

MULTIPLE ROLE OF TEACHERS IN THE ERA OF GLOBALIZATION***Renu Gupta******Dr. AK Sharma NAS College Meerut, Deptt. Of Education**

"The task of the excellent teacher is to stimulate 'apparently ordinary' people to unusual effort. The tough problem is not in identifying winners: it is in making winners out of ordinary people."

~ K. Patricia Cross

Teaching is not a job; it is an attitude. Teacher is a source of information, a guide, a mentor, a surrogate parent, a motivator, all at the same time. Teaching is the only profession which always deals with the future. To be an ideal teacher, who can be a role model, one should ask himself three questions before taking up this noble profession.

i) Do you love your subject? ii) Do you love your profession? iii) Can you love your students as intensely as your own children? Anyone who cannot answer this question in the affirmative cannot become a great teacher.

The role of a teacher in the changing era of globalization is becoming very challenging. In the earlier times teacher was the only source of information and commanded respect on this count but the role of teacher is very crucial in globalization. This article shares some information on the multiple roles of a teacher in the era of globalization and how the same can contribute to society.

Globalization: The globalization is a complex and multi-faceted phenomenon and for the foreseeable future will continue to be a major trend affecting all spheres of life like economy, culture, society, religion, education etc. Globalization has a multi-dimensional impact on the system of education. Globalization of education may lead to increased competition, better employment opportunities, capital flows, spread of technical knowledge etc. Globalization promises major rewarding changes to the education systems of the developed and developing countries.

Role in School

Teachers are certainly role models for students, so they must be at their best in front of kids. There are various roles a teacher has to play in school. The first role of a teacher is that of a facilitator. He should impart all the knowledge and skills related to a particular field. He should also provide children with the right attitude so that they can make the best use of their knowledge and intelligence. One of the other responsibilities of a teacher is guiding students at every stage.

He must provide his students with guidance, support, and inspiration so that they can find the right path, be it in career or in life. Supervising is also one of the good teacher qualities, as he warns and convinces his students if they are involved in wrong things. The role of a teacher in the classroom has changed significantly over the years. Teachers are no more the people who come to the class, give lectures and walk out. An ideal teacher is someone who seeks the participation of all the students, takes student's opinions into account, uses different teaching media and makes learning a fun activity. As someone rightly said, a good teacher teaches from the heart and not from the book. So, to take up a job as a teacher one must have passion for the subject he is teaching so that he can pass the same passion to his students. One of the important roles of a teacher is also that of respecting a student's opinion. A teacher must always be open to learn new things and he must keep himself updated with the latest developments in his subject. These were some of the qualities of a good teacher. Apart from dealing with students, a teacher also has to maintain a dialog with parents, so that they nurture their kids in the right manner. A good teacher can be defined as a teacher who helps the student to learn. He or she contributes to this in a number of ways. Each of the six roles described (see Figure 1) can be subdivided into two roles, making a total of twelve roles. Roles to the right in the figure require more content expertise or knowledge, and roles to the left more educational expertise.

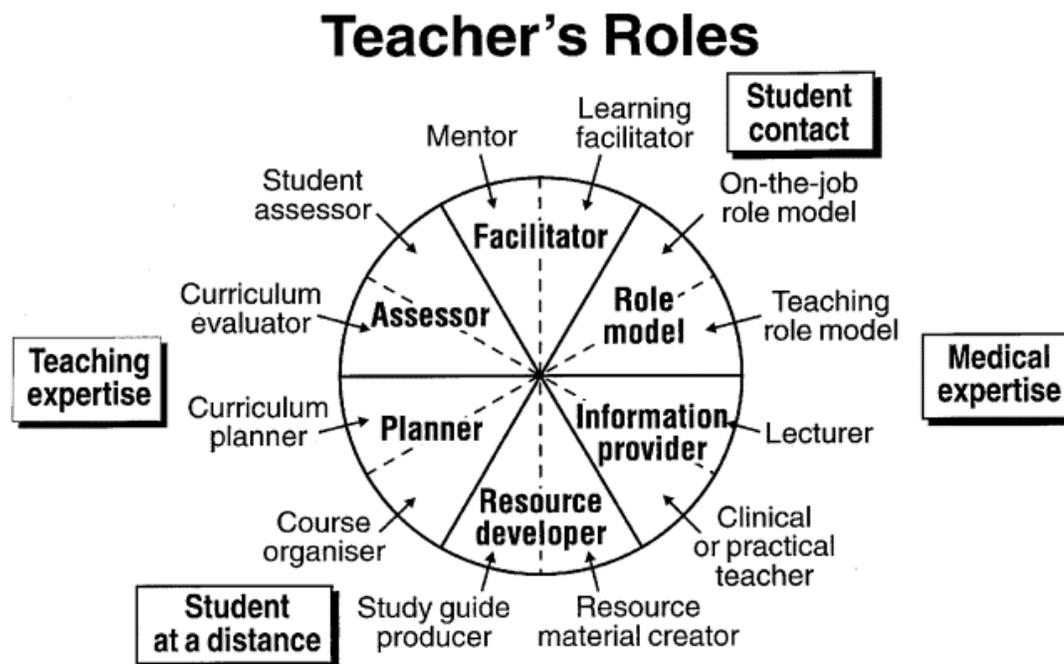


Fig. 1 The 12 roles of the teacher

The information provider

1. The lecturer: A traditional responsibility of the teacher is to pass on to students the information, knowledge and understanding in a topic appropriate at the stage of their studies. This leads to the traditional role of the teacher as one of provider of information in the lecture context.

The role model

1. The on-the-job role model: The importance of the teacher as a role model is well documented. The teacher as a clinician should model or exemplify what should be learned. Students learn not just from what their teachers say but from what they do in their clinical practice and the knowledge, skills and attitudes they exhibit.

1. The role model as a teacher: Teachers serve as role models not only when they teach students while they perform their duties as doctors, but also when they fulfill their role as teachers in the classroom, whether it is in the lecture theatre or the small discussion or tutorial group. The good teacher who is also a doctor can describe in a lecture to a class of students, their approach to the clinical problem being discussed in a way that captures the importance of the subject and the choices available. The teacher has a unique opportunity to share some of the magic of the subject with the students.

The facilitator

1. The learning facilitator: The move to a more student-centred view of learning has required a fundamental shift in the role of the teacher. No longer is the teacher seen predominantly as a dispenser of information or walking tape recorder, but rather as a facilitator or manager of the students' learning. The introduction of problem-based learning with a consequent fundamental change in the student-teacher relationship has highlighted this change in the role of the teacher from one of information provider to one of facilitator.
2. The mentor: The role of mentor is a further role for the teacher. The mentor is usually not the member of staff who is responsible for the teaching or assessment of the student and is therefore *off-line* in terms of relationship with the student.

Mentorship is less about reviewing the students' performance in a subject or an examination and more about a wider view of issues relating to the student.

The assessor

1. The student assessor: The assessment of the student's competence is one of the most important tasks facing the teacher. Most teachers have something to contribute to the assessment process. Examining does represent a distinct and potentially separate role for the teacher. Thus it is possible for someone to be an expert teacher but not an expert examiner. All institutions now need on their staff some teachers with a special knowledge and understanding of assessment issues.
2. The curriculum assessor: The teacher has a responsibility not only to plan and implement educational programmes and to assess the students' learning, but also to assess the course and curriculum delivered. Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the teaching of courses and curricula is now recognised as an integral part of the educational process. Evaluation can also be interpreted as an integral part of the professional role of teachers, recognising teachers' own responsibility for monitoring their own performance.

The planner

1. The curriculum planner: Curriculum planning is an important role for the teacher. Most medical schools and postgraduate bodies have education committees charged with the responsibility for planning and implementing the curriculum within their institution. Teachers employed by the school and members of the postgraduate institution may be expected to make a contribution to curriculum planning. Curriculum planning presents a significant challenge for the teacher and both time and expertise is required if the job is to be undertaken properly.
2. The course planner: The best curriculum in the world will be ineffective if the courses which it comprises have little or no relationship to the curriculum that is in place. Once the principles which underpin the curriculum of the institution have been agreed, detailed planning is then required at the level of the individual course or phase of the curriculum.

The resource developer

1. The resource material creator: An increased need for learning resource materials is implicit in many of the developments in education. The new technologies have greatly expanded the formats of learning materials to which the student may have access and make it much easier for the student to take more responsibility for their own education. The role of the teacher as resource creator offers exciting possibilities. At least some teachers possess the array of skills necessary to select, adapt or produce materials for use within the institution.
2. The study guide producer: The production of study guides is a further role for the medical teacher. Study guides suitably prepared in electronic or print form, can be seen as the students' personal tutor available 24 hours a day and designed to assist the students with their learning. Study guides tell the student what they should learn - the expected learning outcomes for the course, how they might acquire the competences necessary - the learning opportunities available, and whether they have learned it - the students assessing their own competence.

Multiple roles of the teacher

While each of the twelve roles has been described separately, in reality they are often interconnected and closely related one to another. Indeed a teacher may take on simultaneously several roles. However, a good teacher need not be competent in all twelve roles. It would be unusual to find, and unreasonable to expect, one individual to have all the required competencies. Human resource planning should involve matching teachers with the roles for which they have the greatest aptitude.

Role in Society

The role of a teacher in education system is pivotal. He is virtually the yardstick that decides the quality of education system. It is the teacher who decides if the education system is a success or a failure. It is on his shoulders, that the entire education system rests as he single-handedly shapes the generation. As I mentioned earlier, a teacher plays a crucial role in the development of society. Someone once said that if you want to study the nature of the citizens of the country then meet some teachers and study their nature. After all, the society is a replica of teachers living in it. Teachers help mere students transform into good human beings with a positive attitude, confidence and motivation to pursue excellence. The future of an entire generation depends on

the teachers. If they are corrupt and unprofessional, then an entire generation will result in the same. This can result in corrupt judiciary, betraying army, unfaithful bureaucracy, untrustworthy politicians, etc. which leads to a chaotic and deplorable society. So, a teacher is no doubt, an architect of a new generation who determines the quality and future of our tomorrow. But teaching jobs as a profession are not given the respect that they deserve. We must understand that teaching is the only profession that teaches all the other professions and so, its significance and greatness is much higher.

With these insights on the role of a teacher, it is clear that they make a tremendous contribution to our society and hence must always be held high. I would leave you with a quote by Jacques Barzun that shows the sorry state of teaching profession...

"Teaching is not a lost art but the regard for it, is a lost tradition."

Conclusion

I totally agree with the aforementioned quote of k.Patricia Cross. A teacher is the one who shapes the personality and entire life of children. It is one of the noble professions as it contributes in building the future of the country and overall society. Teachers play a significant and a valuable role as they influence the lives of children who are the future of tomorrow. Students get influenced by the teacher's characters, her affection and commitment, her competence and her morals and ethics. So it is important that only best and the intelligent human beings are allowed to become teachers so that the safe future is ensured. This article shares some information on the multiple roles of a teacher and how the same can contribute to society.

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