



AI Informs, Teachers Transform

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Abstract

According to the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, teachers are at the center of educational reforms. Artificial intelligence (AI) has emerged as a powerful tool to enhance teaching and learning progressions, and digital transformation has changed education. AI-supported systems enhance instruction and learning, increasing availability and competency in learning environments. According to earlier studies, AI can greatly assist educators by managing standard teaching duties and promoting learner-centered pedagogies. But teaching is fundamentally a human-centered profession that goes beyond imparting knowledge. Artificial intelligence cannot replace human teachers' unique contributions of empathy, emotional connection, moral guidance, creativity, and the ability to inspire students. In modern education, teachers play a crucial role in fostering students' happiness, wellbeing, and positive values. This conceptual paper makes the case that the development of fundamental human traits and technological proficiency must coexist in teacher education's digital transformation. While AI teaches effectively, teachers inspire meaningfully, and maintaining this human element is essential to producing contented, all-encompassing, and future-ready students in an AI-driven educational environment. Teaching remains a intensely human profession that demands value-based engagement those are highlighted both in Indian Knowledge Systems and the National Education Policy 2020. It highlights the necessity for teacher education programs to intentionally support teachers' and aspiring teachers' emotional intelligence, ethical sensitivity, and wellbeing-oriented pedagogical practices. And also claims that meaningful digital transformation in teacher education must integrate AI competencies with culturally rooted human values to prepare teachers as ethical guides, inspirers, and facilitators of holistic student wellbeing.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, digital transformation, happiness, human values, Indian knowledge system, teacher inspiration, teacher education, wellbeing

Introduction

“I have always felt that the true text-book for the pupil is his teacher” - Mahatma Gandhi

NEP 2020 states a good teacher as someone who is passionate, motivated, and well-qualified and serves as a guide to learning and not only a source of information. According to the NCF 2023 guidelines, a good teacher is understanding, flexible, and well

versed. The high evolution of artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming education by placing useful tools to improve learning and teaching. Customized learning: AI applications may deliver the unique instructions, give feedback in real-time, and adapt the material to the requirements of a certain student, making classroom learning much more engaging and productive (Smith and Lee, 2025). Such technologies



are also used to minimize the routine administrative activities that enable teachers to focus on other more important areas of teaching (Chan & Tsi, 2023). Education is a field that is human-intensive and AI will not be able to do all the teaching tasks on its own. Researchers indicate that effective teachers (human) possess special traits of empathy, moral direction, emotional attachment and the capacity to motivate and bring happiness- traits that are necessary to achieve effective learning (Brackett and Katulak, 2007; Dogra, 2025). The emotional support that the teachers offer is related to increased student engagement, motivation, and resilience, which helps the environment in which the students prosper (Wang and Chen, 2025). One of the quotes by Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, once remarked that the real teachers are those who make us think. This demonstrates the importance of teachers in the development of an independent mind. On the same note, Swami Vivekananda observed that the role of education is the expression of the perfection that already exists in a man and the role of the teacher is to bring out the potentials that exist in the individual student. AI is not sufficient, though it is capable of teaching content. Teaching is a process that requires the practitioners to have the following qualities that they should work on. It is only with these human attributes that teachers will be able to inspire, transform and make education a truly meaningful endeavor in the age of AI.

AI in Teaching Learning Process

Artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming the nature of teaching and learning that is provided by providing customized, personalized, and efficient education. The research shows that AI is capable of evaluating the way each learner processes information and influences the materials in real time and tailors them to their speed and needs, which contributes to ensuring the engagement of learners (Holmes et al., 2019). Moreover, AI performs repetitive work, including grading, feedback creation, and administration, and leaves teachers to concentrate more on the effective lessons and communication with students (Luckin et al., 2016).

In addition, AI applications can make learning more accessible by including custom practice exercises, language support, and visual or audio enhancements, making learning locations more inclusive (Woolf et al., 2019). Despite the mentioned benefits, studies caution that AI cannot take over human judgment in education. Educators have an essential part in subtle decision making, understanding emotional signals, and ethical control, which present AI tools are not capable of doing (Holmes et al., 2019; Popenici and Kerr, 2017). Therefore, although AI can provide the content and help to learn, it is an additional tool and not a substitute of human teachers

Essential Human Qualities in Teaching

Human teachers bring dimension to the learning environment which is beyond just passing the information to the students. Empathy as the skill to empathise with students and their emotions and reactions is a central factor in establishing trust, motivation, and emotional health in the classroom. Studies indicate that educational engagement and graduation rates are enhanced when teachers are able to provide emotional reassurance and provide a positive classroom environment (Jennings and Greenberg, 2009). Ethical guidance, imaginative instruction techniques, and social interaction are some of the ways in which teachers offer moral guidance, imaginative methods of teaching and interaction between students that foster teamwork, inquisitiveness, and critical analysis. Notably, human educators establish significant relationships with their students based on the interpretation of facial expressions, tones of voice, body language, and in-class interactions, which AI is incapable of successfully imitating (Popenici and Kerr, 2017). These human characteristics make the students feel supported, valued and confident thus learning does not only become effective but enjoyable and fulfilling

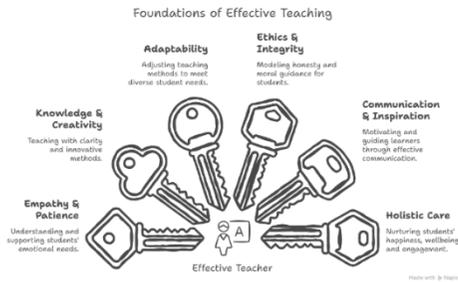


Figure 1. Key Qualities of Effective Teachers
Diagram created by author using AI tools (2026)
source from Brackett & Katulak (2007), Jennings
& Greenberg (2009), and Dogra (2025)

Incorporation of Indian Knowledge System (IKS) in Teacher Education

Modern improvements in Teacher education highlight the importance of adopting technologically motivated teacher education programs to uplift the excellence and expertise of educators (Alam, 2022; Singh, 2022). These methods prioritize developing pedagogical competence, ICT proficiency, ethical values, and leadership skills to meet the demands of the 21st-century classroom (Tiwari, 2022). Identifying the prosperity of India's traditions, recent pedagogical standards advocate for integrating IKS such as oral teaching, storytelling, traditional practices, and community-based knowledge into teacher education (Barnhardt & Kawagley, 2008; Jacob et al., 2021). These type of integration can promote culturally responsive teaching, foster students' emotional and moral development, and strengthen community engagement (Yeseraw et al., 2023). Embedding IKS into teacher training preserves India's cultural heritage and also permits teachers to make comprehensive, localized, and learner-centered learning settings that honor wisdom and traditional pedagogies (Kapur, 2021; Mandavkar, 2023). Hence, implementation of IKS within modern teacher education frameworks is vital for educating educators who are culturally capable, ethically grounded, and capable of nurturing holistic development among learners (Tiwari, 2022; Singh, 2023).

Need to Preserve Human Qualities in Teacher Education

Technological skills should be provided in purposeful relation to the formation of the essential human qualities, and the teacher training programs are to become more important in the field of the utilization of AI with the purpose of education. Educating the future teachers on the topic of AI is essential to be able to employ technology in an efficient and responsible way. Meanwhile, enhancing emotional intelligence, making ethical decisions, empathy, and teaching students-centered practices are equally important in the training of teachers. Otherwise, there is a risk of using technology that is rapidly adopted on the expense of the personal and human aspects of the teaching process (85 percent of students report that AI learning platforms assist them in their homework efficiency (Smith and Lee, 2025), however, 70 percent of students feel increasingly motivated in case teachers provide personal feedback (Dogra, 2025). Thus, the training of teachers should be oriented towards AI-based pedagogy as well as the teaching methods based on human experience. Such balance helps future teachers to use AI to improve the learning process without losing the human characteristics of teaching, including the ability to inspire, support, and provide well-being to students. As demonstrated in Figure 2, AI offers the adaptive learning and feedback whereas human teachers offer not only empathy and creativity but also moral guidance and make the students happy and generally lead to their development. Figure 2. Artificial Intelligence with Real Human Teachers: More Learning and Student Happiness. Illustration generated by the author with the help of AI (2026)

As shown in Figure 2, AI provides adaptive learning and feedback, while human teachers contribute empathy, creativity, and moral guidance, together supporting student happiness and holistic development.

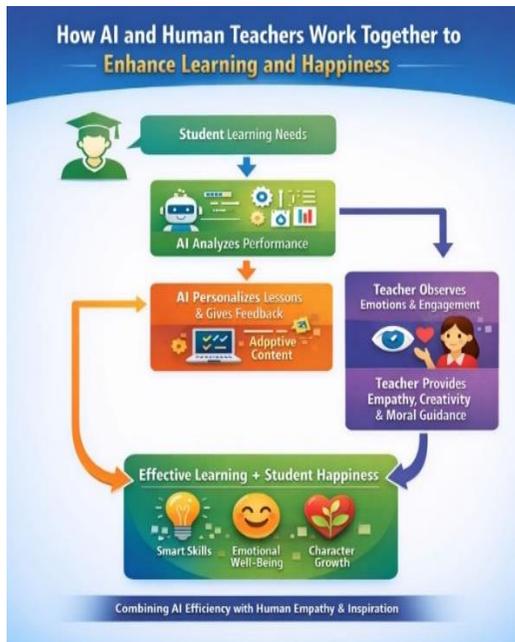


Figure2. AI + Human Teachers: Enhancing Learning and Student Happiness Diagram created by author using AI tools (2026)

Conclusion

The area of AI includes great improvements in custom learning, productivity, and availability. Nevertheless, teaching is a noble profession, which is based on emotional attributes. Although AI may be helpful during the educational process, it cannot substitute the human factor making teaching meaningful. Teachers should be taught how to use AI wisely and compassionately to maximize the advantages of digital transformation in education, which will help develop the human nature of teaching and make all students happy.

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