

Learning from Children

The wholistic way of being in the world.

The biggest misunderstanding of the so called educated is about knowledge itself. Why do we need knowledge, how we make it, when do we begin the process etc. This has led to the ill treatment of children, that too in order to 'educate' them.

We have been trying to understand this whole issue by asking 'how to teach children' rather than asking 'how children learn'. Obviously this will yield different results. The first question already has certain givens like teacher, school, text books etc. That is who will teach, where will they be taught and what will they be taught and from where that is available etc.

But the second question how children learn allows a more open ended and fresh enquiry. For instance what are they learning about ? from whom are they learning? What methods are they using?

All living beings are learning and are taking specific decisions in order to sustain life. Specific to its species and to its context. Only in detail there is difference.

The very act of living is learning to be. But this learning is not a conscious activity. It happens.

We are biologically equipped to learn the real world our job is to keep our doors of perception clean. This get clogged and hazed by believing the expert knowledge. This could be from traditional knowledge or modern knowledge.



WHEN

16th May to 22nd May 2011 (Monday to Sunday)

WHERE

Nilambur, Malapuram, KERALA

HOW

Learning to leave children alone is most difficult for the educated who are already victims of schooling.

Regain authenticity, Trust yourself, Delete secondhand knowledge.

Stop fragmented reasoning from understanding as reasoning short circuits comprehension.

Sensitizing senses, Awakening of aesthetic sense is brought in as a central issue. making, drawing, seeing, listening This helps them to move away from 'rational' mind to some extent.

Who should learn from whom is the question that leo Tolstoy raised while trying to 'teach' village children way back in 1889. This question need to be expanded to ask what knowledge is worth learning and is to be asked with much more urgency

Do not fear simple solutions.



For whom

Anyone who wants to reclaim the authentic natural learning process and creativity. This could help Parents and teachers to enable them to see children's real potential and to enable them to let children be.

Fees and registration

Rs 10,000 to be paid by 20th April 2011 along with the registration form. Any contributions over and above the basic registration fees are welcome to support those who can't pay. (Fees also includes stay and food)

Stay and food

Simple stay will be arranged in a neat hotel in Nilambur town and food ((Lunch,snacks twice) will be kerala traditional home food.

Route

Nilambur is 70 km from Calicut, 100 km from Palghat and Trichur Rly stations. 45 km from calicut airport. Passenger trains run between Nilambur rly station and Shornur. Contact for more details.



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