



## Vital Education Towards the Progress of Humanity

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### Abstract :

Vital education appears to be one of the indispensable trainings of the human behaviours which may stand erect amongst the doubts, confusions, corruptions and all sorts of unhealthy situations that we are facing at every step of our present day life. By the training of the vital element of the man, the consciousness of himself has been developed attaining the mastery over all elements of human nature. Therefore, training of the vital element of human behaviour cannot be neglected, if we are destined to see our future as brighter than sunshine and sweeter than honey.

### Key words :

Vital education, comprehensive training, human behaviour, reasoning, human passions, impulses, desires, depressions, revolts, vibrations, emotions, feelings, ambitions, human consciousness, aesthetic sense.

### ❖ Introduction :

The ideal education recognizes in upholding of all of the capacities to be developed comprehensively. By the training of the vital element of the man, the consciousness of himself has been developed attaining the mastery over all elements of human nature. Therefore, training of the vital element of human behaviour, as highlighted by Sri Aurobindo, cannot be neglected, if we are destined to see our future as brighter than sunshine and sweeter than honey.

### ❖ Objectives of the Study :

- To have a glimpse of the Vital Education for the development of human nature
- To focus on the attitudinal development of a man through the training of the vital being
- To point out the different tendencies of vital being in the behavioural pattern of a man
- To note the characteristics of the vital in the human behaviour.
- To have a study on the importance of the vital force in present day education system

### ❖ Vital Education:

The vital being or the life force of man generally leads man in the creativity, intuitive imagination and future dreams. But it never goads to the reasoning and rational subjectivity. Basically it finds its way without discipline. It overpasses rational thinking and reasonable outlook. It satisfies his own ego and the ideas hovering surroundings. It justifies only his deeds, ideas and interests, nothing more than that. It defends even his or his surroundings' failures. It

does not hesitate to kick off to those who hurt his personal and associates' egos. It is of no use to him if that is not worthy to him and it refuses to obey respects of the others. It does not care to lead him in the way to falsehood and ignorance and cruelty.

Vital education, as envisaged by Sri Aurobindo, leads one to the way enriching himself in the probation of developing his life-force, which is the vibration of his emotional and impulsive behaviour, passions and desires. Vital education helps to discover one's own original functioning replacing his ego-based ignorant tendency for becoming master of the will-force in order to serve with higher principles in life. It also develops the level of aesthetic performances and finally it helps achieving its highest strata in the building of one's character. The Vital Being determines the character and temperament of the human entity. All the vital vibrations viz. emotions, desires, feelings, ambitions, sensations, attractions and repulsions play a vital role in development and enrichment of the human consciousness.

#### ❖ **Attitudinal development of a man:**

As a matter of fact, the first step in the field of the education of the vital being is to develop the powers of the sense organs since latent and inner senses have been working that have to be identified and enriched for the rejection of the ill-tempered behaviours and for the enjoyment of the finer and most aesthetic impulses and behavioural attitudes. To enrich ourselves from the level of ignorance to the of the state of illumining light our demotivated ambitions, unjustified desires, unseen passions, frivolous lusts and greed unwanted revolts and contradictions have to be made conditional and harmonious, only then a real holistic development of the human behaviour and integrated man-making programme are possible. To make it a reality effectively we have to instill in the human behaviour a positive will to progress with perfection, a sentiment with goodwill so to say, a sense of dignity in accordance with his nature. He has also to develop his will power for the defeat of the lower elements in his nature. The good examples of the great persons, educators and pathfinders may help a lot in this regard. But only by the true training of the senses and other inner elements of human the vision of the wisdom can be revealed.

To enrich in the vital the will power has to be developed. Thus Vital education aims at revealing high task with perfection and ameliorating the unaddressed stress, facing by the common, and reaching at the level of the fine arts and crafts through intuitive imagination. Thus Sri Aurobindo has given the space of the vital force in the formation of the humanity and in the sprouting of the world of the Art which may play a vital role in the integral education of a child in his tom, "*The National Value of Art*". He has also stressed on the art of living for the aesthetic, intellectual and spiritual growth of the man in the progress of evolution. He has also stated that in the world of the vital education music, art and poetry may play a vital role in search of his perfection, harmonious purification. Thus Sri Aurobindo has said:

"These, therefore, are agents which cannot profitably be neglected by humanity on its onward march or degraded to the mere satisfaction of sensuous pleasure which will disintegrate rather than build the character. They are, when properly used, great educating, edifying and civilizing forces."<sup>1</sup>

In vital education the ideal lesson is to develop and encourage the will power of a man in the right direction, so that ugly, insincere and faulty behaviour may not sprout from the core of the brute compares in reality.

<sup>1</sup> Sri Aurobindo, Vol. 17, Centenary Edition, p. 246

### ❖ Different tendencies of vital being in the behavioural pattern of a man

Two opposite tendencies like light and shadow have been seen in human behaviour. A courageous man sometimes behaves like coward. Again, a generous man appears to be sometimes as most wicked person. By a thorough nurturing and education of the sense organs, dark and vulgar behaviours can be transformed into bright and refined behaviours. From childhood one has to require encouragement for positive vibration in nature, cultivation of discrimination and for genuine education of the aesthetic sense, latent in him. The young learners may be inspired from the childhood to choose the beautiful amongst ugliness, harmonious amongst segregations, simple amongst complexities, healthy amongst ill-health and pure amongst impurity. To protect him from lower influences the young learners are to be involved in noble deeds, high thoughts and to be informed the fate of the good moral activities and ideal historical conflicts. Refinement brings nobility and generosity and finally it has found impression in the behavioural attitudes of the human entity. The untrained vital elements lead man in wrong-doing and evil and finally it leads to disaster and disharmony. But the vital elements, if be trained, may play as the useful instruments in good cause.

### ❖ Characteristics of the vital in the human behaviour

However bad-master and restless the vital mind it may appears to be functioning as a sort of mediator. It leads one's emotion and impulse towards good or bad. The Vital Being leads the nature and character of the human being and all the impulse and enthusiasm of man are coming through this vital element of the human. Therefore, the education of this vital element is required for the comprehensive development of the human entity. In present day education emphasis has been given on the development of mental faculties only, but vital education is truly speaking indispensable to have a genuine fruitful and peaceful future life. There are some details of vital education, viz:

1. Enrichment and refinement of sense organs: Cultivation and refinement of six senses organs viz sight, hearing, taste, touch, smell and even other sense organ are essential for the comprehensive growth of the child. Sense of aesthetic viz. beautiful, harmonious, simple, healthy and pure are also play vital role in the growth of the child. Therefore, education to this account is very important.
2. Purification and development of character: In modern days character-building is the burning topic, without which we are nothing but the pillars of destruction. Self-confidence, courage, nobility, generosity, endurance, patience, selflessness are required without any cause. Since inception of the idea of education character-building appears to the main criteria for which do not budge an inch because we in modern days feel better than others.
3. Refinement of emotions: Passion and emotion are the essence life force which we have to control; otherwise, like the gift of the science and technology will be at the hand of the cruel and the enemy of humanity. So there will be a check bulb through which human emotions are to be translated to the right direction, to the path of novelty and generosity. In this context teachers' role is of great importance since they are the pillars of the nations, so to say of mankind.

### ❖ Importance of the vital force in present day education system:

Vital education appears to be one of the indispensable trainings of the human behaviours which may stand erect amongst the doubts, confusions, corruptions and all sorts of unhealthy situations that we are facing at every step of our present day life. Untaught and unrevealed training of other elements of human entity may cause disastrous situations. So only intellectual training is not enough for the growth of the humanity. To succeed in life comprehensive training of a

man is badly need. There are so many elements in human nature. Why we do overlook other parts of education. Now at this present situation we do feel sincerely that we have to do something beyond, which will protect from all these ugly behaviours facing every day by the so called modern man and advanced police personnel cannot solve the problem by posting strict discipline only. So it is very difficult to have success in it. It must be pursued with an unfailing endurance. On the one hand, the vital element in human nature possesses power and dynamic energy, zeal for the aspiring and effective enthusiasm which has to be controlled and channelized towards positivity.

### ❖ Conclusion

Vital education is the most indispensable one of all education. The vital elements are the root of human passions, impulses, desires, depressions and revolts. It has not only the power to build a great wall of success and joyous realization but also has the potentiality to destroy anything and everything. Therefore, this force in man regulates the path whether it will go to the world of darkness and ugliness or to the sunlit path of wisdom and enlightenment.

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