

National Professional Standards for Teachers in Pakistan in Light of Teaching of the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H)

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Abstract

Education play a vital role in national development. National Professional Standards for Teachers in Pakistan will prove a mile stone in educational development. These standards are necessary for every teacher to improve his teaching style and strategy. In Quran, Allah states that prophets are obliged to deliver His messages and describes prophets as an "instructor and trainer. Prophet was a teacher and his duty was to deliver the message of God. Indeed, the Prophet himself emphasized that his primary duty as a Prophet was to teach by saying, "I have been sent only as a teacher to you." To explain his duty, he also said, "I have been sent only to complete moral virtues."So we as Muslim should follow His (PBUH) methods of teaching.

Keywords: Teaching of the Holy Prophet, Professional Standards, national development, Pakistan

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1. Objectives

2. To find out standards for teachers in Pakistan
3. To explore quality education in the light of National Professional Standards for Teachers in Pakistan
4. To show out Teaching Methods of Prophet Muhammad.

2. Introduction

The Government of Pakistan is dedicated to improving quality of education. Teacher Education plays an instrumental role in improving quality of education. It is an important pillar of the outline National Education policy 2008.

Policy and planning wing of the Ministry of Education (MoE) in association with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is implementing Strengthening Teacher Education in Pakistan (STEP) project with financial support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Under STEP project, "Professional Standards for Teachers" have been developed in consultation with stakeholders in all provinces. Although the standards are aimed for primary level beginning teachers, these standards can be adapted and used for secondary level teachers and teacher educators.

If Pakistan aspires to compete successfully in the global knowledge economy and convert the raw talent of its people into a productive asset, it has to create a world-class education system from pre-school to postgraduate level. A world-class education is not possible without world-class teachers, most importantly at the elementary level of KATCHI-10 GRADES, who instruct, inform, and inspire their students to quality learning and scholarship.

"Standards for Teachers" is a widespread term used to refer to statements that describe the characteristics that society expects of teachers. The "National Professional Standards for Teachers in Pakistan" (or NPST) presents the characteristics of experienced and committed Pakistani teachers. It also sets long-term goals for Pakistani teachers, national professional standards for teachers as given by the Ministry of Education, Government of Pakistan on 23rd February 2009. This paper presents not only those 10 standards but also sheds light on teacher standards in the light of the Holy Prophet. Islam places a great stress on Standard Education at all levels. As it is said in Hadith (PBUH)

"The Quran and Hadith both hold men of knowledge superior to the ignorant. (39:9) "The books of Hadith have a whole lengthy chapter devoted to the importance of knowledge, and the rewards of teaching and learning. For instance, there is a tradition that one who treads a path in search of knowledge has his way paved to paradise by God as a reward for this noble deed (Bukhari, Muslim)"

Prophet of Islam presented himself before the people saying, "I have been sent only as a teacher."

Being as a teacher He (PBUH) gave standards for an ideal teacher .In this paper I am going to tell you professional standards of a teacher in the light of Holy Prophet (PBUH).

Pakistan is an Islamic country .it was established in the name of Islam .so if we want to make it a pure Islamic state, we have to set its foundation on pure Islamic principles of Islam. Teacher training , and syllabus and standards for teaching possesses a mile stone in this regard.21th century is a challenge for Muslims in the field of science and technology .Government of Pakistan is much eager to improve the standard of education in Pakistan. To implement standards for teachers is a little step to improve the existing condition. Ten standards for teacher were selected in order to attain a required target. Teaching is a profession of Prophets .Our beloved prophet laid the foundation of education in first Welfare state of the world, Medina. Being as a prophet he made education compulsory for all Muslim men and women. His methods of teaching were very effective. We should also keep in mind the great style of our holy prophet in teaching practice.

These are the following 10 standards for teacher to improve quality education in Pakistan.

1. Subject Matter Knowledge

If anything is to be regarded as a specific preparation for teaching, priority must be given to a thorough grounding in something to teach. (Peters, 1977, p. 151).

That subject matter is an essential component of teacher knowledge is neither a new nor a Controversial statement. After all, if teaching entails helping others learn, then understanding what is to be taught is a central requirement of teaching. The countless tasks of teaching, such as selecting worthwhile learning activities, giving helpful explanations, asking productive questions, and evaluating students' learning, all depend on the teacher's understanding of what it is that students are to learn.

As Buchmann (1984) points out, it would be odd to expect a teacher to plan a lesson on, for instance, writing reports in science and to evaluate related student assignments, if that teacher is ignorant about writing and about science, and does not understand what student progress in writing science reports might mean. (p. 32).

2. The Role of Subject Matter Knowledge in Teaching

Helping students learn subject matter involves more than the delivery of facts and information. The goal of teaching is to assist students in developing intellectual resources to enable them to participate in, not merely to know about, the major domains of human thought and inquiry. These include the past and its relation to the present; the natural world; the ideas, beliefs, and values of our own and other peoples; the dimensions of space and quantity; aesthetics and representation; and so on. Understanding entails being able to use intellectual ideas and skills as tools to gain control over everyday, real-world problems. Students should see themselves, either alone or in cooperation with others, as capable of figuring things out--of using mathematics to define and reason through a problem; of tracking down the origins of current social policy; of interpreting a poem or story, of understanding how physical forces operate; of recreating in writing a feeling, idea, or

experience. They should both be able and inclined to challenge the claims in a politician's speech, to make sense of and criticize presentations of statistical information, and to write an effective letter to the editor. A conceptual mastery of subject matter and the capacity to be critical of knowledge itself can empower students to be effective actors in their environment.

3. Human Growth and Development

The emphasis of Islam on learning and teaching was not confined to the Quran or the teachings of the Prophet. The Quran, in fact, has given a new outlook, a new perspective or paradigm as coined by Thomas Kahn (The Structure of Scientific Revolution, 1955).

According to this Quranic paradigm, man's most important activity being intellectual contemplation or reflection, he was not supposed to blindly follow any idea or notion just because it was attributed to his ancestors or some other authority. He had to ponder on it critically and realistically. That is why we find that the Quran is replete with hundreds of inspirational and motivational verses that invite man to reflect on the wonderful creatures of God.

He should be well aware about all developments in science as well as social sciences. It is the need of the teacher that he should know about all new trends in educational developments and methodology.

4. Islamic Values and Ethics

Prophet of Islam observed:

“those who learn virtues and teach it to others are the best among humankind (Al-Bayhaqi).”

Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is the finest example of a perfect man in every sense of the term. He was a model of virtue and is the best exemplar for the human race. The Almighty distinguished him from all and sundry by instilling in his magnificent personality such fine qualities as modesty, truthfulness, kindness, patience, loyalty, honesty, courage, bravery, generosity, magnanimity, wisdom and the like. By studying his ideal character and the marvelous simple life he (PBUH) led with his household, companions, wives and others. We are able to learn valuable lessons from his conduct and accordingly mould our own life-style. A teacher should keep in mind. His personality and mould his character accordingly.

Pakistan is an Islamic country. Islamic based values education is need of the time in Pakistan. Now it is need of the time that we should made our syllabus, system and teaching methodology purely Islamic. So that we can save our cultural values and culture which is changing under the influences of western media.

We can save our youth from cultural war with the help of our education system. Our education system must be purely based on true Islamic value and ethics. Our society could

never be an Islamic one unless we sincerely tread the footsteps of Almighty God's final Messenger to mankind. Pakistani teachers should follow the true spirit of Islam. To inculcate true Islamic values among new generation should be the responsibility of a teacher. To introduce Islamic values and ethics among students at an early age is the professional responsibility of a teacher.

5. Instructional Planning and Strategies

Now it is the need of the time to make proper planning for future combat with foreign cultural, as well as educational war in world. Latest methodology, techniques and research we can improve our standard of education. We can merge true Islamic spirit in it with latest techniques and research.

6. Assessment

Assessment methods and requirements probably have a greater influence on how and what students learn than any other factor. This influence may well be of greater importance than the impact of teaching materials (Boud, 1988, p.39).

Assessment does more than allocate a grade or degree classification to students. It plays an important role in focusing their attention and, as Sainsbury & Walker (2007) observe, actually drives their learning. Gibbs (2003) states that assessment has 6 main functions:

- ↗ Capturing student time and attention
- ↗ Generating appropriate student learning activity
- ↗ Providing timely feedback which students pay attention to
- ↗ Helping students to internalize the discipline's standards and notions of equality
- ↗ Generating marks or grades which distinguish between students or enable pass/fail
- ↗ Decisions to be made for future planning.
- ↗ Providing evidence for other outside the course to enable them to judge the appropriateness of standards on the course.

Assessment plays a number of roles in the life of a student, some of which they may be more aware of than others. It's widely accepted that students' learning patterns, educational focus, and allocation of time will be directly influenced by assessment.

7. Learning Environment

Modern learning environments support strengths-based teaching and can offer students and teachers flexibility, openness and access to resources. Providing teachers with an open, flexible learning environment where inquiries are shared, interventions devised collaboratively and reflections based on both self and peer observations, can lead to the development of a robust, continuously improving community of practice.

↗ Features of Modern Learning Environments

Modern learning environments that align better with what we know about the brain and student learning can facilitate traditional pedagogies such as direct instruction if needed, but they typically offer students and teachers much more.

Elasticity

The ability to combine two classes into one for team-teaching, split a class into small groups and spread them over a wider area or combine different classes studying complementary learning areas.

Frankness

Modern learning environments traditionally have fewer walls, more glass and often use the idea of a learning common (or hub) which is a central teaching and learning space that can be shared by several classes. They provide opportunities to observe and learn from the teaching of others and be observed in return. They also provide access to what students in other learning areas and level are learning, so that teaching and learning can be complemented and enhanced.

Access to resources (including technology)

Typically a learning common is surrounded by breakout spaces allowing a range of different activities, such as reading, group work, project space, wet areas, reflection, and presenting. There is often a mixture of wireless and wired technology offering access as and when students need it, within the flow of their learning.

8. Effective communication and use of information and Communication Technologies.

Core Skills enable people to put their knowledge, skills and understanding into action flexibly, adapting them to new situations. Core Skills apply to a wide range of contexts in education and training, in life, and in work. They underpin and promote the development of learning and study skills, and provide a foundation for lifelong learning and personal development.

Communication, both orally and in writing, is essential for clarifying your own thoughts, for relating to others, and for learning and working. The numerical skills involved in processing, interpreting, and communicating information can help you to understand, predict, and solve many types of problem.

Skills in using information and communication technology are increasingly essential for obtaining and analyzing information, for organizing your ideas, and for communicating and working with others. And being able to work with others means having interpersonal skills that help you to co-operate with others in personal, learning and working situations to identify and achieve your shared goals.

Collaboration and partnership

Woods et al. (2014). Collaboration and partnership means in which inter-school collaborative activity is structured in terms of the types of schools that are working together is diverse and has changed significantly over the last decade, encompassing a range of different structures and both formal and informal arrangements. This makes attempts to categorize the different organizational forms challenging.

9. Continuous professional development and code of conduct.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is timely professional updating. It is the process of learning for professionals. A definition of CPD is:

“The systematic maintenance, enhancement and development of knowledge and skill, and the development of personal qualities necessary for the execution of professional and technical duties throughout the practicing engineering professional’s career.”

CPD simply means learning by anything means which is necessary that helps you fulfill your present or future roles more effectively, maintain a high standard of professional competence, and remain current in an ever-competitive job market. This will usually comprise a combination of formal and informal activities such as courses at educational training institutions, attendance at conferences, participation in committees and self-directed study.

Members have a personal The Quality of education in any level cannot be realized without quality teacher. Teachers are the key figure of the education system and without a dynamic, dedicated and well qualified teacher it will be difficult to have astonishing development in education sector. Therefore, it is the need of hour that trained and professionally competent teachers be inducted in the system. But, on the other hand teacher development cannot be carried out in isolation. Being the members of society, teachers have to take in to consideration several obligations from their families, institutions and community too. Therefore, teacher training should be considered together with the development of conducive environment for academics, as well as research and development in the education. (Hammon & Cobb, 1996).

The professional knowledge of teachers is usually representative of their disposition. It means that the teachers’ attitudes, behavior and set of values is dependent on their professional knowledge. As far as the nature of the teachers’ disposition is concerned, the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) (2001) states that “dispositions are the values, commitments, and professional ethics that influence behaviors toward students, families, colleagues, and communities that affect student learning, motivation, and development as well as the educator’s own professional growth”.

In the same way Taylor & Wasicsko (2000) define it as the “personal qualities or characteristics that are possessed by individuals, including attitudes, beliefs, interests, appreciations, values, and modes of adjustments”.

10. Teaching of English Language

In Pakistan English is treated as L2, Government is trying to improve its existing condition. National Professional Standards for Teachers in Pakistan, it is made compulsory to make some practical efforts to improve the standard of English in Pakistan. English communication skill Teaching is increasing in Pakistan. The main cause of it is vast increase of internet. English has become a global language in the world.

It is increasing in the 3rd world countries like Pakistan. With the fast development of science and technology media is participating in the learning of English. Multimedia technology plays a positive role in promoting behavior and interest of student and teaching effect in English communication class.

Technological innovations have gone side by side with the growth of English and are changing the way in which we communicate. The growth of the internet has improved the growth of the English communication and that this has occurred at a time when computers are no longer the exclusive domains of the dedicated few, but rather available to many. And as a result if we reject technological developments it will continue and perhaps we will never be able to catch up, irrespective of our discipline or branch. Teachers can use Multimedia Technology to give more colorful, stimulating lectures. It is true that one of the ultimate goals of multimedia language teaching is to promote students' motivation and learning interest, which can be a practical way to get them involved in the language learning, Context creation of ELT should be based on the openness and Accessibility of the teaching materials and information. Concerning the development of technology, we believe that in future, the use of multimedia English teaching will be further developed.

The process of English communication learning will be more student-centered but less time-consuming. Therefore, it promises that the teaching quality will be improved and students' applied English communication can be effectively cultivated, meaning that students' communicative competence will be further developed. In conclusion, we believe that this process can fully improve students' ideation and practical language skills, which is helpful and useful to ensure and fulfill an effective result of teaching and learning. Barring a few problem areas multimedia technology can be used effectively in classrooms of ELT with proper computer knowledge on the part of teachers, overcoming the finance problems.

CALL (Computer Assisted Language Learning) and MALL(Mobile Assisted Language Learning) can be proved to a great step in teaching English at all levels. Teacher Training in this regard is very essential to provide latest techniques in teaching L2.

3. Techniques of Holy Prophet (PBUH) for Teaching His Companions

We can get beautiful information about the teaching strategy of our beloved prophet through His Hadits, how simple and effective methods of teaching used for teaching the students of Suffaha.

1. Do not Bore the Listeners

It is the quality of Holy Prophet (PBUH) that he never bored his listeners. So this quality is very effective for teachers. Teachers should capture the attention of students throughout their class. Teacher should make his lecture so impressive that his students not feel boredom during the lecture.

2. Speak at The Intellectual Level of a Listener

Professional standards for teachers should also provide information about the intellectual level of a student, a teacher should speak his students according to their mental, cognitive and age level. He should provide them information at their level.

3. Use Question and Debate

Starting from a question is the beauty of our prophet with students. National Professional Standards for Teachers in Pakistan, should also follow the effective technique of our Holy Prophet the proper usage of Question and Debate style in class room at all levels.

4. Use of Analogies

5. Use of Diagrams (AV Aids)

Latest theories for teaching at all level pay emphasis that AV Aids can be very fruitful for a teacher. Our Holy Prophet also use Diagrams to show some of concepts regarding Islam and worldly matters. So for the standards of teachers effective usage of AV aid should be made compulsory. Teachers should be expert in this field. They should be well aware about the preparation of material developments for kids at all level.

6. Use of Gestures while teaching

Holy Prophet often uses gestures while giving lectures to his companions. National Professional Standards for Teachers in Pakistan should also provide information and tanning in this regard. The use of Gestures is a n effective tool for a teacher in class room.

7. Use of Examples

It was the beautiful style of our Prophet that A should explains certain concepts to his followers with example. So teacher should provide proper example to tell difficult concepts.

8. Detailed Answer

A teacher should be clear in his subject matter. He should provide proper and detailed information to his students. A teacher is a guiding star for a student he should provide

maximum information to his fulfillment. A competent teacher can make a mark in the life and in the hearts of students.

9. Allow Others to Give Answer

This is also a new technique, to develop confidence among the students at an early age. Try to share their feelings with all the class mates. This thing improves confidence among students.

10. Teaching Moments Best Usage

Prophet told us that students are Empty vassals what you put in them. They can response accordingly. Teachers should made proper utilization of their time. Time is life is a slogan of Developed Nations in the modern world. Try to develop students mental, religious, cultural and ethical quality.

11. Always Smiling Face

A teacher is a role model for students. He is the spiritual head of new generation .His personality has a deep effects on young generation .So; he should present him as an ideal man. He should attend the class with fresh and smiling face. His dressing, language, behavior, confident all play a great roll in class room .As a Teacher he is going to build a nation with his efforts. He should inculcate beautiful true Islamic values and worldly knowledge in his student's at best possible way.

12. Repeat It Repeat It

Holy prophet pay stress on repetition of a new words, translation and explanation of Arabic language.

4. Conclusion

At the end we can conclude that teaching is a great human service .Government of Pakistan is trying to improve the standards of teacher at school level. But being as Muslim we should keep in mind the teaching of Muhammad .He is the true guide of all Muslims in every respect of life.I have merged some of Basic elements of holy prophets teaching in order to improve the standards for teachers at all levels. Basic teaching tips described by our Holy prophet are the mile stone for us.

5. Recommendations

In the light of National Professional Standards for Teachers in Pakistan we can make some of the recommendations.

Teachers are the best guide for youth of a nation. We should provide them maximum latest training so that they can train new nation on strong foundation. Being as Muslims we should try to follow the golden rules of our beloved holy Prophet(PBUH). Continue education policy for teachers is a key for success. Every teacher should keep his knowledge up-to-date and up-to- standard.

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