Changing the Quality of Teacher Education with the Perspective of Y- Learners

*Shaista Parveen   **Prof. Vanaja M.

*Assistant Professor (Contractual), Department of Education and Training,
Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad
Mobile no- 8143120924;Email- shaistahasan16@gmail.com
**Professor, Department of Education and Training,
Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad
Mobile no- 9849494608;Email- vanajaeducation@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Generation is a group of individual who are born within the same time span and having similarity in life style. On this basis, twenty first century has been divided into five types of generations as GI generation, Silent Generation, Boomer Generation, Generation X and Millennial Generation. Millennial generation is also called as Y Generation. This generation born between 1980s and the early 2000s time span. Students of Y generation are called Y learner. In this article, the researcher will discuss about Y learners and their characteristic features. What is the significance role of Y learners in education, what teaching and learning strategies will be appropriate for them in the field of education and training and how they can be trained in a proper way to be prospective teachers.

Key words: Teacher Education, Quality of Teacher Education, Y Learner

INTRODUCTION

Group of individual who live within same time span and have similarity in their life style that affected education, economic and political realms of the time are imputed a particular generation. "A group of individual, most of whom are the same approximate age, having similar ideas, problems, attitudes etc." According to the latest WHO data published in 2015 life expectancy in India is: Male 66.9, female 69.9 and total life expectancy is 68.3, which gives India a World Life Expectancy ranking of 123. On this basis we can say, time span of generation I expose that people belong the particular generation are not present in current society and persons related to silent generation are the same, they have gone from the world naturally.

On this basis of the twenty first century, generations have been divided into five types of generations. There are no precise dates about time span of the generations although demographers and researchers indicate as below:-1.GI Generation=1901- 1924; 2. Silent

Generation=1925-1942; 3.Boomer Generation=1943-1960; 4. Generation X=1961- 1981; 5.Y Generation= 1982- 2005

People related to first and first half of the second decade of Boomer generation are also not alive but second half of the second decade of the cohort time span are alive and will be on the retirement boarder and some have been retired. But generation X are server/ active in current society. This cohort is nurture of his next generation. We can't separate one cohort to another completely because these are sequential like chain.

We have to discuss here about Y learner in context of teacher education. Peter Reily conducted a study entitled "**Understanding and Teaching Generation Y**" .The result of this study reveals that learners dropout rate increase from English as a foreign/ second language course due to using of traditional teaching method. If teachers want to motivate and to retain them in the class, they should adopt new technologies and use frequently in English as a second language- teaching learning process. Northern Illinois University, Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center conducted a study entitled "**Millennial our Newest Generation in Higher Education**". The results express that there is no need or not appropriate to leave lecture method that make Y learners uninterested, although there is need to involve new congruent technologies in lecture method. Jodie Eckleberry-Hunt, Phd, ABP and Jennifer Tucciarone, MD have undertaken a research entitled "**The Challenges and Opportunities of Teaching "Generation Y".**" The study results reveal that Generation Y should be educated and development of strong leadership to succeed. Rule must be clear, the message should be unambiguous, and faculty member should behave with Generation Y in a friendly and parental manner. The researcher found many studies of Generation Y in various contexts conducted in different countries but she found a huge gape that there is no research have been conducted on studies related to Generation Y in the context of teacher education. Therefore, she planned to conduct this study.

Y learners are a small part of Y-generation. They are also known as Millennial Generation. The cohort has significant place in world population. This generation opened their eyes in the era of information and communication technology and breath in Net environment and grew up playing in gadgets/ technology surrounding. Without net facility they suffocate.

Based on declared time span for the discussing cohort, we can say people of this group are young and young people are considered as crux for their society. They seem as they are sitting alone apparently, but they are in touch with many persons on screen. They are comfortable with technologies and feel incomplete without these to their self. Prensky (2001) refers to them as natives or people born into a technological world. He contrasts them with digital immigrants.

We can understand this cohort by following their characteristics: -

1. **Team Worker-** This generation believes in 'together everyone achieves more'. They prefer to work in a team in place of doing alone because single person cannot enjoy and they search for enjoyment in every moment of their lives.

2. **Confident-** They always think 'I can'. There is no space for 'I cannot' in their life dictionary. They ready to do any things anywhere and anytime.

3. **Always Connected**: - Generation Y is tech savvy. Their lives are surrounded by technologies like smart phone, laptop and other gadgets. Being master of the gadgets they feel they have everything. Therefore, they remain plugged in and online 7*24.

4. **Multi-Tasker**- Using gadgets Y generations do more than one task at a time. They like listen to song, while doing their homework.

5. **Life with Laughter and Play-** Halvorsen (2008) writes that Generation Y listen to iPod on 9 roller coasters because the roller coaster is not entertaining enough. For enjoyment and entertainment they preference team work and group work.

6. **Easily Bored-** If a lecture is going on and that is not benefiting them, they get bored. They do not like to be engaged in a single work for a long time. They search something new from time to time.

7. **Very Short Attention Span-**Excessive use of mobile phones, tablets and other gadgets has led to a decline in the attention span of students, feel many teachers surveyed by Pearson India (PriyankaSahoo, 2016).

8. **Ambitious-** The discussing generation is ambitious. They want to achieve more and more. They think there is no limitation to achieve. Everyone wants to be on the top of success. They eager to gain more and more.

9. **Peer and Family Oriented-** This cohort does not ignore their family and peer for their job. If job becomes barrier to keep in touch to their family and peers in this situation, they like to change the job. They like a flexible work schedule.

10. **Immediately Response seeker-** This cohort become restless to receive any kind response as they post a picture on face book or other social sites to see attached members' comments, they check their gadgets again and again.

11. **Audio - Visual Oriented-** This generation is an amateur of audio visual. They want to escape from reading text and listen to lecture passively. For knowing about something they use audio- visual material as much as possible.

Thus, we can say there is an amalgamation of above-mentioned characteristics in Y Learners.

Quality in Teacher Education through Y learners

"Teacher education refers to the policies, procedures and provision designed to equip(prospective) teachers with the knowledge, attitudes, behaviors and skills they squire to perform their task effectively in the classroom, school and wider community. Those professionals who engage in this activity are called teacher education." The above definition clears the aim of teacher education on which basis we can say that there should be attraction for Y Learners, in designated policies, procedures and provisions. Y learners are trained goodly having congruent changing in education system.

If we have a look on broad time span of Y Learners' teachers, we come to know they are belonging to X generation. That's' the life style are very different, most of them are not comfort with gadgets. They use traditional lecture method in classroom to teach this Technology. cohort and they use the old media to give them any type of information now. Someone said, "No nation rises above the level of its teachers." Thus, to bring our students on competition track on this technology era teachers will have to change.

There are some suggestions given below to bring and enhance the quality of teacher education programmes.

➢ They should adopt new technologies to use in as much in academic activities as possible. They can make innovative use of the traditional lecture method using audio- visual devices. Y learners like to involve themselves, so they should do. For this purpose, a teacher can make a subject- group on social media (whatsapp and face book) for delivering a message to inform about the topic one day before to teach. The message may be as "I inform all of you that the relevant topic 'significance of evolution in teaching- learning process' will be discussed tomorrow. Come prepared." He can deliver all information related the particular subject and students also in this group.

➢ Teachers should make an effort to be familiar with gadgets. If they make a plan for activity on a relevant topic, first of all they have to keep in touch with net/ social media front. Without using these, their plan will be flop. Sandars and Morission (2008) write that not only the learners experienced with tool such as wikis, blogs and chat rooms, but more importantly they believe that these tools can benefit their learning in school.

➢ Teachers need to be aware and motivate about to know how to use new technologies, for these are integral parts of their students' lives. Education system is also responsible to organize workshop and training courses to be update of old and experienced teachers.

➢ Assignments and records that have to be submitted to prospective teachers should be online and response should be given immediately. Being online, it will be clear who has submitted records and who has not. The researcher was confronted with a distance mode prospective teachers' problem about assignment and records submissions on June 2017 in Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad. There was a list of candidates-assignments submission records in which it was mentioned who had submitted his/her assignments and who had not. There were many names, who had not submitted some records according the record list, but they claim to have submitted. They told about the different people whom they had given their assignments. They got very worried and restless on knowing about that ambiguity. At that time the idea of online submission illuminated in my mind. A separate assignments submission blogs should be for both types of Y-learners enrolled in regular as well as distance mode.

➢ Management should use online notice board frequently for daily information in place of wall notice board.

➢ Everything such as rules and regulations of the institution should be clearly mentioned in the blogs. Learners should be informed about places of institution, relevance and purpose of course, and related jobs.

➢ Teachers should give project work in a group because Y learners like to do work in-group. There should be organizing online discussions. Education system is responsible to develop videos on the topics as if teachers have to tell to students about teaching- steps, he can show videos as a model and the video should be shared in students' group.

➢ Micro teaching is a crux in the curriculum of teacher education. If there will be video recording system in micro teaching lab then the trainer can improve his/her mistakes and horn teaching skill in short time, by viewing his videos and every candidates will be motivated and eager to do practice on stage.

➢ Management should be familiar with students and should be no distance between them. Authority should discuss openly about places and activities and students point of view, likes, and dislikes about organization.

➢ There should be a properly equipped technology laboratory to make the candidates conversant with the new technologies because today students are teacher of future, the next, newest generation will become advanced, and they will familiar with more advanced technologies in school of education and training. In addition, in this way backward students can also brought into the main stream. Gadgets should not only introduced, but also be familiarized to them.

CONCLUSION

From above discussion, it is clear that Y learners are very different from their teachers, so education system need to congruent change of Y learners and they can be uplifted by advance education system too. The Y learners' students will be more advanced. If it is not be noticed about bringing appropriate changes then there will be a lag and students will back <u>from simultaneous techniques</u>. "The Destiny of India is being shaped in her classroom."(Kothari Commission 1964-66). It proves that if there is a wish for a bright future it will have to bring changes in the education system.

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