

## Schooling: A Gradual Initiation of Life: Dr. Zakir Hussain's Vision

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### ABSTRACT

Education, particularly schooling, is intended to prepare individuals for life, equipping them physically, intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually to navigate life's challenges with self-assurance, audacity, the ability to make sound decisions, and a broader perspective. The primary objective of school education is to guide individuals in leading purposeful and meaningful lives. Indeed, schooling can be viewed as a gradual initiation into various aspects of life. It provides a structured environment where students not only acquire academic knowledge and skills but also learn vital life skills, engage in social interactions, and undergo personal development. For individuals, to thrive within society, school education is widely considered imperative. Numerous visionaries have laid the groundwork for the school education system in India. Among them, a revolutionary pioneer of educational upliftment in India was Dr. Zakir Hussain. Dr. Zakir Hussain (1897–1969) was an esteemed Indian educationist, scholar, and the third President of India. Dr. Hussain stood out as one of the world's most prominent educationists. He epitomized India's composite culture and upheld the noble secular ideals that foster brotherhood and harmony in our society. He made substantial contributions to the field of education and played a pivotal role in shaping educational policies in India. His perspective on schooling was shaped by his belief in holistic education, moral values, and the significance of social development. Against this backdrop, the primary aim of this research paper is to delve into Dr. Zakir Hussain's vision concerning the notion that "Schooling is a gradual initiation into life." Additionally, this paper aims to formulate a framework that illustrates how his vision aligns with the school education vision outlined in NEP 2020 (National Education Policy 2020), ultimately contributing to the enhancement of the Indian education system.

**Keywords:** Indian Education System, NEP, Schooling, Dr Zakir Hussain, Vision, Significance, Issues, Challenges, Suggestions

