

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA'S THOUGHTS: ABOUT WOMEN EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT: *Swami Vivekananda (1863-1902), is a famous philosopher, thinker and social reformer in India; he defines "education as the manifestation of perfection already in men". According to Vivekananda education was not only gathering of instruction, but rather more expressive; he perceived education must be influence on the human value, people gathered valid knowledge and also develop their personality through proper education. Swami Vivekananda one of the great philosophers of Hinduism he accepted universally for his sacred knowledge of Hinduism. Among the contemporary Indian religion reformers, Vivekananda strongly support for liberty and equality of men and women. Swami Vivekananda is the leading friar to support and do work for liberty and equality of women and realising the significance of women education for our nation. There is no probability to achieve the quality of development in our society unless the condition of women is improved. Swami Vivekananda said "It is not possible for a bird to fly on one wing". Her strong belief is the women should be put in the position of power to solve their own problem in their own way and this cannot be achievable without education. Women are trouble from several confirmed problems such as physical, social, political, cultural, etc. This situation may be overcome and empowering them through proper education. In this modern globalised world education is the key factor to achieve quality of development. In our traditional Indian society women education is the only way to control birth and death rate, reduce gender inequality, giving job opportunity and produce good socialization process for the next generation. Today we are strongly observed the significance of women education and government introduce various women preferred educational institute. This will also go to help for women empowerment and make them strongly independent. Recent study try to mentioned the condition of women education and achieve the women awareness for education which enhanced their quality and quantity level of life. In this article covered by documentary analysis and it was based on the thought and idea of Swami Vivekananda's philosophy of women education*

KEYWORDS: *WOMEN LITERACY, KNOWLEDGE, DIVINE MOTHER, WOMEN EMPOWERMENT.*

INTRODUCTION:

Now we are passing through in many critical problems in our everyday life, especially for the women. They could not face in society for their frustration, confusion, afraid in their mind, because society did not allow women are educated and they are dependent to others. Swamiji realised with the first differentiation between man and women. Vivekananda's view about women education based on her own thinking it's called Vedanta philosophy. The Vedic period is said to be one of one of complete equality for women according to Vedantic philosophy one and the same conscious self is present in all beings as such men and women are fundamentally the manifestation of the Atmna which is the sexless 'self'. Swami Vivekananda argued that men and women are equally good in her or his way that they should be judge according to their respective greatness. He further believed that if women are given the same opportunity as men, it is possible for attain the same level of development. He argued people not to think of themselves as men and women, but to see each other as human beings.

According to him, women's problems can be many but solved by that magic word education. Swami Vivekananda discovered education is the best and only device to solve all problems of women. He insisted that daughters should be support and educated with as much care and attention as the sons. Vivekananda opined that parents should educate their daughters and enable them to observe. According to him, child marriage was the reason for so many widows in India. He felt that if the number of early marriage decline, the number of widows would also decline. (Women should be achieved knowledge through education, after they can solve many problems in their own way. Many nations have achieved excellence by giving appropriate duty to women. That state and nation which do not giving appropriate duty or respect to women have never arise greatness. Now we are looking for the significance way to overcome the verities problem on their socioeconomic status. Education is the only solution for overcome the women specific problem like illiteracy, gender inequality, unemployment, health problem, dependency sentiment towards father- husband and soon in women life circle. Women role is very important in our society to achieve quality of development and sustainability. Through education they can prove man not superior then women.

86th Constitution amendment act in 2002 include the Article 21-A in the Constitution of India offers free and necessary education of all children in the age group of six to fourteen years it is the progressive decision in our educational system. Right to education free and compulsory in the mention age group is a Fundamental Right in our Indian Constitution. In the Right to education Act, 2009 which expresses the substantial regulation considered under Article 21-A, means that all child has a right to whole time primary education of acceptable and peaceful balance in a regular school which delights absolute basic patterns and integrity. The Article 15 of the Constitution of India prohibits any discrimination on grounds of sex (Constitution of India Article 15 (1) (3)).

The Statement of Article 26 is the Global Statement of Human Rights:

"Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at last in the elementary and fundamental stages. Primary education is the very useful resource for socialization process and personality development of all children's. Vocational education is the new way to increase the employment and higher education suitable for all students on their basis of capability and merits".

This Right is also repeated in the UN Declaration:

"Right to free and Mandatory Education at minimum in the primary levels and education to support common cultural, proficiencies, assessment and sense of obligation to become a effective member of society and probability to diversion and play to reach the similar goal of education."

VIVEKANANDA'S PROPAGANDA ON WOMEN EDUCATION:

- Every nation has reached to their greatness by giving proper respect their women.
- With five hundred men, the subjugation of India strength receives fifty years, with as several women achieve some few years.
- All nations, all man and all women essential work out their own liberation.
- The concept of absolute womankind is absolute liberty.
- There is no modification for the wellbeing of the world without the status of women is enhanced.
- Women should receive an education based on quite exhaustive and psychologically devised curricula.

CURRENT STATUS OF WOMEN EDUCATION IN INDIA:

After independence in India Government include several policy and programme make an education accessible for all children's. Therefore in recent years the Education system has expanded rapidly. But still a large number of women are in dark and the gender gap in literacy rate remains startling by its presence. The following facts and figure throw light on the critically of the problem which is a ruthless condition and show that we have a enormous duty onward.

Table-1: Literacy rates in India (1951-2011)

Year	Persons	Males	Females	Male Female gap in Literacy rate
1951	18.33	27.16	8.86	18.30
1961	28.30	40.40	15.35	25.05
1971	34.45	45.96	21.97	23.98
1981	43.57	56.38	29.76	26.62
1991	52.21	64.13	39.29	24.84
2001	64.84	75.26	53.67	21.59
2011	74.04	82.14	65.46	16.68

Source: Census of India (Literacy rate for year 1951 relates to population aged 5 years and above)

According to the census of 2011, "All individual leading the age of 7 years who can study in any language is declared to be literate". As per to this standard the Literacy Rate in India is about 74%. Table -1 shows the percentage of literacy rates among male and females in India. The gap which was 18.30% in 1951 increased to 25.05% in 1961 and 26.62% in 1981. After 1991, there was a slow decrease in the gap as the literacy rate among women started increasing gradually due to interventions taken by the government.

The space of 21.59% registered within man and women literacy rates in 2001 census has decreased to 16.68% by the 2011-12. The 2011 census record suggests that literacy to female as only 65.46% which is extremely inferior to national commonplace i.e. 74.04%. Gender equality in education is proved by the fact that the literacy rate for the women is only 65.45% against 82.14% of men as per 2011 Census. Through there is tremendous increase in the female literacy rate after independence, the gap between male and female literacy rate is declining very slowly.

Table-2: Ranking of States and Union Territories by Female Literacy rate: 2011

Rank	India/State/Union Territories	Female literacy rate
1	Kerala	91.98
2	Mizoram	89.40
3	Lakshadweep	88.25
4	Tripura	83.15
5	Goa	81.84
6	Andaman & Nicobar Island	81.84
7	Chandigarh	81.38
8	Pondicherry	81.22
9	NCT of Delhi	80.93
10	Daman & Diu	79.59
11	Nagaland	76.69
12	Himachal Pradesh	76.60
13	Sikkim	76.43
14	Maharashtra	75.48
15	Tamil Nadu	73.86
16	Meghalaya	73.78
17	Manipur	73.17
18	Punjab	71.34
19	West Bengal	71.16
20	Gujarat	70.73
21	Uttarakhand	70.70
22	Karnataka	68.13
23	Assam	67.27
24	Haryana	66.77
25	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	65.93
26	Orissa	64.36
27	Chhattisgarh	60.59
28	Madhya Pradesh	60.02

29	Andhra Pradesh	59.74
30	Arunachal Pradesh	59.57
31	Uttar Pradesh	59.26
32	Jammu & Kashmir	58.01
33	Jharkhand	56.21
34	Bihar	53.33
35	Rajasthan	52.66
	All India	65.46%

Source: Census of India-2011

Table-2 shows Ranking of state and Union Territories by Female literacy rate in 2011. The female literacy rate had an average of 65.46% in all India basis in 2011 Census the high literacy rate is 91.98 in Kerala and least literacy rate is 52.66 in Rajasthan in 2011 Census.

Table-3: Gender wise Literacy rate in Rural and Urban areas

India	Rural			Urban			Total		
	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
2001	58.74	70.70	46.13	79.92	86.27	72.86	64.84	75.26	53.67
2011	67.77	77.15	57.93	84.11	88.76	79.11	74.04	82.14	65.46

Source: Census of India 2001 & 2011

Table-3 compares the gender wise literacy rate in rural and urban areas in 2001 & 2011. The literacy rate went up from 64.84% in 2001 to 74.04% in 2011 showing an increase of 9.21% Women Learning in 2001 is 53.67%, it has expired up to 65.46% in 2011. The male literacy rate rise from 75.26% to 82.14%. The data show the betterment in women literacy is more than males in both rural and urban areas.

The gender space in literacy has arisen downcast from 24.57 in 2001 to 19.22 in 2011 in rural areas and from 13.41 in 2001 to 9.65 in 2011 in urban areas. And the gap between the literacy rate in urban and rural areas is also declined from 21.18% in 2001 to 16.34% in 2011.

CURRENT POLICIES:

Before and after independence, India has been taking active steps towards women's education and their empowerment. In our Constitutions take a progressive step through the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act in 2002, this historical remark is very important especially for development of women education. According to this act, elementary education is a fundamental right for children between the age of 6 and 14. The government has undertaken to provide the education free of cost and make it compulsory for those in that age group. This project is more broadly conceived as Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). The SSA has come up with many scheme for inclusive as well as exclusive growth of Indian education as a whole, including scheme to help foster the growth of women education. The major schemes are following here.

- Mahila Samakhyia Programme: This programme is very significance for women education and new education policy in 1968 influence the established of this programme in 1988. It was created for the government of women from rural areas especially for marginalised groups. When the SSA was created a primarily committee was formed to maintain the whole programme.
- Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Scheme (KGBV): This scheme is much influential girls education in primary layers and this scheme was started from July 2004. It is basically helpful for underprivileged and rural areas where literacy level for women is very low.
- National programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL): The programme was launched in July, 2003. It was a passive helpful to the girls who the SSA was not able to reach. 24 state protected in this scheme in India. Under the NPEGEL, "model school" have been set up to provide better opportunities to girls.

EMERGENCE OF THE PROBLEMS:

According to Swami Vivekananda a nation could rise only by paying proper respect to women. The women educational pattern commonly considered that the notions of the country and understand the importance of the philosophy of life in women. Vivekananda idea of women education includes ideal daughters, ideal wives and ideal mothers. So, it was very essential to know, how Swami Vivekananda established women empowerment on that time and also decide his great contribution for women education in modern perspective.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

Every investigation is being investigated in the purpose to fulfil same objective. Thus, this study also has some objective to achieve-

- To understand the background which inspired Swamiji's thought to develop women life.
- To understand the role of Vivekananda in uplifting the women in the Indian society.
- To identify the significance role of Vivekananda on women education.
- To verify the thoughts, ideas, aims and philosophy related for women education.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

- What was the Swamiji's thoughts and opinion on women?
- What were the different problems faced by women during the period of Swamiji?
- What was the women educational philosophy of Swamiji?
- Why women education is needed on the light of his philosophy?

- What was the changed after gaining education?
- Why Swamiji advised special curriculum for women?
- What was the important role of women in our society?

METHODS AND PROCEDURES OF THE STUDY:

- This study was complete on the basis of historical study.
- The data was discuss on the basis of documentary pattern.
- Important data collected on the basis of study question through many books and article.
- Source of data were identified of the study.
- Important data was composed from several books and articles.
- This was covered the area from ancient to modern condition of women education.
- The study was envisaged about the improvement of women by education.

SOURCE USED IN THE STUDY:

Primary sources-

- Many books written by Swami Vivekananda and her won letters.

Secondary sources-

- Many authors written on the basis of Vivekananda's philosophy of education.
- Newspaper reports and articles published by different authors in books, journals, Census data, websites.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA:

1. Swamiji remarked, "women have many and grave problems but none that cannot be solved by magic word: education?" Education was one of the word by which character was formed, strength of mind was increased, intellect was expanded, and by which one can stand a supreme. He determined an education that could produce "great courageous women- women respectable". Most of the women of the rural areas were illiterate and trapped in a vicious circle of poverty and deprivation. Therefore it was realised and proved that women have to provide with a vital educational inputs.
2. Vivekananda studied about the history of the Indian women of other places and compared those with that of the Vedic concept. Woman was considered dangerous to devotion, and they may not perform any religious function. Then he was shown how the position of woman degenerated by the society. But modern time, societies acknowledge female's capacity & gave higher educational opportunity.
3. Swami Vivekananda said, "It is very complex to perceive why in this country so much dissimilarity is created between the men and women, considering the Vedanta expresses that one and the similar attentive self is engage in all beings. You invariably neglect the women, though what you have done for their betterment?" There was no chance for the welfare of the world, unless condition of women was improved. It was the value learnt at home, that affected through the subtle messages of parents often indicated that the girl will be going to another household, whereas the boy will acquire the family's property. But they did not believed the truth, which was men and women have equal access to education.
4. Swamiji says, "Oh, India, do not forget the ideal of womanhood- Sita, Sabitri and Damayanti". Here, seen the fact of ancient women they were all unique, every type of the true Indian women they were all unique, every type of the true Indian women. They were always suffering in our society and proved that they were representative of ever pure wife, the ideal of the people. But, any attempt to modernize women away from that ideal of them, was immediately failure as we seen in every day, because they learned to fight for self-defence by education.
5. He said, 'it is excellent to skip in this country any connectivity of men with women's schools same gender become contended to reveal their feeling from other. In this purpose, he also said, "The duty of the teaching in school ought to develop in every respect on educated widows and "Brahmcharinis" the formation of character, religious training observance of the vows of celibacy these should be attended to "Brahmcharinis of education and nature must be receive up the duty of teaching. In village and towns they must open centres and strive for the spread of female education. Here, all of matter considered for women education because, a female could explained others female's mind affection and encouraged them for connected of education.
6. He proudly states that "women in statesmanship, managing terrorises, governing countries, even making war, have proved themselves equal to men, if superior. Anytime they have ability to establish the concept the men not superior from women. "Therefore, there need reformed to solve the problems of women, so that to its benefit to all women belonging to various sections in the society.
7. Swamiji was presented a comprehensive curriculum for women so that they may develop high character; courage & confidence in that support he said, 'sewing, culinary art, commands of family job and rising of children will also be instructed while 'japa' devotion and reflection etc., shall from a necessary section of teaching.
8. According to him, the regeneration of Indian women was depending upon proper education & it should be in the hand of women. In this purpose he clarified his opinion, "After five or six years training in this 'math', the parents of the girls can marry them. If considered fit for 'yoga' and sacred life, with the approval of their parents they will be granted to remain in this math, taking the promise of purity. These celibate nuns will in time be the teacher and preachers of the math"
9. Vivekananda understand the cause of the degeneration of women in the modern age & he evolved his ideal teaching method of women solving in many problems such as to take out the cause of female subordination feminists seek women's identity, women's language as a means by which to secure political social & economic equality for women.
10. He also says, "The education is character building". In his view, educated women transform the ideal value to their children and it's very good for every nation. The development agenda of the 21th century also acknowledge education as the key to women's empowerment for the same reasons as Vivekananda foresaw in the 19th century. The futures developmental aim anticipated that education of women grow up their efficiency and reducing poverty. It promoted gender equality within households and removes

constraints on women's decision making-thus reducing fertility rates and improving maternal health. It increased children's chances of surviving to become healthier and better education because educated women do a better job caring for children.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY:

1. Swami Vivekananda presented a positive system of women education in 19th century. He argued that education must be extension to all commonplace in the country. We know that, at present ICDS, SSK, MSK, schools have set up to the students brought in schools.
2. Swamiji said 'brahmacharinis' of education. That means lady teacher were appointed for women education & they told like a devout preacher. In modern time, it was truth that maximum women were chosen in teaching profession & and they were very efficiently doing this work.
3. Curriculum always made in a particular purpose. Vivekananda framed some curriculum for women education such as-house-keeping, sewing & meditation, domestic arts, history etc. The contemporary period proper edited curriculum & subject became reformed such as -home- science, work-education, physical-education, fine art professional job etc.
4. Education increased the quality of women which influence quantity level also, if, female were educated naturally their quality were improved. They become higher educated and attend in many jobs governmental or non-governmental. In that case, non-governmental sectors are creating posts of women in many educational sectors. So, the quality and quantity of women are related to women education.
5. Swamiji always encourage the child and women to motive their mind, body and sense organs within the teacher activities and teacher will inspired the students. At present, this mechanism of teaching-learning process is a very effective way in education.

CONCLUSION:

Swami Vivekananda spread of his thought in mass education as well as women education which is the very wellness of our society. Women education in contemporary India has gained a new height, after some scheme and programme introduce through the government for women education and felling the needs of women education its result the highly increase the involve of women in various educational institutions like engineering, medical and other professional college. The development agenda of the 21st century as the key to women's empowerment for the same reason as Swami Vivekananda foresaw in the 19th century. We are very confident that one day we will be able to attain the ideas and thoughts of Swami Vivekananda in near future and we must prove the slogan- 'if you educated a man, you can educate only a person, if you educated a women, you are able to educate a whole family'. So, we must think of Swamiji's philosophy on women education and keep the valuable words of Swamiji in mind-Arise! Awake! And stop not still goal is reached'.

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