



Re-Affirming Swamy Vivekananda's Educational Ideologies & NEP 2020

Dr. Vishwanath V .M.

Assistant Professor

Department Of History

Hema Gangothri Post Graduate Centre

University Of Mysore

Hassan, Karnataka state

Phone : 7760606646

mail Id- vishwas1383@gmail.com

Abstract

This paper focuses on the ideology and philosophy of Swamy Vivekananda on education. Swamy Vivekananda was a great visionary and social reformer of modern India. He viewed education as a process of human fulfilment and embodiment because he analysed every man's mission in life was to acquire good education and good life. Only when a man gets good education, he will be able to understand his goals, aims, roles & responsibilities of life, he will be able to prove himself as an absolute individual. Good education will support him with qualities of discrimination, keen observation, virtuous living and compassion. New educational policy 2020 (NEP 2020) too offers to strengthen the Indian Education Sector with core learning and skill intensification strategies, but it is fully challenging. The academicians across the country need to reaffirm the educational philosophy of Swami Vivekananda in the light of implementation of New Education policy (NEP 2020).

Key words: Swamy Vivekananda, Philosophy of Education, NEP 2020

Introduction

New Educational Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) offers to raise the paradigms of Indian education to global standards. But the Indian educational standards will match up with global precision only when the educational output is competent to defend the pragmatic beliefs and rational philosophy of India. Since time immemorial India was land to greatest educational accomplishment. Students across the world came to study in Indian universities such as **Varanasi, Nalanda, Rajagriha, Vikrama shila , Vaishali , Ujjayini, Takshashila** etc.

Swamy Vivekananda's views on Education - Swamy Vivekananda's views on education included

1.	Aims of Education
2.	Methods of Teaching
3.	Component of Education
4.	Outcomes of Learning
5.	Need for Moral Education
6.	Need for mother tongue learning
7.	Pre requisites of a teacher

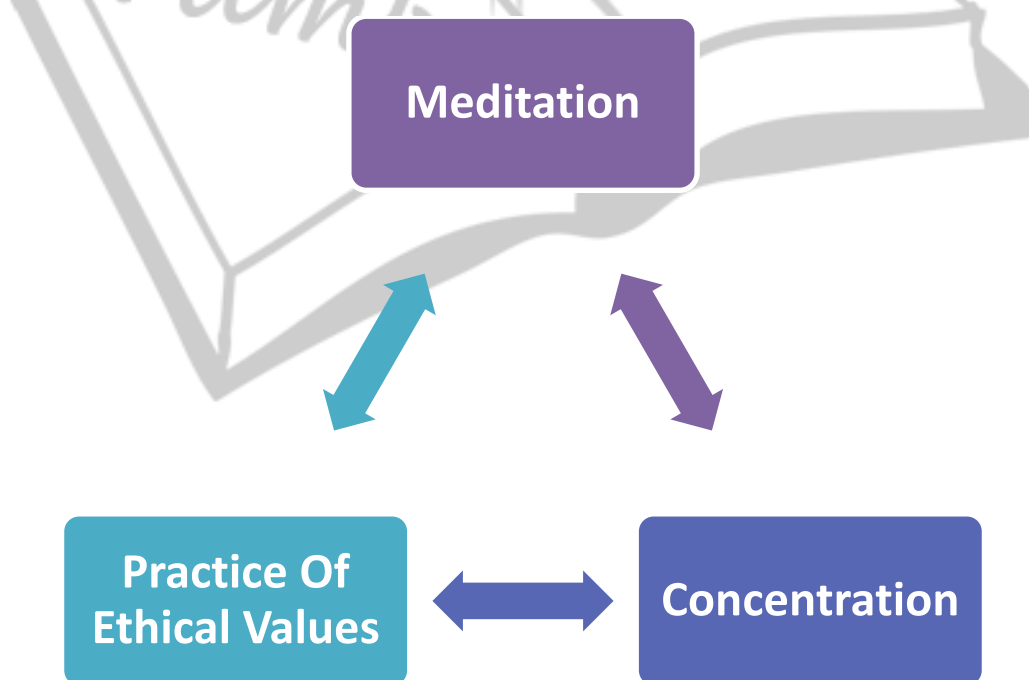
Swamy Vivekananda was a firm believer of **Vedanta Philosophy** and **Sanathana Dharma** and proliferated the philosophy of **Hindu Dharma**. He sought solutions for all social economic and religious evils through education because he believed that only education will guide people in the righteous way. Swamy Vivekananda attempts to establish the right virtues which only good education can provide. He prepares the scheme of this “**man making**” education in the light of his overall philosophy of **Vedanta**. According to **Vedanta** the essence of man lies in his soul which he possesses in addition to his body and physical presence. Swamy Vivekananda

Education as the manifestation of perfection

Swamy Vivekananda describes education as the manifestation of perfection already in human being. Swamy Vivekananda says the aim of education is to manifest human lives to perfection. The perfection is the realization of the infinite power which resides in everything and everywhere. After understanding the essential nature of this perfection one should try to identify with one's own self. This needs complete elimination of ego, ignorance, and false individual behaviour. Swamy Vivekananda says man becomes aware of his **Self** as identical with all other selves of the universe. Swamy Vivekananda says education enables one to comprehend one's self within, as the self is **Omni present**. Swamy Vivekananda says the essential unity of the universe is realized through education accordingly “**man making**” stands for rousing man's awareness of his true **Self**. Hence, to become a strong-willed person, education is necessary. Education makes the individual notice virtues, detect vices, observe the loopholes. At the same time it offers skills which assist him to monitor, examine, scrutinize and analyse.

Mind control through education

Swamy Vivekananda says the state of mind of the students is often pragmatic and frequently out of control. Hence, education should be such that it has to place absolute control on their thought process. This can be achieved through



Swamy Vivekananda thus emphasises on students mind and will power have to be harnessed through meditation and concentration towards ethical values. According to Swamy Vivekananda the practice of **Brahmacharya** as evidenced by the Vedic ideology brings good self control among students. They can achieve success in academics and also stay away from vices such as liquor, drugs, alcohol, malicious food habits.

Swamy Vivekananda and his views on imparting education -Swamy Vivekananda views on imparting education were an extension of Vedantic foundation.

Swamy Vivekananda and views on teacher's role- Swamy Vivekananda says knowledge inherent in every human being. The task of teacher is only to assist students in removing and obstacle in the way of attaining good education. A teachers is a not only a preceptor but also a precursor of high ethical standards.

Swamy Vivekananda and views on teacher's stimulation-Swamy Vivekananda Always extended the example of plant which grows naturally and people only serve it with water and soil , while it grows naturally with the support of its inherent qualities. Likewise, he advocated teachers to support the students with supporting him to discover the essence of life through natural means . He objected to every approach which made learning synthetic and archaic.

Swamy Vivekananda and views on medium of learning- Swamy Vivekananda opined that mother tongue is the right medium for mass education. Though he prescribed learning of Sanskrit and English languages he favoured mother tongue learning will support children to understand the concepts better.

Swamy Vivekananda and his views on medium of education - Swamy Vivekananda was of the opinion that a nation's development will be smooth and even, if the young generation conceptually and completely understand the perception of subjects they learn. Only leaning through mother tongue language supports to decipher the good bad and ugly and will lead to acquiring good character. This keen observation will support students in understanding culture, traditions, practices, conventions of a nation. This cognisance also creates sensitivity, close scrutiny, and analysis of things. An individual is thus modelled to become strong in mind and body and when the will power of the child is strong, health is high spirited, thoughts are backed by traditions, and then he will achieve 100 percent success in life. A poor willed, weak person cannot achieve anything in life such persons are burden to community and society cannot schedule equivalent progress under such weak willed persons. Hence, education needs to support a child to become more and more responsive to the societal issues.

Swamy Vivekananda and views on scheme of education- Swamy Vivekananda stresses on study of all subjects because all round development of a child requires perfect understanding of science, technology, art, culture, history, environment and religion. All subjects which support the child to identify and understand the

Swamy Vivekananda and views on subjects of study- Swamy Vivekananda stressed on studying a variety of subject. Divided the subjects under broad heading

1. Physical culture
2. Aesthetics
3. Classics-
4. Language

5. Religion
6. Science and Technology

According to Swamy Vivekananda, study of all these subjects will assist in delivering the historical march of a region towards growth and development. Each citizen of India needs to know the undercurrents of cultural evolution through study of variety of subjects. The complete focus about the knowledge of educational thoughts and philosophy of Swamy Vivekananda need to be focused because it contained everything which leads to manifestation of perfection in man.

Swamy Vivekananda and views on Vedanta philosophy- Swamy Vivekananda was a firm believer of **Vedanta Philosophy** and **Sanathana Dharma** and proliferated the philosophy of **Hindu Dharma**. He sought solutions for all social economic and religious evils through education because he believed that only education will guide people in the righteous way.

Swamy Vivekananda and views on physical education- Swamy Vivekananda often quoted the Upanishads saying “ **Nai atma Balaheena Labhyah**. It clearly meant self cannot be realized by the physically weak individual. Swamy Vivekananda lays stress on achieving physical health also because he always believed a strong and healthy body would always motivate to reach national goals. An individual can fight for the cause of the country only when he is strong, physically fit and vigorous. A person without health and fitness will become a burden to nation. Hence, he emphasised on physical education for all.

Conclusion – Thus, Swamy Vivekananda believed that only good education enables an individual to comprehend ones’ own self . Swamy Vivekananda stressed on providing good education as a part of national development. He consciously propagated ethical standards in education which is the also manifested in New Educational Policy 2020. Swamy Vivekananda lays stress on achieving perfection through education because he believed that education is manifestation of a true individual. Indian educational policy makers need to reaffirm the ideologies of the great Guru and work towards achieving them.

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