

7th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HUMAN VALUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

26-28 April 2018

Faculty of Traditional Medicine, Khesar Gyalpo University of medical Sciences of Bhutan

Theme: “**Education for Holistic Human Health**”



Recommendations

1. It was emphasised by Her Majesty, the Queen Mother, Ashi Tshering Pem Wangchuck that “...the values this [Universal Human values] course covers are the same values as the principles underlying the concept of Gross National Happiness... Now, more than ever, this program has to be integrated into our education system. From age 0 to 5 in kindergarten, day care centres, early childhood development centres and then into formal education through all levels of education, teaching institutions, work programs in government organizations, business houses and corporations... reforms in education systems the world over, is necessary to have, to bring back our sanity and our humanity”. She also informed that “Youth Development Fund has established the Institute of Well Being in Chimed Thangkha... and have decided that Universal Human Values education program should be the foundational course in the Institute”
2. It was recognized that the teaching of basic, fundamental or universal human values to every individual, particularly youth, has become urgent. There is a need to sensitize and educate students particularly those studying in colleges of higher learning. Extensive experiments which have been carried out so far, using UHV, have adequately established the viability and effectiveness of such a process. Necessary resource material, resource persons and teacher orientation programmes have also become available to enable its initiation in any university or institution of higher learning
3. Even though different formats may be adapted for introducing such a foundational input, the content and process need to be compatible with the following guiding principles to achieve the desired goals. The content and process should be:
 - a. Universal – for all human beings in all space, in all time
 - b. Rational – students should be able to rationally & logically discuss the various issues
 - c. Verifiable – students should be able to verify on their own (on the basis of their own Natural Acceptance and experiential living)
 - d. Humanistic – conducive to the good of humanity
 - e. All encompassing – touching all aspects of human life
4. Inclusion of two compulsory papers (HU-001 and HU-002) on Universal Human Values by AICTE in the model curriculum for Engineering from the year 2018 was recognised as a welcome step.
5. It would be desirable to take whole-of-society approach in the promotion and GNH inspired implementation of value education in Bhutan. The UHV foundation course adopted at current educational institutions and organizations needs to be sensitized and scaled up at other educational institutions, organizations, work places, in family, political leadership and natural village communities

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6. It was recognized that the current health system is centred on treating disease while it could be focused on ensuring health. Effort should be made to initiate and promote universal human values and ethics (UHV) in medical education, including medical colleges, dental colleges, nursing colleges, paramedical institutions etc. Regulatory bodies including Medical Council of India, Dental Council of India, Nursing Council of India and Forensic Council of India should be given a proposal for the inclusion of a subject or paper on Universal Human Values as a part of the academic curriculum of MBBS, BDS etc. in the form of a foundation course as well as appropriate higher level courses
7. A committee was formed for pursuing the various councils, like MCI/DCI/PCI etc., to include UHV at undergraduate level. The following are the initial members of the committee:
 - Dr Nitin Nagarkar (Director, AIIMS, Raipur); Dr Raja Babu Panwar (VC, Rajasthan University of Health Sciences Jaipur); Dr. GPI Singh (VC, Adesh University Bathinda); Dr Sharmila Asthana (Institute of Human Education Sanskar, Kanpur); Dr Sameer Patil (Principal, Sinhgarrh Dental College); Dr Nihar Ranjan Biswas (VC, IGIMS, Patna); Dr Rajeev Sangal (Director, IIT(BHU), Varanasi); Shri Rajul Asthana (Institute of Human Education Sanskar, Kanpur)
 - Dr Sharmila Asthana has kindly agreed to coordinate the committee
 - Delegates keen to participate in this are welcome to join the committee. They may write to Dr. Sharmila Asthana at asthana.sharmila@gmail.com
8. A committee was also formed to develop the syllabus, course content, teacher's manual, text book and teacher's orientation program for courses on holistic human health (how to stay healthy). The content is expected to include material on intake, daily routine, physical work, exercise, body postures, regulation of breathing etc. along with developing right understating and right feeling in oneself, including the feeling of responsibility towards the body. The initial members Include:
 - Dr Sharmila Asthana; Dr BV Kumara Swami; Dr Sundarraaj Perumall; Dr Akhilesh Shukla; Dr Nitin Nagarkar; Dr Anu Nagarkar; Dr Charu Vajpei
 - Dr Akhilesh Shukla has kindly agreed to coordinate the committee
 - Delegates keen to participate in this are welcome to join the committee. They may write to Dr. Akhilesh Shukla at an2akhilesh@gmail.com
9. To provide requisite thrust to this activity, it is essential to promote R&D work for overall curricular modifications, development of resource material, teacher training etc. to finally evolve more appropriate models of education in the light of right understanding
10. For this, centers of excellence need to be created at various nodal institutions/universities where sufficient work has already been accomplished

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11. It was felt that the effort on UHV should be included in the ongoing agenda for the Bhutan-India friendship. KGUMSB may take this responsibility to explore this possibility with the concerned agency in Bhutan (through the Foreign Ministry, office of Hon'ble Lyonpo Damcho Dorji)