

ROLE OF GLOBALIZATION & LIBERALIZATION IN ELT

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Abstract—The word “globalization” became the new buzz word that dominated the world because of greater access to develop country market and technology transfer from one country to another. It also created new opportunities to the people of developing countries. Till the 90’s, there were some constraints to trade and invest due to liberalization, but after 90’s investment and financial flows have progressively lowered and the process of Globalization hastened. English has its own role to play in this particular scenario as educated people started migrating to countries like The U.K., The U.S., and some European countries, where there were opportunities for employment and business. The professionals from Asian countries, such as India and China got many opportunities to earn more with their professional skills in these countries. It is in this context that English has become an important requirement to get entry into the developed countries where English is the native language.

Today, English has gained so much importance that the people not only from the urban areas but also from the rural areas have been attracted towards this global language. Many parents want their wards to study only in English medium schools so that they will become employable in the IT market and various other business establishments not only in India but also abroad. It’s a matter of pride that most of the American IT companies prefer Indian technical professionals to the other IT professionals of far eastern countries because Indians communicate well in English..

Index Terms— Global opportunities, Technology liberalization

I. INTRODUCTION

English in the beginning was used as a traditional language and later it was mainly used for religious purpose. The teaching of English in the past was based on literature and grammar. As a critic points out “so far as the undergraduate studies are concerned, the marriage of convenience between English language and literature has always been an uneasy affair.”¹ Importance was given to those who spoke and wrote good English. It was mainly meant to show one’s own scholarship and knowledge of literature. English, on the other hand, did not have much access to the marginalized sections of the society in most of the commonwealth countries. Since 90’s of the last century with the end of the cold war between the U.S. and the Soviet Union and also the breakup of the formal Soviet Union, the importance of English has increased.

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hastened. English has its own role to play in this particular scenario as educated people started migrating to countries like The U.K., The U.S., and some European countries, where there were opportunities for employment and business. The professionals from Asian countries, such as India and China got many opportunities to earn more with their professional skills in these countries. It is in this context that English has become an important requirement to get entry into the developed countries where English is the native language.

English after 90’s has become a tool of communication, not having much emphasis on grammar and literature. It has become the language of opportunities and employment. The emphasis is more on listening and spoken skills. As a result, the techniques of teaching English in the class rooms have shifted from the knowledge of literature and grammar to simple expression and understanding. In this context, interaction in the classroom in the teaching of English language has undergone a sea change. The L₂ learners of English have started giving importance to learn spoken skills in simple English and also writing skills. That’s how English has become an important tool of communication.

In countries like ours where there are many languages, people argue that there is a danger to the native languages

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as English has been growing by leaps and bounds in its importance. Their apprehension is that it may replace all native languages one day. There is a lot of pressure on the Government from various quarters to give importance to the native languages, especially in official communications in revenue offices, police departments, financial institutions, judiciary, and so on. In spite of the stiff resistance from the natives, English has been growing and its importance has not been reduced. There is a mushroom growth of English medium schools and colleges, because it is the language of opportunities all over the world. Even countries like Japan, China, have realized the importance of English and they have introduced English in their schools so that they can compete with the rest of the world, especially in the IT field, market economy and business.

Today, English has gained so much importance that the people not only from the urban areas but also from the rural areas have been attracted towards this global language. Many parents want their wards to study only in English medium schools so that they will become employable in the IT market and various other business establishments not only in India but also abroad. It's a matter of pride that most of the American IT companies prefer Indian technical professionals to the other IT professionals of far eastern countries because Indians communicate well in English. According to

Qazi Khursheed

“English has been lauded as the most ‘successful’ language ever, with 1500 million speakers worldwide. English symbolizes modern perspective, better education, better future, better culture and higher intellect. In present times, English is the most preferred language. A number

of studies have shown that an advanced proficiency and knowledge of English leads one to higher paying jobs, strong mobility, and a great deal of social success.”²

II. CONCLUSION:

The major findings of the study have been listed and on the basis of those findings some recommendations have been made. Some of the findings of the study are as follows.

- There was a perceptible shift of emphasis from the teaching of English literature to the teaching of English language after 1970 and this was reflected in syllabi, textbooks and pattern of exams.
- In spite of the contribution by the ELT summer institutes held in AP towards creating a general awareness of the ELT problems, the late impact on the teaching of English has been negligible.
- The conditions necessary for bringing about the desired changes in teaching were never fully created. The size of classes continued to make it difficult to provide practice to the students in the language skills. Under these conditions the new methods only resulted in confusion and the new syllabi fell into disarray.

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