

IMPORTANCE OF MOTHER TONGUE-BASED EDUCATION

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Language is described as a device for communication made up of a set of sounds and written words that people use when talking or writing. A mother tongue refers to the first language that a child is exposed to from birth and is the first language that humans naturally accumulate. It is related to the language used by a child's parents to converse with them, also known as the native tongue.

Children first understand what is around them through the language in which they learn to communicate from the day they are born and throughout their lives. The mother tongue is valued for a variety of reasons. Individuals' thoughts and emotions are shaped by their mother tongue. The use of one's mother tongue at school enhances learning. A person's mother tongue can help them learn more effectively. Fluency in the mother tongue, also known as the native language, advantages the child in a variety of ways. It connects him to his culture, promotes intellectual abilities, and aids in studying other languages.

Many children in the developing world are beginning to learn very little in school, which can be attributed to instruction in a language they do not entirely comprehend. It is a practice that results in limited or nonexistent learning and skill acquisition, marginalizing experiences, and high drop-out rates. Language policies must consider mother-tongue learning when enhancing educational quality. Education models that neglect the mother tongue can be inefficient, ineffective, and detrimental to children's learning. At least in the early years, mother-tongue education can help teachers teach and learners learn more effectively.

A strong foundation in the mother tongue also provides students with the skills they need to understand different languages, enabling them to transmit their understanding of the language framework to several new languages. The perceptive understanding of grammar that students develop when learning their first language can easily be converted to other languages.

Having a strong framework in their mother tongue gives them the ability to gain knowledge of other languages. Students accomplish this by transferring language structure from one language to another. The grammar that develops as students learn their native language is easily assimilated, allowing them to guess or understand the meanings of words in various languages.

Regarding the intellectual development of students, research findings have shown that those who are eloquent in their mother tongue develop cognitively and intellectually more quickly. It has also been observed that when a student is literate in his or her mother tongue, the composition of his or her academic attainment is higher than when the student is informed in a medium other than his or her native language.

The mother tongue fosters personal and cultural authenticity. A person's individuality emerges from their understanding of themselves, their surroundings, and their history. When a person is in the womb, they hear their native language for the first time, and it subconsciously influences their viewpoints and feelings. As a result, it lays the groundwork for future connections with family, community, culture, and identification. Its solid foundation fosters self-acceptance through an understanding of social roots and character in a natural way. Furthermore, by preserving the various languages used in society, cultural identity emerges, which undoubtedly flows into other stages of a person's experience.

Languages are the most important means of preserving our culture. Direct translation from one language to another may not convey the same importance as it does

in the original language. Thus, knowing the language is the best way to fully comprehend a culture. Our mother tongue helps us stay connected to our culture and roots.

When children spend quality time with their families when they are young, they develop their communication skills, which are necessary for them to engage in school. Furthermore, when parents share stories and discuss issues with their children, it expands their vocabulary and concepts. As a result, when learning is carried out, the children follow and comprehend, resulting in academic achievement. It is a source of pride to be fluent in your mother tongue. It enhances one's self-esteem and raises awareness in the individual's mind, while also assisting them in better connecting with their ethnic identity. The mother tongue has a significant influence on a person's characteristics.

References:

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