
Don Bosco Higher Education Commission

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NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
EDUCATING YOUTH FOR SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION:
TOWARDS NEW PARADIGMS AND INSPIRING PRAXIS

Venue: DON BOSCO MEDIA CENTRE, Manikandam, Tiruchy – 12

DATE: NOVEMBER 14-15, 2019

Organized by:

Higher Education Commission, Don Bosco Tiruchy Province, Tiruchy.

www.donboscotiruchy.org

Don Bosco College, Keela Eral, Thoothukudi District - 628 908

www.dbcas.edu.in

Don Bosco, Pastor Lenssen Polytechnic College, Kuthenkuly, Tirunelveli District - 627 104

www.donboscoplpc.com

Don Bosco Polytechnic College, Kazhiappanallur, Nagapattinam District – 609 307

www.donboscopolytech.in

In Collaboration with:

DBHEI (Don Bosco Higher Education India), Don Bosco SPCI House, New Delhi.

Rationale:

One of the striking features of the contemporary society is the phenomenal lateral expansion of education at local and global levels and in all categories- primary, secondary or tertiary, in terms of the number of institutions, variety of courses and the size of enrolment. Moreover, as the on-going technological revolution holds out huge scope for new possibilities and alternatives, the pattern, process and purpose of education also need to re-imagined and redefined. Technology may determine the pattern and process of education, but it is the purpose that should determine the technology itself as well as the pattern and the process.

National leaders like Gandhi and Kalam believed in creating a cadre of youth with courage, conviction and commitment, who as change agents would trigger off the process of social transformation towards building a healthy nation. The need of the hour is therefore to educate, train and orient our youth as agents of social transformation on a priority and urgency, which is nothing less than a revolution. Social transformation being one of the principal goals of education it is to be expected that an educated person contributes to the betterment of society so that all could live a dignified human life. Here, by ‘social’ we mean all those contexts that are essential to respond to the human vocation both as an individual and as a member of a community. Among these, the realities and challenges surrounding the following sectors attract our concern and immediate attention in today’s India: family, economy, politics, ecology, social media, culture, religion and civil rights. And by ‘transformation’ we mean the needed change in values, attitudes and behavior at the individual level and in structures, policies and norms at the societal level.

Despite the growth and improvement brought about in the quality of education imparted, especially in the recent decades, a critical review informs us that no significant impact has been made on the society. Reduced often to mere acquisition of information, knowledge and skills, sadly and ironically, education itself has become the source of many evils in society today.

It is in this disturbing situation that our National Conference for those involved in higher education of the young aims at reflecting together the role of education in social transformation and the responsibility of all stakeholders towards the same. It intends to do so by envisaging new paradigms of education with social concern and consciousness, and creating a forum for sharing the inspiring praxis - the “best practices”, that might already be yielding the desired results.

It is our fervent hope that the deliberations of the Conference would facilitate greater enlightenment and clarity and enable us to arrive at consensus on the goals, content and methods of higher education in this regard and to delineate together certain concrete measures towards empowering our educated youth as agents of social transformation in today’s society.

The National Conference on “Educating youth for social transformation ...”, organized by the Commission for Higher Education, Salesian Province of Trichy, seeks to address this concern and challenge in the prevailing social, economic, political and cultural context of India, Paper and/or Poster presentations based on empirical research, conceptual framework, new perspectives and insights, alternative methodologies, innovative experiments and experiences, best practices, success stories etc. are invited for the Conference; and any stakeholder or enthusiast of Education and Youth Work is welcome to contribute.

Objectives of the Conference

The group proceeded forward and suggested the following objectives for the meeting as follows:

- To provide a forum for the sharing of ideas and experiences so as to facilitate sound discussion and deliberation.
- To focus on the essential dimensions of individual formation and social transformation.
- To understand the contextual imperatives of providing higher education in India today in the light of the conference theme.
- To provide conceptual clarity about the theme.
- To know different modules of social transformation.
- To create a platform to exhibit the best practices in social transformation.
- To provide self-introspection for those engaging youth for social transformation
- To know the emerging social and educational trends and the way forward.
- To suggest ways and means to bring about necessary changes in the process of higher education
- To identify the bottlenecks in achieving the true goals of education
- To sensitize the Educators, Social Activists and Social Movements of engaging youth in social transformation

Target Audience/ Participants:

- Educators and Academicians, Professors and Teachers, particularly those associated with Social Work, Social Sciences & Humanities and Education
- Students and Research Scholars of Social Work, Social Sciences & Humanities
- Youth workers, Youth leaders, Volunteers and Practitioners from Govt. & NGO sector
- People associated with Youth Movements

Key Areas:

1. **HEALTHY FAMILY:** Educating the youth to be responsible children, spouses and parents, Focus on values such as gender justice, healthy relationship, friendship, respect for the elderly, etc
2. **SICIAL & ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT:** Education for social justice, employability and entrepreneurial skills, etc.
3. **POLITICAL AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION:** Education for human, constitutional and civil rights, vibrant civil society, youth volunteerism, rights and duties of citizenship, etc.
4. **NEW MEDIA:** Responsible and effective use of social media, Its impacts, opportunities and challenges, youth counseling, etc
5. **ECOLOGICAL CONCERN:** Educating the youth for safeguarding environment, change of life style, healthy food habits, eco – farming, etc
6. **GLOBALIZATION AND LOCAL CULTURES:** Respect of local cultures in a globalized world, the value of unity in diversity
7. **VALUES, FAITH AND SPIRITUALITY:** Respecting and celebrating differences, Focus on human / religious values & spirituality, spirituality of and for social transformation, etc.
8. **POLICIES & PRACTICES:** Policies for youth development and empowerment, Education, Employment, youth participation and representation, etc.

For any clarifications, kindly contact us:

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