

# REALISM

## Topics to discuss in this lecture

- Realism; theme and major proponents
- Fundamental principles of Realism
- Principles of education according to Realism
- Aims of Education
- Shape of Curriculum
- Methods of teaching
- Teachers authority and role
- Shape and role of school
- Discipline in class and school

## Major proponents of Realism

- Aristotle
- John Lock (Tabula Rasa- Concept of Plain slate)
- Frances Bacon
- Bertrand Russell
- Pestalozzi



## Realism

- Presented by Aristotle; also called father of realism and scientific method.
- Reality – objects ( that can be observed by senses)
- Basic Notion: Reality exists independent of human mind
- Materialistic world is the basic focus that is to be studied as reality.
- Truth is Objective and it can be observed
- Major contribution to logic, mathematics, Physics, Biology, Politics, agriculture, medicine etc

## Fundamental Principles of Realism

- Object is ultimate reality
- Focus on material world
- Believes in Individual and social development
- Cause and Effect relationship and scientific principles are universal
- Fully scientific attitude
- Based on Pluralistic concept: Reality can have more than one meanings/views

## **Principles of Education in context of Realism**

- Education is based on Science only
- Emphasizes on behavior and experiments
- Child and his present life are the centers of education
- Opposes book learning
- Both individual and society are focused
- Reality may change according to changes in life

## **Aims of Education**

- Preparing the child for a real life
- Developing physical and mental powers of Child
- Preparing the child for a happy life
- Developing and training of senses
- Introducing child with nature and social environment
- Imparting vocational training

## **Shape of Curriculum in Realism**

- Curriculum is Developed according to Utility and needs
- Subjects relating day to day activities are included in curriculum
- Major subject in Realist curriculum are Natural sciences, Biology, Physics, Physical exercises, mathematics, History, Astronomy, Sports etc.
- Curriculum should have Scientific Approach,
- Curriculum should be standardized and have distinct Discipline (course material)
- Character of the learner is developed through training

## **Methods of Teaching**

- Scientific Method
- Realists emphasize Self-experience and research proven ways
- Experimental method
- Discovery Methods
- Demonstration Method

## **Role of Teacher**

- Teacher's role is supreme because he brings the child in touch with the external realities of life.
- Teacher is not a knowledge dispensing machine
- Keeping aside his/her own views, the teacher gives scientific knowledge to the child in an easy and effective way

## Discipline

- The teacher organizes and presents content systematically with a discipline
- Shows how some criteria is used in making decisions
- Realists emphasize on a flexible discipline having some liberty

## Shape and role of school

- According to Realist school of thought. School is a socially well-planned institution.
- It is a mirror of society.
- School should prepare individuals who are practical and can address their social, economic and technological needs of the society.

## Summary

- Objects of physical world are considered as reality
- Gave expansion to new subjects e.g Mathematics, Psychology, Botany, Zoology, Sociology,
- Believed in Changing values
- Promote Flexible discipline to address variations or change
- Holistic development of child

**The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; while the realist adjusts the sails.**

