



# THE EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY OF RABINDRANATH TAGORE AND ITS APPLICATION IN MODERN EDUCATION

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## Abstract:

As a poet, writer, painter, playwright, educationist, and philosopher, Rabindranath Tagore is regarded as one of the greatest thinkers of the 20th century. His educational concept is centered on the idea that God and nature may be communed with in order to resurrect the human spirit. He thinks that education should also be used to forge bonds of friendship and love among people, in addition to simply enlarging our own awareness of the world. Tagore makes an effort to realize the universal spirit present in both nature and himself through his imagination. Rabindranath Tagore made philosophical contributions to education, which are highlighted in the current study. It connects the significance of Tagore's educational philosophy with various educational components and, in the end, the implications of Tagore's philosophy on education.

**Keyword:** Education; Educational Philosophy, Nature, God, Reality, Humanism, freedom

## I. INTRODUCTION

The goal of Tagore's educational philosophy is self-actualization via kinship with God and nature. According to him, the ultimate purpose of education is to create a relationship of friendship and love amongst people, not just to increase our own wisdom and cognition. Through his imagination, Tagore discovers the universal spirit residing inside himself. Education aims to bring about this realization. He believes that nature is an ultimate being. He sees the creator's embodiment in the natural world. His spiritualism is the result of his study of ancient Indian literature and Indian philosophy, which tempers his naturalistic worldview with idealistic philosophy. As a realist, he therefore works to revive India's traditional culture.

The core of Tagore's educational theory is the full, harmonious development of each student's individuality. He held the view that education should aid in a person's entire maturation, allowing all of his abilities to be fully developed for both his own personal perfection and the perfection of the human community in which he was born. He held that education was not

only important for an individual's development and fulfilment, but also for the entirety of the physical and social context in which that person lived.

## II. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The objective of the paper is to highlight on Tagore's concept of philosophy of education and its relevance to educational execution of recent times.

## III. METHODS OF THE STUDY

For the current study, historical survey method will be followed. Data will be taken from various secondary sources. After collection of data those will be analysed by different analytical methods like 'internal criticism' and 'external criticism' and the theories will be developed and facts will be established.

## IV. RABINDRANATH TAGORE'S EDUCATIONAL CONCEPT

Education should be used to help a person develop their character, according to Tagore. He has thus placed emphasis on the need for education to be comprehensive and balanced without excluding any aspect of human nature. To do this, education should work to enhance the intellectual, physical, and moral capacities of man. Giving people a common understanding of reality is the goal of education. His educational concept focuses on three primary ideas: freedom, creative self-expression, and engaging with both people and the natural world. He places a strong focus on achieving inner freedom, inner strength, and enlightenment. He claimed that there is an interconnectedness between God, nature, and man in reality. He believes in an inner harmony between man and nature on the one hand and nature and God on the other.

**We discuss Tagore's educational practices through the following points:**

### **Self-Realization:**

According to Tagore, self-realization is the purpose of education. It denotes a person's awareness of the Universal Soul in their daily lives. Without education,

the person would not be able to achieve self-realization. He feels that each person has the capacity to become divine and can do so. Every person possesses a tiny bit of divinity that motivates him to strive for self-actualization. The true nature of humans is self-realization.

The core of humanism is spiritualism, which is reflected in his educational philosophy. The development of personality is founded on a person's self-awareness and spiritual wisdom.

### **Intellectual Progress**

Tagore placed a lot of emphasis on a child's intellectual growth. He defined intellectual development as the growth of the imagination, innovative thinking, restrained curiosity, and mental awareness. A youngster should be allowed to choose his or her own method of learning since it will promote general growth.

### **Physical Progress**

Tagore also emphasises on the physical development of the child. He believed that a healthy mind lives in a physically fit body. In Santiniketan, games & sports, yoga and different physical activities are considered as a part of the education system.

### **Human freedom:**

Human freedom is one of the key components of human growth. The process of creating a man via education involves exploring his intrinsic potential. He thinks that a youngster should have independence during his or her education so that he or she can enjoy it. The youngster should not be subject to any limitations or obligations of any sort. He claims that only when he can speak along the road of freedom does education have an inclination. He thinks that a child should have total freedom so that he can grow intellectually and spiritually in a loving, sympathetic environment.

### **Using mother tongue as a teaching medium:**

The actual means of self-expression are words. In his own speech, a man is free to express himself. The mother tongue should be used as the primary language of instruction for children, according to Tagore.

### **Moral and Social progress:**

In his educational ideas, Tagore placed a strong emphasis on moral and spiritual development. For the full development of the human psyche, moral and spiritual education is more crucial than information that is primarily derived from books. The growth of altruistic actions, teamwork, emotion, and sharing among students in educational institutions must be adequately supported. All creatures and people are equal since "Brahma" is the source of all life, according to Tagore. Therefore, according to Rabindranath Tagore, "Serving man is serving God."

Everyone should start their lives out with the goal of forming social connections and a sense of community. The goal of education is to develop a person's personality and social skills so they may live honourable lives.

### **Love for humanity:**

Tagore, a humanist, sees the cosmos as one big family. It can only be accomplished via education. Another crucial objective of his educational system is education for global understanding and fraternity. The sense of oneness might develop if we think of God as our father and see ourselves as His children.

Everyone has equal rights in this planet. God endowed man with some inborn, inherent, and prospective traits. Man, and God are in a close and enduring relationship. It is possible to create a harmonious relationship between man, God, and nature since humans are spiritual creatures.

### **Fine Arts:**

'Fine arts' were given a lot of weight in Tagore's curriculum. Students should actively participate in these finer areas of life since they are crucial to enhancing their souls and psyches. According to him, music is mysterious and expressive for a romantic yearning, but speech is for mankind and nature. speech is for mankind and nature is plain and constrained by its necessities. Speaking establishes a relationship between people, whilst music encourages us to relate with nature. Speaking loses a lot of its restricted meaning when the harmonies of sounds are

unleashed via human speech; nonetheless, the meeting of the two muses had a pervasive quality.

## **V. CONCLUSION**

Tagore made an effort to explain his educational concept to the current generation and make it applicable to the following

one. He pioneered the establishment of organizations like Vishwa Bharati and Shantiniketan as successful examples of a new educational system as a social and educational reformer. He emphasized the need for all Indian children to have free, obligatory education regardless of their caste, religion, or socioeconomic standing. The universal education policies and practices in India have been made possible because to Tagore's educational ideal. Today's materialistic environment makes Tagore's quest to learn about aesthetics and intuition all the more pertinent. He made an unparalleled and enduring contribution to our educational system.

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