

# “A STUDY OF EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY OF SWAMI VIVEKANANDA”

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## ABSTRACT

Education is the key to achieve the goal of success and a good life. It is one in which an individual develops individual potentialities and becomes an active and constructive member of the society. Education plays a very important role in moulding the character of an individual. Education can initiate social change by bringing about changes in the outlook and attitude of people. Individual and social abilities should be developed hand in hand, so that a completely impartial individuality may be shaped. Education is the prime emissary of social and cultural changes that takes place within the society. Education plays a significant role as an agent of socialization of the younger generations so as to meet the expectations of the society. The improvement of human resources is achievable through a suitably planned curriculum of education. It is very important, that the teachers' has to take superior accountability so as to initiate action for the conversion of society as a means of societal transformation and thereby help to attain the goal of national development. In today's complex social setting where there has been tremendous competition for attaining material gains and value crisis in the society it is pertinent to assert upon the thoughts and ideas of Swami Vivekananda for the reconstruction of the society by integrating the thoughts and ideas of Vivekananda in the process of human development through Education. This study finds the way to get the inner- self which resides in everything and everywhere by eliminating one's ego to finally reach the manifestation of perfection through education. In the said paper, an attempt has been made to study the educational philosophy of Swami Vivekananda.

Keywords: - Values, Man making, awakening, arise, and awake.

**Swami Vivekananda**(1863-1902) a great reformer in India feels the dire need of awakening a man to his self within , by giving his call to everybody as arise, awake and stop' not till the goal is reached. The study of the educational thought of Swami Vivekananda leads to the transformation of man through moral and spiritual education. The said research was conducted with an objective to study the thoughts of Swami Vivekananda.

## OBJECTIVES:

- i) To study about the upliftment of human being from social and global evils through education
- ii) To study the aspects of education which leads to the manifestation of perfection
- iii) To study the educational scheme of Swami Vivekananda for 'Man-Making'

## SWAMI VIVEKANANDA'S THOUGHTS

Moral and Religion values are being determined. The fundamental principles of civilization are being ignored. Conflicts of ideals, manners and habits are pervading the atmosphere. Disregarded for everything old is the fashion of the day. Vivekananda seeks all the information of the social and global evils through education. With this end in view he feels the dire need of awakening man to his self within, he thinks, lays the very purpose of education.

Vivekananda's educational ideas have been influenced by **four** major factors:

1. Knowledge of traditional educational system in India.
2. Love for the Nation
3. Personal convictions
4. The belief, that a social revolution was possible through universal education.

### The Goal or the objectives:

Vivekananda points out that the defeat of the present day education is that it has no definite goal to pursue. A sculptor has a clear idea about what he wants to shape out of the marble block similarly, a painter knows what is going to paint, but a teacher he says, has no idea clearly about the goal of his teaching. Swamiji attempted to establish through his words and deeds that the end of all the education is the man making.

He prepared his scheme of this human making philosophy of Vedanta. According to Vedanta, the essence of the man lies in his soul, which he possesses in the addition to his body and mind, in consonance with his philosophy, Swamiji defines education as the manifestation of the perfection already in man. This perfection resides in everything and everywhere in our existence, consciousness and beliefs. After understanding the essential nature of this perfection, we should identify it with our inner self. To achieve this, one will have to animate one's ego, ignorance and all other false identification by moral purity and passion for truth and to leave behind the body, the sense the ego and all the other elements which are perishable.

He thus realized his immortal divine self, which is the nature of infinite existence, infinite knowledge and infinite beliefs. At this stage human becomes aware of his self as identical with all other selves as manifestations of the same self. Hence education in the ideas of Vivekananda enable one to comprehend one's self with all its inner potentialities. The essential unity of the entire universe is realized through education.

In HIS scheme of education, Swamiji laid stress on physical health because a sound mind resides in a sound body. He often quoted the Upanishad dictum, hayamatma, balahinena, labhyah i.e. the self cannot be realized by the physical work. However along with physical culture one need of the paying special attention to the culture of the mind.

According to Swamiji, the mind of the students has to be controlled and trained through meditation, concentration and practice of ethical purity. All the success in any field is the result of the power of concentration and strength of the mind.. Education helps to increase strength of mind and intellect is sharpened as a result of which one can stand on one's own feet.

## Methods or procedure:

Vivekananda method of the work of the education resembles the **heuristic method** of the modern educational system. In this system, the teacher involves the spirit of inquiry in the pupils who is supposed to find out the things for himself under the guidance of the teacher.

Swamiji lay's a lot of emphasis on the **environment** at home and school for the proper growth of the child. The parents as well as the teacher should inspire the child by the way they live their lives. Swamiji recommend the old institution of **Gurukula** living with the preceptor and similar systems for the purpose in such system the students can have the ideals character of the teacher constantly before them which serves the role model to follow. Although Swamiji was of the opinion that the **mother tongue** is the right medium for the social and the mass education he prescribes the learning of English and Sanskrit also. While English is necessary for mastering Western science and technology, Sanskrit leads tone into the deft of ore vast store of classes. The implication of language does not remain the privilege of a small class of the people task of the teacher is only to help the child to manifest this knowledge by removing the obstacles in its way.

## Fields of Study:

Vivekananda, in his scheme of education meticulously includes all these studies which are necessary for the all round development of body, mind and soul of the individual. These studies can be brought under the broad heads of physical culture, aesthetics, classics, language, religion, science and technology.

According to Swamiji, the culture values of the country should form an integral part of the curriculum. The culture of India has its root in spiritual values. The study of Ramayana, Mahabharata, Gita, Vedas and Upanishads keep the student enlightened about spiritual values and culture. Education according to Swamiji, remains incomplete without the teaching of aesthetics or fine arts. He cites the example of Japan as how the combination of art and utility can make a nation great. According to Swamiji, education is the inner most core part of education. He reminds us time and again that religion does not consist in dogmas or creeds or any set of rituals. To be religious for him means leading life in such a way that we manifest our higher nature, truth, goodness and beauty in our thoughts, words and deeds. Another important aspect of Swamiji's Scheme of education is **women's education**. He realized that if the women of our country get the right type of education, then they will be able to solve their own problems in their own way. The main object of the female education is to make her strong, fearless and conscious of their chastity (practice of refraining from extramarital, or especially from all sexual intercourse) and dignity. He observed that although men and women are equally competent in academic matters, yet women have a special aptitude and competence for studies relating to home and family. Hence he recommended the introduction of subjects like sewing, nursing, domestic science, culinary artistic which were not parts of education at his time.

## CONCLUSION

The exposition and analysis of Vivekananda Scheme of Education brings to light its constructive, practical and comprehensive character. He realized that it is only through education that the upliftment of masses is possible. It is in the transformation of individual through moral and spiritual education that he finds the solution for all social evils. However, Swamiji, thought on education, through which he intended to build up a strong nation that will lead the world toward peace and harmony is still a far cry. It is high time to give serious thought on his educational view and remember his call to everybody- '**Arise, awake, and stop not till the goal is achieved.**'

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