

Headline	MORAL EDUCATIO		
MediaTitle	New Straits Times		
Date	05 Apr 2017	Color	Black/white
Section	Letters	Circulation	74,711
Page No	20	Readership	240,000
Language	English	ArticleSize	195 cm <sup>2</sup>
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 3,540
Frequency	Daily	PR Value	RM 10,620



## SYLLABUS

# MORAL EDUCATION TEACHES INTEGRITY

**T**HE recent outcry over stereotyping names with places of worship in a Moral Education test paper has gone viral.

Since I started as a teacher three decades ago, I have been involved in the development of Moral Education.

In our education system, where Moral Education is concerned, I see great hope as it is the only subject in our curriculum that is on a par with the National Philosophy of Education.

The aim of the Moral Education is to develop students into individuals who have integrity and noble values, high moral standards based on universal values founded on moral principles which contribute towards the unity, prosperity and wellbeing of the country as well as global society.

Who are the educators in schools who are teaching Moral Education? Are they qualified to

teach such a subject? Does society understand what Moral Education is in the Malaysian context?

We have a proactive Moral Education syllabus, but the implementation and evaluation of the subject is a big question.

Who are the teacher trainers in colleges who prepare Moral Education teachers for primary schools in the country? Until today, we do not have any colleges offering Moral Education as a major component.

Teachers who pursue Teaching of English as a Second Language in Universiti Malaya have a choice to complete Moral Education as a minor.

They study moral and ethical theories, moral psychology and moral development theories before moving on to practical teaching. They can teach the subject.

However, in many cases, they do not even get an opportunity to

teach Moral Education as their major is English and they are given only that to teach. Or, they might be posted to schools where Moral Education is not taught.

The Education Ministry needs to ensure that there are enough qualified Moral Education teachers. Those who have a basic or postgraduate degree in Moral Education should be given priority to teach the subject in schools and teacher training colleges.

For those who think that Moral Education is unnecessary, read up on how global society is focusing on the humanities.

Moral Education is the only subject in our education system which equips students with cognitive-affective and action-oriented values to enable them to make moral choices.

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