in terms of teamwork, cooperation, and transfer of technology to better build the future of educational system in the twentieth century.
2. Challenges of educational management with the provision of educational environment for sensitizing students with change through innovation and development.
3. Challenges of child education in terms of educating the children on how to confront those challenges.
4. Challenges facing the intellectuals politically, ideologically and socially that represented in the lack of clear educational policies, cultural invasion, and the high rate of illiteracy in the society.

The challenges facing the education prompt many countries to create a clear vision that enable looking to the future and working ahead of it to meet the changes of the past and present. Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States (2000) has investigated a general educational framework for exploring the future of education as, conscious vision of local and global change in the scientific and economic sectors that will have positive impact on education, mastery of educational development in line with human development, exploring the future of education that will help develop general strategy for the development of education, and foreseeing the future of education to rationalize educational decision to optimal utilization of available resources for improving the level of efficiency in the field of education.

For education to perform its mandated role in light of changes and has capacity to meet the challenges, it must possess certain characteristics and qualities that will make it capable of leading individual to safety in the sea of change. Al-Ibrahim (2002) suggested those qualities as follows:

#### **1. Aspiring for the Best practice**

He asserted that, this can be done when education and its institutions evaluate their performance on a regular basis, plan to increase their effectiveness and productivity by making the progress remains open to achieve the best individual and society.

#### **2. Self confidence**

He added that, education must work towards installing confidence in people's mind because featuring educational achievements give confidence and push towards confidence.

#### **3. Positive mind and vision**

The human mind is a cornerstone for education. Education must be tailored towards giving opportunities for discussion to bring development. The human mind should be given freedom for constructive discussion to build concrete educational background.

#### **4. Originality and modernity**

These two elements go hand in hand with the educational process, which are meant to be in the era of globalization. Originality expresses heritage and ensures coexistence with latest developments in globalization. Originality goes with modernity; there should be an integration between what is authentic and original that will enrich the educational process.



### **Teacher and Educational Change**

With the development witnessed in the world today in various areas of knowledge, teacher must be up-to-date, continuously seeking for new emerging knowledge in his/her field to keep pace with the knowledge revolution. According to Mursa (2009, p. 460), "teacher in this era should excel in his/her specialization and master all fields of knowledge". Ibn Jama' (2005, p. 103) explained that, with the change in education, teacher must be diligent, devoted, bookish, read, re-read, think, comment, write, and search". Al-Mawardi (1985, p. 85) affirmed that the teacher should not be satisfied with the knowledge he possess, because satisfaction entails asceticism, asceticism connotes leave, and leave is ignorance".

The acceleration in technology and knowledge development experienced by society these days makes it imperative for the teacher to keep pace with the constant change in education. According to Al-Nagy (2000), teachers in this era must have deep understanding of the subject he teaches, use the methodology correctly to produce the results, have good understanding of how to motivate his pupils for learning, able to use various instructional aids to illustrate the concepts he introduces, create the cordial relationships with students, understand the appropriate evaluation methods for students' understanding and willingness to learn, able to measure students' learning achievement, encourage students focus on the independence and flexibility in critical thinking and self learning, and give the students an opportunity to interact with him freely.

Naqah and Abu Ward (2009) added that, the teacher in modern education period should be multi tasking and possess the following characteristics:

#### **First: Cognitive and Mental Ability**

The teacher must have a mental ability to help students develop. This can be done provided the teacher masters an abundance of substances in his field of specialization, has a control of the subject or knowledge content, expands his horizons with novel knowledge, possesses flexible thinking, studious, well rounded in all branches of knowledge in terms of research, masters the modern method of teaching and learning, can facilitate students' learning, able to counsel the students, and direct them to future learning.

#### **Secocnd: Natural Tendency in Education**

This quality is true with teacher who loves his students, motivates them, helps them excel in education behaviorally and emotionally, cooperates and collaborates with them to grow professionally and advance scientifically.

#### **Third: Social and Psychological Domain**

The teacher must enjoy a range of emotional and social domain. He must be balanced emotionally, friendly, committed to the ethics of profession, be confident, respect the students' personality, establish positive social relation with students, staff, administrators, and communities, be objective, not judgmental, treat students with fairness, be patient, tolerant, and openminded to perform his functions from the right perspective to face the difficulties and challenges.

#### **Fourth: Formative Domain**

Teaching profession necessitates a great effort, it is a difficult profession, it requires vitality to successfully achieve it. The teacher should be vocal to get the students' attention, he should not distract the attention of the students that might create boredom, and maintain his physical appearance as that plays a significant role in securing students respect and esteem.

#### **Preparing Teacher in the light of Change in Education**

The changes in the global trend prompt many institutions to prepare teacher in the light of those changes to meet the nature of teaching and learning developments that occurred in the human society. Higher institutions prepare teacher for various branches of knowledge to help him or her cope with the emerging situations and circumstances he/she might be exposed to. Usaimi (2005) identified that the higher institutions must enhance teacher's knowledge and skills for the continuing education, develop his/her technical and managerial skills, collaborate with other world ranked universities in making global and diverse academic references, and adopt a number of common universal values that will help spread the culture of peace.



Zaidan and Alphenich (2000) suggested that the programs for developing teachers keep pace with the changes in education to achieve a number of objectives like, working on the application of effective learning, keeping abreast of the developments in field of education and teachers' field of specialization, establishing the principle of lifelong learning, deepening on the commitment to the ethics of the profession of teaching and learning, linking between theory and practice in areas of education, developing modern educational technology and using it effectively for the delivery of information to the learners, enabling teachers to use sources of information and search for the novel ideas, contributing to the formation of advanced learning communities to provide effective advanced services to the society, contributing effectively in addressing educational issues in a scientific manner, and developing evaluation competence of all kinds especially the teachers' self-assessment skill.

### **Motives in Teachers' Professional Development**

The nature of the teacher's work has made it necessary to keep pace with development in the world, which in turns will bring positive educational changes. To make this happened, it is necessary to pay attention to the teacher's professional development. Abu 'Umar (2011, p. 95-96) argued the motives behind it as follows:

1. The Information and communication revolution in the twenty first century which enables the transfer of information prompts updating the teacher with new information.
2. The use of communication also calls for teacher's professional development.
3. The change in educational systems including the teacher as a part of that system necessitates teacher's professional development.
4. School change which requires keeping pace with the development in the community to achieve the social functions.

Ibn Saud (2008) further asserted that the aspects of teacher's professional development should include and not limited to

1. The development and reform in the academic field of specialization.
2. The field of human relations, students' guidance and counseling, and collaboration in learning and teaching.
3. The field of teaching performance and the use of all modern instructional devices for the delivery of information.
4. The field of scientific research and academic supervision.
5. The field of self development and self assessment.
6. The commitment to the ethics of profession and behavioral modification in the educational framework.
9. The curriculum design and instruction according to the new development in knowledge and information.

### **DISCUSSIONS**

The results of review revealed that education has changed from its past outlook. The change in education includes transfer of culture from one generation to another. The enormous cognitive and technical revolution characterized by this age make education as a profession take another shape, keep pace with the constant change that dominated the societies, a great responsibility to cope with the modern challenges.

In addition, the change in education is created by the technology, so the entry of technology into education is most important characteristics of education in this age. New terms have been introduced into the education that did not exist before. The term e-learning, distance learning, self learning, and m-learning all appeared with the coming of internet. This change in teaching methods also accompanies a change in the role of teacher, whom technological development has changed his functions, and his role in the use of modern technology for supervision and counseling. It can be inferred that, the new roles for teacher appear in the light of changes in education which represented learners' effective use of modern technologies, and teacher's supervision of learners' use of the modern technology to achieve educational goals.

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