

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA



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Birth & Childhood

- **Swami Vivekananda was born as Narendranath Datta on 12 January 1863 in Calcutta in a respectable middle-class.**
- **His father, Viswanath Dutta, was an Attorney.**

Contd.

- **Narendra's mother, Bhubaneswar Devi.**
- **Narendranath had varied interests & wide range of scholarship in philosophy, history, social sciences, art and other subjects.**
- **He evinced much interest in spiritual text.**

Contd.

- **Contact with Ramakrishna change Narendra's life.**

“jiva is shiva”.

- **He founded Ramakrishna mission in 1897.**
The mission conducts extensive work in health care, disaster relief, rural management, tribal welfare, elementary and higher education and culture.
- **All living beings are embodiment of the divine self; therefore, service to God could be rendered by service to mankind.**

- **Vivekananda started his education at home, later he joined metropolitan institution of Ishwarchandra Vidyasagar in 1871 and he passed the entrance examination of Presidency College.**
- **Narendranath became the member of a Freemason's Lodge and the breakaway faction from the Brahmo Samaj led by Kesab Chandra Sen.**

Brahmo Samaj

**Monotheistic reformist and renaissance
movement of Hindu religion.**

His initial beliefs were shaped by Brahmo concepts:

- **Belief in a formless God**
- **Deprecation of the worship of idols.**
- **Whether people have come "face to face with God",**

- The unknown monk of India suddenly leapt into fame at *Parliament of the World's Religions* in Chicago in 1893.
- He gave: *gyan yog, bhakti yog, karma yog, raj yog.*

Four Evils

He wanted to remove from India four major evils:

- 1) Priest-craft,
- 2) Poverty
- 3) Ignorance
- 4) Oppression of the wise.

His Seven-fold philosophy

1. Thoughts

We are what our thoughts have made us. So take care about what you think. Words are secondary. Thoughts live and travel far.

2. Concentration

When an idea exclusively occupies the mind, it is transformed into an actual physical or mental state.

3. Commitment

Even a fool can accomplish a task if it were after his heart. But the intelligent ones are those who can convert every work into one that suits their heart

4. Goal

- **Take up one idea.**
- **Make that one idea your life.**
- **Think of it, dream of it.**
- **Live on that idea.**
- **Let the brain, muscles, nerves, every part of your body Be full of that idea.**
- **This is the way to “SUCCESS”.**

5. Work

**Every duty is holy, and
devotion to duty is the highest
form of the worship of God.**

6. Character

Neither money pays, nor name,
nor fame, nor learning, it is
CHARACTER that can cleave
through adamantine walls of
difficulties.

7. Maturity

**It is good to be born a child; but
bad to remain a child**

Education

Education is the manifestation of perfection already in man.

- If you realise that the infinite power, infinite knowledge, and indomitable energy lie within you, and if you can bring out that power, You also can be like **ME.**

Holistic Approach

- **Education for Human Excellence, not in any one field but in life totally.**
- **Education must help to fashion excellent character out of very ordinary human raw material.**
- **Culturing of qualities of head and heart in a way congenial to the growth and development of oneself and those around.**

Qualities needed for this

- **Truthfulness,**
- **Righteousness,**
- **Purity in personal life,**
- **Self confidence,**
- **Integration of body, mind and intellect,**
- **Love and compassion towards all living beings,**
- **Surrender to Almighty**

True Test of Education

How the inner strength and knowledge are put to use for the advantage of those around.

**In each life there are three levels
of unfoldment:**

- **Individual**
- **National**
- &
- **Universal**

Individual

- **Build up our individual potentialities and talents to the best extent by incorporating time tested spiritual values Satya and Dharma in our lives.**

National

Learn to link our life harmoniously with our nation's values and traditions. For teachers involved in Man-making & Nation building programmes, patriotism must have this deeper and fuller meaning.

This is his ideal of Man making And Nation building.

Universal

when our identification with the truth reaches its zenith there is an expansion of personality touching on the divine that is when small man grows into universal being a Jagat Guru, A Vishw-atma.

- **His educational thought has very great significance today because modern education has lost much of its connection with the values of human life.**

- **Vivekananda said: “The education which does not help the common man to equip themselves for the struggle of life, which does not bring out strength of character, a spirit of philanthropy, and the courage of a lion – is it worth the name?”**
- **Real education is that which “enables one to stand on one’s own legs. Education must provide ‘life-building, man-making, character-making and assimilation of ideas”. The ideal of this type of education would be to produce an integrated person.**

AIMS OF EDUCATION

The ultimate aim of all education and all training, according to Swami Vivekananda, is man-making.

CREATION OF SELF – CONFIDENCE AND SELF – REALIZATION

- **Man has an immortal soul which is the treasure –house of infinite power. Man should, therefore, have full confidence in himself and strive to reach the highest goal of his life, self-confidence leads to self - realization.**

FORMATION OF CHARACTER

- **Character is the aggregate of a Man's tendencies, the sum –total of the bent of his mind. It is, therefore, that education should aim at sublimating the evil tendencies of our mind.**

DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONALITY

- **Personality is the influence, the impression, one creates on others. It is the personality of man that counts. “According to Vivekananda, personality is 2/3 and his intellect and words are only 1/3 in making the real man.” The ideal of all education should be this man-making.**

SERVICE OF MANKIND

- Another important aim of education is serving the God in man. It is the God in the sick, the poor, the miserable, the ignorant and the down trodden what we should worship.
- In his own words, *“If you want to find god, serve man.”*

PROMOTION OF UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD

- **Vivekananda's love for mankind knew no geographical boundaries. Through education, we should gradually reach the idea of universal brotherhood by flinging down the walls of separation and inequality. He insisted the education must call forth this power in every person and broaden it to such an extent that it may cover the whole world.**

Professional Development

To Swami Vivekananda, the practical aspects of life must not be ignored in any scheme of education. Only then, it will be possible to make an individual self - dependent and the country prosperous. He has emphasized the importance of education in agriculture and other practical arts.

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DEVELOPMENT

The aim of education is that the child should be able to promote national growth and advancement as a fearless and physically well developed citizen of tomorrow.

MORAL AND SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

According to Vivekananda, a nation's greatness is not only measured by its parliamentary institutions and activities, but also by the greatness of its citizens. The greatness of citizens is possible only through their moral and spiritual development which education should foster.

THE AIM OF SEARCHING UNITY IN DIVERSITY

- **The true aim of education is to develop insight into the individuals so that they are able to search out and realize unity in diversity. Swami Vivekananda has further asserted that physical and spiritual worlds are one; their distinctness is an illusion (Maya). Education should develop this sense which finds unity in diversity.**

CURRICULAM

- **The prime aim of education is spiritual development. But this does not mean that he did not advocate material prosperity and physical well-being.**
- **For spiritual perfection he prescribed Religious Philosophy, Upanishads, Company of saints and their preaching.**
- **For material advancement and prosperity he recommended Languages, Geography, Science, Political Science, Economics, Psychology, Art, Agriculture, Industrial and Technical subjects together with Games, sports and other Physical exercises.**

METHODS OF EDUCATION

- Vivekananda prescribed the same ancient spiritual methods of teaching :
- Practice of **Yoga**
- Concentration and **Meditation**
- **Lecture, and Discussion**
- To imitate the qualities and character of teacher.

Conclusion

- Educational thought has very great significance today because modern education has lost much of its connection with the values of human life.
- He tried to make the people of India understood 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.
- He is no more but he will be remembered for ever on this earth. His missions and his preaching are and will continue inspiring the coming generations.

Thank You