

Topic: Neglect of enhancing Intellectual ability in our education System.

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Al Habib

Old teaching methodology is one of the factors which is hindering the enhancement of intellectual ability. The reason is that in our educational institutions, only content-focused methods are applied and teachers spend the entire time to cover the maximum syllabus in a short period of time. It results in damaging the thought process of students. In this modern era, our students are trained on old methods and they are demanded to compete with those students who come from the best schools of the world. As per the study, the teaching method is the most important factor that impacts student achievement. (Homesciencejournal.com, Study the effect of teaching method, July 2019). Hence, we need to employ modern teaching methods which enable our students to compete the world.

In this modern era still cramming is encouraged in our educational institutions. And the reason is that when our teachers follow old teaching methodology and they try to cover the entire syllabus in a minimum time, and then students are demanded to store the entire syllabus in memory word by word to pass the exams. This entire process encourages cramming and students spend day and night to learn the entire syllabus. Thus, the entire system affects the intellectual ability of students and limit their knowledge to a specific content. Furthermore, it does not only limit the knowledge but also increases feeling of anxiety, frustration, fatigue and even confusion. (Stanford.edu, Cramming, Aug 2011). It shows that how does the cramming affect the intellectual ability.

Lack of Intellectual ability in teachers also affect the enhancement of Intellectual ability in students. The reason is that most of the teachers we have, whether in public or private educational institutes, are low qualified and does not fulfil the criteria of respective post. It results in their inability to teach and guide students and they themselves lack intellectual ability which is an essential <sup>part</sup> of teaching. This missing trait does not only affect the teachers but students too. As per the study, poor teaching can result in a lack of motivation, leading to bad study habits and poor grades. (SchoolDelkhi.org, Impact of poor teaching, Mar 2022) It shows how ~~the~~ lack of intellectual ability in teachers affects the students' intellectual ability.

In most of the educational institutions, students' questions are not entertained. The reason is when teachers lack the command of a subject and they themselves lack intellectual ability then how can they take questions from a student. Therefore, students become more confused and struggle to understand the topic and other activities of class. Along with it they also face issues like low IQ, EQ and memory issue. As per the study, restriction on taking question leads to low IQ, EQ and depression among students. (HBR.org, Restrictions on asking questions, May 2019) It shows the restrictions on asking questions can diminish intellectual ability in students.

Theoretical work is preferred to practical work in educational institutions which hinders the enhancement of intellectual ability. Most of the textbooks and educational institutions go as per the books and booklets, most of the time, are not updated and they lack ongoing trends in respective field. After all of this practical work and project based activities are not arranged for students to cope up with the ongoing developments and trends in their respective field of study. Theoretical knowledge <sup>may</sup> provides the basis of study in any field but practical work gives hands on experience. This approach of theoretical work does not allow students to think out of the box and it also restricts them to develop intellectual ability to solve problem innovatively.

Cheating culture, in educational institutions, is damaging intellectual ability. The reason is that educational institutions don't focus on harnessing intellectual ability in students and they rather focus on imparting bulk of knowledge in students. It results, when students fail to memorize the entire syllabus, they opt for cheating in exams. It is also witnessed that cheating material is provided by the management in board exams in some parts of the country. Cheating makes student dependent on others and it diminishes the mental ability of students.

As per the study, cheating makes students less focused, less competent and it also causes memory issues in students. (Study in.org, Cheating and its effects, Jun 2017)  
It shows that cheating affects the intellectual ability.

Many educational institutions are still following old marking criteria in exams, which is affecting intellectual ability. As the syllabus is old, teaching methodology is outdated and the same case is with the marking criteria. The entire marking criteria is based on MCQ's and Subjective <sup>Past</sup> papers and marks are also denoted respectively. There is no portion in the paper which forces students to think innovatively, getting ideas from out of the box, solving problems in their own way. Old marking criteria pushes students to book, which are outdated, and to cramming material. It shows that the system is driving the edge between student, and intellectual ability.

All of these factors lead us to low competitiveness in research. Today, when industrialization 5.0 is discussed all around the world and world is moving towards AI and we are still lagging behind is scientific research. Our educational institutions are unable to cater modern day issues through technology and innovation. And the reason is, low intellectual ability among our students and teachers. In our educational institutions, there are very few numbers of research labs and centers of research are available. And where research labs and centers exist, we are short of technical staff and teachers who can guide students. The universities and research institutes have failed to guide support, and train the students and faculty towards innovative research. According to the world economic forum global competitiveness report, 2019-2028, Pakistan ranks 110<sup>th</sup> out of the total 141 countries in research and innovation. It shows that lack of intellectual ability makes us less competitive in research and innovation.

When we lack research and development in educational institute because of low intellectual ability, then we see rise in unskilled labor. Youngsters are getting education but it is just for the sake of getting good marks and degrees, but when they pass out, they are unable to solve basic math and science questions. And the knowledge they got, spending years in educational institutes, becomes outdated. Most of the students have no skill from which they can earn some money or prove themselves in any field. Thus, low intellectual ability, among people, is a main source of unskilled labours.

Most of unskilled people are also unemployed. When people lack in intellectual ability, scientific research and they are not familiar with the latest technology, they end up with unemployment. The reason is that companies and other institutions have adopted technology and they are shifting towards advance innovation and tools to manage activities. And those skills which are demanded by institutions, we lack those skills and abilities. A senior official in Pakistan's national internship programme advised that approximately 92% of the country's unemployed people are considered unskilled, while the remaining 8% have some education but lack any skill. Therefore, low intellectual ability can lead us to serious unemployment issues.

Low intellectual ability also leads people towards confusion and inability in decision making. The reason is when people lack out of the best thoughts, they become indecisive in decision making process and selection of career paths. Most of unemployed people face challenges while choosing career paths or taking daily life decisions by which they can pass the rest of the life. Decision making ability comes through taking complex and ontime decision, which are not taught or inculcated in students. By the time when they graduate they don't know what to do and how to do. Intellectual ability is a main source to harness decision making ability.

Hence, overall institutions' inability of intellectual ability affects the overall development of a country, when people are not well-equipped with modern technology and innovative ideas, then they directly affect the country's economy and affect every citizen of a country collectively. Human development remains a dream where intellectual ability is discouraged and not promoted. People face issue in daily life like in health care services, transportation services, education and other services. As per the study, Pakistan has dropped seven places in Human Development Index (HDI), ranking 161 out of 192 countries in the 2021-2022 period, according to UNDP report. It shows that how intellectual ability is important for countries' progress.

When people are unemployed and unskilled, it affects the purchasing power of people which affects country's economy. The reason is that people are unable to find ways where they can earn their livelihood. When people lack money, they are unable to buy necessities for their family. They cut and less spend on education, food, shelter and buying other stuff. It results in overall low GDP and low purchasing power of people. As per the State bank of Pakistan, Pakistan ranks 46<sup>th</sup> in nominal and ranks 24<sup>th</sup> in PPP purchasing power of people. Without intellectual ability the people can not upgrade their lives.

Upgradation of syllabus is one of the way to enhance intellectual ability among people. The reason is the education system has witnessed the decline in research and innovation while keeping the same old syllabus. The world has changed and many new technologies and innovations are taking place everyday. Our educational institutions need to adopt and formulate new syllabus which caters the skills which are demanded by the markets. And according to that syllabus, new books and other knowledge materials should be provided to students which will become a source of intellectual ability and students will be equipped with modern skills.



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Along with Syllabus, our educational institutions should also focus on upgradation of teaching methodology. The reason is that, our institutions have had content based and teacher centric methodology for years and results are in front of us. Our educational institution should adopt Student centric methodology. Many researchers today agree that including more Student-Centered learning approaches in the class-room can improve learning and it also helps to develop intellectual ability among students. And teachers should also be trained in a way to adopt these modern and upgraded teaching methodologies easily.

With upgraded Syllabus, educational institutions should also incorporate project-based marking criteria in final exams and assessments. As old marking criteria includes MCQ's and subjective parts, project-based assignments and should also be included in which students are assigned projects individually and collectively to understand the actual process and ground realities of a work. Universities should encourage students to visit different industries and production plants. Many studies have shown that project-based learning can improve students' learning motivation, problem-solving skills, teamwork, and communication skills. Hence, project-based knowledge will prove helpful in increasing intellectual ability in students.

At the same time educational institution can enhance intellectual ability by adopting modern tools and equipment. The reason is that the world is changing and along with it the classrooms are becoming digital where modern technology is being used. Modern equipments like digital board, big screens projectors, advanced computer systems and robots are being used to enhance intellectual ability in students. Better comprehension is top priority, in classrooms today. Through the use of technology, every student basically has the world in their hands. With just a few clicks, students can access any information in classrooms. It shows that modern tools and equipments can boost intellectual ability in students.

Conclusion:

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