



Restructuring Education towards sustainability – Youth Icon Swami Vivekananda & his views on education

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Abstract: Swami Vivekananda has been considered as a youth Icon & his influence on youth especially students has been very strong. Swami Vivekananda always spoke of ethical values as a leading light of personality building. According to Swami Vivekananda, education was a storehouse of immense possibilities & he insisted that education should embrace the whole society towards an affirmative progression. He was of the opinion that students must be motivated to learn how to detach his mind from internal & external distractions. Student life has been full of diversions & students always disorient themselves from proper learning methodologies. Majority of the students indulge in inappropriate & indecent activities soon after they enter college. Education can orient these students towards ethical learning & living. Education can make students to focus their full strength towards knowledge & learning. Education should make students to unfold tremendous power & unlock mysteries of universe. This paper examines the importance of restructuring education in context of modifying Indian comprehension of educational values.

Key words: Education, restructuring of education, need for unfolding student learning mechanisms

Introduction: Education opens huge potential in a student. As the student of 21st century desires, education opens up enormous avenues to excel in student life. Education embraces community as a whole towards a confirmatory evolution. “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” (Complete works W 5.222.3.)

Swami Vivekananda & his vision of education: Through education, a student learns to isolate his mind from internal & external distractions. These internal & external disruptions persuade the individual towards bad company, bad activities, anti-social

thoughts & negativism. In spite of these disruptions, a student must be competent to direct his mind to desire goal & focus with full force achieve this goal. It should unfold tremendous power & unlock mysteries of subject he is pursuing so far.

Education & community development – Vivekananda said “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”. (CW 5.222.3.) Education is universally recognized in India. Ancient Indians education was valued & revered because they thought that education brought them away from all fears of life it got them to understand



life & nature & help to get salvation. All people try to give their original individuality to promote the patriotism. It should command individual reorient their goodness into studying & understanding behavioral changes. The knowledge he acquires should relate him but understand good reality. Vivekananda believed that a person is maker of his own destiny & education helps him to get this

Vivekananda emphasized on education through the medium of mother tongue. He said "Besides mother tongue, there should be a common language which is necessary to keep the country united". Vivekananda appreciated the greatness of Sanskrit. He said that it is the source of all Indian languages and a repository of all inherited knowledge. Therefore without Sanskrit, it will be impossible to understand Indian culture. It is like a store house of ancient heritage. To develop our society it is necessary that men and women know this language, besides the knowledge of their own mother tongue

Building critical awareness -Paulo Frère of Brazil emphasized on building critical awareness among students should be a part of the curriculum. Education should not alienate them from society but it should help a person to build a healthy & dynamic frame of mind. The education has to enable him 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. It should develop a will power. T. S. Elliot said the purpose of education it seems is to transmit culture. Education is a manifestation of cultural values.

The thought about education was always a good beginning even during Vedas. There were several references about. The Vedic education was universal free & mandatory. Even today Indian government has made education compulsory, Universal & mandatory. There were several educational improvements policies have been. Real education should give good life & career to students who pursue education. It should promote strength of mind. It should promote good learning. It should command the aspirant to earn a good living. The education should provide self-reliance. It should give good benefits to society. The real education should help student to stand on one's own feet means it should provide him with good career. It should promote positive mind. They should know what is good for them. Both men & women should be given education irrespective of their gender, caste, age. Education should help them education & individuality. It should penetrate from all into masses. Simply 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. 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. Government should make arrangements for spreading the education to all remote & tribal areas. Education helps them to solve their own problems. It should polish individual behavior. It should eliminate all forms of evil thinking & evil notions about. It should promote patriotism, good will, compassionate & concern 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 As Vivekananda says education should cultivate good heart (CW.415). It should help to promote universal equality, equal access & gender equity there should be

Education & community empowerment:

Education is thus a powerful tool in community empowerment & there have been several positive impacts on community empowerment .These days education has become a commodity with corporate thoughts of profits & loss. The institutions are forging ahead with high quality smart classrooms excellent equipment's but they forget to make students aware of self their strengths & weaknesses their self-identity & self-motivation these changes should be brought about in education which always should make students should use their intellectual qualities for proper use. Education is a manifestation of all good qualities. (Complete works of Swami Vivekananda 9 vols. Ramakrishns mission Calcutta 2002).

Teaching is not talking teaching is not imparting doctrines it is communicating (CW.4.177-8). 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 Intellectual mystical devotional practical. Neglecting education is like neglect ion the whole nation's progress. All people should help themselves towards salvation through education. Education should help each one to identify his inert self. 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. (Complete works of Swami Vivekananda 9 vols. Ramakrishna mission Calcutta 2002).

According to Swami Vivekananda, the basic purpose of education is the total development of human personality.

- ✓ Self confidence
- ✓ Self realization
- ✓ Service orientation
- ✓ Development of personality
- ✓ Formation of character
- ✓ Universal brotherhood
- ✓ Spiritual realization
- ✓ complete mental development

Everyone is endowed with certain capacities, which remain dormant, although in a potential form, in childhood. Swami Vivekananda believed education is the process by which these inherent potentialities in human personality manifest themselves in completing his or her total development. This total development of human personality includes intellectual and moral development. (Complete works of Swami Vivekananda 9 vols. Ramakrishns mission Calcutta 2002).

Most of the present day school and college curriculum only aim at intellectual development. It is in this field that western science, technology



and commerce have attained tremendous success. According to him education is a continuous process; it should cover all aspects of life - physical, material, intellectual, emotional, moral, and spiritual. His attitude towards modernization is that the masses should be educated before anything else is done. He tried to make the people of India understand that political and social strength should have their foundations on cultural strength. He has a true vision of philosophy of education in India in its cultural context. (Complete works of Swami Vivekananda 9 vols. Ramakrishna mission Calcutta 2002).

Conclusion- Education is a repository of immense possibilities & education should embrace the whole society a student must be made to learn how to detach his mind from distractions that impose themselves in spite of himself he must be able to direct his mind to desired subject & focus the full force of this mind on it. It should unfold tremendous power & unlock mysteries of subject. Vivekananda was successful in constructing a virtual bridge between the culture of East and the West. He interpreted the Hindu scriptures, philosophy and the way of life to the Western people. He made them realize that in spite of poverty and backwardness, India had a great

contribution to make to world culture. He played a key role in ending India's cultural isolation from the rest of the world.

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