

Integrating Disabled Children in Regular School

by Sultana Sarwatara Zaman

INTEGRATION of disabled children in regular schools has been designated by various terms having the same philosophy, meaning and actions to be taken such as, normalization, deinstitutionalization, mainstreaming and inclusive education.

NORMALIZATION: Normalization, first espoused in Scandinavia and later popularized in the United States by Wolfensberger in 1970s is the philosophical belief that every person with a disability should have an education and living environment as close to normal as possible.

INTEGRATION: Integration is the normalization of where and with whom people with disabilities live, work, go to school, and play. Like other aspects of normalization, integra-

tion as a broadly supported social issue began in the 1960s. Integration involves the movement of people with disabilities from institutions to community living, from special schools to regular public schools, and from special classes to regular classes.

DEINSTITUTIONALIZATION: The first part of the twentieth century witnessed a growth in the numbers of large residential facilities. Starting in the late 1960s, however, the trend has been to place individuals with disabilities in closer contact with the community.

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IMPLEMENTING THE PRINCIPLE OF MAINSTREAMING: A variety of recommendations have been made about how to better the chances that mainstreaming will work. We briefly discuss six of the most common strategies:

1. To encourage general education teachers to use teaching practices with special-needs students that have been found to be effective with non-disabled students.

2. To use special educators as consultants to help general education teachers cope with the special problems presented by children with special needs.

3. To establish preferential teams to ensure that only those who truly need special education services are identified for them.

4. To structure classroom activities to encourage cooperative learning among students of different ability levels.

5. To structure classroom activities so that normal students act as tutors for their disabled peers (peer-tutor or peer-partner).

6. To use commercially available curriculum materials designed to change non-disabled students' attitudes toward their disabled peers.

THE REGULAR EDUCATION INITIATIVE (REI): Beginning in the mid-1980s, some special educators began to suggest that special education, especially for students with mild disabilities, was too separate from general education.

THE CONCEPT OF INCLUSIVE EDUCATION: When considering educational provisions for children with special educational needs, the Harbin seminar discussions were set within the perspective of an Inclusive School — a school which caters for diversity, a school for all.

use of resources and partnerships with their communities the Harbin seminar culminated in a Declaration which affirmed that various strategies to serve the basic learning needs of all children should be explored through the inclusive school concept and that institutional capacities to support inclusive education should be enhanced.

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Finally, it can be summarized that integration means people with disabilities living, working, playing and going to school with nondisabled people.

Lastly, inclusive education involves educating children with special educational needs in settings where they have the maximum association, consistent with their needs, with other children. The whole issue of integration, normalization, mainstreaming and inclusive education involves change of attitude of policy makers, teachers and parents towards the disabled person, with the purpose of creating better quality of life for them.

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South Asian Regional Centre for Disability A Necessity for Improving Services for the Disabled in This Region

I had once reviewed the programmes for the disabled in each of the countries in South Asia — Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, and found that none of the countries have reached a standard where they could cater services for all its disabled citizens.

India being the largest of the South Asian countries and having achieved a level of technical development comparable to some of the industrialised nations of the world, there it is obvious that professional development in the area of disability has been the highest.

jointly by Bangladesh Probationary Foundation, Department of Special Education, IER, Dhaka University and the Child Development Centre of the Bangladesh Institute of Child Health, Dhaka Shishu Hospital. The theme of the conference was "Ensuring Health, Education and Rights of the Disabled: from Awareness to Action."

Participants were disabled persons themselves, their parents, policy makers advocacy groups and well known experts and professionals from home and abroad. Subjects for the speakers and discussions ranged from all kinds of disabilities such as visual impairment, hearing impairment, mental retardation; cerebral palsy, epilepsy, genetic counselling, etiological factors of disability, prevention to advocacy.

The following were some of the recommendations forwarded in my review paper as well as the "Regional Seminar on Childhood Disability": 1. Government and Non-Government organisations working in the field of disability should form a FORUM for the disabled in this region, any one country could take the leadership in this regard.

extend their helping hands in training teachers, therapists and other professionals and para-professionals required in working with the disabled from other countries of South Asia.

Appropriate legislation should be enacted in those member countries of South Asia which are lagging behind to protect, promote and safeguard the interest of the disabled persons.

Establishment of "South Asian Pool of Technicians" or "Technical Committee on Disability" issues should be considered by the member countries to give greater emphasis on problems of disability.

People with disabilities and their families have a right to live in society with dignity and respect.

People with disabilities are valuable in themselves for the contributions to society.

People with disabilities deserve equity and equal rights within society.

Some of the objectives of SARC are as follows: To facilitate exchange of experts, scholars, trainees and research workers from within Bangladesh and South Asia for developing appropriate services and interventions for children and adults with disabilities.

To become a strong advocacy group for establishing the rights of the disabled persons taking into account experiences from South Asian Nations.

The establishment of SARC is a landmark in the history of development of services for the disabled in this region by the professionals. We hope the joint venture of the professionals — the pediatricians, the psychologists, the psychiatrists, the neurologists, the physiotherapists and the special educators — will go a long way in this region to make the lives of the disabled better and brighter.

The Daily Star Entertainment Guide

Thursday 31st October (All programmes are in local time. There may be changes in the programmes) BTV 3:00 Opening Announcement Al-Quran Programme Summary 3:10 Recitation from the Guest 3:15 Re-broadcast of selected programme from TV Archa 4:00 News in Bangla 4:15 Khelir Jagot 4:45 Cartoon Film: Tom And Jerry 5:00 News in Bangla 5:25 National Television School Debate 6:00 News in Bangla 6:30 Esho Para Shikhi: Mass Education 7:00 The News 7:05 Jiboner Alo 7:25 Nazrul Songs 8:00 News in Bangla 8:40 Arabian Nights 9:00 Ityadi: Magazine Programme 10:00 News in English 10:25 4:00 BBC Newsdesk 8:00pm BBC World Headlines 6:05 World Focus: Horizon 7:00 BBC World News 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 BBC News-shour Asia and Pacific 8:30 Time Out: Top Gear 9:00 BBC World Headlines 9:05 World Focus: Around the World in 80 Days 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 Time Out: Film '96 11:00 BBC World News 11:30pm Time Out: Floyd's American Pie 12:00 The World Today 2:00 BBC World Headlines 2:05 World Focus: BBC Global Re-

port 2:50 Earth Report 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Time Out: Tomorrow's World 4:00 BBC World Report/24 Hours Business Report/24 Hours CHANNEL V 6:00am Frame By Frame 7:00 Rewind VJ Sophiya 8:00 Jump From VJ Trey 9:00 Frame by Frame 11:00 The Vibe VJ Lark 12:00 Rewind VJ Sophiya 1:00 By Demand VJ Trey 2:00 Frame by Frame 2:30 First Day First Show 3:00 BPL Oye 4:00 Planet Ruby 4:30 By Demand VJ Trey 5:30 Music Update Tokyo 6:00pm Rewind VJ Sophiya 7:00 Big Bang VJ Alessandra 8:00 Planet Ruby 8:30 The Vibe 9:00 Videoclan Flashback 9:30 Top of the Pops 10:00 First Day First Show 10:30 Soul Curry 11:00 Classic Rock 12:00pm Jump Start VJ Trey 1:50 Haysah 2:50 By Demand VJ Trey 3:00 Big Bang VJ Alessandra 4:30 BPL Oye 5:30 Fram by Frame 6:00am Home and Away 6:30 The Sullivan 7:00 Aerobics 8:00 Style 7:30 STAR News 8:00 SKY News 8:30 STAR News 9:00 SKY News 9:30 Aerobics 9:00 Style 10:00 Today's Gourmet 10:00 El Behind The Scenes She's the One 11:00 Kats & Allie 11:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show 12:30 21 Jump Street 1:30 Santa Barbara 2:00 The Bold & the Beautiful 3:00 Khandan 3:30 Tahlikaat 4:00 Home and Away 4:30 Lost in Space 5:30 Adventures Of Black Stallion 6:00pm Kats & Allie 7:30 Today's Gourmet 7:00 Destinations "Colorado Summer" 7:30 STAR News (Hindi) 8:00 Small Wonder 8:30 The Bold & the Beautiful 9:00 Ghutan 9:30 STAR News 10:00 Family Ties 10:30 The X Files 11:30 The Bold & the Beautiful 12:00 Baywatch Nights 2:00 Beverly Hills 90210 3:00

Mano Ya Na Mano 11:30 Hum Paranch 12:00 Tara 12:30 Pampara 1:00 No Problem 1:30 Beej Ke PG 2:00 Arabic Programme 2:30 TMM 4:00 Zee Horror Show 4:30 Malabar Hill 5:00 Jigar EL TV 00:30 Dil Dekhe Dekho 01:30 Sur Sargam 02:30 Pyar Hi Pyar 03:30 Jeewan Ke Rang 04:30 Dance Dance 05:30 Dil Dekhe Dekho 06:30 Sur Sargam 07:30 Pyar Hi Pyar 08:30 Jeewan Ke Rang 09:30 Dance Dance 10:30 Emam The Real Count Down 11:00 Nukkad 11:30 Shairani 12:00 Top Of The Pops 12:30 Brigadier Baiwan Bhanu 1:00 Suhana Sagar 1:30 Nazrana 2:00 Jeewan Ke Rang 3:00 Wonder Wings Amar Prem 3:30 Chehre 4:00 Akanksha 4:30 Song Ya 5:00 Dear El 05:30 Chalti Ka Naam Gaadi 6:30 Sorry Meri Lorry 7:00 Oriem Hit Thi Hai 7:30 Hakke Bhakke 8:00 Its My Choice 8:20 Kinetic Haseen Pal 8:30 Liberty Public Demand 9:30 Gambler 10:00 D'Singer Quartz Peoples Club 10:30 Stand By 10:40 Humrahm 11:00 Casper Number One 11:30 Film: Chhat 12:00 Kinetic Haseen Pal 12:10 News ZEE TV 5:30 Suno Bhai Sadho 6:00 News 6:30 Jagran 7:00 ZED 8:30 All Out for no loss 9:00 Ghoomta Aana 9:30 HFF 12:00 17 Shirley Road 12:30 Aur Ek Minute 1:00 ZED 1:30 Asian Sky Shop 2:30 Tara 3:00 Kunkushetra 3:30 Captain Cook Shahi Dawat 4:00 Helpline 4:30 Mere Ghar Ana Zindagi 5:00 ZED 5:30 Teer Kaman 6:00 Hum Honge Kamyab 6:30 Ad Mad Show 7:00 Manasi 7:30 Gaane Anjane 8:00 Tumhara Liya 8:30 Colgate Gel Yodha Aao 9:00 Gopaljee 9:30 Dastan 10:00 Gharvika Ki Ummad 10:30 News 11:00

11:00 The Young And The Restless 11:30 Yeh Sadi Nahi Ho Sakti (Serial) 12:00 Pehli Mulakat 12:00pm Sunday Ki Sunday 1:00 Nirlop Rasoi Show 1:30 Surf-Wheel Of Fortune (Game Show) 2:00 Premier 2:30 Closed DD 7 10:30 Janmadin 10:35 Classical Music 11:00 Dance 12:00 ETV Programme 12:30 Kolkata Bishra 1:00 Janani (Serial) 2:30 Darpan (Serial) 3:00 Eto Kuto Basha (Serial) 5:05 Nepali Programme 5:30 News 5:35 Rhyth Samikriti 6:00 Pali Katha 6:30 Chakir Khabar 6:55 Ajab Saja (Serial) 7:30 Bangla Sambad 8:00 Sur Sangeet 8:30 Deaw (Serial) 9:00 Janani (Serial) 9:30 Swapper Bazar (Serial) 10:00 Bengali Movie Club Film Show 1:00 Closed ZEE CINEMA 6:30 Hit Hai Fit Hai 7:00 Pyasi Shaam (Sunil, Sharmil) 9:00 Box Office 9:30 Sitapur Ki Geeta (Rajesh K, Hema) 12:15 Bollywood 12:30 Bheegi Raat (Asok K, Meena K) 3:15 Songs 3:45 Saugandh 6:30 Vellu Gu Nee Dalu 9:15 Songs 10:00 Katha (Nasseruddin Shah, Dtp Natha) 12:45 Nive Ju Chinnam (Tamil) 12:30 Njavane Kyon 4:00 Devi Aur Durga.

STAR MOVIES 7:30am Classic: Sebance on a Wet Afternoon 15 (Arabic Subtitles) 9:30 Comedy: Making Mi Right 15 (Arabic Subtitles)

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Garfield by Jim Davis. A cartoon strip showing Garfield, Odie, and Jon Arbuckle. Garfield is talking about a vacation, and Odie is excited. Jon is looking at a suitcase. The dialogue includes: "WELL, I'M READY TO START OUR VACATION", "ARE YOU PACKED YET, GARFIELD?", "ALL SET", "WHAT'S THAT?", "MY PERFORMING FLEA.", "HEY! GET IT OFF ME!", "I'M SORRY, YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL HE FINISHES HIS TAP DANCE."

Tom and Jerry. A cartoon strip showing Tom and Jerry. Tom is talking about a vacation, and Jerry is excited. The dialogue includes: "WELL, I'M READY TO START OUR VACATION", "ARE YOU PACKED YET, GARFIELD?", "ALL SET", "WHAT'S THAT?", "MY PERFORMING FLEA.", "HEY! GET IT OFF ME!", "I'M SORRY, YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL HE FINISHES HIS TAP DANCE."

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