It is rightly said that quality of a nation banks on quality of its citizens. The quality of its citizens depends not exclusively but in critical measures upon the quality of their education. The quality of their education depends, more than on other single factor, upon the quality of their teachers. So Indian Education Commission (1964-66) rightly remarked “The destiny of India is being shaped in her classroom”. Similarly Chhattopadhyaya Commission, 1985 says “No country can go beyond the level of her teachers”. Teacher was accepted as next to God in ancient India. In the west, (s) he is called as the “architect of nation”, “maker of man”, “the maker of history”. It is said that God has created man after his own image, but teacher fashions child after his own image. According to Hindu epics, the child receives second – birth at the hands of the teacher. (S)He turns the child from animality to specialized human form. Books may teach a child, but the teacher educates. Cicero said 2000 years ago “What greater or better gift can we offer the republic than to teach and instruct our youth.” Humayun Kabir says “Teachers are literally the arbiters of a nation’s destiny.” The Secondary Education Commission (1952-53) also points out “Every teacher and educationist of experience knows that even the best curriculum and the most perfect syllabus remains dead unless quickened into by the right methods of teaching and right kind of teachers.” Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam opines “A student spends 25,000 hours in the campus. The school must have the best of teachers, who have the ability to teach, love teaching and build moral qualities.”

Actually, teachers are the nation builders. They are the destiny makers of youth and architects of society. They are social engineers and custodian of the future. The teacher can be learnt through the letters it contains. It may be follows :

| T | Task Master/Time Conscious/Trustworthy/Truthful |
| E | Effective/Eager to Learn/Ego Free/Empathetic |
| A | Achievement Oriented/Alarmed/Able/advertent/Analytical |
| C | Caring/Creative/Cheerful/Cooperative/Consistent |
| H | Hard working/Honest/Healthy/Humble/Humorous |
| E | Enabler/Ethical/Emotionally Intelligent |
| R | Research Oriented/Ready for Self Analysis/Criticism |

(Harish Kumar, University News)
Qualities of a Teacher

The Secondary Education Commission (1952), states: “We are however convinced that the most important factor in the contemplated educational reconstruction is the teacher, his personal qualities, his educational qualification, his professional training and the place he occupies in the school as well as in community. The reputation of school and its influence on the community invariably depends on the kind of teacher working in it.” National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education (2009) by NCTE observes that the quality and extent of the learner achievement are determined primarily by teacher competence, sensitivity and teacher motivation. In other words, a teacher should be adorned with multidimensional qualities and competencies. (S) He should be an example or a role model for students. The qualities a teacher possess may be classified under following heads.

1. Personal Qualities.
2. Educational Qualification
3. Professional Competencies.

1. Personal Qualities
Being the pivotal person in the process of education, a teacher should be
- Physically Strong
- Mentally Sound
- Socially well – adjusted
- Emotionally well - balanced
- Spiritually matured
- Laborious and Loving
- Dedicated, Devoted and Dutiful
- Open-minded and Optimistic
- Honest, Truthful and Trustworthy
- Dynamic, Democratic and Decisive
- Creative, Constructive, Co – Operative and Critic.
- Inquisitive, Innovative and Impartial

2. Educational Qualification
A teacher should have
- A good academic career
- Required Teacher Training
- Utmost passion/love towards teaching profession
- Curiosity to acquire knowledge
- Interest to conduct research and develop skills
- Capacity to realize the value of teaching profession

3. Professional Competencies
Professionally, a teacher should have the following qualities:
- Mastery over content, methods and approaches
- Knowledge of instructional skills (Introduction, Questioning, Probing, Reinforcement, Explanation, Illustration with examples, using teaching aids, use of ITC etc.
- Sense of responsibility, showing concern for students, acknowledging and appreciations the efforts of students, loving and caring, accepting teaching as life not profession, etc.

Roles of a Teacher :

Simply standing before students and passing the information that are collected, from various sources is not merely the role of a teacher. Rather, a teacher plays multi – facet roles which are presented below:
Planner, Leader, Manager, Advisor, Evaluator, Facilitator, Personal Engineer, Supervisor, Coordinator, Motivator, Improviser.

**Teacher as Personal Engineer:**

One may be a great map reader. But if (s) he is using a map of Mumbai to find the way to Delhi, then (s) he is simply wasting time. Having the right map means to know one’s oneself and the situation. Similarly, a teacher should have the quality of personal re-engineering. It means a teacher should know himself / herself accurately, should be aware of his/her own inner potentials and develop new skills and powers that are essential to be an effective and competent teacher in the present environment. So a teacher has to introspect him/herself regarding his / her behaviour, attitudes, duties and responsibilities towards students, staff, institution, family, society and the country as a whole.

**Teacher as a Planner:**

The teacher must be a good planner and should plan out all the activities to be performed in an educational year. Despite before going to teach in the class, the teacher should make a blueprint answering different questions like - What to teach (Content) whom to teach (target group), why to teach (purpose/teaching objectives), how to teach (methodology/Design of Teaching/Strategies to be used) and how to evaluate (output)? Without perfect planning, the above activities cannot be undertaken successfully. Thus, a teacher should have the calibre to chalk out a perfect plan for valuable teaching and conducting different activities for all round development of the pupils.

**Teacher as a Leader:**

Who is true leader? Somebody has beautifully defined a leader as “one who never reacts, but observes, understands, analyses and then acts decisively.” Being a leader, a teacher always deals with small kids or children or adults who are the future citizens. So she should not react immediately in small things.

A teacher should possess 5 Cs;

- Cool and calm
- Clear vision
- Clear understanding
- Confident
- Commitment

Besides, to be an effective and efficient leader to organize various activities (curricular and co-curricular), a teacher should have the following inner powers to be exercised at the appropriate time and right place. The inner powers or attitudes are comprised of some core values. These are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attitudes/Inner Powers</th>
<th>Core Values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Power to Listen</td>
<td>Patience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Availability</td>
<td>Humility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Both physical and mental availability, to be always ready to help the students and others)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Tolerance</td>
<td>Love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Adaptability</td>
<td>Maturity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Distinction (right from wrong, truth from falsehood, reality from illusion, benefit from harm)</td>
<td>Knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Decision Making</td>
<td>Clarity of Mind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Ability to Respond</td>
<td>Courage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Team Spirit</td>
<td>Co-operation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Teacher as a Manager:

A good leader can be a good manager. The difference between a manager and a leader is that the manager stays at the back and pushes people into the system, while a leader stands in front and pulls the people along with him. The manager administers and maintains while a leader innovates and develops.

Being a manager, the teacher has to manage classroom, time and resource. The art of classroom management implies that the students should be kept busy in doing the assigned task. The teacher in a manager role must know structuring, promoting “on task”, activities and reducing “off task” activities.

Managing time properly in the class is a crucial task for a teacher. If the presentation is not well planned it may suffer from time mismanagement and spoil the show. Teacher’s role as a manager is concerned with all the three phases of teachers, Pre – Teaching (Planning / Knowledge Acquisition Stage), Teaching (Acting Stage) and Post – Teaching (Evaluating Stage).

Teacher as an Advisor:

A teacher is considered as friend, philosopher and guide of the learners. Students always seek the assistance of the teacher. Being an advisor the teacher should advise properly, to the students, community members and other’s when they need. But the teacher should not impose upon and compel students to accept his/her advice and ideas.

Teacher as a Co – ordinator:

A teacher has to co – ordinate resources, time and activities. (s) He has also to co-ordinate effectively amongst Students, Colleagues, Principal, Management Committee and Community Members in order to conduct different programmes in the educational institution for integrated development of personality of the students.

Teacher as a Motivator:

A teacher is an icon of the students. The personality, teaching potentiality and attitudes of teacher always motivate the learners to participate in the teaching-learning process and to participate in different activities of the educational institutions. Thus, a competent teacher acts as a motivator and sea of inspiration for the learners. So it can be said a good teacher is one from whom the students are always curiously awaiting to listen and never like to miss his / her class at any lost.

Teacher as an Improviser:

A teacher should have the ability to improvise appropriate teaching aids to make his/ her teaching effective, interesting and lively. Despite, a teacher should have the potentiality to use ICT Skills, modern pedagogy and androgogy equipments.

Teacher as an Evaluator:

A teacher has to keep the record of all activities (Scholastic and Non – Scholastic) in the academic year. The records must consist of name of students, their achievement in all activities. Then, the performance of the students should be evaluated periodically and perfectly. Evaluation assists the teacher to plan for future prospect of the learners.

Teacher as a Facilitator:

To facilitate means to promote, to help forward and to make easy. Therefore in the content of instruction, a teacher’s role would be to promote learning, to help students to develop more and more by learning, by providing them conducive environment to interact with, in order to bring about learning and further development. In this role as a facilitator of learning, the teacher’s
role is in the background as a guide and a facilitator.

**Teacher as a Supervisor:**

A teacher has to supervise the various activities of the students. He has to check the practical works, records and the written copies of the pupils. A teacher has to ensure regularity of students' attendance, participation in literary competitions (Debate, Discussions etc) and different cultural activities like drama, music etc.

**Conclusion**

To conclude, teacher is the most vital single factor in the system of education. He is the backbone of society. So Robert Green Ingersoli has said “A good school master is worth a thousand priests”. Thus, if the students are the future of the nation, the teachers are the builders of nation. They are sole means to save a nation and even the globe from the spirit of disillusionment, disintegration, dissatisfaction and dehumanization, which drag mankind towards destruction. The teacher is superior guide. At the background of every great man, a good teacher is there who kindled enthusiasm, fostered confidence and guided him to the way of progress. So Alexander the Great once said “I owe my birth to my father, but life to my teacher. Similarly our former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam always proudly gives all credit to his teachers for his spectacular achievement either being a Scientist or the President of India. But owing to different reasons now teachers feel unsafe and insecure. They are not getting as much honour as our past teachers got. It may be due to commercialization of education or impact of privatization. Teaching profession has been co-modified. Now some bureaucrats and leaders try to assess the teachers in terms of money, power and position. They think teaching is a simple job, which can be done by everybody. But commercialization of education is not a good sign for progress and prosperity of a nation. Of course, some teachers think teaching is their profession, not life, educational institution as recreation centre, not the temple of making noble souls. But once the famous poet of India Kalidas said, “If the teachers scholarship is just earning bread, then he is not better than a shopkeeper selling knowledge”. So the teacher should introspect and leaders should evaluate themselves. Otherwise the dreams of the country and futures of our pupils will be spoiled like the house of cards.

**References :**


Dr. Manoranjan Pradhan, Mali street, 3rd Lane, PO/Dist-Koraput-764020.