

TOPIC:- Higher Education versus Skill acquisition

Outline

A. Introduction

1. Definition of higher education and skill acquisition
2. Brief overview of the debate between higher education and skill acquisition
3. Thesis statement

B. Higher Education: Pros and Cons

1. Pros of higher education

- a) Higher education develops critical thinking and problem solving skills
 - Highlights of Association of American colleges and universities
- b) Higher education is key to unlock social acceptance and approval
 - Quote of Aristotle.
- c) Higher Education provides understanding of this complex world.
 - "Knowledge is understanding of world (Aristotle)

2. Cons of higher education

a) High cost and student debt crises
- high fees and transportation

b) Uncertainty of jobs

- Study of National Center shows only 27% graduates have proper jobs in Pakistan.

c) Focus on theory without practice which is a recipe for disaster

- Quote of Richard Branson

C. Skill Acquisition: Pros and Cons

1. Pros of skill acquisition

a) Skills easy to stick: practicable and applicable

- practice is the best of all instructions

(Publius Syrus)

b) Skills evolution: Adapt fast, thrive faster

- Insights of OECD report

c) Skills takes shorter duration while learning

- Comparison of Electrical engineer and electrician

2. Cons of Skill acquisition

- a) Lack of critical thinking element
 - study of Association of American Colleges and Universities
- b) Dependency on educated people
 - For technology and office work
- c) Skill depends upon demand
 - Research of World Economic Forum.

D. Similarities and Differences Between Higher Education and Skill Acquisition.

1. Similarities

- a) Both have potential earning factor
 - world Economic Forum shows higher salaries for both cases.
- b) Both are two sides of same coin
 - Both are compulsory aspects for substantial development.

c) Rewarded after recognition.

- Only social recognition fuels career success in both cases.

2. Differences

a) Higher education takes too much time while skill acquisition is not that much time consuming.

- Computer engineer versus Computer technologist

b) Different of purpose behind both.

- Skill only for earning while higher education for knowledge or both.

c) Society gives different values to both

- Respect for ~~Beaur~~ bureaucrat and disrepect for day wager.

E-Conclusion

In an era of technological advancement and highly researched developments, the quest for successful career path became increasingly complex. There lies a question: whether higher education or the skill acquisition is the key to success. While higher education provides a broad knowledge and social acceptance with a demerit of high costs, skill acquisition gives practicable and applicable techniques with lacking of critical thinking element. Higher education and skill acquisition have scope and demands with different merits and demerits. According to rapidly evolving market, choice between both depends on individual goal and circumstances.

To start with, one of the prime advantage of higher education is provision of critical thinking and problem solving skills. Through rigorous academic programs, students learn to analyze complex information, evaluate evidence and develop innovative solutions to real world problems. By fostering critical

thinking and problem-solving skills, higher education empowers individuals to navigate uncertainty, adapt to change, and drive progress in various fields. As Albert Einstein said, "The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existence." Likewise, Higher education ignites this curiosity, equipping students with the skills of questioning, seeking answer and solving problem. In this way, higher education shapes Their minds.

Secondly, another benefit of higher education is that it is a powerful tool for social acceptance and approval, opening doors to new opportunities and connections. By earning a degree, individuals gain recognition and respect for their peers, employers and society at large. Higher education breaks down social barriers, fostering inclusivity and diversity, and enables individuals from all backgrounds to succeed. As Malala Yousafzai

said, "one child, one teacher together can change the world. In this way, higher education breaks all social barriers.

As there are many benefits of higher education; here comes its demerits which are also not negligible. High cost fees and transportation expenditures put students and parents to debts crisis. Furthermore, their lies uncertainty of jobs which deliberately puts years of struggle into murky waters.

In addition, higher education focuses only on theory without practice which is a recipe of disaster. As Richard Branson said, "you don't learn to walk by following rule, you learn by doing. In this way, higher education have both merits and demerits.

After higher education, the following paragraphs shall discuss benefits and limitations of skill acquisition. Firstly, among benefits; the prime benefit of skill acquisition is that skills are not just learned but they are practiced and applicable. These

skills ensures that knowledge is translated into actions. Moreover, in today's rapidly changing world, learning skill consumes a shorter duration depends upon capacity of learner. Furthermore; to stay a head of the curve, individuals must be able to adapt quickly and learn new skills according to changing trends and market demands. So, skills can be adapted easily and quickly. Such benefits make skill acquisition easy to pursue for career.

Secondly; there are some limitations of skill acquisition, showcasing serious efforts to combat challenges. Lack of critical thinking ability or capacity makes a highly skilled person dependent on educated person. For example, a highly skilled carpenter or tailor can't read any letter or write any application. Furthermore, skills successfulness depends upon demand in market. For example; now in the era of technology and machinery, there is no need of manual typewriters. Therefore,

Some certain consideration and decisions are required while acquiring any skill.

In view of above arguments, it is clearly obvious that there are some similarities between both elements of discussion. Firstly, both have almost equal potential for earning or financial perspectives. World Economic Forum shows equal and higher salaries for both elements of discussion. Secondly, both are compulsory and necessary element for substantial developments. For example, a highly educated architect cannot construct a building without builder and construction workers. Thirdly, both will be rewarded and approached after social recognition. ^{hence,} These three are most prominent aspects which make higher education and skill acquisition to a bit similar.

Conversely, although there are similarities between the two, it is crucial to acknowledge distinct differences. Firstly, higher education takes almost sixteen years of education while skill can be learned within months. Secondly, there is one purpose supposed for

skill acquisition which is earning factor. On the other hand, there could be diverse purposes for higher education like knowledge, power, prosperity and financial factor. Thirdly, Society have different standards to value and respect an educated person and a skilled person. Society have respect for bureaucrat and disrespect and pity eyes for day wager. In This way, higher education is far more different from skill acquisition.

In hindsight, according to modern changing trends, where there are pros and cons of both higher education and skill acquisition exist, the best approach lies in recognizing the value of both and finding a balance that suits individual career goals and market demands. Both have demands for substantial development and advancement.

Where higher education provides understanding and knowledge of this complex world alongside skill acquisition fulfills the gaps created by higher education. Both are the two face of same coin, which collectively

are imperitively important in fostering
a well-organized order of the world.