

Interacting with Museum Spaces: Importance of Museum Studies in Art Education

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*C.S. Anupama

Demonstration Multipurpose School, RIE Mysore, NCERT

Abstract: Museums are the reflection of past culture and skills. Museum as an institution serves as an archival of tangible sources of past history through displays and exhibiting the objects. It is necessary to know how museum as a space treats the young mind in terms of recollecting the past events through an object displayed. The communication between the object and the spectators reveals the identity of the museum piece displayed and the perseverance of the viewer. It is now necessary to know why and how a museum helps in art education. Museums are spaces that exhibits, conserves and preserves the objects collected from past. However, it is more than just preserving, conserving, archiving and exhibiting the historical objects. Such exhibits become to true cultural and historical identity and remark of past. Walking through these displays should make the visitors or the spectators time travel which enhances the exhibits and adds on to the value and importance of the object.

Keywords: Museums, culture, communication

This paper titled: "*Interacting with Museum Spaces: Importance of Museum Studies in Art Education*" is an attempt to highlight the importance and inclusion of museum studies in art education. The museum displays the significant objects which carries the cultural, religious and historical values. By bringing these signifiers of displayed objects in the mainstream art education, it definitely adds on in the contribution of preserving and conserving the cultural and religious history of signifier that is the object displayed in the museum.

It is important to dissect how museum studies going to help in uplifting the art education programme. Most of the Indian museum displays art objects, objects which are crafted with skill and objects which are subjected to warfare textile, ritual association and many more. Inclusion of museum studies in art education will build an impactful positive remark on students perseverance. In the above statement, it is mentioned that, museum spaces it is an institution where the signified objects are displayed. When such objects are passed by the crown, the object simply signifies the importance of history and past

***Corresponding Author**

C.S. Anupama, Demonstration Multipurpose School, RIE Mysore, NCERT
Email: [anupamanraj\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:anupamanraj[at]gmail.com)

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societies and civilization, this way, we can pile up the historical talents and skills and conserve the past culture.

Through this way the young minds or the generation will not just value the concept of preserving and conserving the museum exhibits but also know the value to conserve and protect the historical monuments and archaeological sites.

Teaching students the idea cultural protection through of documentation, restoration, conservation, preservation can aid in the enhancing the ability to appreciate our past culture. Inclusion of museum studies in art education thus brings more advantage.

Considering the present condition of students, it is in high alert that young generations are quite influenced by the western culture by leaving the footsteps of our ancestors and the culture and tradition formed by them. This shows lack of incompetence of holding up the tradition and culture in the contemporary society. Appreciating new culture shouldn't be a problem, as humans we always should welcome and be open minded in accepting and knowing about diverse culture, but it shouldn't over cover your true identity and the culture you raised in.

India as a country is immersed with diverse culture and traditions, museum brings it together with the concept of cross culture where cultures across the country meet in one space in the form of object display. These artifacts or the art objects are not just exhibits but they go much beyond the exhibits which emphasize a craftsmanship and skill which showcases the identity of a region, religion, tradition and culture. Such huge impact can inspire to dive more into knowing the history and the technology used to produce such exquisite antiquities in India.

These antiquities can bring huge impact in the realm of academic studies especially in fields such as art, museology, archaeology, fine arts etc. Scope is always high when talking about museum studies and its inclusion in the field of art education. Including museum studies in art education can make remarkable changes not just within the students but also to the society, education should not limit with the concept of competition or for exam perspective rather education should make a change and a positive transformation on an individual.

Setting up museum spaces within the educational centers can bring in a fresher mind and can attract creativities among students apart from knowledge gaining and skill development. This can also create academic opportunities for students to know the past culture. Having a museum space can achieve certain mottos of NEP 2020 which states "The aim of assessment in the culture of our schooling system will shift from one that is more regular and formative, is more competency-based, promotes learning and development of our students, and tests higher -order skills, such as analysis, critical thinking, and conceptual clarity... this will be the underlying principle for assessment at all levels of education" (NCERT, 2023).

Inclusion of museum studies will also deepen the knowledge in tribal studies and also encourages students to dwell their interests in tribal art and folk art. Tribal and folk art has many displays which are exhibited in museums which emphasize the existence and importance of their beliefs and faith through art objects and craft works. Museums in Madhya Pradesh, north eastern state museums, museum from southern states have references and displays of tribal and folk traditions.

Apart from museums there are other institutions which promote modern and contemporary art such as National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), modern Galleries and other institutions which promote modern art and contemporary art. This will allow promotion of roots and its historical roots. In conclusion museum spaces have a huge impact on society and also education system, inclusion of

museum studies in art education can bring in many changes and follows the footsteps in conserving, preserving and archiving the cultural heritage of the country.

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