



Visionary Swamy Vivekananda & his Visions on Society & Education

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Abstract

Vivekananda was a great thinker, philosopher, idealist & a realist. His thoughts have been a repository of great thinking about India as a country of ancient heritage & inheritance. There have been several visionary thought of Vivekananda which have been an eye opener for Indians. This paper examines the thoughts of Swami Vivekananda on restructuring education in context of modifying Indian comprehension of Education as a storehouse of immense possibilities. According to him education would embrace the whole society towards affirmative progression. He recommended that a student must be made to learn to disengage his mind from interruption & focus the full force of this mind on achieving complete perfection of learning. This wholesomeness according to him would unfold tremendous power already manifested in each individual. This would unlock mysteries of integrated learning. These days' educationists argue towards making education a complete societal package with all stakeholders being responsible for the newer adaptations. But this was already manifested in the thoughts of Swami Vivekananda.

Key words: *Thoughts on society, Education, values of education, societal progression*

"The great national sin is the neglect of masses & that is one of the causes of our downfall. No amount of politics would be of any avail until the masses in India are once more well education well fed & well cared for" Swami Vivekananda Collected works (5.222.3)

Introduction

Education is universally recognized in India since time immemorial. In ancient India education was valued & revered because the thought that only education could drive away all fears of life was manifest in society. It was education which gave people the power to understand life & nature & facilitate to get salvation. All people tried to give their original individuality to promote the societal progression through value based education. Indian always thought

education to be the tool for societal progression because individuals reorient their righteousness into studying & understanding behavioral changes. The knowledge he acquires should relate him towards society. Swami Vivekananda believed that at person is maker of his own destiny & education helps him to get this. (Shailendra Nath Dhar(1976), A Comprehensive Biography of Swami Vivekananda).

Building critical awareness: Swami Vivekananda emphasized on building critical awareness through education. He always said education should not alienate



individuals from society. It should help a person to build a healthy & dynamic frame of mind to enable them to meet the challenges of life. It should prevent through proper training of its present students any future evils in people & society which are likely to further complicate the problems of human being. (Swami Ritananda, (2013). "Swami Vivekananda: The personification of Spirituality".)

Education for society

According to Swami Vivekananda the education meant the manifestation of everything good. (Virajananda, Swami, ed. (2006) [1910], The Life of the swami Vivekananda)

1. Education is needed for good character forming,
2. Education is needed for promoting strength of mind (Ritananda, Swami (2013). "Swami Vivekananda: The personification of Spirituality")
3. Education is needed for promotion of good learning
4. Education is needed for commanding the hopeful to earn a good living , as the education he wished to perform should provide self reliance , The real education should help student to stand on one's own feet means it should provide him with good career. It should give good benefits to society. (Ritananda, Swami (2013). "Swami Vivekananda: The personification of Spirituality".)
5. Education is needed for promotion of a positive mindset. They should know what is good for them which can lead them towards cohesive living..
6. Education is needed for forming a Highly cultured & highly vibrant class of people filled with ideals of patriotism , idealism & nationalism.
7. He said Bothe men & women should be given education irrespective of their gender caste age
8. Education should help them education & sense of self-reliance & individuality
9. It should penetrate from all into masses al should gain access to learning. He said Simply g following the western type of education India cannot develop her heritage her inheritance her civilization & her historical progress should be maintained by the generations to come. (Virajananda, Swami, ed. (2006) [1910], The Life of the swami Vivekananda)
10. Swamy Vivekananda visualized there would be continuation of heritage only education can make such as a progress. India should give their children full knowledge about Indian heritage Indian culture & Indian inheritance. (Ritananda, Swami (2013). "Swami Vivekananda: The personification of Spirituality". Government should make arrangements for spreading the education to all remote & tribal area). Education helps them to solve their own problems. It should polish individual behavior. (Virajananda, Swami, ed. (2006) The Life of the swami Vivekananda)
11. Education should eliminate all forms of evil thinking & evil notions .
12. Education should promote patriotism, good will , kind considerations & concerns towards nation. Education should support the individual to extend his helping hand in terms of distress & natural calamities. It should make them fearless & obedient. Intellectuality



should be sponsored(Virajananda, Swami, ed. (2006) [1910], The Life of the swami Vivekananda)

13. As Vivekananda says education should cultivate good heart . It should help to promote universal equality , equal access & gender equity.

Impact of his thoughts: Swami Vivekananda & his thoughts on education inspired many stalwart leaders across the globe. Mahatma Gandhi , madan mohana malaveeya , Lala lajpat roy , Dayanand Saraswathi , pheroz shah Mehta were inspired about the ideals fo making society accountable to each Indian & be linked through good value based education.

Education is thus a powerful tool in community empowerment & there have been several positive impact on community empowerment .These days education has become a commodity with corporate thoughts of profits & loss. (Virajananda, Swami, ed. (2006) The Life of the swami Vivekananda)

These days educational institutions are forging ahead with technically powerful high quality smart classrooms , excellent educational equipments but they forget to make students aware of the self , their potentialities , strengths & weaknesses their self-distinctiveness. Swamy Vivekananda wished that these changes should be brought about in education (Ritananda, Swami (2013). "Swami Vivekananda: The personification of Spirituality)".

1. Students should use their intellectual qualities for proper use.
2. Education is a manifestation of all good qualities in an individual

3. Teaching is not simply talking ,teaching is not imparting doctrines but it is communicating hood ethical values.
4. All teaching implies giving & taking the teacher gives make students open to receive teachers should have purity of thoughts a real thirst for knowledge & perseverance
5. Intellectual mystical devotional practical. Neglecting education is like neglect ion the whole nation's progress. All people should help themselves towards salvation through education.
6. Education is not the amount of information that is put into brain & makes idleness undigested it should be life building man making character making & assimilation ideas education is not information gathering but it is learning to live life with proper comprehension

Conclusion: According to Swami Vivekananda Education was a repository of immense possibilities & education should embrace the whole society. Indian society with cultural pluralism needed education to unite each other. Swami Vivekananda being a visionary thought of strengthening the cultural foundations of India through education. Several national educational institutions which were set up during freedom struggle were influenced by the Visions of Swamy Vivekananda. His vision about education was thoughtful, solicitous & concerned. If India could include all these features of his thoughts then education would not become marketable as it is now. Society would not have surrendered to vicious arms of divisive elements.



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