Indian Knowledge System
for
Human Culture and Civilisation

India developed its knowledge system, tested it through practice, verified and improved it over thousands of years

As a result, the Indian Knowledge System is founded on the 'wellbeing of all'

सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः सर्वे सन्तु निरामयाः
वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्
एकम् सत् विप्रा बहुधा वदन्ति
कृण्वंतो विश्वं आर्यं

It is based on a deep understanding of human being as well as of nature and entire existence

Living (surviving)
- Physical facility

Living with fulfilment
- Relationship and
- Physical facility

Living with continuous fulfilment

(called by different names such as bliss, peace, satisfaction, happiness, fulfilment, contentment, enlightenment, independence, self-actualisation, ecstasy, divinity, salvation, liberation, ,…)

- Right understanding (understanding harmony – truth)
- Living in harmony (love and compassion)
  - Relationship (living in harmony with human being) and
  - Physical facility (ensuring more than required, but in harmony with rest of nature with right skills)

All great people of the world have tried to realise the truth
and to live by it in terms of love and compassion

1. They have tried to realise the **Truth**
   − Understand themselves (human being)
   − Understand the underlying harmony in nature, in existence

   and on the basis of this understanding
2. They have tried to develop a way of life, culture and civilisation for the wellbeing of all (living with **love** and **compassion**)

For all such great people, we have a deep feeling of gratitude…

Understanding or Assumptions

Culture   The collective thought

Civilisation   Expression in the form of behaviour and societal system

Over the ages, various cultures and civilisations have taken shape. At the core of the civilisation is its culture; and the base of the culture is what has been understood or assumed (without understanding) about the existential reality i.e. truth, love and compassion.

A civilisation is the expression of a culture in the form of behaviour and societal system.

In order to share our understanding, feelings and thoughts, various means of communication have been used such as – language, literature, song, dance, drama, painting, sculpture…

To materialise this culture in terms of behaviour and system, different forms have been developed such as science, technology, architecture, modes of production, transportation, exchange, modes of education…

A knowledge system which ensures right understanding and clarity of living in harmony at all levels of human existence can be called a **holistic and humane knowledge system**

Many cultures and civilisations over millennia have tried to evolve such knowledge systems

एकम् सत् विप्रा बहुधा वदन्ति

The Indian culture and civilisation is one such example

How a culture, civilisation develops and is propagated generation after generation depends on its education-sanskar, its knowledge system

Human education-sanskar
(मानवीय शिक्षा-संस्कार)

Inhuman education-sanskar
(अमानवीय शिक्षा-संस्कार)

Humane world view, perspective
(मानवीय दृष्टि)

Inhumane world view, perspective
(अमानवीय दृष्टि)

Human values, culture
(मानवीय मूल्य, संस्कृति)

inhuman values, culture
(अमानवीय मूल्य, संस्कृति)

Human conduct – behavior, work, participation
(मानवीय आचरण – व्यवहार, कार्य, व्यवस्था में भागीदारी)

Inhuman conduct – behavior, work, participation
(अमानवीय आचरण – व्यवहार, कार्य, व्य. में भागीदारी)

Human society, culture, civilisation
(मानवीय समाज व व्यवस्था,
मानवीय संस्कृति, सभ्यता)

Inhuman society, culture, civilisation
(अमानवीय समाज, अव्यवस्था,
अमानवीय संस्कृति, सभ्यता)

Human education-sanskar (मानवीय शिक्षा-संस्कार)

Humane world view, perspective   Main part of education
(मानवीय दृष्टि)   1. Universal
                                                   2. Rational
Human values, human culture   3. Verifiable
(मानवीय मूल्य, मानवीय संस्कृति)   4. Leading to Harmony
                                                   +
Skills for living in harmony   Value guided skills
(व्यवस्था पूर्वक जीने के लिए हुनर)

Human society, human culture, civilisation
(मानवीय समाज व व्यवस्था, मानवीय संस्कृति, सभ्यता)

...tion is fundamental for achieving

l human potential,
...veloping an **equitable and just society**,
...d promoting **national development**

(See page 3)

We have to understand the meaning of

- Full human potential
- Equitable and just society
- National development

Source: https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English.pdf p3

Human education-sanskar (मानवीय शिक्षा-संस्कार)

Humane world view, perspective
(मानवीय दृष्टि)

Human values, human culture   Full human potential
(मानवीय मूल्य)

Skills for living in harmony, with joy
(व्यवस्था पूर्वक, उत्सव पूर्वक जीने के लिए हुनर)

Graduates will be able to contribute to a human society

Human society, human culture, human civilisation
(मानवीय समाज व व्यवस्था   An equitable and just
    मानवीय संस्कृति, सभ्यता)   society

                              National development

The Problem and a Solution

The world today has become a mixture of various cultures.

In India, we can see

- Urban / City culture ◻ Western culture
- Liberal culture   ◻ "Bollywood" culture
- Traditional rural Indian culture
- and so many others

Today, the problem is that one culture tends to be opposed to other cultures. This is because their basic assumptions and therefore thoughts are different. Even though there are commonalities at the core, the conflict is at the level of expression and details.

With this situation, it is imperative to

- Articulate the truth, love and compassion at the core
- Appreciate the various ways to materialise this truth, love and compassion and , different approaches to communicate this truth, love and compassion to others.

Formulation for Education

It is desirable to have generic and universal formulation, content and process – universal, basic or fundamental principles. Of course, to exemplify these, local, regional examples may be taken and will be taken.

For example: We want to live with fulfilment as a society. This part is common, universal.

To exemplify this, we may expose students to traditional Indian culture and philosophy as well as traditional western culture and thought.

In this way,
1. It will help in understanding the underlying basic principles
2. It will help in connecting the basic principles through specific examples
3. It will help the student to see and appreciate various cultures, to see the commonality amongst them
4. It will help to evaluate any specific example, system or culture, with a view to fill the gaps, rather than to criticise or reject it. Further, we can also be mutually enriching for other cultures.

It is important to have a universal formulation

If we don't have a universal formulation, there is no definite yardstick for evaluation

It is likely that people think that their formulation, their culture, content, practice etc. is superior and the others are not

There is not only no common program to live together in harmony, rather there is opposition and strife in the society, which may lead to struggle and even war
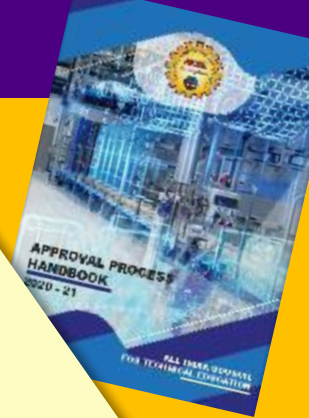
In March 2017, AICTE decided to update its Model Curriculum from the 2018-19 academic year for all technical education (engineering, architecture etc.) across India:

- Mandatory 3-week Student Induction Program

- UHV is to be offered as an essential 3-credit course (UHV-II or H-102)   in 3rd/4th semester or earlier

Today, more than 10,000 colleges under the AICTE umbrella are preparing their teachers for this huge task of National importance

Policy

Induction Program Cell (IPC) at AICTE

SIP (UHV-I) and **UHV-II** in Model C...

Approval Process Handbook 2...

Enablement

3-day FDP-SI throug...

8-day FDPs durin...

(AICTE will b... ...ticipants)

AICTE ... ...articipants

(... ...and UHV-II)

Recog...

AICTE w... ...s direction by

-Individual ...

-Colleges an...

-Universities

This is an initial, but significant step in value-based education for value-based living, which includes sustainable (planet-friendly) technology and humane (people-friendly) management practices

Steps for preparing faculty for these programs will be outlined on the last day

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As a result, the Indian Knowledge System is founded on the 'wellbeing of all' and is based on a deep understanding of human being as well as of nature and entire existence,

It seems to satisfy the requirement of a **holistic and humane knowledge system**

It is in this context that we may look into the Indian Knowledge System, taking some specific examples, and try to see it in the perspective of a **holistic and humane system of knowledge**

The specific examples may help teachers and students, in connecting to the basic principles and also relate them to their day to day life

This approach may also help the participants, in the long run to
- Appreciate the knowledge systems developed by various cultures and civilisations, including the Indian Knowledge System
- See the commonality amongst the knowledge systems developed by various cultures and civilisations

कृण्वंतो विश्वं आर्यं

Participants should be able to develop a view of filling any gaps, **of being mutually enriching**, rather than to criticise or reject any knowledge system

We look forward to your active participation…

We trust it will help in further refining your view about this AICTE effort

Best Wishes!

Dr. Rajneesh Arora

Chairperson, National Coordination Committee for Induction Program (NCC-IP)