

# Demand of 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Education or Skills?

1- Introduction

2- Demand of 21<sup>st</sup> century: Skills

a) Skills Bring Technological Advancements

b) Skills Bring Innovations in Entrepreneurship

c) Skills as a source/key of Reversing Brain

Drain and Forstoring youth Driven Progress.

3- Education is more than important than skills

a). Education is primary source of prestige and employment



A doctor who studies for five years but then cannot effectively handle patients, lacks practical skills in his profession. Just like that, 21<sup>st</sup> century openly verdicts that education is futile until you have the skill in your hands. Based on the conversation above, a set of questions becomes apparent, including: what is more worst? An educational degree without any skill, or a skill without any degree? what is the importance of skills in 21<sup>st</sup> century? It looks strange when

You are educated and have a degree in hand, but not the desired or required skill. Undoubtedly, every field and job needs a skilled person instead of an educated one. Every educated and degree holder is not necessarily skilled. It is not the degree but skill that helps in achieving success. Skills have become more demanding in 21<sup>st</sup> century. The present era is looking forward for developments and only skill can foster it. Although, the proponents view that education provides the ~~fundamental~~ foundational knowledge, values, and broad-based learning necessary for personal development and understanding the world, but skills are practical tools that ~~enhance~~ enables individuals to bring the change and advancements. Skills can help any state in making technological advancements and developments, bringing entrepreneurial innovation, and reducing brain drain.

The 21<sup>st</sup> century is the most developed and advanced era to date. Its central focus is development in technology, that is possible with skilled

workforce. A degree of one's education can just earn the job, but it cannot help to grow further without the skill. Certainly, there is no denying that acquiring new skills is one of the best ways to increase your chances of being employed. The reason behind the jobless graduates is the lack of skills. Modern world needs skillful people instead of various educational degree holders. A degree that is just a paper to frame on the wall has no value and will never get graduates anywhere.

Firstly, skills are of more importance because of their benefit to make technological developments. A skilled person is more talented and capable of making innovations than an educated one. He can make more developments due to skills, as it encourages and helps to adopt the change. If you are skilled and fluent in technology, your role may soon expand beyond coding and development. For instance, Chris Messina has a bachelor's degree in English. But he was dropped out in 1st semester. His skills and experience allowed him to get a job as a product designer.

at Twitter, where he invented the hashtag. He has also worked as a designer and engineer at other companies such as Google and Uber. It is evident from above discussion that skills, rather than education, are crucial in driving technological revolutions.

Another key factor that adds importance to skills is innovations in entrepreneurship. In the 21st century the business landscape is constantly evolving. The innovations in entrepreneurship involve identifying market trends and consumer preferences. To meet the needs of current time, skills such as critical thinking, creativity, and innovations are necessary. A person who cannot bear the weight of education can become a successful entrepreneur if he has the skills. The great people from the history were all skilled people, but they didn't have the certifications for their knowledge. There are numerous examples of such people. But one of them is; the billionaire founder of the Virgin Group, Richard Branson, struggled in school due to

dyslexia and eventually dropped out at age of 16. His business ventures, spanning music, airlines, and telecommunications, demonstrate his entrepreneurial prowess. Ultimately, it is clear that skills are indeed highly valuable in entrepreneurship. Last but not least, a benefit of skill is that it can reverse the severe issue of brain drain in any state or country. Due to the mismatch of skills with job requirements, most of our educated youth find ways to get better job opportunities abroad. According to Bureau of Emigration & Overseas Employment, 540,282 Pakistani nationals formally registered for overseas employment during the first eight months of this ongoing calendar year, up until August. The progress of every country is directly linked to its youth. If the youth are skilled then there will be more advancements and opportunities. The expert youth will create more and better opportunities for coming youth, which will ultimately reduce the chances of brain drain. If a state starts to

encourage the skills of its youth, then the youth can be proved an asset instead of a liability. In a nutshell, skills could prove a practical tool in reversing the brain drain.

However, another angle on this debate suggests that the advocates, who believe that education is a fundamental key to the progress and well-being of individuals give argument that to be more skillful it is necessary to be more educated. Education is considered as a prestige and a primary path of success and being employed, people believe that obtaining degrees or certifications elevates their social standing. An educated individual is capable of understanding the skills in a better way. But the reality of 21st century is far away from the old views of people. There are many examples which proves that education is not necessary for acquiring skills. One prominent example of a personality from 21st century who achieved success and fame

is Elon Musk. He didn't complete his graduation degree, but is known as an influential entrepreneur of time. His success is attributed to his exceptional skills in engineering, technology, and entrepreneurship.

The sum and substance of the above analysis is that these are the skills that bring changes and innovations, not education. The 21st century is the century of inventions and advanced technology that is only possible through acquiring and utilizing the skills. While, on the other hand, education just gives you a degree; a piece of paper, and a receipt of your educational expenditures. The essay clearly underscores the evolving dynamics of success in today's world, where practical skills and innovations are highly valued.