

Multilingualism and Education

Ven Shantipriya Sramong

University of Kelaniya Colombo (Sri Lanka)

kavimarma@yahoo.com

Abstract

The meaning of multilingualism or bilingualism is one who speaks two or more languages. To know only one language is exceptional. The majority of the people in the world can speak two languages and more. Pure monolingualism is a result either of physical isolation from speakers of other languages or it is the result of culture isolation. The latter type means that, in an area where more than one language is spoken, the dominant group of languages speakers insists that its mother tongue is the standard way of communicating. For them, mastering any other language spoken in the area in question is thus rendered unnecessary.

In the whole world all of the people English language as a known second language without some countries of mother tongues in English language. Second language will normally stand as a cover term for any languages other than the first language learned by a given learner group of learners.

- Irrespective of the type of learning environment and
- Irrespective of number other non-native languages possessed by the learners.

This includes both "foreign" languages (for example, French as a foreign language for Austrians). Some people even believe that learning a second language can be harmful. But in modern life second language is very important for every learner to communicate. Now second language is very popular in every country. Actually, people living in established multilingualism communities.

Education should moderate by training the mind, the behavior of the senses and provide specific prescriptions on the mode of their use. The norms laid down by religion on the appropriate use of sense should be understood with regards to their real importance through education. Like everything else in the universe that requires preparation and growth before it is utilized, man too requires development of his highest faculty, intellect, through education that he receives at home, in society and in schools and colleges for being useful to not only the humans, but other living creatures too. Man can not play the role of the enjoyer of all that nature has produced and consider gratification of the senses as the basic purpose of his life. Man has practiced self-imposed discipline in curbing the sensual impulse as a sacrifice and exchange to the ability of intellect and discrimination granted to him by nature as his highest grace. Everything in the universe has a purposeful existence of its own and also its utility for the rest. Man too has abided by this universal principle and must endeavor to fit into the harmonious working of nature and thus become a serviceable tool for growth of the rest. The education that reveals the underlying unity, from which all has emerged, will foster the feelings of love, kinship and brotherhood and strengthen the foundations of human society through generation of fundamental values through education. That is why we say that, "Education is the backbone of the nation" no nation can prosper without education. Ignorance means darkness. Those countries well educated that nation development. So the light of education is needed for the society. All have to realize this truism. Otherwise there will be no hope for the nation.