Gurukulam Tradition And Virtual Technology

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Abstract

The Gurukulam Tradition and Virtual Teaching Technology are two methods of teaching discussed in this study. Gurukulam being an ancient tradition references and Virtual Teaching is modern method with the use of technology. The comparison study between two methods will be beneficial for students and teachers to enhance their practices.

A literature survey on references and practices of Gurukulam tradition in literatures, epic, scriptures, sculptures and paintings will be provided. Technology based teaching methods will be analyzed by finding available tutorial software, online courses, video conferencing methods etc. Computer Based Teaching and Web Based Teaching details will be analyzed using internet and discussing with IT experts.

This study provides technology contribution towards education. This will help teachers to collaborate the best practices in both methods to train the students. This study will also help the students to understand the different methods of teaching and structure of their learning process.

The study speaks only about the origin and practices of Gurukulam and not about any other historic details. The study is limited to use of technology, web tools, and software application for teaching not for any other field or task. IT software and hardware used to support virtual training will be discussed. The study is limited to IT knowledge required for teachers to conduct Virtual classes is analyzed. The study doesn't promote any software, hardware or web tools that virtual learning services.

Gurukulam and ancient teaching tradition, Gurukulam practice in modern age &Benefits

Virtual Teaching Technologies&Benefits of Virtual technology training.   Summarizing the benefits of both methods to enhance teaching methods**.**

Introduction

India has a rich tradition of learning and education from antiquity. These were handed over generations to generations either through oral or written medium. The Gurukulam Tradition and virtual teaching technology are two methods of teaching discussed in this study. Ever since the origin of man on earth , the quest for knowledge has been continuing, however processing the relevant knowledge is critical for the wholesome development of the mankind. Gurukulam being an ancient tradition references found in epics, literatures, sculptures, painting etc. Virtual teaching is with use of technology started in last decade is currently used by teachers and students. The comparison study between two methods will be beneficial for students and teachers to enhance their theirpractices.

Literature Survey :

A literature survey on reference and practices of Gurukulam tradition from literatures, epics, is obtained from books and internet. Technology based teaching methods is analyzed available online tools and software. The technology skill required to conduct a virtual class is provided.

Significance of the study:

This study will analysis compare the differences, benefits of Gurukulam and virtual technology methods of teaching. This study provides technology contribution towards education. This will help teachers to collaborate the best practices in both methods to train the students. This study will help the students to understand the different methods and structure their learning process.

Limitation of study:

The study is limited to Gurukulam and Technology used for teaching. The study speaks only about the origin and practices of Gurukulam and not about any other historic details. The study is limited to use of technology. Web tools, software application for teaching and not for any other field or task. IT software and hardware used to support virtual training will be discussed. The study is limited to IT knowledge required for teachers to conduct virtual classes.

The study doesn't promote or support any software, hardware or web tools that provide virtual learning services.

Chapterization

Gurukulam the ancient teaching tradition

Virtual Teaching Technologies

Conclusion

Gurukulam the ancient teaching tradition

Gurukulam

Gurukulam was the primary education method of ancient India. In this method students referred as shishya will live with the Guru-teacher to attain knowledge. Gurukulam is a Sanskrit word guru means teacher and kula is 'family'. In ancient gurukulam, the students would be away from their home and disconnected from their family completely. The main objective was to develop in depth knowledge and stay focused to learn the skills in a specific area with intense training. The other areas of d development included discipline. Self-confidence, spiritual and intellectual development. In ancient times primarily the education was based on the Hindu Vedas-Rig. Sama, Yajur and Atharvana Vedas. The gurukulam system gained a tradition known as Guru-shishya tradition.

Students were divided into three categories like

(a) Vasu-students up to the age of 24.
(b) Radra-students up to the age of 36.
(c) Aaditya-students up to the age of 48.

Guru does not receive any compensation from the shishya, as the relationship between a guru and the shishya is considered very sacred. At the end of one's education, a shishya offers the guru dakshina before leaving the gurukulam. The gurudakshina is a traditional gesture of acknowledgment, respect and thanks to the guru. Which may be monetary.

Gurukulam references from literature, epics and other sources.

Gurukulam has existed since the vedic age. This method has been mentioned in Ramayana and Mahabaratha. In Ramayana Sage Vashishtha performs the sacred thread ceremony for Lord Rama and his brothers, the Yagnopavita Samskara. After which, they were sent to live at the Gurukul for their education, where they learnt Vedas, scriptures and archery.

Reference from Mahabharath, mention of Pandavas, Kavuravas and Karna has undergone the gurukulam training with Guru Dronacharyar is found.

The Gurukul is a comprehensive learning center where the students are taught good habits of respecting elders and teacher along with their education.

The end and revival of Gurukulam

The ancient Gurukulam method served as the primary education method till British rule.

By the colonical era, thegurukula system started to decline in India. British method of teaching in schools with western influence started and educationbased on Vedas and other scriputures was stopped. Dayananda Saraswati, founder of Arya Samaj and Swami Shraddhananed revied the modern Gurukulam system. In 1948, Shastriji Maharaj Shree Dharamjiyan das Swami started the Swaminarayan Gurukulam in Rajkot in Gujarat. Later, many gurukulam have started to uphold the tradition. In recent years short Gurukulam camps are organized for few weeks or a month.

Benefits of Gurukulam

1. Knowledge related to life – students can comprehend to problems of life and resolve wisely.
2. Close association between teacher and student resulted in all round development
3. Development in social and collaborative work with peers enhanced the learning experience.

Evidently, the ancient Indian education was not merely theoretical but was related to the realities of life. The ancient Indian teachers evolved a special form of

education whereby harmony was established between materialism, spiritualism and life which was highly beneficial.

Virtual teaching technologies

Virtual learning environment

Virtual learning technologies is teaching and learning using the tools like computer, internet, and software designed for education. A virtual classroom is a teaching and learning environment where participants located remotely can interact and communicate online.

The web-based tools, virtually creates a classroom environment similar to traditional classroom where teacher and student login simultaneously. Professors and students go to the website and login to the virtual classroom, just like they welk-in to the traditional classroom.

Tools needed for virtual learning

Setting up a virtual classroom is simple and easy. A good videl/audio system is essential for clarity. You need a computer with webcam/ video camera or a camera that can be attached to your computer. Applications like Skype comes with their own built in video system.

Learing Software programs can be downloaded or can be installed form a cd or dvd or from cloud. Teacher and student login to virtual classroom remotely and interact using the audio/video system. The most common tools to share large files are via email or online drives eg google drive or copy the files on to a dvd and mail it to the students. Whiteboard option to write during the session is available, also some sosftware allows recording of the session which helps fr future reference. Study material online or on cd/dvd is available for reference all the time. Online study material can easily be updated by the teachers and is available to the students immediately. This is more advantageous than providing material via cds and dvds as updates are not available immediately to the students to access.

Benefits of Virtual teaching technology

Virtual teaching technology enables quickly access to new information in the field.

E teaching technologies provides opportunities to teachers and students to effectively use the educational resources. Virtual technology tools increase educational productivity by accelerating the rate of learning reducing costs and save time. Also E teaching technologies saves no expenses of physical infrastructure of schools and classroom.

Vitual Classroom is largely useful as people ifrom diverse geographical locations can be part of the same classroom or get personalized instruction.

Online course material available all the time and are multi user friendly so can be accessed by more than one student at the same time. E technology has brought the world closer giving the flexibility to access and learn from different parts of the world in varied fields.

Conclusion

Gurukulam and Virtual teaching technology vary drastically in method of approach but both methods are advantageous to teachers and students.

Comparison between Gurukulam tradition and Virtual teaching technologies

Gurukulam Tradition	Virtual Teaching Technologies
Students meet teacher personally	Students meet the teacher online on video
Students have a close association with the teacher	Students have limited contact with the teacher
Collaborate and work together with peers	Personalized one on one training
Overall development and knowledge in all areas	Knowledge in specific field
Student serve the Guru in household chores	Student pay compensation for training
Guru imparts in depth knowledge on subject	Teaching is limited by time and syllabus
Training has geographical barriers	Training as no geographical barriers
Guru trains selective students	Teaching is open to all students
Method of learning are reading, writing and memorizing	Study materials available online to be referred anytime

Gurukulam tradition and virtual teaching methods provide varied benefits for students. Clear understanding of these methods will help current teachers to improve skills to enhance teaching methods in educational institutes. Implementing a balance of both methods is the

responsibility of the teacher to provide wholesome learning experience to students. Good teaching methods inspires the students to learn and aspire more in their life time. Organizing short Gurukulam camps along with online learning tools will help teachers and students to associate better. In conclusion Gurukulam teaching method and modern E teaching methods have several advantages which the teachers and students should utilize for good educational experience.

Reference

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