

# A STUDY ON EDUCATIONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH SOCIETY, RELIGION, CULTURE

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## ABSTRACT

Education, Religion and Culture are an integral part of any society which helps in its smooth functioning. 'Education', 'Society', 'Religion' and 'Culture' are different but inter related and inter dependent on each other. The nature of the religion and culture may differ from society to society but the presence of these two elements is universal in all societies. Also it is known that education exists on the same sphere in which society and its elements are present. This paper deals with the study on relation between Education with 'Society', 'Religion' and 'Culture' and vice versa. The four objectives of this study set by the investigators guided them to move towards finding the relationship among them. The investigators adopted Descriptive survey method for the study. The study is conducted on 100 students from five Public funded Universities of Assam. Research findings shows that Education exerts great influence on society, culture and religion and is also itself influenced by these societal components.

## Keywords

Education; Religion; Culture; Society; Relationship

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## Introduction

Society is considered as a complex whole of which Education, Religion and Culture forms an integral parts. All these components are interrelated and interdependent on each other and cannot function in isolation. Religion is a belief in supreme authority known as God. From ancient times to the contemporary age, people associate themselves with the existence of a supreme authority under which the world exists. Our actions are guided by our religious beliefs and faiths and help in check our course of actions under the fear of punishments from the Almighty. Culture, too represents the traditions of a particular society and gives out the guidelines for living in the form of folklores and mores. Thus, indoctrination of cultural values and practices gives identity to its members and to be an important part of society. Education is that

aspect of society which is itself a miniature society that works towards the fulfilment of societal and individual demands. Thus, Education, Culture and Religion are the important elements of Society which helps the society to run in an organised way and fulfil the needs of its member's ad society on broader aspect. Thus, for a society to function smoothly, all these aspects must be in congruence with each other.

## Objectives

The proposed study is primarily concerned with the given objectives:-

1. To understand the influence of education on society, culture and religion.
2. To understand the influence of society, religion and culture on education.

## Methodology

### Methods used

The investigators have used Descriptive Survey Method for the study and the study is based on the primary source of information taken from the respondents.

### Population

The population of the study comprises all the students from the public funded universities of Assam.

### Sample

In this study, a total of 100 students were selected as respondents from the above mentioned universities. 20 students were selected from each university. The respondents were selected by using Purposive Sampling Method from specific departments - Department of Education, Sociology, and Social work and Cultural studies. And the below universities were selected as sample for the study from the population.

- Tezpur University
- Assam University
- Guwahati University
- Dibrugarh University
- Cotton University

### Analysis and Interpretation of Data

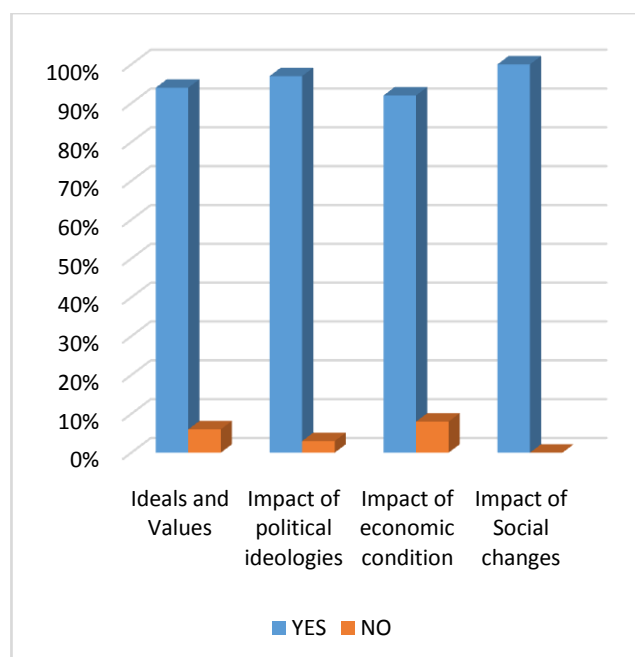
**Objective No. 1:** To understand the influence of Society, Religion and Culture on Education

#### a. Influence of Society on Education

### Data Presentation

**Table 1.** Table showing the influence of Society on Education

Response	Percentage		Total
	Yes	No	
<i>Determines Ideals and values of education</i>	94%	6%	100%
<i>Political Ideologies impact on Education</i>	97%	3%	100%
<i>Impact of economic condition on Education</i>	92%	8%	100%
<i>Social changes impact on Education</i>	100%	0%	100%



**Figure 1:** Figure showing the influence of Society on Education

**Analysis and Interpretation:**

From the above table the following points may be analysed and interpreted

**1) Determines Ideals and values of education****Analysis:** -

94% of the total no. of respondents agrees that the ideals of a society help in determining the ideals and values which education has to achieve.

**Interpretation:** -

Every society has its own ideals and values which it attempts to transfer to its next generation through education. Thus, education becomes an important instrument which helps in preserving, and transmitting values of society from generation to generation.

**2) Political Ideologies impact on Education****Analysis:** -

97% of the respondents have agreed that political ideologies have impact on education.

**Interpretation:** -

Every society has its own form of administration headed by government formed on the basis of political system of a nation. Every nation has its own political structure which determines or influences the education system of the nation. Every political party has its own ideologies which it tries to propagate through educational process and programs when they come in power.

**3) Impact of economic condition on Education****Analysis:** -

From table 3, it is observed that only 92% of the respondents agreed upon the influence of economic condition of the society on education.

**Interpretation:** -

The respondents were of the view that educational activities and programs require a good amount of financial support. The society which is affluent can provide required resources (trained teachers, school building, libraries, and laboratories) for provision of quality education to the masses. On the other hand, poor societies are insufficient r incapable to provide such facilities thus affecting their quality of education.

**4) Social changes impact on Education****Analysis:** -

It is observe that all the respondents have agreed on the fact that social changes will bring changes in the educational patterns, procedures, policies and programs.

**Interpretation:** -

Society keeps on changing with the change of ideals attitudes and values of people. This also has strong impact upon education. For example previously in our country education was provided to a section of the society. Women and lower caste people were discouraged from being educated. But now under the impact of democratic and progressive ideals of society the portals of education have been open to all without any discrimination.

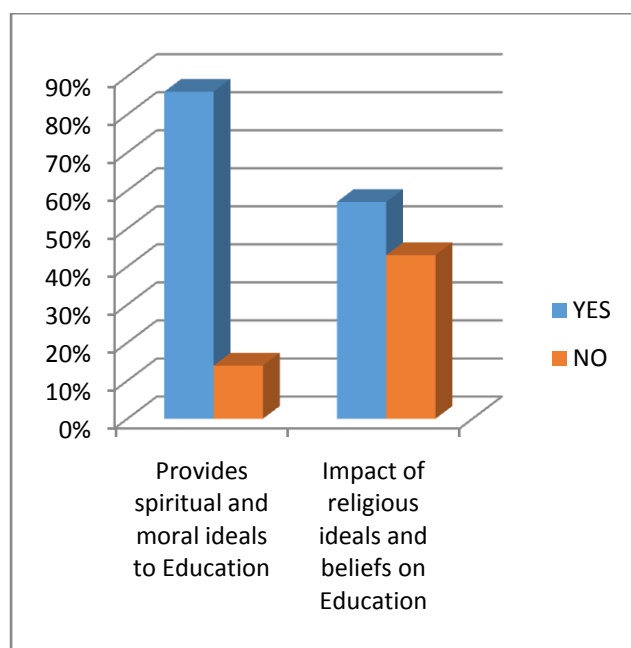
Thus the above analysis and interpretation truly shows the strong impact of society on education.

***b. Influence of Religion on Education*****Data presentation**

**Table 2.** Table showing the influence of Religion on Education

Response	Percentage		Total
	Yes	No	
<i>Provides</i>	86%	14%	100%

<i>spiritual and moral ideals to Education</i>			
<i>Impact of religious ideals and beliefs on Education</i>	57%	43%	100%



**Figure 2.** Figure showing the influence of Religion on Education

### Analysis and Interpretation:

The following analysis and interpretation of the table is given below-

#### 1. Provides spiritual and moral ideals to Education

##### Analysis: -

Table 4 depicts that 86% of the respondents agreed that religion helps in availing spiritual and moral ideals to education.

##### Interpretation: -

Education and religion cannot be separated from each other because Education is used to bring a change in the of man in the light of spiritual and moral ideals, which is available

to education by Religion. Both are intimately related, for example: - Every religion teaches to maintain peaceful living in the society and thus education also aims in developing humanitarian values among the people.

#### 2. Impact of religious ideals and beliefs on Education

##### Analysis: -

57% of the total respondents agreed that religious ideas and believes of a society influence the education pattern of that society.

##### Interpretation: -

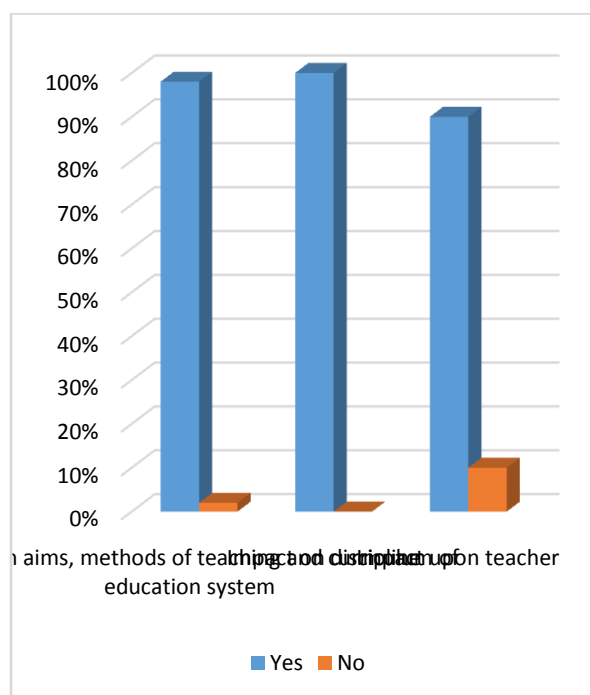
It can be said that the impact of religious ideals and beliefs of a society in education differ from society to society. For example during ancient and medieval times religion had its sway over society. Consequently, education was also of religious nature. Thus the educational pattern of that society was influence by religious ideas and beliefs. On the other hand, today we have a modern society where science has a powerful impact upon education than the religion. But it cannot be said that religious ideals and beliefs of a society is totally ignored in educational system. As we know majority population of the world follows some or the other religion. So, the very essence of religion cannot be totally ignored from education.

#### c. Cultural influence on Education

##### Data presentation

**Table 3.** Table showing the influence of culture on education

Response	Percentage		Total
	Yes	No	
<i>Impact on aims, methods of teaching and curriculum of education system</i>	98%	2%	100%
<i>Impact on discipline</i>	100%	0%	100%
<i>Impact upon teacher</i>	90%	10%	100%

**Figure 3.** Figure showing the influence of culture on education**Analysis and interpretation:**

The below mentioned points will reflect on the analysis and interpretation of data shown in *Table 3*.

**1. Impact on aims, methods of teaching and curriculum of education system:****Analysis: -**

From the table, it is seen that majority of the respondents that is 98% have agreed that culture has its impact on the aims, methods of teaching and curriculum of an education system.

**Interpretation: -**

Every society strives to transmit its rich cultural heritage to its younger generation so that the culture do not die and live for years. This desire is reflected as one of the important educational aims. The curriculum of education not only involves academic knowledge but it also takes into consideration of the transmission of cultural norms, values and practices either through academic subjects like – History, Literature or through Co-curricular activities like dance, music, art and so on. Thus, culture has much influence on education system of society.

**2. Impact on discipline****Analysis: -**

All the respondents have agreed that culture has its impact upon discipline

**Interpretation: -**

It can be said that the culture of the society influences discipline also. The different components of culture such as life style, thought, moral values, ideals etc. have a strong impact upon discipline. For example, in ancient and middle ages societies, where the society was autocratic so the concept of discipline was repressionistic. But as today we are living in a democratic country so the

concept of discipline has also change and has become impressionistic.

### 3. Impact upon teacher

#### Analysis: -

90% of the respondent has agreed that culture has its impact upon teacher.

#### Interpretation: -

The teacher occupies a very important role in the education system. The children are influenced by the teacher most. Each individual is imbued with the cultural ideals and values of the society of which he happens to be an integral part. So, it is very obvious that a teacher who is also a part of the society has his idealism and ideals comprised of the cultural ideals and values of his society.

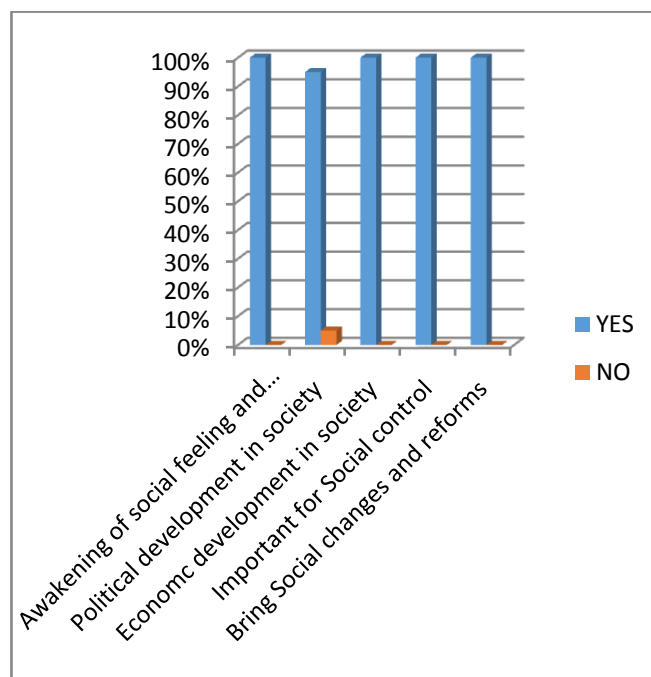
### **Objective No 2: To study the influence of Education on Society, Culture and Religion**

#### **a. Educational influence on Society**

#### **Data Presentation**

**Table 4.** Table showing the influence of education on Society

RESPONSE	PERCENTAGE		TOTAL
	Yes	No	
<i>Awakening of social feeling and consensus among people</i>	100%	0%	100%
<i>Political development in society</i>	95%	5%	100%
<i>Economic development in society</i>	100%	0%	100%
<i>Important for Social control</i>	100%	0%	100%
<i>Bring Social changes and reforms</i>	100%	0%	100%



**Figure 4.** Figure showing the influence of education on Society

#### **Analysis and interpretation**

The below mentioned points will reflect on the analysis and interpretation of data shown in Table no 4.

#### **1. Awakening of social consensus and feeling:**

##### Analysis:

All the respondents agreed that education helps in awakening of social feelings and consensus among the people.

##### Interpretation:

Education helps in inculcating social attitude, ideas and values among people through different programmes, activities, experiences thus, making the individual socio –minded and service –oriented.

#### **2. Political development in society :**

##### Analysis:



Majority of the students, that is, 95% of the respondents agreed that education helps in spreading political awakening in the people leading to political development of the society.

**Interpretation:**

In context to the influence of education on political awakening in the society, it can be said that an individual is able to gain knowledge regarding different political ideologies operating in the world through education. In this way one can acquire a balance outlook after comparing different political doctrines with that of its own state. Education also helps in developing the sense of their rights and duties for the promotion of their own good and of the society. It also helps in evaluating the works of the government and electing the right representative of the country. Thus it can be said education helps in political development of the society.

**3. Economic development in society**

**Analysis:**

All the respondents agreed that education develops society economically also.

**Interpretation:**

It is through education that various types of vocational training can be given to the individual to uplift themselves and bring about economic progress and prosperity to the society they belong to without education, society will remain economically backward. Thus, education can play an important role in economic development of the society.

**4. Important for Social control**

**Analysis:**

All the respondents consider education to be essential for social control.

**Interpretation:**

It is education which not only makes the people aware about custom and duties but it also makes them aware about the laws of the country. It helps in developing the reasoning ability among the people which helps them to choose between right and wrong, just and unjust. Thus in this way education helps in developing value judgement among people and helps in controlling the society.

**5. Bring social changes and reforms**

**Analysis:**

From the table it is found that all the respondents agrees that education plays an important role in bringing about social changes and social reforms.

**Interpretation:**

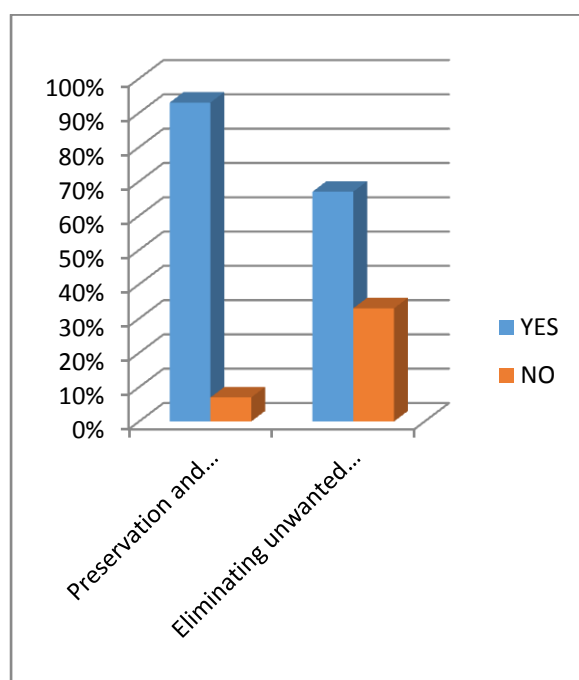
Change is the law of nature and change in society take place in regular basis. Everything existing in our society from ancient time or early years may not be suitable in present situation and thus, needs to be changed or reformed. Thus, it is through Education that people can understand the problems associated with certain traditional practices like SatiPratha and Child marriage and contribute in eliminating them from society for better civilization.

**b. Impact of Education on Religion**

**Data Presentation**

**Table5.** Table showing the influence of Education on Religion

RESPONSE	PERCENTAGE		TOTAL
	Yes	No	
<i>Preservation and transmission of religious values and ideals</i>	93%	7%	100%
<i>Eliminating unwanted religious practices.</i>	67%	33%	100%



**Figure5.** Figure showing the influence of Education on Religion

### Analysis and Interpretation

The analysis and interpretation of the table and figure is given below:-

#### 1. Preservation and transmission of religious values and ideals

##### Analysis:

93% of the respondents have agreed that education helps in preservation and transmission of religious values and ideals.

##### Interpretation:

The respondents are of the view that many schools propagate their religious values in

educational institutions in the Morning assembly by singing religious songs, or through contents in the subjects like Value Education, Moral Science and so on. Also, many a times religious festivals are celebrated in schools which also helps in preservation and transmission of religious values and ideals among people.

#### 2. Eliminating unwanted religious practices.

##### Analysis:

67% of the respondents agree that Education helps in eliminating unwanted religious practices.

##### Interpretation:

Many a times, religion propagates certain norms or rituals which is not right on humanitarian grounds and needs to be discarded. It is through Education, that scientific attitude may be developed among the people which will help them in refraining from undesired and unwanted religious practices.

#### c. Educational influence on Culture

##### Data presentation



**Table 6.** Table showing Educational influence on Culture

Response	Strongly Agree	Agree	Sometimes	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
<i>Preservation and transmission of socio-cultural heritage</i>	0%	87%	15%	0%	0%	100%
<i>Important factor of Sanskritization and De-Sanskritization</i>	0%	73%	24%	1%	0%	100%
<i>Removal of cultural lag</i>	8%	52%	29%	11%	0%	100%
<i>Promotion for multiculturalism</i>	12%	76%	10%	2%	0%	100%

From the table it is observed that 87% of the respondents agree and 13% of the respondents agree that education sometimes helps in preserving and transmitting the socio- culture

#### Interpretation:

Each country tries to flaunt the superiority of its own culture. Hence education becomes a tool to achieve this task. The process of preservation includes the process of transmission as well because through transmission of culture from one generation to another is the best way of its preservation.

### **2. Important factor of Sanskritization and De-Sanskritization**

#### Analysis:

The table shows that only 73% of the respondents agree that education is an important factor of Sanskritization and De-Sanskritization, while 23% of the respondents considers that Education sometimes is an important factor of Sanskritization and De-Sanskritization.

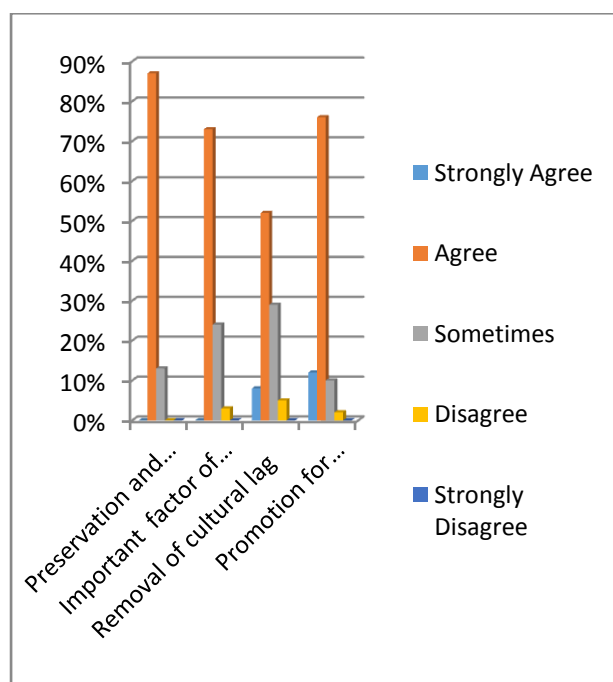
#### Interpretation:

It can be said that education not only helps to preserve and promote the culture of our ancestors but also plays an important role in transmission the culture of upper caste to lower caste and vice –versa .Thus, education in Indian society links the people belonging to upper and lower caste through the process of Sanskritization and De –Sanskritization .As a result, inequality in the name of caste is declining and secular outlook is developing in the Indian society.

### **3. Removal of culture lag :**

#### Analysis:

Only 52% of the respondents agree that education help in removing culture lag and 8% of the respondents answered under strongly agree.

**Figure 6.** Figure showing Educational influence on Culture

### **Analysis and Interpretation**

The below mentioned points will reflect on the analysis and interpretation of Table 5.

#### **1. Preservation and transmission of socio-cultural heritage**

##### Analysis:

### **Interpretation:**

As compared to non-material culture, material culture grows at a faster rate due to continuous scientific research and developments. Non material culture consisting of ideas, values, and beliefs etc. of a society lags behind creating a gulf between the two. In order to decrease the gulf, education plays very important role. It is through education that the mind-set of the people can be broadened and help them to accept the changes, thus reducing the cultural lag. Educated people are more open to the changes than the illiterates.

#### **4. Promotion for multiculturalism:**

### **Analysis:**

76% of the respondents agrees and 12% of the respondents strongly agrees that education promotes for multiculturalism.

### **Interpretation:**

Education is an important tool in promoting multiculturalism. This is because, it is through education only, that a secular and democratic outlook can be developed among people, which will restrict them to involve in any unwanted conflicts within the group or outside the group. Education teaches people to respect the cultural diversity in the society and to develop tolerant attitude among them.

### **Findings of the study**

**Objective no. 1:** To understand the influence of Society, Religion and Culture on Education

#### **Findings of objective no. 1:**

### **Influence of Society on Education:**

The influence of society on education can be understood from the following points.

- Society helps in determining the ideals and values which education has to achieve.

- A political institution an important part of a society also contributes in this regard as political ideologies also has its much impact in determining the different aspect of Education.
- Economic condition of society exerts its great influence upon the educational pattern.
- Social changes bring changes in the educational patterns, procedures, policies and programmes.

### **Influence of Religion on Education:**

The influence of Religion on education can be understood from the following points.

- Religion helps in availing spiritual and moral ideals to education.
- Many a time's education system is affected by the religious ideas and beliefs of the society.

### **Influence of Culture on Education:**

The below mentioned points will reflect on the influence of Culture on Education.

- Culture of a particular society has its impact on the aims, methods of teaching and curriculum of an education system.
- Culture of a society also has its impact upon the nature of discipline in the educational institutions.
- The teacher who is the provider of knowledge is affected by the Culture of a particular system.

Thus, this shows clearly the influence of Society, Religion and Culture on Education clearly reflecting on the relation of education with them.

**Objective no. 2:** To understand the influence of education on Society, Culture and Religion

#### **Findings of objective no. 2:**

### **Impact of Education on Society:**

The following points will show how education has an impact upon society.

- Education helps in awakening of social feeling and consensus among the people.
- Education also helps in spreading political awakening in the people leading to political development of the society.
- Education also helps in economic development of the society
- Education is important for social control
- It is education which also helps in bringing social changes and reforms.

### **Impact of Education on Religion**

The below mentioned points will reflect on education and its impact upon Religion

- Education is instrumental in preservation and transmitting religious values and ideals.
- Education also helps in eliminating unwanted religious practices.

### **Impact of Education on Culture:**

The following points will reflect on the impact of Education on Culture:

- With preservation of religious elements by Education, it also helps in preserving and transmitting the socio-cultural values and ideals.
- Education is an important factor for Sanskritization and De-Sanskritization.
- Education helps in removing cultural lag.
- Education helps in maintain multiculturalism.

Thus, all these points clearly shows the impact of Education on Society, Religion and Culture, thus highlighting the intimate relationship of Education with them

### **Conclusion**

From the study it is very clear that there lies an intimate relationship between Education, Society, Religion and Culture. So it is very important to note that Education should be such which contributes to the development of society. Education should involve only those elements of religion and culture which is important for the progress of society. It should totally discard the ones which would be a barrier to society's development. Also, it is to be taken care that education should be such which promotes a secular and democratic outlook among people. For this multicultural education should be promoted. As society is dynamic in nature, changing from time to time, so Education should be flexible in nature. It should also be changed with the changing society, to cater to the needs of the society. If it fails to do so, the very purpose of the education will not be fulfilled.

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