



Relevance of Swami Vivekanand Thoughts on Women Education in Present Scenario

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Abstract : In the view of Swami Vivekanand education should like that which inspired the people. Overall, it demonstrates the importance of man-making, character-building, and life-building in the true sense of the word. Education shouldn't only be about memorizing the literature and write on the exam without actually understanding it. On the other hand, education should involve the assimilation of concepts, much like how food enters our bodies and is digested.' Swami Vivekanand says "We want that education by which character is formed of mind increased, the intellect is expanded and by one can stand on one's feet." The educational philosophy of Vivekanand can be successfully established in a person's character. Swami Vivekanand also put more emphasis on moral, spiritual and character development. He also advocate for women education, youth education and mass education. He said education is only the way which shows us right path and also helps in personal development. This study collects data by using a self-made questionnaire (30 items) related to women education. The study sample consisted of 120 teachers 60 from government institutions and 60 from private institutions of which 30 from each type of institutions were male and remaining 30 were female. The period of Research data collection was November 2023. Data analysis reveals that there is a no significant difference between government and private institutions teacher. The findings of the studies show that Swami Vivekanand's views are highly effective in the present scenario. The views of teachers who are teaching in an inter collegiate setting were collected to determine the relevance of Swami Vivekanand's views on women's education in the present scenario

Key words: life history of Vivekanand, Educational thought, Aim of Education, women education.

I. INTRODUCTION

The process of facility learning for the acquisition of knowledge and skills is not only an instrument of social change but also an investment in national development. (NCERT, 2014) Education is a life-long process that includes all the experiences children receive at home or in school in society from one person to another. It is the transmission of civilization (Naziev, 2017). Education is not modern practice, although it may seem that there is a modern way to practise it. (NCERT, 2014) The process of education involves the gradual acquisition of knowledge, skills, and attitudes, all of which come from our diverse worldviews and general dispositions to behave. Education is very important for all. It is the process of achieving valuable knowledge and skills. It helps people to get knowledge and improve their lifestyle and thinking capacity and opens our eyes to the wrong and right things. According to Maharishi Auorvindo, "Education is that which will offer the tools whereby one can leave for the divine, for the country, for oneself, and for others, and this must be the ideal of every school which calls itself national.

Swami Vivekanand is not only a name; it is an ideology that changed the course of history. He gave numerous issues in human life a lot of thought. His fields of interest included religion, philosophy, social and political structures, the educational system, the status of women, national honour, and many other things. His opinions on different issues gave the country a new direction. "Education is the finding of the inner self," he asserts. He thinks that education can fully develop a person's personality. According to Swami

Vivekanand, “education is the revelation of perfection already present in man.” Education is the expression of the perfection that is already innate in man.” All knowledge is inherent in man; it does not originate from outside sources; it is all contained on the inside. He recognised the issues that were at the core of all other issues, including alien ruler dominance, class distinction, learning exclusively for the wealthy, and masses that were uninformed, superstitious, and resistant to change. These problems had destroyed their independence, confidence, and initiative. The philosophy of Swami Vivekanand transforms people on a spiritual, moral, social, and physical level.

Swami Vivekanand Life History

On the auspicious date of Makar Sakranti, Swami Vivekananda was born on January 12, 1863, into the family of Vishwanath Dutta and Bhubaneswari Devi in his ancestral house in Calcutta. He came from a conventional Bengali family. His father, being a member of the legal profession, had a progressive and conceptual outlook, while his mother was a spiritual woman. The young Narendra is an obvious mirror of his parents’ attitudes. As a youngster, Narendra was extremely restless, aggressive, and busy. Narendranath possessed a range of passions. Philosophy, theology, history, the social sciences, the arts, and literature were among the many topics of interest. With curiosity and a desire to learn, he had read the different Hindu scriptures, including the Vedas, Upanishads, Bhagavad Gita, Ramayana, and Mahabharata. He was very interested in sports, music, art, exercise, and other extracurricular activities. He had a logical outlook, and, even as a young child, he challenged many superstitious traditions.

After starting his studies at home, Narendra enrolled in the Metropolitan Institution of Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar in 1871. In 1877, their family spent two years in Raipur. Since there were no excellent schools in Raipur during those two years, he and his father talked about spiritual matters. In Raipur, where he studied Hindi, he had his first exposure to theology. The two years he spent in Raipur from 1877 to 1879 marked a turning point in his life, and the city is recognised as Swami Vivekanand’s “Spiritual Birthplace.”

Swami Vivekanand died at an early age of 39 years on July 4, 1902, due to rupture in the blood vessel of his brain. **(India Today 4 July, 2020)**

In 1984, the Government of India declared the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekanand as National Youth Day. **(India Today 4 July, 2020)**

Meaning of Education

Knowledge can never be created, it can only be discovered; and every man who makes a great discovery is inspired **(Inspired talk, Recorded by Miss S. E. Waldo, A Disciple. Tuesday June 9, 1895, page no.39)**

“Education is not defined by the amount of information that is taught to the child,” **according to Vivekanand**, “but by the assimilation of ideas that lead to life-building, man-making, and character-making.” Under British rule, the prevalent educational system left him profoundly unsatisfied. According to Vivekanand, the entire spiritual and secular education of our nation must be in our hands, and it must be done on national lines and using national techniques as much as is practicable.

According to **Vivekanand**, education is neither diverse knowledge nor book learning. Education is not the quantity of knowledge that is injected into the brain and allowed to run riot there, undigested, for the rest of our lives. He claims that assimilation of ideas is necessary for the formation of life, of man, and of character. According to him, libraries are the world’s greatest sages and encyclopaedias are the rishis if education and knowledge are equivalent. From this, it is evident that Swami Vivekanand did not consider acquiring ever-more knowledge from books and other sources to be education. This interpretation of Vivekananda clearly denies the idea of a gifted student in the modern era. A student’s worth today is determined by the marks he or she receives on exams.

Women Education According to Swami Vivekanand

No action can give you freedom; only knowledge can make you free, Knowledge is irresistible; the mind cannot take it or reject it. When it comes the mind has to accept it; so it is not a work of the mind; only, its expression comes in the mind. **(Complete work of Swami Vivekanand vol., P. 54)**

Vivekanand was very much inspired by western women education while giving a speech he maintained that I have seen thousands of women here whose hearts are as pure and stainless as snow. Oh, how free they are! It is they who control social and civic duties.

Schools and colleges are full of women, and in our country women cannot be safely allowed to walk in the streets! ... And how pure and chaste are they here! Few women are married before twenty or twenty-five and they are as free as the birds in the air. They go to market, school, and college, earn money, and do all kinds of work. Those who are well-to-do devote themselves to doing good to the poor... (**Complete Work of Swami Vivekanand, vol.8, P 525-26**)

Swami Vivekanand says, “Educate the women first and leave them to themselves. Then they will tell you what reforms are necessary for them.

Education for girls boosts economies and lowers inequality. It helps create more secure, resilient societies where everyone has the chance to reach their full potential, including boys and men.

Swami Vivekanand says, “There is no chance for the welfare of the world unless the condition of women is improved.”

Aims of women education

- Swami Vivekanand wants that to developed women character like Sita. (**Vivekanand, S. Our Women, PP 8**)
- To make women capable for doing their work themselves, without help of men
- To moral and spiritual development of women
- To make women religious
- To make women physically and mentally fit
- To make women brave like Rani Laxmibai

Women must be put in a position to solve their own problems in their own way. No one can or ought to do this for them. And our Indian women are as capable of doing it as any in the world. (**Complete Work of Swami Vivekanand vol.5., P. 229-30**)

They must be given education and left to themselves. After that they will act as they think best. Even after marriage and entering the world, the girls (so) educated will inspire their husbands with noble ideals and be the mothers of heroic sons. (**Complete Work of Swami Vivekananda, vol. 7, p. 218**)

Curriculum:

Vivekanand believed that the national culture and principles must be incorporated into the curriculum. The spiritual principles of India are the foundation of her civilization. He methodically incorporates in his educational plan all the subjects that are important for a person's whole growth of their body, mind, and soul. The broad categories of physical culture, aesthetics, classics, language, religion, science, and technology can be used to group these subjects. The study of classics like the Ramayana, Mahabharata, Gita, Vedas, and Upanishads can help students instill time-tested principles in their ideas and lives. (**Santhi 2019**) This will maintain the ongoing infusion of our spiritual ideals into global society.

Teaching methods:

The famous Indian monk and philosopher Swami Vivekanand highlighted the value of education and promoted a whole-person approach to instruction. He believed that education should be designed to help people improve their character, physical health, and spiritual wellbeing in addition to imparting facts.

According to Vivekanand, educators should serve as role models for their pupils and exhibit the virtues they hope to instill, such as morality and compassion. Additionally, he held that the instructor should support the student's own process of learning and discovery rather than merely acting as a transmitter of information.

Need of the Study

We all know the importance of education. In our country, women are far behind in the field of education. Swami Vivekanand talked about the education of women in the 19th century. At that time, the thinking of the people in society was very narrow-minded and worked against the education of women. Following Swami Vivekanand's ineffective efforts, some members of society agreed to educate women. But they were small in number. For this, Swami Vivekanand wanted to achieve a 100% literacy rate. For this, he had many ideas. Now we are in the 21st century, and the thinking of society about women has not completely changed. Some people in society are still against the education of women, which has become a hazard for a developing country like India.

The aim of true research work is to find out the utility of Swami Vivekanand's ideas on women's education in the present scenario. If those ideas are helpful for the development of society and nation, then why are we not applying them?

Objectives

- To study the relevance of Swami Vivekanand views on women education in present time.
- To study the Swami Vivekanand views about the awareness of women's education.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The methodology section outline the plan and method that how the study is conducted. This includes Universe of the study, sample of the study, Data and Sources of Data, study's variables and analytical framework.

2.1 Population and Sample

In the presented research work, 20 Inter colleges (10 Government and 10 Self Finance), were selected from Meerut city of Uttar Pradesh state by simple random sampling method (lottery method) of probability sampling method for sample selection.

2.2 Data and Sources of Data

For this study primary and secondary data has been collected. Researcher has developed a questionnaire consisting of 30 items to collect data on the swami Vivekanand views on women education. The questionnaire aims to gather views of teachers on relevance of swami Vivekanand views on women education in present scenario.

2.3 Research Tool for Data Collection

In the present study, a self-made questionnaire, "Relevance Scale of Swami Vivekanand's Thoughts on Women's Education," has been used by the researcher to collect the data, because a questionnaire is the most reliable tool of the survey method. To find out the real situation, the researcher used a structured and committed self-administered questionnaire to collect his data and obtain answers to valid questions. The questionnaire has been selected by selecting questions related to women's education, which can measure them better.

A questionnaire prepared by the researcher that is based on Swami Vivekanand's views on women's education.

2.5 Research Design

Research design that is used in this study is the two static group comparison design to proceed further this study

2.6 Methods

The study was conducted in various inter collage across the state of Uttar Pradesh, India. The sample size of the study was 120 teachers. The survey questionnaire was designed to gather information on relevance of swami Vivekanand views on women education in present scenario from teacher. The data collected from the survey was analyzed using descriptive statistics.

Statistical Technique

T- test: t is computation between two group means which takes into account the difference in two variations and group size of two groups.

$$T = \frac{M_1 - M_2}{\sqrt{\frac{\sigma_1^2}{N_1} + \frac{\sigma_2^2}{N_2}}}$$

Delimitation

- This study is delimited to Swami Vivekanand's views regarding women's education.
- This study is conducted in the Meerut region.

3.0 Theoretical framework

Ramchiary (2021) Conducted study on women Education in Swami Vivekananda philosophy of education. Finding of study shows that woman like man had the three elements of reason, courage and appetite though in different degrees. Women shared with men a common education, a common responsibility for rearing up children and common guardianship of the state in peace and war. In the field of administration and public service there is no difference between women and men. Women are capable of holding both civil and military offices. Women must receive the same education as men. In this paper, Swami Vivekanand found education as the best and only device to solve all problems of women and hereby emancipate them.

Maity (2016) conducted a study on women education: contemporary of Swami Vivekananda .The findings of the studies show that his philosophy on women's education is still valuable in present-day society. Planners and policymakers, through different plans and policies, have promoted women's education.

Jadon, Shrivastava (2018) study about women education in India. An Analysis . Study so that education is considered a key instrument for women's empowerment. It also increases their status in society. Even though considerable progress has been made with regards to literacy and education, the overall structure still remains unfavorable to women.

Anju (2000) Conduct a study on "Indian Concept of Women Education" In this Study the Investigator has tried to explain that the cultural and ethical or religious norms of Indian society are sufficiently satisfactory to Accommodate Women since the beginning of the Vedic period. They are free to make their own decisions in their own power that they can participate in any political cultural work in their own free will in their decision making. But after the Vedic period, the place of women again goes down.

4.0 Result and Discussion

In order to find out objectives, t value was calculated to find out the difference between the mean score of awareness regarding women of teachers working in Govt. aided colleges and self financed institutions, which is explained in the table given below

Objective 1:-

Table 4.1 To study the relevance of Swami Vivekanand views on women education.

S. No.	Name of the group	N	Mean	Standard Deviation.	T-test	Result
1	Teachers of Govt.- aided Colleges	60	41.7	4.67	-1.10	Not significant
2	Teachers of Self-Financed Institutions	60	42.61	4.13		

Df = 118

Level of significance (0.05) = 1.98

Interpretation:

Table 4.1 reveals that the mean value of government teachers is (41.7) and that of self-financed teachers is (42.61). Regarding the relevance of Swami Vivekanand's views on women's education, the t value of the data obtained is 1.10, which is less than the table value of 1.98 at a 0.05 significant level of degree of freedom of 100. Which means there is no significant difference between the views of the government and the self-financed teacher's views regarding the women's education of Vivekanand

Objective 2:-

Table 4.2 To study the swami Vivekanand views about the awareness of women's education

S. No.	Name of the group	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	T-test	Result
1	Teachers of Govt.- aided Colleges	60	30.93	2.97	0.21	Not significant
2	Teachers of Self-Financed Institutions	60	30.81	3.27		

Df = 118

Level of significance (0.05) = 1.98

Interpretation:

Table 4.2 reveals that mean value of government teachers are (30.93) and self financed teachers are (30.81) about the relevance regarding awareness of women education, the t value of data obtained is 0.219486905, which is less than table value of 1.98 at 0.05 significant level of degree of freedom 100. which means there is no significance difference between views of government and self finance teacher's awareness regarding the women education.

Conclusion

The findings of the studies show that Swami Vivekanand's views are highly effective in the present scenario. The views of teachers who are teaching in an inter collegiate setting were collected to determine the relevance of Swami Vivekanand's views on women's education in the present scenario. More than 80% of teachers agreed with it, which means Vivekanand's ideas are still valuable for society and nation. Swami Vivekanand is an ideology that changed the course of history due to his views on religion, philosophy, social and political structures, the educational system, the status of women, national honour, and many other issues. He believed that education is the menifestion of perfection already present in man, and that knowledge is inherent in man. He recognised the issues that were at the core of all other issues, including alien ruler dominance, class distinction, learning exclusively for the wealthy, and masses that were uninformed, superstitious, and resistant to change. His philosophy transformed people on a spiritual, moral, social, and physical level.

- **Suggestions for Home and Society**

Home and society play an important role in the development of moral values in children. So it is the responsibility of family members and other people in society to inculcate good values in children. To improve the conditions of women, family members and society should change their perspectives towards women. Swami Vivekanand was told that to raise strong and intelligent children, mothers must be educated. Educated women can also look out for their own development. It is necessary for society to promote women's education. They should also promote gender equality and treat men and women equally.

- **Suggestions for Government**

The government should promote the thoughts of Swami Vivekanand and implement them in schools and colleges to make the teaching and learning process effective. The government also adopted ideology and their philosophy for making education policy and curriculum. The thoughts of Vivekananda are highly relevant in the present scenario.

- **Suggestions for Policymakers**

The findings of the study show that Swami Vivekanand's views are still valuable for societies. More than 80% of teachers supported their idea regarding women. So, while making policies regarding women, policymakers should also review Vivekanand's thoughts regarding women. Vivekanand was told that the medium of education should be in the mother tongue and religion must be at the centre of education.

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