



# Personality and Its Factors in Educational Perspective

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## Abstract:

*Personality is a term that has many general meanings. Sometimes the word refers to the ability to get along well socially. For example, we speak of experiences or relationships, which are said to give a person "more personality." The term may also refer to the most striking impression that an individual makes on other people. We may say, 'she has a shy personality'. To a psychologist, personality is an area of study that deals with complex human behaviour, including emotions, actions, and cognitive (thought) processes. Psychologists study the patterns of behaviour that make individuals different from one another. The word personality is used not only in the field of psychology, but can be applied in most of the other fields of one day-to-day life. A good deal of research has been done on the topic but no final conclusions have been drawn as regards the nature of personality. Education plays a vital role for the viewpoint of personality. Education turns the person from good to best in the external and internal level. Here; I want to introduce some factors of personality in the context of Education.*

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**Keywords:** Behaviour, Education, Environment, Human, Personality, Psychology

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## 1. Introduction

The psychologists have defined the term personality in various ways but they were not completely successful in explaining it in clear and definite terms because human personality is a very complex phenomenon. Personality is not a fixed state but a dynamic totality, which is continuously changing due to interaction with the environment.

The conduct, behaviour, activities, movements and everything else concerning the individual are known as personality. It is the way of responding to the environment; the way in which an individual adjusts with the external environment is personality.

## 2. Definitions

The term personality has been derived from the Latin word "Persona" which was associated with Greek theater in ancient times. The Greek actors commonly used to wear masks on their faces during their performances on the stage. The mask worn by the actors was called persona. Personality was thought to be the effect and influence which the individual wearing a mask left on the audience. In modern time also, for a layman, personality means the effect and influence of an individual on other people. Some of the most referred definitions of personality are: Each individual's characteristically recurring patterns of behaviour are known as personality. L. Kolb Personality is that which permits a prediction of what a person will do in a given situation. R. B. Cattel In the words of Munn, "Personality may be defined as the most characteristic integration of an individual's structure, modes of behaviour, interest, attitude, capacities, abilities, and aptitudes." Woodworth and Marquis define personality as "the total quality of an individual's behaviour as it is revealed in his characteristic habit of thought and expression, his attitudes, interests and his own philosophy of life." Allport who devoted most of his time for research on personality defines: "personality is the dynamic organization within the individual of those psychological systems that determine his unique adjustment to his environment." This definition is very comprehensive and includes all aspects of an individual's personality. Here, the

word 'dynamic' means that personality is undergoing a constant change but is still organized. It constitutes two types of systems: mental and physical, and these two systems interact with the internal and external environments. The word 'determine' emphasizes that it is the psychophysical system, which activates the organisms for action. In a layman's terminology, by personality we mean the sum total of the ways we behave, especially towards others. For instance, based on one's good physical appearance, good character, aggressive or good manners, a person may be categorized as having a "fine", "strong" or a magnetic personality. Psychologically, personality is the integrated and dynamic organization of the physical, mental, moral, and social qualities of the individual that manifests itself upon others in social life.

### **3. Nature of Personality**

Personality is a whole rather than a sum of parts. We cannot identify the personality of a person on the basis of his physique or his intellectual level or his character. But the all these elements put together are made to function in harmony which makes his personality. The conduct, behaviour, activities, movements and everything else concerning the individual are known as personality. It is the way of responding to the environment. The way in which an individual adjusts with the external environment is personality. Let us discuss the following points regarding the nature of personality.

#### ***3.1 Personality is the Result of Both Heredity and Environment***

Heredity involves all those physiological and psychological peculiarities, which a person inherits from his parents. These peculiarities are transmitted to us through genes. It is indisputable that heredity determines the difference of sex and it is on this basis that some scientists contend that heredity determines personality because it is the difference of sex, which determines the personality of men and women. Environment has a very significant effect on man. Its effect starts from his birth and continues almost till his death. The status of the child, youth and the old man in the family and in the society is not same and as a result of this difference, a man's roles, temperaments, ways of thinking, tendencies and character are affected; all these determine the personality of men and women. In the same way, the status of the person in places like school, occupation, social situation, etc. affects his personality.

#### ***3.2 Personality is Composed of traits, which are by and Large Learned or acquired***

By the time we become a mature personality, the contribution of learning is so prominent that we often misinterpret personality as the equivalent of learning. It is important to note that learning plays a very important role in the making of one's personality. In order to explain the dynamics of one's personality, it is sometimes convenient to refer to the various types of learning, which a person is able to exhibit in his behavioural range.

#### ***3.3 Personality Implies an Integration of Various Traits***

All the elements, which are ultimately identified as parts of personality structure, get integrated rather than assembled together. Thus, the integration of various traits results into a distinct whole which is known as personality of an individual. Personality represents a unique integration of traits so as to differentiate one person from another on the basis of this very quality. The unique way in which we laugh or smile, weep or cry, talk or lecture, greet or salute becomes the watermark of our personality.

#### ***3.4 Personality is a Dynamic Process***

Personality is the dynamic organization within the individual. Here, dynamic means that personality is undergoing a constant change but is still organized. Personality development is a

reciprocal relationship between the ways in which a person views his experiences and his actual social and interpersonal experiences. Development of personality is a continuous growth, which occurs because of the inherent tendency toward self-growth on the one hand and our personal, environmental and social experiences on the other hand. Therefore, we can say that personality is a dynamic process.

#### **4. Characteristics of Personality**

We have seen how personality has been variously defined by psychologists, though there are differences in views, but even then all psychologists agree on certain common characteristics. Our understanding of the nature of personality will be clear if we go through the characteristics of personality. These are:

##### **4.1 Unique**

Each individual personality is unique and specific. No two persons, not even identical twins have exactly the same qualities and attributes. Organization: Personality is not just one or more aspects of behaviour, but it is one's total integrated behaviour, woven into a whole. The greater the degree of organization, the more healthy and normal the person is.

##### **4.2 Consistency or Stability**

Consistency or stability is one of the characteristics of personality. A person is recognizable from situation to situation by the consistent characteristics that are reflected in his behaviour.

##### **4.3 Dynamic**

Although the personality of an individual remains stable to a large extent, it can't be said to be static, It is always dynamic and continuously in the process of change and modification. Think about your own personality-what type of person you are at the present moment and what type you were while studying in school.

##### **4.4 Self Consciousness**

Personality exhibits self consciousness and it is the proud possession of human being. Man is described as having personality when the idea of "self" enters into his consciousness. A dog or a cow has no personality of its own because neither of the two possess self-consciousness.

#### **5. Conclusion**

The last three or four decades are characterized by a growing consensus in the personality field about basic constructs such as those represented by the Big-Five factors. In addition, emerging issues covering the relationship between personality and intelligence and personality, motivation, and achievement-orientation are described. This review is necessarily incomplete, but most of the central topics in the field of personality and education have been given a place.

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