

Educational Philosophy of Swami Vivekananda

Introduction

- Narendranath Dutt (12th January, 1863).
- 'International Youth Day'
- Devout and Compassionate nature, readiness to perform any act of courage
- Religious upbringing
- M.A. in Philosophy
- Established the Ramkrishna Mission (1 May 1897, @Calcutta) ((Vivekananda with Taraknath)) after Mahasamadhi of Shri Ramkrishna Paramhansa.

Philosophy of Swami Vivekananda

Follower of Vedanta

'Jiva is Shiva' i.e. Each individual is.

Man is potentially divine i.e. Service to man is indeed service to God.

Truth is the basis of all religions. So, tolerate + positively embrace other religions

National Integration: Intolerance + Sectarian Violence are threats

Human Mind:

- Not to do anything which disturbs the mind.
- Compared it with monkey i.e. restless & incessantly active.

Women Development:

- "The ideal of womanhood in India is motherhood, the marvellous, unselfish, all suffering, ever forgiving mother".
- **2 evils in India:** trampling on the women, grinding the poor through caste restriction.

Educational Philosophy of Swami Vivekananda

- Education should make a child self-reliant & self-confident & fearless from the hurdles of life.
- He looks education as an instrument of social change - "Education should aim at character building of an individual & promote selflessness & courage".

Implication of Vivekananda's Philosophy

Swami Vivekananda looked upon education from two view points and they are:

1. Transcendental View
2. Empirical View

Transcendental View

- "Education defined as manifestation of the perfection already in man".
- This is in consonance with the teaching of Advaita Vedanta.
- "Man is potentially divine, he is identical with the supreme reality, which is Brahman or existence consciousness bliss"

Empirical View

- "Education is defined as that kind of training & skill by which man's power is brought under control & become conducive to the good of humanity as a whole."

Aims of Education

- Creation of Self-Confidence & Self-Realisation.
- Character Formation.
- Personality Development.
- Reaching Perfection: "All material & spiritual knowledge is already present in man covered by a curtain of ignorance".
- Physical & Mental Development.
- Moral & Spiritual Development.
- Religious Development.
- Searching Unity in Diversity.

Curriculum

- Curriculum should synthesize the knowledge & wisdom of the East & the West.
- Great importance to the physical development of individual i.e. physical education.

Discipline

- "Discipline is an important aspect of person's character, each of us teach ourselves"
- If you don't allow a child to become a lion, he will become a fox.
- Do's & don't have to be reduced & right environment must be created.

Role of Teacher & Student

- Student should have inclination & eagerness to learn
- Observer of celibacy

- Control on senses
- Follow the ideals laid down by teacher.

Teacher

- External & Internal Teacher (suggestions & mind)
- He should be sinless.
- He should know the spirit of scriptures
- Spiritual force of teacher should be based on love for his students.
- Teacher should think that he is only helping the child to grow. He is the external teacher.

Methods of Teaching

- Self-learning
- Discussion method
- Meditation and concentration.
