



Swami Vivekananda's Idea and Philosophy of Education

Dr Harish Kumar singh

R.S.G.U.(PG)College Pukhrayan,Kanpur Dehat

Abstract

" Swami Vivekananda believed in the significance of religious and moral education as essential components of personal development and societal progress. He believed education should not only focus on academic knowledge but also on character building, moral values, and the realization of one's inner potential. Vivekananda emphasized the importance of self-awareness, critical thinking, and practical application of knowledge in solving real-world problems. He advocated for an education system that nurtures creativity, fosters individuality, and promotes social responsibility. Additionally, Vivekananda stressed the need for education to be accessible to all, regardless of social status or background. Real education is that which enables one to stand on one's own legs." According to Vivekananda, "Education is not the amount of information that we put into your brain and runs riot there, undigested, all your life. We must have life building, man making, and character making assimilation of ideas. Swami Vivekananda believed in the significance of religious and moral education as essential components of personal development and societal progress. He stressed the importance of understanding and practicing one's own religion while also respecting and learning from other faiths. Vivekananda advocated for a universal approach to spirituality, emphasizing the underlying unity of all religions. He said, 'We want that education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, the intellect is expanded, and by which one can stand on one's own feet.' Thus Swamiji saw that in order to serve the masses and uplift the society, it was necessary to spread both secular and spiritual education".

. He stressed the importance of understanding and practicing one's own religion while also respecting and learning from other faiths. Vivekananda advocated for a universal approach to spirituality, emphasizing the underlying unity of all religions. ¹Education system in the view point of Swami was a naturalist. He emphasized that reliable education is achievable through nature and normal propensities of the learners. And the aim of education is-To develop the child's with his/her moral qualities, develop the learners spiritual qualities. realize his role in the society, promote self-sufficiency, self-reliance and confidence, acquire best character through education. o enables the learner to stand on his own legs promote

Vivekananda encouraged the study of science as a means to understand the laws of nature and to improve the material conditions of society. He believed that scientific knowledge could be harnessed for the betterment of humanity, provided it was guided by ethical principles and a sense of service.²

While advocating for the advancement of science, Vivekananda also emphasized the importance of integrating scientific Universal brotherhood through education. To manifest of his/her overall creativity, power, personality this is already in the learner.

The best and perfect education-system is that where the learner enable to apply their own noble ideas and to grow up physically, intellectually, morally and spiritually. He was a bright star in the field of education and touched the every aspect of education. Vivekananda proposed the "man making education". He is greatly emphasis on man, like a temple. Vivekananda realize that we need meditation for purification and always needs to prayer for our wisdom. Vivekananda describe overall system of education. Which is influenced every aspect of education. To establish a great nation we need to a perfect education system, which is help us to make a responsible citizen. To establish a great nation, he includes various type of education in the education system. These are, Physical Education as a part of education system, Swami emphasized the importance of physical education as an integral part of holistic development. He believed that physical fitness was essential for mental and spiritual well-being.³ Vivekananda often spoke about the importance of a balanced lifestyle that included physical exercises such as yoga, which he saw as a means to develop both the body and mind. His teachings underscored the interconnectedness of physical, mental, and spiritual health, advocating for a harmonious integration of all aspects of human existence centered around holistic development, emphasizing the integration of

physical, mental, and spiritual aspects. Vivekananda greatly emphasized on physical education in curriculum. He felt that all education and training should be man-making, because man is always play a major role in the society. Everybody knows that making the body strong we must need physical education. He felt that physical exercise is most important in everyday life. Power is life and weakness is death⁴. Because we need the strength and power. Religious and Moral Education as a part of education system. To develop our morality and spiritual knowledge we need to include Moral and religious education in our curriculum. In our daily life this type of education are most impactful. Vivekananda always believed in universalism and spiritual brotherhood⁵. He was greatly emphasis on Vedanta Darshan⁶. He told that Vedanta as a religion strongly practical. The teaching of the Vedanta should be applied to the day to day life. He found no fundamental difference between various religions. Therefore he suggests universal religion.

He believed that religion is the core of education. Religious education is most important, because it is synthesis of religion and science. A religious man must be always curious to know the true fact of knowledge. In the present time we need both science and religion. His religious view was before having faith in God every man need to believe owns self. Religious Education means he does not emphasis teaching about a particular religion. Religious education always able to develop moral values among the learners and to realize all man is the same. To enable understand to able difference between good and evil. Moral education greatly influence in this regard⁷.

Swami Vivekananda was emphasis on science education. He believed that every person needs scientific knowledge in his social life. He emphasized on physics, biological science, computer science, technology, information technology. He always tries to synthesize different branches of knowledge like English language and western science. Through science education a learner will free from all the prejudice of the society.

Swami Vivekananda insistenty advocated the increase of universal mass education as real India lives in her cottages. He respected human individuality, everywhere and pleaded for freedom for everyone. He believed that, each psyche is potentially holy. We need to manifest this holiness by controlling nature, outer and inner. If we need desirable socio-economic changes in our country,⁸ must need mass education. According to Vivekananda 'education is the birthright of every human being. It is biological, social, economical spiritual necessity. He was deeply moved by the poverty of the masses. He realized that many people of this country live in starvation and unawareness they need to education to live in main stream of the society⁹.

A national development depends on advancement of education, so we need to spread education among the masses so soon as possible. Through mass education everyman will be acquire minimum knowledge of livSwami Vivekananda emphasized the importance of educating children in their mother tongue, as it helps in better comprehension, cognitive development, and cultural preservation. He believed that education in one's mother tongue lays a strong foundation for learning other subjects and languages¹⁰. Vivekananda advocated for a balanced education system that incorporates both traditional values and modern knowledge, with a focus on holistic development

Basically the chief element of man making education was Swami Vivekananda's Vedantic philosophy of life. Swami Vivekananda gives the concept of man-making education which is play the most important role in the society or as well in the individuals¹¹. Man making education means harmonious development of body, mind and soul. Through man making education a man will develop harmony, assimilation, help and peace qualities. It is an inherent character development process as well as vocational development. Man Making Education solves much more problems which are raised in recent time. Through this education a man will make suitable for the society.¹²

Swami Vivekananda was a strong advocate for women's education. He believed that educating women was crucial for the overall progress of society. Vivekananda emphasized that empowering women through education would lead to the upliftment of families and communities. He encouraged women to be independent thinkers and active participants in social and economic development.. He believed that a nation will develop when paying proper respect to women and rising their status¹³. He emphasis women education because he realized without women education no family or a country can rise up, therefore at first they have to rise up. He realized that if Indian women are given appropriate education and highly regarded place in this country, the nation will moving forward. He suggests that, Best characters must always be offered before the view of the girls to imbue them with a commitment to lofty principles of selflessness.. His teachings continue to inspire efforts to promote gender equality and education for women worldwide

Swami Vivekananda suggests a balanced Indian national education system Through vocational education we produce our necessary product in our own country. Various type of vocational work must be a part of our curriculum. which develop all round development of human personality. Education system must inculcated vocational or technical education also believed western language and knowledge. Western subject or knowledge may be implemented by English language. To acquired cultural knowledge, we can use Sanskrit language. But we always first consider mother tongue. Swami Vivekananda regarded teachers as mentors and guides who play a crucial role in shaping the character and intellect of their students. He emphasized the importance of a teacher's moral integrity, compassion, and dedication to serving others. Vivekananda believed that teachers should not only impart academic knowledge but also instill values such as truthfulness, compassion, and selflessness in their students. He viewed teaching as a noble

profession and encouraged educators to inspire their students to strive for excellent. Teachers are playing more momentous roles in shaping the future of the nation. A teacher is to put forward and not teach. No teacher should put forth any kind of force on his pupils. Education must be based on the requirements of the student. Vivekananda felt that he is the ideal teacher who can feel student feeling in his own self. He discovered himself through learners self, through learner eyes, feel sound through learners ear. And he taught himself through the learner mind. Only that teacher can teach and no one else.

The tasks of an ideal teacher are To demonstrate, persuade and inspire the pupil to discover his potentials, abilities and talents. To properly understand their mind, body and spirit. To love, affection and empathy. To leading by example, living a value-based life. To dedication and commitment to the cause of education. To understanding of the scriptures. Swamiji laid emphasis on self teaching or learning. The esprit is already in the mind of the learners. Knowledge is within. It is intrinsic in the mind of the human being. A teacher always help the student and to understand how to think, what to think, how to discriminate between good and bad, and how to appreciate the good. Teacher is always ready to promote creativity and unveil hidden potentials in the student. He has must be the technique of curriculum transaction. He also declared that a teacher can moved forward in our system of education. Teachers role are most important in the field of education that time he clearly realized. He says that teacher should be perfectly pure, know the spirit of scriptures, spiritual force of the teacher based on love for the learners (student), think that he is only helping the child grow, always offer the suggestion for the learners. As a teacher ion

References:

- 1 -The complete work of Swami Vivekananda, Vol- II. P, 374
- 2--ISSN: 2582-5208, International Research Journal of Modernization in Engineering Technology and Science
3. Shamita Basu, Religious Revivalism and Nationalist Discourse: Swami Vivekananda and new Hinduism in 19th Century Bengal, New Delhi 2002, p.192
4. I. M. Lewis, Ecstatic Religion: An Anthropological Study of Spirit Possession and Shamanism, Penguin Publishers, London, 1971, p.192
5. Pranab Ranjan Ghosh, Vivekananda Sahitya General Book, Kolkata, 1976, p.31
- 6 B.G. Roy, Contemporary Indian Philosophers, Kitabistan, Allahabad, 1947, p.71
- 7 B.K Roy, Socio Politic Views of Vivekananda, Shivlal Agrawal Co., Delhi, 1962, p.101. 8 "Vivekananda complete work", Vol.5, p.109
9. Quoted from the Address of Swami Vivekananda at the Parliament religion. Chicago, 1893
10. Swami Vivekananda On the Indian Women-their Past, Present and Future, Prabuddh Bharat December, 1888
- 11 Manisha Sethi Women in Hindu Nationalism, Economic and Political Weekly Vo.37 April 20 2002
- 12 Purkait, B.R(2001), Great Educators and Their Philosophies, Kolkata: New Central Book Agency (P) Ltd.
- 13 International Journal of Educational Research and Development Vol. 4(3), pp. 030-035. ISSN 2327-316X.