

## **Best Practices in Value-Added Education**

### **(PARENTS` PRAYER)**

#### **1.)Goal:-**

Institution felt its moral duty to create and develop the awareness amongst all students about their sacred duty to serve their parents at every time but particularly during old age. Institution, therefore, started "Parents` Prayer" in morning assembly as a part of value- added education mainly with following objectives:-

- 1) To charge the students to understand the status of parents who are next to Almighty.
- 2) To educate students about their moral duties towards their parents.
- 3) To encourage the students to develop awareness in society also to respect and serve their parents and not to humiliate them.

#### **2.)Context:-**

Sufferings of aged parents in many families, may be rich or poor, prompted the institution to charge its students emotionally for commitment to the service of their parents particularly in their old age as they are next to Almighty."Old Age" is the most delicate and fearful period when many parents are treated as neglected and burden whereas this is the time when parents want someone near to them who may care ,who may offer one glass of water and who may talk to them atleast for half-an hour in a whole day.These old parents in many families are so tortured that are forced to pass the days of their remaining life in Ashrams leaving their homes.

#### **3.)Practice:-**

Institution provides prospectus to every student and "Parents` Prayer" is printed on first page with the instruction to every student to participate in morning assembly.This prayer has also been placed on Notice Board near the prayer ground. Immediately after Parents` Prayer,prayer to Almighty and then National Anthem follows.After that, 2-3 students are required to address the gathering by a thought provoking quotation relating to life- management which develops creative thinking in every student.

In class-rooms ,whenever any opportunity comes,teachers talk to students about this prayer and encourage students to popularize it amongst community members.Institution has sent the text of Parents` Prayer to all nearby schools either on demand or at its own.

Students may be a boy or girl ,may be belonging to any religion or caste are free to pay respect to their parents as they want i.e. by touching the feet or the way they want before they depart from home to college.Institution wants to inculcate the feelings of moral duty towards parents .Institution encourages the students to commit to their parents respecting them as next to Almighty .Through this prayer, students are taught that every son and daughter remain whole life indebted to the parents and, therefore,they pray to Almighty to provide moral and physical strength enabling them to serve parents even at any cost

#### **4.) Evidence of Success :-**

This prayer is being hailed every where.Village citizens appreciate this prayer recognizing as moral ethical- value- oriented(SANSKARIK) education related with ground reality of life.The result is that nearby schools have taken the text of the prayer from institution and they may start this prayer in their schools subject to the consent of their management.This shows the acceptability of spirit of prayer. Moreover,many students are now coming to college after taking blessings from their parents as has been communicated by many guardians.

It was the practical experience of the institution that students were not coming after taking blessings of their parents but now , students have realized the value of respect to their parents and they come with blessings of their parents. Earlier, students were treating their parents only as elders ,their supporters and caretakers but now they are respecting as next to Almighty.

#### **5.) Problems Encountered and Resources Required:-**

Whenever our students try to convince the community, some of even educated boys and girls take it as interference in their family affairs and such so-called young,treat our students as ‘extra-smart’ and ‘showy’ .In certain families,wives do not permit their husbands to touch the feet of parents even in festivals. These wives treat this prayer as outdated saying that days of Ram and Shraavan Kumar have gone long back.

Institution is not discouraged .To encourage the community to serve their parents, frequent contacts directly by institution representatives or through our some talented students specially girls, are made

The biggest problem which institution is facing –is hesitation and shyness amongst some students due to which

they avoid to depart from their homes for schools after touching the feet of parents and after taking their blessings.

Whenever ,institution talks to students to serve their parents ,some of them give a circasting smile to change the thinking towards parents .Many village citizens have also been helpful in this value-added task.

Prayer ground, students ,teachers/community and harmonium are only required resources.