

“The Teachings of Swami Vivekananda on Education and Life of Youth”

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Arise, Awake, and, stop not until the goal is reached.

-Swami Vivekananda

Introduction:-

A good person, a Teacher, a Reformer, a Social Activist, a Thinker, a saint, and a great world changer he was none other than Swami Vivekananda. All these qualities were in one person which he was developed by himself. He was great a social Reformer and Activist he was born on 12th January in 1863 in Kolkata. His father was Vishwanath Dutt and his mother was Bhuvaneshwari Devi. his childhood name was Narendranath Dutt. his father was a Bengali Barrister and a philanthropist and a novelist.

His Education was completed in Scottish church college, in Kolkata. He was the Bachelor of Arts degree and he was an average student. but he was an extraordinary child with spiritual thoughts and with a great knowledge. he was a great knowledge of Hindu Scriptures (Vedas, Upanishads, Puranas, Bhagwat geeta etc.) His speeches was very impressive and with deep meaning. He works for Karma yoga, Bhakti yoga, Raj yoga and jnana yoga. he was also good in Music, gymnastic, and philosophy. he has a great knowledge of western philosophy and History.

In 1881, he met Shri Ramakrishna Paramhans, he asked to him, “Have you seen god? Shri Ramakrishna said “Yes I have seen Him just as I see you here” At last there was someone who could assure him from his own experience that God existed. he trained him for the future.

Before the death of Shri Ramakrishna, he transmitted his own power to Narendra and told him "By the force of the power transmitted by me, great things will be done by you; only after that will you go to where you came".

After the death of Shri Ramakrishna, in 1886, Narendra laid the foundation of the Ramakrishna brotherhood. From the year 1890, Narendra travelled through out the country. In July 1890 he left for the Himalayas for the aloneness. He kept on wandering through the country where the ancient glory of India came before his eyes where he saw the poverty and weakness of youth.

At the end of his journey at Kanyakumari he prostrated himself with great feeling before the image of Mother Kumari at a temple there. Then he swam across the sea to a rock off the south coast and sitting there for the whole night went into deep meditation.

Swamiji Vivekananda views on Education:-

Swamiji defines education as "the manifestation of the perfection already in man."¹ According to him, knowledge is already resides in man. There is no need to develop from the outsiders. What the man knows and learnt from his soul is the real knowledge or development of his own and that is the vital and vast knowledge of a man.

He said, when Newton discovered the law of gravity it was in his own mind how to discover it. no one teach him. he discovered it himself by his own soul knowledge and by his will power.

The outsiders only suggests us its up to us how we will do that. we learn all the things by ourselves. He said, our mind is like a Library of the Universe. the world gave us the suggestions and we will do that thing by ourselves.

The man rearrange all the previous things in his own mind and make a new thing or ideas in his own way which is his own or new.

¹Rajan k, Swami Vivekananda on Education, speaking Tree.in,29thjune 2018,4:07PM,

<https://www.speakingtree.in/blog/gurukula-education>

According to him, Knowledge exist in the mind. suggestions are the only key which brings the knowledge out and enhance them. all the knowledge and powers are in us.

The external teacher only boost up the internal teacher to teach us to understand the theme of ideas. then once our knowledge is enhanced we are very clear about our perception and thought of knowledge and we realized it.

According to him, The one and only method to gain education is Concentration. concentration of mind is the essence of Education. all is equal for the knowledge. the lowest man or the highest man both have to use concentration to gain knowledge.

In every field concentration is most important part to gain knowledge. like a Chemist, a Astronomer, a Cook, a Professor, a Student or a driver also use concentration to drive. in worship of God or in doing Anything. If one has more concentration power he is able to acquired more knowledge. this is the one call, the one knock which opens the gates of nature and lets out floods of lights.²

According to him, "The trained man or mind never makes a mistake". it means that the ordinary human being if he is not able to concentrate on one thing he will committing blunders.

The main difference between man and animal in power is concentration. the animal has less concentration power than man. the animals cannot concentrate his mind upon anything for a long time.

The result of concentration is seen in music, Arts, dance etc. If the mind is in our power then the mind will be our servant not our master. the power of concentration is the only key to the treasure house of knowledge. In the present day, our mind is very distractive our mind is misspend on many other things.

According to Swamiji, the practice of meditation leads to mental concentration, the very essence of education is concentration of mind not the collection of facts. According to him, powers comes to whom who observes Brahmacharya for a period of twelve years. by observance of strict

² T.S. Avinashlingam, Education by Swami Vivekananda, 5th edition, page no. 10,1945.

Brahmacharya all learning can be mastered in a very short time. the chaste brain has tremendous energy and gigantic will power without chastity there can be no spiritual strength.

Education for character:-

The character of a man is defined by his all tendencies. the combination of his mind and soul is the mirror of his character. our character is shown by our thoughts words are secondary to define us. thoughts live they travel far so be careful of what you think. because it shows everything about us. Good and bad things are always with us to teach. misery is the great teacher than happiness. it is found that poverty gives more teachings than happiness and wealth.

Now, come to the impression of human being if a man has good impression the character becomes good, if a man has bad impression the character becomes bad. if a man continuously hears bad words bad think bad thought he is definitely does bad actions his mind will be full of bad impressions.

Now, the most important thing for a good impression on people is our personality. the development of our personality is wholly depend upon us. our body is always doing for others it means our body is always impressing others. by our expression, intellect, views, thoughts and so many things.

Swamiji views on the Teacher:-

The idea of swami Vivekananda for Education is Gurugriha-Vasa. without any personal experience of life with teacher there would be no fruitful Education. The modern education is very different from the old Education system. In old times the people thought that the Education is so important for all. so it cannot be sell. it should be given freely to all by teachers. this time teachers was very good. they had not take any price and also give food and cloths to the children's. the good person of the society help the teachers to support them. and the teachers support and help the students.

The relationship of a teacher with his student is same as that between an ancestor and his descendent. if a student has no faith, humility, submission and veneration in our hearts towards the teacher. students have never see any growth in them. in Foreign countries, the teacher is just

a mere lecturer. the teacher only want money and the student in return is only knowledge nothing else.

The teacher is a personality who can change himself thousands a times at a moment. do not try to irritate them and never disturb their faith and make them feel proud. if you can, give them something better. A true teacher always teach to the level of student without any biasness. such a teacher is a true teacher none else.

Swamiji Views On Religious Education:-

According to him, The most important core of Education is Religion or worship. those great soul person who ever worship Education as god. those were Shri Ramachandra, Shri Krishna, Mahavira, Shri ram Krishna and others they always worship Education by heart.

We have to make Mahavira as our character. at the command of Shri Ramachandra he crossed the ocean! he had no care about his life. this is the real worship of Education or Teacher.

Obedience to the Guru without questioning and strict observance of Brahmacharya- this is the secret of success.³

According to him, Religion has the infinite strength. strength resides in the goodness. weakness is resides in sin. we can say that all evil are in only weakness. weakness is the source of selfishness. the goodness is tell truth to our soul. truth has the eternal power and it resides in all source.

Swami Vivekananda views on life of the Youth:-

Vivekananda always used to inspire the young people of India with these words: Utisthita Jagrata Prapya Barannibudhata Which means 'Arise, Awake and stop not till the goal is reached".

According to swamiji, supreme value of youth period is incalculable and in describable. the youth of India have great creative energy with huge positive power. he said, if human creativity is a special quality, then the "Never Say Die!" spirit is its apex. India is a country with full of

³ Avinashlingam, Education by Swami Vivekananda, 5th Edition, page no. 40, 1945.

youngest people and has the power to meet any challenge with the collective consciousness and effort of all the people, especially the youngest person.

India is a country of rich and poor both. here rich are more richer and the poor are more poorer. in India millions of people are not still eating second meal of the day because of poverty. millions of children are not educated even at the primary level. still working at the hotels and shops. our India is still grappling with the issue of child labour.

Swami Vivekananda delivered the lecture on the issue of difficulties in the life of the youngsters. the most important aspect of shaping the life of youngsters in this period of life the development of personality is necessary and important for life.

The only quality swamiji want in youngsters was to improve the ability to "feel". in the life of youngsters the most important P's are Purity, patience, Perseverance. the P's are the great traits that the youngsters of today are rich in and this is evident from their keenness to be part of positive change that will have impact on entire society.

purity is of thought and Achievement. patience is to understand the dynamic form and need to focus on the area for improvement. today's youth needs enormous perseverance to take part in the multifaceted challenges we face in today's society.

He said to youth that recognize this great duty. Feel this wonderful privilege. Take up this adventure. God watches you every time. I wish you to be great. The world has believed in you. Your elders keep their hopes in you. Now youth means to place your firm confidence in yourself and exercise your hopeful determination and resolution and willing good intentions in this beautiful task of self-culture. This will truly gives you satisfaction and helping you to shape your life better because it's all in your hands.

"Practice virtue, persevere in virtue. Become established in virtue". Youth is meant for this grand process. Youth life is the active development and fulfillment of these processes. This period of your life provides the suitable and favorable fields for the working out of this extremely important and most indispensable process in life. this is the process of learning.

The valuable words of Swamiji on Life, "What great importance is of the youth years when the foundation is built for the life! Difficulties will come but so what; Swamiji said, "Struggle, Struggle, Struggle is the Sine Qua Non of life and stagnation is death."

He emphasized again and again that the masses were the real foundations of Nation. He glorified the strength of common people and entrusted his trust on them for fulfilling his vision of a great India.

Swami Vivekananda believed that working for any change in society required huge mass power. he requested the youth to amplify both their mental energies and physical fitness. Vivekananda wanted from the youth were 'Muscles of Iron' and 'Nerves of Steel' Swami Vivekananda was and is not only the medium; he is himself the message as well for the youth of India.

Message of Swamiji to youth in his Chicago speech:-

On 11th September 1893, Swami Vivekananda went to Chicago for the world parliament on religion. The hall had 7,000 learned people. Swami Vivekananda had never addresses such a large gathering and was nervous. When his name announced for the speech he bowed to the 'Saraswati' goddess of learning and then began speech with the beautiful words "Sisters and Brothers of America". and all were given standing ovation for two minutes.

Quoting from the Chicago Daily Tribune of 20 September of 1893:-

"We who come from the East have sat here on the platform day after day. I have sat here today and I have heard the height of intolerance. I have heard the creeds of the Muslims applauded, when today the Muslim sword is carrying the destruction into India. Blood and sword are not for the Hindu, whose religion is based on the laws of love". He moved on to Calcutta where the Ramakrishna Mission was formed in 1897. In July 1897, he visited the Amarnath shrine wearing only lion cloth.

He left India in June 1899. He said to sister Nivedita "Social life in the West is like a peal of laughter, but underneath, it is wail. In India it is sad and gloomy on the surface, but underneath

are carelessness and merriment.” The West has much to learn from the East and the East from the West.

Parliament of religion in Chicago:-

.There are three religions starting from pre-noteworthy circumstances – Hinduism, Zoroastriasm and Judaism. Hinduism, in any case, has survived the stun of various attacks, and in course of time, has prevailing with regards to retaining and absorbing the greater part of the way of life that undermined its reality. The Hindus have gotten their religion from the disclosures of the Vedas.

Christians should dependably be prepared for good feedback. You Christians are so partial to conveying teachers to spare the spirit of the rapscallion – for what reason do you not attempt to spare their bodies from starvation. Amid the starvation you didn't do anything, you erect houses of worship every through Indium, However the crying fiendishness in the east isn't religion yet is bread that the affliction a huge number of consuming India shout out with their dry throats.

Buddhism, the satisfaction of Hinduism:-

The connection amongst Hinduism and Buddhism at the present day is about the same as amongst Judaism and Christianity. Jesus Christ was a Jew while Shakya Muni was a Hindu. The Jews rejected Jesus Christ, executed him and the Hindus have acknowledged Shakya Muni as God and love him. (Buddha is thought to be one of the Symbols of Vishnu).

Principle of Mukti:-

The Vedas instruct the spirit to be divine, just held in the subjugation of issue. It will be reestablished to flawlessness when this bond is blasted. This state is called Opportunity, Mukti and gets through the leniency of God and this benevolence comes just to the unadulterated. To the unadulterated He uncovers himself even in this life, and after that every one of the questions will stop all the abnormality of the heart rectified and flexibility from the impacts of the horrendous law of causation stop to work. This is the simple focus, imperative instructing of

Hinduism that a refined soul can have the immediate comprehension of the otherworldly verities like the Atman (soul) and Brahman (God).

Harmony of Religions:-

To the Hindu, the entire universe of religions is just making a trip to a similar objective. The results of this universalism of the Hindu standpoint is that all through the entire arrangement of Sanskrit logic, there is no such articulation as that the Hindu alone will be spared and not others.

Much has been said in regards to the shared conviction of religious solidarity. This solidarity can't drop by the triumph of any of the religions and the pulverization of others. It can come just by each religion acclimatizing the great focuses in different religions.

What is the mystery of this quality To different countries, religion is one of the occupations of life however here in India religion is the unparalleled occupation throughout everyday life. As an outcome our way of life and national virtuoso have determined an exceptional bowed or bearing. Alluding to the flooding of the world with Indian otherworldly thoughts that is quietly occurring, German logician Schopenhauer said " The world is in regards to see an upheaval in suspected that is more broad and more ground-breaking than that was seen by the Renaissance of Greek writing."

Status of Women:-

Ladies are servitude and a catch to men. It is for this reason, I assume, that scriptural scholars indicate that learning and dedication are troublesome of achievement to them? Swamiji answers – In what sacred texts do you discover explanations that ladies are not capable for learning and dedication. In the time of debasement, when the clerics made alternate ranks inept for the investigation of the Vedas, they denied the ladies likewise of their rights. Else you will discover in the Vedic or Upanishad age Maitreyi, Gargi and different women of worshipped memory have taken the spots of the Rishis through their aptitudes in talking about the Brahman. All countries have accomplished enormity by paying appropriate regard to ladies. Manu says "Where ladies

are regarded, they are Divine beings amuse, and where they are not all works and endeavors come to nothing."

Message of Shri Ramakrishna to the advanced world:-

"Couldn't care less for principles, organizations, sanctuaries, places of worship, they mean little with the quintessence of presence in each man, which is otherworldliness and the more this is produced in each man, the all the more intense is he for good. Procure that to start with, secure that and reprimand nobody, for all regulations and statements of faith have some great in them. Show by your lives that religion does not mean words, names, factions but rather that it implies otherworldly acknowledgment. Just the individuals who have accomplished otherworldliness can impart it to others, can be awesome educators of humanity. Only they are the forces of light."

The majority of us appreciate Swamiji for his insight on religion and theory yet he shone no less as a country developer. He championed the reason for Hinduism at the Parliament of Religions. He imparted to the West the grandiose standards of Hinduism and its way of life, human progress. The logic and thinking of the West had put Indians on edge and influenced them to feel substandard. By elucidating the enormity of the Indian human progress, Swamiji reestablished self-assurance in the Hindus of their own way of life and furthermore animated their feeling of pride and patriotism. The possibility of reestablishing the brilliance of Bharat by reviving the lethargic profound imperativeness among her kin was constantly highest in his psyche.

Conclusion:-

He passed away on 4th July 1902 at the age 39. he was a very influential personality of India. the personality of swami Vivekananda never see again in India in anyone. no one has a blossom type of personality. Swamiji may well be called the father of modern Indian nationalism. Not only religion and philosophy but also History was enlisted for the cause of nationalism. but we can accept from the youth of India to keep Swami Vivekananda as his ideal because he is powerful inspiration for youth and his skills were very crucial for all who want development in his life. According to him, "Life is all about determination".